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Implementation of the structural funds in the sector of arts and culture in Poland in 2007 – 2013

Since 2004 Poland is the beneficiary of the consecutive financial perspectives, functioning in the framework of the European Union budget. The first was carried out in 2004 – 2006, the second from 2007 to 2013. The third, the current one, began on 1st January 2014 and will continue until 31st December 2020¹.

Due to the fact that in 2017 Poland begins the 14th year of its membership in the Community, any kind of summary of the number of completed investment projects becomes interesting, as well as the implementation of specific support measures aimed at restructuring Member States in many areas of their operation. The purpose of this article is to verify these issues in relation to the structural funds which were contracted to be realised² in Poland in the years 2007 – 2013 in the field of arts and culture. It seems interesting to answer the following research questions:

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¹ M. Sikora-Gaca, R. Gabryszak, *Wdrażanie funduszy strukturalnych w sektor ochrony zdrowia w Polsce w latach 2007 – 2013*, [in:] *Společne, ekonomiczne i medyczne aspekty ochrony zdrowia i profilaktyki zdrowotnej*, ed. R. Gabryszak, A. Jakubowska, Koszalin 2016, p. 89–107. Also: M. Klein, M. Piechowicz, M. Sikora-Gaca, *Fundusze i programy Unii Europejskiej wspierające przedsiębiorstwa w perspektywie finansowej 2014 – 2020*, Warsaw 2016, p. 17–42.

² The article deliberately uses the phrase “contracted to be realised” because not all projects eligible for funding in the financial perspective have been finished till the end of December 2013. In many cases their implementation could last up to 31st Dec 2015. However, these were funds allocated for 2007 – 2013.

1. What is the number of projects co-financed from structural funds in 2007 – 2013 in the field of arts and culture implemented in individual regions by entities conducting cultural activities?
2. Which of the provinces has the largest share in the disbursement of structural funds allocated to Poland in the second financial perspective in arts and culture?

A preliminary research hypothesis assumes that the structural funds have contributed significantly to the development of the offer of the entities involved in cultural activities in Poland, and without them the development of the arts and culture sector would not take place in the given range, or in the given time.

The subject presented in this article is based on the study which included 980 projects contracted for implementation in 2007 – 2013 in 16 provinces. I have selected only those that have been co-financed by the structural funds, namely the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). I have deliberately omitted investments co-financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), because their large number (25,332) causes it to be a material for a separate study. I have also excluded agreements signed with the beneficiaries of grants acquired under the Cohesion Fund (CF) and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism (NFM), or the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area (FMEEA; 250 projects), and because of the specificity of these forms of funding they need a separate case study. The study used quantitative research methods and techniques of data analysis. The figures were obtained from a database operated by the Ministry of Development³, and the Central Statistical Office⁴. Research field has been narrowed to the years 2007 – 2013⁵, so for the second financial perspective.

It should also be noted that in this article, the term “projects in the area of arts and culture” refers to investments made by the beneficiaries (local governments – LG, cultural institutions, non-governmental organizations, and legal and natural persons), which obtained funding from the ERDF regional and national operational programs.

³ Full link to the figures:

<http://www.mapadotacji.gov.pl/projekty?wojewodztwo=&powiat=&fundusz=&program=&dzialanie=&beneficjent=&tytul=&data=2007&sektor=38> (4.03.2017). Due to the aesthetics of writing the rest of this article will be used only as a link to the home page: www.mapadotacji.gov.pl.

⁴ *Finanse kultury w latach 2007 – 2015*, Central Statistical Office, Cracow 2016.

⁵ *Możliwości finansowania kultury z funduszy europejskich w latach 2007 – 2013*, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, Warsaw 2008.

The sector of arts and culture in Poland in 2015

One of the main sources of funding of culture in Poland are public funds from the state budget and local government units. The state budget expenditures on culture and protection of cultural heritage in 2010 amounted to 0.49% of GDP (1,448.1 million PLN), and in 2015 – 0.62% of GDP (1,964.8 million PLN). In case of LGs the percentage of expenditure in the budget varies depending on the province – from 2.2% in Opole (152.6 million PLN) to 15.5% in the Mazovian (1070.4 million PLN). In addition, own funds of the entities involved in cultural activities include revenues from consumers of culture, as well as from sponsorship from businesses⁶ and institutions.

