

THE BOARD OF THE WIELKOPOLSKIE VOIVODSHIP

**WIELKOPOLSKA REGIONAL
OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME
FOR 2007-2013**



**NATIONAL
COHESION
STRATEGY**



**European Regional
Development Fund**



Wielkopolska

Uropean Union

Poznań, December 2011





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General objective of Programme:

**THE STRENGTHENING OF POTENTIAL
DEVELOPMENT OF WIELKOPOLSKA FOR
COMPETITIVENESS AND EMPLOYMENT
GROWTH**





1. Introduction

1.1. Introductory information

The Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007 - 2013 is a document referred to in Article 2 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The Programme covers the period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2013. It is an instrument developed to enforce measures aimed at reducing economic, social and territorial disparities within the Community. It implements one of the three objectives set out in Article 3 of the aforementioned Regulation, i.e. "convergence".

The Act of 6 December 2006 on the principles of development policy (Journal of Laws of 2006, No. 227, item 1658) is the legal basis for the development and implementation of the WROP. The measures implemented in the framework of the Programme will be financed by the European Regional Development Fund and with national funds, both public and private. The Community aid will be allocated to priority measures aimed at promotion of competitiveness and creation of jobs, taking into account the objectives set out in the Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Employment for the years 2005 - 2008 (COM/2005/141, of 12 April 2005), resulting from the renewed Lisbon Strategy.

All legal acts cited in the Programme illustrate merely the legal basis applicable on the date of adoption of the WROP. During the implementation all amendments to the applicable law and new legal acts governing the implementation of the Programme, as well as regulations resulting from such documents, will be taken into account.

The area of intervention within the Programme results from the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020. Its scope is limited by the list of priorities of the European Regional Development Fund. The structure of the Programme – the number and scope of the priorities, their areas of intervention, through which the Programme will be implemented – results also from the Community policies set out in the Lisbon Strategy, the Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Employment for the years 2005 – 2008, the Community strategic guidelines on economic, social and territorial cohesion for the years 2007-2013 (Council Decision No. 2006/702/EC of 6 October 2006 on Community Strategic Guidelines for cohesion, Official Journal of EU L 291 of 21 October 2006, p. 11-32), and the national policy set out in the National Development Strategy for the years 2007-2015 (adopted by the Council of Ministers on 29 November 2006) and in the National Strategic Reference Framework for the years 2007-2013 supporting economic growth and employment (the National Cohesion Strategy), a project approved by the Council of Ministers on 29 November 2006 and by the European Commission in May 2007. The manner of implementation of the priorities, including various types of projects, was set in the course of negotiations carried out with social partners and managing authorities, preparing the projects within individual operational programmes.

In the course of the implementation of the Programme all modifications to the policies, both Community and national ones, changes to the programmes arising from those policies, as



well as external macroeconomic conditions and the internal socio-economic situation of the region will be taken into account.

The Programme has been developed in accordance with the following principles:

- programming - defining priorities in the multiannual system, their financing and the management and control system,
- partnership – accomplishment of the objectives in close cooperation with social partners, both during the preparation of the Programme and its implementation,
- additionality - Community contributions do not replace funds for the implementation of regional objectives, but they are a "leverage" for them,
- sustainable development - equal access to contributions for rural and urban areas, as well as growth poles and problem areas,
- equal access,
- flexibility, i.e. responding to changes in all conditions

The Programme consists primarily of:

- an analysis of the socio-economic situation of the region, indicating disparities in the potential for development, both inside and outside the scheme,
- information about the financial aid for the region provided to date - both at the national and the Community level – as regards the intervention within the Programme and its evaluation,
- a description of the Programme strategy with an indication of the main objectives and priorities, as well as the manner of their implementation,
- the indicative annual allocation of funding for specific priorities,
- a description of the implementation, evaluation and control system,
- a report on conducted public consultations,
- a summary of the results of *ex-ante* evaluations,
- a summary of the results of an environmental impact assessment,
- a summary of the results of a macroeconomic analysis performed with the use of Hermin and MaMoR2 models.

When formulating a socio-economic diagnosis and the strategic and projection part of the WROP the following were taken into account:

- the results of the socio-economic diagnosis designed for the purposes of the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020,
- the content of the previously developed regional strategic and programming documents, including above all:
 - Environmental protection programme,
 - Education development strategy,
 - Employment strategy,
 - Development strategy for agriculture and rural areas in Wielkopolska,
 - e-Wielkopolska Strategy,
 - Regional Innovation Strategy,
 - Sectoral strategy for the health care system,
 - Social aid strategy,
 - "Together - more - easier" programme,
 - Regional Operational Programme for the National Forest Policy,
 - Operational Plan for the Development of Information Society in Wielkopolska for the years 2007-2013,
 - Spatial Development Plan for the Wielkopolska Region,



- Operational programme for the development of information society in the Wielkopolska region in the years 2007 -2013 – draft,
- Strategy for the development of tourism in the Wielkopolska region – draft,
- Regional Transport Strategy for the Wielkopolska Region for the years 2007 - 2020 – draft,
- Plan for the Operation of Public Passenger Transport in the Wielkopolska Region for the years 2007 - 2011 – draft.

1.2. Review and renegotiations of the operational programmes in the framework of the NSRF for the years 2007-2013

In February 2011 - once the National Strategic Reference Framework Coordinating Committee had adopted the decision to allocate the national performance reserve - the procedure for review and renegotiation of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 began.

Pursuant to Article 50 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L.06.210.25 of 31 July 2006, as amended), Poland decided to create a national performance reserve (NPR) for operational programmes in the framework of structural funds, as defined by the National Strategic Reference Framework.

Out of the total amount of EUR 1,331,304,099 available under the NPR, EUR 512,029,305 was allocated to regional operational programmes (financed from the ERDF). The allocation of these funds among the regional operational programmes was determined by the NSRF Coordinating Committee, which decided that the allocation criteria would be as follows:

- the criterion for use of the Community funds - the amount of the EU funds in applications for payment from managing authorities transferred to an Intermediate Certification Authority by the end of 2010, relative to the allocation earmarked for the implementation of a given ROP,
- the criterion for contracting - the level of contracted funds relative to the allocation earmarked for specific areas of support corresponding to expenditures under the Lisbon strategy, e.g. for research and technological development, innovation, entrepreneurship, information society, energy, environmental protection and risk prevention.

Finally, the funds from the performance reserve for each ROP were distributed in accordance with the order of positions occupied by the regions in the cumulative ranking.

The NPR is an instrument designed for accomplishment of the objectives of the NSRF. Therefore, the funds from the NPR allocated to RPOs will be allocated primarily to the priorities, measures and projects meeting the objectives of the Lisbon strategy, defined as the driving forces of economic and employment growth.

During the negotiations of the financial perspective for the years 2007-2013 (point 17. of the so-called "Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management" of 17 May 2006, a decision on the possible use of a technical adjustment was made. As a result, due to underestimation of the economic performance of certain Member States, Poland was granted



under the mechanism in 2010 additional funds, of which – pursuant to Resolution No. 44 of 25 June 2010 of the NSRF CC on the distribution of additional Community contributions for the implementation of the NSRF for the years 2007-2013 – EUR 150 million was earmarked to be allocated among regional operational programmes.

The use of additional funds from the technical adjustment, including funds for counter-acting the effects of flooding, is subject to the same legal, organisational and institutional rules as those which were defined at the Community and national level for funds allocated to the implementation of the NSRF for the years 2007-2013.

1.2.1. Legal and formal basis

A review of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 is made in accordance with the following provisions: Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L.06.210.25 of 31 July 2006, as amended),

- the Act of 6 December 2006 on the principles of the development policy (consolidated text: Journal of Laws of of 2009 No. 84, item 712, as amended),
- Guidelines of the Minister of Regional Development of 1 September 2008 for the review and renegotiations with the European Commission of operational programmes under the National Strategic Reference Framework for the years 2007-2013.

The trends in changes to the WROP result from e.g.:

- Document entitled: "Targeting Community funds within the national and regional operational programmes (Guidance Paper)", developed in July 2010 by the Ministry of Regional Development,
- The content of Resolution No. 35 of 7 December 2009 of the NSRF CC on the adoption of "Methodology of the national performance reserve allocation in the framework of the national and regional operational programmes",
- The content of Resolution No. 44 of 25 June 2010 on the allocation of additional Community funds for the implementation of the NSRF for the years 2007-2013,
- The content of Resolution No. 53 of 9 February 2011 of the NSRF CC on the allocation and reallocation of additional Community funds under the regional operational programmes,
- Analyses and studies conducted by the WROP MA, including e.g. those collected in a report "Mid-term evaluation of the implementation of *the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007 - 2013*"

It should be noted, however, that the nature of the package of changes is to a large extent formal and technical, which realigns the provisions and adjusts them to the expected implementation of the Programme. The basic directions of the implementation of the WROP remain unchanged. This applies also to additional funds the vast majority of which will be allocated to the implementation of the Lisbon objectives and the Europe 2020 Strategy through the continuation of previously implemented measures.

1.2.2. Compliance with the new strategic documents

The proposed amendments to the provisions of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 are consistent both with the strategic documents evoked in the original version of the WROP and with the provisions of the documents that were de-



veloped after the adoption of the Programme in 2007. In particular, such consistency occurs in relation to the Lisbon Strategy and the Europe 2020 Strategy, as well as the Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The changes to the Programme are consistent also with the provisions of national documents, such as Poland 2030 Report.

a) The Lisbon Strategy/EU 2020 Strategy

The strategy for the WROP is part of the main objective of the Lisbon Strategy and amendments thereto adopted in Gothenburg. The area of interventions under the Programme was designed in such a way so that it allows to the greatest possible extent for the accomplishment of the objectives of the Lisbon strategy, i.e. to make the economy of the European Union a competitive one. The condition for the implementation of that objective was the commitment that the Lisbon expenditures would amount to at least 40% of the allocation for the Programme.

During the implementation of the Programme significant amendments to the EU competitiveness policy occurred. First of all, in 2010, the Europe 2020 Strategy was adopted. The Strategy formulated the concept of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, including the following objectives:

- smart growth: economic growth based on knowledge and innovation;
- sustainable development: promotion of a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy;
- inclusive growth: support for an economy with a high employment rate, ensuring social and territorial cohesion.

Although in 2010 the implementation of the WROP was already well advanced, the aforementioned priorities for the implementation of the WROP are still valid.

b) The Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

In the course of the implementation of the WROP a very important document creating a common platform for operations of the countries and regions in the Baltic Sea area was adopted. It became possible to generate added value resulting from cooperation in this area, basing on the following pillars:

- an ecologically sustainable region,
- a region of prosperity,
- an accessible and attractive region,
- a safe region,

supplemented with horizontal measures, such as the development of integrated maritime governance structures and maritime and land spatial planning.

The area of intervention under the WROP is fully consistent with the provisions of the Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The individual instruments of the Programme fulfil, both directly and indirectly, the objectives of the Strategy. In connection with the implementation of this supra-regional strategy, the Programme monitoring was extended with an evaluation of investing funds in the categories of intervention regarded as "Baltic ones."



c) Poland 2030 Report

The WROP takes into account the evolution of national development policies. In connection with the preparations for the next financial perspective 2013+ a new system for management of the development of the country, including a package of strategic and programming documents, is being developed. The Poland 2030 Report, which translates into the national conditions the most important strategic Community challenges for the European Union, relating to its competitiveness, cohesion and prosperity, is the starting point for work on these documents.

d) The Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020 and its update

Experiences related to the implementation of the WROP form also the basis for updating the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region. The process, the completion of which is scheduled for 2012, will provide a better basis for operational programming in the next financial perspective 2013+. The conclusions from monitoring of the WROP and evaluation of the implementation of the Programme will be one of the main reasons for the formulation of the provisions to be contained in the next version of the regional strategy.

1.2.3. Description of changes to the Programme

In connection with the review of the operational programmes in the framework of the NSRF for the years 2007-2013 a number of substantive and technical changes, as well as editorial corrections have been introduced. The introduced changes include:

a) Additional funds from the National Performance Reserve

Funds from the National Performance Reserve in the amount of EUR 48,248,915 will be spent primarily on the accomplishment of the Lisbon objectives and those of the Europe 2020 Strategy. It is estimated that those funds will account for 97.97% of this amount. Most of the funds will be allocated to continuation of the construction in the region of a broadband Internet network, consisting in the development of access infrastructure, complementary to the backbone network developed in the framework of an independent project. Part of the funds will be allocated to support for the regional transport infrastructure (air transport infrastructure). The remaining part will be allocated to investment grants for enterprises, reduced significantly during the implementation of the Programme due to decisions to increase investments in financial instruments under the JEREMIE¹ initiative. Furthermore, the amount of EUR 1 million will be allocated to a Technical Assistance grant, which will allow for covering the ongoing costs of operation of the Managing Authority, as well as works, studies and expert reports related to the preparation for the next programming period 2014-2020 and the implementation of the Strategy.

¹ Additional funds from the National Performance Reserve and the technical adjustment, directed to measures supporting individual enterprises, will be allocated only to those projects which are clearly linked to the priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy, and result from Regional Innovation Strategy.



b) Additional funds from the technical adjustment, from the regional operational programme financial envelope

Funds from the technical adjustment in the amount of EUR 11,531,973 will be used for investment grants for enterprises², which will be subsidised to some extent also with the National Performance Reserve.

c) Changes in performance indicators related to the WROP

The performance indicators related to the WROP have been subject to an internal evaluation, the most important conclusions of which have been contained in the "*Mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007 – 2013*" report. Due to the fact that a review of the Programme is made at the stage when practically all the allocation within the WROP for individual projects has been earmarked, the proposed changes in the indicators are primarily supposed to adjust their expected final values to the expected performance.

The final package and the scale of changes are due to the following reasons:

- Inadequate and inaccurate data and initial assumptions. First of all, limited ability to use the experiences of the IROP due to a different scale of expenditures and area of intervention, and thus limited comparability, absence of the final shape of the demarcation line at the stage of the Programme development, as well as its subsequent changes.
- Performance of the Programme other than expected. This resulted from a decision on reallocations of funds between measures within the priorities, from the changes in the types of projects for the implementation of which tenders were announced, demand for funds other than the expected one and the outcomes of the tenders different than those expected.
- The need to adapt and update the list of indicators by replacing them for the purposes of monitoring with more realistic ones, and more appropriate to the type of interventions and types of projects.
- Adjustment of the names of the indicators to the KPI terminology.

The most important proposed changes in the indicators include:

- Alignment of the frequency of monitoring indicators generated by macroeconomic models.
- Adjustment to the expected number of companies supported with investment grants due to an increase in investments in financial instruments.
- Change in the type of indicators relating to projects in the area of information society.
- Changes in some indicators relating to the number of supported projects resulting from the concentration of spending on major projects of regional significance. This applies, *inter alia*, to the infrastructure for human capital, or business promotion.

d) Technical changes

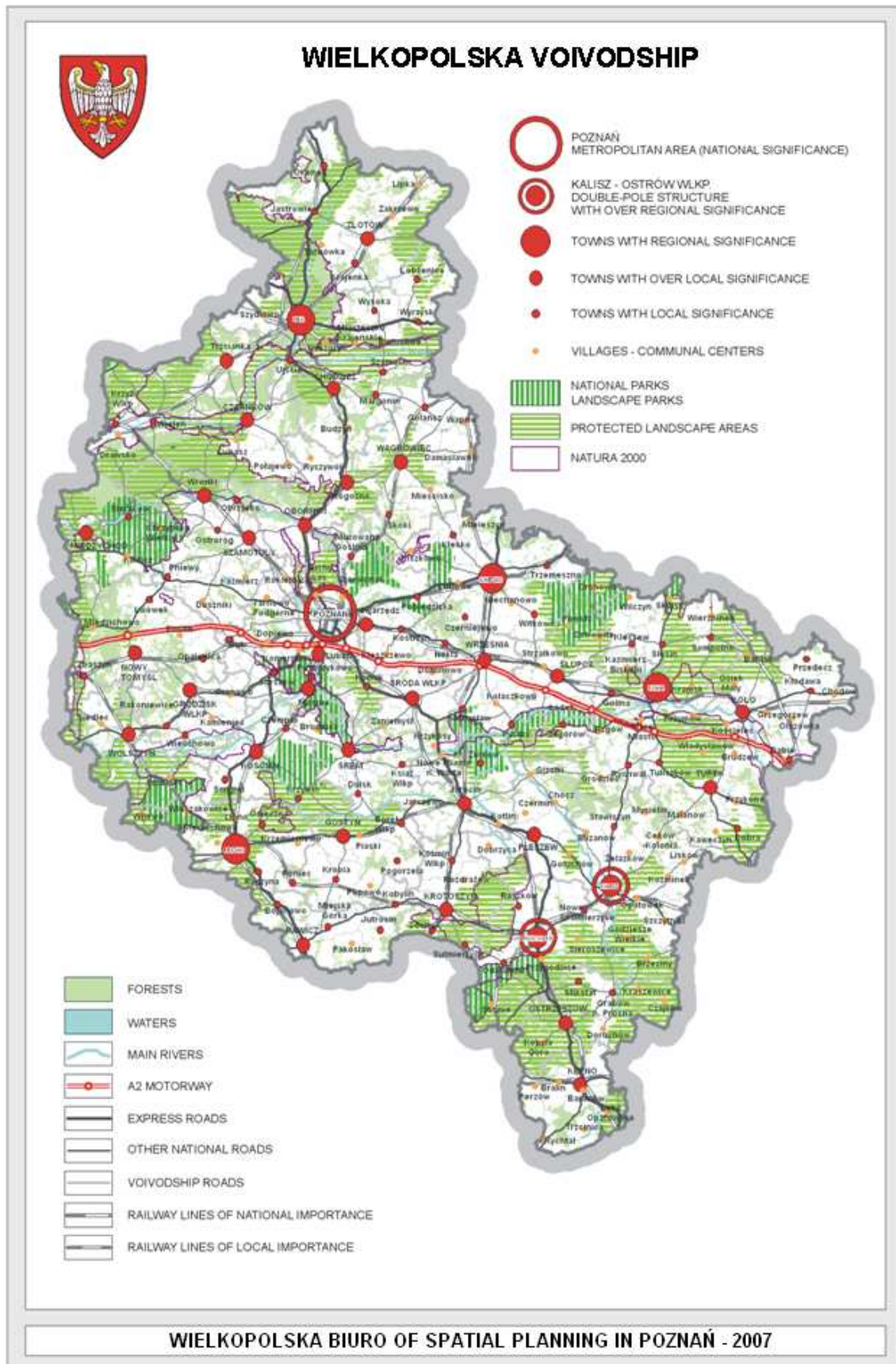
² Additional funds from the National Performance Reserve and the technical adjustment, directed to measures supporting individual enterprises, will be allocated only to those projects which are clearly linked to the priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy, and result from Regional Innovation Strategy.



The changes referred to as "technical" ones were introduced - as necessary for the proper implementation of the WROP in accordance with applicable regulations - in connection with the entry into force on 1 January 2010 of the amended Act of 27 August 2009 on public finance (Journal of Laws of 2009, No. 157, item 1240). The change to the contents of the WROP was introduced based on the standard provision for all operational programmes implemented under the NSRF, prepared and approved by the NSRF Coordinating Authority, the Coordinating Authority of the Regional Operational Programmes and the Strategic Coordination Authority in the Ministry of Regional Development. Finally, it was adopted by way of Resolution No. 36 of 7 December 2009 of the NSRF CC on changes to the contents of operational programmes in connection with the entry into force of the Act of 27 August 2009 on public finance. Pursuant to the Resolution the relevant provisions of Chapter 7 of the WROP "Enforcement Provisions" in regard to financial flows were modified. The WROP MA advised the European Commission on the changes to the WROP.

e) Other changes to the Programme:

- As proposed by the Department of the Certifying Authority in the Ministry of Regional Development, the provisions concerning the Certifying Authority (CA) were updated. The provisions defining the tasks of the CA have been made more specific.
- The financial tables concerning the Programme have been updated. This is due to introduction of additional funds from the ERDF to the funding system of the WROP, which resulted in an increase in the national contribution: both public and private. After analysing the current stage of completion of the projects, the tables presenting the indicative breakdown of allocation of funds by categories of the programmed use of contributions of the funds in the WROP have been also amended: in accordance with the criterion for priority thematic areas, in accordance with the criterion for forms of funding and in accordance with the criterion for the area.
- In some cases amendments to the lists of potential beneficiaries and possible project types have been introduced in the descriptions of priorities.
- In the list of major projects in the framework of the WROP another two projects of key importance for the development of the region, meeting the criterion for a major project within the meaning of Regulation 1083 have been taken into account.
- Found editorial errors have been corrected and the names of some institutions involved in the implementation of the Programme have been updated.





2. Diagnosis of the voivodship's social economic situation

2.1. General information

2.1.1. Nature's potential

Wielkopolska is a lowland region. Its surface sculpture, soil and geological conditions were established most of all by glaciations.

The majority of soil within the area of the voivodship is poor: podzol and rusty (60%) as well as loamy and brown (20%), the remaining soil is of marshy areas (humic-gley, gley-podzol, peat soil, fen soil etc.). In this respect the region does not stand out from the rest of the country.

Wielkopolska has little water resources. The shortage of water stems from low average annual precipitation (the average is approx. 540 mm), high evaporation values (425 mm), permeability of Tertiary and Quaternary layers and the existence of ice marginal streamways that drain underground Tertiary and Quaternary waters.

The shortage of water leads to soil drying in the vegetation period and the lowest runoff per area unit values in Poland. The region is located in the area of low unit runoffs. The average unit runoff in the Warta basin amounts to 3.74 l/s/km², in the Odra basin up to the mouth of Warta – 5.48 l/s/km²; and in the country — 5,20 l/s/km².

The underground water resources used as water supply sources are located in the Tertiary, Quaternary and the Cretaceous formations. Reservoirs in the Quaternary formations are of the greatest significance. The main Quaternary reservoirs are divided into open reservoirs: valley, ice valley streamway, sandr; and closed: inter-moraine reservoirs and buried valleys. Open reservoirs that are most threatened with anthropogenic pollution are:

- Barycz — Głogów Ice Marginal Streamway (G2WP – Main Map of Underground Reservoirs no. 303)
- Warszawsko-Berlińska Ice Marginal Streamway (GZWP no. 150)
- Toruńsko-Eberswaldzka Ice Marginal Streamway (GZWP no. 138).

The most important reservoirs for municipal water supply purposes among reservoirs buried in the Quaternary formations include the Wielkopolska buried valley (GZWP no. 144) and valleys in the area of Szamotuły (GZWP no. 145) and Kalisz (GZWP no. 311).

Deeper Tertiary reservoirs are also used in many areas of the region as the main source, especially where there are no usable Quaternary reservoirs. Rich parts of Tertiary reservoirs belong to the main underground water reservoirs (GZWP no. 143, 146, 127). Moreover, there is a Cretaceous reservoir in the Konin — Turek area (GZWP no. 151).

Top Protection Areas (TPAs) and High Protection Areas (HPAs) are of crucial importance. With appropriate facilities, they are to protect the underground water reservoirs.



It is of key importance for the supply of drinking water, especially in the context of degradation of ground waters.

Ground water resources in Wielkopolska belong to the smallest in the country. The Warta catchment area, which is where the majority of the Wielkopolska territory is located, has lower precipitation than the national average; in 1997 – 587.5 mm (as compared to the national average of 636.4 mm) and lower water runoff values per 1 km²: in 1997 – 132 dam³ (as compared to the national average of 215 dam³).

Small retention in artificial reservoirs (amounting to 0.6% of the average annual runoff as compared to the national average of 6%) does not allow reasonable management of stored water resources. This is why small retention should be the problem to focus on in the future activities aimed at improving water balance in the region.

Underground water resources to be used in Wielkopolska in 2005 (as at 31 December) amounted to 1586.0 cubic hectometres.

Most of Wielkopolska areas have small resources of water (annual precipitations ca. 480 mm round the area of Śrem and Słupca, up to 600 mm round the area of Kępno and Ostrzeszów). Moreover, due to the climate, the availability of surface waters and partially underground waters changes in annual and multiannual cycles. Agriculture is directly determined by the shortage of water supplies. This situation has brought about significant deforestation of the region in the last 200 years and a significant reduction of small retention. This means that the region is slowly turning into a steppe.

Nearly 26 % of the region is covered by forests. Wielkopolska is dominated by pines with the majority of weak site types, mainly boletus ones, taking approx. 63 % of the forest area. The foremost forestgenic species in the region include: pine (nearly 79 % within the area of RDLP Poznań), oak (10.7 %), birch (4.2 %) and alder (4.2 %).

In the year 2005 approximately 31% of the region area included areas of special nature's values, protected by law, including 26% area of protected landscape, 6% landscape parks, 0.3% national parks and 0.2% nature reserves. The protected system of the region comprises of: the Wielkopolski National Park (7584 ha) and a part of the Drawieński National Park (380 ha within the borders of the region), 12 landscape parks or parts of them, 96 nature reserves, 32 areas of protected landscape, 5 nature-landscape units, 88 ecological grounds and 45 areas previously selected for protection within Nature 2000 Network.

By the end of 2006, 14 Natura 2000 sites under the Birds Directive (including 8 sites in the Shadow List) and 31 sites under the Habitats Directive (including 17 sites in the Shadow List) were identified in Wielkopolska. The total area of Natura 2000 areas located completely within the territory of the region (39 of them) amounts to approx. 771,583.6 ha, which is slightly above 83% of all protected areas in the region. The list of Natura 2000 sites in Wielkopolska (according to the materials of the Polish Nature Protection Society "Salamander") at the end of 2006 was as follows (* - Shadow List):



Under Birds Directive	Under Habitats Directive
1. Puszcza nad Gwdą* (Gwda Forest)	1. Poligon Okonek* (Okonek Military Area)
2. Nadnoteckie Łęgi (Noteć Wetlands)	2. Dolina Rurzycy* (Rurzyca Valley)
3. Dolina Środkowej Noteci (Central Noteć Valley)	3. Dolina Debrzynki* (Debrzynka Valley)
4. Puszcza Notecka* (Noteć Forest)	4. Uroczyska Złotowskie* (Złotów Nature Reserve)
5. Jezioro Zgierzynieckie* (Zgierzynieckie Lake)	5. Dolina Łobzonki* (Łobzonka Valley)
6. Dolina Samicy* (Samica Valley)	6. Dębowa Góra*
7. Dolina Małej Wełny* (Mała Wełna Valley)	7. Struga Białośliwka*
8. Wielki Łęg Obrzański (Great Obrza Wetlands)	8. Dolina Noteci (Noteć Valley)
9. Pojezierze Sławskie* (Sławskie Lakeland)	9. Jezioro Święte* (Święte Lake)
10. Zbiornik Wonieść (Wonieść Reservoir)	10. Jezioro Kubek (Kubek Lake)
11. Ostoja Rogalińska* (Rogalin Refuge)	11. Sieraków
12. Dolina Środkowej Warty (Central Warta Valley)	12. Pojezierze Międzychodzko-Sierakowskie* (Międzychodzko-Sierakowskie Lakeland)
13. Dąbrowy Krotoszyńskie* (Krotoszyn Oak Forests)	13. Torfowisko Rzepińskie* (Rzepiń Peat Bog)
14. Dolina Baryczy (Barycz Valley)	14. Dąbrowy Obrzyckie (Obrzycko Oak Forests)
	15. Bagno Chlebowo* (Chlebowo Marshland)
	16. Jezioro Zgierzynieckie (Zgierzynieckie Lake)
	17. Kopanki,
	18. Barłóżyna Wolsztyńska*
	19. Huby Grzebieniskie*
	20. Biedrusko
	21. Fortyfikacje Poznańskie (Poznań Fortifications)
	22. Ostoja Wielkopolska (Wielkopolska Refuge)
	23. Rogalińska Dolina Warty (Rogalin Warta Valley)
	24. Pojezierze Gnieźnieńskie* (Gnieźnieńskie Lakeland)
	25. Lasy Żerkowsko-Czeszewskie* (Żerkowsko-Czeszewskie Forests)
	26. Ostoja Nadwarciańska (Nadwarciańska Refuge)
	27. Puszcza Bieniaszewska (Bieniaszewska Forest)
	28. Jezioro Brenno* (Brenno Lake)
	29. Zachodnie Pojezierze Krzywińskie (Western Krzywińskie Lakeland)
	30. Dąbrowy Krotoszyńskie (Krotoszyn Oak Forests)
	31. Ostoja nad Baryczą* (Barycz Refuge)

In lake districts, mainly in the northern and middle part of the region, there are about 800 lakes, including 58% with an area of up to 10 ha and 8% with an area of over 100 ha. The biggest lake of voivodship is Powidzkie Lake (1036 ha) in the Gniezno Lake District.

From the hydrographical point of view Wielkopolska belongs to the Oder basin, with 88% of its area drained by the system of the Warta River, and the remaining 12% by the system of Barycz, Krzycki Rów and Obrzyca. Water contamination monitoring shows that unclassified water keeps flowing in the majority of the rivers, but over the last few years their quality has been improving.

Ground water is the base for the drinking water supply for the regional population. Main exploitation is carried out from ground water reservoirs at tertiary and quaternary aquifers, whereas in the eastern part of the region from Cretaceous and Jurassic layers. The whole territory of Wielkopolska features mineralised thermal ground waters. Most of ground waters



were qualified for 1st and 2nd class of limpidity, therefore they can be used after simple treatment (reduction of iron and manganese compounds).

Wielkopolska is abound in energetic minerals, mainly brown coal, natural gas, oil and peat. The deposits of brown coal are exploited in the area of Konin, where they constitute the base for the development of the energetic industry (the unit of power plants Pątnów-Adamów-Konin). The voivodship is marked by rich peat deposits, with 886 thousand evidenced so far. On top of that, the deposits of this resource with healing properties were found, so called mud bath.

In the Kłodawa region rock-salt is exploited (ca. 15% of national production). In the region also rich deposits of gypsum are exploited. Considerable deposits of natural aggregates, ceramic minerals and natural whiting can be found on the whole territory of the region.

In order to return the areas to nature after exploitation they are being reclaimed. In the year 2005 the area of the reclaimed and post-industrial developed areas as well as other demoted areas amounted to 0.04% of the whole region area.

Nature's diversity of the region is not neutral for the economic structure of its particular parts. They define agricultural, tourist and industrial development potentials. Mostly diversified landscape, numerous forest systems, Nature 2000 Network and abundance of cultural heritage create conditions for the development of tourism. They create conditions to release 'free energy' of the economy of the region.

The challenge for the upcoming years will be to maintain, on the one hand, the current state of the environment in line with the sustainable development rule and, on the other hand, its biodiversity and spatial coherence. This is why it is important for the measures planned in the programme to create as little anthropopressure on the environment as possible.

Conclusions:

- Insufficient water reserves and excessively low level of artificial retention
- Poor quality of surface water
- Insufficient level of forest density
- Big natural virtues of a part of Wielkopolska
- Numerous points of conflict between human activity and the environment

Recommendations:

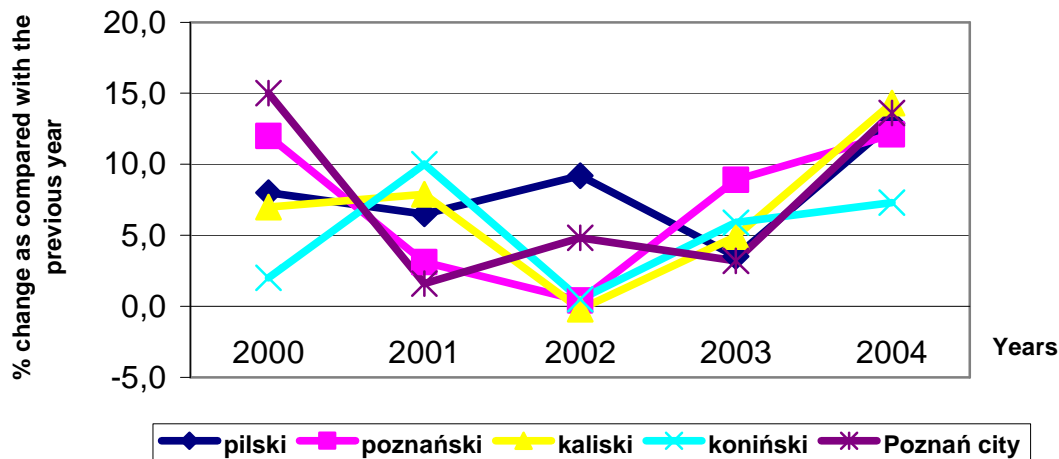
- Arrangement of the economy and increase of water reserves of the region, including the increase in small artificial water retention
- Protection and usage of natural potential of the most attractive parts of Wielkopolska
- Elimination and mitigation of conflicts between human activity and natural environment
- Improvement of particular components of the environment
- Reclaiming of denoted areas

2.1.2. Economic potential

Wielkopolskie voivodship is situated in the Mid-Western Poland. It is one of the biggest regions of the country. As far as the territory is concerned (29 826 km²) it takes second place

in the country, and third place as far as population is concerned (8.8% of the total population of Poland).

Pace of GDP change per one inhabitant according to subregions



Source: Central Statistical Office

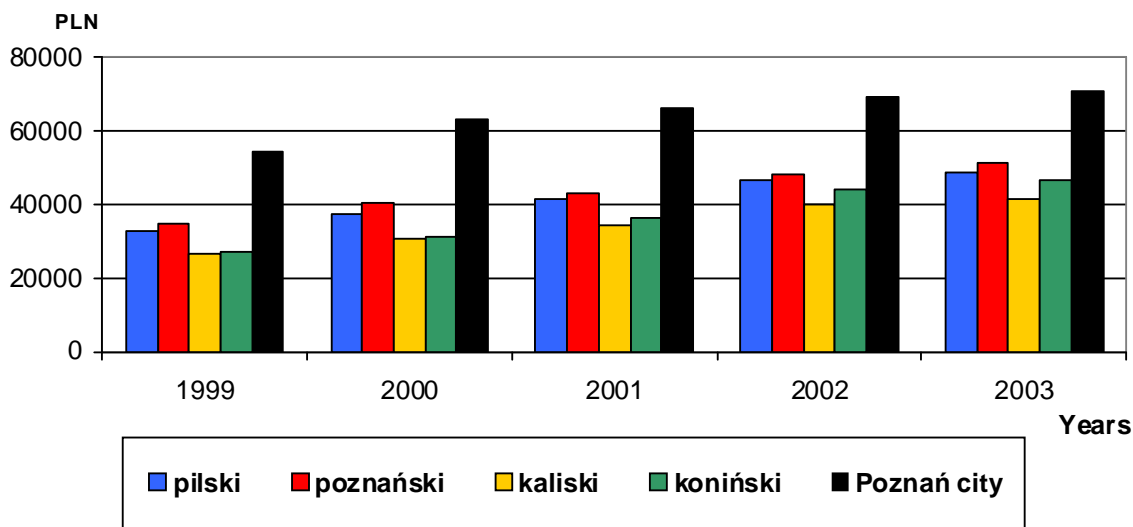
Wielkopolska has good prospects for development resulting from the favourable location on the European continent, on the 'bridge' between East and West Europe. A transit location of Poznań is of significant importance. An international transport corridor, which runs through the middle of the region from east to west (international road E-30 and railway track E-20), connects Wielkopolska with both parts of the continent. Important transit significance can also be attributed to the North-South national road from Świecie, through Bydgoszcz, Poznań to Wrocław as well as 11 national road from the Mid-coast through Poznań down to the Upper Silesia.

The disadvantage factor for regional development is a large meridional dimension of the region. Its borders, southern and northern in particular, have a limited chance to take advantage of the location, i.e. near the East-West transport corridor. It results, among others, from communication limitations of the North-South direction.

According to the estimations of the Central Statistical Office the value of GDP per capita in the region in 2004 was 26 001 PLN, in comparison with the national average of 24 181 PLN. Only one subregion – the city of Poznań – reported a ratio above the national average. In 2004 the value of this ratio for the city of Poznań was 49 125 PLN. In the remaining subregions the ratio ranged from 23 441 PLN (subregion of Poznań) to 19 489 PLN (subregion of Kalisz). In comparison with the average value of the European Union the GDP per capita calculated by parity of purchasing power in Wielkopolskie voivodship in 2002 was 41.7% (UE = 100%).

As regards the GDP value per capita expressed in PPS (purchase power standard), Wielkopolska is among the EU regions with the lowest values of this indicator – below 8 00 PPS, as compared to the EU-25 average = 21 741 PPS (in 2003 according to: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 2.1).

Gross value per one working person according to subregions (current prices)



Source: Central Statistical Office

Especially worrying was the collapse of GDP dynamics after the year 2000. In the period 2001- 2002 a very clear collapse of dynamics in each subregion was seen, and in 2002 for two of them (Kalisz, Poznań) the ratio dropped even in comparison to the previous year. A part of the observed changes results from the change of the calculation system of GDP since 2002. It does not change the fact that the weakening of GDP growth in Wielkopolska may strengthen interregional discrepancies.

The measure for the productivity of economy is gross value added per one worker. In 2003 in Wielkopolska it amounted to 52 931 PLN, which was less than the national average (54 741 PLN). Among the subregions only Poznań subregion significantly exceeded the national average with the gross value added ratio per worker of 70 832 PLN, whereas the remaining regions reported lower values. In total, in 2003 gross added value generated in Wielkopolska totalled 64.9 billion PLN, i.e. 9.15% of this value for Poland (709.2 billion PLN). Unfortunately, in 2002 Wielkopolska share of gross value added fell by over 0.5 percentage point as compared with 2000. This means that the productivity of economy of the region has been falling as compared with other voivodships of the country with simultaneous increase of interregional diversification observed on the basis of GDP.

Disproportions between subregions for gross value added per worker are not subject to significant changes. In 2003 the lowest gross value added per worker was reported in Kalisz and Konin subregions.

The condition of economy and level of living are in close connection with public finance. The size of a voivodship, poviats and communes' budget has the most important influence on the level of living of population and their possibilities of development. The total incomes of the communes' budgets, counted per capita, are very different. In the richest communes they are over three times higher than in the least wealthy ones. The richest communes in the region are: Tarnowo Podgórne, Suchy Las, Przykona, Kleczew, Poznań and Powidz. Subsidies make the differences smaller but they do not eradicate them.



Local governments, to the best of their financial abilities, allocate part of the budgets for development, i.e. investment. In 2004 particular communes spent on this purpose from less than 1% up to over 53% of their incomes. Also the structure of expenses for certain purposes is considerably diversified.

On average incomes of local governments in Wielkopolska are rather high in absolute terms. If counted per capita, they are similar to the national average. In 2005, the total incomes of Wielkopolska communes were 1 821 PLN per capita, in comparison to the national average of 1 808 PLN. Incomes of poviats are similar to those in the country (545 PLN per capita in Wielkopolska, 543 PLN in Poland). Towns with the rights of poviats had slightly higher incomes than the national average ((Wielkopolska – 2 857 PLN per capita, Poland – 2830 PLN).

Conclusions:

- Favourable location of a part of the voivodship's area;
- Significant economic potential, however inconsistently located and not competitive enough in many places;
- Productivity of economy lower than the national average;
- Diversified economic potential of local governments, similar to the national average.

Recommendations:

- Increase of the potential of areas situated in transport corridors and round growth poles;
- Support the peripheral areas, especially by improving their links with growth areas;
- Strengthen general productivity of economy, especially by increasing its innovativeness.

2.2. Human resources

2.2.1. Demography

In 2006 the Wielkopolskie voivodship had the population of 3 378.2 thousand, which constituted less than 8.9% of the total Polish population (3rd place in country after mazowieckie and śląskie voivodships). Over the last 30 years the dynamics of population growth has decreased as an effect of a permanent decrease of birth rate, from 9.9 per 1000 inhabitants in 1975 up to 0.89 in 2004, the decreasing tendency intensified after 1995. However, in recent years the birth rate in Wielkopolska has increased: from 0.80 per 1000 people in 2003; 0.98 per 1000 people in 2004, up to 1.65 per 1000 in 2006. A rather unfavourable situation remains in towns, where in the previous years the birth rate was negative, but in 2005 it grew up to 0.96 (0.35 in Poland). In 2005, in rural areas of the region this rate amounted to 2.23 (0.29 in Poland). The situation in Wielkopolska (where the natural birth rate was 1051 in 2005) is better than average in the rest of the country, where since 2002 the birth rate has been negative (0.10 in 2005).



Wielkopolska belongs to these rare EU regions with the lowest general decrease in population (ranging from –0.4 to 0.0 persons per 1000 inhabitants in the years 2000-2003 – source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 1.1).

Population density of the voivodship is 113 inhabitants/1 km², (which gives it 11th place in the country) and is lower by 9 people than the average ratio for Poland (122 inhabitants/km²), and than the EU ratio of 117 inhabitants/1 km².

1 739.6 thousand women constitute 51.5% of the voivodship's population. Feminisation ratio ranges at the level of 106.1 (for Poland 106.9, EU 105.2) and has remained more or less stable for a few years.

Demographic potential is not regular within the region. There are areas of high concentration (especially the agglomeration of Poznań as well as regional and subregional centres) and sparsely populated areas (especially northern districts of the region). Inner migration from areas of economic stagnation to areas with high dynamics of development has been observed. Generally, urban population has been leaving the towns – in 2005 the population of urban areas of the voivodship fell by 3 763 inhabitants (migration balance in cities was – 1.97 inhabitants per 10 thousand population). Whereas migration balance in rural areas is positive; in 2005, population influx amounted to 6 064 inhabitants (4.13 inhabitants per 10 thousand population).

In 2006 town population of the voivodship was 1 921.5 thousand, which constitutes 8.2% of the total number of town population in Poland. Town population share in the total number of population of the voivodship remains at the level of around 56.9% and is lower by 4.2% from the value of this ratio for the country (61.3%). Whereas rural population of the voivodship, amounting to 1 457.0 thous. in 2006, constituted 9.9% of the total rural population of the country.

The capital of the region – Poznań – has the greatest demographic potential (approx. 565 thousand inhabitants), which constitutes 29.4% of town population and 16.7% of the total population of the voivodship.

Former voivodship centres –Kalisz, Konin, Leszno, Piła and the towns Gniezno and Ostrów Wlkp. – are inhabited by almost 472 thousand people, i.e. 24.5% of the total Wielkopolska town population and ca. 14% of the total voivodship population. The other poviats concentrate ca. 480 thousand inhabitants, i.e. 14.3% of the total voivodship population.

78 small towns (up to 20 thousand inhabitants) are inhabited by approx. 400 thousand people, i.e. 21% of the Wielkopolska town population and 12% of the total voivodship population.

In the recent years age structure has shown the increase in working age groups and fall into the non-working group. In 2006, the working age population in Wielkopolska constituted 64.8% of the total population (slightly higher ratio than the national one – 64.2%, but lower than the EU ratio – 67.1%), while 35.2% was the non-working age population of the voivodship (in the country 36.4%, in EU 32.9%).

63.3% of the working age group population are people in the so-called mobile age (18 – 44 years). This indicator is lower for the whole country – 62.3%.

The percentage share of pre-working age population of the region (under 18) in 2006 constituted 21.1% of the total population, while it reached 20.1% in Poland. The percentage



of post-working age population in Wielkopolska was 14.1 %, as compared to 15.7% in Poland and 16.5% in the EU.

There are 54 people from the non-working age group per 100 people in the working age group (the national ratio is 56).

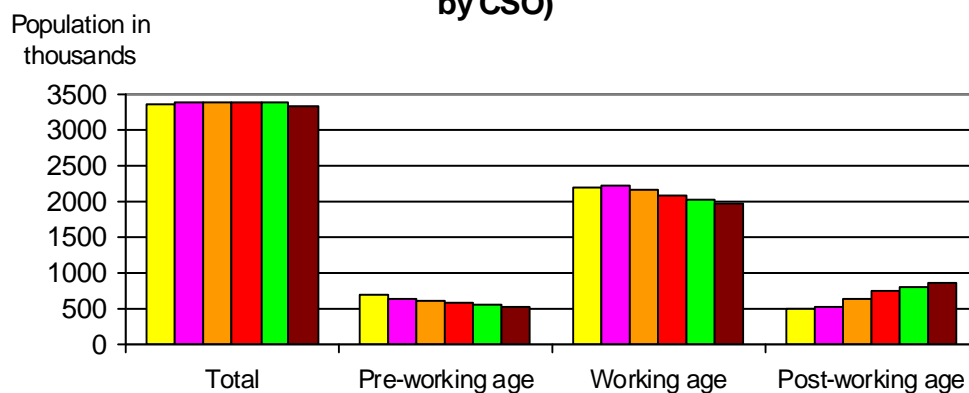
The towns Poznań and Kalisz have the most unfavourable age structure of the population due to the very low share of the pre-productive age group. The share of post productive group is rather high in these towns. These changes are the result of the ageing population of the towns. Such processes have an important influence on the condition and structure of population divided into professionally active and inactive population.

.Relatively high percentage of young people, teenagers, who will soon reinforce the productive group, allows to think positive about the future of the voivodship's economy for the coming years. 16.6% of the Wielkopolska inhabitants are people under 15 years of age. The national ratio is 15.8%, i.e. lower that in the region. The EU ratio is 16.4%.

Wielkopolskie voivodship is often perceived as a region with high activity of its population. This results from relatively high dynamics of social-economic changes, especially in areas with low unemployment rate, good economy structure, high level of privatization, and from historical developments. Unfortunately, a big part of the voivodship comprises areas from the opposite pole of development. These areas - often with high unemployment rate, low level of living, lack of foreign investments, low level of privatisation or low level of education – deal with low activity of inhabitants or even the lack of activity. The low level of living is characteristic especially for rural population with weak spatial mobility.

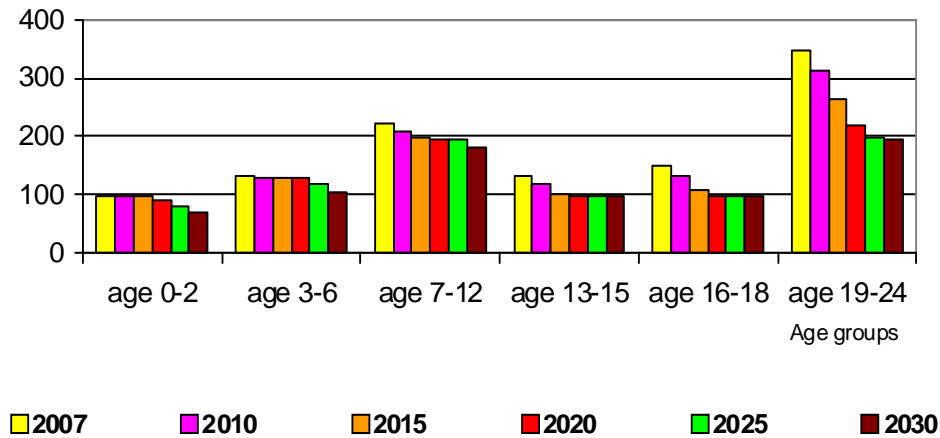
Wielkopolskie voivodship is currently assumed to be the region with average wages similar to the national average. In 2006, the value of average monthly gross payment was 2 452 PLN, in comparison with the national average of 2 477 PLN. An average monthly gross retired pension and disability pension paid from non-rural insurance system in Wielkopolska is also lower than the national average. In 2006, its value was 1 169 PLN (national average – 1 261 PLN). However, the value of an average monthly retired pension and disability pension for individual farmers remains on the level of the national average (802 PLN).

**Prognosis for Wielkopolska population in 2003-2030
(according to “Prognosis for population in 2003-2030”
by CSO)**



Source: Central Statistical Office

Population in thous. **Prognosis for Wielkopolska population in 2003-2030 in the age groups from 0 to 24 years**



Source: Central Statistical Office

The population projection was based on the results of the National Census (of Population and Apartments) in 2002. In the Wielkopolskie voivodship a stable growth of population up to 2020 is assumed, afterwards the number will start to decrease. This will be the case especially for rural population, as town population is forecasted to decrease regularly. To 2020 the number of Wielkopolska population will grow by 1.6%, but then until 2030 it will decrease reaching 99.5% of the number from 2006. The tendency is reverse to this in the State, where in all the estimated period there will be a stable decrease of population – reaching in 2030 the level of 93.5% in the year 2006.

The analysis of the population prognosis in particular subregions NTS 3 (based on functional age groups) indicates that the subregions: Kalisz, Konin, Piła a general prognosis of a tendency is similar for all age groups, as for all Wielkopolskaie voivodship.

A different situation takes place in the case of subregion Poznań and the city of Poznań. While in all Wielkopolska population will grow slightly to 2020 and then it will start to decrease, in the subregion city of Poznań in all estimated period the decreasing tendency will appear. In the period 2006 – 2030 the number of population in the city of Poznań will decrease by almost 90 thousand inhabitants. The significant part of that number will be made up of the population in productive age.

A different situation will take place in Poznań subregion where in all the prognosed period the number of population will grow – by approx. 90 thousand until 2020 and further 13 thousands by 2030. The above analysis seems to indicate flow of part of population from the city of Poznań to the area of Poznań subregion.

Conclusions:

- Demographic potential is not spread regularly over all the area of the voivodship;
- Over the previous years a growth of population in productive age and decrease of population in non-productive age has taken place;



- High percentage of young people;
- The significant part of the voivodship are areas with low level of living, especially in the case of rural population;
- The prognosis of population assumes a stable growth of population until 2020, and than the decrease;
- Until 2020 a significant (higher than the national average) growth of population in retirement age and considerable decrease in the age group of 0-24 will take place;
- The population of Poznań will decrease considerably – as an effect of a migration to Poznań.

Recommendations:

- Facilitate spatial mobility of inhabitants, especially by improving availability and by developing public transport facilities;
- Eliminate causes of economic migration by making employment in the place of living more attractive;
- Adjust education, labour market and social sphere to the forecasted changes in the age structure of population.

2.2.2. Labour market

In 2005, Wielkopolska had almost 1 223 thousand of employed i.e. 1.14% more than in the previous year. The biggest number of working population was in the service sector – altogether approx. 50.03%, including 16.8% in trade and repairs, 7.5% in education, 7% in services related to real estate and provided to companies, 4.87% in transportation, storehouse management and communications, 4.5% in health care and social aid, 3.6% in public administration and national defence, 2.5% in municipal, social and individual services, 1.93% in financial agencies and 1.5% in hotels and restaurants. Industry and construction sectors employed almost 32.5% of the total number of working population of the region (in the country 27.9%, in the EU 28.8% - in 2002³), whereas 17.4% in agriculture, hunting, fish culture and forestry. As compared with the previous year 2004 featured an increase in the total number of workers of the industrial sectors and construction, while agriculture, transportation, warehousing and communications reported a decrease.

78.1% of the total number of workers were employed in the private sector.

The ratio of working population against population in total was 36.39% (with the national average of 32.9%). This situation is more favourable than in some Polish regions, but less favourable than in the regions of Central Europe and Great Britain. It is similar to the situation in French regions (according to: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 5%)..1).

As regards the employment index in the age group 15-64, Wielkopolska is among the regions with the lowest values (below 55%). This group also includes almost all Polish regions and some “new” regions of the EU, 3 Spanish regions and regions in the southern part of Italy. The UE-25 average amounted to 63.1% in 2004.

³ From: *Third report on economic and social cohesion (Trzeci raport na temat spójności gospodarczej i społecznej)*



The index of employment in the age group 50-64 (the “pre-retirement” group) makes Wielkopolska one of the regions with the lowest values of this index in the EU (below 35%). The average value for EU-25 was 40.9% in 2004 (according to: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, maps 4.1 and 4.3).

Year 2005		Economic activity of population at the age of 15 and older										
		in total	by age					by education level				
			15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	over 55	post secondary	general secondary education	vocational secondary education	vocational secondary education	secondary, primary and incomplete primary
Population		2692	553	530	374	535	699	342	636	250	804	660
Professionally active	in total	1545	234	469	334	384	124	280	447	118	563	138
	working	1281	150	393	292	336	110	257	381	90	461	94
	unemployed	264	84	75	42	48	15	24	66	28	102	44
Professionally pasive		1147	319	62	41	151	575	62	189	133	242	522

Source: Central Statistical Office

At the end of December 2005, 211 420 unemployed were registered in Wielkopolska. The registered unemployment rate was 14.6%, with the national average of 17.6% (in EU-27 8.7%). In respect of unemployment rate Wielkoposka takes 3rd place in the country. Data shows that the situation on the market of Wielkopolska is improving (until December 2002 the unemployment dynamics growth decreased and since March 2003 also the number of registered unemployed has been falling).

According to BAEL (Research on Economic Activity of Population), unemployment rate in 2005 totalled on average 17.2% yearly, including 16.3% in villages.

One of the characteristic features of Wielkopolska unemployment is stable and high share of women in total unemployment (over 57.7% in 2005). In 2005, the unemployment rate among women in Wielkopolska was 20.4% (according to BAEL). Simultaneously in the EU (27) women’s unemployment rate was 9.7% (in 2005). In the same period the unemployment rate among men was 7.9% There is high share of graduates among the unemployed. In the school year 2005/2006, it stood at 4.67%.

Unemployment remains in close connection with the level of education. The greatest group of the unemployed in 2005, were people with vocational secondary education (31.3% of the total registered unemployed) as well as junior secondary, elementary and incomplete elementary education (27.9%).

In 2005, over 47% of the unemployed, mainly at the age close to the end of productive period, had not had have a job for over 1 year (w UE 40%)⁴, and 31.2% for over 2 years. 20.5% of the unemployed are the people who had held no job before. 21.2% of the unemployed are workers with job practice from 1 to 5 years. People with an over 30-year job practice constitute 1.9% of the unemployed

Among the unemployed the youngest generations in the productive age constitute the biggest percentage. In 2004 as much as 25.64% of the unemployed were people under 25 (in the EU 18.9% in 2004).

⁴ From: *Projekt Narodowej Strategii Rozwoju Regionalnego na lata 2007-2013 (Draft of National Regional Development Strategy 2007-2013)*.



Rural population constitutes 46% (97 326) of the total registered unemployed in Wielkopolska, including women – 57.3% (55 817) and people receiving unemployment benefit – 13.7% (13 334 people).

The unemployed living in rural areas are usually marked by low level of education, very low mobility and readiness to learn for a new job or change professional qualifications. In 2004, over 74% of the unemployed from rural areas had only junior secondary or vocational education, whereas the total number of the unemployed constituted 69.9% of people with such a level of education. Only 2.5% of the unemployed from rural areas had higher education, and 23.3% had secondary vocational and general education.

In 2004 the greatest percentage share of the unemployed from rural areas was in Konin subregion – 57.6% of the total unemployed in this category in Wielkopolska. The smallest percentage was in Poznań subregion (32.5%). Among the poviats of the region the greatest percentage share of the unemployed from rural areas was in the poviats of: Wolsztyn 74.8%, Pleszew 71.2% and Słupca 70.1%.

The region is marked by a very uneven spatial distribution of the unemployment level. In Poznań at the end of December 2005 there was a 6.2% unemployment rate, in the poviat of Kępno – 7.9%, Poznań - 8.9%, whereas in the poviat of Konin – 26.1%, Złotów 25.3% and Słupca 23.9%. In 16 Wielkopolska poviats the unemployment rate was higher than the national average (17.6%). The most difficult situation is in the poviat of Piła and Konin.

In comparison with the year 2004, in December 2005 the number of the unemployed fell by 20.8 thousand - ca. 9%. However, in the period 2000-2005 the number of the unemployed in Wielkopolska grew by almost 19 thousand people i.e. by almost 10%. The highest growth rate since 2000 have been recorded in the following subregions: the city of Poznań and Poznań subregion. The smallest dynamics of growth took place in the subregions: Kalisz and Konin.

Throughout 2005, the number of the newly registered unemployed in Wielkopolska was 241 428 (including 64 995 people who had not worked before), while the number of people removed from the register totalled 262 259 (including 32 043 trainees or apprentices, 126 790 people who started jobs). From January to December 2005, 77 490 job offers were submitted.

In Wielkopolska, at the end of April 2007, the number of the unemployed was 149 772 people, including 95 562 women. As compared to April 2006, the number of the unemployed in the region decreased by 54 611, i.e. 26.7%. The unemployment rate reached the level of 10.5% (2nd place after Małopolskie and Mazowieckie voivodships). One of the reasons for this state of affairs is an intensifying gainful emigration, especially of highly qualified staff.

As far as subregions are concerned, in July, as compared with the same period of the previous year, all of them reported a decrease in the number of the unemployed, with the most significant in the subregion of Kalisz (29.6%) and Piła (26.3%). Furthermore, all poviats of the voivodship reported reduction of unemployment as compared with April 2006 (the biggest in Wolsztyn by 15.9 %).

In the age group under 25 at the end of April 2007 31 672 people were registered, i.e. 21.1% of the unemployed. In April 2007, the newly registered youth totalled 5 264, of which 76.9% registered for the next time.

Among the unemployed living in villages, a drop of 7.9% was reported, i.e. 5 906 people as compared with April 2006.



The percentage of the long-term unemployed decreased. At the end of April this group accounted for 63.4% (in March 2007 – 6.7% more). Among the long-term unemployed the prevailing group was women, i.e. 68%. The highest percentage of this group was reported in the subregion of Konin: Koło (73%), Słupca (70.6%) and Konin (70.3%).

In April 2007, labour offices of poviats received 11 275 job offers, i.e. 1 815 more than in April 2006. 11 140 unemployed started work.

The expenditure of the Labour Fund – including unemployment benefits, benefits and pre-retired pensions and expenses for active aid for the unemployed from January to December 2005 in the Wielkopolskie voivodship were 434.43 mln PLN and they were higher by 52.3 mln PLN than in November 2005. The unemployment benefits and aid totalled 250.9 mln PLN, which constituted 57.8% of the total expenditure. 164 773.5 thousand PLN were spend on programmes to counteract unemployment, which constituted 37.9% of total expenditure (of which 7.5% for vocational preparation of the juvenile and 16.8% on starting business activity).

Disability is an important social problem. It is of great importance for the labour market. According to the data of the Voivodship's Statistical Office the disabled in Wielkopolska constitute about 15.2 % of the total voivodship's population, i.e. every seventh person above 60 is disabled.

The number of the unemployed at the age of 15 and older (in thousands) is shown in the table below.

	alto- gether	town	village	15-29 years old	30-39 years old	40-49 years old	50-59 years old	60-69 years old	70-79 years old	80 and more years old
Wielkopolska voivodship.*	511,6 /100%/	287,2 /56%/	224,6 /44%/	20,4 / 4% /	38,5 / 8% /	107,4 /21%/	117,9 /23%/	144,2 /28%/	55,3 /11%/	27,2 /5%/
Polska	5142,5	2953,1	2189,4	200,5	338,5	939,3	1192,4	1354,6	767,7	349,5

Source: Central Statistical Office

Conclusions:

- Close connection between unemployment and the level of education, qualifications and job seniority;
- Great share among the unemployed of graduates, women and youngest generations in productive age;
- High unemployment level in villages;
- Strong spatial disproportion of unemployment in the region;
- Slight drop of the unemployment rate after Poland joined the EU, mainly due to gainful migration;
- Big number of the disabled.

Recommendations:

- Increase the mobility of citizens on the labour market;
- Focus activities on the areas of the greatest unemployment rate;
- Broaden the labour market offer on rural areas;
- Support risk groups – including women, graduates and the disabled;
- Prevent the causes of gainful migration, especially of highly qualified staff;
- Curb marginalisation of social groups.



2.2.3. Education

In the school year 2005/2006 in Wielkopolska primary schools, junior secondary schools, post junior secondary schools and post secondary schools provided tuition for altogether 610.1 thousand pupils, including 571.8 thousand pupils of schools for children and youth. In the scale of the country the pupils of Wielkopolska accounted for 9.47% of the total.

Disproportions in the region are considerable, especially in the technical infrastructure: laboratories, special class-rooms, gym halls, educational equipment and aid. Ca. 40% of elementary schools and 50% for junior secondary schools in the region lack a gym hall.

	Classrooms (except special schools)				
	in total (school year 2005/2006))	including % in total			
		classrooms	laboratories		gym halls
			total	including computer laboratories	
elementary schools	1 3617	78,7	15,7	7,9	5,6
junior secondary schools	6226	69,2	26,1	8,8	4,6
vocational schools	840*	x	x	x	x
general secondary schools	2496	60,5	34,9	8,0	4,6

* classrooms, laboratories, gym halls and swimming pools

Source: Central Statistical Office

Also the size of educational facilities is diversified. On the scale of the voivodship in 2005/2006 in primary schools there were on average 191 pupils per one facility (in Poland these were five less), in junior secondary schools 257 pupils (in Poland 251). For post elementary and post junior secondary schools (together), one facility had e.g. 323 pupils in the group of general secondary schools (in Poland 292), and 130 in specialised secondary schools (in Poland 134).

	Computers for learners in schools for children and youth (except special schools) in school year 2005/06	
	total	including internet access
Primary schools	12 311	9 277
Junior secondary schools	6 835	6 476
Vocational secondary schools	1 172	1 080
General secondary schools	3 013	2 877
Vocational schools	4 093	3 477
Post secondary schools	489	443

Source: Central Statistical Office

In respect of the number of pupils in classes, classroom computer equipment and access to the Internet Wielkopolska does not diverge considerably from the national average, which, however, is lower than the EU standards. School libraries are systematically equipped with computers. There are no bigger problems with access to the Internet, which is the result of the development of available services and local actions. However, there is a need for flexible



actions, adjusted to various needs of schools. It is especially important to provide portable computers, projectors and interactive boards. Furthermore, it is essential to build a professional data communications infrastructure in big post junior secondary schools. Thus, adequate educational projects are necessary, which, due to a systematic improvement of the technical database, could reintroduce to schools the role of educational centres open not only for students. Also local societies ought to take part in school education in order to propagate various, flexible forms of continual education including remote teaching.

