**Appendix No. 1 to Resolution No. I/4/17**

**of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group**

**of 15 February 2017**

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**STRATEGY OF COMMUNITY-DRIVEN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**

**FOR THE YEARS 2016-2023**

**for the following Communes:**

**Czerwonak, Gniezno, Kleszczewo, Kłecko, Kostrzyn, Łubowo, Mieleszyn, Pobiedziska, Swarzędz.**

**The strategy was prepared by the Team managed by Małgorzata Blok, Director of the Local Action Group Office.**

**The document was approved by the Annual Meeting of Members of the Local Action Group with Resolution No. I/17/15 on 17 December 2015.**

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**List of contents**

Chapter I.LGD characteristics 3

1. LGD legal form and name 3

2. Area description 3

3. Area map 3

4. Description of development of the partnership 3

Chapter II.Participation character of the LSR 5

1. Introduction 5

2. Description of the participation methods of creating and executing the Local Development Strategy, with

particular emphasis on participation by the groups that are important from the point of view of execution

of the Local Development Strategy 5

3. The data from the social consultations conducted in the LDS area was used for preparing the LDS 7

4. Participation methods of consultation used for preparation of the LDS at each key stage of the works: 7

5. Description of involvement of the local community in the process of strategy execution, including the

introduction, execution and updating of the LDS. 11

6. Indication and concise characteristics of the planned methods of animation of the local community 11

Chapter III.Diagnosis – description of the area and inhabitants 11

1. Introduction 11

2. The groups that are particularly important from the perspective of execution of the LDS 12

3. Intervention areas 12

4. Location and transportation network of the LAG 12

5. Demographic potential 13

6. Characteristics of the economy and entrepreneurship 13

7. Description of the job market 15

8. Activities of the social sector, and social problems 15

9. Historical-cultural heritage, natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness 18

Chapter IV.SWOT Analysis 19

Chapter V. Objectives and indicators 21

1. Specification and description of the general objectives, with assigned specific objectives and undertakings,

with justification 21

2. Indication of compliance of objectives with the objectives of the programmes planned to finance the LDS 25

3. Objectives by sources of funding 25

4. Presentation of the undertakings executed within the Community-Driven Local Development and indication

of the method of executing them, with justification 25

5. Specification of the indicators assigned to the undertakings, specific objectives and general objectives,

with justification of selection of the given indicator in terms of its adequacy to the objectives and

undertakings 28

6. Sources of data for the measurements 35

7. Method and frequency of measuring and updating the data 36

8. Starting level of the indicator and explanation of the method of determining it 36

9. Target level of the indicator and explanation of the method of determining it 36

Chapter VI.Method of operation selection and assessment and method of determination of the selection criteria 40

1. General characteristics of the adopted formal and institutional solutions, method of procedure development,

their objectives and assumptions 40

2. Rules of determining and changing the procedures, including the selection criteria 41

3. Innovativeness 51

4. Grant projects and own projects 52

Chapter VII.Action plan 52

Chapter VIII.Budget 52

Chapter IX.Communication plan 53

Chapter X. Integration 53

1. Updated Wielkopolskie Province Development Strategy until 2020 53

Chapter XI.Monitoring and evaluation 58

1. Monitoring the implementation of the LDS and the functioning of the LAG 58

2. Evaluation of the implementation of the LDS and the functioning of the LAG 59

Chapter XII.Strategic environmental impact assessment 60

Appendix No. 1 LDS updating procedure 61

Appendix No. 2.Monitoring – LGD functioning 62

Appendix No. 3.Action plan 67

Appendix No. 4 Amount of the EFSI financial support for the LDS within the respective submeasures 70

Appendix No. 5 Communication plan 71

**Chapter I.Characteristics of the Local Action Group**

1. **Legal form and name of the Group**

**The “Piast Trail” Local Action Group**, with its registered office in Łubowo is a special association, operating, in particular, under the provisions of the Law on Associations Act of 7 April 1989 (Journal of Laws of 2015, item 1393, as amended), under the Act on supporting the development of rural areas with a share of the resources from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development within the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 of 20 February 2015 (Journal of Laws of 2015, item 349), the Act on Local Development with the participation of local community of 20 February 2015 (Journal of Laws of 2015, item 378). The Local Action Group is supervised by the Marshall of the WIelkopolskie Province.