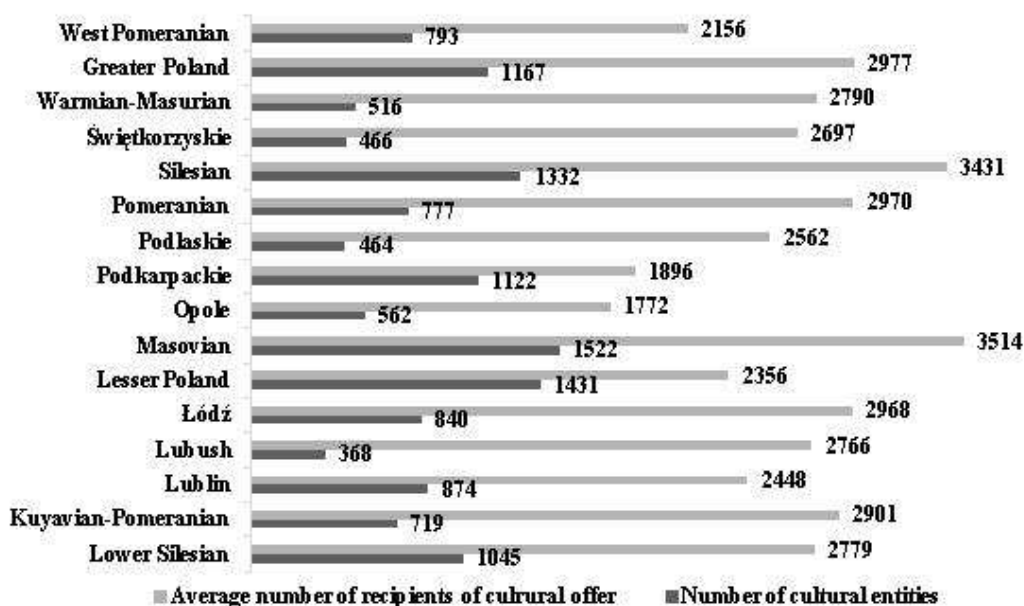


Chart 1. Operators of cultural activities, and the average number of recipients of the cultural offer in individual regions

Source: own calculations based on *Finanse kultury w latach 2007 – 2015*, Central Statistical Office, Cracow 2016, p. 27; *Kultura w 2015 roku*, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2016, pp. 98, 128.

The sector of arts and culture in Poland consists of the following types of entities: museums (their number in 2015 amounted to 926), theaters and musi-

⁶ *Finanse kultury...*, op. cit., p. 30, 32, 45. Also: *Kultura w 2015 roku*, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2016, p. 31, 73, 128.

cal institutions (177) cultural centers, clubs and communities (4,070), art galleries and salons (331), cinemas (444) and public libraries (8,050). A total of 13,998 institutions⁷. The distribution of entities involved in cultural activities in the country is uneven (Chart 1). The greatest number was recorded in the Mazovian province – 1,522, the lowest in the Lubusz – 368⁸ (an average of 874 per region). In 2015 in Poland, one cultural institution fell on an average of 2.6 thousand people with the highest number of recipients of the cultural offer recorded in Mazovia – 3.5 thousand, and the smallest in Opole – 1.7 thousand. In the structure of household spending on culture, the dominant were the finances for cinema or theater admissions (8%), books (6.7%), and newspapers and magazines (8.9%)⁹.

The greatest amount of money is transferred by the state budget to museums – 28.8% (giving approx. 565.86 million PLN) and the protection of monuments – 14.4% (approx. 282.93 million PLN). Sixty facilities located on the territory of our country have been recognized by the presidents of Poland as historical monuments, and 30 as cultural parks. In Lubusz, Lesser Poland, Podlaskie, Masovian, Lublin, Kuyavian-Pomeranian, Lower Silesia and Podkarpackie, there are also objects classified as the *UNESCO World Heritage Sites*¹⁰.

In recent years, an important source of funding for the area of arts and culture in Poland were foreign resources, including the structural funds. It is not a disputable fact that the increased investment in the cultural infrastructure has been carried out in connection to the Polish accession to the European Union and the operating possibilities of financing projects from EU funds and financial mechanisms. The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage has even launched a special programme for financing own contributions to projects for entities involved in cultural activities – the Promise of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage¹¹, which was supposed to make it easier to apply for various types of external financing. Support in this area is also granted by local governments.

⁷ *Finanse kultury...*, op. cit., p. 22.

⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 27.

⁹ *Kultura w 2015...*, op. cit., p. 98, 128.

¹⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 113–123, 127.

¹¹ *Finanse...*, op. cit., p. 30, 32, 45. Also: *Kultura...*, op. cit., p. 6, 31, 73, 128. More information on the Minister's promise can be found here:

www.mkidn.gov.pl/pages/storna-glowna/finanse/programy-ministra/programy-mkidn-2017/promesa-ministra-kultury-i-dziedzictwa-narodowego.php (6.03.2017).

The structural funds in the field of arts and culture in Poland in 2007 – 2013. Infrastructure and Environment Operational Programme

After 2004 entities conducting cultural activities were given the opportunity to obtain additional funding for various investments and projects. In total, in 2007 – 2013 they implemented 26,562 projects, where 25,332 of them were co-financed from the EAFRD, 980 from ERDF¹², 51 from CF and 199 NFM and FMEEA. In the second financial perspective, entities engaged in cultural activity contracted to implement the worth of approx. 7.24 billion PLN. The detailed data are shown in Table 1.

Entities engaged in cultural activities gained the largest range of support from the ERDF – 4.93 billion PLN, although it was the EAFRD that made an incomparably greater number of requests (by over 2,000% more than the ERDF).

Table 1. Co-financing of investments in the sector of arts and culture acquired by the entities conducting cultural activities in Poland in the years 2007 – 2013 (in billion PLN)

EAFRD	ERDF	CF	NFM + FM EEA
1.95	4.93	0.01	0.35
Total	7.24		

Source: own.