Relatively poor results of external tests and examinations on different levels of education raise concern. For instance, for particular poviats of Wielkopolska results of junior secondary school exams in 2006 both for humanistic and mathematical-science subjects were usually around or below the national average. Outside Poznań the best results of these examinations were reported in eastern poviats of Wielkopolska, while northern poviats performed very poorly. The effectiveness of matura exams in the voivodship was also below the national average. The number of people who passed matura exam in 2006 amounted to 78.2% (in Poland 79.0%). The above average results were reported only in Kalisz, Poznań, powiat of Jarocin, Krotoszyn and Września. The worst results were in the poviats of Kalisz, Konin, Międzychód and Złotów (below 70%).⁵ Poor results are related to relatively smaller expenses for education. Thus, it is necessary to improve the quality of tuition, in particular in schools of rural areas. This concerns both tuition conditions and school equipment

The specialisation structure of tuition for secondary schools' youth is incorrect in Wielkopolskie voivodship, which is confirmed by a high level of unemployment among some of the graduates of these schools. The biggest number of the unemployed was found among the following specialisations: sales person (1 833 graduates, where 402, i.e. 21.9% remained jobless) and small gastronomy cook - 1164 people – the unemployed graduates of this specialisation in the number of 239 accounted for 20.5% of the total number of the graduates. A considerable number of the unemployed were found also among graduates of the following specialisations: automotive vehicles mechanic, hairdresser, carpenter, baker and confectioner (over 22% graduates of each of these specializations remained out of work). On the other hand, the following graduates encountered no problems to find a job: stonemasons, basket weavers, operators of devices and casting machines, operators of machines and devices of the chemical industry, operators of the glass industry machines, goldsmith jewellers, concrete placers and steel fixers, building installation fitters as well as operators of machines and devices of the textile industry. Relatively high unemployment was reported among economist technicians (14.4% of the total), as well as tradesman technicians and mechanics technicians. A small percentage of the unemployed registered in poviats' labour offices were graduates of specialisations such as: agribusiness technician (3.4% of the registered), landscape architecture technician, welder, machine constructor technician. In the school year 2004/2005 graduates found jobs in 100% mainly in medical specialisation (professions: nurse assistant, massage therapist, nurse and midwife). Employers also required a large number of post secondary graduates of the following specialisations: pharmaceutical technician and IT technician⁶.

In the school year 2005/2006, attendees in schools for adults in Wielkopolska constituted 5.3% of the total number of pupils of such schools in Poland. As regards education for adults in the school system, the demand for elementary schools has decreased in recent years, but there are more students in junior secondary schools for adults. General

⁵ From: District Examination Board In Poznań

⁶ From: Voivodship Labour Office



secondary schools and supplementary secondary schools dominate among schools for adults (203 schools, i.e. 48% of all schools for adults), followed by technical secondary schools and supplementary technical schools (198 schools, i.e. 46.8% of all schools for adults in Wielkopolska). The number of general secondary schools increased by 28.5% as compared to the school year 2004/2005.

The significant increase in the schools for adults and the decrease in the elementary schools stems from the general improvement in the education level of the society and the fact that elderly people with poorer education have left the labour market. There are more attendees in vocational schools (518 people in 2004/2005 and 763 people in 2005/2006) and secondary vocational schools, while the number of attendees in general secondary schools has decreased. However, as mentioned earlier, this type of school is most frequently chosen by teenagers and adults since it can lead to the matura exam quite quickly and certainly. Education is later continued in higher schools. The change in the structure of employment enforces changes in professional competences. Thus, there are new educational tasks, especially for people in the working age. Therefore, professional improvement and lifelong learning should be of key importance. The diagnosis of the education system in Wielkopolska shows a disturbing phenomenon of reduced significance of adult education. This pertains mainly to small towns and villages. Adult education is concentrated in large cities, especially in Poznań and former voivodship cities in Wielkopolska. There are eight Lifelong Learning Centres in the region (Złotów, Piła, Trzcianka, Konin, Kościelec, Marszew, Kalisz and Poznań). Their task is to organise professional improvement courses and examinations for qualified worker certificates and professional master certificates⁷.

The education structure of Wielkopolska population in the age group of 13 and more is dominated by graduates of primary and vocational schools. This type of education is characteristic for inhabitants of villages and small towns. The above average education can be observed mainly among the citizens of Poznań, the powiat of Poznań and powiat towns.

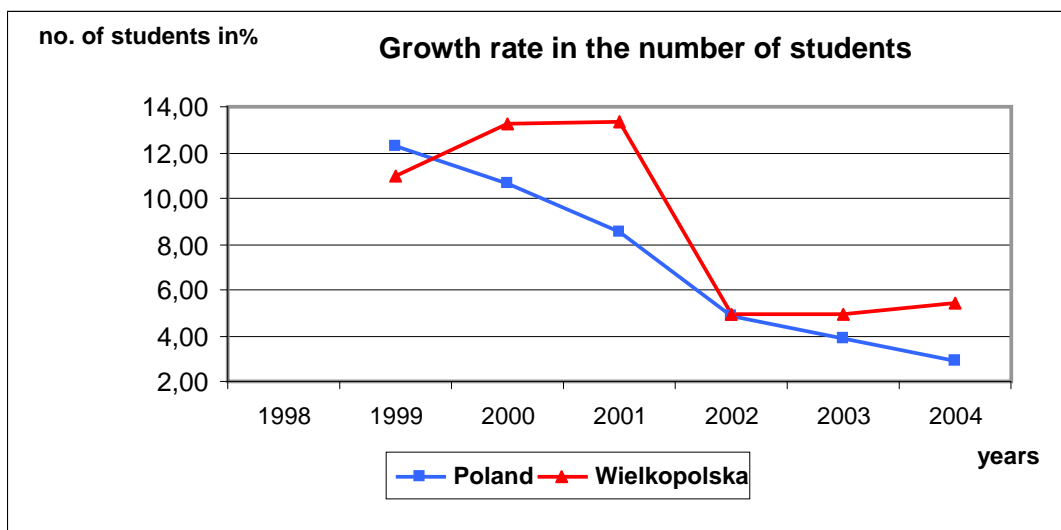
According to the National Census of Citizens and Apartments from 2002 population with secondary education (including secondary vocational and college) constituted 57.6% of the total in the voivodship, however, only 21.7% in rural areas.

Higher education has a special significance in the education system. 36 schools of higher education operated in Wielkopolska in the academic year 2005/2006 (13 administered by the State, 23 not administered by the State). Most of these schools are in Poznań. Outside of Poznań there are independent schools of higher education in: Leszno, Piła, Jarocin, Konin, Gniezno and Kalisz. In 2005 there were more than 34.4 thousand new graduates of Wielkopolska schools of higher education (a year before 31.2 thous.), of which extramural students constituted over a half (52,7%).

The worrying fact is that a considerable number of young people choose business specialisation, related to marketing and management and humanistic faculties, and the number of technical university graduates is still decreasing. In future it may lead to the shortage of specialists, and graduated engineers⁸.

⁷ From: *Strategia rozwoju oświaty w województwie wielkopolskim (The Strategy for the Development of Education in Wielkopolska)*

⁸ From: Voivodship Labour Office



Source: Central Statistical Office

Over the recent years the number of students in Wielkopolska has been growing (unlike in the whole country). The number of students per 10 thousand citizens is 505.7 in Wielkopolska and 508.3 in Poland. In respect of the number of students (170 thousand), Wielkopolska ranks 4th among the voivodships of the country. The number of students per 1 academic teacher is similar to the national average and stands at 19.3 (19.8 – the national average).

According to the National Census of Citizens and Apartments from 2002 the percentage share of citizens with higher education in the voivodship totalled 9.3% (7th place in the country with the national average of 9.9%). This ratio is also definitely lower than in the EU countries, where on average 22% of citizens aged 25-64 have a university degree⁹. Within rural areas only 1.7% of inhabitants have higher education.

The total demographic characteristics of the region show that it is necessary to consider differences in educational tasks as regards the surroundings (urban-rural areas), location (centre of the region – peripheral areas), age (changes in the number of children and youths in individual age groups, which will determine the establishment of new schools, increase in the number of pupils in grades or reduction in the number of schools), type of professional activity (improvement of qualifications of the employed or acquisition of new skills by the unemployed). The increase in the number of youths aged 19 is quite significant. Youths begin their studies at this age, which will translate into popularity of higher education¹⁰. This is why attention should be paid to investment needs of higher schools.

No comprehensive analysis of the investment needs in the education system is conducted. The only source of information on the topic is the Enterprise Registration System created in the region for the purposes of the Wielkopolska ROP. Potential beneficiaries entered investment projects financed from this programme to the system. The system shows that the dominant needs pertain to the construction and expansion of schools, combined with

⁹ From: *Third report on economic and social coherence*

¹⁰ From: *Strategia rozwoju oświaty w województwie wielkopolskim (The Strategy for the Development of Education in Wielkopolska)*



the modernisation of equipment. Despite the demographic low, the network of schools is still not distributed evenly.

The investment needs of higher schools include the construction of sports and recreation facilities, modernisation and expansion of research and teaching facilities and the adjustment of student facilities to the needs of people with disabilities.

Conclusions:

- Different access to regional educational institutions in towns and rural areas;
- Clear disproportions in school equipment;
- High importance of higher education in all educational system;
- Necessity to improve scholarisation ratios and the level of education;
- Necessity to adapt educational system to challenges of information society.
-

Recommendations:

- Improve educational infrastructure and balance its accessibility;
- Computerise education;
- Adjust education to the demand of the labour market;
- Strengthen higher education base.

2.2.4. Spatial mobility of inhabitants

One of the most important development barriers and problems is that the distribution of labour resources does not always correspond to the distribution of labour supply. This problem one of the most important issues of the “Voivodship Development Strategy by 2002”. The document tried to answer the question whether unemployment should be reduced in the place of living or whether the mobility of inhabitants should be increased so that they can find work where it is offered.

The precise analysis of this phenomenon is not possible because it has not been examined from the beginning of economic transformation, i.e. from the beginning of the 1990s. We do not know exactly how many inhabitants and to what extent search for work outside their place of living. Moreover, in the context of this problem, one can consider only potential public transport needs and the potential scale of the inhabitants’ spatial mobility.

It is known however that in the early 1990s, although precise data are not available, the number of commuters decreased significantly. There were two reasons for that. First, the supply of work was reduced. Second, technical possibilities of commuting to work decreased, especially as regards regional transport. The network of regional railway and bus connections has decreased radically in recent years.

The insufficient offer of regional transport (both by rail and bus) reduces the availability of the labour market for many inhabitants of towns and rural areas. Access to educational and culture institutions, administration and health care is also limited.

Conclusions

- Transport barriers;
- Limited access of inhabitants of rural areas and other peripheral areas to the labour market and services.



Recommendations:

- Development of public transport.

2.3. Economy

At the end of 2005 in REGON register of Wielkopolskie voivodship over 334 thousand entities were registered, i.e. 9.4% of all entities registered in the country. There were 1 012 entities per 10 000 citizens (948 nationwide), of which 1 011 were small and medium enterprises. Natural persons and private partnerships had a slightly bigger share i.e. over 9.7%. In 2005 over 295 thousand such entities ran business in Wielkopolska.

Spatial differentiation of the pace in which enterprises were established in the past years enhanced their unequal distribution within the voivodship area. As a result the biggest concentration of companies is observed in Poznań and the subregions of Poznań, Kalisz and Piła. The smallest number of economic entities was registered in the subregion of Konin. Concentration areas of economic entities constitute certain poles of entrepreneurial growth, and spatial units with the smallest number of companies are places of underdevelopment.

As regards the share of the employed in all sectors of the economy, Wielkopolska ranks among those European regions where the level of this indicator ranges between 0.5 and 1.0%, whereas the EU-25 average is 1.44%, and the EU-15 average is 1.54% (source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 7.1). This indicator is higher in the majority of European regions (and also in three Polish regions: Mazowieckie, Małopolskie and Dolnośląskie).

Gross National Product in 2004 per capita was 26 001 PLN, which placed Wielkopolskie voivodship in the 3rd place nationwide. As compared with the previous GDP value per capita, it grew by 12.6%. The official GDP data for 2005 will be available at the end of 2007.

As regards the GDP value generated by the Wielkopolska economy per 1 employee, the region – as the great majority of the “new” EU regions – ranks very low among the EU regions with the the GDP level below 20 000 EUR per 1 employee in 2003 (source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 5.2).

Gross value added arises mainly for marketable services (45.9%, nationwide – 50.5%) as well as in industry and building (respectively 27.8% and 6.5%, which altogether places the region in the second place nationwide). Nonmarketable services generate 15% of gross value added (16.4% nationwide). In comparison with the whole country (2.9%) a big part of value added is generated by agriculture (2.9% nationwide, 4.8% in Wielkopolska), which in this field stands out for being modern and competitive. In 2004 gross value added per capita in particular economic sectors reached the following values: for marketable services 81 395 PLN, building 67 264 PLN, industry 61 644 PLN, nonmarketable services 54 546 PLN and agriculture 32 356 PLN.

In 2005 gross value of fixed assets in Wielkopolska amounted to 162.9 billion PLN in national economy, which constituted 8.9% of the national value. Fixed assets in regional enterprises with the number of workers above 9 constituted 54.0% of gross value. The subregion of Piła is marked by particularly low fixed assets value in enterprises, which in this respect stands out of the rest of the voivodship.

Productivity is growing in Wielkopolska (as in other Polish regions). In 1998-2003, the increase exceeded 25% and was one of the highest among the EU regions. However, the economy of the Wielkopolskie voivodship and other Polish regions still has the lowest



productivity in the EU. This is evidenced for instance by the GDP level generated within 1 hour of work. This indicator, in the case of Wielkopolska, does not ever reach 10 EUR per 1 hour of work (source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, maps 5.3 and 5.5). Thus the region ranks very low among the EU regions together with a group of “new” regions.

Investment outlays in the region’s national economy (amounting to 12.77 billion PLN) constituted 9.75% of these outlays in Poland in 2005. Expressed per capita, they were higher than the Polish average and stood at 3792.3 PLN (national average: 3434.2 PLN). They were more than 1000 PLN lower in the private sector and amounted to 2655 PLN. The growth of capital investment in enterprises employing over 9 workers was noted in the subregions of Poznań, Kalisz and Piła, while a significant drop took place in the city of Poznań and, on a smaller scale, in the subregion of Konin.

The Wielkopolskie voivodship is marked by a significant engagement of foreign investment. At the end of 2005, approx. 4.9 thousand enterprises with the share of this investment were registered in the voivodship. Structures of investment are dominated by the following sectors: grocery, chemical and pharmaceutical, transportation means, machines and devices. Also the participation of finance sector and recently growing trade sector is important. The prevailing investment is of the German origin.

Foreign investment within the region is distributed unequally. Poznań and the surrounding subregion are definitely favoured, where over 80% of entities with foreign investment are located. In most communes the number does not exceed 10. About 50% of foreign entities are microenterprises, i.e. units employing up to 9 workers.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) plays an important role in modernising the economy, mainly through the introduction of new technologies and through the introduction of new management and organization styles.

Until the end of 2004, 257 investments of this type were localised in Wielkopolska, which constitutes 8.2% of all investment of this kind nationwide. 2004 was a critical year for the influx of direct foreign investment. Generally, the former national policy in this field had been set for the growth of foreign investors share in the privatization of the state assets, whereas it was devoid of instruments to attract new investment of the Greenfield type. As a result of this policy, after privatisation offers had dried up, FDI influx saw a decline. Whereas in 2004 most of completed projects were investments of this type, i.e. most required for the growth of the region’s economy.

The choice of Poznań as a location for Glaxo Smith Kline or Microsoft research and development centre and for modern services of Business Process Offshoring (BPO) made by KPMG and Arvato Services Bertelsman proves high attractiveness for investment, on the other hand it ensures the influx of new technologies.

‘Attractiveness for investment’, shaped by local and regional factors, is a synthetic measure defining a particular territorial unit. This indicator, made on the basis of partial indicators, transport accessibility, resources and labour cost, outlet, economic infrastructure, social infrastructure, common security level and the voivodship’s activity for investment, places our voivodship in B class (5th place nationwide)¹¹.

The voivodship contains other centres, though with less economic potential still being local poles of entrepreneurial growth on the scale of the region. In the long run the existing centres will develop the spatial range of their activity. It is expected that provided certain conditions are met, the voivodship will receive aid in the course of carrying out the non-

¹¹ According to the Institute for Market Economics



governmental programme for economic promotion, which supports large investment. These local centres have an opportunity to develop surroundings and increase competitiveness due to the localization of foreign investment.

Conclusions:

- Strong subregional differentiation in respect of economic entities;
- Relatively high level of investment capital;
- Significant influx of direct foreign investment;
- Interregional disproportions in the location of foreign capital.

Recommendations:

- Reduce the differentiation of the economic level in each region of the voivodship;
- Activate the economy of peripheral and rural areas;
- Create conditions for investment, in particular direct one.

2.3.1. Industry

Industry takes an important position in the voivodship's economy. It is the source of income for ca. 1/3 of all workers in the region and provides the main part of GDP generated in Wielkopolska. Regional industry includes ca. 39 thousand economic entities, which are in 99% in the private sector. The value of sold production of the regional industry in the year 2005 was 78 868.4 mln PLN which accounted for over 11.3% of national sold production and it placed the region in 3rd place. The production share of new and modernized articles in sold production of industry totalled 19.7%.

The characteristic feature of Wielkopolska industry is the dominance of small and medium enterprises, whose advantage is high mobility and flexibility to adjust to the rules of the market game. Fighting for the European markets an increasing number of enterprises are submitting to quality verification – international systems of quality control.

The differentiated structure of Wielkopolska industry is dominated by food and agricultural processing (ca. 28.4% of sold production of industry in the year 2004). The developed group of regional industry also contains: automotive vehicles production (17.8%), chemical, pharmaceutical, furniture, lightning equipment, household equipment, ceramic, glass, plastics for constructions, textile and clothing production. Not less important is brown coal mining, metallurgy and power production in the subregion of Konin.

There is a relatively high – however insufficient for the requirements – share of high and medium-high technology¹². It amounts to approx. 20%. As regards the share of employment in the sectors of high and medium-high technology in the total number of the employed, Wielkopolska ranks high among Polish regions (Opolskie voivodship ranks first according to this criterion). However, in the EU context, Wielkopolska is among regions with the indicator level ranging between 5.0 and 7.5% of the employed in high and medium-high technology as compared to the total number of the employed (source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 7.4).

In 2004 innovative activities were carried out by 21.1% of enterprises in the region.

¹² According to ODCE classification



Wielkopolska's enterprises spend relatively much funds on investment. However, these funds still do not provide a proper level of competitiveness among the EU states.

Spatial differentiation of production sectors of economy in Wielkopolska is diversified. They are the most developed in the biggest towns in Poznań, Kalisz, Ostrów Wlkp., Konin, Piła and Leszno. The biggest industrial potential is definitely attributed to Poznań and its surrounding. Poznań centre employs over 1/5 of the total number of voivodship industry workers, generating about 1/3 of its sold production. The biggest share is reported for the food industry and automotive vehicles production.

The agglomeration of Kalisz and Ostrów is dominated by the food, electric machine, textile and clothing industry. The specialty of the Konin industry, which is of regional and national importance, is brown coal mining (approx. 25% of national production) and the related production of electric energy in the Power Plant Unit "Pątnów-Adamów-Konin" S.A., whose power installed constitutes 8.5% of the national power and supplies about 10% of electric energy produced in Poland. Konin has the biggest manufacturer of rolled aluminium goods Aluminium Konin – Impexmetal S.A. (former Huta Aluminium 'Konin' S.A.).

A lower level of industrialization characterizes other subregional centres - Piła and Leszno, though their factories manufacture a number of prestige products.

Conclusions

- Advantageous, diversified structure of industry, largely using a home base of resources (e.g. food sector);
- Small share of high technology industry;
- Too little share of investment increasing competitiveness on the European scale.

Recommendations:

- Improve competitiveness;
- Support state-of-the-art sectors;
- Develop production on the basis of home resources.

2.3.2. Small and medium enterprises

The development of small and medium enterprises sector has had a considerable influence on the social and economic growth of Wielkopolska in recent years. Since the beginning of the transformation Wielkopolska has been marked by a relatively high dynamics of entrepreneurial growth, which concerns mainly small and medium enterprises. In particular the number of entities with foreign capital has been increasing significantly, which for 2004 /2000 amounted to 126.6 % in the voivodship. For each subregion it ranged from 115.4 % in the subregion of Konin, which attracts definitely the least of these type entities to 121.7% in the subregion of Poznań, which due to the influence of Poznań is a strong leader in the field.



Variable	Territorial section	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Number of entities of SME sector	Poland	3 156 732	3 319 859	3 462 775	3 576 536	3 571 958	3 610 929
	Wielkopolska	293 656	309 453	323 316	335 121	334 053	340 828
	Piła subregion	29 951	31 535	32 515	32 632	31 692	31 939
	Poznań subregion	101 645	107 866	113 828	118 860	119 880	122 405
	Kalisz subregion	57 779	61 768	64 923	66 857	65 333	65 556
	Konin subregion	25 856	27 443	28 390	29 663	29 252	30 418
	Poznań city subregion	78 425	80 841	83 660	87 139	87 896	90 510

Source: 'Polska. Podstawowe wielkości i wskaźniki w latach 1995-2005'. Ministry of Economy, September 2006; 'Małe i Średnie Przedsiębiorstwa w województwie wielkopolskim', Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Regional Development Department, Poznań, 2006 pages 10 and 11; own calculations.

At the end of 2005 Wielkopolska had 341 thousand enterprises registered, including 94.45% with up to nine workers (over 322 thousand of micro enterprises), 4.54% entities with the number of workers form 10 to 49, (over 15.5 thousand. small enterprises) and 0.88% of entities with the number of workers from 50 to 249, (over 3 thousand medium enterprises). At the end of December 2005 only 429 large enterprises employing 250 workers were registered, which stood for 0.13% of all entities registered in Wielkopolskie voivodship. The number of enterprises in the SME sector registered in REGON system grew from approx. 294 thous. in 2000 to over 340 thous. in 2005 as illustrated in the above table. Nearly 333 thousand registered enterprises ran their business actively, of which 314 thousand were micro enterprises, 15 thousand small enterprises and nearly 3 thousand medium enterprises. The growth of entities in the SME sector is accompanied by the decline in the number of companies employing over 250 workers.

In Wielkopolska the SME sector has a leading role of an employer, which is supported by the data in the table below.

Year	Workers of enterprises with the number of workers:			Total
	0 – 49	50 - 249	250 – and more	
	2000	810 704	258 561	
2001	807 679	233 233	244 363	1 285 275
2002	854 483	228 146	235 768	1 318 397
2003	823 539	234 942	260 313	1 318 794
2004	697 708	235 592	276 624	1 209 924

Source: 'Małe i Średnie Przedsiębiorstwa w województwie wielkopolskim, Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Regional Development Department, Poznań, 2006, p. 16

The value of exports also proves the level of growth in this sector. The export share of Wielkopolska's SMEs in the exports of all small and medium enterprises in Poland equals 15.8%, which gives our region second place in the country after Mazowsze voivodship. The share of SME's imports in the total imports of this sector equals 12.3%, which also gives us second place in the country. The foremost export markets of Wielkopolska are: Germany (approx. 50% of Wielkopolska's exports), Holland (approx. 9%), France (over 6%) and Belgium (over 5%).



Small and medium enterprises and, according to the research being done within Regional Innovation Strategy, especially small ones experience big difficulties or they are even unable to implement innovative solutions. This barrier is mainly caused by high preparation and implementation costs, which exceed greatly capital possibilities of the majority of entrepreneurs.

About 100 institutions supporting entrepreneurial growth are active in Wielkopolska, but their offer often fails to meet the demand. These are mainly: chambers of commerce, economic information centres, entrepreneurial incubators, innovation and technology centres, counselling centres, finance institutions. All the mentioned facilities provide mainly information, schooling, counselling activities, co-operate with universities and scientific and research centres. A large number of these institutions is situated in Poznań, which impedes the access for entrepreneurs from other parts of the voivodship.

The positive side of small and medium entrepreneurship in Wielkopolska is a relatively large influx of foreign capital and also the biggest in the country export share of foreign companies. Simultaneously this sector is marked by relatively high productivity with a tendency to grow and invest in companies.

Negative features of entrepreneurship in Wielkopolska include among others too little number of enterprises in many communes (particularly in rural areas), unsatisfactory capital equipment of a large number of companies, low innovativeness, high prime cost and low profitability of the majority of enterprises and their big indebtedness. A weak development of specialized business institutions is also significant.

Conclusions:

- High economic dynamics and mobility of SME;
- Large share in international economic exchange;
- Big problems with the implementation of innovations in companies;
- Insufficient offer of institutions supporting entrepreneurial growth and spatial diversification of this type of services;
- Unequal distribution of companies of the SME sector.

Recommendations:

- Develop business sphere;
- Strengthen and modernise production potential;
- Relate SME with science.

2.3.3. Research and development sector and innovations

The R&D sector depends on the quality of scientific and technical staff, their knowledge and professional experience as well as on the condition of infrastructure. Also the influx of foreign investment has a big influence on the improvement in this sector.

In 2005 the volume of expenditures on R&D in Wielkopolska was 435.5 mln PLN in contemporary prices (129.1 PLN/per capita, in Poland – 146.1 PLN). This value stood for almost 7.8% of expenditures on this sector in Poland. Since 2001 expenditures on this sector have been declining nominally and in relation to GDP, a similar situation has been present on the national scale, on the contrary with the EU situation, where expenditures have increased. In 2003 this rate for the voivodship was 0.48% (Poland 0.56%, EU 1.92%) and was lower than the rate of 1995, which stood for 0.5% GDP (Poland 0.69%, EU 1.84%).



The volume of expenditure on R&D activity financed by enterprises in 2004 reached hardly 0.1% GDP.

It is a very worrying phenomenon as R&R activity is now treated as one of the three, along with capital and labour, foremost factors of growth and economic development. Currently, in the European Union the rate equals 1.9%, but in Sweden as much as 3.74% and in Finland 3.51%. However, in the EU there are countries where the rate is even lower than the Polish average, e.g. in Malta 0.29%, Cyprus 0.37%, or Latvia 0.42%. The assumptions of the renewed Lisbon Strategy realised by the EU specify that until 2010 expenditure for the R&D sector in the Union should reach the level of 3% of GDP with the private sector share of 2/3.

In spite of many obstacles, many years of scientific tradition make the quality and level of intellectual competitiveness of scientific and technical staff high and adequate to the state of knowledge of Western-European scientists. In Wielkopolska people working in the sector of research and development stand for 9.5% of the national potential.

Apart from the human capital the potential of the R&D sector also depends on the condition of widely understood technical infrastructure used to introduce research and implementation works. The condition of this infrastructure makes a much worse picture than human capital.

The reasons lay mainly in financial mechanisms. Budget expenditure in GDP for the development of the R&D sector is much lower than the level of expenditure of the developed countries. As a result the structure of financial expenditure is reverse in relation to the structure of the EU's 15 states, where over 60% of funds are provided for R&D activities (Poland 12.8%, Wielkopolska 6.5%), and over 20% for technical equipment and production activation (Poland approx. 70%, Wielkopolska - over 80%). The structure of expenditure according to the type of research in the region is very unfavourable. In 2004 over 50% of this expenditure was designed for rudimentary research (39.5% nationwide), financed from the budget funds, while 20.3% was designed for the applied research (25.2% nationwide), and only 29.5% for development works with the national average of 35.3%. This means that investment in the region is insufficient for applied research and development works increasing competitiveness. The structure of R&D funds in individual research types in Wielkopolska worsened in 2005, as compared to last year: 48.7% of the funds were allocated to basic research, 19.5% to applied research. A slight increase (31.8%) was recorded only in the case of funds for development research.

Another important problem for the region and the country is the source of financing. In the European Union and in the world the main financing source of R+D sector is national economy; in Wielkopolska the financing comes from the State budget. In 2005 in Wielkopolska 62.9% of R&D financing came from the State budget (with national average 57.7%), and only 23.9% from private funds. The radical change of this proportion to increase the participation of enterprises is very important because it guarantees that effects of researches will find a direct application in the economic practice.

The science-research and development potential of the voivodship in 2005 was made of 86 units. It is mainly concentrated in the biggest science and higher education centre – Poznań with over 90% of regional R&D sector workers. The entire region focuses 9.5% of the total number of the employed in the R&D sector in Poland (4th place in the country). The number of workers of the R&D sector for 1000 inhabitants was 1.6 in 2005 and was lower than the national average (2.0). these values were similar to those for 2004.



Apart from didactic activity Poznań schools of higher education run simultaneously scientific and research activity, which to a great extent creates research specialisation of Poland, include: information techniques, especially computer software, optoelectronics, new materials and technologies, mathematics, physics, chemistry, and some areas of life science (biology, biotechnology and biochemistry).

Scientific facilities of Polish Academy of Science in Poznań are successful in, among others, in molecular, genetic, biotechnological and immunological fields. The Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry affiliates Poznań Supercomputer-Network Centre which is the main centre of the scientific Internet in Poland. An exceptional status belongs also to the Centre of Space Research. The support for the development of such units, whose research results may be applied in the region's economy, is envisaged from the structural funds on the regional level.

The number of IT-related patents registered at the EPO (European Patent Office) is one of the lowest among the EU regions. This group of regions (with fewer than 10 patents per 1 million employees, registered in 2002) includes regions of the New Member States, Portuguese regions and regions in western and central parts of Spain.

The number of biotechnology patents registered at the EPO per 1 million inhabitants places Wielkopolska in the group of regions with the lowest values of this indicator, i.e. less than 1 patent per 1 million inhabitants in 2002 (source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, maps 7.2 and 7.3).

The voivodship has a small number of institutions dealing professionally with the mediation between the science and research sector and economic practice in order to propagate transfer systems and technology commercialization. Furthermore, according to the research carried out within the project RIS Innovative Wielkopolska, relations between the sphere of science and research and economic sector are unsatisfactory. The economy is not familiarized with the present offer of the scientific world and the latter is unaware of the current needs of the economy. Current relations fail to use a big R&D potential of the region. The role of an institution introducing innovations to enterprises cannot be omitted. So far, relation between the three elements of the innovation system, have not responded to the potential of the economy. Actions defined in the Regional Innovation Strategy ought to influence the direction of supply (science and research sector) in relation to demand (enterprises). Both enterprise support institutions and those institutions that provide support for the development of innovations are very specialised and recognised in the region

In 2005 the expenditure on innovative activities in industrial enterprises with over 49 workers was reduced in Wielkopolska and stood at 91.2% of the expenditure in the previous year. Thus its share in the national expenditure was 9.2%. On the national scale, investment outlays for innovations in industrial enterprises with over 49 workers stood at 108.4% of expenditure from the previous year. In the group of innovative companies among the population lately examined by Central Statistical Office (companies with over 49 workers) Wielkopolskie voivodship has taken one of the last places in the country.

The dominating sources of innovation are concepts and own funds of enterprises. The main sources of financing innovation of Wielkopolska industry are enterprises own funds (ca. 68%) and bank credits (24%). The structure of expenditure is dominated by expenditure for R&D activity, equipment and industrial technologies, production activation and marketing of new and modernised products.

Over a half of enterprises points to economical factors as the obstacles of innovation: lack of own funds or too high costs of earning innovation financing (lack of the capital market



assistance, especially venture and seed capital). A significant number of enterprises are afraid of unnecessary risk when selling new products and point to the lack of a development base for innovation.

The present situation should improve due to the implementation of actions of the Regional Innovation Strategy. The measures include projects of both - science and the R&D sector, of assistance institutions and of the most important links of a chain – enterprises of Wielkopolska.

Taking advantage of the great scientific potential of the region through the introduction of the effects of its work is a great chance for the voivodship to increase competitiveness.

Conclusions:

- Unused great R&D potential and its decapitalised infrastructure;
- Low capital expenditure of enterprises for R&D;
- Poor co-operation between the R&D sector and economy;
- Limited potential of specialised institutions in the region providing support for innovations and technology transfer;
- Low level of innovativeness of the regional economy.

Recommendations:

- Increase expenditure on R&D In the regional economy;
- Build the system of economy-science co-operation;
- Continue the realisation of the Regional Innovation Strategy;
- Improve the condition of the R&D sector infrastructure.

2.3.4. Tourism

Due to the interdisciplinary character tourism is the chance for the economic development of the region. Alike on the world market also in our region it can affect unemployment, especially in rural areas (e.g. agrotourism).

Many types of tourist tracks run through Wielkopolska. They mainly include important cultural routes of a regional and supraregional importance, e.g. Piast, Cistercian or Romanesque. Lately pilgrimage tourism has been gaining importance in the region (e.g. by the Lednica Lake, sanctuaries in Licheń or Kalisz).

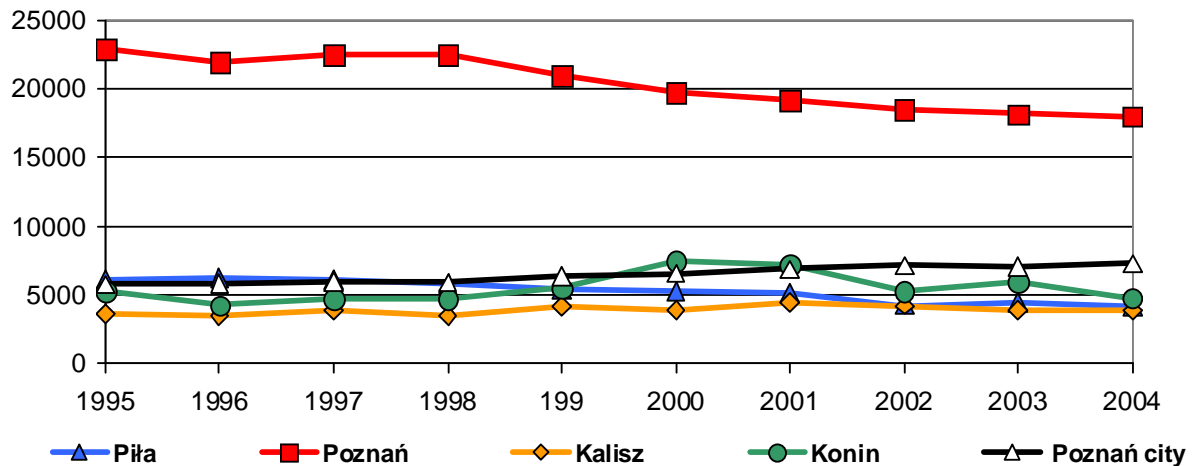
The regional network of tourist tracks is supplemented by the Wielkopolska System of Bicycle Routes, which is a brand tourist product of the region, awarded for innovation and quality, e.g. in 2004 with a certificate of the Polish Tourist Organisation. Generally in Wielkopolska altogether 3000 km bicycle routes were marked. Furthermore, recently horseback riding routes were established within the area of activity of the Intracommune Tourist Association 'Wielkopolska Gościnną'. Apart from the renown canoe route on the river Gwda there are also several regional river and lake routes.

The most frequently visited attractions in Wielkopolska include both various facilities with no admission fees (the number of visitors can be only estimated in their case: Sanctuary in Licheń – 1.5 million visitors, Wielkopolska National Park, the Radziwiłł Palace in Antonin) and typical museums.

The variety of tourist attractions of the voivodship opens possibilities for both active leisure and expanding knowledge about the past and culture due to a number of material culture

facilities (churches, palaces, castles and other monuments), which are the potential base to turn them into the brand product within different tourist forms (business, weekend,

Accommodation places in Wielkopolska subregions



Source: Central Statistical Office

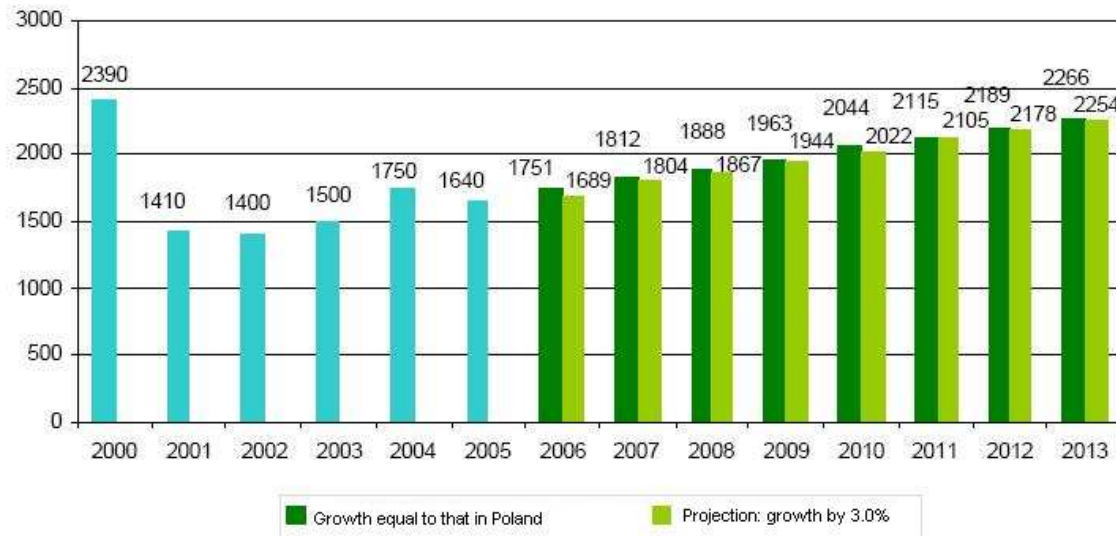
The development of an integrated tourist offer, attractive on the national and international scale can be a chance for the development of tourism in the region (e.g. establishment of Forest Theme Park in the area of Zielonka Forest and the surrounding forest areas, or the establishment of the European Academy of Forest and Field Ecosystems). The mass tourism from the EU countries can be concentrated by the river Noteć and Warta (the region of Międzychód and Sieraków, Puszcza Notecka, Pszczewski Landscape Park, Puszcza Zielonka). An additional advantage for Wielkopolska is the proximity of a large urban agglomeration, i.e. Berlin, for which our region can constitute a recreational and leisure base. According to the research of Munich DIET Institute the Germans appreciate tourist attractions of Wielkopolska.

In recent years the total number of accommodation in the voivodship declined (in 2005 there were 530 accommodation facilities with 38 113 accommodation places, which accounted for only 87.4% of accommodation places from 1995). It is the result of restructuring in this sector, reduction of places of low standards and growth in the number of places of high standard.

The number of visitors from France, Spain (a huge increase in 2005 as compared to 2004), Sweden and Belgium has been regularly growing in recent years. The growing number of visitors (except for 2005) has also been recorded in the case of Germany, the Netherlands and Lithuania. The number of Italian visitors has remained stable for three years. The number of tourists from Great Britain, Denmark and the Czech Republic varies every year while the number of visitors from the Ukraine, Russia and the United States has decreased in recent years.

The yearly average estimate for the increase in the number of foreign tourists in Poland in 2006-2013 is 4.1%. Assuming a similar growth rate for the region, we will have the following projections presented below (dark green bars).

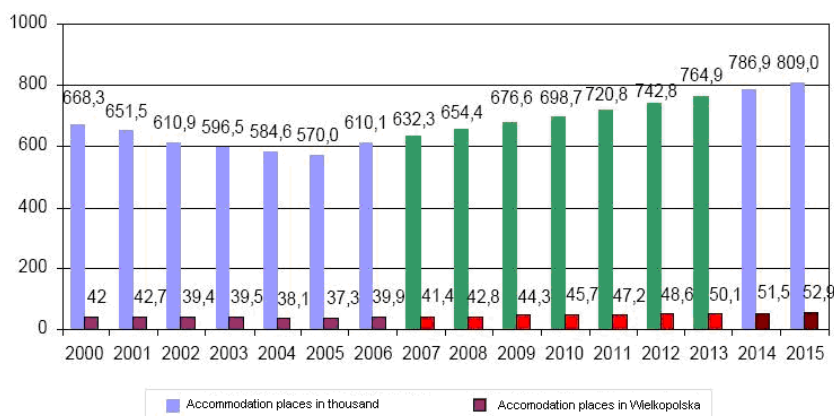
Visits of foreign tourists in Wielkopolska in 2000 – 2005 and projections for 2006 - 2013



Source: Estimates and projections of the Institute of Tourism

Considering the higher than average decrease in the number of foreign tourists coming to Wielkopolska in 2001-2005, we can expect a slightly slower growth in the number of visitors. The cautious projection (light green bars on the chart above) assumes that the annual growth in the number of visitors in 2006-2013 will stand at 3.0%. It is estimated that the number of trips by domestic tourists from Poland in the years 2006-2013 will grow by approx. 4.0% per annum. Considering a greater share of short trips (especially by the inhabitants of the region), we can assume a slightly faster growth in the number of domestic tourists in Wielkopolska. We can assume for the purposes of the tourism development strategy that the yearly average growth in the number of trips by Poles will amount to approx. 6.0%.

Accommodation places in Poland and Wielkopolska in 2001 – 2005 and projections for 2007 – 2015



Source: Estimates and projections of the Institute of Tourism



Wielkopolska has rich and varied accommodation facilities. The dominant types of accommodation facilities in the region include hotels and training and holiday centres. They constituted 45% of the total accommodation facilities in the voivodship. Other types of facilities with the largest number of beds included holiday centres, unclassified facilities and other hotel facilities (i.e. facilities that function like hotels, motels or guesthouses, but have no category). The occupation of accommodation facilities was one of the lowest in the country. According to the Central Statistical Office (GUS) as of 2005, the region had 615 accommodation facilities (7.9% of all facilities in Poland). These facilities offered 37.3 thousand accommodation places (6.5% of the total number in Poland). These beds were occupied in 27.3% (the occupation of accommodation facilities in Poland was 35%). As compared to 2004, the number of accommodation facilities in Wielkopolska decreased by 1.9%, and the decrease in 2000- 2005 was 13.8% (in Poland, the number of facilities decreased by 3.6% and 14.0%, respectively). Wielkopolska has many hotels. It ranks third in the country, as regards the number of hotels and fifth as regards the number of rooms and beds in hotels. One hotel has 85 beds on the average. The city of Poznań and the poviats of Gniezno, Poznań, Leszno, Konin and Międzychód have the largest number of accommodation facilities (the share of each powiat in the total number of facilities in the region is above 5%). The situation is similar in the case of beds in these facilities. The only change is that the powiat of Konin swaps places with Gniezno.

One of the barriers for tourism development in the region is still insufficient number of accommodation facilities, adjusted to the needs of particular groups of tourists as well as insufficient quality of services and the gastronomic base. Wielkopolska has a big but insufficient number of accommodation places of high standard and also places for youth and less demanding tourists. A characteristic feature of the voivodship is the concentration of accommodation facilities in the biggest towns. In 2005 in Wielkopolska's tourist facilities of collective accommodation for 1 000 citizens 0.740 accommodation places were given, including 0.141 foreign tourists.

Both Poland and Wielkopolska have small resources of accommodation places in tourist facilities calculated for 10 000 inhabitants in comparison to the EU's 15. This indicator for hotels and similar facilities in the EU states in 2002 was from 33 for Poland and 34 for Lithuania to 574 for Greece and 699 for Austria. This indicator for Wielkopolska is 113.

In spite of small share of air transportation in the last period in arrivals to Wielkopolska, the dynamics of the increase in air transportation is high, though still results from servicing gainful migration. Strengthening air transportation by establishing new connections, especially European, seems necessary.

The proper shaping of landscape is also very important for the promotion of regional tourism. Protection of old settlements and routes, attractive views, stand density, trees along the roads etc. should be an example of care for the Wielkopolska landscape.

Conclusions:

- Great nature and culture potential of the region for tourism development;
- Insufficient accommodation base of the region, especially of medium standard;
- Limited communication accessibility;
- Small number of brand tourist products;
- Lack of sufficient care for regional landscape protection and shaping as well as cultural environment.

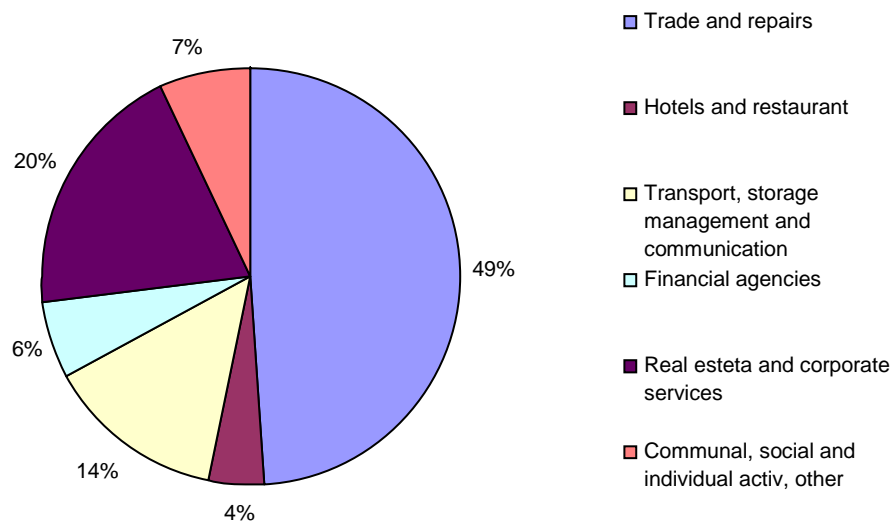
Recommendations:

- Expand and modernise commonly accessible tourist infrastructure;
- Strengthen servicing potential of tourist enterprises;
- Develop tourist promotion and products;
- Manage areas of the greatest tourist potential, increase the share of tourism in the region's economy.

2.3.5. Services

Services play an important role in the economy of the region. In 2004 they created 60.9% of regional GDP (including 46.3% of market services). The number of workers in the service sector is also significant (50 % of workers in the region). In 2004 in the Wielkopolskie voivodship no significant changes in the structure of service workers were reported. The fact that 50% of service workers stand for 60% of regional GDP proves productivity of this sector of economy.

Workers of market services sector divided into sections in 2005



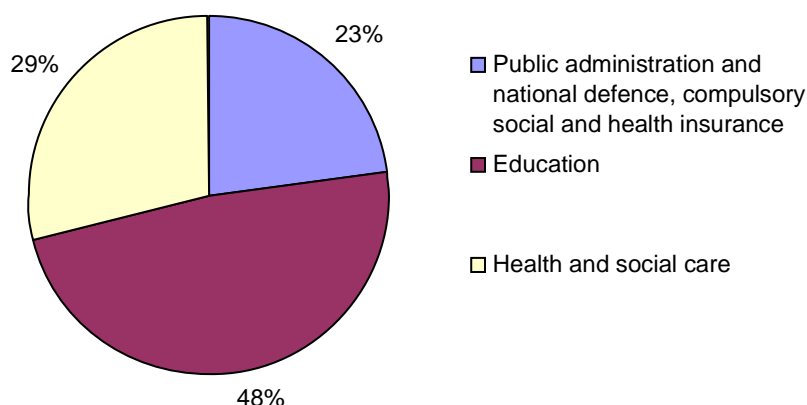
Source: Own study on the basis of Wielkopolskie Voivodship Statistical Yearbook 2006

The biggest share in the economy of the region belongs to the workers of the section 'Trade and repairs'. In 2005 they made up 48% of the total number of workers of market services (49%: 2000, 49%: 2003). Such a big percentage share of workers of this section can prove the growth of entrepreneurship in Wielkopolska through the creation of new enterprises, of which 109 007 belonged to 'Trade and Repairs' section (108 971 – sector of small and medium enterprises, 36 – large enterprises). The smallest percentage of people is employed in the section 'Hotels and Restaurants' and remains on the level of 4% of the total market service workers (4%: 2000, 4%: 2003).

Market services experienced growth in the share of workers of the section 'Real Estate and Corporate Services', up to 20% in 2005. In the last years the share oscillated on the level of: 17% in 2000 and 20% in 2003. The growing share of workers of this section results from the dynamically growing property market. In 2000 in Wielkopolska 7 266 were given to use, while in 2004 11 093 – growth by 153%.

The share of workers of the remaining market services sections remains on a comparable level. In the nonmarket services sector the biggest number of workers was noted in the section 'Education - 48% of the total number of nonmarket services workers in 2005, for the sake of comparison - in 2000: 42%. The increase in the number of workers took place also in the section public administration and national defence; compulsory social and health insurance – In 2004 this section employed 23% of people working in nonmarket service. In 2000 the share was lower and remained on the level of 21%.

Workers of nonmarket sector divided into section in 2005



Source: Own study on the basis of Wielkopolskie Voivodship Statistical Yearbook 2006

The situation of the section 'Health care and social aid' looks rather unfavourably. In 2000 the section employed 37% of the total number of workers in the nonmarket services, however, in 2005 the share dropped to 29%. One of the reasons for it is opening of the European labour markets in 2004 and their growing demand for the Polish skilled doctors.

Having accepted certain generalisation, one should state that in 2005 the services sector employed the biggest number of workers in the section 'Trade and Repair' – 33%, second place with a 15% share belonged to the sections: 'Real Estate and Corporate Service' and 'Education'¹³.

Conclusions:

- Big share and above average effectiveness of services in generating regional GDP
- Uneven distribution of services in the region

Recommendations:

- To support investment of the services sector and its most dynamic sections
- To increase the offer of services for rural areas.

¹³ Wielkopolskie Voivodship's Statistical Yearbook 2006, Poznań, 2006



2.4. Rural areas

With a high level of agriculture among the villagers of the region the problem of low education level of farm managers still remains. According to the data of National Census dd. 2002 only 1.5% of farm managers possessed higher education, 0.2% agricultural post secondary, 9.0% agricultural secondary, 16.6% agricultural vocational, 25.4% completed agricultural course and as much as 47.2% had no agricultural education. It is necessary to work out mechanisms and create conditions to enable rural youth and to raise a general level of education of villagers.

Considerable unemployment and lack of capital are the biggest obstacles for the development of rural areas. According to the data at the end of 2003 over 45% of the total number of the unemployed are villagers, of which over a half is represented by women. Only 18% of the total number of villagers is entitled to unemployment benefits, whereas over 30% of the unemployed are among young people younger than 24.

An unfavourable factor of rural areas development is the low level of their technical infrastructure.

Rural areas of the voivodship characterise with a great diversification of non-agricultural economic activity. The economic situation of the majority of farms in Wielkopolska and inhabitants not related directly with agricultural production requires taking intensive measures in order to create new jobs.

Farms which do not sell their products on the market constituted less than 0.5% of the total number of farms in Wielkopolska, which is much lower than the national average. The remaining farms sell their products on the market, which means that the region has virtually no hidden unemployment. Unemployment in rural areas stems mainly from the fact that state farms were earlier closed and from high unemployment in urban areas.

A popular and dynamically growing direction of entrepreneurship in rural areas is agrotourist business which allows farmers to receive additional income and ensures employment to their family members. At the end of 2003 approx. 420 agrotourist businesses functioned in Wielkopolska, which held 4 400 accommodation places.

Rural communes, except for the agglomeration of Poznań, concentrate about 27% of all economic entities active in Wielkopolska. The number of entities has been growing since the beginning of the 1990s. However, the level of satiation is very different. In 6 communes the number of economic entities does not exceed 200.

Economic activation of rural areas of the voivodship is one of the greatest developmental challenges of Wielkopolska. With the support of local capital services can be developed, e.g. tourism and craft, whereas other sectors require the influx of external capital. One of the conditions for the durability of this activation is also the improvement of social services.

One of barriers for the development of rural areas is the lack of investment areas with proper infrastructure.

Conclusions:

- Low education level in rural areas, also in agricultural professions;
- Lack of employment alternatives in non-agricultural sectors;
- Different distribution of economic entities;
- Dynamically growing agrotourism;



- Limited access to social services;
- Communication barriers.

Recommendations:

- Improve the condition and accessibility of education and social services;
- Expand local infrastructure;
- Develop entrepreneurship through the creation of employment alternative to agriculture;
- Improve investment conditions;
- Increase communication availability, including access to the Internet .

2.5. Culture

The cultural activity of Wielkopolska is provided mainly by budget institutions and non-government institutions. They include: art education institutions, national preservation services and National Museum in Poznań, 79 other museums, 3 centres of art and culture, 5 theatres, 2 philharmonics, Public Library of the Voivodship, Centre of Culture Animation in Poznań, Film Institution “Film-Art” and many local houses of culture, libraries and museums, provided in gminas and small towns.

The people of Wielkopolska are eager to participate in various forms of cultural participation. The effect is one of the lowest in the State rate of resignation (for financial reason) from participation in spectacles, cinema attendance, and purchase of books, newspapers or magazines. The rate of resignation from cinema attendance for Wielkopolska equals 36.91% (świętokrzyskie voivodship 34.06, warmińsko-mazurskie voivodship 45.8%), and resignation from purchase of books 32.4% (śląskie voivodship 32.15, zachodniopomorskie voivodship 41.99%). It is connected with the average personal expenditure for recreation and culture in houses of Wielkopolska, which in 2005 amounted to 43.1 PLN and was lower than the national average (max 66.9 PLN for Mazowieckie voivodship, min. 30.1 PLN for Świętokrzyskie voivodship).

The majority of people use cultural goods, however, they do so by means of electronic media, and for a great number of citizens it is the only form of contact. This media shape preferences and a lifestyle to a great extent, so therefore also cultural participation.

In Wielkopolska special attention is paid to maintain and protect cultural heritage. According to data of the Voivodship’s Conservator at the end of 2005 the region had nearly 5 600 immobile facilities of historical value, including 12.2% of facilities, 35.3% require small repair, 29.8% require protection repair, 22.7% require general repair. Such a condition of cultural heritage infrastructure requires proper actions, especially in the case of the foremost facilities.

Activities aiming at increasing access of Wielkopolska inhabitants to culture require support. According to the data of Central Statistical Office in 2005 museums arranged 261 own and 193 foreign exhibitions visited by almost 1.1. million people. In the same period 46 cinemas with 23 200 seats were active in the region, i.e. on average 145 people/seat (for Poland from 119 in Mazowieckie voivodship to 211 in Kujawsko-Pomorskie voivodship). 73.4 thousand shows were attended by over 2 387 thousand viewers.

Wielkopolska focuses 60 Public Libraries, over a hundred choirs, several dozens of institutions for international cultural contacts, numerous associations and foundations, nearly 50 cultural centres, over 100 regional cultural societies and orchestras.



Budget expenditures from territorial local government units on culture and protection of national heritage in Wielkopolska in 2004 was 78.44 PLN per 1 citizen. In 2005 they increased to 84.25 PLN per one citizen. Total expenditures in 2005 on culture and protection of national heritage totalled 283 793 thousand PLN. This included protection and maintenance of monuments and museums - 39 974 thousand (14.09% of expenditures on culture), libraries -73 454 thousand (25.88%), cultural houses and centres - 70 022 thousand (24.67%), drama and musical theatres, operettas 47 704 thousand (16.81%).

Conclusions:

- Above the national average cultural activity of citizens;
- Insufficient condition of the most valuable monuments of Wielkopolska;
- Apart from agglomerations limited access to culture, propagated mainly by the media.

Recommendations:

- Improve the condition of cultural heritage, especially for tourism;
- Develop culture as a Fidel of economy;
- Improve access of citizens to culture, especially in rural areas;
- Better use the cultural heritage for the development of tourism.

2.6. Sport and physical culture

The most important task for physical culture organisers in Wielkopolska is to increase the common access of inhabitants to different forms of sport and active recreation. In the year 2005, approx. 340 sport clubs with almost 78 000 members were active in the region. There were 254 sport clubs and 30 sport associations (associated in the Wielkopolska Sport Association) that dealt with competitive sport trained by children and youths, which is the core of the sport activities in the region. Wielkopolska has 179 stadiums (including 10 in Poznań), 201 sports halls (including 20 in Poznań), 72 swimming pools, (including 38 indoor, 25-m length), over 449 tennis courts and ca. 3 thousand sports fields for different games. Poznań sports and recreational centre 'Malta', with world class regatta racing track, is essential for Wielkopolska's sport and recreation.

As far as sports infrastructure is concerned further emphasis on the development of sports facilities base should still be placed, especially on areas developed for tourist purposes. It is also essential to relate sports infrastructure with widely accessible tourist and recreational infrastructure generating tourist flow and workplaces. This should increase attractiveness of the areas which are attractive for tourism.

Conclusions:

- Poor condition and limited access of inhabitants to basic sports and recreational infrastructure;
- Insufficient sports base in recreational areas and highly attractive for tourism.

Recommendations:

- Use investment in sports and recreational infrastructure to increase tourist attractiveness of the region;
- Improve access of inhabitants to commonly accessible sports infrastructure.

2.7. Non government sector

In Wielkopolska over 4 000 non-governmental organisations are registered. They operate in various fields of economic activity, e.g. such as: social aid, professional and social activation of the disabled, prevention against social seclusion, bringing the unemployed back onto the labour market, support for business institutions and public administration and 3rd sector, education, including continual education, ecology, culture, sport, etc.

These organisations have an increasing influence on the development of local and regional societies' lives. They become an active entity creating new social and economic initiatives; get engaged in tasks fulfilled by public administration and entrepreneurs. Activities carried out by NGOs very often fill gaps between services paid by public administration and entrepreneurs. They replace and supplement places where there are no entities able to fulfil tasks effectively. These services are usually free of charge or their cost is much lower than those charged by enterprises. In particular it is the case in the widely understood social aid and education, including continual and informal education.

For a few years a new role of NGOs has been observed. As active and efficient legal persons they have become an important employer, hiring not only specialists in their statute activity (e.g. therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, professional counsellors, etc.), but also lawyers, economists, promotion specialists and administrative-technical workers (e.g. drivers, mechanics, equipment service specialists, webmasters etc.). Thus, they are becoming important cannon of economy, a significant employer in the region.

Conclusions:

- Large organisational potential of NGOs;
- Insufficient condition of NGOs' infrastructure;
- Nongovernment sector is a big employer in the region.

Recommendations:

- Improve operational conditions of NGOs, especially those involved in the social, educational and environmental areas, as well as those supporting entrepreneurship

2.8. Information society

As far as computer equipment in Wielkopolska schools is concerned, the ratio is similar to the national average. In the years 2003-2005 a steady growth of computer equipment in schools was recorded, especially in the scope of the increase in the number of computers for students' use. In the school year 2005/2006, the number of students per one computer was: in primary schools – 19.8; in lower secondary schools - 22.42; in basic vocational schools – 24.6; in secondary schools of general education – 20.0; in secondary vocational schools – 17.4; in post-secondary schools - 20.3. Though this condition is satisfactory when compared to the rest of the country, it is far from the EU standards.

**Number of students per one computer**

School type	Number of students per one computer					
	School year					
	2003/2004		2004/2005		2005/2006	
	Wielkopolska	Poland	Wielkopolska	Poland	Wielkopolska	Poland
Primary school	26,7	26,3	21,1	21,7	19,8	19,9
Lower secondary school	25,1	25,2	22,4	22,7	22,2	21,8
Basic vocational school	25,8	28,3	27,2	33,7	24,6	31,6
Secondary school of general education	21,7	19,8	21,1	18,3	20,0	17,7
Secondary vocational school	20,7	19,4	18,9	16,8	17,4	14,9
Post-secondary school	22,1	20,6	22,3	21,4	20,3	22,0

Source: Statistical yearbook of voivodships 2004, 2005, 2006

The condition of information infrastructure in administration results from report drawn under the UNDERSTAND project, in which Wielkopolska was compared to other EU regions (Emilia-Romagna, Piedmont, Aquitaine, Hessen, the Balearic Islands, Valencia, Vasternorrland, Yorkshire, Humber, Wales, Apulia and Tuscany).

Wielkopolska has a high percentage of public administration units at levels of gmina that have their own websites (97.42%). The interactive services available on the website (defined as e-services) need considerable improvement. The most important differences between the regions of the UNDERSTAND projects concern on-line payments. For instance, no gmina in Wielkopolska offers such an e-service, whereas in Yorkshire this is available in 93.0% and in Wales in 83.0% of boroughs. Moreover, no commune in Wielkopolska offers the possibility to handle all affairs over the Internet, whereas in Yorkshire 7.0% of boroughs offer complex handling of affairs electronically, and in Emilia-Romagna this can be done in 4.8% of boroughs. In the case of personal data update, the difference between Wielkopolska and Wales accounts for as much as 31.5 and in the case of Yorkshire 34.5 percentage points. So far such a possibility has not been offered in any commune in Wielkopolska.

Wielkopolskie voivodship does not look very well when compared to other regions in terms of the inhabitant's use of various access channels for contacts with public administration. With regard to the number of visits to websites, this percentage is 23.2%, whereas in Wales this figure is 83.0%, in Yorkshire 93%, which ranks Wielkopolska at the far end. The same goes to the number of e-mails received. In Wielkopolska it accounts for 15.2%, 66.7% in Apulia and 83.0% in Wales.