1. **Area description**

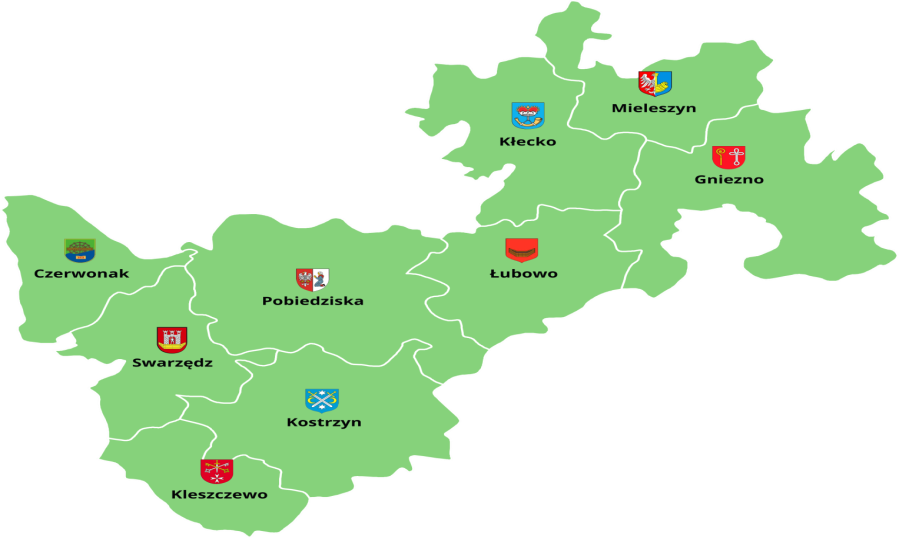
The area of the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group is cohesive in terms of space, i.e. it covers 1124 km2 and 9 communes from the Poznański and Gnieźnieński counties.

**Table 1.List of the communes within the Local Action Group**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Commune name | Commune area in km2 | Number of inhabitants (as of 31 December 2013) | Number of inhabitants except for those residing in the cities of 20,000 inhabitants or more |
| 1 | Gniezno | 177 | 10,597 | 10,597 |
| 2 | Kłecko | 132 | 7,593 | 7,593 |
| 3 | Łubowo | 114 | 6,214 | 6,214 |
| 4 | Mieleszyn | 99 | 4,053 | 4,053 |
| 5 | Czerwonak | 82 | 26,750 | 26,750 |
| 6 | Kleszczewo | 74 | 6,951 | 6,951 |
| 7 | Kostrzyn | 155 | 17,465 | 17,465 |
| 8 | Pobiedziska | 189 | 18,814 | 18,814 |
| 9 | Swarzędz | 102 | 45,530 | 15,446 |
| TOTAL | | 1124 | 144,967 | 113,883 |

Source:Own work on the basis of the data from the Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

1. **Area map**



Source:Own work

1. **Description of development of the partnership**

The “Piast Trail” Local Action Group was initiated by a group of people involved in the self-governments of 5 comunes:Gniezno, Kleszczewo, Łubowo, Pobiedziska and Swarzędz.Apart from Swarzędz, all the communes had already had experience in implementing the Leader initiative, as they had been members of the Światowid Local Action Group.The cooperation ended in leaving the Światowid Local Action Group during the 2007-2013 programming period and in establishing a new group, expanded with the commune of Swarzędz.The founding meeting was held on 19 October 2013 – with 19 people present.On 25 October 2015, the Founding Committee submitted an application for registering the association to the District Court, IX Commercial Division of the National Court Register.On 4 December 2013, the Local Action Group was entered in the Register of Associations.