Financing from the ERDF was handed to the beneficiaries under the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment (OPIE; priority XI “Culture and Cultural Heritage”) and 16 regional operational programmes. The areas of arts and culture were awarded with the following categories of structural funds intervention: 58 “Protection and preservation of cultural heritage”, 59 “Devel-

¹² The EAFRD funding to the area of culture should be given a special analysis, because there is no exact information on how many of the 25,332 qualified by CSO projects here actually covered the discussed sector. This is due to the classification of the statistics of priority axis actions 3 and 4, so the action 311 “Diversification into non-agricultural activities”, 312 “Creation and development of micro-enterprises”, 321 “Basic services for the economy and rural population”, 313, 322 and 323 “Village renewal and development” and 421 “Implementation of cooperation projects.” There is at this moment no data to verify the classification of these projects in the field of culture and art, and the only verification can be made on the basis of case studies of individual projects.

opment of cultural infrastructure”, 60 “Other help in improving cultural services”. It was planned that the effects of the use of structural funds will be measured using the following indicators of product and result: “The number of objects/collections of cultural heritage covered by the support”, “Number of new buildings of cultural institutions”, “Number of reconstructed objects of cultural institutions”, “Number of cultural institutions, providing access for the disabled”, “The number of visitors to cultural heritage covered by the support”¹³.

Within the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment in 2007 – 2013, entities engaged in cultural activity signed 79 grant agreements, which guaranteed them grants in the amount of 2.19 billion PLN. Detailed data are presented in Chart 2. and Map 1.

The largest number of contracts (16) for co-financing were signed in the Mazovian province, which resulted in 473.64 million PLN of support. The largest portion of these funds was spent on the project “Construction of the Copernicus Science Centre”, which was made under measure 11.2 “Development and improvement of cultural infrastructure of supra-regional importance”. The total value of this investment is estimated at 348.77 million PLN, of which the ERDF funding amounted to 206.77 million PLN (over 43% compared to the general pool of funding acquired from the OPIE). It was the largest project implemented in Mazovia, also the largest investment in the country in the field of arts and culture co-financed by the structural funds contracted for implementation in 2007 – 2013.

In the region, in the framework of OPIE, a number of other projects were also completed. The co-financed, among others, was The Frederic Chopin Institute (the amount of 28.14 million PLN); the expanded and modernized Main Library of the Mazovian Province (19.99 million PLN in grants); the modernized building of the National Audiovisual Institute (45.59 million PLN of support); the conservation and renovation of the Palace on the Island and its surroundings in The Royal Łazienki Museum (the total value of the project amounted to 48.42 million PLN, of which the grant was 32.27 million PLN); the improvement of functionality of the Grand Theatre – National Opera in Warsaw (total value of the project amounted to 40.98 million PLN, of which subsidies were – 28.24 million PLN). The city of Warsaw has become a beneficiary of the project of The Praga Museum of Warsaw, which acquired 12.12 million PLN. The revitalization and digitization of the palace-garden complex in Wilanów was contracted for 2007 – 2013 with 18.30 million PLN of support

¹³ *Finanse...*, op. cit., p. 15.

from the ERDF, and the royal residence in Wilanów with – 12.67 million PLN. The National Film Archive acquired 14.39 million PLN for the conservation and digitalisation of pre-war feature films. The renovation and restoration of the Grand Theatre (grant – 12.24 million PLN) and the Royal Castle in Warsaw (support in the amount of 4 million PLN).

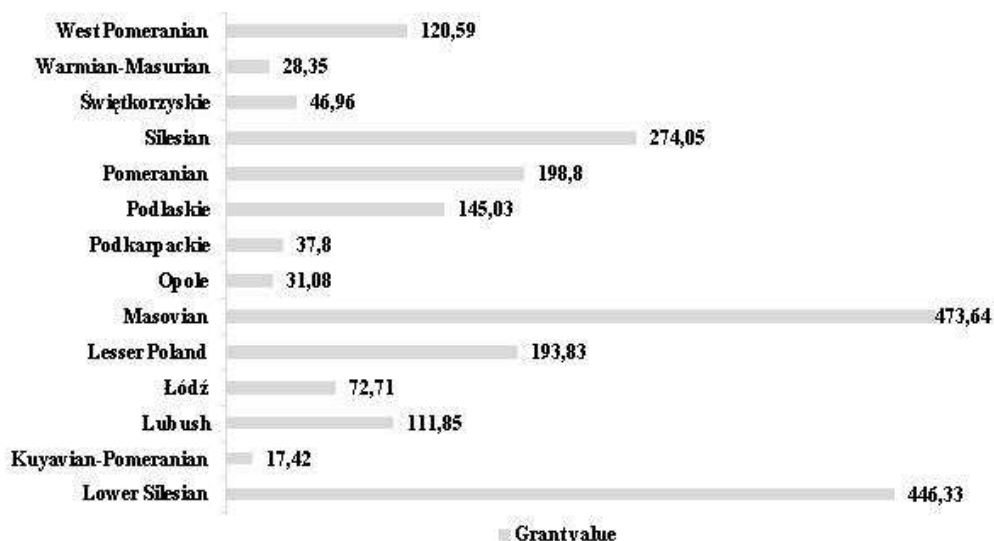


Chart 2. The funding acquired by the entities conducting cultural activities in 2007 – 2013 under the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment (in million PLN)

Source: own calculations based on *Finanse kultury w latach 2007 – 2015*, Central Statistical Office, Cracow 2016; Ministry of Development, www.mapadotacji.gov.pl (1.03.2017).