The IT infrastructure related to the information and communication technology is a weak spot of our region, as the number of computers per one public administration employee is 0.65. In Valencia or Emilia-Romagna, the number of computers even exceeds the number of employees. Intranet networks are also poorly developed in the region, as they are used only by app. 30% of gminas. The situation in Wales is totally different; the percentage of boroughs equipped with Intranet is 100.0% and 93.0% in Yorkshire

As for ICT security, the public administration units in Wielkopolska have much to make up for. At the moment the most popular method of securing computer systems is the anti-virus software. Only 48.0% of units uses off-network data storage (other units risk loss of material data in case of system breakdown). Only 30.0% of units apply any physical form of access security with regard to key IT equipment.

Public Internet Access Points (PIAPs) are not very popular in Wielkopolska. There are only 2 PIAPs per commune, whereas in Hessen it is 4, 17.6 in Yorkshire and 36 in Wales.



Optical fibre connections play a dominating role in access to broadband Internet. Network backbone of individual operators in 2004 was slightly over 4,000 km long (2,936 km owned by TP S.A., 909 km owned by Telekomunikacja Kolejowa S.A., 600 km owned by PIONIER scientific network and 176 km owned by the Poznań metropolitan area Poznańskie Centrum Superkomputerowo-Sieciowe - the Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Centre). The optic fibre network connecting digital telephone switchboards covers 97% of communes (99% of people and businesses). The second most popular technology is the wireless technology based on radio connection (28% in the case of individual customers and 38% in the case of corporate customers).

The regional R&D network displays considerable technological advancement. However, it requires further development. Poznań is a strategic centre of Pan European networks: GÉANT public network and two commercial networks: EQUANT and TELIA. 54 scientific, academic and educational facilities are connected to the R&D network.

In Poznań there is a specialist institution which implements technologically complex IT projects - the Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Centre, operator of the national science and research network, PIONIER. Based on that network a regional access network can be built, supporting educational, administration and public utility units.

The application of broadband Internet within cable TV in Wielkopolska is low, as little as 6.0% of inhabitants is covered by its range. In comparison with Valencia, where the accessibility reaches 64.0% or Yorkshire, with 42.0%, this figure is very low. The UMTS technology is based on the mobile telephony network and is available in all regions under the UNDERSTAND project, except for Wielkopolska.

In Wielkopolska the percentage of people having Internet access at home is app. 50.0%. This is similar to other regions of the UNDERSTAND project. However, as far as broadband connection is concerned, the figures are lower. App. 48.0% of Internet users in Wielkopolska have broadband connection, whereas in Emilia-Romagna it is over 60.0% and app. 75.0% in the Balearic Islands.

Conclusions:

- Computer equipment ratio in schools in Wielkopolska is higher than the national average, but much lower than the EU standards;
- Almost 100% gminas have a website, though the share of e-services is very low;
- Lack of properly development broadband network cooperating with the regional and national network backbone.

Recommendations:

- Extension of the broadband network cooperating with the regional and national network backbone
- Extension of the e-service offer (especially in the areas of administration and health care)



2.9. Infrastructure for social and economy development

2.9.1. Technical infrastructure

a) Communication infrastructure

In the 2005 the length of public roads in the region was 39 682 km , including 24 827 km of roads with hard surface (61,7%), which was over 9,8% of total length of such roads in Poland. National roads with total length of 1 656 km are 4,2 % of total length of roads in the region. All voivodship roads with total length of 2 705 km (6,8% of all roads in the voivodship) had hard surface. Powiat roads with 12 532 km (31,6% of total length of roads in Wielkopolska) still had 9,5% (1 193 km) of ground surface. Commune roads constitute 57,4% of the total length of roads – there are 22 789 km of commune roads with 41 % of ground surface.

Density indicator of roads in the region in 2005 was 84,2 km/100 km², which in comparison to national indicator 81.2 km/100 km² was only approx. 70% of the EU-25 average. The density of public road network in Wielkopolska shows the significant regional differentiation (powiat and commune roads by the data of Central Statistical Office - from 2,9 in Poznań to 0,4 km/km² in the pilski subregion). According to the data of General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways (data as at September 2006), A2 highway being built in Wielkopolska had length 195,05 km, what was 34,2% of total length of highways in the country. The density of motorways in the region is 0.65 km/100k2, which puts Wielkopolska among the European regions with the lowest motorway density indicator (source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 10.1).

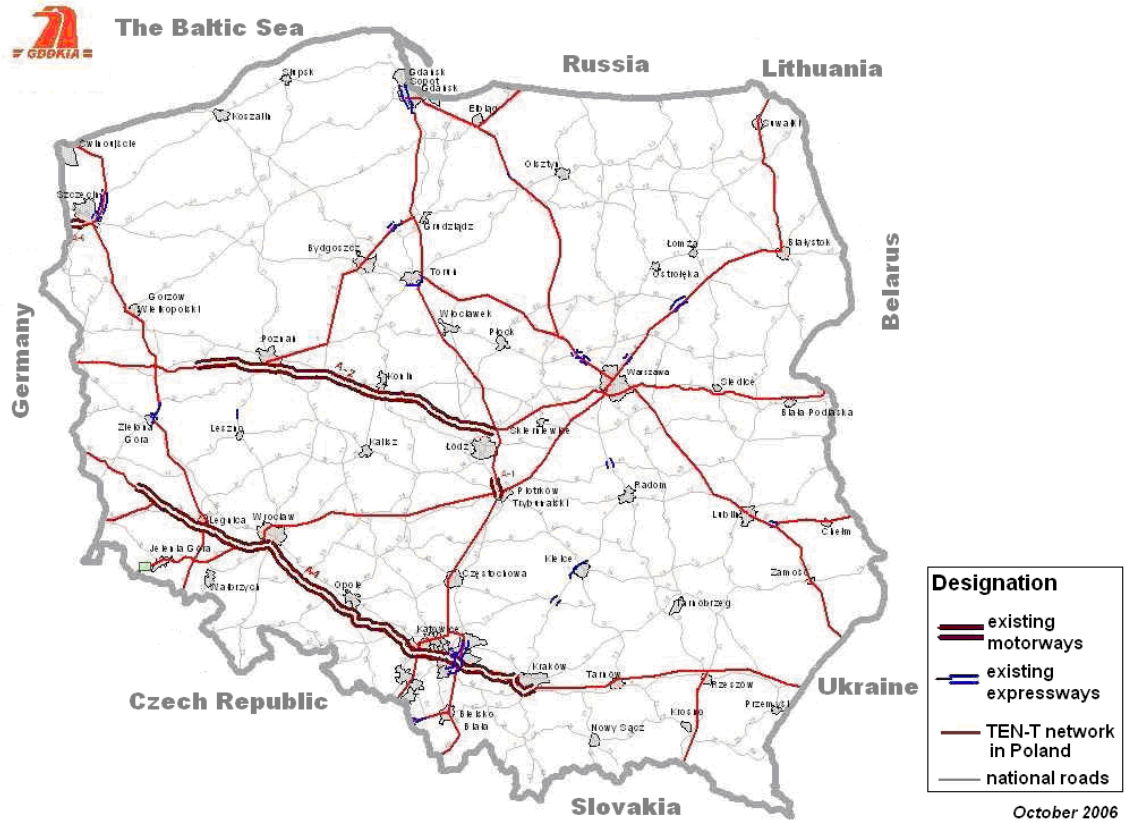
The technical condition of roads systematically decreases which is, with the increasing of conveyances, the reason of movement smoothness and roads capacity decrease. Is estimated (by Eurostat) that till 2020 in EU-25 countries the car transport will increase by approx. 70%, however in Poland twice as much, that is why it is necessary to increase the financial expenditure for roads reconstruction and construction. This problem is also connected with the problem of road safety. In 2005, there was 1,49 of dead in road accidents on 10 thousand inhabitants – it was 2,9 people for 10 thousand of registered vehicles.

Sections of the following Trans-European Transport Network TEN-T routes go through Wielkopolska:

- Route II Świecko - Poznań - Konin - Łowicz - Warsaw - Siedlce - Terespol - 682km,
- Branch of route VI Dolna Grupa (Grudziądz) - Bydgoszcz –Poznań.

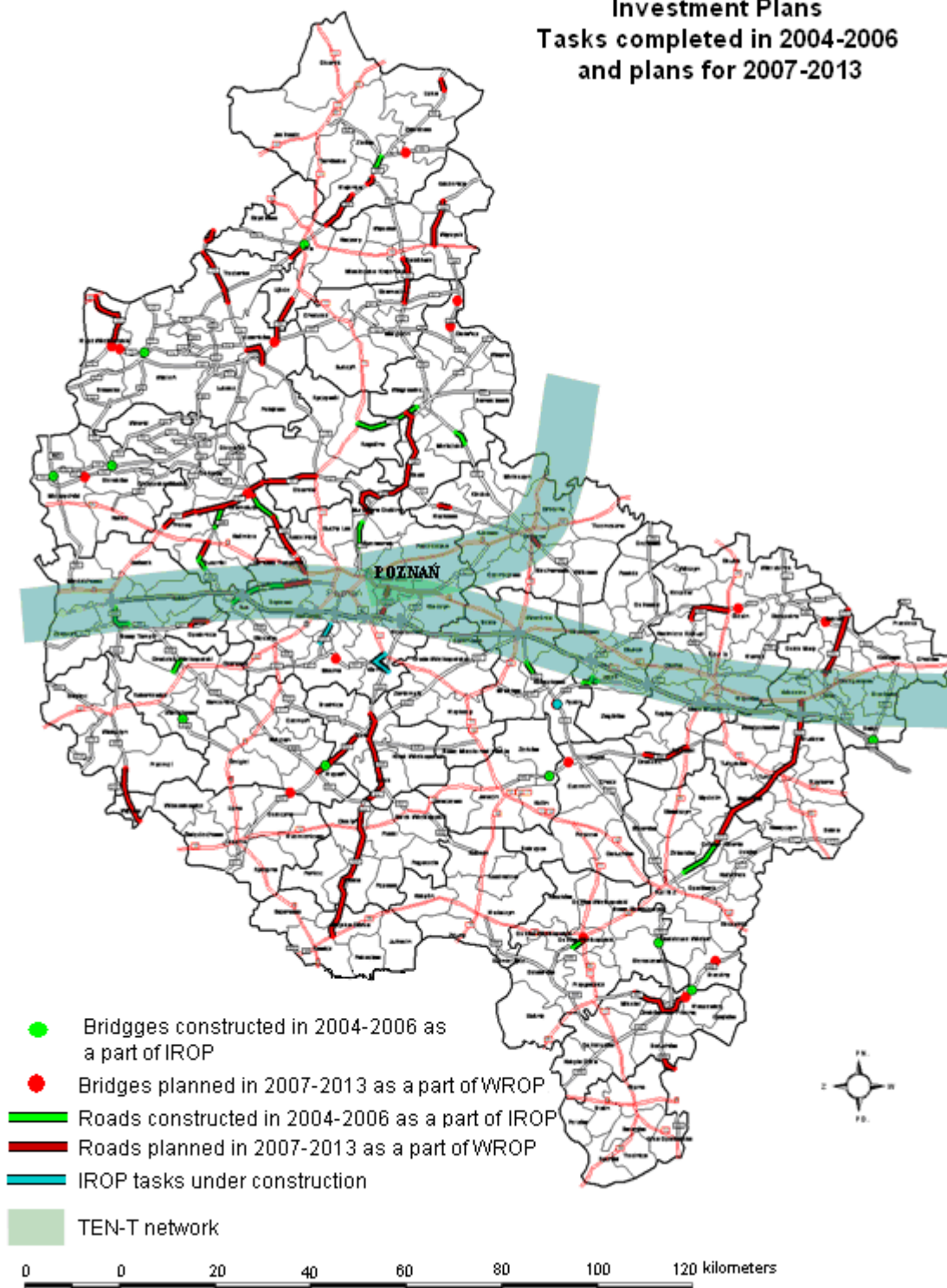
Sections of motorways and expressways and TEN-T network in Poland

Existing network of motorways and expressways in Poland

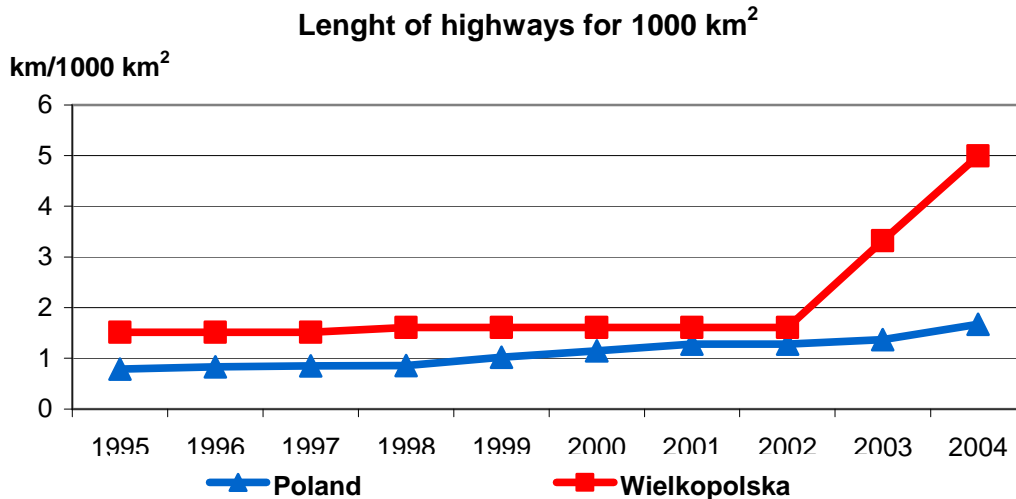


Source: Operational Programme – Infrastructure and the Environment

Implementation of the Multi-Annual Investment Plans Tasks completed in 2004-2006 and plans for 2007-2013



Source: Wielkopolska Board of Regional Roads



Source: CSO

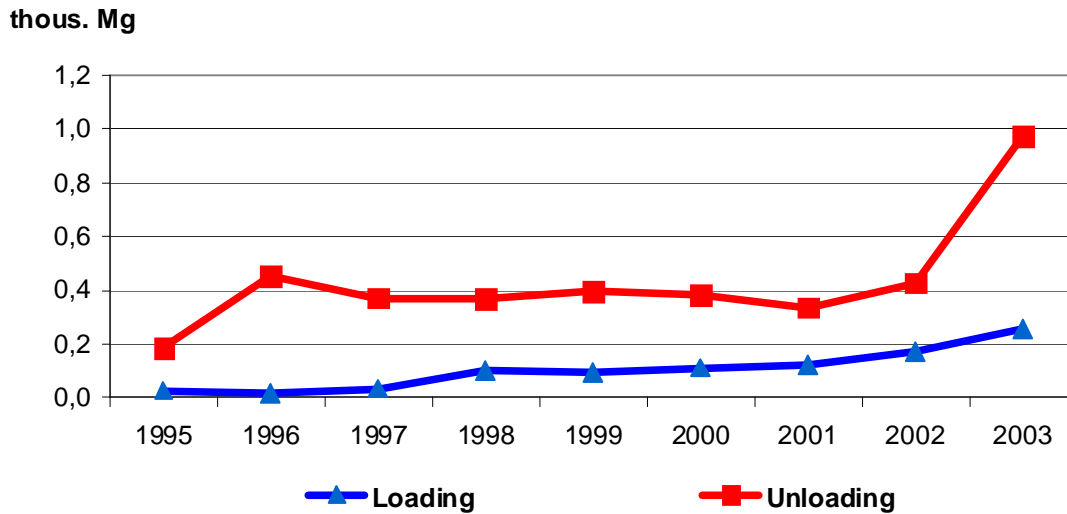
The total length of railway network in Wielkopolska is in 2005 - 2 066 km (2158 km in 2002) and it was over 10,6% of total railway tracks length in Poland. Density of regional railway tracks is 7,2 km/100 km², in Poland – 6,5 km/100 km², and EU average is ca. 5 km/100 km². Ca. 58,7% of standard-gauge railways lines in region are electrified.

In period 1999-2001 in Wielkopolska the percentage of electrified railway lines increase from 49 to 55% (the medium of EU countries was up to 40%). The railway passengers and goods transport in the region has decreased in last couple of years, and it is one of the reasons for closing of local passenger lines. This situation is the effect of constant decrease of technical parameters because of insufficient expenditure for majority of railway lines. The average speed on most of the lines in the region is less than 50 km/hour.

The passenger conveyances in region are provided on the railway lines with a total length of ca. 1630 km. The passenger lines are ca. 60% of all regional railway lines.

The average number of railway passengers (by the data from PKP Regional Conveyances Co.) is ca 28 mln passengers per year. The greatest passenger railway movement occurs on Leszno-Poznań and Konin-Poznań lines. With regard to regional passenger railway transport development and decrease of its costs in year 2002, the Marshall Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship has purchased, as a first in the country, the railway buses - 8 of them begun exploitation in the period 2002-2005 on 4 lines, connecting Poznań and surrounding communes. Except of this, in Wielkopolska there are (separated from the structures of Polish Railway Lines (PKP)) narrow-gauge railways, with all year passenger transport (for instance Śmigiel Access Railway) or seasonal (for instance Gniezno Narrow-gauge Railway and Środa Narrow-gauge Railway).

Loading and unloading of goods in Airport POZNAŃ-ŁAWICA



Source: Central Statistical Office

Wielkopolska has one large regional airport of national and international significance - Poznań-Ławica, which in January 2006 had regular and seasonal connections to Stockholm, Oslo, Malmo, Copenhagen, Dortmund, Munich, Frankfurt am Mein, London, Bristol, Doncaster, Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow, Warsaw and charter flights (summer 2007) to: Varna, Bourgas, Thessaloniki, Palma de Mallorca, Teneryfa, Tunis, Djerba, Monastir, Bodrum, Dalaman, Antalya, Rhodes, Heraklion, Sharm El Sheikh, Hurghada.

Approx. 380.7 thousand passengers were serviced in Poznań-Ławica airport in the year 2004 and 670.7 thousand in 2006. The increase of passenger number is estimated for year 2015 on ca. 3 - 4 mln (over 10 times more).

Conclusions:

- Bad condition and overload of roads,
- Decapitalisation of regional passenger transport railways
- Differentiation in access to transport in particular areas of voivodship,

Recommendations:

- Strengthening of roads and building of cities' ring roads
- Increasing movement safety
- Shortening of travel time from the peripheral parts of the region to the capital of the region and TEN-T routes
- Strengthening of regional airport

b) Power infrastructure

There are considerable spatial disproportions in power supply infrastructure in the region. In many places energy shortages have been reported, mainly in rural areas, where

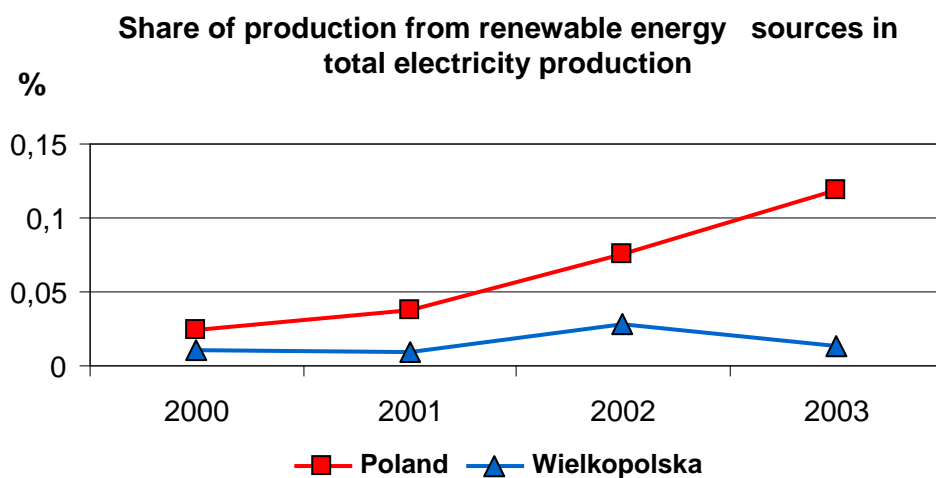


overhead HV 110 kV, MH 15 kV and LV lines with polemount transformer stations are deficient. Moreover, some 110 kV MV stations have radial power supply, with no power reserve capacity. Such a situation occurs in the Poznań subregion, where in the majority of communes the poor technical condition of transmission and distribution lines, their overload and frequent breakdowns hamper the development of businesses and discourage investors. These are at the same time the major areas of economic revival in Wielkopolska.

variable	territory	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Electricity production Total in GWxh	Poland	145 183,5	145 614,2	144 125,0	151 629,6	154 159,6	156 935,5
	Wielkopolska	13 734,5	14 623,7	14 140,0	14 726,0	13 929,4	13 544,7
including from RES in %	Poland	0,025	0,038	0,076	0,119	0,146	0,153
	Wielkopolska	0,011	0,010	0,028	0,014	0,074	0,094

Source: Central Statistical Office

Renewable energy sources are not properly appreciated in Wielkopolska, e.g. wind power plants and geothermal power engineering, and the strategic goals of the EU assume that 12% of energy consumption will be covered by renewable sources by 2010. Energy generation in the region (nearly 90%) is based on solid fuels (the most environmentally unfriendly), whereas in the EU-25 only approx. 20% of energy is based on solid fuels.



Source: Central Statistical Office

Conclusions:

- Insufficient development of the power transmission network, especially in rural and investment areas;
- Unfavourable structure of energy sources, low share of renewable energy sources.

Recommendations:

- Promotion of renewable energy;
- Re-electrification of rural areas;
- Increase efficiency of energy consumption.



c) Gas supply infrastructure

In Wielkopolska the high nitrogen natural gas deposits can be found near Grodzisk, Stęszew, Nowy Tomyśl, Zaniemyśl, Góra and Rawicz, as well as Jarocin and Międzychód. A natural gas transport system with its centre in Krobia is based on these deposits. Supplies of high methane gas are assured by the national system, via pipelines from the Odolanów area. In 2005, 76 towns of Wielkopolska (approx. 70%) had access to the gas network, but the access to gas is still limited in rural areas.

Conclusions:

- Overall good gas supply;
- Limited access in rural areas.

Recommendations:

- Increase in gas supply to rural areas, especially where the market cannot guarantee such supply.

d) Telecommunication infrastructure

As for the density of telephone network (292.4 subscribers per 1000 inhabitants in 2005) the voivodship ranks slightly below the national average, which in 2005 was 308.5 subscribers per 1000 inhabitants. In 2005, all operators in Wielkopolska had 985,592 main connections. This accounted for app. 8.4% of all main connections in Poland. Private subscribers accounted for 70.1% of total subscribers in the region. Subscribers in towns accounted for app. 83% of all subscribers. In rural areas there were only 150.6 thousand subscribers, i.e. 15% of the total number in Wielkopolska. In these terms the situation is worse than in the rest of Poland, where the average of approx. 18.9% of subscribers live in rural areas.

The telecommunication network is being constantly upgraded, though its pace does not correspond to the modern requirements and demand, especially in rural areas.

The research performed in Wielkopolska in 2005 with almost 100,000 respondents, showed that app. 92% of the people had a cellular phone.

Conclusions:

- Insufficient development of the telecommunication network, especially in rural areas.

Recommendations:

- Extension of the telecommunication network and equipment, especially where market forces do not guarantee that.

e) Urban public transport

In general terms, both in the rest of Poland and in Wielkopolska, the condition of public transport has not been subject to major changes over the last few years (displaying a slight decreasing trend), in terms of the number of passengers, as well as the fleet.



The length of active bus lines in the region is on the decrease (3043 km in 2000, 1349 km in 2005). Moreover, over the last few years, there has been a drop in the number of people using public transport (in Poznań it dropped from 243 million in 1999 to 224.5 million in 2005). Urban public transport handled by large enterprises is supplemented by small, private companies or run by local self governments having from 1 to 4 vehicles and employing up to 9 people. These companies have experienced a dynamic growth in the recent period. Apart from that the municipal public transport in Poznań metropolitan area is supplemented by railway transport (rail buses moving on railway tracks along 4 routes, connecting Poznań and adjacent communes). At the moment the “Tramper project” is being prepared by Poznań authorities, which takes into account the connection of the railway and tram systems.

It is estimated that the urban bus lines in Poznań metropolitan area serve app. 45% of passenger transport.

Moreover, most vehicles currently used do not meet the environmental protection requirements.

Variable*	Territory	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Towns served by municipal transport enterprise	Poland	261	261	255	252	259	262
	Wielkopolska	27	28	28	28	30	29
Population** in towns served by municipal transport enterprise in thousand	Poland	18 404	18 451	18 105	18 032	18 066	18 059
	Wielkopolska	1 357,0	1 357,0	1 358,0	1 354,6	1 355,0	1 351
Population in towns served by municipal transport enterprise in %	Poland	77,1	77,4	76,8	76,7	77,0	77,1
	Wielkopolska	70,0	70,1	70,2	70,2	71,0	70,2
Active bus lines in km	Poland	24 120	25 278	25 677	25 423	25 422	17 171
	Wielkopolska	3 043	3 119	2 836	2 792	2 806	1 349
Active tram lines in km	Poland	934	938	940	935	932	915
	Wielkopolska	64	64	64	64	64	64
Bus fleet	Poland	11 605	11 812	11 680	11 530	11 231	11 330
	Wielkopolska	854	853	852	853	867	849
Tram rolling stock	Poland	3 768	3 760	3 710	3 687	3 642	3 631
	Wielkopolska	321	324	317	320	321	327

* data pertaining to municipal transport enterprises with over 9 employees

** estimate data according to the Central Statistical Office

Source: Central Statistical Office

Conclusions:

- Decrease in the number of public transport passengers
- Decrease in the value of infrastructure

Recommendations:

- Extension and enhancement of the transport offer
- Integration of various types of public transport
- Promotion of “clean” transport

2.9.2. Environmental protection infrastructure

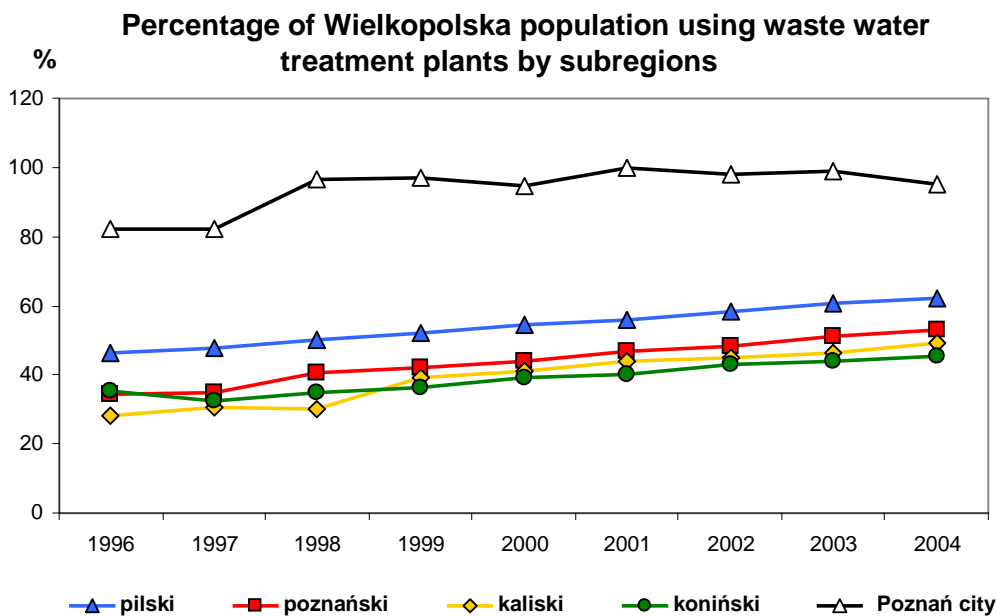
a) Water and sewage management

Water consumption in Wielkopolska accounts for 17.3% of total consumption in Poland. The total water consumption in the region in 2005 amounted to 1,846.7 hm³ (1,894.8 hm³ in 2004), which on average is app. 54.8 l per capita, whereas the national average amounted to

28.6 l, and in some regions of Spain and Greece, for instance, exceeded 270 litres. App. 83.9% of water was put to industrial use, 10.8% to municipal use and 5.3% was used by other branches of municipal economy, mainly farming and forestry.

Almost 90% of overall water demand in the region is covered by surface waters, which are limited due to precipitation deficit. Due to the climate of Wielkopolska the surface and ground water resources are very variable during the year. This causes temporary water deficits. The ground water resources are used most of all to provide drinking water (drinking water accounted for slightly below 90% of entire ground water intake in 2005).

The availability of drinking water, expressed in water distribution network length ratio as per 100 km², is better in Wielkopolska (91.0 km) than the national average (76.5 km). The average density of the distribution sewerage network in the voivodship is 22.9 km/100km² (Poland - 23.6 km). In all subregions (except for Poznań - 272.4 km), this ratio is lower than average in voivodship and in the rest of the country. In 2005 the total of 3,092,200 people were using water mains in Wielkopolska, which accounted for app. 91.8% of population (in rural areas it was 1,241,400 and 85.3% respectively).



Source: Central Statistical Office

In 2005, 1,695.1 hm³ of waste from Wielkopolskie voivodship was discharged to surface waters or to the ground (1,877.6 hm³ in 2004), including 1,748.3 hm³ of industrial waste (along with quenching waters) and 129.3 hm³ of communal waste and 98.9% of waste that required treatment. On average 0.006 hm³ of industrial and communal waste per km² was treated. The largest amount of waste was treated alongside increase removal of biogenes, i.e. 92.5%. In 2005 Wielkopolska had 420 waste water treatment plants working for 109 towns (116 industrial and 304 municipal waste water treat plants) of total capacity amounting to 1,448.6 hm³/day. On average 59.7% of region's population used waste water treatment plants in 2005 (as in the rest of the country, whereas the average of EU 15 is 50% and in Nordic countries 80-90%), including 23.24% in rural areas. In 2005 the sewerage system in the region was used by 1,955,000 inhabitants, which accounted for app. 58.1% of population (including 327,000 people and 22.5% respectively in the country).



The amount of waste discharged in rural areas has increased over the last few years, and the increase in consumption of water from group mains has not been accompanied by construction of equivalent sewerage systems and waste water treatment plants.

Conclusions:

- Insufficient sanitary infrastructure, especially in rural areas;
- Low level of waste water treatment;
- Deficits in drinking water supply.

Recommendations:

- Increase in the number of inhabitants served by waste water treatment plants; especially in rural areas;
- Increase in drinking water quality and supply;
- Use of waste as a source of energy.

b) Waste management

In 2005 app. 5,196.3k Mg of waste was generated in Wielkopolska (5,306.78k Mg in 2004), of which 4,304.1k Mg was waste from business activity (3.5% of national volume). The largest amounts of industrial waste were generated in the following townships: Konin and Poznań and country districts: Turek and Gostyń. From among the industrial waste generated in 2005, 3,664.2k Mg was recycled, which accounted for app. 70.5% of generated waste, and 1,273.8k Mg of waste was neutralised by storage (including temporary storage of 134.7k Mg of waste stored in industrial areas). In 2005, there were 104 landfills in the region. The amount of waste in landfills per inhabitant amounted to app. 420 kg, including 247 kg of municipal waste, whereas the average in the EU 15 is 300 kg.

In 2005, 30.1 k Mg of hazardous waste was generated in business activity in the region, which accounted for almost 0.6% of total waste. App. 8.8k Mg of waste was recovered, 6.9k Mg was neutralised by storage, 13.8k Mg was neutralised by means other than storage and 0.3k Mg was stored at sites. Burial grounds pose a severe threat for the environment. In 2002 there were 26 burial grounds in the voivodship. In the years 2002-2004 1,826 Mg of waste was extracted from 13 burial grounds and transported to an incinerator plant in Germany. As a result of liquidation, an area of 3 ha was afforested and sown over with grass. In the years 2005-2006 the remaining 13 burial grounds were liquidated. In 2005 a campaign for selective collection of hazardous waste was carried out in Poznań.

Industrial and communal waste management in the voivodship is not satisfactory. Waste storage in landfills is preferred; it is necessary to implement new methods, such as recycling, thermal utilisation or composting.

Conclusions:

- Disorderly waste management;
- Lack of proper hazardous waste management system;
- Too low level of waste processing and segregation.

Recommendations:

- Increase in the share of waste that can be segregated;
- Use of waste as a source of energy.



c) Air protection

In 2004 the emission of gas pollutants (including CO₂) and dust in the voivodship amounted to 17,300.3k Mg (18,156.4 k Mg in 2003), including 13,5480 Mg of sulphur dioxide and 28 275 Mg of nitrogen oxides. In 2005 the emission of air pollutants dropped (dust: 0.3 Mg/km², which accounted for 88.2% of previous year's emission, sulphur dioxide: 4.6 Mg/km² and 98.7% respectively, nitrogen oxides: 0.9 Mg/km² and 94.7% respectively). The total annual emission of carbon dioxide in Wielkopolska was 16,795,647 Mg. Pollutants were emitted mainly by the following sectors: power industry, heavy industry and mining. The main sources of emission are located in large cities (58% of dust and 72% of gas emission). Another source of pollutants is the so called low emission, from local coal boiler houses and individual house boilers, as well as strip mines, landfills and reloading works. In Wielkopolska there is also the transport emission, and in large towns its share in total carbon oxide emission accounts for app. 80%, and nitrogen oxides for app. 50%.

The application of energy from renewable sources is increasing, though slowly (local water power plants, heat pumps, solar collectors, wind and biomass energy). In 2005 the share of energy generated from renewable sources amounted to 0.094% of total energy production in the region. Installed power of equipment generating energy from renewable sources reached app. 12,700 MW in 2005. Another vital issue in Wielkopolska is also the import of pollution, i.e. inflow of air pollutants from neighbouring areas, especially from the West.

Conclusions:

- Decrease in air pollution;
- Increase in transport-based pollution.

Recommendations:

- Upgrade of heat generating systems;
- Environment-oriented upgrade of transport systems;
- Increase in generation of energy from renewable sources;
- Use of landfills as a source of energy.

2.9.3. Social infrastructure

In 2005, there were 69 general hospitals in the voivodship, with 15,698 beds. There were 46.5 beds per 10,000 people, which is slightly lower than the national average (47 beds) and in the EU-25 (app. 55 beds), and definitely lower than in the Czech Republic (110 beds - the highest ratio in the EU).

In Wielkopolska the number of doctors per 10,000 inhabitants was 16.8 in 2005 (in 2003 20.2) and was lower than the country's average (19.9). As for dentists, the national ratio was 3.1 and 1.7 for Wielkopolska, whereas the EU-25 average was 6.0 dentists per 10,000 inhabitants (in 2003, source: Regions: Statistical Yearbook 2006, map 9.4), the ratio for nurses was 46.9 and 41.3, respectively.

Of particular importance for the health of the inhabitants of Wielkopolska are lifestyle diseases, including cancer.

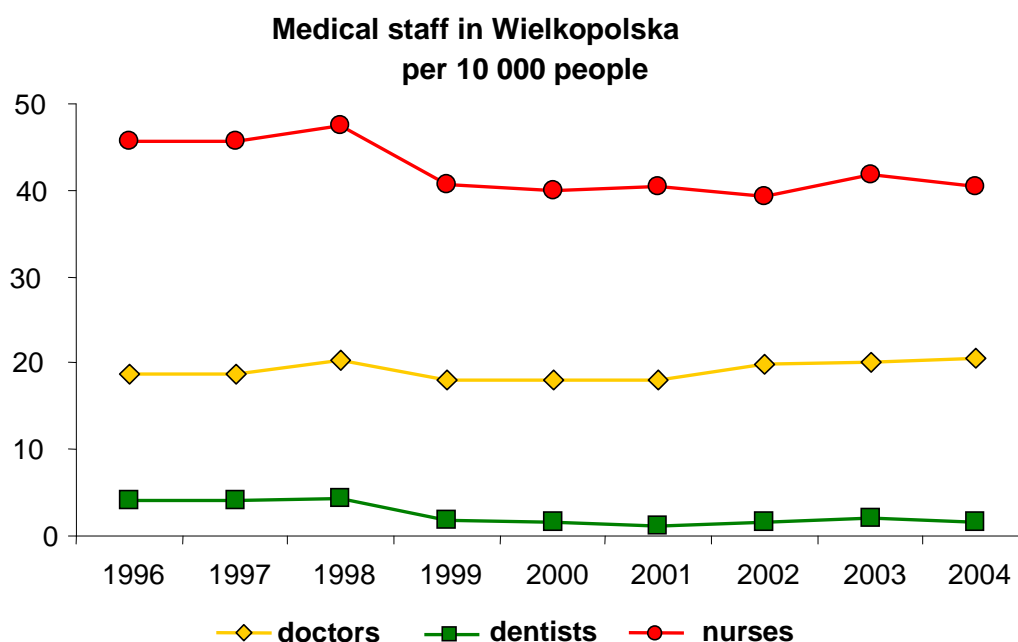
In 2004, (currently the latest data) 5,656 new cases of malignant cancer were diagnosed in women (in 1999 – 5,157 cases). 5,728 new cases of cancer were diagnosed among men in 2004 (in 1999 – 5,066 cases). The malignant cancer incidence rate in Wielkopolska in 2004 is

higher than the national rate for both sexes – in the case of women, the rate is 16% higher and in the case of men - 11% higher.

The most frequent types of cancer among women in Wielkopolska are: breast cancer (21.2%), large intestine and rectum cancer (10.4%), lung cancer (6.7%) and uterine cancer (6.5%). As for men, the most frequent cancer types are: lung cancer (21.8%), large intestine and rectum cancer (11.9%), prostate cancer (10.8%) and bladder cancer (6.3%).

In 2005, the incidence rate (per 100,000 people) in the region amounted to: in the case of tuberculosis: 14.0 (24.3 in Poland), meningitis: 2.3 (in Poland 2.8), virus hepatitis B: 4.1 (4.5 in Poland).

The projected changes of demographic structure and civilisation-related threats, including environmental threats, require the adaptation of health care. As far as civilisation-related threats are concerned, health care needs to be on top level.



Source: Central Statistical Office

The number of doctor and dentist consultations in 2005 in Wielkopolska was 21,501.9k, which is up by 100k against 2003 (in Poland it was 261,252k, 10 million more than in 2003).

In 2004 there were 106 full-time social welfare units in the voivodship, offering 7,618 places (which assured care for 1.9% of the region's population aged 65 and more), however app. 800 people were still awaiting access to such facilities.

In 2005 there were 33 nurseries in the region, offering 1738 places. The number of nurseries and children's attendance is decreasing year on year, which is a national trend.

In the Wielkopolskie voivodship the demand for social welfare is very high and rising, which results e.g. from the increase of the elderly and infirm (13.7% of the region's population is beyond productive age), chronically ill and disabled (the disabled and mentally ill account for app. 15.2% of the region's population). The basic reason for using social welfare is poverty - app. 85k (10%) of families relies on social welfare due to poverty.



In 31 poviats there are less than 2/3 hospitals and 51% of beds. The remaining part is located in sub-regional centres, i.e. Kalisz, Konin, Leszno and Poznań. This means that in these towns the number of beds per 10,000 inhabitants is 2.7 times higher than the average for poviats.

In order for the health care infrastructure to perform its statutory tasks, it should be accessible, especially in terms of basic health care. The disproportions in accessibility of units that can grant basic consultation and first aid are quite significant in Wielkopolska.

Disability is a crucial social problem. According to the National Census of Citizens and Apartments in 2002, the number of people officially classified as people with disabilities (i.e. with “legal” disabilities) was 445,900 in 2002, which constitutes 84.9% of the whole disabled population (in the country: 5,456,700, i.e. 81.6%). The most numerous group included people with “legal” disabilities classified by doctors as mild – 35.3% of the population; in the cities: 33.7%, in rural areas: 37.5% (in the country: 28.8%, 28.6% and 29.2%, respectively) and people with disabilities classified as moderate – 27.9%; in the cities: 31.2%, in rural areas: 23.5% (in the country: 26.1%, 28.4% and 23.0%, respectively).

As regards people with only biological disabilities in 2002, there were 11,100 people (i.e. 2.1%, in the country: 2.3%) with total impairment of basic activities and 68,100 people (i.e. 13.0%, in Poland: 16.2%) with serious impairment of basic activities.

Women dominate in the population of people with disabilities, both in Wielkopolska and in Poland. They constitute 52.9% of the total population.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES BY LEVEL OF DISABILITY IN 2002

CATEGORY	Total		Cities		Rural areas	
	in thousand	%	in thousand	%	in thousand	%
Total	525.1	100.0	303.5	100.0	221.6	100.0
Men	247.1	47.1	138.4	45.6	108.7	49.1
Women	278.0	52.9	165.1	54.4	112.9	50.9
Legal (officially classified by doctors)	445.9	84.9	262.6	86.5	183.3	82.7
Aged 16 and older	416.3	79.3	248.4	81.8	167.9	7.8
disability level:						
severe	84.1	16.0	51.4	16.9	32.7	14.8
moderate	146.7	27.9	94.6	31.2	52.1	23.5
mild	185.5	35.3	102.4	33.7	83.1	37.5
Age not identified	15.8	3.0	6.7	2.2	9.1	4.1
Aged 0-15, entitled to receive attendance allowance	13.8	2.6	7.5	2.5	6.3	2.8
Biological only (reported subjectively, not classified officially)	79.2	15.1	40.9	13.5	38.3	17.3
Subjectively experienced impairment:						
total	11.1	2.1	5.9	1.9	5.2	2.3
serious	68.1	13.0	35.0	11.5	33.1	15.0

**Conclusions:**

- Disproportions in accessibility of basic health care centres;
- Increasing social illnesses incidence rate.

Recommendations:

- The health care and social welfare infrastructure must be adapted to demand resulting from ageing of the society and civilisation-related changes;
- Health care restructuring;
- Increase in quality of medical services.

2.9.4. Housing resources

The housing condition of Wielkopolska is not very different from the national average. The number of flats in the region in 2005 amounted to 1,042,100 (4,105,200 rooms), which accounted for 8.16% of national resources. In 2005, 11,913 flats were put to use (10.4% of the total number of flats put to use in Poland). As for the average number of people per flat, which in 2005 was 3.23 (3.28 in 2003), Wielkopolska ranks slightly lower than the national average (2.98 people/flat). The flat saturation indicator, i.e. the number of flats per 1000 people in Wielkopolska is lower than the national average (in 2005: 309.2 flats/1000 inhabitants, whereas the national average amounted to 335.0). The flat saturation ratio of Poland places the country at one of the last places in the European Union (from 315 in Slovakia to 471 in Denmark, according to Eurostat's data for 2000).

As for flat equipment, the region's condition is much better when compared to the rest of the country. In 2005, flats having access to water mains accounted for 99.3% of total number of flats in cities in Wielkopolska, and 95% in Poland. 82.9% flats in Wielkopolska had central heating (84.1% in Poland), and 92.9% of flats had a bathroom (92.0% in Poland). The number of flats connected to a gas pipeline was 70% in Wielkopolska, whereas in the entire Poland the ratio was 74%. The ratio pertaining to sanitary sewer system is different from the EU standards (e.g. in the years 1995-2000 91% of flats in Finland had a bathroom, whereas in Holland this ratio was 100%).

The region's problem is the considerable decapitalisation of housing resources, especially in towns where a repair gap can be observed. What is troubling is the steadily growing deficit of flats, which translates directly to the increase in flat prices and decreases the mobility of labour force, and in consequence impedes the efficiency of economic restructuring. Such a situation strengthens the differences of unemployment level and poverty, as well as the threat of social exclusion.



Variable *	Territory	2000	2001	2002 **	2003	2004	2005
Total number of flats	Poland	11 844 838	11 945 941	11 763 540	12 595 891	12 683 392	12 776 100
	Wielkopolska	962 843	971 446	962 461	1 023 264	1 032 728	1 042 100
Number of flats per 1,000 inhabitants	Poland	309.6	312.3	307.7	329.8	332.2	335.0
	Wielkopolska	288.5	290.6	287.5	304.5	307.6	309.2
Number of flats put to use	Poland	87 789	105 967	97 595	162 686	108 117	114 066
	Wielkopolska	7266	8 798	9 357	12 724	11 093	11 913
Flats with access to water mains in %	Poland	92.6	93.3		95.0	95.0	95.0
	Wielkopolska	95.7	95.8		97.5	97.6	99.3
Flats with central heating in %	Poland	72.1	72.9		77.0	77.2	84.1
	Wielkopolska	70.3	70.9		77.7	77.9	82.9
Flats with a bathroom in %	Poland	81.5	82.2		86.1	86.2	92.0
	Wielkopolska	82.3	82.8		89.0	89.1	92.9
Flats connected to gas mains (network gas) in %	Poland	56.7	57.2		55.4	55.5	74.0
	Poland	51.3	51.6		49.1	49.2	70.0

*in the years 2000-2002 the number of flats was determined based on inhabited flats, since 2003 all flats have been taken into account,

** in 2002 the number of flats was determined based on inhabited flats and equipment was calculated taking all flats into consideration

Source: Central Statistical Office

Conclusions:

- Flat saturation indicator is lower than the national average (number of flats per 1,000 inhabitants);
- Considerable decapitalisation of flats;
- Limited access to flats for people with low income;
- Deficit of flats restricting mobility on the labour market.

Recommendations:

- Promotion of housing associations providing cheaper flats;
- Including housing in revitalization programmes.

2.10. Intra-regional differences

Wielkopolska is a region with large internal differences in the level of development. The nature of these disproportions is complex and stems from the interplay of a few demarcation lines. The remaining chapters of the diagnosis present the internal differences in individual sectors. Below is a synopsis to indicate some regularities that are significant for the regional strategy.

First of all, high concentration of the economic potential in the Poznań subregion is visible, which is a normal phenomenon since a large agglomeration is the capital of the region. The second demarcation line is between rural areas and cities.

Intra-regional differences also result from historical reasons. By the early 20th century, individual parts of Wielkopolska had developed in different states, which is visible even today. Especially, if we compare the western part of the region with the north and the east. It is much conspicuous in the infrastructure, both technical and social, and in the economic structure.

Current internal discrepancies were also determined by the character, pace and the starting point of transformation processes in the economy after 1990. Parts of Wielkopolska with a multi-functional economy managed to solve problems and are developing the fastest. The growth rate is the lowest in areas where state farms were closed – in the northern part of



the region, and where fuel and energy engineering sectors developed – in the eastern part of the region.

The demarcation line also depends on the location in reference to the TEN-T network. Areas located on the territories influenced, or potentially influenced, by the network, are in a more favourable situation. This is why it is important to link peripheral areas appropriately through infrastructure in order to make the range of impact as large as possible.

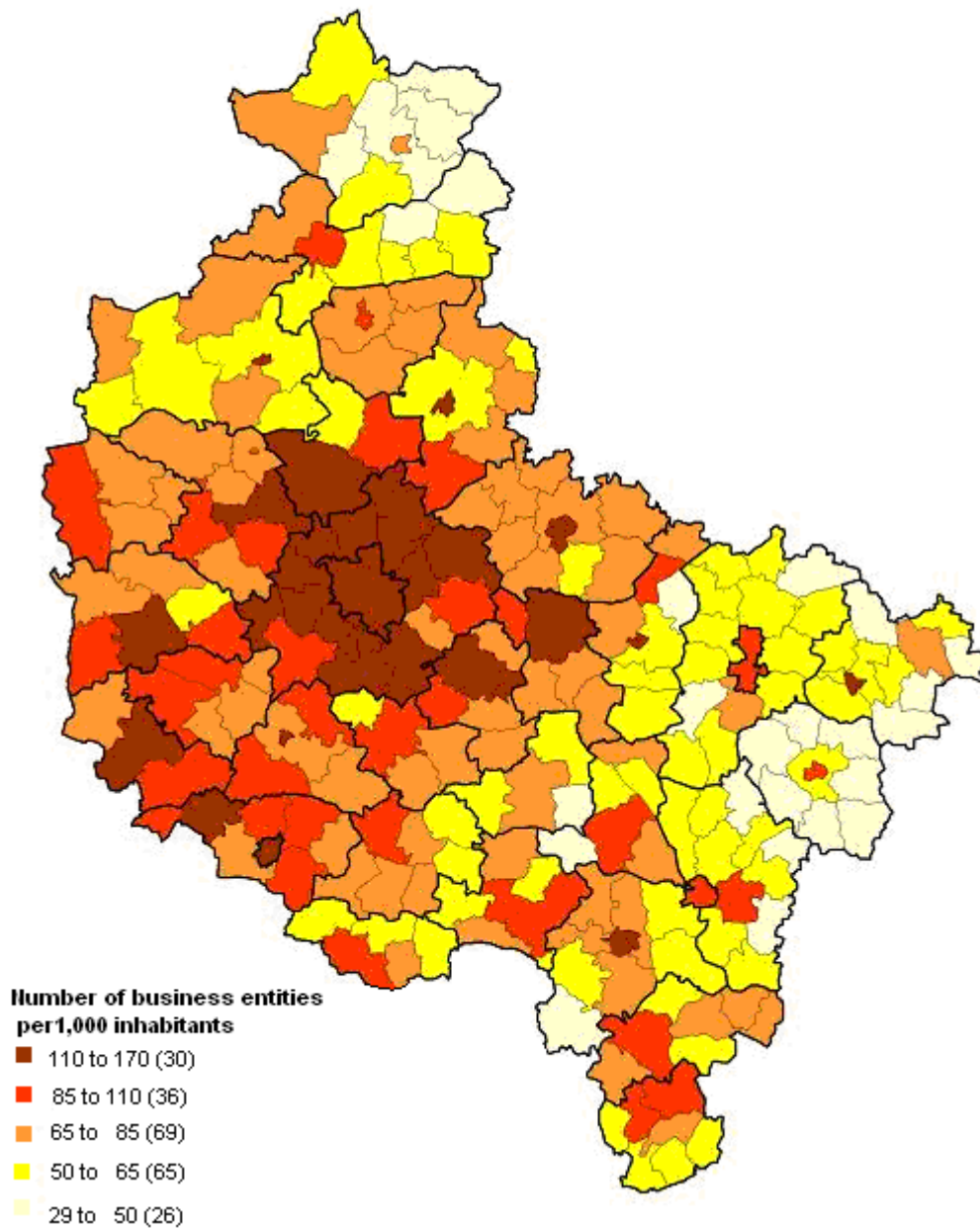
It is clear, in the context of the above mentioned factors, that the answer to the question whether entrepreneurship gaps follow the division between rural areas and cities or the division between growth poles and peripheral areas is not obvious as the image is more complex and results from many intertwined factors.

The ultimate image of internal differences is a combination of all mentioned factors and creates a mosaic with disproportions distributed in space. Development problems pertain both to individual cities and to many rural gminas located in the growth areas and in peripheral areas. It is very important for the creation of the programme strategy and the project selection strategy. No simple formulas can be applied since the situation depending on the location of each beneficiary is complex, varied and results from an interplay of various combinations of factors. Thus, no simple mechanisms of division into rural and urban areas can be applied.

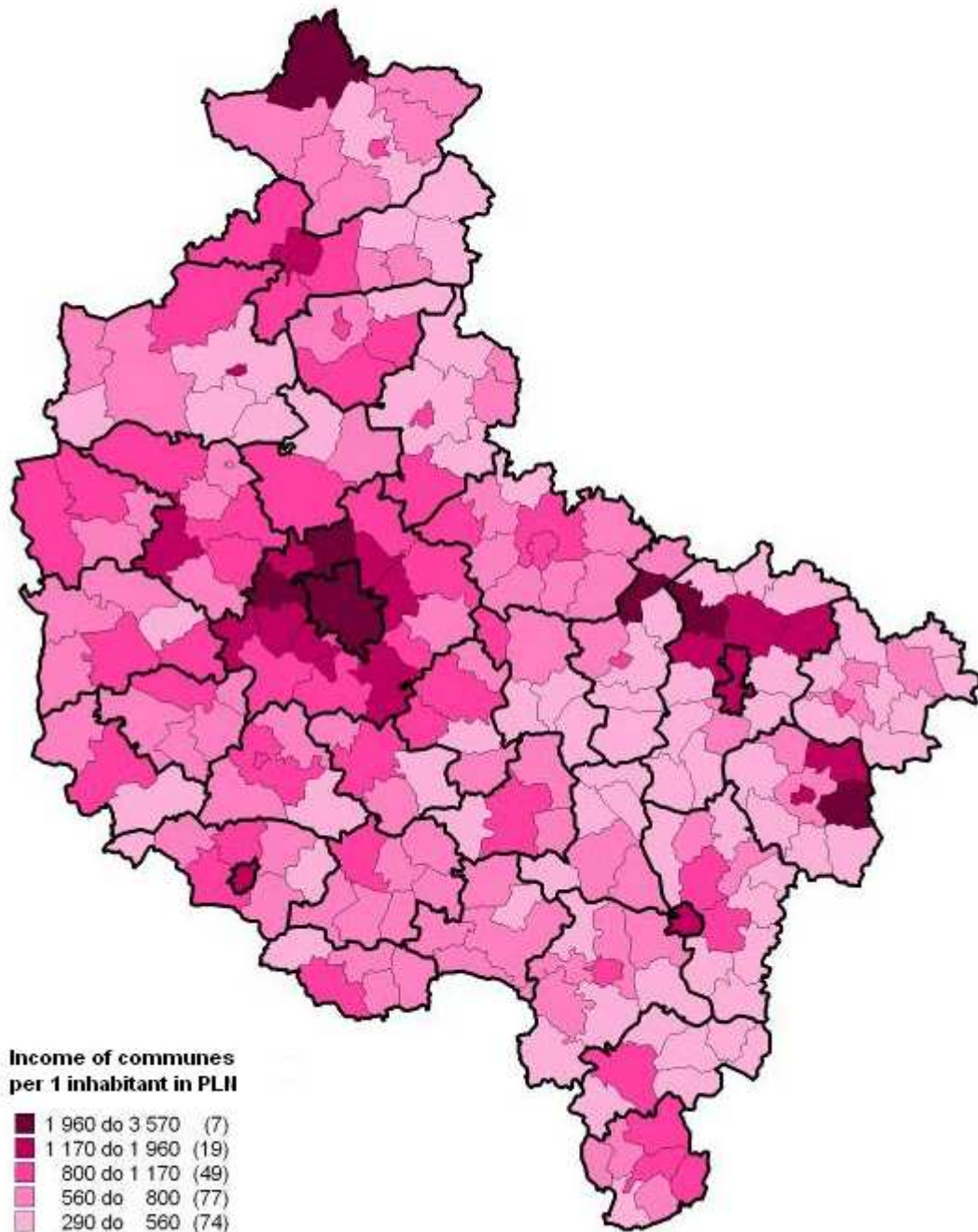
Apart from intra-regional differences in the social and economic situation, it is important to consider development trends. There are areas where the situation is good and is constantly improving, but there are also regions where the situation is good and is worsening. The opposite also takes place – there are regions where the situation is bad but improving and regions where the situation is bad and worsening

The mosaic of intra-regional differences is presented on the maps below on selected examples:

Spatial distribution of the number of business entities registered
in the REGON system in 2006



Spatial distribution of income generated by commune budgets
in Wielkopolska in 2005



**Conclusions:**

- Intra-regional differences in the voivodship result from a combination of various factors – mainly the division between rural and urban areas, agglomeration and peripheral areas.

Recommendations:

- Consider the interplay of factors differentiating the territory of the region when developing a programme strategy and project selection system.

2.11. Natural and technical threats

Wielkopolska faces threats resulting from the following natural and technological factors:

- fire threats in forests, which pertain to the whole region. Fires cause disastrous environmental effects. They result from natural factors and, more frequently, from arson. Fires are especially dangerous to protected areas;
- technological threats related to the effects of potential industrial failures, mainly in 10 enterprises qualified as the so-called High Risk Enterprises under the environmental protection regulations. These companies process oil derivatives. Explosion can lead to the most negative effects but the implemented safety procedures reduce the risk to a fraction of a percent;
- technological threats are also present in the area of the so-called mining damage in the town of Wapno (Wagrowiec powiat), the area is constantly threatened with yet another mining disaster (the first one occurred in 1977 following the flood in the salt mine. Approx. 50 houses, sections of local roads and railway tracks were damaged then). Approx. 1.700 people live in the threatened area;
- flood threats in the region pertain mainly to agricultural areas with low population density. The main threat is related to the occurrence of heavy rains exceeding 50 mm/day and rather obsolete and obstructed storm water drainage in the cities and agricultural drainage systems in rural areas. Moreover, flood threats stem from heightened water levels in rivers (Warta, Prosna, Barycz, Noteć and other smaller rivers). Flood protection in the voivodship requires investments in the increased water storage capacity in reservoirs and in washlands – e.g. by recreating “Golina” washland in the Warta valley. It is estimated on the basis of historical data (no implemented research analysis methodology in this field) that 40 gminas in the region are threatened with flood. Minor floods appear annually on the area of approx. 75,000 ha, while the area might increase in the case of a major flood at a scale of a natural disaster;
- threats of strong winds are becoming more and more disturbing every year; strong winds cause serious damage in forests, agriculture and lead to long power failures (for instance, a gale in January 2007 with wind speed exceeding 100 km/h resulted in millions of damage and power failures affecting approx. 30,000 inhabitants of the voivodship for the period of one week);
- threats related to long-term heat waves and resulting draughts; this phenomenon occurs annually in Wielkopolska in the spring-summer season causing serious economic damage in agriculture. In the years 2000, 2003, 2005 and 2006, the area of crops affected by draught reached approx. 1 million ha with damage ranging between 500 to 800 million PLN. Draughts that affect mainly central



and southern parts of the region are related to the degradation of lakes in those areas and a radical lowering of ground and lake water levels, which becomes a serious threat to the natural environment, especially in the lake area of Konin and Ślesin.

Conclusions:

- It is necessary to develop detailed procedures to react to flood, radiation, bioterrorist threats and epidemics in the Crisis Management Plan of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship. These procedures should make it possible to undertake efficient and coordinated actions to reduce negative effects of these threats for the inhabitants of Wielkopolska and effects of other threats or threats currently unidentified that will still require coordinated actions led by the Voivod.

Recommendations:

The strategy to counteract main threats includes the following:

- as regards fire threats in the forests – expansion of the fire protection system of the regional directorates of the National Forests focused on early fire detection (cameras, observation, supervision);
- as regards floods and draughts – recreation of washlands (including Golina washland), maintenance of existing floodbanks and hydrotechnical devices in good condition, construction of new retention reservoirs (source: Crisis Management Department of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship Office in Poznań).

2.12. National assistance for Wielkopolskie voivodship

2.12.1. National support

Voivodship contracts

a) Voivodship contract 2001 – 2003

In period 2001 – 2003 the Wielkopolskie voivodship has received a state aid from the Assistance programme for period 2001 – 2003 in frames of voivodship contract, signed by Ministry Council and Selfgovernment of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship in June 19, 2001, with later renegotiated changes.

From voivodship contract means on the Wielkopolska area there were financed the measures from 4 priorities of the Assistance programme, for instance investments in communication infrastructure, health protection, higher education, culture, protection of environment and measures for the development of enterprise

In frames of the Assistance programme, the national government side has assigned:

1. 123.760 thousand PLN for long terms' investments of territorial self-government units,
2. 175.270 thousand PLN for investments and investment purchases realized by authorized subjects basing on treats with self-government organs,



3. 10.327 thousand PLN for co-financing of investments and investment purchases of territorial self-government units from means of Voivod.

The most important assignments of the Voivodship contract, co-financed by national budget in period 2001-2003 were, for instance:

- road investments on national and voivodship roads,
- ending of Central Sewage Treatment Plant investment in Poznań,
- beginning of construction of storage reservoir „Wielowieś Klasztorna” on Prosnie river,
- enlargement of Poznań - Ławica Airport infrastructure,
- enlargement of Oncology Center of Wielkopolska,
- construction of United Voivodship Hospital in Konin,
- construction of „ZOZ Nowe Miasto” Hospital in Poznań,
- reconstruction and modernization of the New Theatre (Teatr Nowy) in Poznań,
- enlargement of National Museum in Poznań,
- construction of University School of Physical Education’s Library in Poznań,
- construction of network system of enterprise assistance and development in Northern Wielkopolska,
- capital assistance of credit guaranty fund.

Altogether, during the period 2001 – 2003 163 assignments have been realized, co-financed by national budget in frames of the Assistance programme. The subjects realizing those assignments have expanded the total value of 405.585 thousand PLN, including 309.357 thousand PLN of national budget participation. Least 23,7% of expenditure came from own means of territorial self-government units and authorized subjects.

b) Voivodship contract 2004

In the year 2004 the Wielkopolskie voivodship has received a state aid from the Assistance programme in frames of voivodship contract, signed by Ministry Council and Selfgovernment of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship in June 21, 2004, with later renegotiated changes.

The national government side has assigned 69.367.000 PLN for the Voivodship programme assignments realization, including

- for realization of territorial self-government units own assignments 55.167.000 PLN,
- for co-financing projects of Integrated Operational Programme of Regional Development and Community Initiative INTERREG III 14.200.000 PLN

The national government side has also assigned to the Voivodship’s Selfgovernment 12.500.000 PLN for investments in the area of regional passenger railway transport.

The means were assigned for:

- Measure 1.3 Strengthening of environment protection system,
- Measure 1.4 Modernization and expansion of health care system,
- Measure 1.5 Restructuring and modernization of education base, higher education base, tourism-sport-recreation base, cultural base,
- Measure 1.6 Modernization of the base and standards increasing of social aid instruments,



Measure 2.1 Construction and capitalization of regional credit, lend and guaranty funds.