On 9 December 2013, the City Council of the Kłecko Commune adopted the resolution on joining the "Piast Trail” Local Action Group and thus, with the decision of the Annual Meeting of Members of 23 June 2014, the area of the Local Action Group was expanded with the commune of Kłecko.

Three more communes, i.e. Mieleszyn, Kostrzyn and Czerwonak, adopted resolutions on joining the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group and became its members on 26 June 2015.

**The members of the Local Action Group have experience in executing projects of the character similar to the Local Development Strategy, including to the use of participation methods.**These were the projects executed within the resources of the "Światowid” Local Action Group, as well as others – from the 2007-2013 Rural Development Programme, Human Resources Operational Programme, 2007-2013 Wielkopolska Regional Operational Programme, the Province Environmental Protection Fund and others, listed in details in the application for selection of the community-driven local development strategy.The “Piast Trail” Local Action Group executed, from its own resources, a grant project addressed at inhabitants of villages.Its purpose was to integrate the local community, to promote the area of the Local Action Group and to develop cooperation between generations.The beneficiaries were the villages, on behalf of which the commune self-governments were acting.12 grants were awarded, covering 51 villages, and the team of active inhabitants also cooperated with the Local Action Group in the scope of planning the Local Development Strategy.

The Local Action Group includes 62 members, including 9 entities representing the public sector, 24 – the business sector, 6 – the NGO sector, while the others (23) are the inhabitants, including representatives of the disadvantaged group (34 women).The number of business entities demonstrates their interest in the planned activities for creating and developing jobs in the area of the Local Action Group.

The Local Action Group Council consists of 19 members, including representatives of the three sectors and of inhabitants.The public sector is represented by one commune, the NGO sector – by three non-government organizations, and the business sector – five entities, plus ten inhabitants.None of the stakeholders has more than 49% of the voting rights regarding decisions.

The Local Action Group operates under the provisions of the EU and domestic law, and the detailed solutions are included in the following documents:Statute, Council Regulations, Management Board Regulations, Annual Meeting Regulations and Audit Committee Regulations.The activities of the association are based on the work of the Local Action Group Office under the Office Regulations.Currently, the office employs 2 persons, including the Office Director with the experience and knowledge necessary for implementing regional-level strategic documents.

The main task of the Local Action Group Council is to make decisions related to the management of the community-driven local development:the Council assesses and selects the applications submitted to the Local Action Group within the implementation of the Local Development Strategy or of the own projects of the Local Action Group, on the basis of selection criteria.The selection criteria were developed with the participation of the Council members and consulted with the community with the use of participation tools.The competences of the Council also include applying to the Management Board for amending the provisions of the Local Development Strategy, of the regulations, including procedures and operation selection criteria, in particular in the context of reaching the indicators of the Local Development Strategy.The Council also examines the objections which may appear in the decision-making process.The Council makes decisions in quorum and in compliance with the sector parity.The operations are selected in accordance with procedures.The Council President makes sure the process is conducted effectively, and the Returning Committee inspects the meeting of parity before every vote.The obligations of the Returning Committee also include verification of the correctness of filling in the ballots.The Committee President has the competences to discipline Council membersin the case of their unjustified failure to participate in the works of the Council, or of their intentional violation of the Council Regulations and procedures.The Council members are obliged to be impartial and to refrain from assessment in the cases indicated in the Council Regulations.Additionally, there is maintained a Council Member Interest Register used for verifying the relationships between the Council members and the Applicants or the respective projects.The process of creating the Local Development Strategy included the participation methods and tools allowing to make the Strategy community-based, and the model developed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.After the above-mentioned initiation of the "Piast Trail” Local Action Group, activation tasks were undertaken aimed at making the inhabitants of the area interested in the planning of the development of their community, through a number of information, educational and other activities.The result was the first group of consultation and specialist meetings (17) which allowed to select the main stakeholders in the area, including the inhabitants particularly interested in development and in participation in the activities in favour of that development.423 persons participated in that stage.At the same time, there were conducted the works on developing the characteristics of the Local Action Group with the use of the participation tool, i.e. desk research.

