

*Ewelina Lis**

INNOVATION OF THE LODZ REGION IN THE CONTEXT OF CLOSING IMPLEMENTING OF 2.6 ACTION OF INTEGRATED OPERATING PROGRAM OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Abstract. The development of region is closely tied together with possibilities of implementing innovation, and financing them 2.6 ZPORR action permitted in Lodz region to carry out "Regional Innovative Strategies and the transfer of the knowledge" a dozen or so projects in this scope. They were connected with research, financing doctoral studies of young scientists and the transfer of the innovation. The realization of these projects was closely tied together with records of Regional Strategy of the Innovation (RIS) of Lodz region and hopefully will bring positive effects for its innovative development.

Key words: region, regional development, innovation.

1. REGION AND ITS DEVELOPMENT

Region belongs to basic notions of the spatial development. It is a universally used term, however on account of the huge diversity of existing territorial individuals in Europe and in world and a degree of the centralization of states, it is hard to give one precise definition. Universally accepted and explicit criteria are missing delimitations of regions (Klasik A. [1974], s. 35). I. Pietrzyk is pointing that under general comprehending of region there are hiding both territories determined historically or culturally, areas distinguished on the basis of criteria of the administrative and political organization, and it is also being used to the epithet of economic space (Pietrzyk I. [2000], s. 213). The ambiguity of the notion is also noticing S. Korenik, pointing out the following regions : economic, planning, administrative, urban planning, landscape, social, demographic etc. He is explaining that regions are being called both big and little lands, homogeneous and diversified areas (Korenik S. [1999], p. 9).

* M.Sc., University of Lodz.

Most widely, it is possible to define region as an administrative unit taking the highest place in the administrative division of the state, so-called administrative region. However also an opposition exists against such a definition of regions, pointing, that delimitation should be based on different bonds not connected with administrative divisions (Maciołek Flat [1991], p. 16).

From a point of view of the spatial development comprehending economic, allocated on the basis of economic criteria region is particularly important. "Economic regions are clenched spatially, being a part areas bigger – tied together with different – territory, cohesive internally and making complexes about the determined economic profile" (Meyer former [1999], p. 115). In this presentation region is determining both the tool of the examination, the object of the cognition and the tool of action (J. Chądzyński, A. Przygodzki, Nowakowska. [2007], p. 41).

Under the notion of the regional development one understands a long-lasting growth of the economic potential of regions and a systematic and long-lasting betterment of their competitiveness as well as the standard of living of inhabitants what contributes to the social-economic country development. It is mainly defined through the prism of changes in the following components: the economic potential, the economic structure, the natural environment, infrastructure developing, the spatial order, the standard of living of inhabitants, spatial developing (Mophead Vol. [1999], p. 15).

One should notice that a regional development is not only a process of economic character. Emphasizing that the regional development is indicating the long-lasting improvement in the competitiveness of regions a development of regions is also being stressed in the social sense as the long-lasting height of the standard of living and the prosperity of inhabitants. It is connected with the fact that both economic and social factors are basic determinants of the regional development (other factors: spatial and ecological). In the literature on the subject it is possible to find more detailed rankings of these factors, some of them pointing at such elements, as:

- agricultural and forest natural resources and water,
- stores of the work, in it of qualified work,
- capital, especially investment,
- local enterprises (internal) and external,
- transport and communications development,
- existing production and service, particularly industrial potential,
- advantages of the natural environment,
- modern technologies of manufacturing,
- local and outside market,
- abilities and willingness of the local government,

- the area of the territorial individual, particularly the surface of free lands (for developing),
- existence of social forces promoting the development,
- possibility of getting the subsidy, the subvention and concessions (local, regional and domestic),
- the international situation and the cooperation (Blakely E.J. [1989] Szymła [2000], p. 39).

The regional development is used for introducing the development of the system in the scale of the country, taking into consideration the division into an administrative units – provinces (regions). Development with reference to the economy of the country as well as the management of individual regions means a raise of investment level, a raise of production and export, an improvement in the standards of living (Stawasz D. [2000], p. 19).