The most important assignments of Voivodship contract, co-financed by national budget:

- enlargement of Oncology Center of Wielkopolska,
- construction of United Voivodship Hospital in Konin,
- construction of „ZOZ Nowe Miasto” Hospital in Poznań,
- realization of storage reservoir „Wielowieś Klasztorna” by Prosna river (purchasing of areas),
- construction and modernization of 4 social aid houses,
- capital assistance of regional lend fund
- construction, extension and modernization of 29 educational objects,
- furnishing of 5 teachers training colleges.

There have also begun the Community Initiative INTERREG III projects realization.

The total value of contract expenditure for the year 2004 was 91.072 thousand PLN, including 69.367 thousand PLN from national budget and 21.705 thousand PLN from regional self-governments.

c) Voivodship contract 2005 – 2006

The Voivodship contract for the Wielkopolskie voivodship for the period 2005-2006 has been signed by Ministry Council and Self-government of the Wielkopolskie voivodship in June 30, 2005

The national government side has assigned in 2005 for Contract assignments realization 23.645 thousand PLN and means for co-financing of measures of Integrated Operational Programme of Regional Development and projects realized in frames of Community Initiative INTERREG.

The most important assignments were for:

Measure 1.3 Regional social infrastructure,

Measure 4.3 Enlargement of local social infrastructure.

In total 64 projects with total expenditure 20.767.624 PLN have been realized.

In the frames of the voivodship contract 5 projects for INTERREG III C assistance with expenditure 124.094 PLN have been also chosen.

Furthermore in 2005 an expenditure of 6.832.000 PLN for rolling-stock investment for regional passenger railway transport has been done – purchase of railway buses, noticed in Contract for the Wielkopolskie voivodship for the year 2004. The remaining means in total value 5.668.000 PLN were spent in 2006.

The 2006 allocation for the voivodship was 29,329 PLN plus funds for IROP and IW Interreg measures.

Labour Fund

The Voivodship Labour Office with cooperation of Poviats Labour Offices realizes programmes for unemployed activation and for counter-activity against the negative effects of



unemployment. The means from the Labour Fund are devoted for realization of these assignments.

In the frames of the Labour Fund for unemployed activation (courses, practices, intervention works, public works and other forms of assistance) in period 1999-2005 a total value of means was 573.990 thousand PLN. The financial structure of assistance was:

- Practices 185.195 thousand PLN, number of beneficiaries 550.348,
- Intervention works 92.650 thousand PLN, number of beneficiaries 41.936,
- Public works 83.399 thousand PLN, number of beneficiaries 25.518,
- Courses 51.882,3 thousand PLN, number of beneficiaries 58.574,
- Other forms 154.862,4 thousand PLN, number of beneficiaries 26.283.

2.12.2. Foreign support

RAAP

In the period 2001-2005 in the frames of the Rural Areas Activation Programme (RAAP), in Wielkopolskie voivodship, the assistance has been realized in two components:

- component C - infrastructure (construction and modernization of roads, sewage system and sewage treatment plants, water supply and waste management),
- component B- education (school repairs).

In the frame of component C the assistance was given for 61 contracts with the value of 21 743 899 PLN (including 8.337 652 PLN subsidy from the World Bank and national participation 13 406 247).

In the frame of component B the assistance was given for 120 contracts with value of 12 094 356 PLN (including 4 090 466 PLN subsidy from the World Bank and national participation 8 003 890 PLN).

Total value of the RAAP means in period 2001-2005 in the Wielkopolska region was 33 838 255 PLN (including 12 428 118 PLN subsidy from the World Bank and national participation 21 410 137 PLN).

Pre-accession means

Before joining the European Union structure all the candidate countries, including Poland, could use the assistance from the pre-accession means of ISPA, SAPARD and PHARE instruments. The total value of the financial assistance for Poland in the frames of pre-accession policy instruments was 6 mld €.

ISPA

In period 2000-2004 in the frames of the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-accession ISPA assistance for investment projects for adapting transport and environment protection infrastructure to the EU standards was provided.

In protection of environment area in the Wielkopolskie voivodship assistance was given for 3 projects (waste management, water supply and sewage treatment plant) in total value of



126,302 million € (73,124 million € from ISPA and 53,178 million € from national participation).

In transport area in the Wielkopolskie voivodship assistance was given for 1 project (modernization of railway node in Poznań) in total value of 50, 6 million € from ISPA.

Total value of ISPA assistance in period 2002-2004 for the Wielkopolskie voivodship was 176,902 million €.

SAPARD

In the frames of Special Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (SAPARD) in the Wielkopolska region assistance was given for 4 measures:

In measure 1 - Improving processing and marketing of the agricultural and fishery products, in Wielkopolskie voivodship assistance was given for 226 contracts in value of 284,7 million PLN (including SAPARD means 213,525 million PLN and national participation of 71,175 million PLN).

In measure 2 -Investments in agricultural holdings, in Wielkopolskie voivodship assistance was given for 1807 contracts in value of 95 million PLN (including SAPARD means 71, 25 million PLN and national participation of 23,75 million PLN).

In measure 3 -Developing and improving rural infrastructure, in Wielkopolskie voivodship assistance was given for 504 contracts in value of 225,2 million PLN (including SAPARD means 168,9 million PLN and national participation of 56,3 million PLN).

In measure 4 - Diversifying economic activity in rural areas, in Wielkopolskie voivodship assistance was given for 560 contracts in value of 60, 1 million PLN (including SAPARD means 45,075 million PLN and national participation of 15,025 million PLN).

In period 2002-2004 the total value of assistance was 665 million PLN (including SAPARD means of 498,75 million PLN and national participation of 166,25 million PLN).

PHARE

In the Wielkopolskie voivodship there have been and are financed projects in frames of the National Programme Phare 2000 and its editions 2001, 2002 and the 2003 Phare Economic and Social- Cohesion.

National programme Phare 2000

The total value of subsidies given for entrepreneurs in the Wielkopolskie voivodship in the Programme Phare 2000 was 4,5 million €. This amount was 16% of all contracted means.

Regional Promotion programme of SME Development was financed by means of Phare 2001 ESC and included:

- Enterprises Development Programme and budget of Wielkopolska - 147,4 thousand €,
- Export Enterprises Development Programme - 510,23 thousand € (including Voivodship budget)



- Internet Enterprises Development Programme - 79,86 thousand € (including Voivodship budget),
- Investment Subsidies Fund - 4, 52 million € (including Voivodship budget).

The total budget of Regional Promotion programme of SME Development Phare 2001 SSG for Wielkopolska was 5, 26 million €.

Regional Programme Phare 2001 ESC started functioning in Wielkopolska region in July 2003. The measures realized by entrepreneurs in the frames of programmes ended in December 2004.

The total number of subsidies agreements was 340, in the value of 5, 26 million €. The budget using rate was the highest in the country and it was 86, 51%.

In the frames of the horizontal programme Phare 2001 ESC, Human Resources Development Programme was realized and it included four subprojects:

- Active measures for labour market - assistance for 1120 people,
- Enterprise promotion – assistance for 285 people,
- Adaptation abilities promotion – assistance for 534 people from 246 companies,
- Local partnership for employment – courses for 80 people, as the effect 15 local education partnerships have started.

The total value of means for all four subprojects was 1.776.347 euro, including 1.322.266 euro of Phare means, remaining – national budget.

Regional Programme for Safety and Hygiene of Work in SME sector Phare 2002 ESC was;

- Consulting services programme,
- Investment subsidies programme.

This programme was implemented in the Wielkopolska, Dolny Śląsk, Lubuskie and Opolskie voivodships by Regional Development Agency in Konin. The total budget for four voivodships was 1, 87 million €. The Wielkopolskie voivodship has signed till December 3, 2004, 61 contracts in a value of 1,07 million €.

National Programme SME and Innovation Phare 2002 consisted of Consulting Assistance Fund and National Investment Subsidies Fund.

Assistance from the National Investment Subsidies Fund was given to 98 projects (with country's average 45,5) and from the Consulting Assistance Fund to 200 projects (with country's average – 82,2)

From the Phare 2003 Programme in Wielkopolska there were also financed road investments:

- Construction of ring road in Nowy Tomyśl with length 4,33 km The participation of Phare means in value of 2.339.274 €,
- Reconstruction of road no 305, connecting Nowy Tomyśl ring road with A2 highway. The participation of Phare means in value of 245.102 €



One of the greatest investments realized in the Wielkopolskie voivodship financed from the Phare means is construction of ring road of Poznań in direction of A2 highway, realized in period 1999 – 2002; Phare participation in value of 165.184 thousand PLN.

Structural support

The base for expenditure of structural funds means and the Cohesion Fund in Poland in period 2004-2006 is the National Development Plan (NDP) and basing on it operational programmes, Community Initiatives programmes and Strategy of Cohesion Fund Usage.

The total value of public means (national and Community) that can be used for implementation of NDP 2004-2006 in Poland is 17.673 million €. Community means in value of 12.809 million €).

IOPRD

Integrated Operational Programme of Regional Development (IOPRD) is co-financed by the European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF); the assistance from the Community means for the Wielkopolskie voivodship is planned to be 196.027.956 € (32.936.184 € from ESF and 163.091.72 € from ERDF).

In Wielkopolska, at the end of 2006, 736 contracts for project realization were signed with the total value of Community support of 756.9 million PLN.

Priority/measure	Number	Total value of EU support in mln PLN
Priority I: Enlargement and modernization of infrastructure for strength of competitiveness	86	453,3
1.1 Modernization and enlargement of regional transport system	32	196,4
1.2 Protection of environment infrastructure	11	79
1.3 Regional social infrastructure	22	77,4
1.4 Tourism and culture development	14	48,9
1.5 Information society infrastructure	3	14,4
1.6 Public transport development in agglomerations	4	37,5
Priority II: Strengthening of human resources development in regions	352	131,9
2.1 Competences development in connection with regional labor market needs and constant education possibilities of region	36	25,3
2.2. Equalization of educational chances by scholarship programmes	222	46,1
2.3 Re-orientation of profession for persons leaving the agriculture	18	14,8
2.4 Re-orientation of profession for persons hazarded by restructuring processes	24	20,8
2.5 Enterprise promotion	18	12,6
2.6 Regional innovative strategies and transfer of knowledge	34	12,3
Priority III: Local development	298	171,7
3.1 Rural areas	94	106,2
3.2 Restructuring areas	6	10,9
3.3 Degraded communal, post-industrial and post-military areas	5	10,7
3.4 Micro-enterprises	178	10,7
3.5 Local social infrastructure	15	33,3
Total IOPRD	736	756,9



From the beginning of Programme implementation until the end of 2006, the total payment was 280,087,377 PLN from the means of the European Regional Development Fund and 23,547,597 PLN from the European Social Fund.

Sectoral Operational Programme „Transport”

4 projects were chosen for SOP Transport as at the end of 2006 in Wielkopolska:

- Project „Passage of Warta river – the new direction of national road no 25 in Konin”, with ERDF participation 148.521.266 PLN,
- Project „Reconstruction of technical objects in direction of national roads no 5 and 11 in Poznań”, with ERDF participation 79.563.750 PLN,
- Project „Repair and reconstruction of Głogowska street in Poznań from Górczyński viaduct to Rawicka street”, with ERDF participation 7.500.000 PLN,
- Project „Reconstruction of Głogowska street in Poznań from A2 highway to Górczyn node, part I from A2 highway to Junikowski stream”, with ERDF participation 63.324.288 PLN.

Sectoral Operational Programme „Improvement of the Competitiveness of Enterprises”

In the frames of the Sectoral Operational Programme „Improvement of the Competitiveness of Enterprises” beneficiaries from the Wielkopolskie voivodship have received an assistance for de-capitalization of micro-lend funds and credit guaranty funds, producing of advantageous conditions for enterprises development (5 projects in total value of 30.987.964 PLN), adaptation to standards of environment protection (7 projects). According to the data as at the end of 2006, the greatest interest was concentrated in measure 2.1 „Increase of SME competitiveness by consulting” (302 contracts in value of 6,466,056 PLN) and measure 2.3 „Increase of SME competitiveness by investments” (332 contracts in value of 201,407,789 PLN).

Sectoral Operational Programme „Restructuring and Modernisation of the Food Sector and Rural Development”

According to the data as at the end of October 2006, 5,295 contracts for project funding were signed for all measures of the programme (total value 813,923,855 PLN). Measure 1.1 “Investments in agricultural holdings” was the most popular with 2,517 contracts of the total value of 330,696,453 PLN. No contracts were signed for Measure 2.1 “Restoring forestry production potential damaged by natural disaster”.



Number and name of the measure	Number of signed contracts	Value of signed contracts
Measure 1.1 Investments in agricultural holdings	2 517	330 696 453
Measure 1.2 Setting up of young farmers	1 844	92 200 000
Measure 1.3 Training	4	2 344 504
Measure 1.4 Agriculture advisory and extension service support	2	13 112 800
Measure 1.5 Improving processing and marketing of agricultural products	191	242 385 711
Measure 2.1 Restoring forestry production potential damaged by natural disaster	0	0
Measure 2.2 Land reparation	1 ¹⁴	1 166 680
Measure 2.3 Rural renewal and the preservation and protection of cultural heritage	154	34 793 926
Measure 2.4 Diversification of agricultural activities	310	25 533 936
Measure 2.5 Agricultural water resources management	11	48 130 228
Measure 2.6 Development and improvement of technical infrastructure	249	22 097 887
Measure 2.7 LEADER + type measure	12	1 461 731
Total	5 295	813 923 855

Sectoral Operational Programme “Fishery and Fish Processing”

As regards SOP “Fishery and Fish Processing”, 58 contracts were signed for project funding amounting to 15,964,779 PLN according to the data as at the end of May 2007 (co-financing from Community funds – 7,686,738 PLN).

¹⁴ According to data as at 15 June 2007, this contract was terminated



Number and name of the measure	Number of signed contracts	Value of signed contracts
Measure 3.1 Protection and development of aquatic resources	2	1 851 949
Measure 3.2 Aquaculture and fish farming	31	4 096 018
Measure 3.4 Fish processing and fishery market	18	9 171 069
Measure 4.3 Measures to find and promote new market outlets for fishery products	2	58 343
Measure 4.4 Operations by members of the trade	4	424 824
Measure 4.6 Innovative measures and other measures	1	362 576

Sectoral Operational Programme „Human Resources Development”

As at the end of 2006, for the Sectoral Operational Programme „Human Resources Development”, in which the final beneficiary is the Voivodship Labour Office in Poznań, 65 contracts were signed in total value of 88,478,979 PLN in measure 1.2 „Perspectives for youth” and 66 contracts in total value of 55,764,549 PLN in measure 1.3 „Counter-activity and fighting long-term unemployment”.

Beneficiaries from the Wielkopolskie voivodship area were active in applying for assistance in measure 2.3 „Development of modern economy staff”. The assistance from the Programme received 45 projects in total value of 37 846 441 PLN.

As regards calls for proposals in measure 2.2 “Increasing quality of teaching in reference to the needs of the labour market”, 86 schools from Wielkopolska received total assistance of approx. 46 million for instance for development projects.

The procedure without calls for proposals for measure 2.1 “Increased access to education – promotion of lifelong learning” and measure 2.2 “Increasing quality of teaching in reference to the needs of the labour market” brought assistance to educational institutions in Wielkopolska for IT equipment in computer labs, purchase of new equipment, specialist courses and training programmes (the total co-financing amount reached approx. 64,350,000 PLN).

Because of peculiarities of the Programme, for part of SOP HRD it is impossible to receive information about the value of projects realized in particular regions.

Cohesion Fund

Since May 2004, from the moment of Poland joining the European Union, transport and environmental projects financed before from the pre-accession fund ISPA, are being financed by the Cohesion Fund.



As at 31 March 2006, the following projects received assistance from the Cohesion Fund in the Wielkopolska region:

- “Reconstruction of the waste water system in Kalisz” – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 7,990,921 €,
- “Kalisz – solid waste management” – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 11,626,500 €,
- “Waste water treatment and water supplies for the city of Poznań” – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 59,508,000 €,
- “Water supply system for the city of Piła with water intake in Dobrzyca and a water treatment plant” – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 4,335,846 €,
- Waste and sewage sludge management in Leszno – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 18,601,320 €,
- “A2 motorway construction, Konin-Emilia section – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 284,235,720 €. It can be assumed that approx. 50% of this amount will be allocated to a road section within the territory of Wielkopolska – up to Dąbie.
- “Modernisation of the Poznań railway junction (E20)” – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 77,195,740 €,
- “Modernisation of E59 railway line (technical assistance project for Wrocław- Poznań section, stage I) – Cohesion Fund co-financing: 25,500,000 €.

Community Initiatives

INTERREG

In the Wielkopolska region two components of Community Initiative INTERREG - B (over-national) and C (interregional cooperation) are being realized. In frames of the B component to the end of 2005, 17 contracts in value of 79.027 PLN were signed. Furthermore, in Wielkopolska, in frames of the Community Initiative INTERREG III B – BSR Baltic Sea Region a project called: „Baltic Forest – source of sustainable development and spatial planning in Baltic Sea Region” is being realized with planned budget for Wielkopolska is 300.000 €, and also in frames of CIINTERREG III C project SUFALNET – Sustainable using of former and closed waste dumps, with total budget of 1.324.200 €.

EQUAL

In the Wielkopolska region, in the frames of the Community Initiative EQUAL 6 projects in value of 1.253.706 PLN are being realized.



2.12.3. Conclusions (effects and appraisals of a given support)

Since the year 2000 the Wielkopolskie voivodship is a beneficiary of national and foreign means of public assistance.

First national programmes, with direction for regional development assistance, were Support programmes introduced in 2001, which instruments for realization were voivodship contracts. The Wielkopolskie voivodship in the frames of voivodship contracts in period 2001-2006 has received assistance from national budget in the total value of ca. 420 mln PLN (except means for co-financing of Integrated Operational Programme of Regional Development and Community Initiative Interreg III). Those means were used for assistance for long term's investments: construction of hospitals in Poznań and Konin, enlargement of Oncology Center of Wielkopolska and construction of Central Sewage Treatment Plant in Poznań. The assistance for realization of these projects was enough for finishing of only one of the investments - Central Sewage Treatment Plant in Poznań. This investment influenced the quality of Warta River below Poznań agglomeration. In case of the above mentioned hospital investments there was only possible to realize the next stages of their construction. Means from contracts allowed the enlargement of Poznań - Ławica Airport infrastructure and in effect increase of passengers number and improvement of service conditions. Those means also allowed beginning to prepare construction of storage reservoir „Wielowieś Klasztorna” on Prosna River. The means were enough only for purchasing the majority of grounds of the reservoir area, but even only the beginning of works was very important as the investment has a great chance to receive an assistance from the Cohesion Fund in the financial perspective 2007-2013. Road investments on national and voivodship roads realized with the contract assistance, couldn't bring (because of insufficient amount in comparison to needs) significant improvement of all regional road system, but they allowed to strengthen communication connections of some areas in Wielkopolska. The contracts means allowed also for realization of other regional projects in areas of culture infrastructure, education infrastructure, enterprise assistance or local and subregional investments in areas of education and social infrastructure.

Generally, the means from the voivodship contracts for Wielkopolska in period 2001-2006 have had only a minimal significance for regional development because of their small value - the total assistance value was ca. 125 PLN per capita.

In period 1999-2005 in Wielkopolska used for different forms of unemployment activation 574 million PLN. Ca. 700 thousand beneficiaries which was 817 PLN per 1 beneficiary used such forms of activation. They were significant means and they caused activation (at least temporary) of a big number of unemployed.

In period 2001-2004 the Wielkopolskie voivodship received state aid and World Bank means for rural areas development in frames of the Rural Areas Activation Programme (RAAP). Those means were assigned for improvement of basic infrastructure of rural areas (construction and modernization of roads, sewage system, sewage treatment plants, water supply system and waste management) and repair of rural schools. The total value of RAAP assistance was ca. 33, 8 million PLN, including 21, 4 million PLN of national participation and 12, 4 million PLN - World Bank subsidy. In spite of rather small means (ca. 23, 5 PLN per 1 rural areas inhabitant) - with great needs of enlargement and modernization of



infrastructure in rural areas of Wielkopolska - the effect of support was significant, but not in all area of the region.

The Wielkopolska region is a beneficiary of the pre-accession programme PHARE Social and Economic Cohesion - edition 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003, which were directed for dissolving of delays and regional development differentiations by economic activity promotion, social problems dissolving connected to labour market, restructuring and infrastructure development. However, Wielkopolska - as one of better developed regions in Poland - received rather small support from PHARE. In frames of the finished programmes PHARE SEC 2000 and 2001 our region received total assistance in value ca. 11,6 million €, including 9,8 million € as subsidies for entrepreneurs, and 1,8 million € for human resources development. Furthermore, within the PHARE 2000 programme a regional component was realized which contained a twinning programme for preparing of institutional, administrative and financial structures for Social-Economic Cohesion Policy of European Union. The value of this assistance was ca. 160 thousand €.

The more significant assistance from PHARE means - ca.165 million € - our region received in period 1999-2002 for realization of circle road of Poznań in direction of A2 highway. The effect of this realization was elimination of transit movement in East-West direction away from the Poznań city.

The PHARE programme editions 2002 and 2003 are being realized at present and it is still not possible to recapitulate value of means for Wielkopolska of any addition and impossible to evaluate their effects in region.

Means of PHARE programme for Wielkopolska in period 2001-2005 have had rather small influence on regional development because of their small value - the sum of assistance value was ca. 3,5 € per 1 inhabitant, and togetherwith support for construction of circle road of Poznań - 52,6 € per 1 voivodship inhabitant.

In period 2000-2004 the Wielkopolskie voivodship also received support in frames of the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-accession (ISPA). The assistance was for three investment projects - protection of environment and for one project of transport infrastructure with the total value of 126,3 million €. The realization of those projects allowed dissolving sewage treatment problem in Poznań agglomeration, what in the effect will improve Warta River quality below Poznań. They will also dissolve problems of drinking water supply for Poznań and Piła. It should improve the supply of high quality drinking water for ca. 640 thousand town inhabitants, which are 19, 2% of all region population.

In the transport area a project of modernization of Poznań railway communication node has received assistance. The realization of this project has just only begun, but now it can be estimated that after completing the works, Poznań agglomeration will have a modern railway system, functioning in the frames of one central node. The positive effect of this investment will influence majority of railway system of the region.

The means of Support for Pre-Accession Measures for Agriculture and Rural Development (SAPARD) for Wielkopolska, in total value of 665 million €, have allowed assistance for 3097 contracts. It was a significant assistance - the value of programme means for 1 rural area voivodship inhabitant was 462 PLN and it was twenty times more than from the Rural Areas Activation Programme. The greatest assistance was for measures of improvement of processing and marketing of agricultural and fish products and for



development and infrastructure improvement of rural areas. The biggest number of beneficiaries had measures: investments in farms and differentiation of economic activity in rural areas.

The most significant support in Wielkopolska among all pre-accession programmes - both in financing and in effects - was for beneficiaries from rural areas and there also was the most effective implementation of assistance.

Since the second half of 2004 the Wielkopolskie voivodship has been a beneficiary of assistance in frames of structural funds and the Cohesion Fund. The evaluation of assistance means use and their effects will be possible after completing of all projects.

Without any doubts, the most important for development of Wielkopolska in the programming period 2004-2006 is the support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF) and from national budget in frames of the Integrated Operational Programme of Regional Development (IOPRD). The greatest assistance from IOPRD received projects dealing with modernization and enlargement of regional road system. However, limited value of means allows only for realization of rather short parts of roads in tens place in the region. The improvement of transport connections has only local significance and does not have any influence for all communication system of Wielkopolska. The significant assistance received projects in area of regional social infrastructure (mainly health protection) and protection of environment (mainly sewage treatment). Several projects in area of communal transport will have significant influence in situation of communal transport in Poznań agglomeration. Important in the regional scale – but not enough – is assistance for projects in the area of culture. Great interest in assistance for projects in the area of local development shows great needs of base infrastructure development, especially of sewage systems and sewage treatment plants, local roads (under poviats and communes administration), social infrastructure (education, health care and cultural infrastructure). Till present the greatest support received rural areas in area of local development and projects of social infrastructure development. Projects of human resources development, realized in the Wielkopolskaie voivodship in the frames of IOPRD, should have some influence for increase of inhabitants' competitiveness, but only in chosen areas. Having the great interest projects of enterprise development promotion should strengthen the small enterprises development in the region.

Wielkopolska receives the greatest support (in value of means) from the Cohesion Fund. It is assistance of ca. 345 million € (including national participation). Out of that amount, approx. 142 mln € were assigned for construction of A2 highway in the part from Konin to Dąbie and its completions means completion of the whole part of the highway in Wielkopolska. The remaining supported projects are in the area of environment protection and they allow improvement of sewage system in Kalisz and Poznań, coordination of waste management system and sewage sediments management for the Leszno subregion, solid waste management in Kalisz, improved water supplies for Poznań and Piła. Two projects were related to support of the railway infrastructure extension.

Two road projects in Poznań and Konin which concern national roads, realized in the frames of Sectoral Operational Program „Transport” will significantly improve communication system of Poznań and Konin.

In the frames of Sectoral Operational Program „Restructuring and Modernization of Food Sector and Rural Areas Development” the most important for Wielkopolska is investment support of farms in measures for improvement of agriculture products processing



and marketing, and in measures for easier start of young farmers. For areas of Wielkopolska, localized in zone of water deficit, significant importance has support of water supply projects. Important are also measures concerning rural areas development, especially in area of villages renewal and protection of culture heritage.

Projects related mainly to fish processing and fishery market, fish farming, protection and development of water resources were implemented as part of the Sectoral Operational Programme “Fishery and Fish Processing”.

In the frames of Sectoral Operational Programme “Improvement of the Competitiveness of Enterprises” the greatest popularity among the beneficiaries from Wielkopolska has support for projects of enterprises investments, consulting services, and capitalization of micro-lend funds and credit guaranties. Presently realized projects will not have significant influence on enterprises development in the whole region because of too small value of means, but there should be some local influence.

In Wielkopolska, from the means of Sectoral Operational Program „Human Resources Development” there are supported measures for improvement of youths’ perspectives, modern economy staff development and counter-activity against long-term unemployment.

Investments in educational infrastructure, such as hardware and adjustments of schools to the needs of people with special educational needs were also supported.

By the end of 2006, the funds coming from the pre-accession funds, the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund for projects implemented in Wielkopolska reached approx. 4.5 billion PLN. It is a little more than 1,330 PLN per 1 inhabitant of the region. It can be estimated that such means, as a support for development measures, will give rather moderate effects in the regional scale, but in chosen areas of the region and some branches of regional economy they will be clearly felt.

In the summary it can be said, that public aid for the Wielkopolskie voivodship development, the region has received since 1999 from national and foreign means, is too small to have significant influence for social-economic situation for the whole region. Despite that, the significant influence of external assistance is observable in some areas and in some branches. However, there is not any complex development of particular chosen area or branch in the region. The most important reason is too small accessibility of external assistance means for potential beneficiaries. The interest in assistance in Wielkopolska is much higher than allocations assigned for the voivodship in the frames of all programmes.

From analysis of all projects from applied for all programmes, comes out that the greatest needs of support means occurs in areas of communication infrastructure, protection of environment (most of all in sewage treatment), social infrastructure (mainly education, health care and culture), enterprise development and strength of human capital. This tendency is confirmed by projects from temporarily applied for to the new financial perspective 2007-2013.



3. SWOT analysis

3.1. Internal potential

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
SPACE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• favourable location in Europe• location in the centre of the voivodship, in the zone displaying the highest growth, on the West-East line• growing importance of Poznań agglomeration• economic activation of areas alongside the A2 motorway• well-developed and multi-functional agglomeration of Poznań• attractive areas for investments• well developed, hierarchical area for settlement• potential of sub-regional centres• rich cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• considerable meridional stretch is a potential source of exclusion of the northern and southern end of the region• limited impact of Poznań agglomeration on the rest of the region• insufficient supply of properly prepared investment areas• no land development plans• growing disproportions between the Poznań agglomeration and the rest of the voivodship• Exclusion of regional areas and centres of low competitiveness• poor condition of some parts of urban areas
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• considerable percentage of areas displaying low degree of environment degradation• considerable percentage of protected areas (including the NATURA 2000 network and 2 national parks)• natural potential provides a good ground for tourism• good condition of agricultural areas• economic and tourist potential of forests• drop in emission of pollutants• potentially high resources of renewable energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• poor condition of environment protection infrastructure• unused natural resources• instances of environment degradation• insufficient water resources• low afforestation ratio• low use of renewable energy• increasing anthropogenic impact on the environment, including areas under protection



HUMAN RESOURCES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• considerable activeness of inhabitants (economic and social)• good educational and academic base• surplus of well-educated labour force• a high number of students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• low average level of education• high unemployment level• limited access to education in rural areas• insufficient and ill-adjusted educational offer• many groups and communities threatened by exclusion• limited access to the information society infrastructure• ageing society• limited mobility of population• exclusion of the least educated as well as socially and physically handicapped• increase in social pathologies• deterioration of the inhabitants' health• exclusion of the native culture
ECONOMIC POTENTIAL	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• high expenditures of local self-governments on development• diverse and dynamic economy• considerable production potential• high potential and activeness of SMEs• high commitment of foreign capital• very high productivity of farms, exceeding the national average• good raw material base and potential of the food processing industry• highly qualified labour force	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• low GDP outside the Poznań agglomeration• low GDP growth rate• disproportions in economic efficiency within the voivodship• disproportion in local self-governments' incomes• low share of high-opportunity sectors and innovation-oriented enterprises in the region's economy• low level of corporate relations• insufficient business offer• poor sanitary condition of some farms and processing facilities• disproportions in activeness and economic development in the voivodship• limited links between science and economy



R&D SECTOR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• high research and development potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• poor connection of the R&D sector with the economy• low expenditure on R&D
INFRASTRUCTURE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• main transport infrastructure facility on the West-East line (A2 motorway and E20 rail route)• Poznań- Ławica airport• Poznań International Fair• favourable layout of the river network for river transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• decapitalisation of some part of the infrastructure• replacement expenditures which do not prohibit the decapitalisation of the existing infrastructure• disproportions in distribution• insufficient development of mass transport• insufficient social infrastructure• barriers for the disabled• insufficient development of the information society infrastructure
RURAL AREAS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• good condition of agricultural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• poor condition of infrastructure• low investment level• limited access to social infrastructure

3.2. External analysis¹⁵

OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SPACE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EU and national investments in transport corridors• region-creating role of Berlin agglomeration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• growing competition of metropolitan areas surrounding Wielkopolska• exclusion of the northern and southern part of the region
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• demand for healthy food• demand for tourist and recreation• ecological policy of the European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• external sources of pollutants• global changes in natural environment• de-fragmentation of ecological corridors, including the Natura 2000 areas
HUMAN RESOURCES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• European integration (opening the EU educational system to young people)• social policy of the European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• brain drain (economic migration)• projected changes in the demographic structure - ageing of the society• increase in poverty
ECONOMIC POTENTIAL	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• internal investments• European integration which increases demand for goods and services• technological progress• implementation of the Lisbon Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase in difference against the EU average• exclusion of native capital
R&D SECTOR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• integration of the regional and EU science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• competition on the part of other science centres
INFRASTRUCTURE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• investments financed out of EU funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• inconsistency with the voivodship's surrounding infrastructure
RURAL AREAS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• off-farm investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• spatial, social and economic exclusion• unfavourable climate and hydrological conditions

¹⁵ The analysis of surroundings does include a wide regulation zone, including law and its operation, as well as the socio-economic policy of the state. The list of both opportunities and threats, on the other hand, includes the most important development trends which result from the socioeconomic diagnosis. They do not comprise physical surrounding, but are essential for formulation of goals and construction of programme intervention areas.



3.3. Conclusions

The essence of the SWOT analysis is the answer to a question what the relation between the strengths and weaknesses of the region are, whether the strengths or weaknesses counterbalance the threats or bolster opportunities of the surrounding. This answer should be based on two points of view: for all identified phenomena and for those issues which will be addressed by the programme.

The SWOT analysis is a qualitative one, hence conclusions based on it determine only relative proportions between its elements, which set out only the expected changes and recommendations for necessary measures.

Taking into account both the number and the weight of identified strengths and weaknesses of the region, it should be stated that the first are prevailing. This is a good projection for the prospects of development, despite the fact that the analysis of the situation shows that in many cases Wielkopolska is not a national leader and displays considerable deviation from EU standards.

As for individual analysed areas, the relations between strengths and weaknesses and the surrounding are diversified.

1. Space

Benefits resulting from the routes of transport corridors are development factors only for some parts of the region. The rest of the region is threatened by exclusion, which primarily forces measures that increase territorial coherence, especially in terms of transport, and improvement of investment attractiveness in peripheral subregions. There might be even a threat of disintegration of the region's territory and the potential transfer into the zones of impact of agglomerations adjacent to the northern and southern extremities of Wielkopolska.

In order to counter these negative phenomena, the ERDF support within the Wielkopolska ROP should be used mainly to strengthen transport connections between areas threatened with isolation and other areas of the region, especially the Poznań agglomeration, and to strengthen development potentials of subregional and supra-local centres.

2. Natural environment

A systematic improvement of the environment, high percentage of protected areas, still relatively coherent network of ecological corridors (including Natura 2000) in terms of layout, and most of all the to-date ecological investments, though still insufficient, they all create good prospects. Considerable increase in expenditures in 2007-2013 is an opportunity. Despite global threats the natural environment in Wielkopolska is still a source of its great development potential, especially in the case of tourism and competitive and healthy agriculture.

The region has also two potential resources of renewable energy, so far used insufficiently. The mobilisation of at least part of these resources in the energy generation system, combined with activities to reduce energy consumption and promote prudent energy use, will positively influence the state of the environment (including mainly the air). It will also be a small contribution to global improvement of the situation.



3. Human resources

In this area the balance of strengths and weakness is the least favourable. The analysis of the situation shows that in the next years negative trends will become stronger, such as unfavourable demographic structure, economic migration or exclusion of some social groups. Slowing these tendencies down will be difficult under the programme, especially due to its scope of intervention. The least favourable aspect of the situation is a large scale of some phenomena within the region. This is why the key task of the programme strategy is to channel assistance appropriately to areas with the worst situation.

The assistance from the European Regional Development Fund within the Wielkopolska ROP will be significantly strengthened thanks to the intervention of the European Social Fund assigned to the Wielkopolskie voivodship directly (the voivodship authorities act as the Implementing Authority for measures of four “regional” priorities of the Human Resources OP) and indirectly (thorough other priorities of OP HR). The synergy effect thus created should significantly increase the value of human resources in the region as one of the key development potentials.

4. Economic potential

The analysis of this area's condition shows that it is insufficiently competitive, and primarily insufficiently innovative. It is also too small for a region whose size can be compared to a few other EU countries. The key to this problem's solution is on one hand the improvement of state economy, and on the other, the improvement of conditions for investments, to obtain as much external capital as possible. This area is under the strongest impact of external factors.

5. R&D sector

The R&D sector was made a separate area due to its importance for the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy. The current situation is that, despite high, but not fully used potential, there is a threat of exclusion of this source of knowledge, innovation and technology for the region. The balance is not favourable and requires that decisive actions be taken, because if the current situation is maintained, there is a risk that Wielkopolska will become an importer to a significant extent. Despite the programme's capacity is limited, the unfavourable balance may be improved first of all by building mechanisms connecting economy with science, especially as regards the propagation of the technology transfer and commercialisation system. The appropriate use of the significant scientific potential of the region combined with the support of its infrastructure through the Programme should increase the competitiveness of the region.

6. Technical infrastructure

The balance of strengths and weaknesses is unfavourable, despite a considerable progress recorded in the last few years. Without investments in infrastructure the proper movement of persons, goods and services in economy will not be possible. Lack of outlays in this area will result in low efficiency of outlays in other areas, especially in economy. A circumstance mitigating the negative results of this situation may lie in considerable investments in transport corridors that run through Wielkopolska.

Transport corridors are the source of development factors, but they have to be connected to the evenly distributed regional and local infrastructure that meets the existing needs and has no bottlenecks.

Fast development of the information society infrastructure is especially important for all aspects of the social and economic development of Wielkopolska. It is impossible to have a



modern competitive economy without the appropriately developed IT infrastructure. The support of ERDF for this sector within the Wielkopolska ROP can significantly strengthen it so that it becomes one of the crucial driving forces of development for the whole economic and social sphere of the voivodship.

7. Rural areas

Though rural areas are not direct beneficiaries of the European Regional Development Fund, due to the expanse of the area and population, they comprise a vital part of the social and economic reality of Wielkopolska and are the source of the most development-related problems. The balance of strengths and weaknesses of rural areas has a specific dimension. On one hand, taking into account the agriculture of Wielkopolska, it is a specific driving force on a national scale and is becoming increasingly competitive in the EU. On the other hand, the rural areas are most frequently troubled by socio-economic problems. Rural areas of Wielkopolska differ from one another. Areas adjacent to centres of growth and along the main transport corridors are an attractive place to invest in, offering the highest number of off-farm job opportunities. There are also typically farming areas, with very competitive farms. Areas which witnessed the decline of state-owned farming and lack of off-farm job opportunities are totally different. Such situation occurs not only in rural areas, but also in towns surrounded by typically agricultural areas.



4. Programme strategy

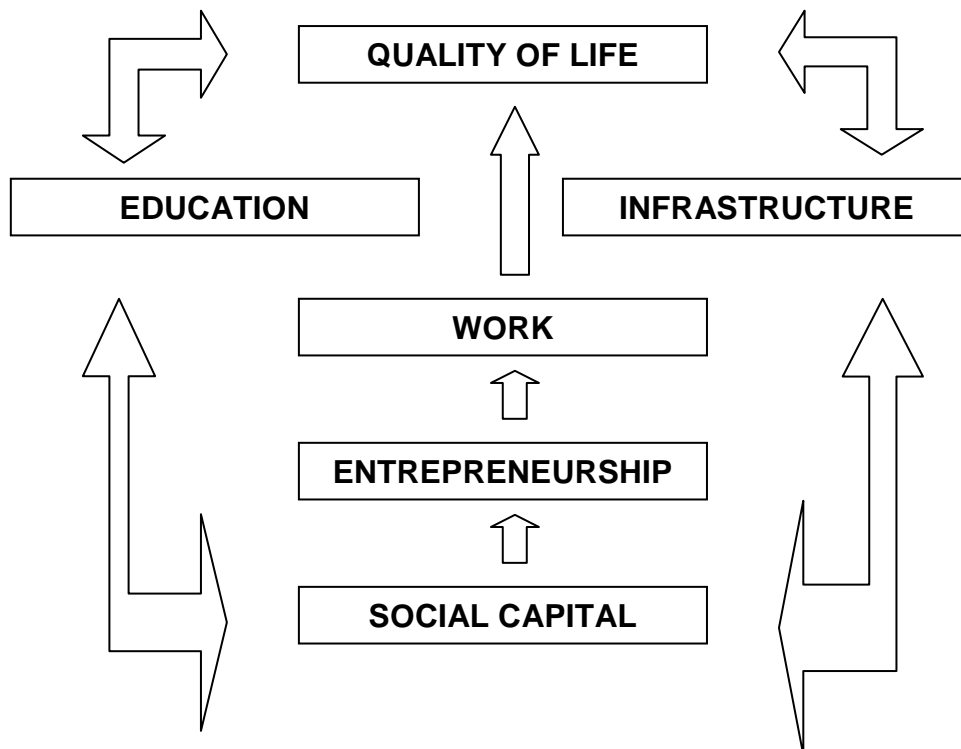
4.1. The main objective of the Programme

The main objective of the Regional Operational Programme results from the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region. This document outlines the vision for the region, according to which by 2020 Wielkopolska is to be an integrated and competitive region. So outlined vision for development is consistent with the revised Lisbon Strategy and the policies on the EU cohesion, with the main objectives of the National Development Strategy, National Cohesion Strategy and the Community Strategic Guidelines.

The vision for the region development summarised with the statement that Wielkopolska is to be an integrated and competitive region, is attained through accomplishment of the following general objective of the regional development strategy:

Improvement the quality of the region's space, the education system, labour market as well as economy and social sphere resulting in an increase in the quality of life of its inhabitants

The general objective of the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region is due to the following hierarchy of development priorities set out in this document:





It follows from the diagram that social capital, entrepreneurship and work, supported by infrastructure and education determine the quality of life. On the other hand, it is assumed that an increasingly greater part of the population experiences an improvement of the quality of life when economic, social and territorial disparities decrease through enhancement of conditions for economic and employment growth.

The general objective of the strategy has a future dimension, by 2020. As regards operations, by 2013, its implementation will be facilitated through accomplishment of the main objective of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013, i.e.:

Strengthening the development potential of Wielkopolska to increase competitiveness and employment

The general objective of the Programme will be implemented only to the extent specified for it in the key programming documents, both national and Community ones. The means of intervention designed in the framework of the Programme are not, therefore, a set of necessary actions, but they are a package of projects possible to be implemented.

The general objective of the WROP is closely linked with the general objective of the Regional Development Strategy. It is assumed that an increase in development potential, in particular in order to enhance competitiveness and employment, provides for increased quality of the region's space, educational system, labour market, economy and the social sphere resulting in increased quality of life of the inhabitants.

Economic growth and the number of jobs are in the longer run the primary determinants of the quality of life of inhabitants. Thus, the implementation of the WROP facilitates also the accomplishment of the objectives of the regional strategy.

The main parameter determining the accomplishment of the general objective of the WROP is GDP per capita. It provides for assessment of the competitive position of Wielkopolska in the Community, and at the same time for assessment of the effects of the implementation of the cohesion policy at that level.

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Change in gross domestic product for the region per capita (GDP per capita) as a result of the implementation of the Programme	%	0	+1.71% to the baseline growth *	Central Statistical Office (GUS), HERMIN macro-economic analysis for the Wielkopolska region	after the completion of the implementation of the Programme

* the baseline economic growth without the burden of the implementation of the WROP



During the implementation of the Programme the main objective will be verified for its consistency with the current status of Community and national objectives so as to make the implementation of the Programme consistent with them to the greatest possible extent.

4.2. The specific objectives of the Programme

Strengthening the development potential of Wielkopolska resulting in increased competitiveness and an adequate number of new jobs requires the implementation of the following specific objectives:

- **Improvement of conditions for investments**
Investments are the most important element of the economic potential of the region. Creating conditions which attract them consists in developing business environment along with the mechanisms of cooperation, and improvement of transport, information technology, environment and social infrastructure. Accomplishment of this objective is possible to a different extent by means of all the instruments implemented under the Programme. All of them will facilitate the implementation of this objective, either directly or indirectly.
- **Growth of the economic activity of inhabitants**
Economic activity of the population of Wielkopolska is now among the lowest ones in the European Union. Its low level is one of the major barriers to the growth of the competitiveness of the region. Growth in this area depends primarily on the condition of social infrastructure, including education, resulting in improved quality of human resources. It depends also on the development of public transport, which should result in increased mobility of the inhabitants.
- **Increase in the share of knowledge and innovation in the economy of the region**
Nowadays, traditional growth determinants are not enough to meet the challenges of the 21st century. It is essential to generate added value resulting from knowledge and innovation. According to a socio-economic diagnosis Wielkopolska, despite its great potential, is not in that regard one of the forefront leaders in the country. Low investments in that regard and inefficient mechanisms for their use make the regions where knowledge and innovation are not among the main objectives, lose competition against other regions.

The degree of accomplishment of the specific objectives of the Programme can be assessed only at the level of their impact. All specific objectives implemented under the Programme are inseparable. This means that there are no separate measures for each of them. There are no impacts resulting from implementation of only one of the specific objectives. Therefore, the nature of the relationship between the specific objectives of the Programme and the parameters describing the degree of their accomplishment is horizontal, and it is possible to be presented only in a system matrix. Each impact indicator specified at the Programme level results to a lesser or greater extent from the implementation of each the specific objectives.



Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Newly created jobs - including men, women (gross, full-time equivalent) (number)	number	0	10 090	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- including those for men	number	0	4268	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- including those for women	number	0	5822	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Newly created jobs (net) (number)	number	0	10 000	Estimate based on the HERMIN macroeconomic diagnosis for the Wielkopolska region	after the completion of the implementation of the Programme
	Change in trade balance of the region (at current prices) as a result of the implementation of the Programme	% of GDP	0	-0.44* to the baseline	Central Statistical Office (GUS), HERMIN macroeconomic diagnosis for the Wielkopolska region	after the completion of the implementation of the Programme
	The employment level (working people)	persons	1 223 700 (2005)	1 709 900 (2013)	Central Statistical Office (GUS), HERMIN macroeconomic diagnosis for the Wielkopolska region	after the completion of the implementation of the Programme
	Percent of households with computers to all households	%	38.6 (2005)	78.0 (2013)	Central Statistical Office (GUS)	on an annual basis

* According to the macroeconomic forecast for Wielkopolska region developed by Wrocław Regional Development Agency (WARR) with the use of the HERMIN model, trade balance of the region in the years 2007-2013 is positive, and the negative value of the indicator shows a decrease in the balance value through charge with the costs of the implementation of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013. A positive effect will be observed (according to the macroeconomic forecast) after 2013.

The specific objectives of the Programme illustrate the consistency of the designed areas of intervention and the expected synergies resulting from the implementation of the specific priorities.

The objectives of the Programme will be implemented through the following priorities:

- Competitiveness of enterprises
- Communication infrastructure



- The environment
- Revitalisation of problem areas
- Infrastructure for human capital
- Tourism and cultural environment
- Technical assistance.

The specific objectives will be implemented through the Programme priorities and the areas of intervention and projects set out in them. The nature of the relationship between the Programme and the specific priorities is horizontal as well. The specific priorities contribute to different extent, either directly and indirectly, to accomplishment of the specific objectives of the Programme.

The relationship between the specific objectives of the Programme and its priorities:

		Priorities of the WROP					
		Competitiveness of enterprises	Communications infrastructure	The environment	Revitalisation of problem areas	Infrastructure for human capital	Tourism and cultural environment
The specific objectives of the WROP	Improvement of conditions for investments	X	X	X	X		X
	Growth of the economic activity of inhabitants	X	X		X	X	X
	Increase in the share of knowledge and innovation in the economy of the region	X	X		X	X	

"Competitiveness of enterprises" is a special priority aimed at direct impact on enterprises in the region. The implementation of the other priorities will have indirect impact through improvement of the conditions of their functioning. Transport infrastructure will contribute to increasing the flow of goods, services and information, the appropriate condition of natural environment will ensure harmonious and sustainable development, and the infrastructure for human capital resources will strengthen the labour market. Urban renewal, restructuring of certain areas and tourism will be complementary to those impacts.



The areas of intervention for individual priorities are within the areas of intervention for the priorities for the European Regional Development Fund:

ERDF priorities and the priorities of the WROP

		Priorities of the WROP					
		Competitiveness of enterprises	Communication infrastructure	The environment	Revitalisation of problem areas	Infrastructure for human capital	Tourism and cultural environment
Priorities of the ERDF	Research and technological development, innovation and entrepreneurship	X					
	Information society	X	X		X	X	X
	Local initiatives for employment and development, and support for structures providing local services to create new jobs	X			X		X
	The environment			X	X		X
	Environmental and technological risk prevention			X	X		
	Tourism				X		X
	Cultural investments				X		X
	Investments in transport	X	X				
	Energy investments		X	X			
	Investment in education (in particular vocational)					X	
	Investment in health care infrastructure and social infrastructure					X	



4.3. Cohesion of the objectives of the Programme with the objectives of other policies

4.3.1. The main objective of the WROP

The implementation of the main objective of the WROP is at the same time implementation of the objectives of other policies formulated in the following documents:

Programming document	Main/strategic objective
Renewed Lisbon Strategy (Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs for the years 2005-2008*	Economic growth and employment
Community strategic guidelines on economic, social and territorial cohesion for the years 2007-2013**	Guidelines for growth and employment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making Europe and its regions more attractive places to invest and work 2. Increasing knowledge and innovation for growth 3. Increasing the number and quality of jobs
The National Development Strategy for the years 2007-2015***	Increasing the level and quality of life of Polish people: individual citizens and families
National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013 supporting economic growth and employment (National Cohesion Strategy)****	Creating conditions for increased competitiveness of the Polish economy based on knowledge and entrepreneurship, ensuring employment growth and an increased level of social, economic and spatial cohesion
Intra-regional policy (Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020)	Improving the quality of the region's space, the education system, labour market, economy and social sphere resulting in an increase in the quality of life of its inhabitants

**Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs for the years 2005-2008, COM (2005) 141 of 12 April 2005*

** *Council Decision (EC) No. 2006/702/EC of 6 October 2006 on Community Strategic Guidelines for cohesion (Official Journal of EU L 291 of 21 October 2006, p. 11-32*

*** *The draft adopted by the Council of Ministers on 29 November 2006*

**** *The draft adopted by the Council of Ministers on 29 November 2006 and by the European Commission in May 2007*

4.3.2. The specific objectives of the WROP

Specific objective of the WROP	Specific objectives of other policies				
	The renewed Lisbon Strategy	Community Strategic Guidelines	The National Development Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Development Strategy for the Wielkopolska Region to 2020
Improving conditions for investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe as a more attractive place for investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Europe and its regions more attractive places to invest and work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the condition of technical and social infrastructure • Regional development and increasing territorial cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and modernisation of technical and social infrastructure of fundamental importance for the growth of competitiveness of Poland • Increasing competitiveness of Polish regions and preventing their social, economic and spatial marginalisation • Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting space to the challenges of the 21st century • Increasing the efficient use of development capacities of the region
Growth of the economic activity of the inhabitants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating more and better jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the number and quality of jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment growth and improvement of its quality • Building an integrated social community and its security • Regional development and increasing territorial cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the quality of human capital and increasing social cohesion • Increasing competitiveness of Polish regions and preventing their social, economic and spatial marginalisation • Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the efficient use of development capacities of the region • Increasing competence of citizens and promotion of employment • Increasing cohesion and social security

Specific objective of the WROP	Specific objectives of other policies				
	The renewed Lisbon Strategy	Community Strategic Guidelines	The National Development Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Development Strategy for the Wielkopolska Region to 2020
Increase in the share of knowledge and innovation in the economy of the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge and innovation for growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing knowledge and innovation for economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing the competitiveness and innovativeness of the economy• Regional development and increasing territorial cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing the competitiveness and innovativeness of enterprises, in particular in the manufacturing sector with high added value and development of the service sector• Increasing the competitiveness of Polish regions and preventing their social, economic and spatial marginalisation• Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing the efficient use of development capacities of the region• Increasing competence of citizens and promotion of employment

The table above shows the relationships between the specific objectives of the WROP and the specific objectives of other policies. The table shows also the relationships of the objectives of the WROP which are consistent with the specific objectives of the National Strategic Reference Framework. Namely, all three specific objectives of the WROP ("Improving conditions for investment", "Growth of the economic activity of the inhabitants" and "Increasing the share of knowledge and innovation in the economy of the region") correspond both with the objective no. 5 of the NSRF – "Increasing the competitiveness of Polish regions and prevention of their marginalisation", and the objective no. 6 "Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas". The objective no. 6 of the WROP – "Improving conditions for investment" is at the same time consistent with the objective no. 3 of the NSRF "Construction and modernisation of technical and social infrastructure of fundamental importance for the growth of competitiveness of Poland", whereas the objective no. 2 of the WROP – "Growth of the economic activity of the inhabitants" corresponds to the objective no. 2 of the NSRF – "Improving the quality of human capital and increasing social cohesion".

4.3.3. Priorities of the Programme and the National Reform Programme for the years 2005 - 2008

Priorities of the National Reform Programme for the years 2005 - 2008 Priorities of the WROP	Consolidation of public finances and improvement of public finance management	Development of entrepreneurship	Increased innovativeness of enterprises	Development and modernisation of infrastructure and ensuring competitive conditions in the network industries	Creating and sustaining new jobs and reducing unemployment	Improvement of adaptability of workers and enterprises through investing in human capital
Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises						
Priority II Communication infrastructure						
Priority III The environment						
Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas						
Priority V Infrastructure for human capital						
Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment						
Priority VII Technical assistance						

The relationship between the objectives and priorities of the WROP and the priorities of the National Reform Programme for the years 2005 - 2008 is of particular importance. The National Reform Plan is the basic document defining the manner of the implementation by Poland of the renewed Lisbon strategy. It specifies the actions in the economic and social areas aimed at financially, economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development of the country, i.e. also the development of Wielkopolska. It is a response to the European Commission guidelines covering three main areas: macroeconomics, microeconomics and labour market.

The NRP for the years 2005-2008 does not cover the entire financial perspective of the WROP. Therefore, the implementation of the WROP requires continuous response to subse-



quent versions of this document so as the regional programme takes into account to the greatest possible extent the need for implementation of the Lisbon strategy in the country.

The National Reform Programme for the years 2008-2011, although it formulates more general priorities:

- active society,
- innovative economy,
- efficient institutions,

has not created premises for significant changes to the WROP, also as regards the manner of its implementation.

Following the adoption by the Member States in June 2010 of the new long-term programme of socio-economic development of the European Union – the "Europe 2020" Strategy, which replaced the Lisbon strategy pursued since 2000, a new National Reform Programme for the implementation of the "Europe 2020" Strategy has been developed. The new NRP focuses on those measures which are aimed at making up for developmental gaps and building future competitive advantages in the following three priority areas:

- Infrastructure for sustainable growth;
- Innovation for smart growth;
- Activity for inclusive growth.

The relationships between the WROP and the National Reform Programme are twofold. On the one hand, the WROP implements directly the specific priorities of this document. On the other hand, the WROP is in some sense a beneficiary of government actions specified in the individual priorities of the National Reform Programme in the regulatory field.

4.4. The Programme strategy and horizontal issues

The Programme strategy will be implemented through accomplishment of the objectives designed under the individual priorities. However, the efficient use of resources for the implementation of the Programme requires a strategic approach to several horizontal issues, regardless of how the objective will be accomplished. The most important of them include:

a) Sustainable growth

The Programme strategy is that the socio-economic development of the region, which is the result of integration of political, economic and social actions, followed maintaining biological balance and the durability of basic natural processes, in order to ensure that basic needs of individual communities or citizens, of both contemporary and future generations, are satisfied.

The WROP strategy will be implemented observing the following principles:

- preserving the possibility of renewable resources recovery,
- effective use of non-renewable resources and commitment to their replacement with substitutes,
- gradual elimination of hazardous and toxic substances from economic processes and other applications,



- limiting the burden on the environment and avoiding exceeding the limits determined by its resistance,
- permanent protection and restoration, if possible, of biological diversity at four levels: landscape, ecosystem, species and gene,
- creation of conditions for fair competition in access to limited resources and possibilities of sewage disposal for economic operators,
- adding a social dimension to decision-making processes, especially those related to local environment,
- pursuit to provide a sense of ecological security to human beings, understood as the creation of conditions conducive to physical, mental and social health (creating and cultivating local ties).

Projects co-financed under the operational programme will fully comply with the provisions of the axis of the Habitats and Birds Directives. In the project selection phase, all appropriate eligibility criteria will be applied to ensure that projects meet the requirements outlined by the above mentioned Directives. Co-financing of projects which have a negatively impact on potential Natura 2000 sites (i.e. these areas which according to the European Commission should have been designated by 1 May 2004, but were not designated by Poland) will not be allowed.

The Programme strategy consists in both direct and indirect impact on the environment. Direct measures will include environmental protection infrastructure and natural resource conservation, as well as environment-friendly investments by enterprises, while indirect ones will consist in the determination of environmental requirements for all projects under the WROP, differentiated according to their type. The environmental impact assessment, including the requirements resulting from the Habitats, Bird and Water Directives will be one of the basic project evaluation criteria.

The institutional solution for the coordination of the various environmental aspects, including those relating to respecting the demarcation line, resulting from different policies and operational programmes, has been described in Chapter 7.12.

b) Energy efficiency

Accomplishment of the objectives of the WROP through the individual priorities is part of the Polish Energy Policy until 2025. It is part of the following long-term dimensions of actions defined in this document:

1. Capacities of domestic fuels and energy sources.
3. Transport capacities and interconnectivity.
4. Energy efficiency of the economy.
5. Protection of the environment.
6. Increase in renewable energy sources.

The Programme strategy will be implemented in this regard by increasing the efficiency of production and energy use, and also by making energy efficiency one of the major criteria for evaluation of actions related to all priorities.

Direct measures will include increasing the efficiency of energy production, *inter alia* in accordance with Directive 2004/8/EC on cogeneration, and renewable energy support,



whereas indirect ones will be aimed at the energy transfer efficiency and its use, by both the private and public sectors.

One of the important environmental aspects of the Programme strategy is to counteract climate change. At the Programme level, this will be accomplished through the environmental requirements concerning energy efficiency to be met by projects.

In all relevant cases, during the preparation, selection and implementation of projects mainly the rational use of energy, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources (e.g. use of biogas from wastewater treatment plants or solid waste landfills, incineration of domestic waste in power plants) will be taken into account. This principle will be applied horizontally in all related priorities in the entire WROP.

All measures related to energy will be carried out observing the established demarcation line, in both programmes and specific documents, between the various policies and operational programmes and taking into account the synergies resulting from the implementation of measures under individual programmes. The mechanism of management and control of the established demarcation line has been described in Chapter 7.12.

c) Equal opportunities

The Programme strategy will be compliant with the provisions of Article 16 of Regulation No. 1083/2006 concerning the promotion of gender equality, access for persons with disabilities, the participation of ethnic minorities and marginalised groups. Respecting these principles will be one of the criteria for evaluation and selection of projects. All projects will be evaluated in terms of barriers for people with disabilities.

Moreover, these principles will be taken into account already at the stage of preparation of project selection criteria and conditions for competitions.

Equal opportunities will also be subject to monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Programme, and the relevant provisions in this regard will be contained in the documents making the implementation procedures more specific.

4.5. Programme strategy and the ability to manage the main directions of the development of the region

Within an evaluation carried out for each sector numerous developmental processes were identified and their nature, scale and trends were defined. These processes were subject to a strategic SWOT analysis. It was determined whether it was possible to overcome the negative processes or enhance the positive phenomena, and what the balance of positive and negative phenomena was. The impact of the environment, as well as factors that increase the difficulties and those that decrease them were also analysed. What is an opportunity for the region, and what is a threat.

The result of the SWOT analysis are the objectives and priorities proposed in the WROP strategy. However, there remains the question whether the lines of action set out in the strategy will allow for management of developmental processes in the region, whether such management can have a significant impact on their course.

The WROP is one of numerous instruments of public intervention which will be used in the years 2007-2013 in Wielkopolska. Besides the WROP, an intervention of the national



programmes under the Cohesion Policy and the implementation of other Community policies – the agricultural and fisheries ones – are planned.

The economic analysis, the results of which have been presented in Chapter 8, shows that the impact of interventions within the WROP, both at the macroeconomic and microeconomic levels, will be significant. This means that the implementation of the objectives and priorities of the Programme provides for management of the key developmental processes in the region. It provides for the possibility of influencing the direction and intensity of actions resulting from those processes. It should be remembered that the instruments planned within the WROP will be dominant for the development of some areas, while in others they will be complementary.

The region's ambition is that accomplishment of the objectives formulated in both the strategic and the implementation parts of the Programme result mainly in making up for losses and reducing gaps as regards the macroeconomic situation in the European Union, measured primarily through the GDP per capita for the EU-27.

It is estimated that in 2013 the PPS GDP per capita for Wielkopolska, compared with the average for the EU-27 would be 64.7%¹⁶

4.6. Programme strategy and the intra-regional differences

One of the fundamental issues determined by the Strategy of development of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020 is answering the question whether the measures should focus on supporting the growth poles or offsetting internal differences focusing on aid for the weakest. This document states that there is a need for balance in this area.

The aforementioned finding provides the basis for the WROP strategy in this regard. It was adopted within the strategy that the Programme would focus, regardless of the area of support, simultaneously on:

- Enhancing the regional development functions of growth centres, especially in so far as they are able to contribute positively to environment,
- Enhancing the absorptive capacities in the environment of growth centres.

4.7. The implementation of the Programme strategy and the implementation of other policies and programmes

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the WROP will be only one of the public instruments influencing the future of Wielkopolska in the coming years. National instruments in the framework of the cohesion, agricultural and fisheries policies, comparable in financial terms, will be implemented. Other measures at the country level will also be implemented.

Effective use of resources under the WROP is not only the effect of internal cohesion and synergies between the priorities of this Programme. Such effectiveness will depend to a large extent on the relationship between all the above-mentioned policies. These policies can-

¹⁶ GDP for EU-27 in 2013 was determined through extrapolation of the forecast for 2008 developed by EUROSTAT.



not overlap and must be synergistic with each other, not only as a result of the consistency of the strategy formulated in these documents, but mainly at the stage of their implementation.

Therefore, the WROP strategy consists in following at the stage of its implementation the principles mentioned below:

- Severability – actions under the WROP cannot duplicate the actions pursued under other policies,
- Synergy - actions under the WROP cannot be separated from actions under other policies.

An institutional mechanism within the Managing Authority, described in Chapter 7.12, has been planned for the purposes of implementation of the aforementioned principles.