**Table 2.Documents regulating the functioning of the Local Action Group**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Document type | Method of adopting and updating | Regulation area |
| Local Action Group Statute | Adopted by the Annual Meeting of Members.Updated by the Annual Meeting of Members at the request of the Management Board. | The aims, action methods, manners of acquiring and losing membership, rules of appointing and dismissing members of authorities, division of competences among the authorities. |
| Council Regulations | Developed by the Management Board and approved by the Annual Meeting of Members.  Updated at the request of the Council or Management Board, approved by the Annual Meeting of Members. | The manner of convening, proceeding, making decision, including selecting projects, the manner of documenting the meetings. |
| Management Board Regulations | Developed by the Management Board.  Updated by the Management Board. | Division of competences, rules of convening and proceeding, manner of documenting the meetings. |
| Annual Meeting Regulations | Developed by the Management Board and approved by the Annual Meeting of Members.  Updated by the Annual Meeting of Members at the request of the Management Board. | Manner of convening, proceeding, documenting the meetings. |
| Audit Committee Regulations | Developed by the Management Board and approved by the Annual Meeting of Members. | Manner of convening, proceeding, documenting the meetings. |
| Office Regulations | Adopted and updated by the Management Board | Manner of hiring employees, requirements for the respective positions, organization of works of the Office, division of competences, including the tasks in the scope of local animation and cooperation, giving advice, and manners of measuring the above. |
| Office Employee Remuneration Regulations | Adopted and updated by the Management Board | Terms and conditions of remuneration, including the maximum level of basic remuneration, granting allowances, bonuses and awards. |

Source:Own work.

**Chapter II.Participation character of the Local Development Strategy**

1. **Introduction**

To ensure the grassroots character of the Local Development Strategy, various methods and tools of social participation were applied, so that the results of the research, the preparation, execution and monitoring of the strategy and its regular updates, be conducted in a reliable and credible manner.The local community was allowed to take part in the strategy development and execution process, at each stage of the key works.

The participation rules, methods and tools were selected carefully, with the use of the “Database of good participation practices” maintained within the project entitled “Let’s decide together" available at <http://partycypacja.fise.org.pl/x/637582>.

**The strategy was not prepared by an external entity (does not apply to the expert opinions and analyses used for preparing the strategy).**

1. **Description of the participation methods of creating and executing the Local Development Strategy, with particular emphasis on participation by the groups that are important from the point of view of execution of the Local Development Strategy.**

The inclusion of the community meant participation of the representatives of the NGO, public and business sectors as well as citizens.

The process of co-deciding, used in the whole process of creating the Local Development Strategy, is considered to be the last (highest) stage of social participation.In literature, co-deciding is defined as developing a document on the basis of cooperation of multiple parties with different motivations and interests, with the reservation that each party has actual impact (not limited by the other entities) on the decisions made.

The process of creating the Local Development Strategy was initiated upon the establishment of the Local Action Group.At the moment of establishing the Local Action Group, there started pre-consultations, aimed not only at getting ready for the 2014-2020 programming period, but also at specifically diagnosing the area.

At first, there was prepared a data analysis which allowed to obtain information on the characteristics of the Local Action Group area, the structure of the local community, the problems of the job market, the development of social economy, the potential disadvantaged groups.There was prepared the analysis of the local community – i.e. of its composition, its main actors, and there were selected proper communication methods which were then used for preparing the action plan and developing positions.With the use of workshop and research methods, there were appointed (permanent and ad hoc) advisory bodies working on the current issues or on specific matters, and issuing their opinions and recommendations.Moreover, there was applied the method of work with the use of tablets, as well as meetings with experts and electronic consultations.The list of the participation methods and tools is included in Table No. 1.