2. THE INNOVATION AND THE INNOVATION OF REGIONS

The definition of the innovation was introduced into economy by J. Schumpeter studies at the beginning of the 20th century. This economist as first noticed and described the role of the innovator in the enterprise and he defined the widely subjective scope of the innovation. According to him inserting the new product or improving the product already are an existing innovation, introducing the new method of the production or improving the process already practiced, applying the new way of the sale or the purchase, opening the new market, getting the new source of raw materials and semi-finished products or introducing the new industrial engineering or a branch of industry (Gorzela G., Tucholska [2007], p. 265).

An innovation is an ability to create the innovation – of new things or ideas which through the imitation are staying disseminated in practice (diffusion of the innovation). The innovation has omnipresent character. Thanks to it the entrepreneur is shaping the new function of the production, making a profit. However he is making a decision about implementing a new *modus operandi* only when it is pointing at the realization of the chance, temporarily not seen by other entrepreneurs acting on the market. The innovation is the tool of the enterprise, creating new chances of the development (Kwiatkowski P. [1998], 121–122 p.).

It is possible to discern the omnipresence of the innovation already in typology of Schumpeter, in which he is mentioning:

- Product innovation (inserting a new product),
- trial innovation (introducing a new production method),
- market innovation (opening a new market of sale or supplying),

– innovation in the area of managing (leading the new structure of action), (A. Jewtuchowicz [2001], 121–122 p.).

An enterprise is an ability of seeing and exploiting chances, of getting fringe benefits by innovative combinations of factors of the production. The innovation is a mixture of comprehending the enterprise, the competitiveness and the development factors (J. Chądryński A. Przygodzki, Nowakowska [2007], p. 144).

Only innovative regions can effectively compete. The innovation of region is a very wide notion. It is possible to describe the innovation of region as the ability of region to change, improve, introduce reforms and novel solutions in different areas of social-economic living to improve the effectiveness of functioning of mechanisms supporting the development in region. Region is a complex system, hence the innovation of region, also competitiveness of region, characterised by abilities and functioning of subjects of this system. From a point of view of the chaos theory at that particular moment each of active subjects in the region can have a feeling of self-reliance and objective independence, however effects of its work are dependant on action of others and at the same time influence results of works of other subjects. Thus it is possible to describe the innovation of region establishing the level of the innovation of individual groups of factors, which have the essential influence on the production, the diffusion, the absorption and the transfer of the innovation in region, i.e.:

- innovation of enterprises localised in region,
- research-developmental potential of region,
- the existence and the level of the business environment,
- level of the development internationalizing environment,
- level of public and human capital in region,
- the innovation and the enterprise of public authorities in region (J. Chądryński, A. Przygodzki, Nowakowska around [2007], p. 144).

3. INTEGRATED PROGRAM OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ZPORR) AND INNOVATIONS

Actions directed at strengthening innovative factors are an essential element of the development of regions. For this reason a sequence of intervention was planned both in the present financial perspective as well as the previous one, concerning years 2004–2006, focusing on increasing the expenditure on the research-developmental sector and the innovative activity. The actions planned are: increasing a number of innovative enterprises, adapting the offer of scientific units to needs of enterprises, concentrating research on crucial problems for the economy, reinforcing also an independent B+R sphere, increasing the level of personnels for the modern economy, numbers of patents and better using of laws

of the intellectual property in the economic practice and precipitating the development of industrial and service clusters. To achieve these and many other purposes various instruments co-financed by the European Union were introduced. 2.6 Activity is one of the Regional Innovative Strategies and the transfer of the Knowledge, in the scope of Integrated Operating Regional Development Programme.

Integrated Operating Program of the Regional Development (ZPORR) is one of seven operating programs which are used to accomplish the National Plan of the Development for 2004–2006. This program develops NPR purposes determining priorities, directions and the amount of financial means spent on realization of the regional policy of the country.