5. Priorities of the Programme

Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- Improvement of conditions for increased competitiveness of regional enterprises for growth and employment

The main objective will be accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- Increasing economic potential of enterprises
- Strengthening regional innovation system
- Strengthening the links between science and economy
- Development of institutional, financial and service business support instruments
- Preparation of investment areas
- Promotion of environmentally friendly economy.

2. Rationale and description

The most important factors influencing competitiveness, besides human capital and broadly defined infrastructure are modernity and diversity of the economic structure, as well as specialized business environment. Nowadays innovations are essential to ensure competitiveness of the economy. According to the evaluation, Wielkopolska is characterized by a diversified economic structure and a considerable share of small and medium enterprises. On the other hand, in spite of investments in research and development, enterprises in the region are characterised by a low level of innovation. The development of business environment institutions, including NGOs, especially those that offer specialised services and financial support, is not sufficient either.

With this in mind, the main objective of the priority will be implemented in the region through measures aimed at strengthening the potential of enterprises, their innovativeness, cooperative relations and cooperation with science. The implementation of the main objective will be enhanced by additional funding from the National Performance Reserve and the Technical Adjustment, aimed at projects that have are clearly linked with the priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy and result from the Regional Innovation Strategy. Furthermore, support for the development of business environment institutions offering a diverse package of information, consulting, training and financial services, as well as technological support and assistance in the initial phase of enterprise incubation is assumed.

Utilization of the capacity to create and develop financial instruments offered by the JEREMIE initiative has been assumed to enhance financial support for entrepreneurship. The



initiative will cover support for enterprises, innovations in enterprises, increased access to finances for SMEs, and financial operations at the micro level supported under Priority Axis I. In this context, the Managing Authority intends to use the JEREMIE initiative to pass the management of operations in the area to the Holding Fund. Pursuant to Article 44 of Council Regulation 1083/2006 the Managing Authority will select a competent financial institution to act as the Holding Fund within the JEREMIE initiative, or the Managing Authority will decide to transfer the function of the Holding Fund within the JEREMIE initiative to the European Investment Fund, providing a grant pursuant to Article 44 (b) of Council Regulation 1083/2006/EC¹⁷.

Support structure by types of financial instruments (breakdown into loans, guarantees, etc.) will be determined at the stage of the implementation of the JEREMIE initiative.

The JESSICA initiative will be another instrument to support the economy, particularly in the areas of innovation and research and development.

Support for cluster links, in which scientific institutions and enterprises will be involved, is a very important element facilitating enhancement of innovativeness.

Activation of high potential of science and R&D to the benefit of the economy through a regional fund under the Programme brings a realistic opportunity to improve the so far unsatisfactory cooperation between the scientific sector and the economy. In the framework of the measures cooperation in the form of clusters has been envisaged, in which entities from the scientific sector and from the research and development one, as well as companies and public authorities will cooperate. An important role in this process will be fulfilled by intermediaries, whose aim will be on the one hand to identify the potential of the research and development sector, and on the other to determine precisely the needs of regional companies.

Investment support has been provided for in the Programme to increase the competitiveness of enterprises in Wielkopolska, which will enable implementation of new solutions and contribute to increased exports. Furthermore, investment grants have been provided for primarily for companies creating new jobs and those rendering services related to tourism.

Given the low level of innovation in companies in Wielkopolska, projects supporting innovations of regional significance and those that are consistent with the results of the National Foresight Programme will be preferred.

In this way the funds from the regional programme should improve significantly the regional level of innovation in companies, while entrepreneurs with showing a relatively high level of innovativeness will be able to achieve an even higher level in this regard. This type of varied support, based on numerous meetings held in the region, will allow entrepreneurs from Wielkopolska to enhance significantly their own competitiveness, both in their industries and in the spatial dimension - regional, national or foreign.

Direct support is intended only for the SME sector. Support for large enterprises will be granted only in exceptional cases when there is a clear and significant benefit to the region (e.g. contribution to the cluster or cooperation between science and business). Support for large enterprises will be limited to 10% of allocation earmarked for that priority.

In the case of projects related to productive investment no implementation of large project shall be provided for pursuant to Article 39 of Council Regulation 1083/2006. In the event of notification of such a project the requirements of paragraph 42 of the preamble to Council Regulation 1083/2006 shall be met.

¹⁷ On 21 July 2009, an agreement with Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego was signed. The Bank will be managing the Holding Fund.



Regional institutions not covered by the operational programme performing activities within the Wielkopolska region can count on complementary business support. The following financial mechanisms have been provided for in the framework of the European agenda for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP), which is a specific programme in relation to the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP): GIF and SMEG, which are complementary to the financial business support instruments provided for in the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme. The GIF facility has been designed to encourage venture capital funds investing in the seed and start-up stages (GIF 1) and venture capital funds investing in the expansion phase (GIF 2). The SMEG facility provides for subsidies for administrative costs provided to micro-loan funds, and support for trans-measures securing SME loan portfolio in order to increase the liquidity of loan funds.

Complementary measures are also provided for in the "Capacities" scheme, which constitutes a specific programme of the 7th Framework Programme of the European Community for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities. The implementation of the assumptions of the scheme will contribute to increasing capacity for research and innovation throughout Europe and it will ensure their optimal use. The programme envisages also the development of research infrastructures and optimisation of their use, as well as support for the development of regional research clusters. Furthermore, the programme aims at unlocking the research potential in convergence regions, and interfaces between science and society for harmonious integration of science and technology. The available description of the potential actions shows that they are complementary to the actions proposed in the WROP within the areas of intervention identified as ones arising from the Regional Innovation Strategy and Networking and Collaboration.

Furthermore, those project related to actions facilitating the implementation of the objectives of the Regional Innovation Strategy which are of significance to the development of the region can also be implemented under operational programmes at national level, e.g. regional foresight.

According to the socio-economic evaluation for the region, despite the high dynamics of entrepreneurship, there is a growing disparity in the spatial distribution of economic activity. In order to improve the situation investment support for companies emerging in areas with low levels of entrepreneurship has been envisaged in the programme.

One reason for large internal socio-economic disparities in the region is a different level of investment attractiveness. In order to improve the current situation support for infrastructure on investment areas has been envisaged in the operational programme. In the framework of the programme projects enabling construction of access and internal roads, railway sidings, as well as ones related to water and wastewater management, energy infrastructure and informational technology infrastructure will be implemented.

In Wielkopolska, according to the GUS, the amount of waste, of which industrial waste accounts for ca. 86%, is growing every year. An increase in emissions of other pollutants into the environment (with the exception of gas and dust) is also observed. This situation, taking into account EU standards regarding environmental protection, forces to take actions resulting in increasing the role of enterprises in environmental protection. The planned actions will focus on projects in the area of air protection, waste management, water and wastewater management and the introduction of clean production technologies (e.g. BAT).

Due to this situation it has been decided to support, through direct subsidies for the SME sector, actions to reduce pollutant emissions of various types, thus promoting environmentally friendly production. The implemented projects will contribute on the one hand to both energy



efficiency and energy savings, and on the other hand they will serve enterprises by reducing in the future their own costs.

The situation in the region in that regard should change considerably in the near future owing to the implementation of the actions undertaken in the Regional Innovation Strategy adopted at the beginning of 2004. The expected effects of these actions include: strengthening the network of supported institutions – the Wielkopolska Innovation Network, the establishment of consortia of institutions (including education), local support centres, equipped with specialist personnel and which are close territorially to companies. It is planned to create new technological incubators, an innovation and technology transfer centre and Poznań Advanced Technology Incubator.

In order to ensure proper coordination of innovative measures in the region, local authorities have recognised the need to create, while being an animator of such a body, an entity that would monitor and coordinate such measures. This entity would at the same time undertake projects aimed at updating the provisions of the Regional Innovation Strategy, depending on the changing situation and in accordance with the needs of all actors involved in this project. The Innovative Council at the Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region established at the end of last year is the first step to undertake by the authorities of the region the construction of a coordinated regional system of innovation, using the present - and activating to a large extent - the potential resources of the region in this regard.

Support for the business environment institutions has also been provided within the priority. Preference will be given first of all to projects creating a comprehensive offer for enterprises, taking into account the "one stop shop" principle.

The implementation of the main objective of the priority through individual measures will lead to increased competitiveness of the regional economy with utilisation of its potential.

3. Areas of intervention:

- Investment potential of enterprises
- Financial instruments to support entrepreneurship
- Regional Innovation Strategy
- Business environment institutions
- Promotion of the regional economy
- Networking and collaboration
- Investment areas

4. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship
02	R&TD infrastructure (including physical plant, instrumentation and high-speed computer networks linking research centres) and centres of competence in a specific technology
03	Technology transfer and improvement of cooperation networks between small business (SMEs), between these and other businesses and universities, post- secondary education establishments of all kinds, regional authorities, research centres and scientific and technological poles (scientific and technological parks, technopoles, etc.)
05	Advanced support services for firms and groups of firms
07	Investments in firms directly linked to research and innovation (innovative technologies, establishment of new firms by universities, existing R&TD centres and firms, etc.)
08	Other investments in firms



Code	Codes by Dimension
09	Other measures to stimulate research and innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs
	Information society
10	Telephone infrastructures (including broadband networks)
15	Other measures for improving access to and efficient use of ICT by SMEs
	Transport
23	Regional/local roads
	Energy
33	Electricity
35	Natural gas
	Environmental protection and risk prevention
45	Management and distribution of water (drinking water)
46	Water treatment (waste water)

5. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Investment potential of enterprises	Investment subsidies for small and medium enterprises to promote in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovation, • projects using information and communication technologies (ICT) in business management, • R&D activities in enterprises, • maintenance of existing and creation of new jobs, • establishment of companies in areas with low levels of entrepreneurship, • export growth, • services related to tourism, • initiatives aimed at adjusting enterprises to environmental requirements.
Financial instruments to support entrepreneurship	Creation and development of instruments for external financing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loan funds, • guarantee funds, • other financial instruments to support SMEs
Regional Innovation Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment and development of institutions supporting the development of innovation and new technologies and networks of such institutions • Technology transfer • R&D infrastructure
Business environment institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for establishment of new and development of existing entrepreneurship support centres and their networks • Creation and development of business incubators and industrial parks
Promotion of the regional economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional marketing • Support for the participation of entrepreneurs in fairs, missions and exhibitions • E-business portals and databases, • Research and analyses of economic potential
Networking and collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants for the creation and development of cooperative business relations, the so-called clusters, both at the local and regional level • Grants for joint investments and marketing activities
Preparation of investment areas	Investment area development (including in particular access and internal roads, railway sidings, water and waste treatment management, electricity and pipeline gas supply, IT infrastructure)



6. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority I. Competitiveness of enterprises	Number of projects related to R&D in SMEs	number	0	30	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of collaborative projects between enterprises and research institutions	number	0	20	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to direct investment assistance for SMEs	number	0	1270	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	depending on location:					
	- in urban areas	number	0	720	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- in rural areas	number	0	550	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	depending on the type of support:					
	- innovative enterprises	number	0	1060	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implementing enterprises projects related to eco-efficiency	number	0	740	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	depending on the size:					
	- micro	number	0	540	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- small	number	0	440	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- medium	number	0	290	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- within the first 2 years following the commencement of activity	number	0	200	WROP MA	on an annual basis
Beneficiaries of the fund in the framework of the JEREMIE financial initiative	number	0	7 269	WROP MA	on an annual basis	



Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
	Developed investment areas	ha	0	250	Beneficiary	on an annual basis
	- rural areas	ha	0	100	Beneficiary	on an annual basis
	The total amount of support under the JEREMIE initiative	€	0	265 000 000	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects promoting enterprises, entrepreneurship and new technologies	number	0	1	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of entities participating in the regional project of economic promotion	number	0	80	Beneficiary	on an annual basis

b) Results

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority I. Competitiveness of enterprises	Additional investments made possible through support	€	0	600 000 000	WROP MA	after the completion of the implementation of the Programme
	Number of newly created jobs (gross, full-time equivalents)	number	0	4 200	Beneficiary	on an annual basis
	- for women	number	0	2300	Beneficiary	on an annual basis
	Number of newly created jobs related to R&D – research positions (within 5 years from the beginning of the project)	number	0	150	Beneficiary	5 years after the commencement of the project

7. Potential beneficiaries



- entrepreneurs / SMEs,
- business environment institutions,
- financial institutions,
- academic units,
- colleges and universities,
- local government units, their unions and associations,
- organisational units of local government units with legal personality,
- NGOs,
- public finance sector entities with legal personality,
- social and business partners,
- entities that carry out projects under public-private partnership

8. Cross-financing

The priority provides for cross-financing pursuant to Article 34 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The arrangements related to flexibility between the ERDF and the ESF will not undermine the specific characteristics of both funds. This option will be limited to measures that are necessary for successful implementation of a given operation and those that are directly related to such an operation. Therefore, the flexibility rule will be applied only in justified cases.



9. Cohesion with other policies and programmes

Priority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Community Strategic Guidelines	Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs – renewed Lisbon Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Regional Development Strategy	National Development Strategy
Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises	2.1. To increase and better target investment in RTD 2.2. To facilitate innovation and promote entrepreneurship 2.4. To improve access to financing	Guideline 3 To promote a growth- and employment-orientated and efficient allocation of resources Guideline 7 To increase and improve investment in R&D Guideline 8 To facilitate all forms of innovation Guideline 10 To strengthen the competitive advantages and industrial base Guideline 15 To promote a more entrepreneurial culture and create a supportive environment for SMEs	Objective 1 Creating conditions for sustainable and high economic growth rate Objective 3 Increasing competitiveness of Polish enterprises	Operational objective 1.5 Preparation and rational use of investment areas Operational objective 2.2 Increasing competitiveness of enterprises Operational objective 2.3 Increasing share of science and research in the development of the region Operational objective 3.3 Development of entrepreneurship and promotion of self-employment Horizontal objective 4 Innovation	Priority 1 Increasing competitiveness and innovativeness of the economy Priority 6 Regional development and increased territorial cohesion

Support granted under the priority will affect also the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Innovative Economy": Priority Axis I - "Research and development of new technologies" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis II - "R&R infrastructure" (the value of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis III - "Capital for innovation" (the type of the project/financial instrument is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis IV – "Investments in innovative undertakings" (the value of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis V – "Diffusion of innovation" (the type of the project and its value are the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis VI – "The Polish economy on the international market" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis VIII – "Information society – increasing innovation in the economy" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion)



- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis IV "Initiatives aimed at adjusting enterprises to the requirement of environmental protection" (the type of the project and the type of the beneficiary are the demarcation criterion),
- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority Axis II "Development of human resources and adaptation potential of enterprises and improvement in the health condition of working people" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority IV "Education and science" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority VIII "Regional human resources for the economy" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion),
- Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013 - Axis I: "Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector", Measure: "Increasing the added value to basic agricultural and forestry production," Measure "Information and publicity", Axis III: "Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy", Measure "Diversification into non-agricultural activities", Measure "Establishment and development of micro-enterprises", Measure "Basic services for the economy and rural population", Axis IV: LEADER, Measure "Implementation of local development strategies", (the type of the project, type of activity or location of the micro-enterprise are the demarcation criterion)
- Operational Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" : Priority Axis II "Aquaculture, inland fisheries, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products" - Measure 2.4 "Inland fisheries", Measure 2.5 "Investments in processing and marketing", Priority Axis III "Measures of common interest" – Measure 3.1. "Collective actions", Measure 3.4. "Development of new markets and promotion campaigns", Measure 3.5 "Pilot projects".





Priority II Communication infrastructure

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- Increasing economic exchanges with environment for employment growth.

The main objective will be accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- Improving the quality of road, rail, air, public transport, communications and information technology infrastructure.
- Increasing intra-regional cohesion.
- Linking the regional infrastructure with external systems.

2. Rationale and description

Unlimited flow of goods, services, people and information is the basic factor determining the competitiveness of the region. Compared with other regions in the European Union, Wielkopolska is a region with a low level of and quality of road, rail, air, public transport, communications and information technology infrastructure. This level varies to a large extent also within the region. This affects significantly the competitiveness and the capacity to invest and create new jobs. In turn, the spatial differentiation of access to particular types of infrastructure is one of the main reasons for internal differences in the level of development resulting in progressive marginalisation of various parts of the region and certain groups of people. This results also in a limited use of the endogenous development potential.

The Wielkopolska region is situated on the route Berlin - Warsaw - Moscow. Unfortunately, those location specific advantages cannot be enjoyed by the whole region, but only by its central part. The northern and southern boundaries of the region are poorly connected to the central area. Besides, degradation of roads in the region has been observed for many years. This is caused by congestion and the growing backlog of repairs, resulting in significantly lower traffic safety.

Given the need for concentration of funds allocated under the Programme for road infrastructure, the support will cover roads with specifically determined parameters (e.g. length, width, capacity), which are a particularly important element of the regional transportation system. No support for projects related to internal roads is assumed.

Preference will be given to projects aimed at improvement in the connection of the regional road system to a network of transport corridors. Projects shall comply with the plan of modernisation of regional roads adopted by the Wielkopolska Region Assembly.

In the case of district and local roads support will be granted primarily to groups of projects forming communication routes, and thus giving them a regional significance. There are local roads in the region which, if modernised in a comprehensive way, may provide an alternative to regional roads, and thus improve internal connections.



There are areas in the region which due to their economic situation require support, also in terms of accessibility.

Traffic safety is a serious problem - not just a transport and economic one, but also a social one. Improvement of the condition of roads, their surface, capacity, or the construction of bypasses, can significantly improve the situation in this regard.

"Bottlenecks" resulting from lack of bypasses and the poor condition of bridges and viaducts are a major shortcoming of the road network in the region.

Environmental effects are also important. Improved traffic flow could significantly reduce exhaust emissions to the atmosphere and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

According to the GUS data for 2004 urban public transport operates in 30 cities in the Wielkopolska region. Yet it is not adapted to the needs of the inhabitants of the region, as indicated by the increasing congestion of urban roads with passenger cars, resulting in deteriorating traffic safety and an increase in transportation emissions. Therefore, the Programme provides for support for projects related to upgrade and modernisation of the infrastructure, additions to the existing lines of public transport including provision of a new environmentally friendly fleet and other infrastructure. Priority will be given to projects related to the integration of various forms of public transport operating in urban and suburban areas.

Particular importance is attached to improvement in the functioning of public transport in the Poznań agglomeration and connecting it with other areas. In the process of selection of projects related to public transport preference will be given primarily to multifunctional solutions that allow for the integration of urban means of transport with other ones. Preference will be given to those projects which will combine tram stations with railway stations. Owing to that public transport will be dispersed, which will reduce its costs. Currently, most people commuting to the Poznań agglomeration end their trip at the Central Station in Poznań, in the city centre, to continue the trip, often in the opposite direction to districts outside the downtown, losing their time. One reason for this is the inadequate number of railway stations. Implemented projects should reduce this phenomenon.

The downward trend in transportation of passengers and freight by rail, observed in recent years in Wielkopolska, is due to the poor technical condition of the regional rail lines, and progressive destruction of the rolling stock. In order to reverse this trend it is expected to relocate a part of the structural funds available under the priority to projects related to modernisation of regional railway lines and purchase of rolling stock.

Nowadays, a phenomenon which may be referred to as marginalisation of people in the labour market due to their place of residence is observed. The low frequency and long travel time limit not only access to the labour market, but also to administration, culture, or social services. This results primarily in marginalisation of rural areas.

Due to the growing needs as regards air transport projects of this type implemented under this priority will focus on enabling to handle a greater number of flights and passengers, and on upgrading the standard of the Poznań-Ławica airport. The airport can be supported under the Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment". Under the WROP support will be provided to those projects of expansion of the airport which due to their value, resulting from the established demarcation line, cannot get support at the national level, but are essential for its development.

The technical capacities offered by rapidly developing information technology - data communications, computer science and digital audio-visual media, as well as the Polish civi-



lization aspirations within European integration, pose a challenge to carry out well-thought-out and coordinated computerisation of the region. For this reason, it was recognised while specifying the areas of intervention within the priority that the effective use of the potential of computerisation would not be complete without the development of ICT infrastructure, in particular the regional backbone networks (including wireless Internet access), and without taking advantage of new technical capacities by the public administration. Currently, infrastructure limitations result in a low level of computerisation of a significant part of the countryside.

Support under the WROP will be granted primarily to a project related to broadband network expansion in the region. An infrastructure which will allow first of all for elimination of "white and gray areas" in this regard - especially in rural areas - in access by the residents, companies and the administration bodies, will be developed.

The creation of e-services in the administration will be the second aspect related to the creation of information society. Enhanced access to those services with simultaneously enhanced access by the residents to the Internet will reduce the marginalisation of certain parts of Wielkopolska. The intervention in the infrastructure for the creation of information society in Wielkopolska will complement the national intervention under the OP I&E and OP IE.

Any investment in infrastructure should interfere to the least possible extent in river valleys, especially those covered with the Natura 2000 network and threatened with flooding.

3. Areas of intervention:

- Road infrastructure and road safety
- Regional passenger transportation
- Urban public transport
- Airport infrastructure
- Information society infrastructure

4. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Information society
10	Telephone infrastructures (<i>including broadband networks</i>)
13	Services and applications for citizen (<i>e-health, e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion, etc.</i>)
	Transport
16	Railways
18	Mobile rail assets
23	Regional/local roads
25	Urban transport
29	Airports
	Environmental protection and risk prevention
52	Promotion of clean urban transport



5. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Road infrastructure and road safety	Construction and reconstruction of regional, district and local roads (with the exception of local roads eligible for support under the Rural Development Programme) Construction and reconstruction of bridges, viaducts and other structures on regional, district and local roads Projects related to road safety
Regional passenger transportation	Purchase of rolling stock for regional rail connections Modernisation of the regional rail network
Urban public transport	Development and modernisation of the urban public transport infrastructure Telematics systems for public transport, Integration of different types of transport systems, Promotion of clean urban public transport
Airport infrastructure	Development of the Poznań Ławica airport infrastructure
Information society infrastructure	Construction and expansion of local or regional broadband backbone or distribution networks, while allowing for construction or expansion of access networks Wireless Internet access systems Electronic platforms at the regional and local level Public Internet Access Points Projects related to e-government (with the exception of projects eligible for support under the Operational Programme "Innovative Economy"), e-health, e-culture, e-education (with the exception of projects implemented under the Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment")



6. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority II. Communication infrastructure	Number of projects related to transport	number	0	100	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Length of new roads	km	0	64	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- regional ones	km	0	27	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- local and district ones	km	0	37	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Length of reconstructed roads	km	0	780	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- regional ones	km	0	160	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- local and district ones	km	0	620	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Length of reconstructed railway lines	km	0	80	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of purchased units of public transport fleet	number	0	230	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Capacity of purchased public transport fleet	passengers	0	25 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to information society	number	0	27	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- related to e-services	number	0	5	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	20	WROP MA	on an annual basis



b) Results

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority II. Communication infrastructure	Share of newly constructed and reconstructed roads in the total length of public roads in the region	%	0	3.9	Beneficiaries+GUS	on an annual basis
	- district and local ones in rural areas	%	0	3.2	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of jobs related to information technology created as a result of completed projects	number	0	800	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- number of jobs for women	number	0	450	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Time savings in relation to passenger and freight services on new and reconstructed roads	€	0	130 500 000	Beneficiaries	3 years after the start of the project and at the end of the programming period
	Time savings in relation to passenger and freight services on new and reconstructed railways	€	0	2 542 000	Beneficiaries	3 years after the start of the project and at the end of the programming period
	Number of people using public transport supported under the programme	persons	0	100 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of districts in which a broadband network node has been provided	number	0	35	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis



	Number of people who have gained access to NGA (next-generation Internet network)*	persons	0	500 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- residents of rural areas	persons	0	200 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of people connected to broadband Internet	persons	0	100 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- FTTH/FTTB**	persons	0	80 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- residents of rural areas	persons	0	20 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis

* Number of people residing in locations within 2 km from an optic fibre distribution node of a broadband network

** Number of connections counted as the number of households connected to the network via FTTH or FTTB. The value of the indicator for multifamily buildings connected via FTTB accounts for all households in a given building

7. Potential beneficiaries

- local government units, their unions and associations,
- organisational units with legal personality,
- public finance sector entities with legal personality,
- government administration,
- colleges and universities,
- academic units,
- legal and natural persons running schools and educational institutions,
- cultural institutions,
- NGOs,
- social and business partners,
- health care facilities operating within the public health care system,
- churches and other religious organisations and legal persons of churches and other religious associations,
- entrepreneurs / SMEs,
- The State Forests National Forest Holding and its organisational units.

8. Cross-financing

The priority provides for cross-financing pursuant to Article 34 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The arrangements related to flexibility between the ERDF and the ESF will not undermine the specific characteristics of both funds. This option will be limited to measures that are necessary for successful implementation of a given operation and those that are directly related to such an operation. Therefore, the flexibility rule will be applied only in justified cases.



9. Cohesions with other policies and programmes

Priority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Community Strategic Guidelines	Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs – renewed Lisbon Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Regional Development Strategy	National Development Strategy
Priority II Communication infrastructure	1.1 To expand and improve transport infrastructures 2.3 To promote the information society for all	Guideline 9 To facilitate spread and effective use of ICT and build a fully inclusive information society Guideline 16 To expand, improve and link up European infrastructure and complete priority cross-border projects	Objective 3 Construction and modernisation of technical and social infrastructure of fundamental importance for the growth of competitiveness of Poland Objective 5 Increasing the competitiveness of Polish regions and preventing their social, economic and spatial marginalisation Objective 6 Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas	Operational objective 1.2 Increasing communication cohesion and links with environment Operational objective 1.7 Multifunctional development of subregional and local centres Horizontal objective 3 Information society	Priority 2 Improving technical and social infrastructure Priority 5 Rural development Priority 6 Regional development and increased territorial cohesion

Support granted under the priority will affect also the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis VI "TEN-T road and air transport network" (the classification of roads and the value of the project are the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis VII "Environment-friendly transport" (the area of the project and its value are the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis VIII "Transport safety and national transport networks" (the classification of roads and the value of the project are the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis XI "Culture and cultural heritage" (the value of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis XII "Health security and improving the efficiency of the health care system" (the type of project is the demarcation criterion) and Priority Axis XIII "Infrastructure of higher education" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion).
- Operational Programme "Innovative Economy": Priority Axis VII "Information society - establishment of electronic administration (the scope of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis VIII "Information society - increasing the innovativeness of the economy" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion).
- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority V "Good governance" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion), Priority IX "Development of education and competence in the regions" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion)
- Rural Development Programme, Axis I "Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector" Measure "Improving and developing infrastruc-



ture related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion).

- The Programme: "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" does not provide for complementary measures in this area of support.





Priority III The environment

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- Improving the condition of the environment and rational management of natural resources in the region

The main objective will be accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- Reduction of the scale of emissions into the environment
- Improvement of water supply
- Improved waste management
- Nature conservation
- Air protection
- Expansion of environmental safety and technological safety systems
- Increased use of renewable energy sources
- Rational energy management

2. Rationale and description

In accordance with the renewed Lisbon Strategy, making Wielkopolska an attractive place to invest and work is not possible without raising the overall level of quality over the region, including its natural parts. It is a complex issue, involving the environment and the associated ecological and technological safety, and rational energy management.

The poor condition of the environment and rational use of its resources are one of the most important factors limiting the competitiveness of the region. This priority is a comprehensive proposal to improve the situation in this area, in so far as an intervention under the WROP can be taken. In particular, this applies to: reducing the amount of pollutants discharged into water, soil and those emitted to the atmosphere, which will improve the quality of air, water and land, increase the rationality of the management of environmental resources, and carrying out reclamation of degraded areas.

As regards water management, due to inadequate sanitation facilities, especially in rural areas, as well as low levels of sewage treatment, special emphasis will be placed on reducing (or ultimately complete discontinuation) of discharge of sewage into water and ground through actions consisting primarily in the construction, development and modernisation of sewage systems, pumping stations and sewage storage tanks and other types of sewage treatment plants, sewage collection treatment systems.

Shortages of drinking water will be reduced or eliminated primarily through the construction, development and modernisation of water supply systems, pumping stations and water reservoirs, as well as water intake systems and facilities. This will ensure sufficient water supplies meeting the needs of the population and economy of the region. Support for construction of new water supply networks will be connected with the construction of sewage systems. Simultaneous construction of sewage and water supply systems is more economical.



Due to its hydrological and hydrographic situation, it is particularly important for Wielkopolska to ensure sufficient water resources and flood safety. Wielkopolska is characterised by one of the lowest levels of artificial retention in the country. Due to the course the designated demarcation line, the WROP has limitations in this regard.

As far as flood management is concerned, projects will be based on interdisciplinary planning for the whole catchment area. Priority will be given to projects which are aimed at slowing down in a natural way drainage and increasing water retention and renewal of the existing infrastructure. The new flood protection measures will be implemented only if the previous infrastructural actions were insufficient and there is still a risk of flooding, and provided that certain criteria are met, in particular Article 4 (7) of Water Framework Directive. Furthermore, the synergy of flood protection measures with those aimed at promotion of nature conservation will be taken into account.

The need to rationalise the management of environmental resources, and improve the quality of the space in the region result directly in the need to intensify efforts to revitalize brownfield land for the purposes of nature conservation, along with the preparation of such lands for reclamation. Projects in this area will focus on the restoration and revitalisation (for the purposes of nature conservation) of exploited landfills.

The chaotic waste management and in particular the inadequacy of the hazardous waste management system will require actions to modernise and to create new waste management systems. Special emphasis will be placed on modern systems, focusing primarily on processing and sorting, e.g. recycling, composting facilities, biogas recovery facilities, waste incineration plants and installations for thermal treatment of waste with energy recovery, as well as systems for collection and disposal of hazardous waste. Funding education and information campaigns for future beneficiaries of the developed systems will be an important element of the implementation of projects related to waste management. It is important to inform the residents about environmentally friendly disposal of waste, packaging, etc. Consideration of educational campaigns in this regard will be one of the foundations of evaluation and selection of projects.

For several years, air pollution in Wielkopolska has been decreasing. In order to maintain this trend measures to reduce emissions of harmful gases and particulate matter into the atmosphere will be implemented via projects consisting in e.g. installation of modern heating systems with elements of renewable energy sources, upgrading of thermal energy transmission systems, thermal modernisation, gas filter installation (e.g. desulphurisation) and dust collection equipment, etc. The quality of air will be improved also through implementation of projects consisting in development and modernisation of district heating networks, resulting in energy savings and reducing low emissions into the atmosphere.

The need to improve the quality of the space in Wielkopolska requires efforts aimed at maintaining the condition of nature and its conservation. Such efforts will include e.g. the restoration of degraded habitats, promotion of protected areas, in particular Natura 2000 sites, or removing barriers to animal migration and the protection of fauna and flora species representing an endangered gene pool.

The WROP provides for support for the preparation and implementation of Natura 2000 sites maintaining the arrangements related to the demarcation line between the WROP and the OP I&E.

Another important area of intervention will be to ensure the optimum level of environmental and technological safety. Effective accomplishment of objectives in that regard will require the creation of integrated systems capable of preventing and responding to emergen-



cies, as well as their monitoring. This will be achieved through actions such as providing ecological and technical rescue systems with specialist equipment and support for rescue command systems.

Actions undertaken under the WROP as regards the construction and development of environmentally friendly energy infrastructure are expected to contribute to e.g. improvement of air quality in the global system, including CO₂ emissions. Projects involving the construction and modernisation of energy (electricity, heat, gas) supply systems should both improve the supply of the region's inhabitants with energy carriers and increase its efficiency and reduce negative environmental effects.

Under the priority actions to improve the condition of heating systems, their energy efficiency, improvement and rehabilitation of district heating networks, change of heat sources from coal to renewables, coal and biomass burning and changing from coal to gas will be undertaken.

Support will be granted also to projects that will enable CHP in the existing sources of energy. It is not expected, however, due to the need to concentrate resources and their reduction, to create new conventional energy sources, except for renewable energy ones. Preference will be given primarily to increased cogeneration of the existing energy sources. In the case of creating new sources of energy, support may be granted also to sources derived from municipal waste, waste from sewage treatment plants and landfill gas sources. Priority will be given to energy sources switching from conventional to renewable energy sources. For environmental reasons support for projects related to the construction of new local water power plants will be granted with great caution.

Installation and modernisation of heating units in public utility facilities and projects related to thermal modernisation are measures aimed at reducing emissions of harmful gases and particulate matter into the atmosphere.

The range of priority interventions covered also measures to increase the share of renewable energy, which will on the one hand ensure diversification of sources of energy supply, and on the other hand, reduce the economic pressures on the environment. This will be implemented through projects for renewable energy sources, such as: biomass energy, wind and geothermal energy, solar energy, hydroelectric energy, as well as projects using renewable energy sources as a supplement to conventional energy solutions.

Intervention in the energy infrastructure cannot distort competition in the market. It will be implemented only in the case of market failure. In the case of support for energy projects a relevant feasibility study must demonstrate that market failures have occurred, and to prove that such a project is not contrary to the principles of market liberalisation. Furthermore, projects will be implemented compliant with the provisions of Directive 2004/8/EC.

Support for recoverable energy, in particular the use of biomass, will show synergy with support under the Rural Development Programme.

3. Areas of intervention:

- Environmental protection infrastructure
- Environmentally friendly energy infrastructure
- Nature conservation
- Water supply and water management
- Flood protection
- Environmental and technological safety
- Renewable energy

4. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Energy
35	Natural gas
39	Renewable energy: wind
40	Renewable energy: solar
41	Renewable energy: biomass
42	Renewable energy: hydroelectric, geothermal and other
43	Energy efficiency, cogeneration (CHP), energy management
	Environmental protection and risk prevention
44	Municipal and industrial waste management
45	Management and distribution of drinking water
46	Waste water treatment
51	Promotion of biodiversity and nature conservation (including NATURA 2000)
53	Risk prevention (including the drafting and implementation of plans and measures to prevent and manage natural and technological hazards)
54	Other measures for environmental protection and risk prevention

5. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Environmental protection infrastructure	Wastewater treatment - projects identified in the National Programme of Municipal Sewage Treatment Investments aimed at eliminating harmful impacts by limiting and preventing emissions of pollutants into the environment Waste management - projects provided for in the Wielkopolska Regional Waste Management Plan Regeneration of degraded land for the purposes of nature conservation, along with preparation of land for reclamation
Environmentally friendly energy infrastructure	Reconstruction and renovation of district heating grid for the purposes of energy efficiency Thermal modernisation of public utility facilities Construction and modernisation of local heating systems (including gas filter equipment and dust collectors) Construction and modernisation of heating systems in public utility facilities Construction and modernisation of the system of supply with electricity and gas



Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Nature conservation	Reconstruction of degraded non-forest, forest and water habitats Crossings for animals and fish ladders Protection of species representing endangered gene pools Construction of an infrastructure for promotion of Natura 2000 sites, including environmental education centres and training of their personnel Promotional and information campaigns and public events Safety plans for Natura 2000 sites
Water supply and water management	Low water retention Water supply
Flood protection	Flood prevention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regulation of water courses (including levees and other hydro-technical equipment), creation of polders (including afforestation) and restoration of natural floodplains modernisation and construction of small multifunctional storage reservoirs (with a capacity of less than 10 mln m³) and barrages
Environmental and technological safety	Creating and improving positions for analysing and forecasting natural hazards and technological failures (including the purchase of specialist equipment), Technical support for the regional chemical and ecological rescue system Support for local environmental monitoring of pollution
Renewable energy	Projects for the use of alternative energy sources - up to 50 MW Cogeneration of in small heat and power plants

6. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority III. The environment	Number of projects aimed at improved air quality	number	0	30	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	10	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to waste management	number	0	2	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	2	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to energy	number	0	40	WROP MA	on an annual basis



- including: number of projects related to recoverable energy	number	0	30	WROP MA	on an annual basis
- implemented in rural areas	number	0	10	WROP MA	on an annual basis
Additional installed power capacity from of renewable sources	MW	0	50	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
- in rural areas	MW	0	25	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
Number of projects related to risk prevention	number	0	5	WROP MA	on an annual basis

b) Results

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority III. The environment	Number of people connected to the water supply network as a result of the implementation of the projects	persons	0	20 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- residents of rural areas	persons	0	10 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of people connected to the sanitary sewage system as a result of the implementation of the projects	persons	0	25 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- residents of rural areas	persons	0	15 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Population covered by forest fire protection and other measures of protection	persons	0	*)	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of people covered by separate collection of waste	persons	0	500 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of people protected against flood as a result of the implementation of the projects	ha	0	6 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis

*) Among the projects in this area projects covering the whole area of the region will be implemented, therefore, the population covered by protection will correspond to the population of the region



7. Potential beneficiaries

- local government units, their unions,
- organisational units with legal personality,
- government administration,
- The State Forests National Forest Holding and its organisational units
- entrepreneurs / SMEs,
- NGOs,
- colleges and universities,
- academic units,
- legal and natural persons running schools and educational institutions,
- health care facilities operating within the public health care system,
- national and landscape parks,
- public finance sector entities with legal personality,
- water companies,

8. Cross-financing

The priority provides for cross-financing pursuant to Article 34 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The arrangements related to flexibility between the ERDF and the ESF will not undermine the specific characteristics of both funds. This option will be limited to measures that are necessary for successful implementation of a given operation and those that are directly related to such an operation. Therefore, the flexibility rule will be applied only in justified cases.

9. Cohesion with other policies and programmes

Priority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Community Strategic Guidelines	Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs – renewed Lisbon Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Regional Development Strategy	National Development Strategy
Priority III The environment	1.2 To strengthen the synergies between environmental protection and growth 1.3 To address Europe's intensive use of traditional energy sources	Guideline 11 To encourage the sustainable use of resources and strengthen the synergies between environmental protection and growth Guideline 16 To expand and improve European infrastructures	Objective 3 Construction and modernisation of technical and social infrastructure of fundamental importance for the growth of competitiveness of Poland Objective 5 Increasing the competitiveness of Polish regions and prevent their social, economic and spatial marginalisation Objective 6 Ensuring equal growth opportunities and support structural changes in rural areas	Operational objective 1.1 Improving the condition of the environment and to rationally manage natural resources in the region Operational objective 4.4 Increased safety	Priority 2 Improving basic infrastructure: technical and social Priority 5 Rural development Priority 6 Regional development and increased territorial cohesion

Support granted under the priority will affect also the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The priority is complementary to:

- **Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment 2007 - 2013":**
Priority Axis I "Water and wastewater management" (the size of the agglomeration is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis II "Waste management and protection of the earth" (demarcation criterion: population served by the systems and installations), Priority Axis III "Resource management and counteracting environmental risks" (demarcation criterion: capacity of reservoirs and the value of the project), Priority Axis IV "Initiatives aimed at adjusting enterprises to the requirement of environmental protection" (demarcation criterion: the value of the project), Priority Axis V "Nature conservation and promotion of ecological habits" (demarcation criterion: the value of the project), Priority IX "Environment-friendly energy infrastructure and energy efficiency" (demarcation criterion: the value of the project), Priority Axis X "Energy security, including diversification of energy sources" (demarcation criterion: the value of the project)
- **Rural Development Programme for the years 2007 - 2013 (RDP 2007-2013),** funded from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development [EAFRD]:



Axis 1: "Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector" - Measure "Use of advisory services by farmers and forest owners," Measure "Modernisation of agricultural holdings", Measure "Increasing the added value to basic agricultural and forestry production". Measure "Improving and developing infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry" Measure "Participation of farmers in food quality schemes". Axis II "Improving the environment and the countryside" Measure "Agri-environmental programme (agri-environment payments)" Measure "Afforestation of agricultural land and non-agricultural land" Measure "Restoring forestry production potential damaged by natural disasters and introducing appropriate prevention instruments". Priority Axis III "Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy", Measure "Basic services for the economy and rural population", Measure "Village renewal and development". Axis IV: Leader Measure "Implementation of local development strategies" (demarcation criterion for the aforementioned measures: the area of project implementation)

- **Operational Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013"**, funded from the European Fisheries Fund [EDF]:

Priority Axis II "Aquaculture, inland fisheries, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products" - Measure 2.2 "Aqua-environmental measures", Priority Axis III "Measures of common interest" – Measure 3.2 "Protection and development of aquatic flora and fauna".





Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- Restructuring of problem areas for growth and employment

The main objective will be accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- Revitalisation of urban areas
- Revitalisation of deprived post-industrial and post-military areas

2. Rationale and description

The priority is a proposal of support for selected areas within which the greatest number of problems has accumulated or their potential is not adequate or is not used sufficiently enough.

The priority implements primarily the territorial dimension of the cohesion policy set out in the Community Strategic Guidelines.

Measures taken under this priority will comprise two areas of intervention: urban renewal including degraded post-military and post-industrial areas. The measures will cover projects targeted at certain specific development potentials. There are aspects, areas, sectors and groups of inhabitants that require support tailored to their needs, enhancing their use. The most important of them include urban development functions, revitalisation of areas with inadequate potential and support for development initiatives, using the local potential.

These phenomena look differently in large and medium-sized cities and in small towns. In large and medium-sized cities the problem concerns their certain parts. Some districts do not grow like the other ones or remain stagnant. There is no entrepreneurship growth; some services are no longer rendered. In small towns degradation concerns most often their centres, which makes them little attractive for both their residents and investors.

In cities and towns there are often considerable areas characterised by degradation of fragments of buildings (often of high historic and architectural importance), a high degree of depreciation of the technical infrastructure, unavailability of transport and concentration of negative social phenomena. This results in a decrease in attractiveness, an inappropriate economic structure and, consequently, population loss.

On the other hand, in Wielkopolska cities there are areas and districts characterised by various forms of maladjustment to the standards of modern times, and sometimes a considerable degree of degradation of the substance of their assets (buildings, infrastructure equipment, and public space) and social marginalisation.

Within this area of intervention support will be granted to comprehensive projects resulting from local development plan, contributing to giving rise to or enhancing the development potential of a given area. Support for these measures will also include solutions for such



problems as social exclusion, a high crime rate and general deterioration of the quality of life in deprived urban areas. Deterioration of housing stock is a major problem on degraded urban areas or those threatened by physical deterioration and social exclusion. Therefore, it will be possible to support improvement in residential housing infrastructure within complex projects, to the extent specified in the Article 47 (2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006.

Another area of priority is the revitalisation of post-industrial and post-military areas. It will be possible both in urban and non-urban areas. These are often areas with attractive location, requiring their development potential to be strengthened. The revitalisation of these areas will be supported through projects aimed at restoring their functional properties, providing them with new socio-economic functions. Projects should include both strictly technical measures and actions aimed at solving social problems in a given area. Adaptability of buildings located in those areas for housing for people on low incomes is anticipated within revitalisation projects for post-industrial and post-military areas (in accordance with Article 47 (2) of Commission Regulation EC No. 1828/2006).

Revitalisation of degraded urban areas, as well as post-industrial and post-military areas can play an important role in strengthening the infrastructure necessary for sustainable economic development.

Social cohesion requires measures to strengthen security, promote economic, social and cultural integration of those areas, to combat various forms of discrimination and improve the supply and availability of key services.

The Wielkopolska region shows considerable demand for support for projects related to urban revitalisation and urban renewal. This is evidenced by a significant number of projects submitted to the Integrated Regional Operational Programme (in the programming period 2004-2006) and those submitted initially to the Project Registration System for the years 2007-2013.

Besides direct support for investments in social infrastructure it is considered to create a financial facility under the JESSICA initiative. Under the initiative an urban fund that would actively support various investment intentions and would be leverage for significantly greater funds in that regard would be created.

The amount of funds allocated to the JESSICA initiative will be determined in the course of its technical preparation. At this stage it can be indicatively assumed that approximately half of the funds earmarked for the priority would need to be allocated to ensure adequate leverage effectiveness and effect, and to exceed the critical mass.¹⁸

One of the additional project evaluation criteria will be the issue of energy efficiency of facilities and buildings.

Due to limited resources, the implementation of the priority requires a focused approach to ensure an adequate impact on the economy of the region and greater emphasis on the sustainability of projects.

¹⁸ On 29 September 2010, an operational agreement was signed by and between the European Investment Bank and Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego. The Agreement specified the tasks of BGK as regards management of funds.



3. Areas of intervention:

- Urban renewal
- Revitalisation of degraded areas

4. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Revitalisation of urban and rural areas
61	Integrated projects for urban and rural revitalisation

5. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Urban renewal	Comprehensive urban renewal (projects in towns with populations up to 50 thousand, including the improvement of the technical condition and standard of the housing infrastructure) Investments in basic technical and social infrastructure
Revitalisation of degraded areas	Revitalisation of degraded urban areas (integrated projects in towns and cities with populations of over 50 thousand, including the improvement of the housing infrastructure) Revitalisation of degraded post-industrial and post-military areas for the purposes other than environmental ones. Development, expansion and modernisation of buildings, post-industrial and post-military areas for tourism – excluding comprehensive projects of national significance implemented under the Operational Programme "Innovative Economy"

6. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority IV. Revitalisation of problem areas	Number of projects related to urban renewal and revitalisation	number	0	20	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	of which:					
	- number of projects ensuring sustainable development and improving the attractiveness of urban areas	number	0	10	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- number of projects related to promotion of entrepreneurship and the use of new technologies	number	0	5	WROP MA	on an annual basis



Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
	- Number of projects offering services to promote equal opportunities and preventing social exclusion of representatives of national minorities and young people	number	0	5	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to the revitalisation of post-industrial and post-military areas	number	0	10	WROP MA	on an annual basis

b) Results

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority IV. Revitalisation of problem areas	Areas renewed as a result of the implementation of projects related to urban revitalisation	km ²	0	10	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Areas renewed as a result of the implementation of projects related to revitalisation of post-industrial and post-military areas	km ²	0	5	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of jobs created in the problem areas	number	0	450	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- jobs for women	number		250	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis

7. Potential beneficiaries

- local government units, their unions and associations,
- organisational units of local government units with legal personality,
- public finance sector entities with legal personality,
- government administration,
- colleges and universities,
- academic units,



- legal persons and natural persons running schools and educational institutions,
- cultural institutions,
- NGOs,
- churches and other religious associations and legal persons of churches and other religious associations,
- business environment institutions,
- entrepreneurs/SMEs,
- cooperatives and housing cooperatives, TBS (Social Housing Association),
- social and business partners
- Entities operating under a contract on public-private partnership.

8. Cross-financing

The priority provides for cross-financing pursuant to Article 34 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The arrangements related to flexibility between the ERDF and the ESF will not undermine the specific characteristics of both funds. This option will be limited to measures that are necessary for successful implementation of a given operation and those that are directly related to such an operation. Therefore, the flexibility rule will be applied only in justified cases.

9. Cohesion with other policies and programmes

Priority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Community Strategic Guidelines	Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs – renewed Lisbon Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Regional Development Strategy	National Development Strategy
Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas	<p>1.1. Making Europe and its regions more attractive places to invest and work</p> <p>2.1. Urban contribution in growth and employment</p>	The Lisbon Strategy will be implemented through selected elements of individual projects	<p>Objective 5 Increasing the competitiveness of Polish regions and preventing their social, economic and spatial marginalisation</p> <p>Objective 6 Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas</p>	<p>Operational objective 1.7 Multifunctional development of subregional and local centres</p> <p>Operational objective 1.8 Restructuring areas with inadequate growth potential</p>	<p>Priority 2 Improving basic infrastructures: technical and social</p> <p>Priority 3 Employment growth and improvement of its quality</p> <p>Priority 4 Building an integrated social community and its security</p> <p>Priority 5 Rural development</p> <p>Priority 6 Regional development and increased territorial cohesion</p>



The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority VI "The labour market open for all", Priority VIII "Promotion of social integration", Priority VIII "Regional human resources for the economy", Priority IX "Development of education and competences in the regions" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion).
- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis II "Waste management and protection of the earth" (the size of the supported agglomeration and the value and type of the project are the demarcation criterion).
- Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013: Axis III "Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy", Measure: "Diversification into non-agricultural activities," Measure "Village renewal and development", Measure "Creation and development of micro-enterprises", (the project area is the demarcation criterion),
- The Programme: "Sustainable Development of Fisheries and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" does not provide for complementary measures in this area of support.



Priority V Infrastructure for human capital

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- Development of human capital and strengthening the social cohesion of the region for employment growth

The main objective will be accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- Adapting the educational system to the needs of the labour market
- Improving standards of health care
- Reducing the level of social morbidity
- Aligning intraregional disparities in access to social infrastructure
- Strengthening the infrastructure of the NGO sector

2. Rationale and description

The diagnosis of the condition of education in Wielkopolska shows that the structure of education of the population aged 15 years and more is dominated by people with primary education and basic vocational education. This is particularly common among inhabitants of small towns and villages. A better education structure is observed primarily among residents of Poznań, powiat towns and the powiat of Poznań. Such dispersion of human capital determines the economic potential of these regions. Growth poles are primarily powiat towns and Poznań. Transport infrastructure and economic conditions mean that acting as growth poles for people who do not come from those towns is not always possible.

The objectives of the "Strategy for the Development of Education for the Wielkopolska Region", though formulated in 2002, are still valid. These include, *inter alia*, raising the enrolment rate and equal educational opportunities.

The diagnosis showed also that both the level and access to education in the region are varied. The condition of the education infrastructure varies also at all levels of education. It is not possible to implement a coherent educational policy, especially the one which will be implemented in the region through the social fund without bridging infrastructural gaps.

The adaptability of the inhabitants in the labour market depends mainly on the profile of education adapted to the needs of that market. The employability level depends also on the health condition and the social services system.

Effective high-quality education is essential for the development of society, and it is a way to improve the quality of life. Diversifying and increasing the number of all forms of education should affect significantly the growth of competitiveness of the region and the development of knowledge-based economy. In order to raise the level of education in the region, it is necessary to create adequate conditions as regards infrastructure and provide educational institutions with the necessary equipment at all levels of education. Taking into account the specific nature of the Wielkopolska region, where significant disparities are observed in the



condition and equipment of educational institutions, support under the Programme will cover e.g. projects leading to bridging the gap in this regard.

The constant increase in the number of students in Wielkopolska means that a part of the structural funds available under the Programme should be used to support higher education.

An important area of intervention under the Programme will be to provide education and vocational training to young people who remain outside the education system, and who are threatened by social exclusion.

Poland is a country with a low labour force participation rate. This applies also to Wielkopolska. Already now the ratio of working population to non-working one is nearly 1:1. This situation results in low competitiveness of the economy reduced by high labour and social costs. In the coming years the situation may deteriorate. The percent of elderly people will increase. The level of social morbidity is growing as well. In order to stop or slow down negative trends in the economic activity of the inhabitants of the region it is necessary to improve the education infrastructure, social infrastructure and the health care one.

The health care infrastructure, alike the education one, is diverse in terms of space. The level of development of the health care infrastructure in Wielkopolska is diverse in terms of space, both as regards primary health care facilities and highly specialist medical care. Access to medical care is limited in particular for residents of villages and small towns. Therefore, district hospitals need support, not only as regards primary health care, but also specialist one. Furthermore, modernisation of the infrastructure of the highly specialist medical facilities in Poznań and that of the subregional centres is also necessary. Limited access to adequate medical care results in lower disease detection rates. The priority is to raise the standard of the existing health care facilities, especially those offering specialist services, as well as to increase access to health care services for residents of villages and small towns. It is also necessary to adapt the social infrastructure to the needs resulting from e.g. the intensification of the process of "aging" of the region's society.

The measures undertaken in the health care sector will focus on improving the quality and access to health care facilities without increasing their size, calculated as the number of beds, except for particularly justified cases.

The beneficiaries of projects related to health care receiving funding for rendered services will have to demonstrate that they are an entity providing services payable under a contract concluded with a Public Health Care Services Financing Authority (e.g. the National Health Fund). Projects under the WROP will not overlap with projects co-funded under the OP I&E.

The intervention designed under this priority is to complement, and at the same time create conditions for, infrastructural interventions implemented by the European Social Fund.

One of the basic education project selection criteria will be their economic dimension. Preference will be given to support an infrastructure which will contribute to modernisation of the economy of the region and increasing the number of jobs. Selection of projects for specialist schools, which have no direct impact on the region's economic growth (e.g. theological schools) will require additional justification relating to the regional development strategy and to demonstrate the expected effects. Priority will be given to those projects which will contribute to modernisation of the region's economy and will have a clear economic impact (e.g. job creation, prevention of population migration, tourism).

In the process of the construction and rehabilitation of social infrastructure facilities the principles of sustainable construction, energy efficiency and access for people with disabili-



ties will be taken into account. These principles will be one of the foundations of project evaluation and selection. Projects accounting for the provision of built or modernised facilities to a wider range of users will be also given priority. In particular, educational facilities made available also for the purposes of lifelong learning.

NGOs have a high personnel and organisational potential, which is not, however, fully used. One of the reasons for that is the inadequate infrastructure available to them. Therefore, support under the priority will be provided for investment projects of these organisations, especially those that operate in the area of social welfare, projects related to education and the labour market, as well as those that prevent exclusion and social pathologies.

3. Areas of intervention

- Education
- Health
- Other social infrastructure

4. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Investments in social infrastructure
75	Education infrastructure
76	Health infrastructure
79	Other social infrastructure

5. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Education	Investments in education infrastructure (including social and sports facilities), including post-secondary education (except for research and development infrastructure), except for those carried out under the Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment" Network of educational facilities for equal educational opportunities (e.g. lifelong learning) Providing educational institutions with modern equipment and resources to optimise the learning process and the removal of architectural barriers
Health	Investments in the regional and local health care infrastructure, with the exception of infrastructure the founding body of which is the minister or the central authority of government administration, a public medical school or a public institution offering teaching or research activities in the field of medical science. Providing medical facilities with modern equipment
Other social infrastructure	Investments in the social infrastructure (including equipment)



6. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority V. Infrastructure for human capital	Number of projects related to education	number	0	32	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	14	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to health care	number	0	65	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of projects related to other social infrastructure	number	0	10	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	4	WROP MA	on an annual basis

b) Results

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority V. Infrastructure for human capital	Number of students benefiting from the results of the projects	persons	0	20 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of students benefiting from the results of the projects	persons	0	10 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Number of people using health care facilities covered by the support (the potential number)	persons	0	350 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	Specialist medical examinations performed using equipment purchased as a result of the implementation of the projects (the potential number)	number	0	700 000	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis

7. Potential beneficiaries

- local government units, their unions and associations,
- organisational units with legal personality,
- public finance sector entities with legal personality,



- colleges and universities,
- legal persons and natural persons running schools and educational institutions,
- academic units,
- NGOs,
- health care facilities operating within the public health care system,
- churches and other religious associations and legal persons of churches and other religious associations,
- social and business partners.

8. Cross-financing

The priority provides for cross-financing pursuant to Article 34 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The arrangements related to flexibility between the ERDF and the ESF will not undermine the specific characteristics of both funds. This option will be limited to measures that are necessary for successful implementation of a given operation and those that are directly related to such an operation. Therefore, the flexibility rule will be applied only in justified cases.

9. Cohesion with other policies and programmes

Cohesion of the area of intervention under the priority with the areas of intervention of other policies is presented in the table below:

Priority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Community Strategic Guidelines	Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs – renewed Lisbon Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Regional Development Strategy	National Development Strategy
Priority V Infrastructure for human capital	3.3 To increase investment in human capital through better education and skills 3.5 To help maintain a healthy labour force	Guideline 23 To expand and improve investment in human capital Guideline 24 To adapt education and training systems to new competence requirements	Objective 2 Improving the quality of human capital and increasing social cohesion Objective 6 Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas	Operational objective 3.1 Reducing barriers to access to education. Operational objective 4.1 Improving the demographic situation and health condition of the residents Operational objective 4.3 Development of social services Operational objective 4.5 Reducing the scale of social pathologies and exclusion	Priority 2 Improving the condition of technical and social infrastructure Priority 3 Employment growth and improvement of its quality Priority 4 Building an integrated social community and its security Priority 5 Rural development Priority 6 Regional development and increased territorial cohesion

Support granted under the priority will affect also the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment 2007-2013": Priority Axis XII "Health security and improving the efficiency of the health care system" (the type of the beneficiary is the demarcation criterion), Priority Axis XIII "Infrastructure of higher education" (the type of the beneficiary - an indicative list of colleges and universities, attached to OP I&E - is the demarcation criterion).
- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority I: "Employment and social integration", Priority II: "Development of human resources and adaptation potential of enterprises and improvement in the health condition of working people," Priority III: "High quality of education", Priority IV: "Higher education and science," Priority V: "Good governance", Priority VI: "The labour market open



for all," Priority VII: "Promotion of social integration", Priority VIII: "Regional human resources for the economy", Priority IX: "Development of education and competences in the regions" (the type of a project is the demarcation criterion).

- Operational Programme "Innovative Economy": Priority axis I "Research and development of new technologies", Priority Axis II: "R&D infrastructure," Priority VII: "Information society – establishment of electronic administration" (the type of a project is the demarcation criterion).
- The Programme: "Sustainable Development of Fisheries and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" does not provide for complementary measures in this area of support.





Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- Using the natural and cultural environment to increase the region's attractiveness

The main objective will be accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- Increase in the share of tourism in the economy of the region
- Increase in the contribution of culture in the lives of the inhabitants

2. Rationale and description

Tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy. It is one of the sources of prosperity and is an effective method of combating unemployment and labour market development. The functioning of this sector depends on the one hand on natural and cultural potentials, and on the other hand on infrastructure, institutions and enterprises.

The variety of tourist and cultural attractions of Wielkopolska is significant potential for development, which is not, however, fully used. Insufficient use of these potentials results from a poor condition of the infrastructure and the fact that natural and cultural potentials are still undermined in economic terms and in terms of the labour market.

The object of the intervention under the priority is to support projects aimed at expanding the tourism infrastructure, both technical and institutional ones, and to use the potential of the region's cultural heritage for tourism and economic growth of the region.

A significant part of the tourist infrastructure is of low quality and in a poor technical condition. Accommodation, sports facilities, specialist recreation and qualified tourism infrastructures are still underdeveloped and there are still no specialised promotion systems and professional tourist products.

Complex development of areas attractive both in terms of nature and culture is required.

Measures aimed at the development of tourism in the region will focus, on the one hand, on creating an integrated and diversified tourist offer attractive nationally and internationally, and, on the other hand, on the use of local attractions and activation of local initiatives in this regard. This implies a need for the development of local and regional tourism products. Within this area of intervention the development of specialist forms of tourism infrastructure, such as congress and conference tourism will be possible. Creating elements of tourist infrastructure will be closely linked with promotion and visitor information services, both at the local and regional levels and at the national and international ones.

Support for tourism will be aimed at projects which can contribute to the economic growth of the region. Support for these projects will depend on their profitability and will be allocated primarily to those projects which arise from the Strategy of tourism development in the Wielkopolska region and attract tourists from outside of the region.



All projects related to tourism will take into account environmental requirements, including protection of Natura 2000 sites.

The second area of intervention within the priority being the foundation of tourism is cultural environment, both tangible and intangible one. Transfer and protection of cultural heritage, as well as participation in cultural events have a great influence on the form and content of social and economic life, on the mutual relations between people, as well as the harmonious development of the region and increase in its competitiveness. The Wielkopolska region is distinguished by its rich heritage of material culture in the form of sacred and secular architectural monuments, but the technical condition of historic buildings is constantly deteriorating. For this purpose, part of the available funds will be allocated to investments in the protection of cultural heritage of the region (including monuments).

The condition of the infrastructure and equipment available to cultural institutions located in the region deteriorates, which in many cases leads to limiting the scope of their activities. There is considerable variation in this respect between large centres and other areas in the region. In small towns, a steady decline in access to cultural goods is observed. In this situation, support under the area of intervention within the priority will also cover projects aimed at the development of the regional and local cultural infrastructure and to prevent degradation of cultural sites.

One of the additional project evaluation criteria for both areas of intervention will be the issue of energy efficiency of facilities and buildings.

Measures implemented under this priority will be reinforced by the measures implemented within the other priorities. The main areas of synergies relate primarily to support for enterprises operating in the tourism industry, under Priority I - The competitiveness of enterprises, development of basic communication infrastructure, under Priority II - Transport infrastructure and measures to improve the environment, under Priority III – The environment. Furthermore, the implementation of projects related to tourism shall be consistent with revitalisation projects under Priority IV - Restructuring of the problem areas.

3. Areas of intervention:

- Infrastructure in tourist areas
- Cultural heritage

4. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Tourism
57	Other assistance to improve tourist services
	Culture
58	Protection and preservation of cultural heritage
59	Development of cultural infrastructure



5. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Cultural heritage	Projects related to maintenance and protection of cultural heritage of regional and local importance (with the exception of projects eligible for implementation under the Rural Development Programme and the Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment") Development of regional and local cultural infrastructure Promotion of culture
Infrastructure in tourist areas	Tourist and recreational infrastructure Construction of infrastructure for congress and conference tourism Development and promotion programmes for regional and local tourist products Promotion of the region Construction, expansion and modernisation of sports and recreation infrastructure facilitating the development of active forms of recreation, contributing to the improvement of tourist attractions of the area

6. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Ex-pected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority VI. Tourism and cultural environment	Number of projects related to tourism	number	0	40	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	30	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Number of constructed / modernised cultural and cultural heritage sites	number	0	40	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- implemented in rural areas	number	0	15	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis

b) Results



Indicator level	Name of the indicator	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority V. Tourism and cultural environment	Number of created jobs:	number	0	500	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- for women	number	0	275	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis
	- in rural areas	number	0	250	Beneficiaries	on an annual basis

7. Potential beneficiaries

- local government units, their unions and associations,
- organisational units with legal personality,
- public finance sector entities with legal personality,
- government administration,
- colleges and universities,
- academic units,
- legal persons and natural persons running schools and educational institutions,
- cultural institutions,
- NGOs,
- churches and other religious associations and legal persons of churches and other religious associations,
- business environment institutions,
- entrepreneurs/SMEs,
- The State Forests National Forest Holding and its organisational units.
- national and landscape parks,
- social and business partners.