In the Lesser Poland province 12 contracts were signed under OPIE with a total value of financing of 193.83 million PLN. The European Penderecki Centre for Music in Lutosławice, among others, was built with the support from the ERDF (the total value of the project is estimated at 65.07 million PLN, of which 54.58 million PLN was a grant); another was the revitalized Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz Theatre in Zakopane (support in the amount of 18.27 million PLN). In addition, the Manggha Museum of Japanese Art and Technology in Cracow constructed and launched the Europe Gallery (18.40 million PLN of funding); the National Museum in Cracow acquired 19.66 million PLN for the launch of the European Centre for Polish Numismatics; the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum has implemented several conservation projects, succes-

sively acquiring 14.06 and 4.43 million PLN in grants; renovations were also taken at the Wawel Castle – with the support in the amount of 10.98 million PLN, which allowed, among others, the renewal of the outer court; the Jagiellonian University received 4.27 million PLN in subsidies to launch the Jagiellonian Digital Library.

In the provinces of Silesia and Lower Silesia nine grant agreements were signed (each) under which they were respectively granted 274.05 and 446.33 million PLN in grants. One of the most significant investments in the country was the construction of the headquarters of the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice. The city of Katowice was the beneficiary of this project, which total value was estimated at 305.36 million PLN, with the support from the ERDF totaled at 145.56 million PLN. In addition, the Silesian Philharmonic in Katowice (21.28 million PLN in grants) and The Philharmonic of Czestochowa (16.59 million PLN) were extended. In Lower Silesia the biggest beneficiary of the project was the Municipality of Wrocław, which acquired 143.74 million PLN of support (the total value of the project is estimated at 328.69 million PLN) for the construction of the National Forum of Music in Wrocław. Among other investments realised from the OPIE in the Lower Silesia were, among others, the reconstruction of the Capitol Musical Theater in Wrocław (82.97 million PLN in subsidies), the extension of the Wrocław Opera (50 million PLN) and the revaluation of the Cistercian Abbey Complex (20.54 million PLN in subsidies).

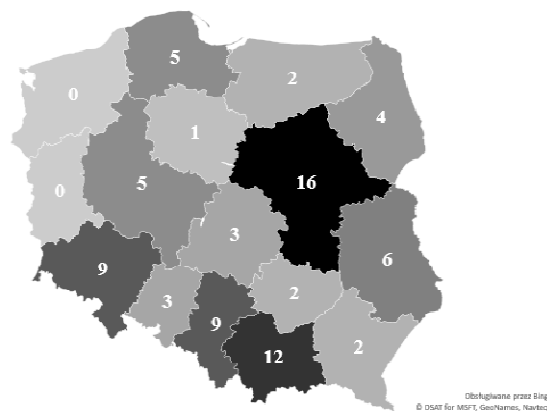


Figure 1. Number of grant agreements signed by the entities conducting cultural activities in 2007 – 2013 within the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment
 Source: own calculations based on *Finanse kultury w latach 2007 – 2015*, Central Statistical Office, Cracow 2016; Ministry of Development, www.mapadotacji.gov.pl (1.03.2017).

In the province of Lublin six agreements were signed for funding under the OPIE, while five in Pomerania and Greater Poland. Lublin acquired 111.85 million PLN for investments, while other regions acquired subsequently 198.8 and 120.59 million PLN. In the Lublin province the greatest value was achieved by the project “Kazimierz Dolny and selected monuments of the Lublin Powiśle”, which beneficiary was the Archdiocese of Lublin. The total value of the project is estimated at 31.19 million PLN, of which the value of the subsidy is accounted for 24.91 million PLN. In addition, the buildings of the Musical Theatre and the Philharmonic in Lublin (19.97 million PLN of support) or The Old Theatre in Lublin (15.24 million PLN) were modernized. The biggest investment in Pomerania was the construction of the European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk, which total value was estimated at 225.80 million PLN, of which the subsidy was accounted for 107.53 million PLN. For its construction, the Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre acquired 51.18 million PLN of funding, and for the renovation and reconstruction of The Forest Opera – 24.97 million PLN. In the Greater Poland province one of the largest investments was the expansion of the Raczyński Library in Poznań (31.88 million PLN of grants). The Zamek Culture Centre acquired 27.33 million PLN for the reconstruction and modernization, and the National Museum in Poznań 26.08 million PLN for the restoration of the Palace and Park Complex in Rogalin.

In Kuyavian-Pomeranian, the municipality of Toruń acquired 17.42 million PLN for the modernization of the city's old town. In Opole the Millennium Amphitheatre was rebuilt, while at the same time the National Centre of Polish Song was created (11.88 million PLN of subsidies). In Podkarpackie the monastery of the Bernardine Order of Friars Minor in Leżajsk, as a beneficiary of the project, received 26.15 million PLN in grants for the restoration and improvement of the accessibility of the basilica and monastery. Moreover, in the Podlaskie province the next stage of the construction of the Podlasie Opera and Philharmonic was completed. The total value of the project is estimated at 180.19 million PLN, of which the value of subsidies amounted to 100.62 million PLN. In Świętokrzyskie the International Center of Cultures was built in Kielce (31.97 million PLN in subsidies) and the Warmian-Masurian revitalized the Stefan Jaracz Theatre in Olsztyn (support in the amount of 23.30 million PLN).

