

# Polish Agency for Enterprise Development ... to bring life into Eastern Poland

## European Union funds – a great opportunity for rapid development of Poland's eastern regions

More than EUR 2.2 billion from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) has been allocated for the development of the least developed regions of Poland – Warmia and Mazury, Podlasie, Podkarpacie, Lubelszczyzna and Świętokrzyskie, for which a special Operational Programme Development of Eastern Poland 2007-2013 (OP DEP) has been designed.

## Modern regions based on rich tradition – this is what Poland's eastern regions will be associated with in 2015

Under the Programme, support will be offered primarily to projects related to improvement of the road network, preparation of land for capital projects, development of schools of higher education, congress infrastructure, technology parks, broadband Internet access, and the development of environment-friendly public transport.

Co-financing will be provided for projects that increase the attractiveness of the five eastern voivodships to tourists and investors and indirectly Structural Funds will stimulate innovativeness and entrepreneurship amongst the regions' residents. This is the best investment ensuring sustainable social and economic development of these regions.

## Allocation of resources from the European Regional Development Fund between the voivodships (in EUR million)

<i>Lubelskie Voivodship 508,57</i>	<i>Podkarpackie Voivodship 487,48</i>	<i>Warmińskomazurskie Voivodship 447,37</i>	<i>Podlaskie Voivodship 386,86</i>	<i>Świętokrzyskie Voivodship 375,3</i>
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## **Outlays for the development of Eastern Poland**

Money from ERDF will be used primarily for the construction and modernisation of roads – almost EUR 663 million, and for the development of the educational infrastructure – more than EUR 337 million. The spending for capital projects in infrastructure in regional growth centres for the development of city public transport and the infrastructure for congresses and tourism associated with fairs and other commercial events is planned to reach a total of EUR 452.6 million. Another EUR 407 million will be spent to create and make available to entrepreneurs an infrastructure for innovative business. Outlays on ICT infrastructure planned under the Programme will be EUR 255 million, and about EUR 47.5 million will be invested in building bicycle paths and developing tourist services. In addition to EU funds, more than EUR 400 million will be allocated for the Programme from Poland's central and local government budgets.

**The objective of the Programme is “Hastening the pace of social and economic development in Eastern Poland in conformity to the sustainable development principle”. This objective is to be achieved by the implementation of the following detailed objectives:**

- I: Stimulating development of competitive knowledgebased economy.
- II: Improving access to broadband Internet in Eastern Poland.
- III: Development of selected metropolitan functions of voivodship cities.
- IV: Improving accessibility and standard of transport links in voivodships of Eastern Poland.
- V: Enhancing the role of sustainable tourism in the economic development of the macro-region.
- VI: Optimising the implementation process of OP Development of Eastern Poland.

## **Programme addressee**

The Programme enables the pursuance of projects filed by, amongst others, schools of higher education, local government bodies and unions and associations operating with their involvement, public sector entities, research and development institutes, entrepreneurs, non-governmental organisations, and development agencies.

## **Sources of information**

The Managing Authority for OP DEP is the Ministry of Regional Development, and the Intermediate Body is the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development.

**More information is available from:**

**PAED Information Centre: 0 22 432 89 91 93 and 0 801 33 22 02, 0 801 406 416**

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**[www.parp.gov.pl](http://www.parp.gov.pl)**