8. Cross-financing

The priority provides for cross-financing pursuant to Article 34 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78).

The arrangements related to flexibility between the ERDF and the ESF will not undermine the specific characteristics of both funds. This option will be limited to measures that are necessary for successful implementation of a given operation and those that are directly related to such an operation. Therefore, the flexibility rule will be applied only in justified cases.

9. Cohesion with other policies and programmes

Priority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme	Community Strategic Guidelines	Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs – renewed Lisbon Strategy	National Strategic Reference Framework (National Cohesion Strategy)	Regional Development Strategy	National Development Strategy
Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment	1.1. Making Europe and its regions more attractive places to invest and work	The Lisbon Strategy will be implemented through selected elements of individual projects	Objective 2 Improving the quality of human capital and increase social cohesion Objective 5 Increasing the competitiveness of Polish regions and preventing their social, economic and spatial marginalisation Objective 6 Ensuring equal growth opportunities and supporting structural changes in rural areas	Operational objective 1.3 Increasing the importance and preserving cultural heritage Operational objective 1.3 1.7 Multifunctional development of subregional and local centres Operational objective 2.4 Increasing the share of tourism and recreation services in the economy of the region Operational objective 4.7 Increasing the participation of sport and recreation in the lives of the inhabitants	Priority 2 Improving basic infrastructure: technical and social Priority 3 Employment growth and improvement of its quality Priority 4 Building an integrated social community and its security Priority 5 Rural development Priority 6 Regional development and increased territorial cohesion

Support granted under the priority will affect also the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority VI "The labour market open for all", Priority VIII "Promotion of social integration", Priority VIII "Regional human resources for the economy", Priority IX "Development of education and competences in the regions" (the type of the project is the demarcation criterion).
- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis XI "Culture and cultural heritage" (demarcation criteria are as follows: the scope of the project (regional/supraregional), the type of the beneficiary and the value of the project).
- Rural Development Programme 2007-2013: Priority III :Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy, Measure "Diversification into non-agricultural activities", Measure "Establishment and development of micro-enterprises", Measure "Village renewal and development". Leader Axis, Meas-



ure "Implementation of local development strategies" (the type of a project is the demarcation criterion).

- Operational Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013": Priority Axis II "Aquaculture, inland fisheries, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products" - Measure 2.1. "Investments in aquaculture" (the type of a project is the demarcation criterion). Priority Axis IV "Sustainable development of fisheries areas" - Measure 4.1 "Development of fisheries areas.
- Operational Programme "Innovative Economy": Priority Axis 6 "Polish economy on the international market," Measure 6.4 "Investments in tourist products of supra-regional importance" (the scope of the project is the demarcation criterion).





Priority VII Technical assistance

1. Priority objectives

The main objective:

- The objective of the priority is to use effectively the structural funds available under the Programme.

The main objective will be accomplished through the implementation of the following specific objectives:

- Efficient implementation of the WROP
- Full participation in the single computer monitoring system
- Proper preparation of projects to improve the effectiveness of their implementation
- Effective dissemination of information on the WROP and the promotion of the Programme

2. Rationale and description

The function of the Managing Authority of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme, which will be held by the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region in the programming period 2007-2013, forces it to provide adequate organisational, institutional and personal capacities, as well as relevant information and publicity measures for the efficient use of structural funds. It is also necessary to strengthen the capacity of beneficiaries to apply for funds.

Previous experience with the implementation of structural funds in the region indicates the importance of the human factor in this process. Human resources are, in fact, the basis for the performance of any system of implementation of structural assistance. Therefore, tasks aimed at strengthening human resources in institutions and agencies involved in the implementation of the Programme will be implemented under the Technical Assistance Priority.

In order to establish adequate administrative capacity needed to implement the Programme the Managing Authority of the WROP intends to hire by the end of 2008 approximately 100 people. In subsequent years, the employment rate will be increased as needed. Appropriate office space has been rented for the previously employed and newly hired workers. Each workstation is equipped with a computer and other office equipment facilitating work.

In order to prevent staff turnover the Managing Authority has been implementing an HR strategy covering, *inter alia*, payroll and non-payroll forms of incentives for employees, a uniform payroll structure, educational policy, organisational culture and a human resource management model.

The qualifications of the personnel involved in the implementation of the Programme will be increased through e.g. training carried out in the country and abroad, foreign language courses, internships, seminars, study visits and post-graduate studies.



The Managing Authority will ensure an adequate budget for the implementation of the requirements as regards management, implementation, evaluation, monitoring, information and promotion, as well as the capacity to properly apply public procurement law and finance the staff who will coordinate environmental issues, in accordance with the procedures described in Chapter 7.12. Furthermore, funds for recruitment and selection of project to be covered by the WROP, their control and evaluation will be ensured.

In order to provide information on the measures within the area of intervention under the WROP and to ensure publicity among potential recipients of assistance, as well as to gain widespread acceptance for the structural funds a wide range of activities for different target groups will be implemented. The Managing Authority of the WROP shall develop a Communication Plan for the operational programme. The Plan shall include objectives, target group characteristics, the description of planned information, promotion and training actions, the description of the division of tasks and the level of responsibilities in the area of promotion, information and training actions between the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body, a framework schedule, an indicative budget, the manner of evaluation of actions and the standards for reporting on the progress of the implementation of promotion, information and training actions. Beneficiaries will participate under the Communication Plan in conferences, training, seminars and workshops devoted to possible support, project preparation, as well as implementation, management, accountability and monitoring of projects financed under the WROP. Publications and promotional materials associated with WROP shall be prepared and circulated. Within the information and publicity measures information centres will be established and the web site, used to date mainly for the purposes of the previous financial perspective, will be maintained. During the implementation of the Programme events, actions, and campaigns aimed at promotion of the WROP in Wielkopolska will be organised. All information and publicity measures will be subject to evaluation studies such as quality and quantity ones.

In order to ensure proper preparation of projects by potential beneficiaries templates of necessary documents and will be developed and training related to their preparation will be conducted. The Managing Authority will organise training on public procurement and state aid systems, and will provide consultative assistance in order to prepare projects properly.

Efficient use of Structural Funds under the WROP will also require carrying out specialist research and studies, developing relevant analyses and providing expert support for substantive evaluation of projects. Furthermore, it will be necessary to provide support for the organisation of work and training of the various bodies involved in the implementation of the Programme, such as the Monitoring Committee. The following IT systems will be used for management and reporting purposes: an accounting system meeting the requirements of the Accounting Act, and a monitoring and reporting system, as well as a documentation audit system and an audit system in place relating to the operations to the extent specified in Annex III to the Implementation Regulation 1828/2006, to the full extent of participation, funded under the Technical Assistance, as required.

Measures implemented under this Priority will be allocated to support for the tasks related to the completion of the implementation of the IROP, the completion of the implementation of the WROP for 2007-2013, information and promotion under this Programme, the closure of assistance implemented in the framework of the WROP and work, studies and expertise related to the preparation of the next programming period for the years 2014-2020 and the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy.



3. Codes by Dimension

Code	Codes by Dimension
	Technical assistance
85	Preparation, implementation, monitoring and inspection
86	Evaluation and studies; information and communication

4. Expected types of projects

Areas of intervention	Types of projects
Support for the implementation of the WROP	<p>Employing staff involved in the completion of the implementation of the Integrated Regional Operational Programme, the implementation of the Programme and participating in planning for the next financial perspective</p> <p>Equipment and the costs of maintaining workstations of the staff involved in the implementation of the Programme and participating in the planning for the next financial perspective</p> <p>Increasing qualifications of employees involved in the implementation of the Programme and participating in planning for the next financial perspective</p> <p>Training for members of the teams related to the implementation of the Programme (e.g. the Monitoring Committee)</p> <p>Support for the Regional Monitoring Committee and other teams</p> <p>Programme evaluation</p> <p>Inspections, external audit</p> <p>Expert opinions, analyses, studies developed for the purposes of the implementation of the Programme</p> <p>Works and studies related to planning for the next programming period 2014-2020 and the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy</p> <p>Acquisition and management of information systems</p> <p>Acquisition of data bases and publications related to the Structural Funds</p> <p>Lease and operation of means of transport</p> <p>Archiving documents related to the IROP and the Programme</p> <p>Closure of the assistance implemented under the IROP and the financial perspective 2007 - 2013</p>
Information and publicity	<p>Promotion of the Programme</p> <p>Information measures</p> <p>Establishment and operation of information helpdesks</p> <p>Training for beneficiaries</p>



5. Results of the implementation

a) Outputs

Indicator level	Name of the indicator (output indicators)	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority VII Technical Assistance	Persons involved in the preparation and implementation of the Programme, co-funded under technical assistance	persons	0	150	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Organised conferences, meetings, seminars	number	0	50	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Training co-funded under technical assistance	number	0	210	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Computers systems purchased for the purposes of the implementation of the Programme co-funded under technical assistance	number	0	200	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Evaluations, expert reports, analyses, studies and concepts developed by external evaluators	number	0	15	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Persons participating in training for beneficiaries co-funded under technical assistance - women	persons	0	10 000 (5 500)	WROP MA	on an annual basis

b) Results

Indicator level	Name of the indicator (output indicators)	Unit	Value in the base year	Expected value in the target year (2013)	Source of data	Frequency of measurement
Priority VII Technical Assistance	Persons involved in the implementation of the Programme, covered with training co-funded under technical assistance - women	persons	0	2 100 (1200)	WROP MA	on an annual basis
	Copies of promotional and informational publications on the Programme co-funded under technical assistance	number	0	335 000	WROP MA	on an annual basis



6. Potential beneficiaries

The Technical Assistance priority is available to all institutions covered by the ROP (including intermediate bodies) and other entities that will implement information, promotional and training measures in the framework of announced tenders. The list of such entities will be specified in: the Communication Plan and Refinement of the WROP (A detailed description of the priorities of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013).

7. Cohesion with other programmes

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Technical Assistance"





6. Financial Plan

Pursuant to the Strategic National Reference Framework adopted by the Council of Ministers on 29 November 2006 the Wielkopolska region will be granted for the implementation of the Regional Operational Programme 7.07% of the total financial allocation of the European Regional Development Fund to 16 Regional Operational Programmes, i.e. EUR 1,130,264,097. This amount results from the breakdown of funds among the Regional Operational Programmes, which was made on based on the algorithm taking into account the population criteria, GDP per capita and the unemployment rate in districts.

The region will also receive an additional amount of EUR 142,528,547 from the ERDF under the compensation mechanism for the four regions which have been allocated the lowest amounts of funds per inhabitant in accordance with the above-mentioned algorithm.

Additional funds will be allocated to the region in connection with the breakdown of the National Performance Reserve. Wielkopolska will receive due to that EUR 48,248,915 from the ERDF.

At the same time - as a result of the breakdown of the funds under technical adjustment – the region will receive EUR 11,531,973, also from the ERDF.

In total, the region will receive from the ERDF co-financing of the WROP in the amount of EUR 1,332,573,532.

EUR 549,615 million, equivalent to 41.24% of the Community contribution under the WROP for the years 2007-2013, will be allocated from the above-mentioned amount to the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy.

In the process of allocation of funds to individual priorities of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 the following aspects were taken into account:

- importance of individual priorities in the context of the main objective and the specific objectives of the WROP,
- the findings of the report of the Wrocław Regional Development Agency which analysed three pre-compiled variants of distribution of funding for specific priorities under the WROP using the HERMIN macroeconomics model,
- range of the interventions under the WROP resulting from the demarcation line between the Operational Programmes at the central level and Regional Operational Programmes,
- guidelines of the Ministry of Regional Development on limits of expenditure for actions in the area of production and social services,
- list of major projects in accordance with Article 39 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006,
- indicative investment plan for the WROP containing a list of key projects for the years 2007-2013,
- database of the Project Registration System (SEP) for 2007-2013 prepared by the Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region – an analysis of needs and absorption capacity of potential beneficiaries of the WROP (cf. the table below),
- results of public consultations.



For the purposes of the WROP a system of registration of projects for implementation within the financial perspective 2007 – 2013 was launched on the Internet. Potential beneficiaries registered within the system their intentions in this regard. Projects stored in the system were grouped according to the Programme priorities. According to the comparison the needs of future beneficiaries exceed significantly the financial capacity of the WROP, which guarantees full utilisation of resources. The exception is the Priority I - Competitiveness of enterprises. However, it must be stated in regard to this Priority that entrepreneurs do not prepare projects in such advance as local governments do.

**Projects recorded in the PRS database and eligible for WROP for 2007-2013
(as at 29.12.2006)**

	Number of projects eligible for WROP	Value of co-financing reported in PRS in million EUR	Allocation of the ERDF for WROP priorities in million EUR
I Competitiveness of enterprises	73	153,0	287,1
II Communication infrastructure	715	862,7	407,8
III The environment	424	374,5	158,6
IV Restructuring and territorial potential strengthening	127	133,0	89,2
V Infrastructure for human capital	569	529,5	147,6
TOTAL	1908	2 052,7	1 130,3

Source: The Project Recording System database for the years 2007-2013 and the Marshall's Office of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship (the system of priorities has changed in the course of negotiations with the European Commission).

In the framework of the implementation of the Regional Operational Programme for the Wielkopolska Region for the years 2007-2013 a total of EUR 1,766,084 mln will be involved, including the national public contribution in the amount of EUR 249,933 mln.

Pursuant to Article 53 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund it was assumed that under the WROP for the years 2007-2013 the contribution of the European Regional Development Fund at the level of the Programme would be calculated in reference to public eligible expenditure. The amount of private funds involved in the co-financing of the Programme was estimated at EUR 183,577 mln.

In determining the financial plan the projection of the financial capacity of potential beneficiaries of the Programme, and thus consideration of the probability of occurrence of obstacles to the implementation of the Programme gain relevance. The main group of beneficiaries of the WROP consists of local government units. Therefore, this analysis was verified for this group of beneficiaries from the Wielkopolska region. According to the study¹⁹, it is estimated that in the years 2007 - 2013 local government units from the Wielkopolska region will have funds available for new development programmes in the amount of PLN 22,415.5 mln. Approximately 40% of these funds will be transfers from the European Union, the rest is made up of the investment potential of Wielkopolska local governments. The aforementioned

¹⁹ The financial framework of the Voivodeship Development Strategy for the years 2007-2013, ed. W. Misiąg, Warsaw 2006 – Study prepared in the framework of the project entitled "Identification of possibilities of ensuring national public and private co-funding of regional operational programmes for the years 2007-2013 carried out in all voivodships of Poland along with a proposal of system solutions determining the principles and procedures of launching flows of non-regional (governmental and EU) public funds in the framework of Operational Programmes"



amount shall be reduced by ca. 13% of funds which are spent on the completion of investments started before the end of 2006.

All the investment potential of local government units in the Wielkopolska region, which includes their own potential and liabilities, is estimated at ca. PLN 13,341.3 mln, which is equivalent to ca. EUR 3,482 mln²⁰. In accordance with the indicative financial table related to the WROP for the years 2007-2013 the volume of own contributions of local government units was estimated at ca. EUR 171 mln. Therefore, it can be assumed that in Wielkopolska there are no threats to the implementation of the WROP due to lack or limited collateral of the beneficiaries' own contributions to the structural assistance in the new financial perspective.

In accordance with the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund the following has been prepared:

- financial table showing the breakdown of the amount of funds of the European Regional Development Fund for each year (Annex 1)
- financial table showing the amount of total funds making up the Community contribution and the national contributions, as well as the indicators for contributions of the funds by priority (Annex 2)
- indicative breakdown by category of the programmed use of contributions of the funds in the WROP (Annex 3)

Allocation of the European Regional Development Fund's resources for individual priorities is presented in the table below.

WROP priorities for the years 2007-2013	ERDF funds	
	€	%
Priorytet I Competiveness of enterprises	343 367 888	25,77%
Priorytet II Communication infrastructure	537 661 547	40,35%
Priorytet III The environment	173 821 000	13,04%
Priorytet IV Revitalization of problem areas	54 060 000	4,06%
Priorytet V Infrastructure for human capital	121 284 097	9,10%
Priorytet VI Tourism and cultural environment	61 470 000	4,61%
Priorytet VII Technical assistance	40 909 000	3,07%
Ogółem	1 332 573 532	100,00%

Furthermore, a financial table showing the indicative breakdown of the financial resources of the European Regional Development Fund by intervention categories in individual priorities of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 has been prepared for information purposes. The table contains also estimated amounts related to the categories of interventions implementing the objectives of the Lisbon Strategy.

²⁰ at EUR rate at the end of 2006



Allocation of means by Priorities and categories of intervention in frameworks of WROP for period 2007-2013

code	Categories of assistance	„Lizbon” category (Y/N)	Share in priority (%)	ERDF share (mln €)	„Lizbon” outlay (mln €)
Priority I Competiveness of enterprises				343 367 888	322 851 522
Research and technological development (R+TD), innovation and entrepreneurship				309 230 482	
2	R+TD infrastructure (including physical plant, instrumentation and high speed networks linking research centers) and centers of competence in a specific technology	Y	4,0	13 591 140	13 591 140
3	Technology transfer and improvement of cooperation networks between small businesses (SMEs), between SME and between these and other businesses and universities, post-secondary education establishments of all kinds, regional authorities, research centers and scientific and technological poles (scientific and technological parks, technopoles, etc.)	Y	1,2	4 020 000	4 020 000
5	Advanced support services for enterprises and groups of enterprises	Y	29,9	102 653 820	102 653 820
7	Investment in firms directly linked to research and innovation (innovative technologies, establishment of new firms by universities, existing R&TD centers and enterprises, etc.)	Y	2,0	6 980 888	6 980 888
8	Other investment in enterprises	Y	51,6	177 254 938	177 254 938
9	Other measures to stimulate research and innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs	Y	1,4	4 729 696	4 729 696
Information society				20 621 040	
10	Telecommunication infrastructures (including broadband networks)	Y	2,2	7 498 560	7 498 560
15	Other measures for improving access to and efficient use of ICT by SMEs	Y	3,8	13 122 480	13 122 480
Transport				4 054 910	
23	Regional/local roads	N	1,2	4 054 910	0
Energy				5 271 382	
33	Electricity	N	1,5	5 271 382	0
Environmental protection and risk prevention				4 190 074	
45	Management and distribution of water (drink water)	N	1,1	3 919 746	0
46	Water treatment (waste water)	N	0,1	270 328	0
Priority II Communication infrastructure				537 661 547	180 133 415
Information society				118 460 000	
10	Telecommunication infrastructures (including broad band networks)	Y	20,7	111 222 094	111 222 094



13	Services and applications for citizens (e-health, e-administration, e-education, e-integration etc.)	Y	1,3	7 237 906	7 237 906
	Transport			405 166 812	
16	Railways	Y	7,3	39 118 227	39 118 227
18	Mobile rail assets	N	7,5	40 471 677	0
23	Regional/local roads	N	47,8	257 224 166	0
25	Urban transport	N	11,1	59 832 289	0
29	Airports	Y	1,6	8 520 453	8 520 453
	Environmental protection and risk prevention			14 034 735	
52	Promotion of clean urban transport	Y	2,6	14 034 735	14 034 735
Priority III The environment				173 821 000	39 630 000
	Energy			40 910 000	
35	Natural gas	N	0,7	1 280 000	
39	Renewable energy: wind	Y	2,9	5 105 193	5 105 193
40	Renewable energy: solar	Y	0,1	164 684	164 684
41	Renewable energy: biomass	Y	0,0	82 342	82 342
42	Renewable energy: hydroelectric, geothermal and other	Y	1,6	2 717 280	2 717 280
43	Energy efficiency, cogeneration, energy management	Y	18,2	31 560 501	31 560 501
	Environmental protection and risk prevention			132 911 000	
44	Municipal waste and industrial waste management	N	11,4	19 826 651	0
45	Management and distribution of drinking water	N	0,5	861 307	0
46	Waste water treatment	N	49,1	85 269 424	0
51	Promotion of biodiversity and nature protection (including Natura 2000)	N	0,4	685 660	0
53	Risk prevention (including the drafting and implementation of plans and measures to prevent and manage natural and technological risks)	N	11,8	20 504 299	0
54	Other measures to preserve the environment and prevent risks	N	3,3	5 763 659	0
Priority IV Revitalization of problem areas				54 060 000	0
	Revitalization of urban/rural areas			54 060 000	
61	Integrated projects for urban and rural revitalisation	N	100,0	54 060 000	0
Priority V Infrastructure for human capital				121 284 097	0
	Social infrastructure investments			121 284 097	
75	Educational infrastructure	N	51,8	62 804 097	0
76	Health infrastructure	N	43,4	52 620 000	0
79	Other social infrastructure	N	4,8	5 860 000	0



Priorytet VI Tourism and cultural environment				61 470 000	0
	Tourism			35 110 000	
57	Other forms of assistance for strengthening tourism services	N	57,1	35 110 000	0
	Culture			26 360 000	
58	Protection and preservation of cultural heritage	N	41,6	25 569 200	0
59	Development of cultural infrastructure	N	1,3	790 800	0
Priority VII Technical assistance				40 909 000	0
	Technical assistance			40 909 000	
85	Preparation, implementation, monitoring and inspection	N	88,3	36 119 002	0
86	Evaluation, studies and expertise; information and communication	N	11,7	4 789 998	0
Total				1 332 573 532	549 614 937
				Share of „Lisbon” expenditure	41,24%



7. Implementing Provisions

7.1. Preliminary remarks

The basic principles of management and implementation of the operational programmes whose implementation is planned for 2007-2013, including the regional operational programmes, are set out in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p. 25-78) and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006 setting out rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and of Regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Regional Development Fund.

At the national level, the Act of 6 December 2006 on the principles of development policy is the legal basis for the functioning of operational programmes. (Journal of Laws of 2006, No. 227, item 1658). The National Strategic Reference Framework for the years 2007-2013 is the document defining the objectives of operational programmes. The NSRF supports growth and employment (the National Cohesion Strategy). The NSRF was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 29 November 2006 and accepted by the European Commission in May 2007.

7.2. Competence of the institutions involved in the management of the Regional Operational Programme

7.2.1. Coordination

The function of the Coordinating Authority of the ROP (ROP CA) will be performed by the minister competent for regional development supported in the area concerned by the Department for Coordination and Implementation of Regional Programmes (DKR) in the Ministry of Regional Development.

The ROP Coordinating Authority is responsible in particular for:

- verification of the regional operational programmes for compliance with the NSRF;
- negotiating regional operational programmes with the EC in cooperation with the managing authorities of the ROP;
- ensuring consistency of applied guidelines;
- monitoring the effects of the implementation of the WROP (comparative analyses).

Mutual relationships and the specific responsibilities and division of tasks between the Coordinating Authority of the ROP and the Managing Authority of the WROP will be determined in the relevant guidelines of the Minister of Regional Development.



7.2.2. Management of the Regional Operational Programme

a) The Managing Authority of the ROP

Pursuant to the Act on the principles of development policy the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region shall be the Managing Authority. In accordance with the Organisational Regulations of the Office of the Marshal of the Wielkopolska region, approved by the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region, the obligations of the MA are performed by the following organisational units:

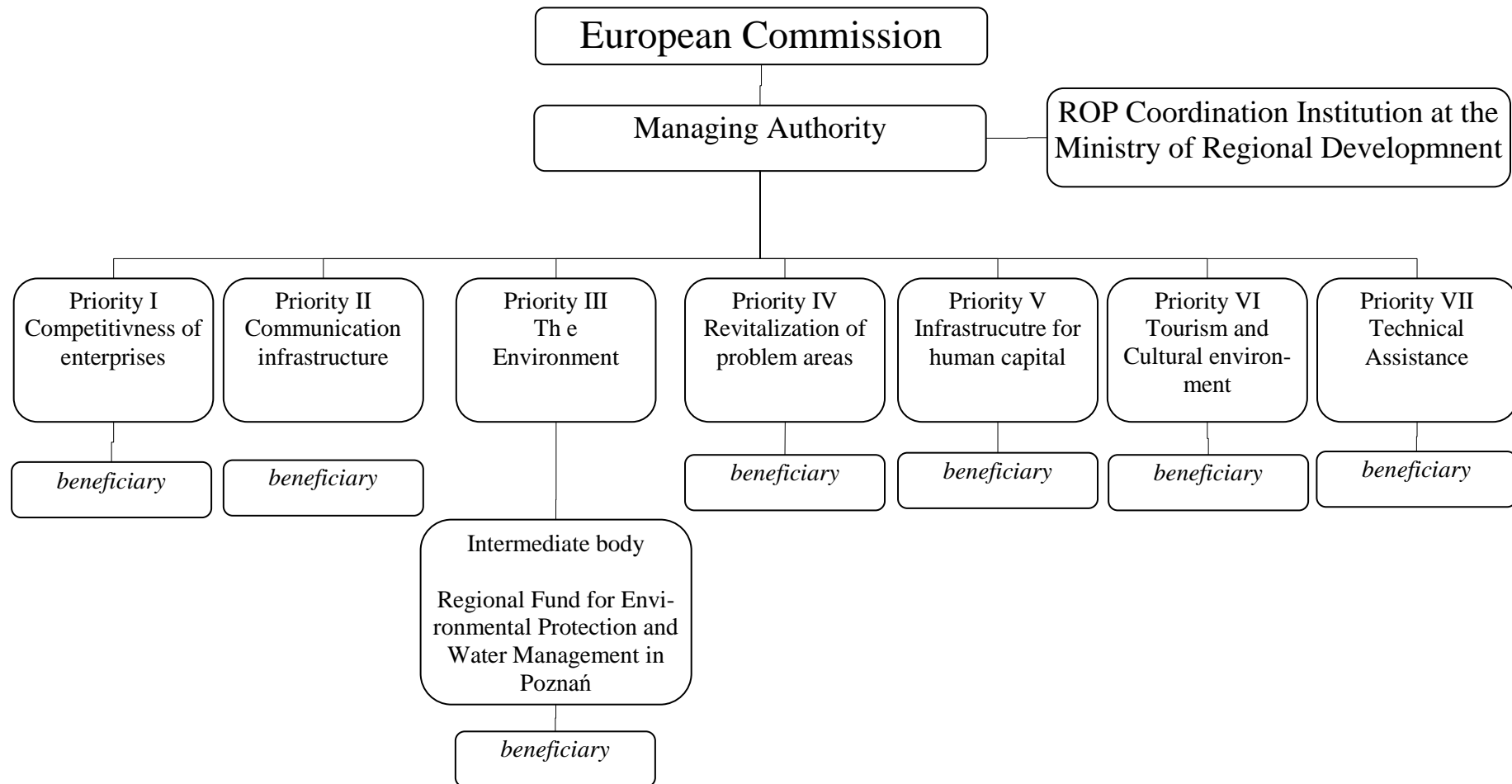
- Department of Regional Policy - strategic management of the Programme, implementation of Priority VII;
- Department for Implementation of the Regional Programme - implementation of Priorities I - II, IV – VI;
- Units providing technical support for the system for implementation of the Programme - the Fund Service Office, the Department of Finance, Department of Control;
- Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Poznań – Intermediate Body implementing Priority III.

The tasks of the Managing Authority include:

- ensuring that operations are selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the regional operational programme and that they comply with applicable Community and national rules throughout the period of its implementation;
- verifying that co-financed products and services are delivered and that the expenditure declared by beneficiaries for the operations has actually been incurred and complies with Community and national rules;
- ensuring that there is a system for recording and storing accounting records for each operation under the regional operational programme and ensuring that the data on implementation necessary for financial management, monitoring, verification, audit and evaluation are collected;
- ensuring that beneficiaries and other bodies involved in the implementation of operations maintain a separate accounting system or an adequate accounting code for all trans-measures related to the operation without prejudice to national accounting rules;
- ensuring that the assessment of the regional operational programme, referred to in Article 48 (3) of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006 is conducted in accordance with Article 47 of the aforementioned Regulation;



Institutional scheme of WROP (current names of organizational units)





- establishing procedures to ensure that all documents regarding expenditure and audits required to ensure an adequate audit trail are maintained in accordance with the requirements of Article 90 of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006;
- ensuring that the certifying authority receives all necessary information on procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure for the purpose of certification;
- guiding the work of the Monitoring Committee and providing it with the documents required to enable monitoring the quality of the implementation of the operational programme in the context of its specific objectives;
- preparing and submitting to the Committee annual and final reports on implementation, after their prior approval by the Monitoring Committee;
- ensuring compliance with the information and publicity requirements laid down in Article 69 of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006;
- providing the European Commission with information enabling it to evaluate major projects.

The WROP Managing Authority may delegate the performance of part of its management or operational tasks to other bodies. In the case of delegating such tasks, the WROP Managing Authority retains, however, full responsibility for the overall implementation of the ROP.

b) Intermediate Bodies

It is assumed to entrust the implementation of *Priority III – The environment* to the Intermediate Body referred to in Article 27 of the Act of 6 December 2006 on the principles of the development policy (Journal of Laws of 2006, No. 227, item 1658), i.e. to the Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Poznań, with which an agreement defining the scope of tasks and responsibilities will be concluded²¹.

The Managing Authority is responsible for proper implementation of the tasks assigned to the Intermediate Body.

c) Certifying Authority

Pursuant to Article 35 (2) of the Act of 6 December 2006 on the principles of the development policy, the minister competent for regional development certifies to the European Commission the correctness of expenditure under operational programmes. The Certifying Authority is an organisational unit established pursuant to the regulation of the minister competent for regional development on the establishment of the organisational regulations of the Ministry of Regional Development. The Certifying Authority is responsible for certification of expenditure under the ERDF, ESF and CF. As regards the implemented tasks the CA is independent of the units performing the functions of managing authorities of individual operational programmes, which are part of separate departments subordinate to other Members of the Ministry Management. A Member of the Management of the MRD supervising the Certifying Authority reports directly to the Minister of Regional Development and takes independent decisions as regards the implementation and suspension of the process of certification of

²¹ A relevant agreement was signed with the Voivodeship Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management (VFEPWM) on 1 October 2007.



statements of expenditure and payment applications to the European Commission. Support for the Minister of Regional Development as regards the tasks of the Certifying Authority is provided by the Certifying Authority Department. The Certifying Authority is responsible in particular for:

- developing and submitting to the European Commission statements of expenditure and applications for payment;
- certifying that the statement of expenditure is accurate, has been generated by reliable accounting systems and is based on verifiable supporting documents;
- certifying that the declared expenditure complies with applicable Community and national rules;
- ensuring, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, that it has received from the Managing Authority relevant information on the procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure included in statements of expenditure;
- considering, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, the results of checks/audits of the use of structural funds and the Cohesion Fund, as well as national co-financing, conducted by authorised institutions;
- maintaining in electronic form accounting records of expenditure declared to the European Commission;
- keeping an account of recoverable amounts and of amounts withdrawn following cancellation of all or part of the contribution for an operation, and transferring to the European Commission annual declaration in this regard;
- taking into account, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, information on irregularities detected in the operational programme;
- analysing, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, procedures applicable to Managing Authorities;
- carrying out control in the Managing Authorities or the institutions to which the MA has delegated its tasks and, in special cases, carrying out inspection activities at beneficiaries' premises;
- monitoring the n+3/n+2 principle based on data received from the Managing Authority.

Pursuant to Article 35 (9) of the Act on the principles of the development policy the tasks of the minister competent for regional development, resulting from the Article 35 (2) (7) of the aforementioned Act, may be referred to the Governor, to the extent and under the terms and conditions of a separate agreement. The Certifying Authority in the MRD delegates to Governors part of its duties related to certification, while retaining responsibility for the delegated tasks in accordance with Article 59 (2) of Regulation No. 1083/2006. Entrusting Governors with the performance of some tasks of the Certifying Authority shall be carried out in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation No. 1828/2006 and Article 35 (9) of the Act on the principles of the development policy, by means of concluding agreements with individual Governors by the Minister of Regional Development. Governors, to whom tasks of the Certifying Authority are delegated, shall exercise the functions of the Intermediate Bodies in Certification. The organisational units in regional offices that support the Governor in regard of the delegated tasks are functionally independent of the units that carry out tasks delegated by the Managing Authority.



The Certifying Authority delegates to a Governor as the Intermediate Body in Certification the following tasks:

- verification for compliance with formal and accounting requirements of the statement of expenditure and the application for payment for the Regional Operational Programme received from the Managing Authority;
- certifying by the CA that the statement of expenditure is accurate, has been generated by reliable accounting systems and is based on verifiable supporting documents;
- certifying by the CA that the declared expenditure complies with applicable Community and national rules;
- ensuring, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, that it has received from the ROP Managing Authority relevant information on the procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure included in statements of expenditure;
- considering, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, the results of checks/audits of the use of structural funds and the Cohesion Fund, as well as national co-financing, conducted by authorised institutions;
- carrying out control in the ROP Managing Authority or the institutions to which the MA has delegated its tasks and, in special cases, carrying out inspection activities at beneficiaries' premises;
- analysing, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, procedures applicable to the ROP Managing Authority;
- taking into account, for the purpose of certification of expenditure, information on irregularities detected in the ROP;
- analysing the electronic account of recoverable amounts and of amounts withdrawn following cancellation of all or part of the contribution for a given project, maintained by the Managing Authority or the institutions to which the MA has delegated its tasks.

d) Audit Authority

The tasks of the Audit Authority defined in Council Regulation No. 1083/2006 are performed by the General Inspector of Fiscal Control, whose duties are performed by a Secretary or Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Finance, pursuant to the provisions of the Act of 28 September 1991 on fiscal control²². The Audit Authority is independent of the OP Managing Authority, Intermediate Body, 2nd level Intermediate Body and the Certifying Authority.

The tasks of the Audit Authority are carried out through fiscal control agencies reporting to the General Inspector of Fiscal Control, i.e. an organisational unit in the Ministry of Finance (currently the Department for Protection of EU Financial Interest) and the Fiscal Control Office in Poznań. In each fiscal control office organisational units responsible for the control of funds from the European Union have been established.

The Audit Authority is responsible for all activities related to ensuring that the system of management and control of the OP/ROP meets the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006, including the preparation, before the first application for interim payment is submitted, or no later than within 12 months from approval of the OP/ROP, of a report con-

²² Journal of Laws of 2004, No. 8, item 65, as amended



taining the results of the evaluation of the development of systems and opinions on the compliance of the system of management and control of the OP/ROP with the provisions of Article 58-62 of the Regulation. Works within the compliance audit are carried out by the Department for Protection of EU Financial Interest (and the Fiscal Control Office in Poznań), and the opinion is signed by the General Inspector of Fiscal Control.

The Audit Authority shall ensure that audit activities take into account internationally accepted audit standards. The main tasks of the AA include in particular:

1. ensuring audits to verify the effective functioning of the system of management and control of the WROP,
2. ensuring that audits of operations are carried out on the basis of an appropriate sample in order to verify declared expenditure,
3. presenting to the European Commission, within nine months from the approval of the WROP, an audit strategy covering the bodies which will perform the audits referred to in sections (1) and (2), the method to be used, the sampling method for audits for the purpose of audit of the operations and the indicative planning of audits to ensure that the main beneficiaries are audited and that audits are spread evenly throughout the programming period,
4. by 31 December each year in the period 2008-2015:
 - a) submitting to the European Commission an annual report containing the results of audits carried out during the previous 12 month period ending on 30 June of a given year, in accordance with the audit strategy for the WROP and reporting any shortcomings found in the system of management and control of the OP/ROP. The first report to be submitted by 31 December 2008, covers the period from 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2008. Information concerning the audits carried out after 1 July 2015 shall be included in the final audit report, which complements the closure declaration referred to in section 5,
 - b) issuing an opinion, based on the checks and audits carried out under its responsibility, as to whether the system of management and control functions effectively so as to provide reasonable assurance that statements of expenditure presented to the Commission are correct, and to provide as a consequence reasonable assurance that the underlying transactions are correct and compliant with law,
 - c) submitting, the partial closure of the WROP, a declaration for partial closure assessing the legality and regularity of the expenditure,
 - d) submitting to the Commission, not later than by 31 March 2017, a declaration for closure assessing the validity of the application for payment of the balance and the legality and regularity of the trans-measures involving expenditure covered by the final statement of expenditure, which shall be attached with the final audit report.

Within the aforementioned works the Department for Protection of EU Financial Interest shall supervise, coordinate and ensure the adequate quality of the work of fiscal control offices.

To ensure the adequate quality of work performed by fiscal control offices, the Department provides relevant control mechanisms. They involve in particular:

- implementation of a documentation management system (including determination of criteria for preparation, verification and acceptance, as well as standardisation and digitalisation of documentation),
- supervision over performed work (employees are responsible for completion of tasks and verification of their completion),

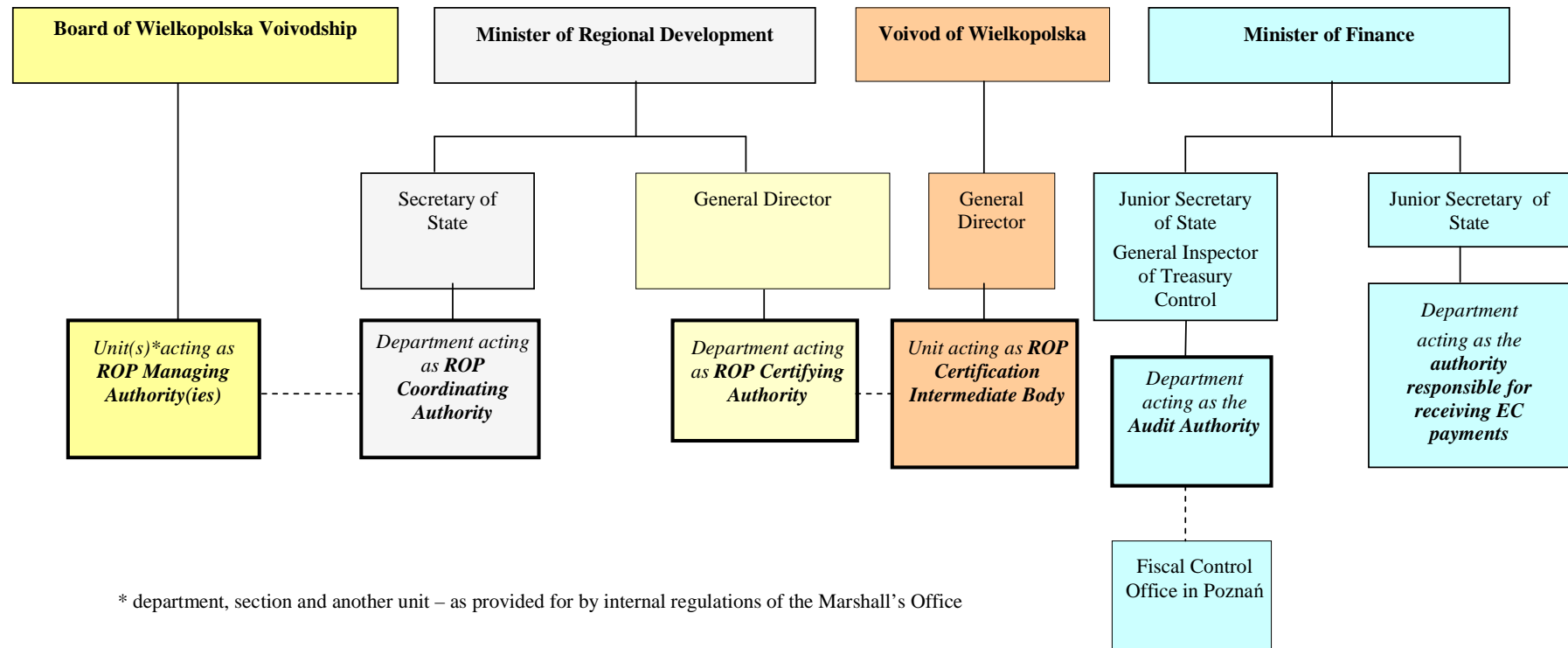


- annual audits to verify the quality of performed work (within re-performance audits and audits to verify the correct application of the methodology of fiscal control offices).
 - e) Institution authorised to receive payments from the European Commission

The Ministry of Finance is the institution authorised to receive payments made by the European Commission. In accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Finance, bank accounts to which payments from Community funds will be made are currently handled by the Department of the Paying Authority.



The chart below shows the location of ROP Managing Authorities, Coordinating Authority, Certifying Authority and Audit Authority as well as authority responsible for receiving EC payments





f) The institution or institutions responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries

Payments to the beneficiaries will be made by the Managing Authority or the Intermediate Body.

7.3. Monitoring

The Commission shall impose on the Member States the obligation to monitor expenditure and the measureable effects of the implementation of operational programmes in order to ensure the rational, efficient and effective use of structural funds.

Monitoring is a process of systematic collecting, reporting and interpreting data describing the progress and outcomes of a given programme (indicators). Monitoring serves e.g. to provide early warning of possible irregularities detected in the system.

Monitoring involves all actors participating in the implementation of the programme.

The WROP Monitoring Committee will be appointed within three months from the date of providing Poland with the decisions on the approval of the Programme by the European Commission. The Committee will be composed of representatives of e.g. the Managing Authority, or the Intermediary Bodies, the minister competent for regional development as the coordinator of the WROP, local government and social and business partners.

The WROP Monitoring Committee shall satisfy itself as to the effectiveness and quality of the regional operational programme in accordance with the following provisions:

- it considers and approves the criteria for selection of projects under the regional operational programme within six months from the approval of the operational programme and approves any revisions of those criteria in accordance with programming needs;
- it reviews periodically the progress made towards achieving the specific objectives of the operational programme on the basis of documents submitted by the Managing Authority;
- it analyses the results of the implementation, particularly the achievement of the objectives set out for each priority axis and the evaluations referred to in Article 48 (3) of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006;
- it considers and approves annual and final implementation reports referred to in Article 67 of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006;
- it is informed of the content of the annual audit report or part thereof relating to the regional operational programme and any relevant comments which the Commission may make after examining that report or relating to this part of the report;
- it may request the Managing Authority to carry out any revision or examination of the operational programme which are likely to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the funds referred to in Article 3 of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006, or to improve the management of the programme, including financial management;
- it considers and approves any proposal to amend the content of the Commission decision on the contribution of the Funds.



Starting in 2008, the Managing Authority will submit by 30 June each year an annual report to the European Commission and by 31 March 2017 - final reports on the implementation of the WROP.

7.4. Exchange of electronic data in order to meet the payment, monitoring and evaluation requirements

The minister competent for regional development is responsible for ensuring the safe operation of the system of electronic exchange of information with the European Commission and granting accreditation to access to the system to the institutions involved in the implementation of operational programmes. The minister competent for regional development supervises the information system and sets out standards for data collection by all participants of the NSRF implementation system.

The minister competent for public finance is responsible for the construction and development of an information system in accordance with the standards for data collection specified by the minister competent for regional development.

The WROP Managing Authority, in cooperation with the NSRF coordinator, is responsible for entering data into the computer system and the implementation of a local system.

7.4.1. The National Information System for the years 2007-2013 (SIMIK 07-13)

The minister competent for regional development, supported by the Department for Coordination of Implementation of EU Funds in the MRD supervises the development of the new information system and sets out standards for data collection by all participants of the NSRF implementation system. The minister competent for public finance, supported by the IT Department in the MF, is responsible for the construction and development of an information system in accordance with the standards for data collection specified by the minister competent for regional development.

Individual modules of the National Information System will be ready for use from July this year. Full operational capability of all components of the System will be reached at the end of 2007.

Pursuant to Article 58 (d) and Article 60 (c) of Regulation No. 1083/2006 the management and control system should have reliable computerised systems for accounting, monitoring and financial reporting to ensure registration and storage of accounting records for each operation under the operational programme and to ensure the collection of data on the implementation of each operation necessary for the purpose of financial management, monitoring, verification, audit and evaluation.

For management and reporting purposes, the Managing Authority, Intermediate Bodies, 2nd level Intermediate Bodies and the Certifying Authority will use two basic information systems:

- an accounting system meeting the requirements of the Accounting Act,
- the National Information System for monitoring and reporting

and optionally local monitoring and reporting system of the institution responsible for the implementation of the operational programme.



The National Information System is consistent and compatible with the reporting and monitoring system established for the operational programme.

Access to data collected in the National Information System will be granted to all the entities involved in the implementation process, i.e. the Managing Authority, Intermediate Bodies, 2nd level Intermediate Bodies, the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority, to the extent necessary for the proper implementation of tasks.

The national and local monitoring and reporting systems.

The National Information System (a centralised one) made available for the monitoring and reporting purposes will gather at the country level data necessary for the management and control system established for the operational programme.

Description of the National Information System

In accordance with the established assumptions the National Information System will be primarily a registration system, i.e. it will gather data entered into the central database after the event. In particular, the system will enable the collection of information in the following areas:

- recording data concerning operational programmes,
- project life cycle support, including:
 - recording applications that meet the formal requirements,
 - keeping records of major projects in the range specified by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006,
 - keeping records of grant agreements,
 - keeping records of applications for payment,
 - recording data on control of individual projects,
 - keeping records of measurable progress indicators, including a common dictionary of indicators,
- keeping records of data on irregularities,
- keeping a record of recovered amounts (including the register of debtors)

Furthermore, the National Information System will enable generating specific reports, in particular:

- statements of expenditure at the level of the Intermediary Body and statements of expenditure and payment applications prepared at the higher levels,
- expenditure forecasts.

The System will include and provide the data specified in Annex III to Implementation Regulation No. 1828/2006.

Architecture of the National Information System.

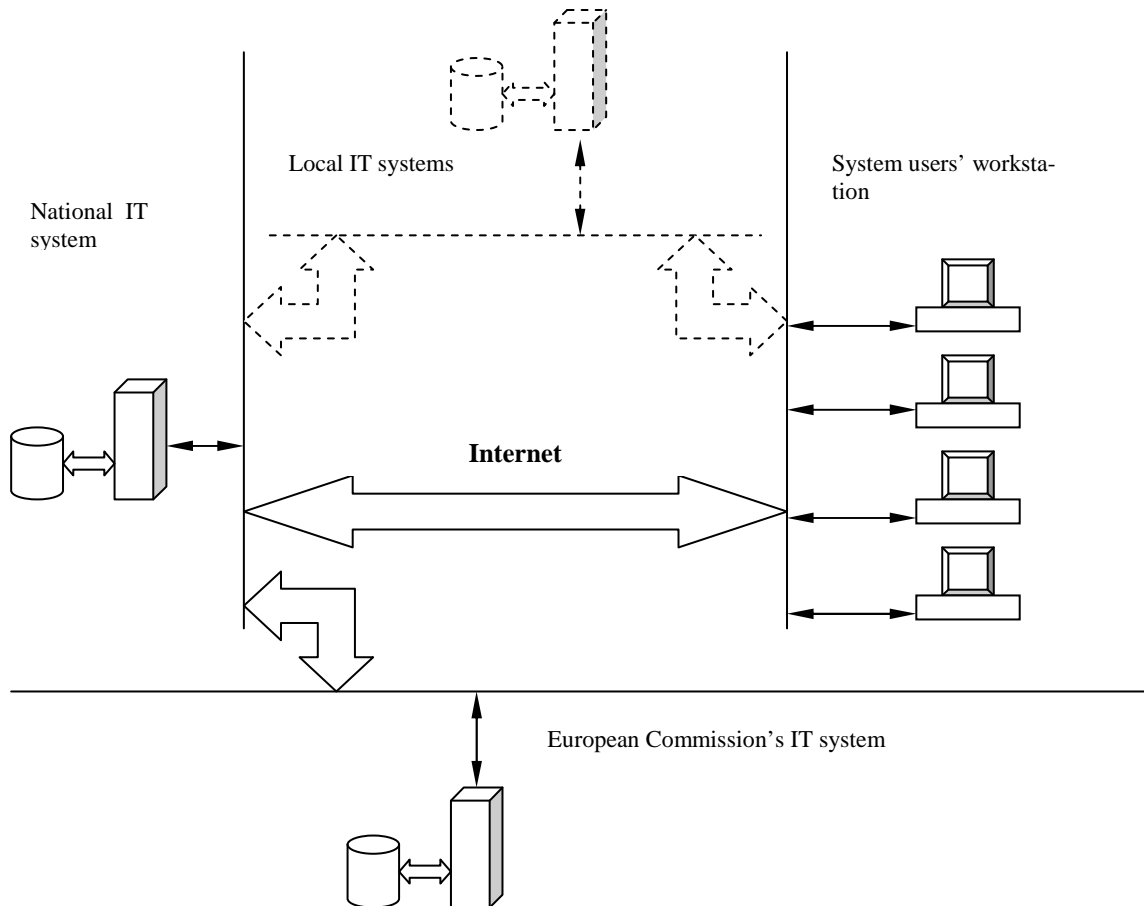
The National Information System is based on the web technology, i.e. access to data collected in the central database is possible via a web browser running on a computer with access to the Internet.

A national information system for support of the implementation of the NSRF, funded from the Priority Axis II "IT support in the NSRF implementation" within the OP TA 2007-2013 will be implemented.

At the same time it is permitted to develop a separate information system for purposes of the management and implementation of the WROP. The System will be fully compatible with the national information system, and the list of data collected and processed within it will

be consistent with the list of data specified in Annex III to Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006.

Architecture of the National Information System is shown below.



7.4.2. The procedures provided to ensure the reliability of computer systems for accounting, monitoring and financial reporting

The security policy of the National Information System is implemented at numerous levels.

The use of a secure https protocol with the appropriate architecture of access network equipment at the premises of the system operator, the minister competent for public finance supported by the IT Department in the MF minimises the risk of intrusion and access, and thus modification of data collected in the system by unauthorised persons. Moreover, it prevents change of data during transfer of data to the server.

The extended functionality of granting user privileges (three-dimensional model of privileges: system function, implementation level, region) results in the fact that users have access only to those data which are necessary to accomplish tasks.



The appropriate policy of making backup copies ensures that in the event of a major system failure, resulting in the destruction of the database, it is possible to reproduce the data collected in the system up to one day before the failure.

7.4.3. The internal flow of information between the MS Liaison and entities requesting access/modification of access rights to SFC2007

Electronic exchange of information with the European Commission in accordance with Article 39 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006.

Arrangements for access to the system of electronic data exchange with the European Commission (SFC2007) are governed by *The procedure of granting access to users of the system of electronic data exchange with the European Commission SFC2007* developed by the Ministry of Regional Development.

In accordance with this procedure the function of MS Liaison for the European Social Fund, European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund, arising from the obligation imposed by Article 41 of *Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006*, in accordance with which the Member States apply for access to the SFC2007 system in a centralised manner, has been assigned to an organisational unit within the Ministry of Regional Development. In accordance with the rules established by the Commission, the functions of MS Liaison and MS Liaison Deputy are performed by two employees of the aforementioned organisational unit appointed and approved by the Commission services.

In order to ensure safe access to the SFC2007 system the aforementioned *Procedure* sets out the principles in accordance with which users apply for access. In accordance with the *Node Hierarchy* assumptions and structure established at the national level, access to the system (as *Key Users*) is granted only to employees of the following institutions:

- Coordinating Authority at the national level (*Member State Authority* status)
- Managing Authority of the programme (*Member State Managing Authority* status)
- Certifying Authority (*Certifying Authority* status)
- Audit Authority (*Audit Authority* status).

Furthermore, the procedure sets out rules for verification of a potential user by MS Liaison and adequacy of the proposed rights (*Permissions, Role*), and the rules for notification of any changes to *Key Users*.

The list of *Key Users*, i.e. individuals having access to the SFC2007 system, is maintained in the organisational unit of the Ministry of Regional Development performing the function of MS Liaison, compliant with the personal data protection law.

7.5. Financial flows

1. Financial flows between the EC and a Member State

The European Commission transfers funds from the European Regional Development Fund/European Social Fund/Cohesion Fund to finance the programme in the form of advance payments, interim payments and payments of the final balance. These funds are



transferred to a separate bank account denominated in EUR and administered by the Minister of Finance.

2. Financing of the programme²³

For the purpose of financing of the programme a European funds budget has been established within the state budget, from which funds corresponding to the EU contribution are transferred. National co-financing from the state budget is transferred by the competent administrator of the budget part in the form of a restricted grant.

Funds corresponding to the EU contribution are transferred to beneficiaries through Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego (Payer) who pays them on the basis of payment orders issued by an institution signing a contract for funding (MA, IB, 2nd level IB) with a beneficiary.

Funds under national co-financing from the state budget are paid to beneficiaries by the MA, IB, 2nd level IB.

The payment of both the part of the EU funds and co-financing from the state budget to a beneficiary can be made both in the form of advance payments or reimbursement of expenses incurred by the beneficiary.

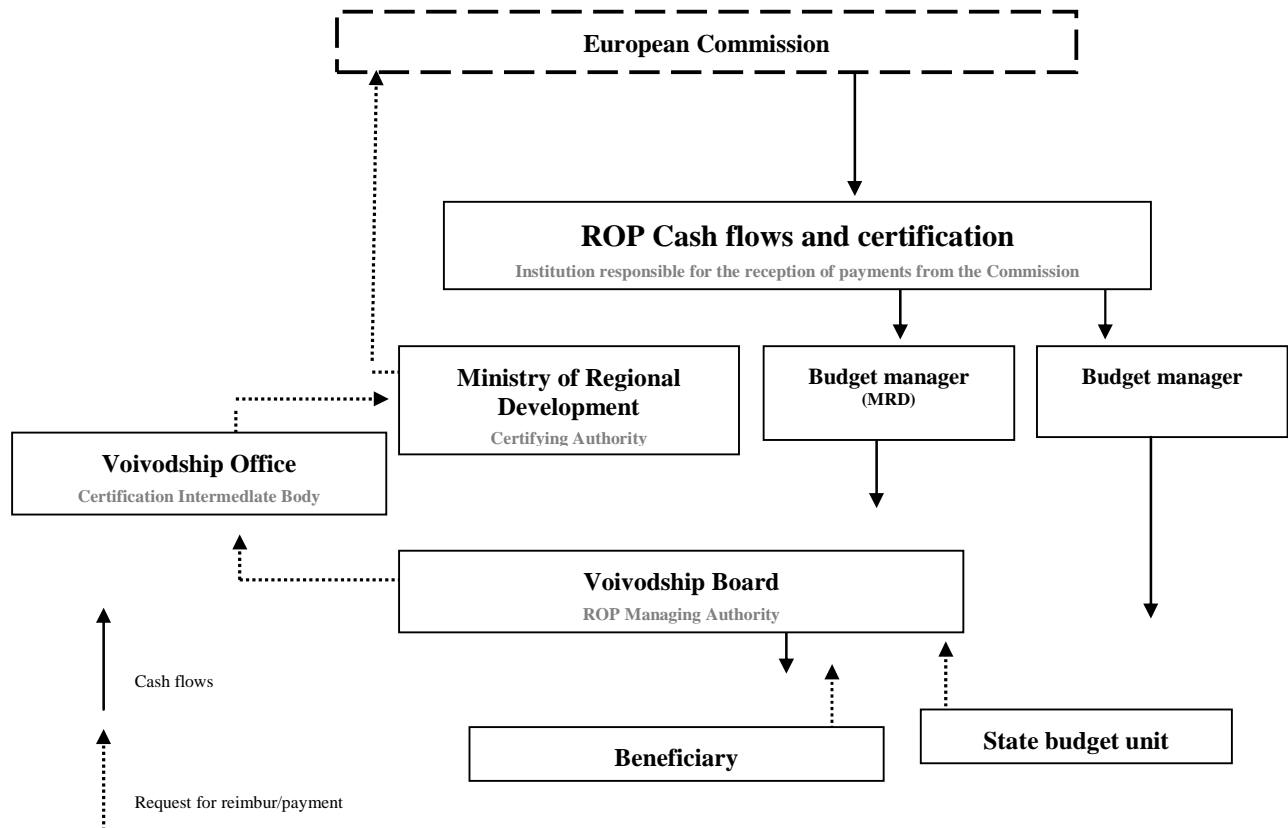
Funds are transferred to beneficiaries under grant contracts²⁴, and beneficiaries' applications for payment, taking account of previous payments.

The expenditure shown by the beneficiary in an application for payment submitted by it are recognised by the MA, IB, 2nd level IB in statements of expenditure submitted to the IB in Certification, and then to the CA, for the purpose of certification of expenditure to the EC.

²³ not applicable to technical assistance. Projects related to technical assistance funded by the competent budget administrator or in the case of institutions which are not an administrator – from a designated subsidy from budgetary resources.

²⁴ In the case of projects developed by the Managing Authority funds will be transferred pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region and/or an approved application for payment.

Financial flows and certification within Regional Operational Programmes



Within monitoring of financial flows, the MA will monitor the amounts of eligible expenditure, including the expenditure within national co-financing. The MA will calculate the level of funding from the EU at the level of a given priority axis in such a way as to ensure that the contribution of EU funds does not exceed the level assumed in the OP/ROP for the priority axis.

7.6. Procedures for interest earned

Interest accrued under the Operational Programme on the funds received by the various institutions involved in financing under the WROP is intended for the implementation of a given priority axis/operation under the Programme, and shall be recognised in the report on the implementation of the priority axis/operation.

Ad. Article 83:

For the purpose of handling funds received from the EU under the financial perspective for 2007-2013 a system of bank accounts similar to that under the perspective for 2004-2006 will be maintained, i.e. accounts of the first level – fund ones, and accounts of the second level – programme ones.

All bank accounts, both the fund and the programme ones, will bear interest, and the interest will be added to the amounts in the accounts. Once interest has been calculated the in-



stitution receiving funds from the Commission will transfer the appropriate amounts to the revenue account of the State Budget. The interest will be used for national co-financing.

7.7. Control

The role of the Managing Authority as regards control is defined in Article 13 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006 setting out rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006.

Accordingly, the Managing Authority is responsible for:

- ensuring that operations are selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the regional operational programme and that they comply with applicable Community and national rules throughout the period of their implementation;
- verifying that co-financed products and services are delivered and that the expenditure declared by the beneficiaries for the operations has actually been incurred and complies with Community and national rules.

Under the above-mentioned responsibilities of the Managing Authority system audits will be conducted, focusing on such areas as:

- conformity of selected projects with the criteria and the relevant Community and national rules,
- the existence of an information system of registration and storage of accounting records and collection of data related to the implementation,
- application by the beneficiaries of a suitable accounting system,
- existence of an adequate audit trail,
- proper storage of documents in accordance with Article 90 of Regulation No. 1083/2006,
- functioning of the WROP Monitoring Committee,
- compliance with information and publicity requirements in accordance with Article 69 of Regulation No. 1083/2006.

In addition to checks scheduled in the annual audit plans ad hoc ones, both as regards verification of expenditure and system controls, are provided. In such a case, it will be possible not to follow the rules laid down for checks carried out in accordance with the annual plan.

Control will be carried out based on annual audit plans prepared by individual units. Plans will be prepared by all inspection bodies (obligations regarding inspections carried out by an intermediate body shall be identified in the relevant provisions of the Agreement), and then approved by the Managing Authority and submitted for approval by the ROP Coordinating Authority.

Furthermore, in accordance with the internal procedures, internal audits of all the units carrying out tasks related to management within the WROP will be conducted by the Marshal's Office.

The adopted scheme ensures application of the principle of separation of functions: when the unit is also a beneficiary. In accordance with the principle of separation checks at various levels will be performed by organisational units of the Marshal's Office other than the audited one.



As regards on-the spot verification for the operational programme, the Managing Authority will specify the size of a sample in order to ensure compliance with law and correctness of trans-measures on which expenditure has been made.

7.8. Evaluation

The obligation of evaluation of the Operational Programme stems from the provisions of Article 47 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 (Official Journal of the EU L 210 of 31 July 2006, p.25-78). In accordance with the provisions of the Regulation evaluation is aimed at improving the quality, effectiveness and cohesion of the Structural Funds and the implementation of operational programmes. Another objective is to evaluate their impact in terms of the strategic objectives of the Community, Article 158 of the Treaty and the specific structural problems affecting individual Member States and regions, taking into account the need for sustainable development and relevant Community legislation on environmental impact and strategic environmental assessment. Evaluation may be strategic in order to analyse the progress of the Programme as regards national and Community priorities relevant for the WROP. Evaluation of an operational nature will seek to support the process of monitoring of the Programme. Evaluation is carried out before (ex ante evaluation), during (on-going evaluation, including mid-term one) and after the programming period (ex-post evaluation). Responsibility for evaluation of the operational programme is borne by an evaluation unit established for this purpose in the managing authority.

Funds for the implementation of the WROP evaluation process will be provided under the technical assistance component of the WROP.