In 2007 – 2013, only two provinces did not implement any investments in the framework of measures 11.1 („Protection and preservation of cultural heritage of supra-regional importance”) and 11.2 („The development and improvement of cultural infrastructure of supra-national importance”) of the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment – the Lubusz and West Pomerania. In case of five investments, the amount of funding awarded exceed-

ed 100 million PLN. It should also be noted that the OPIE is a national operational programme, in which the call for proposals took place in the competition procedure, therefore, each of the applicants was subject to the same rules of applying.

Regional operational programmes for 2007 – 2013

Another important source of funding for projects implemented by entities conducting cultural activities in Poland were regional operational programmes (ROP) performed separately for each of the provinces. Within the ROP, 901 projects were submitted with a total value of 2.73 billion PLN. Like in the OPIE, the distribution of investments was uneven, both for the number of signed contracts, as well as for the collected funds. Detailed data is presented in Chart 3 and Map 2.

The largest number of contracts for funding under the ROP were signed in the Silesia province – 126, which resulted in 204.22 million PLN of grant. They resulted in the renovation of the castle complex in Pszczyna (9.29 million PLN support) or the reconstruction of a former Cistercian Monastery and Palace Complex in Rudy (6.38 million PLN in subsidies). The Pauline Monastery at Jasna Góra achieved for the maintenance and renovation of the Basilica dedicated to the Nativity of the Holy Cross and Our Lady the sum of 26.40 m PLN; it was the largest of the four projects implemented by the Order within the ROP. The other three renovation and restoration projects were granted respectively: 5.79; 4.09 and 3.96 million PLN of funding. All investments co-financed by the ERDF under the Regional Operational Programme for Silesia for the years 2007 – 2013 were carried out under priority IV ROP - “Culture”. Three measures were identified in this framework: 4.1 “Cultural Infrastructure”, 4.2 “System of Cultural Information” and 4.3 “Promotion of Culture”¹⁴.

In Mazovia, entities conducting cultural activities in 2007 – 2013 signed 100 contracts for funding from the ROP, and 108 in Lesser Poland. In Mazovia, the greatest support was given for the project “Matecznik Mazowsze Center of Folklore,” which was the beneficiary of the Tadeusz Sygietyński State Folk Group of Song and Dance “Mazowsze”. The total value of the project is estimated at 58.77 million PLN, of which the subsidy amounted to 24.03 million PLN. The financial support could be obtained under priority 6. “The use of natural and cultural resources for development of tourism and recreation –

¹⁴ *Szczegółowy opis priorytetów Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Śląskiego na lata 2007 – 2013*, Silesian Province Government, Katowice 2016, p. 132–148.

measure 6.1 “Culture”¹⁵. In the Lesser Poland province a co-financing agreement was signed within the framework of the ROP which translated into 416.44 million PLN in grants obtained. One of the biggest investments was the modernization of the Krzysztofory Palace – the headquarters of the Historical Museum of Cracow. The total value of the project was estimated at 19.38 million PLN, of which the value of financial support amounted to 13.39 million PLN. Grant applications could be submitted under priority 3 “Tourism and Culture Industry” – measures 3.2 “Cultural heritage product development” and 3.3 “Cultural institutions”¹⁶.

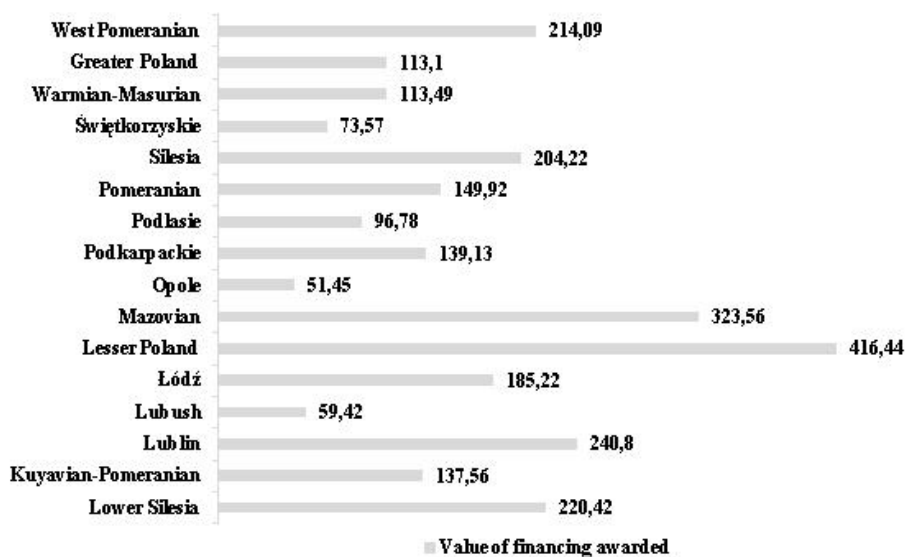


Chart 3. The value of co-financing gained from the framework of the regional operational programmes by entities conducting cultural activities in the years 2007 – 2013 (in million PLN)

Source: own calculations based on *Finanse kultury w latach 2007 – 2013*, Central Statistical Office, Cracow 2016; Ministry of Development, www.mapadotacji.gov.pl (1.03.2017).