ZPORR was prepared by the Ministry of Economy, Work and Social Policy (MGPiPS) in close interaction with local government bodies of all provinces. Suggested targets, priorities and actions comprise the entire country territory, however the size of allotted financial means for their realization is diversified spatially and it depends on the situation and the social-economic structure of provinces and the realized strategy of the development. The program is managed on the domestic level but it is implemented mostly on the regional level. Strategic choices described in the program are in accordance with directions determined in the National Strategy of the Regional Development (NSRR) 2001–2006, however principles of implementing the program are based on EU regulations of structural funds and on domestic regulations concerning the public finance, the public help of both the division of the responsibility in the realization of the regional policy between the government and local authorities. The realization of 2.6 action is aimed at Regional Innovative Strategies and a transfer of knowledge raising the regional potential in the scope of the innovation (in the framework of Regional Innovative Strategies or the strategy of the development of provinces) by strengthening the cooperation between the research-developmental sector and the economy which raises the competitiveness in the regional and local market. Types of support given as part of this action are:

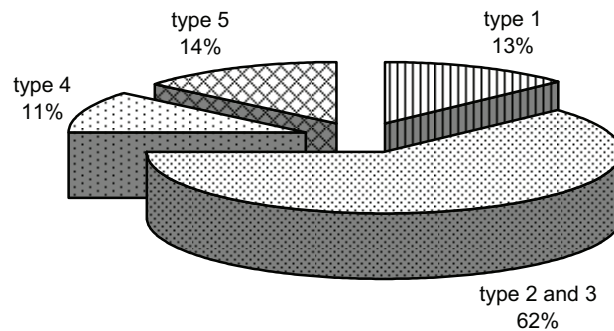
- 1) creating and adapting Regional Innovative Strategies;
- 2) creating a network of transfer of the innovation between the scientific – developmental sector, with enterprises and different subjects on the regional and local level;
- 3) the development of the system of communicating and information exchanges (gathering data together in it and creating databases) as well as information concerning trainings and different educational action supporting the transfer of the innovation;
- 4) transfer of the knowledge in the scientific – developmental sector to enterprises throughout traineeships in enterprises:
 - of graduates of higher education institutions,

– of workers of the sector scientific – developmental sector;

5) scholarships used in industrial cluster development for the best students of doctoral studies at science and technical subjects. These directions are defined in the framework of the Regional Innovative Strategy or of the strategy of the voivodeship development.

The amount of individual types of projects appearing as part of this action in Poland is follows:

- Type 1: 48 projects,
- Type 2 and 3: 230 projects,
- Type 4: 40 projects,
- Type 5: 53 projects (state for the 31.12.2008r day).



Graph 1. Arrange the meeting for types of drafts according to the number signed for funding partially which acted as part of 2.6 ZPORR Action of the country all in the scale

Source: own study.

Projects carried out as part of 2.6 ZPORR Action are being rated among so-called soft i.e. directed projects not for investments but for increasing the idea of innovations, transmitting knowledge and information, carrying out researches, initiating and developing the interaction of many environments and the improvement of human resources quality. The realization of projects as a part of this action is directly contributing to achieving the main aim of action- raising the potential of region in the area of innovation, by strengthening the cooperation between the research-developmental sector and the economy, leading to an increase in competitiveness on the regional and local market. Achieving this purpose is ensured by the direct participation of enterprises in projects carried out and in the process of establishing the interaction with institutions of the B+R sphere which most often perform the role of projectors. There are regional systems of innovations which are based on programs of the development contained

in Regional Strategies. They are the basic instrument of the realization of Innovation (RIS) and Strategies of the voivodeship Development.

Projects of in 2.6 ZPORR can be realized by units of the local government, higher education institutions, scientific units, entrepreneurs, supporting the innovative development of regions, extragovernmental organizations, economic self-governments and professional institutions and mentioned above partnerships of subjects.