Tasks of the WROP evaluation unit include:

- a) providing funding, under technical assistance, to conduct evaluation and obtain and gather relevant data from the monitoring system,
- b) developing *WROP Evaluation Plan 2007-2013* and coordination of the process of implementation of the objectives of the *Plan*,
- c) preparation of *Interim WROP Evaluation Plans*,
- d) ensuring an ex-ante evaluation of the operational programme,
- e) ensuring operational evaluations related to the programme implementation monitoring, especially if the monitoring results show significant deviations from the initially established objectives or if changes to the programme are proposed (at the programming stage it is difficult to determine the main thematic areas and priorities that will be subject to evaluation. It will cover the entire area of intervention and all the priorities of the WROP, wherever a deviation from the implementation of the objectives are found within monitoring or where changes to the programme are proposed),
- f) ensuring strategic evaluations, particularly those specified in *the NSRF Evaluation Plan*, as mandatory for all operational programmes,
- g) forwarding evaluation results to the WROP Monitoring Committee, the National Evaluation Unit and the European Commission if requested,
- h) publishing evaluation findings,
- i) cooperation with the National Evaluation Unit in evaluating the operational programme progress by 30 June 2011 (the results of this evaluation will be used to allocate the national performance reserve),



- j) cooperation with the National Evaluation Unit and the European Commission in evaluations carried out at their initiative,
- k) cooperation with the National Evaluation Unit and the European Commission in ex-post evaluation,
- l) ensuring compliance with the guidelines of the National Evaluation Unit and generally accepted standards for evaluation of Structural Funds observed in the European Union,
- m) monitoring the process of implementation of evaluation recommendations formulated as a result of performed evaluations.

The WROP Evaluation Plan 2007-2013 and the WROP Interim Evaluation Plans will include a list of specific projects, timelines and planned budgets. *The WROP Evaluation Plan 2007-2013* will be prepared not later than 1 month after the WROP has been approved by the EC.

In order to ensure partnership and coordination of the evaluation process, the Managing Authority may appoint at the beginning of the evaluation process, in the planning phase, a Steering Group in charge of evaluation of the operational programme, whose main task is to coordinate the whole process of evaluation of the WROP.

Furthermore, the WROP Managing Authority may appoint Steering Groups acting as working groups (task forces) for individual evaluation actions or thematic areas.

The Managing Authority, the tasks of which are performed by departments established by the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region, has also departments (or parts thereof) which perform the tasks related to the implementation of the WROP. The involvement of individual organisational units in the WROP evaluation process shall be determined in their internal regulations and the *WROP Evaluation Plan*.

It is expected that the main thematic areas under the operational evaluation will include the area of intervention within the programme, concerning in particular the implementation of infrastructural investments within all priorities of the programme, the implementation of the objectives of each priority, the implementation of the recommendations of strategic and operational evaluations and finally monitoring of cash flows.

Evaluations shall be carried out by independent third bodies, and evaluation results shall be made public available and forwarded to the National Evaluation Unit located in the Ministry of Regional Development. Evaluation units established within the structures of institutions managing operational programmes are required to cooperate with the National Evaluation Unit in the development of evaluation plans and comply with the methodological guidelines of the NEU.

7.9. Information and publicity

Pursuant to Article 2 (1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1828/2006 setting out rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and of Regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and Council on the European Regional Development Fund, Poland develops the European Funds Communication Strategy for Poland for the years 2007-2013 covering all funds and programmes. A common Strategy is to ensure effective coordination of actions carried out by individual institutions, owing to which the efficiency and effectiveness of information and publicity measures will increase.



The communication strategy is being prepared by the NSRF Coordinating Authority (which is a structural unit of the ministry competent for regional development) in cooperation with Managing Authorities. It takes into account the recommendations adopted in the Guidelines of the Minister of Regional Development in the area of information and publicity.

The communication strategy sets out the fundamental principles of information and publicity policies for all operational programmes and the National Strategic Reference Framework, in particular the objectives and the guiding principle, target groups, institutions involved in information and publicity measures, as well as the minimum required performance. The Managing Authority shall develop a Communication Plan for its operational programme which shall include objectives, target group characteristics, a description of the planned information, publicity and training activities, a description of the division of tasks and responsibilities in the area of information and publicity, as well as training activities between the Managing Authority and individual Intermediate Bodies and Implementing Bodies/2nd level Intermediate Bodies and other partners involved in the information and publicity process within the operational programme, as well as the partners referred to in Article 5 (3) of the Implementing Regulation, a framework schedule, indicative budget, evaluation methods and principles of reporting on the progress of information, publicity and training activities. The Communication Plan for the Operational Programme shall be consulted with the NSRF CA for compliance with the Communication Strategy, and then it shall be subject to approval of Monitoring Committee for the programme.

The WROP Communication Plan will specify measures ensuring communication and promotion of structural funds among potential beneficiaries, and it will aim at winning general acceptance of Structural Funds in Wielkopolska. Actions undertaken by the WROP MA are to ensure transparency in the procedures related to the implementation of the Funds, promote the benefits of the implementation of the Funds and, indirectly of the integration with the European Union. Furthermore, institutions engaged in the management and implementation of the WROP will assist the beneficiaries in the process of applying for EU funds, providing at the same time an opportunity to exchange experiences among the beneficiaries. The skills of the staff involved in the management and implementation of the WROP will be constantly improved, which is necessary for effective and efficient absorption of EU funds, and it will ensure a high standard of IT services targeted at the beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries.

The WROP MA will focus on the following target groups:

- public opinion, i.e. the end users of the results of the implementation of the Funds,
- beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries,
- social and business partners,
- staff of the institutions involved in the management and implementation of the WROP,
- staff of information helpdesks.

The WROP MA will implement the Communication Plan through two types of activities: information and publicity ones. The WROP MA is obliged to create an efficient system for dissemination of information on opportunities to apply for funding from the ERDF under the WROP, dissemination of knowledge regarding the progress of the projects and dissemination of "best practices", which will be crucial to raising the beneficiaries' expertise and will affect positively the quality and quantity of proposed projects. The WROP MA will conduct scheduled information activities, reaching all target groups, using different channels of information: a website tailored to the needs of the beneficiaries, a newsletter, a variety of information publications, etc. Furthermore, the WROP MA will develop a coherent information and consultation system consisting of WROP helpdesks across Wielkopolska and it will provide a training system aimed at raising the qualifications of the staff of those helpdesks. Training ac-



tivities for the beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries based on an analysis of training needs will be carried out on a large scale. Meetings, conferences and seminars enabling the beneficiaries to improve their knowledge and providing comprehensive information on the programme are planned. All activities will be complemented with an adequate information campaign in the regional media.

Furthermore, actions to gain publicity for the WROP using effective marketing tools will be carried out under the Communication Plan. These will include: advertising, direct promotion and public relations, in relevant communication channels. Developing a coherent system of promotion of the WROP through a variety of information and publicity activities, sponsored articles, broadcasting information and publicity programmes on the radio directed to the region community will promote the programme, popularising at the same time the idea of European integration in Wielkopolska.

The Managing Authority will prepare an annual implementation activity plan.

The WROP Managing Authority will carry out continuous monitoring of information and publicity activities carried out by the IB and of the helpdesk network (interim and annual reporting, as well as reporting at the end of the programme).

Furthermore, quantitative and qualitative evaluation studies related to those actions undertaken by the WROP MA which result from the Communication Plan will be performed.

The WROP MA will ensure adequate funding for the proper execution of information and publicity tasks.

7.10. Partnership

Social partnership, which was the guideline at the stage of developing the WROP, in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation No. 1083/2006 and national law, will be continued at further stages of the work. The consultations will focus on draft documents describing the system of the WROP implementation.

In accordance with the above-mentioned Article 11 of Regulation No. 1083/2006, the implementation of the objectives of the programme will be carried out in close cooperation with authorities and bodies such as:

- competent local, municipal other public authorities,
- business and social partners,
- other appropriate bodies representing civil society, partners working in the field of environmental protection, non-governmental organisations and bodies responsible for promoting equality between men and women.

Social partnership will also be binding at the stage of preparation and implementation of individual projects. Regional projects, requiring the creation of broad agreements of social partners, as well as inter-regional ones, involving exchange of experiences, development and transfer of tools, actions and exchange of experience resulting from best practice will be also developed.



7.11. Project selection system specification

Successful projects must meet the criteria approved by the Monitoring Committee (pursuant to Article 65 (b) of Regulation No. 1083/2006), and they must be qualified for financing by the Managing Authority. These strategic, formal and substantive criteria (including preparation of necessary documentation and readiness for implementation) will be the same for all potential beneficiaries of all projects within a given WROP category.

The following modes of project selection will be used within the programme: individual selection, call for proposals and system selection. Depending on the nature of a given priority axis, adequate balance between various project selection modes will be ensured. The choice of a given mode of selection of projects shall contribute to better accomplishment of strategic objectives within individual priority axes of OP/ROP. Details as to the scope of a given mode within a given priority axis and the institutions participating in the selection procedure will be specified in the "Detailed Description of Operational Programme Priority Axes." Project selection modes will comply with applicable guidelines of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Experts designated by local, environmental and business partners are expected to participate in the project selection process.

7.12. National and Community policy management

In order to ensure that the demarcation line between ROP and other operational programmes is observed during their implementation, the following coordination tools will be provided:

- NSRF Coordination Committee (including also representatives of the RDP MA and the MA of the Operational Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries and Coastal Fishing Areas");
- ROP Monitoring Committees and Subcommittees of OP "Human Capital",
- Project cross-checking;
- Statements of the beneficiaries;
- Management by the Marshal of the Region, Deputy Marshal of the Region or a Member of the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region of both the implementation of the WROP, and regional components of the Operational Programme "Human Capital" and the RDP. Specific coordination mechanisms will be included in relevant manuals and internal procedures;
- Participation of representatives of monitoring committees of other operational programmes in the work of the WROP Monitoring Committee.

The concentration of institutions involved in the implementation of the ROP, the regional component of the Operational Programme "Human Capital", European Territorial Cooperation and certain measures under the RDP in the Marshal's Office, will help avoid double financing and optimise the implementation of all programmes.

The NSRF Coordination Committee will establish a working group composed of representatives of all institutions managing the programmes financed by the ERDF, ESF, EAFRD and EFF. The task of this working group will be to develop proposals for cross-checking mechanisms for investments supported under various programmes (e.g. appropriate questions in applications for financing, checks of a sample of projects, shared access to databases). The



objective of the aforementioned measures will be to avoid double financing of projects and ensuring compliance with established demarcation lines.

In accordance with the provisions of the programme strategy contained in Chapter 4.7. efficient utilisation of funds and maximised synergies between various policies of financing with national and Community funds implemented in Wielkopolska, as well as prevention of overlapping between various measures implemented by the Managing Authority, the department (currently the Regional Policy Department) of the Marshal's Office responsible for the management of the WROP, will be ensured by an organizational unit (currently the Regional Analysis Section). Its most important tasks will include:

- Collection of data and preparation of regional analyses
- Analyses of the scope of the programmes implemented in the region, also in terms of demarcation lines between them.
- Analysis of the effects of interventions within various programmes implemented in the region, also with the use of macroeconomic models and the results of evaluations.
- Preparation of analyses for the Managing Authority for compatibility of measures implemented under the WROP with a designated demarcation line and opinions on specific documents in this regard.
- Analysis and coordination of the implementation of horizontal policies (the environment, equal access) and cooperation with social partners in this regard.
- Monitoring the Environmental Impact Assessment for the WROP and consulting environmental issues with social partners, as well as with the relevant authorities listed in the Environmental Protection Act. Preparation of mid-term and final environmental reports.
- Preparation of environment-related modification proposals for the Managing Authority.

The above-mentioned unit will act as a regional observatory, responsible for provision to the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region of necessary observations and analyses related to the implementation of the WROP in a broad regional context and in the broad context of ongoing programmes. It will also provide early warning about negative consequences of the implementation of the programme.

In relation to SEA management and sustainable development management in terms of the environment a system of indicators designed in the WROP will be used - both those indicators that describe the condition of the environment and other socio economic indicators.

Ecological effects will also be obtained as a result of implementation of all other projects, to a various extent and in a various scope, depending on their nature. Therefore, information on the contribution of individual projects will be collected under the internal monitoring system with respect to:

- energy savings,
- emissions of substances, including greenhouse gases and ozone-depleting substances into the atmosphere,
- improvement of water supply and wastewater management,
- thermal modernisation,



- waste management.

The list of the above-mentioned indicators is modified upon the emergence of certain types of projects that cannot be predicted at the stage of preparation of the WROP.

These indicators will serve as the basis for an internal project monitoring system through which the contribution of the WROP interventions to improvement of the condition of the environment. Data will be collected at project level to assess their contribution to sustainable development, regardless of their type and the pursued objective - environmental or another.

7.13. State aid

In all cases the principles of granting state aid under Article 55 of Council Regulation No. 1083/2006 will be observed.

The Managing Authority shall ensure that any support provided under the operational programme complies with the applicable rules and procedures, at the time when aid is granted.

7.14. Public procurement

The Managing Authority shall ensure that public procurement, including granted concessions, related to projects financed within Structural Funds assistance are in line with Directives 2004/17/EC, 2004/18/EC, Regulation EC No. 1564/2005 or the relevant provisions of the Treaty.





8. Macroeconomic analysis results

8.1. Macroeconomic analysis of WROP's impact on economy, using the Hermin model²⁵

The macroeconomic analysis using the HERMIN model was performed by the Wrocław Regional Development Agency. Its aim was to present the results of the macroeconomic impact of WROP for the years 2007-2013 on the economy of the Wielkopolskie voivodship. The projections regarding the impact of the very WROP were supplemented by estimations concerning the impact of the GDP of the voivodship of all National Strategic Reference Frameworks for 2007-2013.

In the part of the analysis which contains the simulation results of Regional Operational Programme's impact on regional gross GDP in sector approach, a percentage difference between GDP value with and without ROP and impact on the growth rate determined once a year. Such a method of results presentation has undoubtedly contributed to increasing the clarity of projects and avoiding possible interpretation errors.

When making a thorough analysis of WROP impact on regional economy, it should be remembered that this Programme is just one of instruments for implementation of the National Strategic Reference Framework. As much as 23.8% of total EU funds under the National Strategic Reference Framework will be allocated to 16 Regional Operational Programmes. Other funds will be allocated under other programmes. As the economy of Wielkopolska will be developing owing to the allocation of funds both under WROP and other parts of the National Strategic Reference Framework, it seems grounded to examine their joint impact on the change of GDP of Wielkopolska region. There is an obvious and significant connection of economy on the national and regional levels. Such a relation has also been assumed in one of the mechanisms of the regional model of Wielkopolskie voivodship's economy. A precise determination, during the ex-ante evaluation stage, of the joint impact of funds under WROP and national operational programmes on the economy of the Wielkopolska region is not possible at the current stage. It should also be stated that now it is not possible to make a simulation of the national model alongside all models for Polish regions. Thus, in order to determine the total impact of WROP and NSRF on the GDP of Wielkopolska, the impact of NSRF transfers less transfers for 16 ROPs on the state GDP was used, as well as the impact of WROP on the change of GDP in the voivodship. The total result constitutes the total impact of NSRF and WROP on the change of GDP in Wielkopolska. The impact of NSRF and WROP was examined assuming average flexibility for WROP and high flexibility for NSRF. Moreover, as for the analysis of NSRF's impact of the region's GDP, as was said above, the financial aid under the entire Programme was decreased by funds allocated to 16 ROPs (approximately by one fourth of the entire allocation amount).

²⁵ Hermin macroeconomic model is a linear econometric model developed in the Economic and Social Research Institute in Dublin, Ireland by John Bradley. It was used to model economic phenomena in Ireland and the impact of EU fund transfer for the country's economy. In the 1990s the model was adapted for the Central European candidate countries. The Polish version was prepared in 2002, as a result of co-operation of the model's author with native experts, based on the adaptation made for Estonia, using input data time series of 8 years for the basic four-sector model version (industrial sector, agriculture, public and market services).



As the analysis shows, the impact of financing both under NSRF and WROP in 2007 on change in GDP is low, as only a small part of WROP and NSRF will be carried out in the first year. In further years the impact of funding will be increasingly noticeable. In 2013 the GDP level in the region will be by 7.0% higher against the base (without EU support). At the same time it will be the highest GDP increase against the base. Over the analysed year GDP will change mostly as a result of allocation of funds under NSRF. They will increase the region's GDP by 3.08% against the base. Over the next years the impact of transfers under NSRF and WROP on the region's GDP will display a dropping trend. Also the difference between the impact of NSRF and WROP on changes in GDP will be lower. In 2020 the region's GDP is expected to increase by 2.02% against the base.

The obtained results clearly display significant increase in results of the EU funds' impact on the Wielkopolskie voivodship's economy if all transfers under NSRF, which can possibly allocated in the region, are included in the analysis.

Despite all assumptions and restrictions regarding the model, it should be clearly stressed that they do not change the basic conclusion that the regional HERMIN model points to a significantly positive influence of absorption of EU structural funds by the economy of the Wielkopolskie voivodship.

Due to the increase of funds allocated to WROP by EUR 142.5 m and following an adjustment of the division of funds to reflect Lisbon Strategy, manufacturing and social infrastructure limits which took place after the last macroeconomic analysis (Report No. 3 developed by Wrocław Regional Development Agency in January 2007), the Evaluation and Assessment Department of Wielkopolska Marshall's Office re-assessed the impact of WROP on the region's economy.

As compared to the previous report No. 3, this report accounts for an **increased allocation** of funds (from EUR 1130.26 thousand to EUR 1272.79 thousand).

Table 1: WROP Payments 2007-20015 by financing sources
(all sums in EUR million) (July 2007)

Payment years EUR million	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
EU	8.7	34.8	87.6	175.8	188.1	217.9	274.6	170.1	115.2	1272.8
National public co-financing	3.0	12.2	30.8	61.8	66.1	76.6	96.5	59.8	40.5	447.2
Private co-financing	1.9	7.7	19.5	39.1	41.8	48.5	61.1	37.8	25.6	283.1
Total	13.6	54.8	137.8	276.7	296.0	342.9	432.2	267.7	181.3	2003.1



The above changes resulted in **shifts between categories** of structural expenses in WROP.

Table 2: Three variants of EU financing 2007-2015 by economic categories (in EUR million) (July 2007).

Economic category	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total	Share (%)
BI	5.2	20.9	52.5	105.5	112.8	130.7	164.7	102.0	69.1	763.5	60.0
HRD	0.9	3.7	9.3	18.6	19.9	23.1	29.1	18.0	12.2	134.9	10.6
DAPS	2.5	10.2	25.8	51.7	55.3	64.1	80.8	50.0	33.9	374.4	29.4

It must be added that the necessary simulations have been made using the improved regional HERMIN model for Wielkopolska. A module accounting for additional R&D expenses generating significant results had been added to the region's economy model. The simulation of detailed results of WROP impact on a number of variables had a greater number of analyzed macroeconomic parameters.

In addition, the present report was made after significant changes had been introduced to the data base. Namely, the following items were used in modelling:

- **fixed prices from 2000, whereas the previous version used 1998 prices** (change by the Central Statistical Office);
- **sequence of data used in the model dating back to 1998, whereas in the previous version used they dated back to 1995** (conversion of earlier years proved „incredible”);

A comparative analysis has shown that macroeconomic trend curves of the results of Report No. 3 and the simulation carried out by Wielkopolska Marshall's Office are similar in shape but are smoother in the latter.

Considering the above, an increased WROP allocation and its internal adjustment (transfers between priorities and assistance categories) reflect the necessity to match the imposed limitations and will not significantly influence macroeconomic effects of WROP.

The above results make one believe that WROP will have a noticeable and positive impact on Wielkopolska economy.

8.2. Macroeconomic analysis of WROP's impact on economy using CGE model (MaMoR2)²⁶

²⁶ Computable General Equilibrium models were prepared by Anglo-Saxon economists at the end of the 18th century. The foundation for modern large Computable General Equilibrium models was provided by algorithm of H.E. Scarf developed in 1967. The MaMoR2 macroeconomic model is a Computable General Equilibrium model, which allows to research some aspects of economy in a regional approach, i.e. at the level of voivodships (NUTS2). This tool is not used in the Gdańsk Institute of Market Economics as a simple composition of models for economies of individual voivodships, the regional economies are rather treated as fully autonomous as for the product generation process and determination of the size of flows and resources, such as consumption, investments or capital resources. It is assumed that decisions pertaining to the structure of certain flows are made at the state level, e.g. the allocation of national product and sources of consumer goods.



The macroeconomic analysis using the MaMoR2 model was performed by the Gdańsk Institute for Market Economics. The analysis of the macroeconomic impact of WROP for the years 2007-2013 was summarised by discussing the impact on the region's GDP, the most synthetic measure of changes in the economy, which presented relative total deviation of product from reference (i.e. projection of economic situation in the event of lack of EU funds) and increase in annual GDP growth rate, which may be attributed to the application of EU funds.

Owing to the use of EU support, the level of GDP in the region will be noticeably higher than the reference level. Over the first three years of the analysis (2007-2009) the results are relatively low, which is caused by low commitment of funds in that period. In next years the deviation is on the increase, and then, in 2016, it reaches its peak of 2.2%. At that time the effects of application of all analysed funds will be visible in the economy. The GDP growth rate will be the most significant in the years 2013-2014, with growth of 0.38 percentage point. After 2016 the contribution of funds to the growth rate will be negative, it should be stressed, however, that the GDP level will still be above base.

As far as demand is concerned, the GDP increase will allow increasing private consumption and capital expenditure. In the first periods of simulation private consumption is below the reference level. Increase in consumption is inhibited by investments, which are relatively cheaper owing to co-funding. As late as in the second part of the simulation the increased GDP allows covering both higher investments and private consumption. The average impact of the analysed funds on private consumption is -0.2% in the years 2007-2013 (0.4% in the years 2007-2020). In 2013 it is expected to be positive and amount to 0.3%, displaying increase in the next years.

Capital expenditure is above the reference level over the entire period of spending. Investments are on the increase as is the inflow of new funds, and as late as in the latter part of the simulation, when the fund flow is decreasing the deviation drops visibly down, and the investment growth rate diminishes.

High increase of GDP facilitates a visible increase of employment rate in the region. Simultaneously we record increase in real remuneration and total real gross income of the people, which in the years 2007-2013 will be higher than the figures recorded in the base scenario, by 0.6% on average (1.2% in the years 2007-2013). Higher investments will translate into boost of labour efficiency which in the years 2007-2013 exceeds the reference level by 0.4%. The analysed funds have a direct impact on increase in infrastructure resources, fixed and human capital (by 1.1%, 0.4%, 0.01% respectively against the base scenario).





9. Analysis of the impact of the implementation of the WROP on the environment

9.1. Analysis of the impact of the implementation of the WROP on the environment performed in the years 2006/2007

a) The mode of assessment work, legal basis

The obligation to provide a projection is set out in the Environmental Protection Act, under which "... regional development strategy projects require that proceedings be held regarding environment impact assessment, which consists of an environmental impact projection". Responsibility for providing the projection is borne by the public administration authority which prepares a draft document or amends the document that has already been approved. The analysis is performed by an external body selected in accordance with the Public Procurement Law.

The projection of environment impact has been prepared for the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme (WROP) 2007-2013 which will allow for a practical implementation of "Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020". Regional strategies are implemented by means of operational programmes. A separate "Projection of environmental impact of the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020" was also prepared for the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020.

The projection of environmental impact for the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme 2007-2013 did not show any significant environmental threats in any category of intervention. It was also found that at the implementation phase actions to eliminate the potential environmental conflicts should be undertaken.

b) SEA considerations

The primary objective of the assessment was to determine whether the provisions of the draft WROP did not affect the proper functioning of the natural environment. The essence of the issue is a situation in which environmental considerations and sustainable development are considered at par with other objectives and priorities (economic and social). The projection is also aimed at facilitation of identification of environmental impacts of implementation in the future of the provisions defined in the document and is to determine the probability of future environmental conflicts and threats.

It is assumed that the assessed document is a general one, though it defines not only the priorities and their objectives, which set development trends, but it also sets deadlines for their accomplishment and the size of the anticipated funds. Therefore, the environmental assessment may, in this situation, be qualitative only.



This document does not specify all the locations of projects aimed at achieving the objectives. Hence, at this stage of the analysis it is not possible to identify definitely and localise the material impact of the implementation of the WROP on the natural environment.

c) Consultations

The works on the WROP began already in December 2004. In January 2006, they were extended by works on an environmental impact analysis which lasted until the end of the work on the programme, i.e. by January 2007.

The essence of these works was the simultaneous development of both documents. This method allowed for ongoing adjustments to the draft WROP, based on the findings of the projection. Both documents were systematically modified also in the course of public consultations.

For the purposes of public consultations several forms of communication with social partners were used. Subsequent revisions of the draft document were published on a dedicated website of the Marshal's Office. Furthermore, a dedicated e-mail account was made available for that purpose. Site viewers were encouraged to express their opinions and were informed that a draft of the projection was available at the Marshal's Office.

The draft of the projection and the draft WROP were also discussed at a series of conferences held from June to September 2006. Several thousand representatives of social partners, including representatives of environmental organisations, were invited to them.

The consultations resulted in a collection of remarks and proposals, which were included, to a various extent, in this document. These remarks and proposals can be divided into two groups. On the one hand, proposals to strengthen the environmental dimension of the programme, regardless of the type of measures proposed in the WROP, were submitted - the discussions in that regard were dominated by representatives of environmental organisations and individual citizens. On the other hand, some partners suggested that investment in environment unfriendly activities should be increased.

d) Main conclusions

The analysis of the matrix of the impact of the implementation of the WROP priorities enabled identification of the major categories of interventions within the Priorities of potential material impact on the environment. These are the categories of intervention which are generally related to the development of road, rail and air infrastructure, construction of energy and fuel transmission lines and development of investment areas, especially economic revival and off-farm rural areas (e.g. Priority II: Communication infrastructure). The category of interventions related to the development of technical infrastructure constituting a source of potential material adverse impacts included in particular line investments, which affect, in most cases, the condition of the environment. They cause various disturbances and environmental changes – both in its natural characteristics and anthropogenic changes. Apart from disturbing the balance in environment they have also a negative impact on landscape values and positive effects of long-term human activity related to shaping the landscape. The most important line investments having a considerable impact on the environment in the Wielkopolska region include those related to regional roads and power lines. They are a barrier restricting or interrupting the continuity of natural systems, causing further fragmentation and isolation of ecosystems, are a significant burden to the environment due to noise, vibrations, pollution of surface and groundwater and the occurrence of serious incidents (e.g. during transportation of



hazardous materials). Apart from the negative effects caused in the environment due to construction of motorways and express roads, positive effects of these investments should also be pointed out. They bypass traffic (mainly transit) outside urban areas, reducing significantly traffic noise and improving the bioclimatic conditions by reducing fumes emissions, increasing safety and comfort of driving and shortening time of travel. For this reason, negative or positive assessment of the potential impact of the implementation of a selected category of intervention under the Priority cannot be considered on its own. Social and economic development is the result of numerous actions which cumulate positive and negative impacts of implementation of various actions, or ones which neutralise negative effects of implementation of various actions. Development of economic activity and resulting strain on the environment must be compensated by environmental protection oriented goals.

Construction of roads should be included to projects which can significantly influence both surface water resources and their quality. This interaction may vary, depending on the type and parameters of the investment, the condition of the environment, geological conditions, river supply system, land topography, etc. The most visible effects are related to:

- transformation of river beds and development of banks at crossing of roads with rivers and valleys
- discharge of rainwater flushing into surface waters
- liquidation of swamps, water holes and valuable water biotopes resulting from construction of roads
- disruption in river supply resulting from transformations of reception basins.

In theory, it should be assumed that implementation of the horizontal objectives of the Strategy is to ensure implementation of all strategic and operational objectives set out in the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020 and the WROP Priorities, in line in the principle of respecting the demands of the environment. These horizontal objectives are as follows: spatial planning and sustainable development. This is indicated also in the Strategic Environmental Assessment. These objectives will help to retain coherence of the ecological system while maintaining or improving its condition and limiting ecological conflicts between forms of use of various areas.

The Environmental Report indicates also that all the projected WROP interventions may adversely affect the environment to a various extent. In order to minimise such impact, environmental criteria should be considered one of the main criteria used in evaluation of projects, which should lead to formulation of relevant provisions in both the programme and in the WROP Refinement.

e) Recommendations of changes to the WROP

Pursuant to the provisions of Directive No. 2001/42/EC, environmental assessment should propose different options of the implementation of the WROP. In the case of this programme proposals of different options of the implementation of the WROP were formulated in the course of the assessment works and collection of remarks from social partners, as these documents were prepared simultaneously (which has been indicated in Chapter 9 (c)).

The proposal resulted in subsequent versions of the programme whose modifications related primarily to allocation of funds and subsequent provisions emphasising the ecological dimension of various types of interventions that will be the basis of various requirements of the WROP Refinement to be met by future beneficiaries.



The most significant changes proposed within the environmental assessment include primarily horizontal objectives related to sustainable development and land planning, the implementation of which, regardless of the specific objectives, will enhance the environmental dimension of the WROP. Furthermore, the environmental assessment works resulted in subsequent resource allocation options, with increased spending on environmental protection and public transport, and decreased spending on road infrastructure. As regards transport, the importance of its intelligent forms and ecological character was strengthened.

The environmental assessment contributed also to strengthening the environmental aspects of the programme's strategy, which resulted in additional horizontal issues, mostly from the environmental perspective.

The current version of the WROP does not provide for alternative solutions. The environmental assessment suggests, however, a systematic analysis of the implementation of specific priorities so as to modify each operation and the requirements of individual projects in the course of the implementation of the programme.

f) Transborder issues

The transborder environmental impact of the WROP is closely related to transborder environmental impact of the Strategy, which is was accounted for in the projection regarding the Strategy's environmental impact. Since the Wielkopolska region is not located in the border area, we cannot speak about transborder impact within the meaning of the Espoo Convention. However, the negative impact on the environment of the seven neighbouring regions is inevitable. This impact will pertain mainly to emission of air pollutants and impact on the quality of flowing surface waters. As regards impact on surface waters, the highest share is held by the following rivers - Warta, Notec, Odra and Barycz, which carry pollutants along with municipal waste water and surface flow from agricultural areas. Many areas under legal protection, including NATURA 2000 sites neighbour with other regions, so in order to implement specific tasks under the Priorities it will be necessary to take joint actions to preserve their natural and landscape values.

g) SEA monitoring

The environmental assessment suggests a systematic assessment of the environmental impact of the implementation of the programme and the environmental dimension of individual projects, such as energy savings, emissions into the atmosphere, the improvement of water and wastewater management, thermal modernisation, waste management, so as to evaluate – using the internal project monitoring system – the WROP contribution in the improvement of the condition of the environment.

As proposed within the environmental assessment, it has been assumed that environmental monitoring will be based on the indicators adopted in the programme. It has been proposed, however, that information related to the ecological impact of individual projects within the scope mentioned above should be collected within the system. It has been proposed that these data should be collected at the project level, regardless of their type.

It has also been proposed to create a dedicated administrative unit in the Managing Authority. The unit would be responsible for monitoring and coordinating all environmental actions. Description of this unit is contained in Chapter 7.12.



9.2. Strategic Environmental Assessment of the changes to the WROP performed in May 2011

A strategic environmental assessment was performed for the draft of changes to the WROP resulting from the review of the Programme and covering it with additional financing for from the European Regional Development Fund - from the National Performance Reserve and the technical adjustment. For that purpose "Strategic Environmental Assessment of the proposed changes to the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme 2007-2013" was performed. The scope of the assessment was agreed upon with the Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Poznań and the Wielkopolska Regional Sanitary Inspectorate pursuant to Article 53 of the Act of 3 October 2008 on sharing information about the environment and its protection, public participation in environmental protection and environmental impact assessment (Journal of Laws of 2008, No. 199 item 1227).

The main objective of the Projection is to analyse and assess the degree to which environmental aspects are taken into account in the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme 2007-2013 and its draft amendment by means of determination whether the scope and the manners of implementing the solutions proposed in the evaluated document are not in a breach of the principles of the proper functioning of the environment. The Projection is to facilitate identification of possible environmental impacts caused by the implementation of the provisions of the WROP and amendments thereto, and to determine whether the adopted solutions provide sufficient protection against the emergence of conflicts and threats in the environment.

Pursuant to Article 11 (3) of the Act of 5 June 1998 on regional local government (Journal of Laws of 2001, No. 142 item 1590, as amended), the WROP 2007-2013 implements the objectives set out in the Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region to 2020. Furthermore, the programme is one of the operational programmes which implement the objectives of the National Strategic Reference Framework for the years 2007-2013 (a document setting out guidelines for support using funding available from the EU budget) and the National Development Strategy for the years 2007-2015. An analysis of the mutual relationships between the WROP and those documents, supplemented with an analysis of the socio-economic situation in the Wielkopolska region leads to an ascertainment that the established objectives and priorities, as well as the manner of their implementation have no alternative solutions. The adopted solutions are the best way to accomplish the main objective of the Programme, i.e. "The strengthening of Wielkopolska development potential for growth of competitiveness and employment."

The programme has been designed in such a way so as to take into account, to the possibly greatest extent, the constraints and restrictions which result from solutions adopted at both the Community and national level. For instance, it has been resolved under the programme that a significant part of the funds would be allocated to the measures undertaken in the framework of „Lisbon” categories of interventions, implementing projects enhancing global competitiveness of the entire European Union. The capacity of implementation of specific projects under the Programme is limited by the Demarcation Line between Operational Programmes of the Cohesion Policy, Common Agricultural Policy and Common Fisheries Policy”.

In case of the solutions set out in Priority III "The environment" there are no alternatives, as the adopted provisions correspond to the key problems which need to be overcome in Wielkopolska in that regard.



A monitoring system has been established within the Programme. Its purpose is to enable ongoing implementation of possible adjustments resulting from technological developments, state-of-the art, as well as socio-economic changes. Furthermore, the system is supposed to enable ongoing response to such changes. As a result, in the course of the implementation of the WROP to date, a policy aimed at continuous adjustment of those solutions which do not require changes to the provisions of the programme and their renegotiations with the European Commission to the changing circumstances has been pursued. It is accomplished e.g. by means of relocation of funds allocated to individual types of interventions (only within the priorities), adjustments to the project selection criteria, decisions concerning implementation of projects of key importance to the development of the region, application of new implementing instruments (e.g. the JEREMIE and JESSICA initiatives which offer repayable financial instruments), the use of flexible mechanisms for ongoing management of the implementation of the Programme. Such mechanisms are used in accordance with the provisions of the Programme adopted in order to implement it. They are not an alternative to general solutions adopted at the level of the WROP.

Proposals to implement changes to the provisions of the WROP resulting from an interim review of the Programme, as well as those related to incorporating new measures in it are based on premises similar to those presented above, thus there are no alternative solutions to them either.

Due to the fact that changes to the WROP were introduced when its implementation was well in progress (ca. 97.5% of the total funds of the ERDF under the Programme were contracted by the end of February 2011), an environmental assessment was performed for those projects whose implementation had already been completed. Foreseeable environmental assessment of other projects selected to date: those which are being implemented and prepared for implementation, as well as those expected to be implemented as a result of including new means into the Programme. The findings of those assessments and analyses were a key element used to formulate a prospective assessment of the potential impact of the provisions of the WROP and a project of changes thereto on the environment.

A matrix analysis has also been performed for dependence within the following relationships: Programme priorities with isolated groups of intervention categories - the components of the environment and conditions conducive to sustainable development favouring environmental protection, with specification of individual characteristics of these components (recipients of interactions), subject to the potential impacts of the intervention categories. Relationships and impact have been specified as a result of a discussion within the expert group and the assessment of the environmental impact of already completed projects. The relationships and impact have been included in the Projection in a matrix layout.

The Projection points to the possible effects that will occur in the Wielkopolska region as a result of the implementation of the WROP, taking into account changes to the Programme. The assessment concerned not only negative environmental effects. Positive impact that may result in a higher environmental quality in the region have also been indicated.

Social consultations concerning the draft Projection and the proposed changes to the WROP were carried out. Furthermore, favourable opinions required by law were obtained from the Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Poznań and the Wielkopolska State Regional Sanitary Inspector. The consultation procedure has been described in more detail in Chapter 11.2. "Consultations of changes to the WROP in 2011."



A simplified diagnosis of the condition of the environment in Wielkopolska has been prepared for the purposes of the Projection. The diagnosis showed that although this condition is improving, it has not reached a satisfactory level yet. This analysis showed also that environmental problems of the region indicated when the Programme was being developed in 2006/2007, which, as expected, were to be gradually reduced during the implementation of the WROP, are still present, although some indicators points to positive changes taking place. Environmental problems which are affected positively by the implementation of the WROP include:

- poor quality of surface waters in the Wielkopolska region, which applies both to rivers and lakes,
- discharge of untreated or inadequately treated municipal sewage,
- disparities in access to water and sewage networks among the inhabitants, especially in rural areas,
- disorderly municipal waste management - preferred waste disposal, low level of segregation and processing of waste,
- biodiversity risks occurring due to anthropogenic factors,
- very low use of renewable energy resources,
- the country's largest area of devastated and degraded land,
- unfavourable acoustic climate in most cities and towns in the region, increased street noise at night caused by transit traffic,
- increased concentrations of particulate matter, as well as those of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen during the heating season,
- growing share of transport air pollutants,
- inadequate flood protection,
- insufficient water resources, and too low water levels in artificial reservoirs,
- occurrence of major accidents and various environmental hazards.

The environmental protection objectives established at international, Community and national level were identified, analysed and evaluated in the Projection. The ones that are relevant to the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme and the project of changes thereto were also identified. This analysis was carried out in relation to strategic documents - conventions, strategies, plans and international, Community, national and regional programmes. This allowed for ascertaining that in general the objectives and directions of activities undertaken in the framework of the Programme and the project of changes thereto affect, directly or indirectly, the accomplishment of the objectives set out in most of the analysed strategic documents, which include: the Bonn Convention, the Helsinki Convention, the European Landscape Convention, 6th Environmental Action Programme of the European Community, National Environmental Policy for 2003-2006 accounting for the perspective for 2007-2010, the State Environmental Policy for 2009-2012 accounting for the perspective until 2016, the National Biodiversity Strategy, draft National Water Policy until 2030, the State Environmental Monitoring Programme for the years 2010-2012, the National Programme for Municipal Waste Treatment, the Environmental Protection Programme for the Wielkopolska Region for the years 2002-2010, the Environmental Protection Programme for the Wielkopolska Region for the years 2008-2011 with the perspective for the years 2012-2019.

Several measures under the Programme whose implementation is not directly coincident with the achievement of the objectives identified in the above-mentioned documents were identified. The main measures of this type include the development of road infrastructure and wind energy, as well as the development of the airport, posing a potential threat to the implementation of the objectives of the Bonn Convention, which aims at protection of wildlife and migratory species, the European Landscape Convention, which aims at preservation of the



landscape as the fundamental component of the European natural and cultural heritage, or the National Environmental Policy. Therefore, it was indicated that the laws aimed at protecting the protected sites and the environment must be absolutely observed during implementation of such projects.

The Projection indicated that potential environmental effects can occur in any case of implementation of projects, as well as in the event they are abandoned. These effects can be either negative or positive, but in most cases will be varied. Another type of environmental impact may occur during implementation of a project, and another one can occur in the course of its application. Obviously, the most favourable impact on the environment will be observed in the case of projects implemented under Priority III, although negative effects can occur also in relation to such projects.

Projects implemented under other priorities may affect the environment in different ways. This can be e.g. negative impact on some components of the environment, which is positive, at the same time, in relation to other components (e.g. implementation of a project of construction of a wastewater treatment plant will result in an increased share of treated wastewater discharged into surface waters, but on the other hand the amount of produced sludge will also increase). It may also happen that the implementation of a project will lead to detrimental effects on the environment in its immediate surroundings, but on the other hand it will have a positive impact in another place (e.g. the construction of a bypass road of a city will result in exhaust emissions and noise in the immediate vicinity of the new route, but at the same time the investment will result in a reduced impact of negative factors in the city centre after moving transit traffic to the constructed ring road).

The greatest adverse environmental effects would be undoubtedly caused by failure to implement the measure designed under Priority III - Environmental protection, which aims at improving the condition of individual elements of the environment. Investments implemented under Priority I - Competitiveness of enterprises, aim in environmental terms at more efficient use of resources by reducing material consumption and energy intensity of small and medium enterprises. Lack of implementation of such investments can result not only in inhibiting the growth rate of the region's competitiveness, but also in real environmental problems, such as: excessive consumption of resources, considerable waste production, etc. In the case of Priority IV - Revitalisation of problem areas, abandonment of investments can lead to further marginalisation of urban and degraded areas – both post-industrial and post-military ones, and may affect adversely the individual components of the natural environment in these areas. Lack of implementation of projects under Priority V - Infrastructure for social capital, can have negative effects such as deteriorating quality of life of the inhabitants. The level of health and education can be at risk. Furthermore, lack of investments in health infrastructure will continue to cause the formation of large amounts of hazardous waste resulting from the use of obsolete and worn equipment. Abandonment of implementation of projects under Priority VI - Tourism and cultural environment, will affect adversely preservation of cultural identity of particular areas. Implementation of investment under this Priority can contribute to better protection of natural values, revitalisation of several historic buildings, improvement of the aesthetics of the landscape and raising the standard of living. Projects related to tourism will have a positive impact on the environment. However, they should be implemented with observance of the principle of sustainable development and nature conservation.

Abandonment of implementation of the measures provided for in the WROP may result in failure to solve the ecological problems of the region, and may even make some of them more severe. Analysis of the number and scope of direct pro-environmental projects (implemented under Priority III) and projects affecting directly improvement of the environment



(outside Priority III) indicates that it has been generally assessed the implementation of the Programme will have a positive impact on improvement of the environment in Wielkopolska.

The Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 and the project of changes thereto do not assume implementation of investments considered to be particularly harmful to the environment. No possibility of cross-border impact, which could cover the territory of other states, planned measures related to the development of micro, small and medium enterprises, the development of transport infrastructure, environmental protection, or other was found.

However, impact on the environment adjacent to the Wielkopolska region, both negative (aggravating) and positive one, is inevitable. Such impact pertains mainly to emissions of air pollutants and impact on the quality of flowing surface waters. Implementation of solutions aimed at preventing and reducing negative impact on the environment under the WROP should help to eliminate potential conflicts related to management of border areas of neighbouring regions.

Environmental problems occurring in the region, for which the implementation of the WROP offers a chance to solve them or reduce them to some extent, were identified during the preparation of the Projection. The implementation of the WROP is an opportunity for significant development of Wielkopolska. Such development includes preservation, protection and improvement of the environment and human health.

In the course of the implementation of the Programme, measures designed to ensure a high level of environmental protection should be taken into account. The provisions of the Programme oblige to observe the principles of sustainable development and energy efficiency during its implementation. In the case of a programme covering such a wide and diverse range of priorities and areas of intervention as the WROP does, collisions between the implementation of set objectives and environmental protection are unavoidable. It is not possible to make up for such collisions by modifying the structure of the Programme priorities, because they have been constructed in an optimal way, so that they could contribute to the accomplishment of the ultimate vision of the region to the greatest possible extent. During the implementation of the priorities one should, however, strive to minimise negative environmental impacts. Real alternatives and variants of implementation of potential projects should be considered at the level of a specific project. This is the best way to determine the solutions to prevent adverse environmental effects and to minimise the possibility of occurrence of conflicts. In the absence of the possibility of application of alternative solutions, the use of the appropriate environmental compensation should be applied. Moreover, due to the fact that a considerable part of the region is covered with a network of protected sites, including Natura 2000 ones, mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate adverse environmental effects, both at the stage of implementation of projects and their application, should be applied in the course of implementation of investments. Such measures include:

- use of protected natural areas in accordance with the purpose for which they have been established; investments in these areas can be implemented only if the procedure conducted for the purpose of environmental impact assessment approves their implementation,
- reduction of land use, if possible,
- adjustment of time frames of construction works to periods of animal reproduction,
- protection of the construction site and construction equipment from possible adverse effects on ecosystems,
- use of "clean" manufacturing technologies,



- use in implemented projects of solutions to protect the environment, including implementation of accompanying infrastructure to alleviate the negative impact on the environment.

The Projection assessed the potential environmental effects of projects possible to be implemented as a result of the inclusion of additional ERDF means into the WROP, which will strengthen the areas of intervention within the Programme, such as entrepreneurship, regional transport (air) infrastructure, information society infrastructure, as well as health care. A relatively small amount will also be allocated to subsidise operations of the Managing Authority under the "Technical assistance" priority.

Foreseeable impact on the environment of projects which can be implemented in the framework of the specified areas of support will be similar to that of projects implemented to date in these same areas.

As regards entrepreneurship, it is proposed to support the next group of small and medium enterprises through subsidies for investments in SMEs, which - as can be inferred from the analysis of previously completed projects - will be used mostly for purchases of machinery, equipment and technologies. This type of projects do not cause a significant adverse environmental impact. It may be anticipated that most of them will be clearly pro-environmental ones, since the introduction of new equipment and modern technologies to replace those worn, energy inefficient and producing significant amounts of waste, will contribute to reducing harmful emissions to the environment, being a negative effect of activity of enterprises.

Increased funding of the development of the air infrastructure of Poznań-Ławica airport, even though the project affects adversely the environment, will not increase the scale of this impact in relation to that anticipated in the original version of the Programme. The volume of the additional funds allocated to support the development of air infrastructure of Ławica corresponds exactly to the amount relocated previously to another area of intervention under the Programme. Therefore, the scale of the expected impact will not increase, but the negative impacts (primarily noise and fumes generated during takeoffs and landings of aircrafts) is inevitable.

Additional funds for information society infrastructure are proposed to be allocated to continuation of the construction in the region of a broadband Internet network, namely to the development of access infrastructure complementary to the backbone network built in the framework of an individual WROP project. Implementation of this project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects. Only local impacts, limited to the period of implementation of the investment, are possible. They will be related to the conduct of earthworks necessary to lay wires.

Infrastructure projects in the area of health care will not cause increased negative impacts either. Quite the opposite, replacement of technologically obsolete equipment and medical devices will have positive local environmental impacts by reducing the amount of generated medical waste and increasing energy efficiency.

Monitoring of spending under the WROP and material effects of its implementation is carried out in order to enable rational, efficient and effective use of structural funds. Monitoring is conducted based on financial indicators and those related to outputs and results of projects, measures, priorities, and the entire Programme.

The attainment of the WROP priorities is measured with the use of indicators set out at their level. Each level of the implementation of the WROP is assigned an adequate system of indicators, whereby those systems constitute a coherent whole within the entire Programme.



For the purpose of monitoring and reporting of the NSRF, the National Information System (SIMIK) 2007 has been developed. The purpose of the System is to collect data necessary to manage the Programmes, including information on beneficiaries of EU funds. Solely for the purposes of the implementation of the WROP, a Local Information System has been implemented. The Monitoring Unit in the Department of Regional Policy is responsible for the management of these systems at the level of the Programme, as well as for monitoring the implementation of the WROP by the Managing Authority.

The WROP provides for application of the system of indicators designed within the WROP for SEA management and sustainable development in environmental terms. Therefore, both those indicators which describe directly the condition of the environment and the other socio-economic indicators will be used.

The Programme provides for a separate set of monitoring indicators for Priority III – The environment.

Except for Priority III, the set of indicators proposed for monitoring the implementation of the priorities accounts for environmental protection and rational use of resources to a small extent only. Therefore, for the purposes of implementation of objectives related to sustainable development it was important to develop a system of continuous monitoring in such a way so as to monitor regularly both the progress of implementation of the main objective and specific objectives, as well as environmental effects. Therefore, the Programme includes analysing and coordinating the implementation of horizontal policies, which apply to the following areas:

- the environment,
- information society,
- equal opportunities.

In order to fulfil this commitment at the level of the WROP a system for monitoring the implementation of horizontal policies has been developed. This system consists in providing beneficiaries with relevant information on the impact of the implementation of projects on the above-mentioned policies. Beneficiaries fill in a special form entitled: "Information on the manner of implementation of policies/horizontal objectives in the framework of the project", which aims at, *inter alia*, identification of projects that can have any positive impact on the environment. Completing the form, beneficiaries provide information on expenditures planned for the above-mentioned objectives and estimate, if possible, their measurable effects. The section devoted in the form to environmental protection covers four subjects:

- energy,
- emission of substances into the atmosphere,
- water and wastewater management,
- waste management.

The system for monitoring of horizontal policies has been based on the assumption that all drafts of the WROP implement these policies. It has been assumed in relation to the environment that environment-friendly infrastructure and reducing emissions or pressure on the environment are funded not only under Priority III - "Environmental protection". Modernisation of enterprises, new technologies and upgrading of social infrastructure contribute to this as well. The system is to identify such additional inputs and outputs, either quantitatively or qualitatively.

Furthermore, for the purposes of monitoring of the impact of the provisions of the WROP and changes thereto on the environment, the Programme contains a provision impos-



ing on the Managing Authority and obligation to prepare environmental reports in the middle and at the end of the programming period.

Since it is not possible to implement into the WROP indicators which would enable to measure the environmental impacts of the implementation of all priorities in a comprehensive way, it was recommended in the Projection to analyse this issue in detail in the environmental report at the end of the programming period. It was also found that the scope of the analysis performed within the SEA procedure and reached conclusions correspond to the expected scope of the mid-term environmental report, therefore it was proposed to abandon preparation of a separate study and to resolve that the Projection serves also as such a report.

One of the elements of the system of analysis of the effects of the implementation of the WROP is its evaluation. Evaluation of the Programme should take account of the Community legislation on environmental impact and strategic environmental assessment, as well as sustainable development requirements. In order to conduct reliable and professional evaluation research a Regional Policy Evaluation Unit has been established in the Department of Regional Policy in the Managing Authority.

Furthermore, in accordance with the WROP provisions, a Regional Analysis Unit has been established in the Managing Authority to monitor the implementation of the Programme and its objectives, also in terms of the environment, and to monitor effective use of funds and to maximise utilisation of the synergies resulting from the implementation of various Community and national policies in Wielkopolska.

The best way to monitor the environmental effects which may arise from the implementation of the assumptions contained in the WROP is a detailed analysis of project documentation containing information on the impact of a planned investment on the environment, conducted at the stage of evaluation of submitted projects. In order to accomplish that an Environmental Impact Assessment Unit has been established in the Department for Implementation of the Regional Programme in the Managing Authority. The Unit reviews documentation, paying attention to the compliance of the application for funding with the scope set out in attached documents such as: location decision, decision on environmental conditions, building permit and maps and design documentation. It examines compliance of documents accompanying the application with national and Community law.

The implementation solutions adopted in relation to the implementation of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 should support phenomena and investments beneficial for the environment and prevent those which may affect it adversely. Failure to implement the WROP provisions could have negative consequences not only for improving the condition of the environment in Wielkopolska, but also for all socio-economic aspects in the region. This could also lead to difficulties in implementing the requirements of environmental protection, adopted by means of international agreements and conventions, to which Poland has committed itself.

It should be generally noted that the implementation of the arrangements and recommendations proposed in the Projection will help to reduce negative environmental impacts of the measures set out in the WROP.





10. WROP ex ante evaluation

The ex ante of WROP was performed in line with article 48 of Council Regulation (EC) no. 1083/2006 dated 11th July 2006 setting out the general provisions regarding the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and Coherence Fund and repealing the regulation (EC) no. 1260/1999 (Official Journal L 210 of 31.07.2006, pp.25-78).

The evaluation was performed under expertise titled *“Estimate evaluation of projects of 16 Regional Operational Programmes and Eastern Poland Development Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013”* performed upon the order of the Ministry of Regional Development by an independent contractor selected in a public procurement, i.e. WYG International Sp. z o.o.

The comments of evaluators were taken into consideration on an ongoing basis, which allowed to modify the document's content during its preparation. A limitation both for evaluation and works on WROP was its parallel course.

As at that stage legal grounds for programming were simultaneously set up, the programming team did not yet have all guidelines that the Co-ordinating Authority should have prepared, the evaluated version had not been complete, especially in terms of description of the implementation system ratios and their quantification.

Hence many comments and recommendations, especially technical, resulting from further works on the WROP project have become outdated. Regardless of that, the result of ex ante evaluation have considerably contributed to this document's improvement.

The scope of ex ante WROP evaluation covered:

- the review of the socioeconomic analysis and its quality in the light of identified developmental needs of the region (research task 1),
- assessment of economic rationale and internal coherence of WROP's projection part (research task 2),
- assessment of external coherence of WROP's part with community, national and regional policies (research task 3),
- assessment of the expected result and impact (research task 4),
- assessment of the proposed operational programme implementation (research task 5).

WROP assumptions, especially the diagnosis, priorities and measures were analysed mainly in the light of such strategic documents, as:

- Strategic Community Guidelines - in reference to the EU level,
- National Strategic Reference Frameworks, State Development Strategy, environment protection programmes and policies on a national scale - at a national level,
- voivodship development strategy - in reference to the regional level.

Conclusions and recommendations resulting from ex ante evaluation:

1. **Diagnosis** (review of the socioeconomic analysis and its quality in the light of identified developmental needs of the region),

In the evaluators' opinion, the diagnosis and SWOT strategic analysis correspond to the primary goal of the programme. Such an evaluation is based on consistent subordination of diagnosis to an assumption that social capital, entrepreneurship, backed by infrastructure and education constitute factors shaping the quality of life.

In line with the evaluators' comments:

- In a wider scope projective recognition of phenomena has been applied in order to stress factors that may be present in future.
- SWOT analysis has been improved, which included clear criterion of selection of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the voivodship.
- The SWOT analysis has been extended by conclusions resulting from comparison of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats as well as from comparison of internal potential and surrounding.
- Information of data source has been included (especially for tables and graphical data presentation).
- Statistical data have been supplemented and updated.
- The title of subsection "Labour market, human resources and education" has been changed.
- The analysis of labour market has been extended by other economic and social parameters.
- The position of tourism in document structure has been changed.
- The disability description has been extended. Moreover, the list of principles governing the programme structure given in the introduction has been extended by the equal access principle.
- In line with the evaluators' recommendation, the "housing policy" term has been changed to "housing resources".
- SWOT analysis has been improved, which included clear criterion of selection of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the voivodship.
- In a wider scope simple projective recognition of phenomena has been applied in order to stress factors that may be present in the region in future.
- Information of data source has been included.

2. **Projection part** (assessment of economic rationale and internal coherence of WROP projection part):

In the evaluators' opinion, the projection part of WROP was subject to the implementation of Programme's primary goal, which is to "strengthen the development potential of Wielkopolska to boost competitiveness and employment rate". Goals, priorities and measures have been adjusted to intervention category and possible funding sources. The problems discussed in the diagnostic part and SWOT analysis of WROP have sufficient references to the projection part. The rationale regarding the selection of individual priorities include direct references to trends, projections and figures included in the socioeconomic analysis of the Wielkopolskie voivodship. The priorities were a logical result of the submitted analysis.

In line with the evaluators' recommendations:



- The substantive and empirical grounds for development of the financial plan have been determined, including potential difficulties in its implementation
- The individual priorities have been more precisely and explicitly distinguished and named so as to correlate with the assigned measures.
- The detailed goals structure has not been simplified by resigning from setting them out at the level of priorities as it would be in breach of Council Regulation (EC) 1083/2006.
- The projection part has been supplemented with description and rationale for detailed programme goals and the list of corresponding indicators has been supplemented.
- The goal of Priority V “Infrastructure for human capital” has been changed.
- The figures in the financial plan have been updated.
- A rationale of the adopted grounds for financial plan has been added, with a reservation that this rationale also contains results of application of macroeconomic models and that the financial projection partly results from limits set out in other regulations.
- Supplements have been made for formal reasons regarding operational programmes.

3. External coherence (with community, national and regional policies)

A team of evaluators assessed that the external coherence of WROP's projection part with community, national and regional policies deserves a positive opinion. The diagnosis included in WROP does not lead to contradictory conclusions in the light of provisions of diagnostic parts of master documents. However, the level of diagnosis coherence is diverse. The coherence of analytical part of WROP included in industry documents is high.

As for goals, WROP makes a contribution in carrying out of top level documents. This coherence results from common axiological premises underlying them, and identical or concurrent diagnostic conclusions. The coherence level is high especially in reference to the National Strategic Reference Framework and Wielkopolskie Voivodship Development Strategy in the realm of diagnosis, goals, priorities, values and principles. In the evaluators' opinions also the priorities and measures of already mentioned operational programmes have been pointed out that WROP priorities refer to in the part on complementarity.

The assessed Programme is also inscribed in the implementation of some strategic goals of documents at regional level. The principles and principles typical of master documents at community, state and regional level in WROP have been literally pointed out, also the analysis of the projection part allows to state that they have been taken into account (e.g. concentration and compatibility principles).

In line with the evaluators' recommendations:

- The need for intervention in rural areas has been stressed stronger, with a reservation that detailed solutions consisting mainly in separate project contests will be described in Detailed WROP.
- The provisions pertaining to the goals of Strategic Community Guidelines and National Strategic Reference Framework have been adjusted and updated.
- Industry provisions in regional documents have been referred to.

4. Results and impact

In the opinion of the evaluators the proposed indicator system assures the proper assignment and differentiation between the product, result and impact indicators. They are logically connected with goals and policies. They are coherent within the programme, measurable and their acquisition cost is not too high. They provide a ground for programme monitoring and evaluation, and the target values are realistic. On the other hand, comments were made, aimed at improvement of logical coherence of indicators with goals and priorities in order to stress cause-and-effect relationships.

It was proposed to supplement the list of indicators and their base and target values, as well as to add context indicators.

The usefulness of economic models application has been positively assessed. According to the evaluators, the projection determines the predictable positive results of WROP implementation in a measurable manner. The effects, in the form of additional increase in the region's GDP, reduction of unemployment rate or increase in employment rate translate into high efficiency of actions. Moreover, the projection allows to optimise the expenditure of funds under the programme.

5. Implementation system

The description of implementation system was assessed at its development stage, at the absence of full legal grounds and guidelines from the Co-ordinating Authority. In order to make the description more detailed and improve the description, the following recommendations of the evaluators were used:

- Make the description more precise.
- Extend the description by functional elements showing the relations between individual subjects of implementation system.
- Information about expected external institutions.
- The cash flow and information exchange system with the European Commission has been described.
- The scope of competence of the Monitoring Committee has been extended by co-ordination of voivodship development strategy goals.
- The structure of the chapter on the implementation system has been changed and the chapter was split into two parts: description of institutions and processes.



11. Public consultations

11.1. Consultations at the stage of works on the WROP in the years 2006/2007

Public consultations were being conducted throughout the whole time of works on the Programme. In December 2004, over 1200 social and economical partners and potential beneficiaries were informed (by post) about beginning of works. They were asked to express their opinions on this matter. At the same time, a special news bulletin devoted to this subject was launched on the Internet website of the Marshal's Office. In the bulletin there was not only information on works on the programme, but also information on works on national and Community documents. The information was supplemented on a regular basis.

For the purposes of exchange of information with social partners, a special e-mail address was established: strategia2020@umww.pl, which enabled continuous contact and collection of comments. Furthermore, throughout the whole time when the works were being conducted, since December 2004, information on work progress was being provided and successive versions of the document were being presented. The information was provided during numerous meetings of representatives of the government of the region or the Marshal's Office with representatives of different organizations, both local and industry ones.

In January 2006, a new instrument for dialogue with potential beneficiaries was created. A regional Project Registration System - PRS was launched on the Internet website. Potential beneficiaries submitted over 3000 proposals of projects to be implemented in the framework of the Programme in the years 2007 - 2013. The data collected in the system (information on 2300 projects) informed about structure of beneficiaries' needs, with a breakdown into priorities and measures. They were also one of the most important grounds for final establishing of Programme's financial tables, but most of all it was a way for motivating beneficiaries to work on their projects.

In August 2006, the last round of the Programme's consultations took place. In the first half of August, 6 subregional meetings in the biggest cities of the region with participation of the most important circles took place.

The effect of the consultations was a systematic modification of individual provisions of the Programme. Individual remarks and proposals submitted by social partners can be grouped as follows:

1. General remarks - in this area the most controversy and differences between the participants occurred. The discussion leveled only some of them. The following dilemmas were left unanswered:
 - Should the assistance be given to the Poznań agglomeration, or should it level development delays of the remaining regions?
 - Should the assistance be given to the Poznań agglomeration, or should it strengthen subregional centres, i.e. middle size towns?
 - Should the assistance support implementation of major projects, or small ones which strengthen regional development?



- Should more emphasis be put directly on support for the economy, or should the assistance be focused on further development and modernisation of basic infrastructure?
 - Should the assistance support public transport, or road networks?
- Each of the involved parties was in the opinion that the consulted Programme prefers the needs of the opposite side.

2. The second area of discussion concerned detailed issues, such as:

- Proposals of corrections of the provisions which resulted from obvious mistakes or contradictions in the text - they were automatically approved.
- Proposals of including in the Programme some kinds of interventions, which were known to be non-compliant with Community regulations or those which were already covered by areas of interventions within other programmes. They could not be included and were forwarded to teams working on those programmes.
- Proposals of refinements of the provisions of the programme, which were included, provided they were put in the detailed specific documents being prepared. They concerned both information about projects and detailed provisions related to the implementation of the programme.
- Proposals of establishing of algorithms of funds distribution into individual subregions, poviats or communes of the region, which would be used by the local governments on their own needs, which is not possible due to procedural restrictions.

Despite differences in opinions, discussion on the Programme resulted in numerous positive effects:

- The Programme's text was significantly improved by eliminating mistakes or contradictions. It was also adjusted to many development needs of specific territories, sectors and target groups.
- An educational effect concerning social partners was achieved. Information about the Programme and its objectives, as well as information on what it was and what it should be not, what its function was, what it should provide for, and what other documents would provide for was disseminated.
- It was established, despite a great deal of controversy and differences, that the implementation of development activities required a compromise between efficiency and the need for supporting the weaker, between activities strengthening the region in the 21st century and elimination of previous years' negligence.