In the province of Lower Silesia in the field of arts and culture for 2007 – 2013, 92 agreements were contracted for the implementation for funding under the ROP, which resulted in 220.42 million PLN of the funds raised. One of

¹⁵ *Szczegółowy opis priorytetów Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Mazowieckiego na lata 2007 – 2013*, Mazovian Province Government, Warsaw 2010, p. 169–174.

¹⁶ *Małopolski Regionalny Program Operacyjny na lata 2007 – 2013*, Lesser Poland Province Government, Cracow 2012, p. 84–89.

the biggest investments was executed by the Polish Theatre in Wrocław, which modernized the scene and bought the necessary equipment. The total value of the investment is estimated at 23.96 million PLN, of which the sum of financial support amounted to 13.41 million PLN. In the Regional Operational Programme for Lower Silesia the applicants applied for funding under priority 6. “The Use and Promotion of Tourism and Cultural Potential of Lower Silesia” measures 6.4 “Cultural tourism” and 6.5 “Measures to support tourist and cultural infrastructure”.

In the Podkarpackie province and in Greater Poland the same number of grant agreements were signed – each of 66, which resulted in 139.13 and 113.1 million PLN of funding and in the implementation of numerous construction, maintenance, modernization and restoration works. The grant was received by, among others, the Dioceses of Kalisz, Gniezno and Poznań, as well as the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, individual municipalities and regional governments. In Podkarpackie, ROP applicants applied under priority 6. “Tourism and Culture” (no measures or sub-measures were adopted)¹⁷. In case of Greater Poland it was also priority 6, in which measure 6.2 “Development of culture and preservation of cultural heritage” was distinguished¹⁸.

More than 50 investments were completed in three regions: West Pomerania, Świętokrzyskie and Lublin, which were acquired as part of the ROP, respectively: 214.09; 73.57 and 240.8 million PLN. In West Pomerania the investments were realized under priority 5 “Tourism, Culture and Revitalization” – measure 5.2 “Development of culture – the protection and preservation of cultural heritage”, sub measure 5.2.1 “Development and reconstruction of cultural infrastructure with a system of cultural information” and 5.2.2 “Preserving cultural heritage”¹⁹. As part of the regional operational programme, among others, the Regional Cultural Centre in Kołobrzeg was created (support in the amount of 9.11 million PLN), part of the Pomeranian Dukes Castle in Szczecinek (2.88 million PLN of subsidies) was restored, or the National Museum in Szczecin was awarded a grant in the amount of 5.51 million PLN. In Świętokrzyskie also a number of investments were realised, including the construction of the University Centre for Artistic Education at the University of Jan Kochanowski (5.60 million PLN grant), the reconstruction of the Royal

¹⁷ *Szczegółowy opis priorytetów Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Podkarpackiego na lata 2007 – 2013*, Podkarpackie Province Government, Rzeszów 2014, p. 270–286.

¹⁸ *Szczegółowy opis priorytetów Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Wielkopolskiego na lata 2007 – 2013*, Greater Poland Province Government, Poznań 2008, p. 213–231.

¹⁹ www.rpo2007-2013.wzp.pl/rpo/regionalny_program_operacyjny/os_5_dzialania_i_poddzialania.htm (2.03.2017).

Castle in Stopnica (4.68 million PLN of support) or the revitalization of the historic sanctuary in Sulisławice (3.84 million PLN of funding). As part of the Regional Operational Programme for the Świętokrzyskie, the beneficiaries filed applications within the priority 5. “The Increase in the Quality of Social Infrastructure and Investment in Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Sport” - measure 5.2 “Improving the quality of public services by supporting educational and cultural institutions” and 5.3 “Investments in the sphere of cultural heritage, tourism and sport”²⁰. As part of the Regional Operational Programme for the Lublin province, the funding for entities involved in cultural activities in terms of priority 7 “Culture, Tourism and Interregional Cooperation” – measures 7.1 “Infrastructure of culture and tourism” and 7.2 “Promotion of culture and tourism” were implemented²¹.

The smallest number of grant agreements in the framework of the ROP were signed by entities conducting cultural activities in Lubusz, which resulted in the lowest level of the ERDF funding in the country – 59.42 m PLN. It should be added that this province is one of the few which realized 10 projects co-financed by the Cohesion Fund with the total value of the grant of 5.52 million PLN. In contrast, during the 2007 – 2013 no financial support was contracted from international funds (NFM and EEA). In the region, the ROP funds were implemented through the priority 5 “Development and Modernization of Tourist and Cultural Infrastructure” – measures 5.1 (regional character) and 5.2 (local character)²².

In Kuyavian-Pomeranian 17 agreements of co-financing were signed, while 47 in Pomeranian. Regions acquired respectively 137.56 and 149.92 million PLN of grants. In Kuyavian-Pomeranian the funds were contracted for, among others, the cultural and congress center investments, where the beneficiary was the Municipality of Toruń (46.87 million PLN of grants), the revitalization of sacred objects – the Włocławek Diocese (9.48 million PLN), the protection of cultural heritage of municipalities – municipality of the Chełmno city (9.04 million PLN) or modernization of the Opera Nova in Bydgoszcz (2.47 million PLN of support).