**Table 1. Description of the participation methods used in the process of grassrooting the Local Development Strategy as well as those planned to be used.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Method | Method description |
| Data research | The continuous research used the available and valid sources of written and online data in the form of statistical studies, databases, articles in magazines, as well as own studies.The information on the research conducted was made available on the Local Action Group websites as well as during meetings. |
| Surveys, including electronic surveys | The survey studies (**298**) were prepared with the use of the inboxes located in the office of the Local Action Group as well as during consultation and focus meetings, which allowed to include the digitally excluded community.Within the survey research, the inhabitants who could not have taken part in consultations, had the chance to express their opinions on the problems, objectives, indicators, activities as well as the plan of communicating, monitoring and evaluating the Local Development Strategy.Online tools helped to include the inhabitants in the process of drawing up the 2014-2020 Local Development Strategy.The surveys were collected at the respective stages of drawing up the Local Development Strategy, and published on the Local Action Group website.The information on the surveys was immediately distributed by phone, through direct contacts with the inhabitants and the representatives of various institutions and organizations, by members of the Local Action Group, as well as through the websites of the respective Commune Offices and via individual emails. (**298**) |
| Tables | Within the meetings organized in the respective communes, table tools were used and presented to meeting participants.Depending on the task, the works were conducted individually or in groups.The use of the pre-prepared tables facilitated analysis of the information made available to the inhabitants.The tables also allowed to standardize the answers, so every participant had the same task to do.It helped to objectivize the data collected.This resulted in individual thinking of the respective meeting participants and in brainstorms. |
| Individual in-depth interviews  IDI | Within the collection of information on the Local Action Group area, there were also conducted individual interviews with Local Action Group members and inhabitants (**3**).The interviews allowed to collect the information on the implementation of the 2009-2013 Local Development Strategy and to draw constructive conclusions for the future.Additionally, it should be indicated that members of the Local Action Group are inhabitants of the communes within the Local Action Group area who have specific knowledge of development of rural areas through cooperation with the Local Action Group that used to operate in that area.Therefore, the interviews should be treated both as expert interviews and as interviews with “regular” inhabitants who are familiar with their surroundings. |
| Focus group interview  FGI | The interviews (3) were conducted with a specific group of citizens of the communes within the Local Action Group area, i.e. with representatives of the Public Finance Sector Units, Representatives of Cultural Institutions (museums, libraries, Commune Culture Centres), NGOs, entrepreneurs members of the Management Board, of the Council, representatives of the disadvantaged group, experts.The interviews allowed to collect extensive information on the area, activities of the Local Action Group, as well as the information on the respective chapters of the 2014-2020 Local Development Strategy.Those meetings were of expert character, but with participation of inhabitants.During those meetings, the procedure of establishing and changing the criteria of operation selection was also consulted. |
| Working team | For the purposes of the process of creating the Local Development Strategy, there was established a Team for Preparing the Local Development Strategy (4).The consultation conclusions were used by the team of experts to prepare the objectives, criteria, undertakings, indicators as well as procedures, in cooperation with the Local Action Group Office. |
| Consultation workshops | Creative consultation workshops (1) were conducted with representatives of the disadvantaged group – i.e. women who had submitted project fiches for starting business activities. |
| Civic Cafe | The grant competition allowed to collect the most active representatives of the area (1).The participants, collected at round tables, presented their opinions and filled in the surveys regarding the project of the Local Development Strategy. |
| Working group | The group meetings (4) were used for exchange of the experiences of the Local Action Group and for developing effective methods in the scope of the key stages of preparation of the Local Development Strategy, its execution and future animation. |
| Consultation meetings, i.e. moderated open meetings | Due to the establishment of the “Piast Trail” LAG, two rounds of community consultations were organized.The first included 8 pre-consultations, while the second – 9 meetings.The meetings gathered representatives of all the LAG sectors.The respective methods (brainstorm, Socratic debate, hierarchization, diagnostic tools in the form of a table and decision tree) helped to collect a lot of the information necessary for developing the respective parts of the LDS.The purpose was to conduct a SWOT analysis on the basis of the data collected and to transform it into a structure of objectives.The consultations were conducted as follows: each person from the LAG area could participate, so the invitations to citizens were provided to 177 village administrators, and they were held in each commune, on different weekdays, at different times.The inhabitants were informed of the consultations through website notifications, by phone and through direct contacts with the members and employees of the LAG.All the applications were analyzed and reflected in the SWOT analysis and Area Diagnosis (Chapter III and IV of the LDS) and in the adopted objectives and criteria of selection of operations (Chapter V and VI) as well as in the remaining parts of the LDS. |
| Expert meetings | There were held expert meetings (8) with the LAG Council, Management Board, with representatives of the public finance sector, with specialists in obtaining public funds and with local community leaders.The meetings summarized the information collected and prepared within the respective parts of the LDS.The final version of the 2014-2020 LDS was prepared taking into account all the consultation activities.The local community was provided with the information on the expert meetings. |
| Project fiches | In order to include as many actors in the development of the LDS, the JST institutions, NGOs as well as self-governments and (current and potential) entrepreneurs, as well as persons from the disadvantaged group had the opportunity to submit project fiches (124), i.e. with proposals, needs and activities they would like to be taken in the future.This allowed to collect the important data indicating what activities within the LDS will be willingly undertaken by the beneficiaries.The applied methods were mainly aimed at formal organizations, but the cards were also submitted by individuals (inhabitants) and informal groups (e.g. KGW) and villages.The cards and the information on submitting them were available at the LAG website and in the LAG office.Additionally, the LAG employees informed and encouraged to submit them at meetings, by phone and email. |
| Electronic consultations | The (permanent) consultations were conducted after developing the respective elements of the LDS, so that the Strategy version prepared on the basis of the data collected with the use of other consultation methods and expert work, be assessed before the submission of the LDS in the competition.As a result, it was possible to collect remarks for the documents that have already been prepared and to create a fully grassrooted Strategy.  After preparation of the whole LDS, an open invitation to submit opinions was sent out and published at LAG websites. |
| Consultation point | The consultation point was available in the LAG Office five days a week from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  As a result, all the groups and sectors from the LAG area had the opportunity to obtain detailed information on each stage of preparation of the LDS and to submit their remarks. |