The conclusion of the discussion enabled formulating the Programme's final strategy. It was stated that development factors in the growth centres should be generated and strengthened because they are the most effective engines of regional economy. However, one cannot limit to only such activities. Absorption capacity of the remaining areas should also be strengthened - their capabilities and weaknesses should be taken into consideration. Otherwise, the diffusion of development factors generated in the growth centres will be wasted.



11.2. Consultations of changes to the WROP in 2011

As a result of the review of the implementation of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 made in the first months of 2011, as well as distribution of funds of the National Performance Reserve and technical adjustment, the WROP Managing Authority proposed introduction of relevant changes to the Programme. The proposal was presented for social consultations in 2 stages.

In the 1st stage, on 8 February 2011, a message – information of the Programme review and renegotiation procedure was published on the WROP www site: <http://www.wrpo.wielkopolskie.pl>. The publication included the scope of the proposed changes to the Programme, as well as a proposal of the Board of Directors of the Wielkopolska Region to provide additional assistance to the following areas: entrepreneurship, regional transport (air) infrastructure, information society infrastructure, health care infrastructure. A proposal as regards distribution of additional funds among the recommended areas was also presented. The proposal accounted for allocation of part of the funds to additional support for activities of the Managing Authority in the framework of Priority VII - Technical assistance. Those interested were encouraged to submit their remarks and proposals of changes to the WROP using a dedicated form, in the following problem layout:

- Providing support for areas covered by assistance by means of additional funds from the National Performance Reserve and technical adjustment
- Modification of the WROP provisions related to allocation of additional funds
- Modification of the WROP performance indicators
- Technical changes
- Other remarks.

Remarks and proposals could be submitted in a dedicated form: "Form for remarks related to the review and renegotiations of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013" by e-mail sent by 18 February 2011 to a dedicated e-mail address: strategia2020@umww.pl.

Fifty two forms containing remarks and proposals were sent to the indicated e-mail address. Opinions as regards changes to the WROP were formulated in this way by representatives of:

- Local government units – 11 opinions
- Entrepreneurs – 37 opinions
- Higher education facilities - 1 opinion
- Union organisations – 1 opinion
- Other units – 2 opinions.

The opinions concerned generally only the proposal of the Managing Authority as regards distribution of additional funds allocated to the Programme, obtained from the National Performance Reserve and technical adjustment. The entrepreneurs postulated to allocate the possibly greatest amount of funds to investment projects in the form of direct grants for enterprises in the framework of measures related to support for the development of micro-enterprises and SMEs. In connection with the conducted consultations the entrepreneurs carried out even some kind of an organised action consisting in submitting 21 identical opinions, lobbying in this way for increased funds for support of entrepreneurship.



Representatives of nearly all local governments (municipal and district ones) expressing their opinions in this matter opted definitely for allocation of part of the additional funds to support for road infrastructure, in particular in the framework of the measure related to improvement of access to the regional and supraregional road system (regional roads in towns with county rights, as well as district and municipal roads), justifying their position with the impact of road investments on the growth of investment attractiveness, and - as a result - on the economic development of individual areas of the region, for which the adequate quality and quantity of connections of the local road systems with the regional system is important.

Additional support for the regional road infrastructure was opted for also by the representative of the institution managing the regional roads in Wielkopolska.

The individuals expressing their opinions on behalf of local governments pointed out also to the need for additional support for projects related to information society and welfare infrastructure, including education and health care. There were also proposals pointing to the purposefulness of support for projects related to tourism which increase the tourist attractiveness of areas and investments in environment-friendly energy infrastructure.

The representative of the union organisation and the unit dealing directly with health care at the district level pointed to the need for additional support for health care infrastructure, justifying their position with the fact that it would enable to complete the major investments in that regards in the region. They pointed out that as a result of the completed tender no. 04/V/2009 for projects aimed at improving the performance of health care system, co-financing was granted to an insignificant number of applications only, which attests to enormous interest and even greater needs in that regard.

The representative of the academic circle presented a proposal to allocate the funds to strengthening higher education infrastructure, namely to provide support for the construction of the Teaching, Research and Implementation Centre at the University of Arts in Poznań.

Proposals to support projects aimed at increasing the use of renewable energy sources and a particular project related to flood protection were also presented.

In spite of a variety of submitted proposals, most of the opinions were in favour of the proposal of the Managing Authority to allocate the additional funds primarily to information society infrastructure, entrepreneurship and health care infrastructure. The proposal to support air infrastructure (Poznań Ławica airport) enjoyed limited acceptance, and it was opted to allocate more additional funds to the development of road infrastructure (primarily local (municipal and district) roads).

The individuals and entities expressing their opinions did not address at all the proposal to increase co-financing for the activities of the WROP Managing Authority in the framework of Priority VIII - Technical assistance. Therefore, it should be deemed that the proposal did not give rise to any objections.

Due to such results of the 1st stage of the social consultations, the Managing Authority resolved to present the proposal of distribution of the additional funds and the other proposals of changes to the provisions of the Programme to the WROP Monitoring Committee. The Committee approved the proposed changes to the WROP on 6 May 2011.

Between 21 April and 12 May 2011 - in connection with the conducted strategic environmental assessment of the impact of the proposed changes to the WROP - the 2nd stage of the social consultations related to "Project of changes to the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013" and the project of "Projection of environmental



impact of the Project of changes to the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013" was conducted.

The consultations were announced pursuant to Article 30, Article 39, Article 40 in connection with Article 46 (2) and Article 54 (2) of the Act of 3 October 2008 on sharing information about the environment and its protection, public participation in environmental protection and environmental impact assessment (Journal of Laws of 2008, No. 199, item 1227, as amended). Relevant information was published in the Public Information Bulletin of the Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region (www.bip.umww.pl/portal), on the www site of the WROP (www.wrpo.wielkopolskie.pl), in *Gazeta Wyborcza* on 21 April 2011. It was also placed on the information board in the seat of the Marshal's Office.

The documentation to be consulted and the form for submitting remarks were made available for inspection in the seat of the Regional Policy Department of the Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region (Poznań, 46 Przemysłowa street, room no. 5), and it was posted in the Public Information Bulletin of the Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region, as well as on the WROP www site.

Those interested could submit remarks and conclusions in the following form:

- in writing - by means of filling in the form available in the Public Information Bulletin of the Wielkopolska Region and on the www site at: www.wrpo.wielkopolskie.pl, and sending it to the Regional Policy Department of the Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolska Region;
- with the use of electronic means of communication - by means of filling in the form and sending it to the following e-mail address: strategia2020@umww.pl;
- orally, to the protocol, in the place where the documentation was made available.

No remarks to the project of changes to the WROP and to the project of the projection of impact on the amended Programme on the environment were submitted in the course of the 2nd stage of the social consultations.

The project of changes to the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for the years 2007-2013 and the projection of impact on the environment were forwarded, compliant with relevant legal regulations, to be assessed by the Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Poznań and the Wielkopolska State Regional Sanitary Inspector. Those bodies expressed their positive opinions on the submitted documents. Therefore, following consideration of the suggestions contained in the opinions concerning amendments to certain provisions of the projection of the impact of the project of changes to the WROP on the environment (e.g. updating the data concerning the protected sites and defining the terms used in the course of designing matrices of "Assessment of the impact of individual categories of intervention under Priorities I-VI of the WROP on the environment and the conditions for sustainable growth"), the final version of the Projection was drawn up. The most important findings of the Projection were discussed in Chapter 9.2. "Projection of the impact of changes to the WROP on the environment developed in May 2011".



12. Glossary of terms and acronyms

Term	Explanation
Application	Standard application form submitted by beneficiary in order to gain assistance from assistance funds. Scope of information included within the application form includes: information about institution submitting the project, information about the project, characteristics of the activities undertaken during the realization of the project, planned results and expenditures, obligatory documents in the form of annexes.
Area of intervention	Homogeneous thematic area in the frames of a priority, understood as a measure or a group of measures which may receive assistance for realization of common objectives.
Audit	All measures through which the institution manager obtains an independent evaluation of the institution functioning, legality, sound financial management, usefulness and reliability. Audit is performed by a separate unit reporting directly to the institution manager or by an external company
Baseline indicators	Indicators describing socio-economic situation in the area where the project is realized, measured prior to and during project implementation to assess occurring changes not resulting, however, from the realization of investment.
Beneficiary	Private person, legal person or organizational unit with no legal status to which legal status has been given under the act of December 6 th , 2006 about regional policy, realizing projects financed from the national budget or foreign sources.
Best Available Technology (BAT)	The most effective and advanced level of technology development and methods of pursuing particular activity, used as the basis for setting threshold emission levels, aimed at eliminating emission or, if this is practically impossible, at reducing emission and its impact on the whole environment.
Category of intervention	A specific issue under the categorization of Structural Funds intervention that is part of a particular socio-economic activity area. The field of Structural Funds intervention is helpful upon identification, examination and monitoring of measures. Categories of intervention are used to draft annual reports on the Structural Funds and their financial load, in order to facilitate transfer of information on various policies.
Check on site	Check of financial operations that are being financed under the Funds carried out on the site where the project is implemented.
Cohesion Fund	A European Commission's economic and political instrument, which is not included in the Structural Funds and which, is implemented on the level of selected states and not on the level of regions. Its aim is to facilitate integration of less developed countries by i.e. constructing extensive transport networks and environmental protection infrastructure facilities that have impact on a large area.



Term	Explanation
Community Initiatives 2000 - 2006	<p>Programmes financed under the Structural Funds aimed at resolving the problems occurring in the whole of the EU area. The number and character of the Community Initiatives are subject to modification depending on the identified problems affecting the functioning of the European Union. For 2000-2006 they include: <u>EQUAL, INTERREG, LEADER, URBAN</u>.</p> <p>In programming period 2000 – 2006 only EQUAL and INTERREG Initiatives are being implemented in Poland. In programming period 2007 – 2013 those Initiatives will be suppressed.</p>
Community Initiatives 2007-2013	<p>Initiatives in the frames of cohesion Policy for ensuring higher investment level, economy growth and creation of workplaces. The Programme JASPERS (Joint Assistance in Supporting Projects in European Region - common initiative of projects assistance on European regions) is to help national and local authorities in preparing major infrastructural projects, and JEREMIE (Joint European Resources for Micro to Medium Enterprises – common European resources for micro, small and medium enterprises) will improve access to financial assistance for micro and medium enterprises. The objective of the JESSICA Programme (Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas – common European assistance for sustainable investments in the urban areas) is solving of a problem of financing projects of urban renewal and development and joining donations and credits.</p>
Community Strategic Guidelines	<p>Strategic guidelines established on the Community level which concern economy, social and territorial cohesion, determining frameworks of structural funds assistance (with other adequate Community's policies)</p>
Community Support Framework (CSF)	<p>In the financial perspective 2000 – 2006 document adopted by the European Commission in agreement with a member state concerned after assessing the National Development Plan submitted by the member state. It includes strategy and priorities of the member state activities, their specific objectives, the amount of contribution of Funds and other financial resources. The document should be divided into priorities and implemented through one or several operational programmes</p>



Term	Explanation
Convergence (Objective)	The objective is aimed at speeding up convergence of the least developed Member States and regions by improving conditions for growth employment through increasing the quantity and improving the quality of investment in human capital and material, developing innovation and knowledge-based society, increasing the adaptability to economic and social change, protection and improvement of quality of the environment, as well as increasing administrative efficiency. Objective "Convergence" is financed by the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and Cohesion Fund. Regions eligible for financing from the Structural Funds under the "Convergence" are regions corresponding to level II of the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS II) within the meaning of Regulation (EC) No. 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council of 26 May 2003, whose GDP per capita measured in purchasing power parities and calculated on the basis of Community figures for 2000-2002 is less than 75% of GDP twenty-five Member States.
Cross-financing rule	A rule aimed at facilitating the implementation of one-fund operational programmes, which is based on financing the initiatives included in the intervention area of a different structural fund, in accordance with Art. 33 of the general regulation. The rule applies exclusively to initiatives which are necessary for a successful implementation of the project or group of projects, and are directly related to the project or group of projects. The maximum amount of means which may be used according to the rule is 10% on priority level.
Eligibility (of expenditure)	A set of requirements applicable to expenditure incurred in connection with the realization of project as well as implementation and monitoring of programme to be fulfilled where reimbursement of such expenditure from the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund source is sought.
EQUAL	In the period 2007 – 2013 the Community Initiative financed from the European Social Found being a part of a EU strategy for creating more and better work places and providing better access to them. EQUAL means new ways of solving the problem of discrimination on the labor market.
EU structural policy objectives in 2007-2013	The objectives aimed at achieving socio-economic cohesion of the EU. The Community objective for 2007-2013 are: - Objective 1 – Convergence, - Objective 2 – Regional competitiveness and Employment, - Objective 3 – Territorial cooperation
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)	One of the Structural Funds which task is to reduce disparities in the development level between EU regions. ERDF co-finances the implementation of Objectives 1, 2 and 3 of the EU Structural Policy. In particular, the Fund provides support for investment in production facilities, infrastructure development, local development initiatives and for small and medium enterprises.



Term	Explanation
European Social Fund (ESF)	One of the Structural Funds providing co-financing for implementation of Objective 3 in the entire EU area and supporting Objectives 1 and 2. The ESF focuses, primarily, on financing of human resources and labour market institutional development. The ESF related measures are implemented in five policy fields.
Evaluation (of a programme)	Assessment of the Community structural assistance impact against the objectives and the analysis of its influence on specific structural problems.
Ex-ante evaluation	An evaluation carried out prior to the programme implementation commencement. Its primary task is to verify the long-term effects of support as indicated in the elaborated programming documents. The essential objective of the ex-ante evaluation is to improve the programming documents quality by participation in programming of a body independent from programming institution. The ex-ante evaluation is to ensure that funds allocated for pursuing the policy of reducing development disparities between particular EU regions will be utilized in the way guarantying the achievement of the best possible results.
Ex-post evaluation	An evaluation carried out after the implemented programme completion whose primary objective is to specify the programme long-term effects, including the amount of funds employed, assistance efficiency and effectiveness. The main purpose of the ex-post evaluation is to supply information about the long-term effects stemming from the particular programme implementation, including the formulation of conclusions related to the structural policy trend.
Feasibility study	The study carried out at the stage of project formulation to verify if the project has a good basis for implementation and that it complies with the needs of potential beneficiaries. The study should constitute the plan of the project; it must specify and critically examine all the operational details of its implementation, thus trading, technical, financial, economic, institutional, socio-cultural and environmental conditions; the feasibility study permits to specify financial and economic profitability and consequently clear justification for the project implementation objective.
Financial controlling	Means and measures applied to ensure the accuracy of public funds raising and distribution process.
Financial monitoring	Monitoring of management of financial resources from the Structural Funds allocated for programmes and projects; it is the basis for evaluating the effectiveness of their spending.
General objective	The objective specifying the framework within which assistance is to be provided, including the general strategy and certain specific objectives.



Term	Explanation
Gross domestic product (GDP)	The measurement of the output produced in the territory of a country, which is the total of the household expenditures on purchases of goods and consumer services, private sector expenditure on purchases of goods and investment services, state expenditures on purchases of goods and services and the foreign trade balance.
Impact	Consequences for direct recipients following their participation in the project or the completion of given investment as well as indirect consequences for other recipients who benefited from or experienced losses due to the project implementation.
Impact indicators	Indicators related to the consequences of a programme beyond the immediate effects for direct beneficiaries (for example impact of the project on socio- economic situation within certain period from finalizing its realization). Specific impact means these effects which appear after a certain period of time, however, which are directly linked with the activity taken. Global impact includes long-term effects for the larger population.
Implementing Body	Public or private entity responsible for realisation part or all priorities of operational programme based on agreement or financial agreement for realization of delegated tasks.
Indicators	The measurement of objectives to be achieved, employed resources, obtained output, effects and other variables (especially economic, social, and concerning environment protection).
Innovation	The enterprises' capability to create and implement innovation and the actual skill of introducing novel and modernized products, new or modified technological or organizational and technical processes.
Intermediate body	Public administration units or other units of public finances sector, to which (by agreement with the managing authority) part of tasks concerning operational programme's have been delegated
Interim payment	Payment effected by the European Commission during the programme implementation to reimburse the actual costs incurred disclosed in the presented invoices or other equivalent accounting records certified by the Paying Authority.
INTERREG	The EU Initiative 2000 – 2006 financed from ERDF sources, which aim is to encourage border, multinational and cross- regional cooperation both between internal and external borders of EU.
ISPA	The pre-accession Instrument of Structural Policy, which main objective was support of candidate countries in the area of social and economy development by co-financing major investment projects in the transport and environment sector. When joining the European Union, in regard to annex II of the Accession Treaty, all projects which were financed from the ISPA means, and were not completed at that time, are being realized in the frameworks of the Cohesion Fund.
Large projects	Projects, which cost has been determined over 25 million euro (environmental sector) and 50 million for remaining sectors. Such projects are passed to the EC to affirm its fund assistance.



Term	Explanation
LEADER	In the programming period 2000 – 2006 Community Initiative financed by the European Agriculture Guidance and Guarantee Fund. The financial means from LEADER are designated for three objectives: - assistance of modern strategies of rural development - assistance for interregional and international projects of cooperation - creating networks of EU rural areas – those which receive LEADER+ assistance and those which do not.
Lisbon Strategy	The most important social – economical programme of the European Union, adopted in March 2000. Its objective is making European Union the leading economy in the world till the year 2010. The adoption of this programme was an expression of need of social – economical change of the Union.
Macroeconomic effect	The effect of the implementation of programmes co-financed under the Structural Funds on core macro-economic indicators.
Managing Authority	In case of regional operational programme board of voivodship, responsible for preparing and realization of an operational programme.
Measure	A project or group of projects chosen by the Managing Authority of an operational programme or within its responsibilities, according to criteria established by a Monitoring Committee and implemented by one or more beneficiaries to achieve objectives of a given priority
Mid-term evaluation	An evaluation carried out during the programme implementation. In the case of structural programmes it is made in the middle of the programming period and its aim is to estimate to which extent the envisaged objectives have been attained in the light of the previously carried out ex-ante evaluation, in particular in respect of the obtained output and achieved results and to specify the suitability of intentions in relation to the current socio-economic developments. The mid-term evaluation results are used for possible modification of the programming documents. The information provided through such evaluation should be utilized for the programme preparation in the subsequent programming period.
Model HERMIN	A macroeconomic instrument of modeling Structural Funds impact which puts emphasis on long-term growth incentives that result from the resources provided by the EU, mainly through investment in human resources (education and training systems) and improvement of production conditions (infrastructure), which contributes to enhancement of efficiency and competitiveness. The main stress of the model is laid on favorable supply effects – as real sources of improved efficiency and competitiveness of the economy whose effects are disclosed in the long run.
Monitoring Committee	The body appointed by a Managing Authority for the purposes of giving opinion of and consulting projects and for evaluation and supervision of a given specific programme. Its task is to prevent a partial assessment, to elaborate the criteria and method of the programme evaluation and the frequency of mid-term and final analyses.



Term	Explanation
National co-financing	Contribution from national funds to programmes or projects implemented with the contribution of assistance funds.
National Development Strategy	The basic strategic document determining objectives and priorities in the social – economical development of Poland and conditions which should ensure this development.
National Strategic Reference Frameworks/National Strategy of Cohesion	Document prepared by particular member States, including the objectives of the Community strategic guidelines. It determines the priorities and areas of intervention and EU funds implementation system (ERDF, ESF and CF) in the frameworks for Community budget for the period 2007-2013.
NFEP&WM	The National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management
The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS)	A uniform system of the EU member states' territorial division. NUTS is a five-degree hierarchical classification comprising three regional (NUTS 1 - 3) and two local (NUTS 4 - 5) levels. For practical reasons the NUTS nomenclature is mainly based on the existing administrative division of particular EU member states. The NUTS classification is the basis for keeping regional economic accounts and compiling regional statistics with regard to socio-economic aspects. From EU accession, in Poland such NTS classification functions under which the first level covers the whole country, level NTS 2 – 16 new voivodships, NTS 3 – 44 subregions, NTS 4 – 380 poviats and towns-poviats and to NTS level 5 qualifies 2 489 communes.
Operational programme	A document submitted by a Member State and approved of by the European Commission as part of the strategic reference framework, determining the development strategy which takes advantage of the cohesive priorities in order to achieve the planned objectives by using support from the fund, or as in the case of the “Convergence” objective the support of the Cohesion Fund and the ERDF.
Output indicators	Indicators related to activities. They are calculated in physical or monetary units (e.g. the length of the constructed road, the number of enterprises to which aid was provided etc.).
Overall (global) evaluation	The basic instrument In the structural Policy of the European Union. The subject of the overall evaluation is the whole programme financed from the assistant funds.
Payment	A specific amount of assistance funds transferred by the European Commission to the Paying Authority's account following a request for payment.
Payment of the final outstanding balance	Final payment effected upon the programme completion as reimbursement of the actual costs incurred and disclosed in the presented invoices or other equivalent accounting records certified by the Paying Authority, under the condition of presenting final programme implementation report by Paying Authority.
Payment on account	The payment in favour of the Paying Authority effected by the European Commission following its financial commitment in order to promptly reimburse costs incurred by beneficiaries.



Term	Explanation
Phare – CBC Cross Border Cooperation	The programme of cross border cooperation to finance projects mainly investment ones located on the border between the Phare country and the EU member state.
Phare Economic and Social Cohesion (Phare ESC)	The regional pre-accession development programme financed by the EU, one of the Phare programme parts, aimed at reducing gaps and differences between regions by promoting the activity of the manufacturing sector, development of human resources and infrastructure.
Physical monitoring	Monitoring of the progress of programme and project implementation through the system of indicators laid down in the programming documents.
Policy Concept for National Spatial Development (PCNSB)	The planning document laying down natural, cultural, social and economic conditions as well as objectives of Poland's spatial policy. The document forms the basis for programming trans-local public projects that have impact on the spatial management of Poland.
Pre-accession Funds	Means of non – return financial assistance from European Union for candidate countries. Their main objective is preparing of these countries to EU membership and support in economy differences equalization. Instruments functioning within the frames of those funds include: PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD.
Pre-feasibility study	The study carried out during the phase of project identification, where all potential problems are identified, alternative solutions assessed, and subsequently the preferred solution is selected based on the project sustainability criterion.
Programming (operational) documents	Documents in the form of programmes or development plans, elaborated for the purposes of spending funds initially allocated for a given area or sector by the European Commission under the Structural Funds. They specify, inter alia, objectives and main spending targets for the financial resources based on the analysis of development trends in a particular area or sector, criteria and ways of implementing specific projects, persons and institutions responsible for performing specific tasks and the estimated value and breakdown of funds including the co-financing from all available budgetary sources.
Project selection criteria	A set of formal and substantial requirements defined under the Programme Complement to be met by projects seeking co financing from assistance funds.
Priority	One of the strategy priorities adopted under the operational programme; the set of the defined objectives subduced to the priority.



Term	Explanation
Public good	Public good is a good which is commonly accessible, providing in the same quantity and quality to all consumers being in the area of its influence, e.g.: educational infrastructure, health care infrastructure, fresh air, public television.
Public procurement	According to Art. 2 point 13 of Public Procurement Act of January 29, 2004. ²⁷ – it should be understood as paid agreements made between party ordering and party executing services, supplies or construction works
Quantification	Presentation of the effects of the implementation of programmes financed from the Structural Funds at the output, result and impact levels.
Regional Development	A boost in the economic potential of regions and permanent improvement of their competitiveness and the living standards of their inhabitants, which contributes to the state's socio-economic development.
Request for payment	Request for reimbursement of expenditures/ clearance of project submitted in order for reimbursement / clearance of the actual costs incurred and presented in the invoices or other relevant and equivalent accounting records certified by the Paying Authority.
Reporting	Reporting made by Managing Authority of progress of implementation of programme or project co- financed from assistance funds.
Results	Direct and immediate effects of the implemented programme or project. The results provide information on the changes resulting from the programme or project implementation experienced by beneficiaries of assistance directly after obtaining support.
Result indicators	Indicators corresponding to direct immediate effects arising out of the programme. They provide information on the changes of, for example, behavior, capacity or execution relating directly to beneficiaries. Such indicators can take the form of physical indicators (shorter time of travel, number of the effectively trained people, the number of road accidents etc.) or financial indicators (an increase in the private sector financial resources, reduction in the transport costs).
ROP	Regional Operational Programmes for 2007 - 2013
WROP	Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for 2007 - 2013
Rural Areas Activation Programme (RAAP)	Programme, which main objective was widely understood rural areas development. In the frames of the Programme assistance was given to actions leading to increase of employment, central administration decentralization and regional development and also assistance in building institutional potential necessary for achieving and using of pre-accession and structural funds. The programme has been completed on June 30 th , 2005.

²⁷ Changes were published at Dz.U. dd. 2004 no. 96, item 959, no. 116, item 1207, no. 145, item 1537 and Dz.U. dd. 2006 no. 164, item 1163, no. 170, item 1217, no. 227, item 1658.



Term	Explanation
SAPARD	The pre-accession Instrument for Agriculture and Rural Development introduced for candidate countries of the European Union (Central Eastern Europe). Financial means from the Instrument were to help stimulating rural areas, facilitating integration of the agriculture sector of the candidate countries by adopting this sector to standards and requirements and fluent incorporation into the Common Agricultural Policy and structural programmes of the EU.
Sectoral operational programmes	Operational programmes prepared and managed by the competent ministries, performing horizontal tasks in relation to whole socio-economic sectors.
State aid	Public funds assigned to support entities running economic activities, in particular in the form of subsidies, tax reliefs, provision of capital, loans, credits and warranties and guarantees provided on more favourable terms and conditions than those existing on the market. Aid is granted from public bodies' funds (e.g. local governments) by these entities as well as via other public or private institutions indicated by the state. Within the meaning of Articles 87-89 of the Treaty state aid creates such economic advantage for an enterprise which under equal conditions of economic activity would not be possible.
Structural Assistance	The form co-financing projects from the Structural Funds resources
Structural Funds	EU financial resources enabling assistance in restructuring and modernization of member states' economies by way of intervention in the key sectors and regions (improvement of the structure). The Structural Funds for the 2007 – 2013 period comprise of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF).
Sustainable Development	Socio-economic development retaining the sustainability characteristics in the long run and not exerting a destructive impact on the environment in which it takes place.
SWOT analysis	The method enabling to analyse strengths and weaknesses of region in the face of opportunities and threats posed by environment. Acronym SWOT comes from the first letters of English words: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats.
Total of eligible costs	Total costs which are eligible for refund from the structural funds, concerning the costs of projects realization, implementing, managing and monitoring programmes, in frames of which the projects are being realized.
Total cost	Total costs of scheduled actions and operations comprising both eligible and non-eligible expenditure.
Trans European Networks	The transport infrastructure network including transport, telecommunications and power connections within the EU.
Twinning project	Bilateral cooperation between the candidate country's administration and a member state's institution selected through competitive bidding to jointly pursue project(s) in a specific area.



Term	Explanation
URBAN	In the programming period 2000 – 2006 the Community Initiative financed from the European Regional Development Fund. The assistance concerns projects of economy and social revitalization of European Union towns with at least 100 000 inhabitants.
Urban rate	The share of urban population in total population of a country.
VFEP&WM	The Voivodship Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management
Voivodship contract	The instrument of regional development support under which local self-governments received from the national budget subsidies to support their own tasks arising out of voivodship strategies and development programmes complying with the objective and priorities of strategic government documents.





13. Cohesion of the WROP with other policies

The measures implemented under the individual WROP priorities mark out a certain area. However, it must be remembered that also other policies under separate programmes will be implemented in Wielkopolska. In many cases, the measures within other policies will concern the geographic areas, business sectors, or the target groups addressed under the WROP. Therefore, very precise demarcation lines are necessary to avoid overlapping on the one hand and to ensure cohesion on the other.

An exact specification of the WROP intervention area and demarcation lines between the WROP intervention area and the intervention areas of other programmes is not possible in this document for formal reasons, because this type of information is required in other, more detailed documents.

An overview of other programmes to be implemented in Wielkopolska has been presented below. Attention has been drawn to those which can cause possible conflict areas as well as those which can be a source of synergies, i.e. an additional effect. The description presented below provides guidelines for the Detailed Description of the WROP Priorities and for the Managing Authority. The guidelines are aimed at avoiding overlapping and searching for synergies.

To ensure maximum efficiency of the cohesion, CAP and fisheries funds, complementary support of all instruments of the above-mentioned policies will be provided. Furthermore, explicit coordination mechanisms and double financing prevention principles will be specified.

Assistance under individual intervention areas specified in the WROP will be provided compliant with the primary objectives set out in the Europe 2020 Strategy. Furthermore, it will serve to implement the objectives of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

13.1. Cohesion policy in the framework of the NSRF

The most important programming document of the cohesion policy in the financial perspective 2007 - 2013 is "Community Strategic Guidelines for 2007 - 13 developed by the European Commission, which defines priorities of the cohesion policy for that period and are compliant with the provisions of the renewed Lisbon Strategy. Those priorities are as follows:

- To increase the attractiveness of Europe and its regions in regard to investments and employment,
- To improve knowledge and innovation for economic growth,
- To increase the number and quality of jobs.

As far as the instruments implementing the cohesion policy are concerned, the number of funds involved in financing of cohesion tasks will be limited to two structural ones (European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund), as well as Cohesion Fund (programmed together with the ESF and ERDF).

ERDF and CF projects will contribute to efficient implementation of OP HC objectives, financed by the ESF. Diversified support for human resources in the framework of OP HC



combined with the effects of infrastructural investments will enable faster accomplishment of the objectives of social, economic and territorial cohesion.

The complementary nature of all NSRF operational programmes has been designed in such a way that national operational programmes (Infrastructure and Environment, Innovative Economy and Human Capital - the central component) support supraregional, national and international projects, whereas measures in the framework of ROPs and the regional component of OP HC will finance regional, subregional and local projects. Furthermore, transborder projects financed within the European Territorial Cooperation will be implemented in border areas.

All the above-mentioned activities are coherent and synergetic to maximise the efficiency of spending Community funds.

According to the national document "National Strategic Reference Framework 2007 - 2013 for economy growth and employment" EU cohesion priorities in Poland will be implemented by means of 5 Sectoral Operational Programmes and 16 regional programmes:

- OP Infrastructure and Environment (financed from the ERDF and ESF), where the main areas of assistance are transport, environment and energy infrastructure, cultural development and national heritage
- OP Human Capital (financed from the ESF), in which assistance will be provided to projects related to education, social integration, counteracting unemployment and those related to health care,
- OP Innovative Economy (financed from the ERDF), in which assistance will be provided to entrepreneurs by means of investment grants, and for development of modern technologies and R&D,
- OP Development of Eastern Poland (financed from the ERDF), in which assistance will be provided to the poorest regions of eastern Poland,
- OP European Territorial Cooperation (financed from the ERDF), which is a packet of programmes of border, transnational and transregional cooperation,
- Regional operational programmes (financed from the ERDF), which will support projects aimed at increasing regions' competitiveness, i.e. primarily investments in technological development, enterprise assistance, building an information society, investments in tourism and culture, transport, health and social infrastructure and investments in environmental protection.

The Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme is compliant with the above-mentioned system of instruments of the cohesion policy in Poland, and it complements the sectoral programmes by means of measures planned for implementation at the regional and local level. The WROP measures are particularly complementary to:

- Measures under OP Innovative Economy - particularly with respect to: investments in innovation, R&D of new technologies, entrepreneurship, information society;
- Measures under OP Infrastructure and Environment - particularly with respect to: transport, the environment, power engineering, social infrastructure;



- Measures under OP Development of Eastern Poland - particularly with respect to: road infrastructure, business environment institutions, tertiary education and information society infrastructure;

Individual priorities of the WROP are coherent with priorities and measures of operational programmes implemented at the national level as follows:

Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Innovative Economy": Priority Axis I "Research and development of new technologies", Priority Axis II "R&D infrastructure", Priority Axis III "Capital for innovation", Priority Axis IV "Investments in innovative enterprises", Priority Axis V "Diffusion of innovations", Priority Axis VI "Polish economy on the international market", Priority Axis VIII "Information society – increasing innovation in the economy"
- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis IV "Initiatives aimed at adjusting enterprises to the requirement of environmental protection".
- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority II "Development of human resources and adaptation potential of enterprises", Priority IV "Education and science", Priority VIII "Regional human resources for the economy".

Priority II Communication infrastructure

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis VI "TEN-T road and air transport networks", Priority Axis VII "Environment-friendly transport", Priority Axis VIII "Transport safety and national transport networks", Priority Axis XI "Culture and cultural heritage", Priority Axis XII "Health security and improving the efficiency of the healthcare system", Priority Axis XIII "Higher education infrastructure"
- Operational Programme "Human Capital": Priority V "Good governance", Priority IX "Development of education and competences in the regions"
- Operational Programme "Innovative Economy": Priority Axis VII "Information society – development of e-administration", Priority Axis VIII "Information society – increasing innovation in the economy"

Priority III The environment

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment": Priority Axis I "Water and waste water management", Priority Axis II "Waste management and protection of the earth", Priority Axis III "Resource management and counteracting environmental risks", Priority Axis IV "Initiatives aimed at adjusting enterprises to the requirement of environmental protection", Priority Axis V "Environmental protection and promotion of ecological habits", Priority Axis IX "Environment-friendly energy infrastructure and energy efficiency", Priority Axis X "Energy security, including the diversification of energy sources".



Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme “Human Capital”: Priority VI “The labour market open for all”, Priority VII “Promotion of social integration”, Priority VIII “Regional human resources for the economy”, Priority IX “Development of education and competences in the regions”
- Operational Programme “Infrastructure and Environment”: Priority Axis II “Waste management and protection of the earth”

Priority V Infrastructure for human capital

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme “Infrastructure and Environment”: Priority Axis XII “Health security and improving the efficiency of the healthcare system” Priority Axis XIII “Higher education infrastructure”
- Operational Programme “Human Capital”: Priority I: “Employment and social integration”, Priority II: “Development of human resources and adaptation potential of enterprises and improvement in the health condition of working people”, Priority III: “High quality of education”, Priority IV: “Tertiary education and science”, Priority V: “Good governance”, Priority VI: “The labour market open for all”, Priority VII: “Promotion of social integration”, Priority VIII: “Regional human resources for the economy”, Priority IX “Development of education and competences in the regions”
- Operational Programme “Innovative Economy”: Priority Axis I “Research and development of new technologies”, Priority Axis II “R&D infrastructure”, Priority Axis VII “Information society – establishment of electronic administration”.

Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment

The Priority is complementary to:

- Operational Programme “Human Capital”: Priority VI “The labour market open for all”, Priority VII “Promotion of social integration”, Priority VIII “Regional human resources for the economy”, Priority IX “Development of education and competences in the regions”
- Operational Programme “Infrastructure and Environment”: Priority Axis XII “Culture and cultural heritage”

13.2. Complementarity of the WROP with measures financed from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development in the framework of the “Rural Development Programme for the years 2007-2013”

Within the programming period 2007-2013, assistance for development of rural areas has been excluded from the EU cohesion policy. Projects implemented in this area will receive support from the budget of the Common Agricultural Policy and will be handled by a



new financial instrument created for this purpose, i.e. the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

Priorities expected to be implemented in the framework of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme are coherent with measures under the Rural Development Programme for the year 2007-2013:

Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises

The Priority is complementary to the following measures:

- Axis 1 “Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector”

Measure “Increasing the added value to basic agricultural and forestry production”

Assistance provided under the RDP will be aimed at increasing competitiveness of enterprises in the sector of processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products. The demarcation criterion is based on the type of product (assistance concerns products which are not covered by Annex 1 to the Treaty Establishing the European Community).

Measure “Information and publicity measures”

Assistance under the RDP will be provided to projects aimed at promotion of groups of producers.

- Axis 3 “Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy”,

Measure “Diversification into non-agricultural activities

Assistance under the RDP will be provided to projects aimed at diversification of agricultural activities in order to start or develop non-agricultural activities or those related to agriculture by farmers, householders and farmers’ spouses, which will result in generating non-agricultural income sources and promotion of non-agriculture jobs in rural areas.

Measure “Establishment and development of micro-enterprises”

In the framework of the aforementioned RDP measure, direct financial support for investments in existing and newly established micro-enterprises in rural and town/rural communes (excluding towns of more than 5 thousand inhabitants) and in towns and town communes up to 5 thousand inhabitants will be provided. Assistance under the RDP will be provided also to those entrepreneurs, regardless of the location of their business, who produce, process and/or place on the market products listed in Annex I to the Treaty Establishing the European Community (Official Journal of EC C 235 of 24 December 2002).

Measure “Basic services for the economy and rural population”,

Assistance under the RDP will be provided to projects improving the level of basic services in rural areas, determining social and economic development, which will contribute to e.g. improvement in the conditions of pursuing business activities.

- Axis 4 - LEADER, Measure “Implementation of local development strategies”

Under the aforementioned RDP measure, direct financial support will be provided for development of projects financed under Axis 3 Measure “Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy”, concerning diversification into non-agricultural activities and establishment of micro-enterprises.



Priority II Communication infrastructure

The Priority is complementary to the following measures:

- Axis 1 “Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector”, Measure “Improving and developing infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry” - within Scheme I “Land reparation”, municipal roads, access roads to farmlands and woodlands will be constructed in accordance with land reparation projects.

Priority III The environment

The Priority is complementary to the following measures:

- Axis 1 “Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector”

Measure “Use of advisory services by farmers and forest owners”

Advisory services, also those related to environmental protection, will be supported.

Measure “Modernisation of agricultural holdings”

Assistance will be provided for e.g. harmonisation of the conditions of pursuing agricultural production with environmental protection requirements.

Measure “Increasing the added value to basic agricultural and forestry production”.

Assistance under the aforementioned measure will be provided to processing of agricultural products for the purposes of energy production.

Measure “Improving and developing infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry”;

Assistance will be granted for projects related to water melioration, as well as projects related to formation of longitudinal and cross sections, as well as horizontal patterns of river beds, provided these are aimed at regulating hydrological conditions in soil, facilitating its cultivation and water protection of farmland.

Measure “Participation of farmers in food quality schemes”

Assistance will be provided for environment-friendly management systems taking into account the most recent advances in agricultural science and technology.

- Axis 2 “Improving the environment and rural areas”

Measure “Agri-environmental programme (agri-environmental payments)”

Assistance under the aforementioned measure will be provided to projects aimed at restoration of natural values or retaining the number of valuable habitats used for agricultural purposes and at retaining the biological diversity in rural areas; at promotion of sustainable management and proper use of soil, as well as water protection.

Measure “Afforestation of agricultural land and non-agricultural land”

Assistance under the aforementioned measure will be provided for forest land through afforestation, retaining and enhancing the ecological stability of forest land by means of reducing forest fragmentation and creating ecological corridors, increasing the share of forests in the global carbon balance and limiting climate changes.

Measure “Restoring forestry production potential damaged by natural disasters and introducing appropriate prevention instruments”

Assistance will be aimed at restoration of the biological potential of forests damaged by natural disasters and preventive protection of forests at risk of fire.



- Axis 3 “Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy”

Measure “Basic services for the economy and rural population”,

Assistance under the measure will be provided to projects related to water and waste water management, segregation of municipal waste and production and distribution of energy obtained from renewable sources in rural communes, town/rural communes (excluding towns of more than 5 thousand inhabitants or those belonging to rural communes, excluding towns of more than 5 thousand inhabitants).

Measure “Village renewal and development”.

Implementation of the measure will provide conditions enhancing social and economic growth in rural areas and activation of population inhabiting rural areas through investment support granted for implementation of projects related to public space development, including maintenance, reconstruction and improvement of cultural and natural heritage of rural areas, as well as increasing the tourist attractiveness of rural areas.

- Axis 4 - Leader

Measure “Implementation of local development strategies”

Under Axis 4 – Leader, support for preparation of projects financed from Axis III, Measure “Basic services for the economy and rural population”, will be possible.

Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas

The Programme is complementary to Axis 3 of the RDP “Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy”:

Measure “Diversification into non-agricultural activities”.

Assistance under the RDP will be provided to projects aimed at diversification of agricultural activities in order to start or develop non-agricultural activities or those related to agriculture by farmers, householders and farmers’ spouses, which will result in generating non-agricultural income sources and promotion of non-agriculture jobs in rural areas.

Measure “Village renewal and development”.

Implementation of the measure will provide conditions enhancing social and economic growth in rural areas and activation of population inhabiting rural areas through investment support granted for implementation of projects related to public space development, including maintenance, reconstruction and improvement of cultural and natural heritage of rural areas, as well as increasing the tourist attractiveness of rural areas.

Measure “Establishment and development of micro-enterprises”.

In the framework of the aforementioned RDP measure, direct financial support for investments in existing and newly established micro-enterprises in rural and town/rural communes (excluding towns of more than 5 thousand inhabitants) and in towns and town communes up to 5 thousand inhabitants will be provided. Assistance under the RDP will be provided also to those entrepreneurs, regardless of the location of their business, who produce, process and/or place on the market products listed in Annex I to the Treaty Establishing the European Community (Official Journal of EC C 235 of 24 December 2002).



Priority V Infrastructure for human capital

No assistance has been provided for under the RDP for measures related to education infrastructure, health care and welfare.

Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment

The Priority is complementary to:

Axis 3 "Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy",

Measure "Diversification into non-agricultural activities"

Assistance under the measure will be provided to e.g. projects related to starting or developing business activity in the area of tourism services and those related to sport, recreation and leisure.

Measure "Establishment and development of micro-enterprises"

In the framework of the aforementioned RDP measure, direct financial support for investments in existing and newly established micro-enterprises in rural and town/rural communes (excluding towns of more than 5 thousand inhabitants) and in towns and town communes up to 5 thousand inhabitants, will be provided. Assistance under the RDP will be provided also to those entrepreneurs, regardless of the location of their business, who produce, process and/or place on the market products listed in Annex I to the Treaty Establishing the European Community (Official Journal of EC C 235 of 24 December 2002).

Measure "Village renewal and development".

Implementation of the measure will provide conditions enhancing social and economic growth in rural areas and activation of population inhabiting rural areas through investment support granted for implementation of projects related to public space development, including maintenance, reconstruction and improvement of cultural and natural heritage of rural areas, as well as increasing the tourist attractiveness of rural areas. Under the RDP in the area of cultural infrastructure, it is possible to implement projects in rural communes, town/rural communes (excluding towns of more than 5 thousand inhabitants) and towns of up to 5 thousand inhabitants belonging to rural communes.

Axis 4 - Leader

Measure "Implementation of local development strategies".

Under Axis 4 – Leader, support for preparation of projects financed from Axis 3, Measure "Basic services for the economy and rural population", will be possible.



13.3. Complementarity of the WROP with measures financed from the European Fisheries Fund in the framework of the Operational Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007 - 2013"

Within the programming period 2007-2013, assistance for development of the fisheries sector has been excluded from the EU cohesion policy. Projects implemented in this area will receive support from the budget of the Common Fisheries Policy and will be handled by a new financial instrument created for this purpose, i.e. the European Fisheries Fund.

Priorities expected to be implemented in the frameworks of the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme are coherent with measures under the Operational Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007 - 2013" as follows:

Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises

Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises. The Priority is complementary to the following measures:

- Priority Axis 2 "Aquaculture, inland fisheries, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products" - Measure 2.4 "Inland fisheries", Measure 2.5 "Investments in processing and marketing",
- Priority Axis 3 "Measures of common interest" – Measure 3.1. "Collective actions", Measure 3.4. "Development of new markets and promotion campaigns", Measure 3.5 "Pilot projects".

The Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" provides for support for projects related to e.g.:

- improvement of conditions for sustainable fisheries management and coastal fisheries management; improvement of the quality of fisheries products, improvement of efficiency and external competitiveness of this subsector; development and implementation of new fishing technologies and techniques,
- construction, extension, refurbishment and modernisation of fish breeding facilities, as well as adaptation, refurbishment, replacement, repair or provision of technical equipment, including purchase of internal transport means, specialist external transport means and devices and installations related directly to breeding fish and other water organisms,
- construction, extension and modernisation of equipment of enterprises, training projects, as well as projects consisting in implementation of innovative and environment-friendly technological processes and technical solutions, as well as organisational solutions in the area of quality and food safety management (including certification of such products),
- regional, national and international campaigns promoting fisheries and aquaculture products, including participation in trade fairs and shows,
- campaigns promoting the image of fisheries and aquaculture products and that of the fisheries industry.



Priority II Communication infrastructure

No complementary measures have been provided for in this area of assistance in the framework of the Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013".

Priority III The environment

The Priority is complementary to the following measures:

- Priority Axis 2 "Aquaculture, inland fisheries, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products" - Measure 2.1 "Aquaculture investments",
- Priority Axis 3 "Measures of common interest" - Measure 3.2. "Protection and development of aquatic flora and fauna".

The Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" provides for support for projects related to e.g.:

- promotion of aquaculture forms improving environmental protection and quality, natural resources and genetic diversity, as well as landscape formation and traditional characteristics of aquaculture areas,
- promotion of sustainable aquaculture complying with specific environmental protection limitations resulting from the demarcation of areas belonging to the NATURA 2000 network,
- construction or installation of fixed or movable devices for protection and enriching of aquatic flora and fauna, and for freshwater restoration, including fish mating areas and migratory fish routes by restoring inland water passage.

Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas

No complementary measures have been provided for in this area of assistance in the framework of the Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013".

Priority V Infrastructure for human capital

No complementary measures have been provided for in this area of assistance in the framework of the Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013".

Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment

The Programme "Sustainable Development of Fisheries Sector and Coastal Fishing Areas 2007-2013" provides for support for projects related to e.g.:

- Priority Axis 2 "Aquaculture, inland fisheries, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products" – Measure 2.1. "Aquaculture investments" – provides for support for projects related to *inter alia* traditional fish breeding, including improvement of multifunctionality of fish farms by developing ecotourism and fishing.
- Priority Axis 4 "Sustainable development of fisheries areas" – Measure 4.1. "Sustainable development of fisheries areas" – provides for support for *inter alia*



restructuring of business activity, in particular by means of promotion of ecotourism in areas dependant on the fisheries sector.

13.4. Demarcation

To avoid possible overlapping of interventions between individual operational programmes co-financed with structural funds, the Cohesion Fund, EAFRD and EFF, the Managing Authority will comply with the provisions of the Demarcation Line between Operational Programmes of the Cohesion Policy, Common Agricultural Policy and Common Fisheries Policy", a document approved of by the NSRF Coordinating Committee.

The above-mentioned document provides a detailed description of demarcation criteria, based primarily on the territorial reach of measures, project values, beneficiary types, etc. The document was worked out by all institutions involved in development programming for the years 2007-2013.

The coordination mechanism is described in Chapter 7.12.





14. Attachments

14.1. Financial table for Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme divided in years (in euro)

Year	European Regional Development Fund	Cohesion Fund	Total
2007	178 428 736	-	178 428 736
2008	182 606 983	-	182 606 983
2009	186 757 718	-	186 757 718
2010	184 321 409	-	184 321 409
2011	194 373 332	-	194 373 332
2012	200 691 043	-	200 691 043
2013	205 394 311	-	205 394 311
2007-2013	1 332 573 532	-	1 332 573 532



14.2. Financial table for Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme divided to priorities and financial sources (in euro)

Priorities	Community share (a)	National share (b) = (c) + (d)	Indicative division of national share		Total financing (e) = (a) + (b)	Level of co-financing (f) = (a) / (e)	For information purpose	
			National public share (c)	Private share (d)			EIB share	Other
Priority I Competitiveness of enterprises	343 367 888	177 578 251	52 084 158	125 494 093	520 946 139	65,91%	-	
Priority II Communication infrastructure	537 661 547	131 064 857	100 870 541	30 194 316	668 726 404	80,40%	-	
Priority III The environment	173 821 000	43 024 098	32 328 775	10 695 323	216 845 098	80,16%	-	
Priority IV Revitalisation of problem areas	54 060 000	18 020 000	16 657 500	1 362 500	72 080 000	75,00%	-	
Priority V Infrastructure for human capital	121 284 097	38 174 052	29 013 672	9 160 380	159 458 149	76,06%	-	
Priority VI Tourism and cultural environment	61 470 000	25 648 921	18 978 529	6 670 392	87 118 921	70,56%	-	
Priority VII Technical assistance	40 909 000	0	0	0	40 909 000	100,00%	-	
Total	1 332 573 532	433 510 179	249 933 175	183 577 004	1 766 083 711	75,45%	-	



14.3. Indicative division by category of the programmed use of contribution funds in the Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme for 2007-2013 (in euro)

Table 1 Codes of classification according to priority theme dimension

Code	Categories of intervention	ERDF means (in euro)	WROP share (%)
Research and technological development, innovation and entrepreneurship		309 230 482	23,21%
2	R+TD infrastructure (including physical plant, instrumentation and high speed networks linking research centers) and centers of competence in a specific technology	13 591 140	1,02%
3	Technology transfer and improvement of cooperation networks between small businesses (SMEs), between SME and between these and other businesses and universities, post-secondary education establishments of all kinds, regional authorities, research centers and scientific and technological poles (scientific and technological parks, technopoles, etc.)	4 020 000	0,30%
5	Advanced support services for enterprises and groups of enterprises	102 653 820	7,70%
7	Investment in enterprises directly linked to research and innovation (innovative technologies, establishment of new firms by universities, existing R&TD centers and firms, etc.)	6 980 888	0,52
8	Other investment in enterprises	177 254 938	13,30%
9	Other measures to stimulate research and innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs	4 729 696	0,35%
Information society		139 081 040	10,44%
10	Telephone infrastructures (including broad band networks)	118 720 654	8,91%
13	Services and applications for citizens (e-health, e-administration, e-education, e-integration etc.)	7 237 906	0,54%
15	Other measures for improving access to and efficient use of ICT by SMEs	13 122 480	0,98%
Transport		409 221 722	30,71%
16	Railways	39 118 227	2,94%
18	Mobile rail assets	40 471 677	3,04%
23	Regional/local roads	261 279 076	19,61%
25	Urban transport	59 832 289	4,49%
29	Airports	8 520 453	0,64%
Code	Categories of intervention	ERDF means (in euro)	WROP share (%)
Energy		46 181 382	3,47%
33	Electricity	5 271 382	0,40%
35	Natural gas	1 280 000	0,10%
39	Renewable energy: wind	5 105 193	0,38%
40	Renewable energy: solar	164 684	0,01%
41	Renewable energy: biomass	82 342	0,01%
42	Renewable energy: hydroelectric, geothermal and other	2 717 280	0,20%
43	Energy efficiency, cogeneration, energy management	31 560 501	2,37%
Environmental protection and risk prevention		151 135 809	11,34%
44	Management of household and industrial waste	19 826 651	1,49%



45	Management and distribution of water (drink water)	4 781 053	0,36%
46	Water treatment (waste water)	85 539 752	6,42%
51	Promotion of biodiversity and nature protection (including Natura 2000)	685 660	0,05%
52	Promotion of clean urban transport	14 034 735	1,05%
53	Risk prevention (including the drafting and implementation of plans and measures to prevent and manage natural and technological risks)	20 504 299	1,54%
54	Other measures to preserve the environment and prevent risks	5 763 659	0,43%
Tourism		35 110 000	2,63%
57	Other assistance to improve tourist services	35 110 000	2,63%
Culture		26 360 000	1,98%
58	Protection and preservation of the cultural heritage	25 569 200	1,92%
59	Development of culture infrastructure	790 800	0,06%
Urban and rural revitalisation		54 060 000	4,06%
61	Integrated projects for urban and rural revitalisation	54 060 000	4,06%
Investments in social infrastructure		121 284 097	9,10%
75	Educational infrastructure	62 804 097	4,71%
76	Health infrastructure	52 620 000	3,95%
79	Other social infrastructure	5 860 000	0,44%
Technical assistance		40 909 000	3,07%
85	Preparation, implementation, monitoring and inspection	36 119 002	2,71%
86	Evaluation, studies and expertise; information and communication	4 789 998	0,36%
Total ERDF		1 332 573 532	100,00%

**Table 2 Codes of classification according to financial forms criteria**

Code	Financial form	ERDF means (in euro)
01	Non – refundable assistance	1 177 110 669
02	Assistance (<i>lease, subsidy for percentage payment, guaranties</i>)	155 462 863
03	venture capital (share purchase, <i>venture funds</i>)	0
04	Other forms of financing	0

Table 3 Codes of classification according to regional criteria

Code	Region Type	ERDF means (in euro)
01	Urban area	781 806 632
02	Mountain area	0
03	Islands	0
04	Areas with low and very low density of population	0
05	Rural areas (<i>except for mountain areas, islands, with low and very low density of population</i>)	444 392 900
06	Former external EU (<i>after 30.04.2004 r.</i>)	0
07	Peripheral region	0
08	Transborder cooperation area	0
09	Transnational cooperation area	0
10	Interregional cooperation area	0
00	Not applicable	106 374 000



14.4. Contextual indicators of the Programme

No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional corsssection (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
SOCIETY						
1.	Employment indicator		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators on the WROP level
	Total	%			46,80	
	men	%			54,90	
	women	%			39,20	
	town	%			46,10	
	village	%			47,90	
	to 24 of age	%			28,50	
	age 25-54	%			69,80	
	age 55-64	%			13,02	
2.	Working		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators on the WROP level
	Total	absolute no			1 209 924	
	Including previous year =100	%			102,07	
	including: in private sector	%			77,8	
	including: in SME	%			77,1	
3.	Unemployment rate:		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators on the WROP level
	by EAPS ²⁾ total	%			18,2	
	including women	%			20,9	
	in rural areas	%			18,9	
	registered	%			15,9	
	percentage of registered unemployed women	%			55,1	



No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional corsssection (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
4.	Households equipped with PC with Internet access in % of total households	%	NTS 0 Poland	Central Statistical Office research for 2005	30	Context for indicator (no 12) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority II of the WROP level
5.	Schools equipped in computers		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2005		Context for indicators of Priority V of the WROP level
	Primary schools	%			89,4	
	Gymnasiums	%			80,5	
	Upper primary and upper gymnasium schools	%			40,8	
	Basic Vocational School	%			21,9	
	High schools	%			100,0	
	Higher Vocational School	%			25,0	
	Vocational and upper high schools	%			35,0	
6.	Education of people 13 of age and more		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office -National Census 2002		Context for indicators of Priority V of the WROP level
	middle (including Basic vocational and upper high)	%			57,6	
	in the village	%			21,7	
	higher	%			9,3	
	in the village	%			1,7	
7.	Nights in touristic objects of mass accommodation		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators of Priority IV of the WROP level
	for 1 thousand of inhabitants	w tys.			0,740	
	including foreign tourists	w tys.			0,141	



No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional corssction (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
8.	Death casualties of road accidents		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators of Priority II of the WROP level
	for 10 thousand registered vehicles	absolute no.			2,90	
	previous year =100	%			96,7	
	for 10 thousand of inhabitants	absolute no			1,49	
	previous year =100	%			93,1	
9.	Migration balance:		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators on the WROP level
	in towns	absolute no			- 3494	
		for 10 thousand people			- 1,82	
	in villages	absolute no.			5947	
		for 10 thousand people			4,13	
	foreign	absolute no.			0	
	for 10 thousand people	0,0				
10.	People in towns with mass communication plant	absolute no	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005.	1 351 000	Context for indicator (no 12) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority II of the WROP level
11.	Length of roads		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators (no 14 and 16) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority II of the WROP level
	total	km			38025,8	
	including hardened pavement	km			23466,2	
	voivodship	km			2705,2	
	including hardened pavement	km			2705,2	
	poviat	km			12531,6	
	including hardened pavement	km			11338,3	
	commune	km			22789,0	
including hardened pavement	km	9422,7				



No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional corsssection (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
12.	Length of railway tracks	km	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005	2066	Context for indicators (no 19) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority 2 of the WROP level
ECONOMY						
13.	Gross Domestic Product (in PPP⁵⁾) per capita for one inhabitant (in thousand euro)	PPP ⁵⁾	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office Regional Accounts 2004	9,5275	1PPP=1E=4 PLN Context for indicators on the WROP level
14.	Gross Domestic Product in PPP⁵⁾) percentage of EU-27 average	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office Regional Accounts 2004 (data for 2003 and 2004)	52,41	Context for indicators on the WROP level
15.	Gross added value in economy sectors for 1 employed		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office Regional Accounts 2004		Context for indicators on the WROP level
	Agriculture	PLN			32 356	
	Industry:	PLN			61 644	
	Building	PLN			67 264	
	Market services	PLN			81 395	
	Non-market services	PLN			54 546	
16.	Structure of working according to economy sectors:		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators on the WROP level
	Agriculture: Voivodship=100	%			17,36	
	previous year =100	%			100,18	
	Industry: Voivodship=100	%			27,99	
	previous year =100	%			105,80	
	Building: Voivodship=100	%			4,95	
	previous year =100	%			94,62	
	Services: Voivodship=100	%			49,70	
previous year =100	%	101,54				



No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional corssction (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
17.	Subjects of national economy registered in the REGON system		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators of Priority I of the WROP level
	for 10 thousand inhabitants	absolute no.			994	
	SME	absolute no.			993	
18.	Investment expenditures for material assets on 1 inhabitant		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2004		Context for indicators of Priority I of the WROP level
	total	PLN			3800,0	
	in private sector	PLN			2798,0	
19.	Expenditures for research and development (current prices) In relation to GDP	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004.	0,43	Context for indicators of Priority I of the WROP level
	including financed by enterprises	%			0,10	
20.	Share of enterprises, with innovative activity in industry	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004	21,1	Context for indicators of Priority I of the WROP level
21.	Share of new and modernized products in the industry sold production	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004	18,7	Context for indicators of Priority I of the WROP level
ENVIRONMENT						
22.	Total emission of air pollution		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
	dust	t/ km ²			0,30	
	previous year =100	%			88,2	
	sulphur dioxide	t/ km ²			4,60	
	previous year =100	%			98,7	
	nitric oxide	t/ km			0,90	
previous year =100	%	94,7				



No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional corsssection (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
23.	People using sewage systems		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators ((no 26) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
	total	thousand			1955,5	
	including in the villages	thousand			327,0	
	total % of people	%			58,1	
	including in the villages	%			22,5	
24.	People using water supply systems		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators ((no 25) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
	total	thousand			3092,2	
	including in the villages	thousand			1241,4	
	total % of people	%			91,8	
	including in the villages	%			85,3	
25.	People operated by water treatment systems		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ data for 2005		Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
	total % of people	%			59,75	
	including in the villages	%			23,24	
26.	Industrial and communal waste:		NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2004		Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
	on km ² of land	hm ³ /km ²			0,006	
	in% of waste needed treatment	%			98,5	
27.	Share of treated waste in the total produced waste (excluding communal waste)	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	VEI ⁴⁾ data for 2005	75,2	Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
28.	Communal waste produced for 1 inhabitant	kg	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ for 2004	297	Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
29.	Electric energy coming from renewable sources (installed power)	MW	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ for 2005	12 700	Context for indicators (no 24) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
30.	Share of energy production from RES in the total production	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ for 2005	0,094	Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level



No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Regional cosssection (NTS)	Source/year	Indicator's value	Remarks
31.	Areas with special environmental values legally protected in % of total area	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2005	31	Context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level
32.	Area of recultivated and developed post industrial areas and other degraded areas to total	%	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	CSO -RDB ³ for 2005	0,047	Context for indicators of Priority IV of the WROP level
33.	CO₂ Emission	thousand Mg/year	NTS 2 Wielkopolskie Voivodship	Central Statistical Office data for 2005	16 795,647	Context for indicators ((no 30) from the EC list ¹⁾ / context for indicators of Priority III of the WROP level

¹⁾ Indicators from the European Commission list „Indicators of monitoring and evaluation. Practical guide. New programming period 2007-2013: Working paper”. European Commission, Directorate General, Regional Policy January 23rd 2006

In the table following indicators from the list have been used

- 12 – number of inhabitants equipped additionally with broadband,
- 14 - km of new roads,
- 16 - km of rebuilt roads,
- 19 - km of rebuilt railway traction
- 22 – additional number of people benefiting from the improved system of urban transport
- 24 – additional production of renewable energy,
- 25 – additional number of people benefiting from water projects
- 26 - additional number of people benefiting from sewage systems projects,
- 30 – limiting of gas emission (CO₂ and equivalents).

²⁾ EAPS –Economical Activeness of Population Study

³⁾ CSO-RDB –Central Statistical Office – Regional Data Bank

⁴⁾ VEI –Voivodship Environment Inspector

⁵⁾ PPP – purchasing power parity 1 unit of currency (average for 25 EU countries). 1 PPP = 1 euro



14.5. Major projects

No.	WROP's priority	Title of the project	Estimated total cost (million euro)	Estimated co-financing cost (million euro)	Institution responsible for realization
1	II. Communication infrastructure	Purchase of rolling stock for passenger regional railway transport	143.088	49.844	Marshal's Office of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship, Department of Transport
2	II. Communication infrastructure	Construction of the tram route in Poznań – Lech Housing - Franowo	72.83	25.46	Poznań City Hall
3	II. Communication infrastructure	Construction of Broadband Networks Wielkopolska	112.08	78.09	Wielkopolska Sieć Szerokopasmowa S.A.