²⁰ *Szczegółowy opis osi priorytetowych Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Świętokrzyskiego na lata 2007 – 2013*, Świętokrzyskie Province Government, Kielce 2016, p. 83, 88.

²¹ www.archiwum.rpo.lubelskie.pl/front/page/get/206/ (2.03.2017).

²² *Uszczegółowienie Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Świętokrzyskiego na lata 2007 – 2013. Szczegółowy opis osi priorytetowych*, Lubusz Province Government, Zielona Góra 2008, p. 126–142.

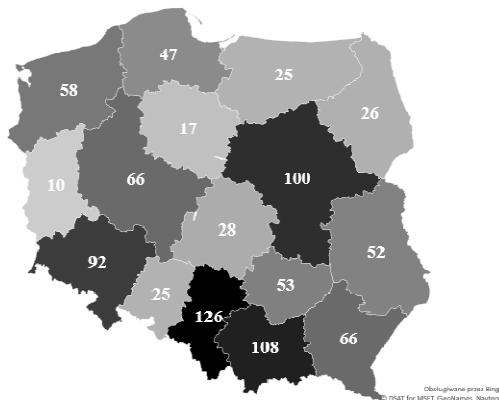


Figure 2. Number of grant agreements signed by entities conducting cultural activities in 2007 – 2013 within ROP

Source: own study based on *Finanse kultury w latach 2007 – 2015*, Central Statistical Office, Cracow 2016; Ministry of Development, www.mapadotacji.gov.pl (3.01.2017).

In the framework of the Regional Operational Programme for the Pomeranian province, works conducted were, among others, the restoration of the Teutonic Castle in CPLNuchów (7.78 million PLN in subsidies), the revalorization of the medieval city walls in Lębork (5.92 million PLN), the Oliwa Cathedral in Gdańsk was subjected to restoration and conservation (5.35 million PLN), and the Center for Creative Activities in Ustka and the Interdisciplinary Art Gallery of New Media in Słupsk (3.46 million PLN) were created.

In the provinces of Lodz, Opole, Podlasie and in the Warmian-Masurian a comparable number of contracts for funding under the ROP 2007 – 2013 were signed, of course, in the field of arts and culture. There were respectively 28, 25, 26 and 25 contracts. As a result, the ERDF transferred to entities conducting cultural activities in these regions respectively: 185.22; 51.45; 96.78 and 113.49 million PLN of support. Among the examples of investments made in the Lodz province we can include, among others, the expansion of the Teatr Powszechny in Łódź (3.42 million PLN of support), the manufacture and installation of pipe organs for the Łódź Arthur Rubinstein Philharmonic (2.45 million PLN) and the construction of the People's House and a Common House in Krańnica in the municipality of Opoczno (1.02 million PLN).

In the framework of the Regional Operational Programme for the Opole Province for the years 2007-2013, 25 investments were contracted to implement, which acquired a total of 51.45 million PLN from ERDF. The management of the province awarded the largest grant for the reconstruction of the Renaissance residence of Hermann Frankel in Prudnik – 7.20 million PLN (to-

tal investment amounted to 9.3 million PLN). The City of Opole received 6.30 million PLN of support for the construction of the Public Library, and the University of Opole for the creation of the Student Cultural Center – 6.28 million PLN. Among other investments we may also include: the renovation of the Piast Tower in Opole (2.76 million PLN of support) or the conservation works in the parish church of St. James the Apostle in Małujowice (1.68 million PLN)²³. The applicants in the Opole province applied under priority 5 – measure 5.3 “Development of culture and cultural heritage”²⁴. In case of the province of Podlasie it was priority 3. “Development of Tourism and Culture” - measure 3.1 “Development of the tourist attractiveness of the region” and priority 6. “Development of Social Infrastructure” – measure 6.3 “Infrastructure development in the field of culture and protection of historical and cultural heritage”²⁵. For 26 investment projects implemented under the Regional Operational Programme for the Podlaskie province for 2007 – 2013 entities conducting cultural activities received 96.78 million PLN of grants.

25 investments in the field of culture were financed from the Regional Operational Programme for Warmia and Masuria for 2007 – 2013. Entities engaged in cultural activities in the region raised for this purpose 113.49 million PLN in grants under priority 2 “Tourism”²⁶. The investments made are, among others, the construction of the new seat of the Warmia and Masuria Philharmonic in Olsztyn (42.86 million PLN of grants), the comprehensive development of the fields of Grunwald (17.60 million PLN), or the creation of the Multimedia Museum of POW Camp Stalag 1B and the Museum of the History of Olsztynek (2.47 million PLN).

Specificities of each ROP should be emphasized, which often differ from each other. Among other things required are different patterns and designs of documentation, or different amounts of allocation funds earmarked for specific

²³ The issue of investment in sacral infrastructure implemented with the participation of EU funds is a very interesting case study, but so far in the literature the subject has not been discussed comprehensively. See. A. Butrym, *Fundusze europejskie w kulturze. Znaczenie Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Zachodniopomorskiego dla infrastruktury sakralnej*, [in:] *Fundusze europejskie w teorii i praktyce. Edukacja, Gospodarka, Kultura, Społeczeństwo*, ed. M. Sikora-Gaca, U. Kosowska, Warsaw 2014, p. 148–174.