1. **Data from the social consultations conducted in the LDS area was used for preparing the LDS.**

General and specific objectives of the LDS were selected, as well as the indicators and methods of selecting and assessing the operations and the method of determining the selection criteria.As a result of data collection and preparation with the use of various methods, an action plan was specified, and the budget and communication plan were designed.Innovativeness was clarified, the strategy was integrated, and the strategy introduction monitoring and evaluation, as well as the process of updating it, were planned.1235 persons associated with the LAG area took part in the process of development of the LDS.124 project fiches were submitted, as well as 298 surveys; the working team meet 4 times, the working group – 4 times, the expert teams – 8 times, and many other participation methods were used.Finally, the LDS project was analyzed by members of the Annual Meeting and, after introduction of amendments, it was adopted on 17 December 2015.

1. **Participation methods of consultation used for preparation of the LDS at each key stage of the works:**

**STAGE I –** SWOT analysis and diagnosis, including by defining the needs and problems and identifying the target groups

Application of the social participation method:

1. Data analysis – participants:LAG Office (3 persons cumulatively); period: 01.10.2014-17.12.2015, Łubowo; subject:systematically collecting and analyzing the information for diagnosing the area, from commonly available sources.

2. Surveys– participants:inhabitants, including representatives of disadvantaged groups, representatives of sectors (156 persons);01.10.2014-17.12.2015, LDS area; subject:studying the issues of diagnosis and SWOT analysis, of the needs, problems and target groups, including the disadvantaged ones.

3. Working team – participants:members of the LDS Team (10 persons), 23.04.2015-07.12.2015, Łubowo;subject:advanced works on diagnosis and SWOT analysis, verification of the needs, problems and target groups, including disadvantaged target groups, defined in the process of social participation, analysis of the data collected, preparation of solutions, LDS contents, etc.