Action taken as part of 2.6 ZPORR projects is contributing to the rise in the expenditure on research and science what in the long run strengthens the quality of human resources is economy. 2.6 Action is promoting the politics of the innovation and creating favourable conditions for the long-wave growth of the quality of products and services.

4. IMPLEMENTING 2.6 ZPORR BEING ACTIVE IN THE LODZ PROVINCE

As a part of 2.6 Action of the integrated Program of the Operating Regional Development in the Lodz province 11 projects for the total amount of 12,886,482.88 zł were carried out, including: 8 of them concerning communicating, collecting, information exchange and transfer of the innovation between subjects on the local and regional level and 3 scholarships for doctoral students. The size of projects carried out was diversified. The smallest value was 71,000.00 zloty carried out by the Foundation of the Development of the Enterprise, the biggest – 3,913,500.00 zloty carried out by the City of Lodz.

As a result of finished project by the City of Lodz "Cluster as the network of the cooperation in the scope of the innovation in region" "Strategy of the development of the cluster in Lodz for 2007–2015" was worked out and accepted.

Projects also have big training and grant importance, e.g. project of the Lodz technical university – "Mechanism of supporting innovative activity of doctoral students (WIDDOK)" granting 120 annual scholarships and creating the information portal – bases of achievements of doctoral students.

Payments from the programme on 30 December 2008r amounted to 7,911,372.66 zloty what creates 91.98% of contracted financial means for the Lodz province and 100 % applications for payment.

Undertaking the cooperation was a positive aspect of projects carried out as part of 2.6 ZPORR action. It concerns both cooperation between individual projects, as well as between beneficiaries and different institutions (being active in a regional and European area). It is particularly important in the RIS LORIS context, with the aim of building regional consensus.

One of Beneficiaries of this action was University of Lodz carrying out the project "Group of the Regional Innovative Development – doctoral students". According to in 60 best candidates for doctor's degree were granted scholarships and special scholarships from departments such as: Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Biology and the environmental preservation, whose research works are bound thematically with the Strategy of the Innovation of the Lodz Province worked out as part of the project RSI LORIS (50 on principles of the scholarship, 10 on principles of the scholarship of the special so-called grant). The project with such character is contributing to converting the Lodz province into the region based on the knowledge and the centre of the innovation.

5. INNOVATIVE PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

Projects carried out as part of 2.6 ZPORR action without a doubt contributed to increasing the awareness of innovations for the development of regions as well as manufacturing umbilical ties between the research-developmental sector and enterprises. Projects carried out also contributed to providing enterprises with the qualified technical and scientific personnel which increased the competitiveness of enterprises. Strengthening the cooperation between the research-developmental sector and the economy influenced the growth of the potential of regions in the area of the innovation.

The 2.6 ZPORR operation in the financial perspective 2004–2006 constituted basic instrument of the realization of innovative projects with soft character, as well as financial instrument of implementing Regional Strategies into the Innovation in regions. As a result of the realization of projects many structures developed cooperation of the sector of science with the economy.

Experience gained in 2.6 ZPORR Action operating programs are used in realization of projects in the financial perspective 2007–2013, and the Operating Program Human Capital and Regional Operating Programs 2007–2013.

According to registration of the Regional Program of the Operational Lodz Province for 2007–2013 targets in priority axis the 3rd Economy, the innovation, the enterprise was written as the development of the innovative and competitive management in the province making the basic message for construction of the centre of the development in region. Aiming at constructing the economy based on the knowledge (according to Regional Strategy of the Innovation of the Lodz Province) it is making main direction of intervention of this priority axis and it is focusing on creating the competitive economy by organising connections of the B+R sector with the sector of the business and the institution of business environment. One of the operation purposes in the 3rd axis implementing is activity of B+R and activity of the institution of business environment

aiming at the development of the cooperation among the areas of science and business. This action is supposed to concentrate mainly on infrastructure investments making their way towards the uprising or specializing of the individuals responsible for the transfer of technology in region, whose task is facilitating the contact of enterprises with scientific individuals by carrying out professional managing research findings of scientific units, as well as rendering consulting services for entrepreneurs seeking new technologies and help with implementing innovative solutions.