²⁴ *Szczegółowy Opis Osi Priorytetowych Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Opolskiego na lata 2007–2013*, Opole Province Government, Opole 2016, p. 134–138.

²⁵ *Szczegółowy Opis Priorytetów Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Opolskiego na lata 2007–2013*, Podlasie Province Government, Białystok 2008, p. 57–66, 90–93.

²⁶ This causes numerous problems with the classification of individual projects, because although they are investments in the area of culture and art, they are often classified as tourist. See: *Regionalny Program Operacyjny Warmia i Mazury na lata 2007 – 2013*, Warmian-Masurian Province Government, Olsztyn 2007, p. 83–87.

investments. Generally, the competitive mode, under which the grants are awarded, remains consistent.

The 2007 – 2013 structural funds and the development of the sector of arts and culture in Poland. A Summary

The above analysis shows the scope of the implementation of measures from the European Regional Development Fund in the field of arts and culture, and specifically of projects contracted for implementation in 2007 – 2013 – with a total of 4.93 billion PLN from the OPIE and 16 regional operational programmes. It is important to say that the structural funds have contributed significantly to the development of the offer of the entities involved in cultural activities in Poland, and without them the development of the arts and culture sector would not be possible in such a range, or such a given time. The funds contracted for the arts and culture sector in 2007 – 2013 financial perspective exceeded 251% of the expenditures for this purpose from the state budget in 2015. Also other quantitative data are interesting:

- in 2015 an average of 2686 customers of the cultural offer fell on one entity conducting cultural activities in Poland;
- in 2015 an average of 874 entities engaged in cultural activity fell on one province;
- approx. 0.7 billion PLN from the European Regional Development Fund was implemented in this sector and contracted through grants to projects in the field of arts and culture in 2007 – 2013 annually;
- 980 projects co-financed from structural funds were contracted for the implementation in total in 2007-2013, with the largest number in the Silesia province – 135 (9 from OPIE, 126 from ROP) and the lowest in Lubusz (only ROP);
- 4.93 billion PLN in total were raised in 2007 – 2013 by entities conducting cultural activities from ERDF (2.19 billion PLN from OPIE, 2.73 billion PLN from ROP), with the largest share in the disbursement of structural funds for the Mazovia – 797.2 million PLN, and the least for Lubusz – 59.42 million PLN;
- we obtained an average of 332.07 thousand PLN subsidies from the structural funds in the 2007 – 2013 financial perspective for one entity conducting cultural activities in Poland;
- an average funding from the structural funds for one culture recipient in Poland amounted to 123.27 PLN (as of 31st Dec 2015).

In addition, based on the evaluation carried out by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, we can indicate measurable benefits from the OPIE: 2.19 billion PLN implemented in Polish culture through this instrument resulted in the achievement of specific output and result indicators, including:

- 77 restored and renovated historical buildings;
- 47 newly built, expanded and reconstructed cultural institutions (museums, galleries, theaters and musical institutions);
- 37 new and upgraded facilities for artistic education;
- 41 infrastructure university facilities (schools providing access for people with disabilities);
- an increase in the number of students of art schools in Poland (from 74.8 thousand to 87.3 thousand);
- an increase in the number of students in public art schools (from 14.2 thousand to 15.9 thousand);
- 679 new jobs created;
- 9172 objects (collections) subject to maintenance;
- 111 488 protected objects (collections);
- 41 installed security systems of objects (collections);
- 12 institutions which collections have been digitized;
- 64 cultural heritage sites provide access to people with disabilities, etc.

The investments referred to were also reflected in the increase in the number of users of the cultural offer – both domestic and foreign tourists, and revenues generated in this respect, and this is largely one of the most tangible achievements of completed projects.

It should also be noted that the resources from the structural funds are still gradually implemented in Poland. This means that grants contracted for implementation within the financial perspective of 2014 – 2020 will be spent to 31st December 2022. Thus, the research process verifying the status of implementation of structural funds to the sector of arts and culture in Poland in the coming years should still be continued.

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Summary

Implementation of the structural funds in the arts and culture sector in Poland in 2007 – 2013

The purpose of the following article is to analyze the implementation of structural funds in the arts and culture sector of in Poland in the years 2007 – 2013. The subject of the study consists of 980 contracted projects implemented in 2007 – 2013 in 16 provinces. We have selected only those that have been co-financed from the structural funds, namely the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), from which 4.93 billion PLN funding had been acquired for the mentioned 980 projects. The largest number of investments was realized in the Silesian province – 135, and the least in the Lubusz – 10. The largest share in the disbursement of structural funds was in the Mazovian province – 797.2 million PLN.

keywords: arts and culture sector, European Regional Development Fund, Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment, Poland, regional operational programmes, structural funds

słowa kluczowe: Europejski Fundusz Rozwoju Regionalnego, fundusze strukturalne, Polska, Program Operacyjny Infrastruktura i Środowisko, regionalne programy operacyjne, sektor kultury i sztuki