REFERENCES

- Chądryński J., Nowakowska A., Przygodzki around., Region and its development in conditions of the globalization, CeDeWu, Warsaw 2007.
- Gorzela G., Tucholska A. (ed.), The Development, region, the space, the Ministry of the Regional Development, Warsaw 2007.
- Jewchtuchowicz A. (ed.) Strategic problems of the development of regions in the process of European integration, the Ed. of the Factory of Regional Economics and the environmental preservation UŁ, Łódź 2001.
- Klasik A. (red.) The optimal spatial structure but the regional development, PWE, Warsaw 1974.
- Korenik P. (ed.), Economic Development on the example of the Bottom Silesia, AE scientific works in Cracow, Monographs and studies No. 131, Cracow 1999.
- Mophead Vol. (ed.) programming the regional development, the Scientific PWN publishing company, Warsaw 1999.
- Kwiatkowski P. (ed.) Role of the innovation in the development of the Polish enterprise, New sip 1998.
- Maciołek Flat (ed.) Region – problems with the definition, misunderstandings and risks, Bond No. 36 from 1991.
- Meyer former (ed.) spatial development. Mechanisms of the development, theories and systems, PTO, Szczecin 1999.
- Pietrzyk I. (ed.) regional Politics of the European Union and regions in membership states, PWN, Warsaw 2000.
- Stawasz D. (ed.) Contemporary conditioning of the development of Polish regions, Wydawnictow of the Łódź University, Łódź 2000.
- Szymła around. (ed.) Determinants of the regional development, the National Unit for them. Ossolińskich – publishing company Wrocław, Wrocław 2000.
- Regional Operating Program of the Łódź Province for 2007–2013, Marshal's Office in Łódź, Łódź 2007.*
- Directive of Minister Gospodarka and the Work from the 1.07.2004r day. of Program in the matter of the reception integrated of the Operating Regional Development 2004–2006 (Dz.U. from 2004r. No. 166 poz. 1745).*
- The outline of the Strategy of the Regional Development of Poland, the Final Report, the Sentence Team for of Regional Development in Poland, Warsaw 1996.*
- "ZPORR bulletin", 2(14)/2008.
- <http://www.klasterlodzki.pl/>
- <http://www.zporr.gov.pl/Projekty/Jakie+projekty+mozna+realizowac+w+ramach+ZPORR/Priorytet+2/Dzialanie+26/Dzialanie+26+Regionalne+Strategie+Innowacyjne+i+transfer+wiedzy.htm>
- <http://www.zporr.lodzkie.pl/ue/index.html>

Ewelina Lis

**INNOWACYJNOŚĆ REGIONU ŁÓDZKIEGO W KONTEKŚCIE ZAMKNIĘCIA
WDRAŻANIA DZIAŁANIA 2.6 ZINTEGROWANEGO PROGRAMU OPERACYJNEGO
ROZWOJU REGIONALNEGO**

Rozwój regionu jest ściśle powiązany z możliwościami wdrażania w nim innowacji, a wdrażanie innowacji z szansą ich sfinansowania. Działanie 2.6 ZPORR „Regionalne Strategie Innowacyjne i transfer wiedzy” pozwoliło w regionie łódzkim zrealizować kilkanaście projektów w tym zakresie. Były to projekty badawcze, związane z finansowaniem studiów doktoranckich młodych naukowców oraz transferem innowacji. Realizacja tych projektów była ściśle powiązana z zapisami Regionalnej Strategii Innowacji (RIS) regionu łódzkiego i miejmy nadzieję przyniesie pozytywne efekty dla jego innowacyjnego rozwoju.

Słowa kluczowe: region, rozwój regionalny, innowacja.