4. 4 LG working groups – participants:representatives of 4 LAGs (6 persons);26.08.2015, Krotoszyn; subject:discussion of the planned methods of participation, diagnosis of the area and SWOT analysis, discussion of the strategic areas and target groups, including disadvantaged target groups, verification of the documents and legislative acts associated with the LDS.

5. Focus group interview (FGI) – participants:representatives of the business sector (05.03.2015Pobiedziska and Gniezno 12.04.2015), (50 persons); subject:presentation of the assumptions of the 2014-2020 LEADER Rural Development Programme and 2016-2023 LDS as well as of the possibilities to support local initiatives, discussion of the SWOT analysis and directions of development of the area and its inhabitants, co-financing of entrepreneurship.

6. Social pre-consultations (I/II rounds) – participants:inhabitants, including representatives of disadvantaged groups, representatives of LAG sectors (283 persons – 1st round); subject:SWOT analysis of the area, analysis of needs and expectations, identification of target groups, including disadvantaged target groups, specification of the objectives and criteria of operation selection.(01-10-14, Kleszczewo, 21 persons;05-11-14 Łubowo 25 persons;17-12-14, Kleszczewo, 34 persons;19-12-14 Gniezno 40 persons;27-01-15 Pobiedziska 61 persons;09-02-15 Swarzędz 49 persons;11-02-15 Lubochnia 15 persons;17-03-15 Kłecko 38 persons)

7. Consultation pointfor preparation of the LDS – participants:stakeholders, all the LAG sectors (50 persons), LAG Office (2 persons) 30.07.2015-17.12.2015, Łubowo; subject:consultation of the provided analyses and own studies, collection of applications, remarks and cards.

8. Expert meetings – participants:LAG Management Board, the Office, Łubowo, 05.09.2014 (6 persons); subject:discussion of the action plan, of the authorities and forms of work necessary for preparing the LDS:members of the LAG Council, 21.01.2015 (15 persons); subject:discussion of the forms of cooperation within the establishment and support for the works of the Team for preparation of the LDS and consultation of the respective elements of the LDS during preparation, as well as initial SWOT analysis; participants:LAG Management Board and representatives of the communes planning to join the LAG, 16.04.2015 (10 persons), subject:appointment of the LDS Team;participants:LAG Management Board and representatives of the communes planning to join the LAG, Łubowo 21.05.2015 (11 persons), subject:discussion and adoption of the Regulation so as to allow the LDS works to be conducted.

**Stage II:**specification of the objectives and indicators and preparation of the action plan, including the search for the solutions to execute the strategy

Application of the social participation method:

1. **Data analysis** – as above

2. **LDS consultation point –** participants:stakeholders, representatives of the business and NGO sectors as well as inhabitants, including female representatives of the disadvantaged groups, LAG Office (2 persons);30.07.2015-17.12.2015, Łubowo; subject:all the issues associated with preparation and execution of the LDS.

3. **Surveys–** participants**:**inhabitants, including representatives of disadvantaged groups, representatives of sectors (136 persons);14.10.2015 – 07.12.2015r., LDS area; subject:study of the issues associated with searching for solutions for executing the LDS, in particular with specification of objectives and indicators.

4. **Working team –** participants**:**members of the LDS team (9 persons); 14.05.2015 (7 persons) 23.06.2015, Łubowo; subject:advanced works on specification of objectives, indicators and development of the action plan, including the search for solutions, providing the methods of executing the strategy, analysis of the data collected, preparation of solutions, development of the LDS contents, etc.

5. **Focus group interview (FGI) –** participants:representatives of the active women of the LAG, and NGO (10 persons);09.10.2015r., Kostrzyn; subject:initial definition and hierarchization of the LDS objectives, search for solutions, constituting the methods of executing the strategy, discussion of the LDS contents.

6. **Social consultations –** participants:inhabitants, including representatives of the disadvantaged groups, representatives of the sectors and groups important for the area (145 persons) 30-07-15 Czerwonak (30); 25-08-15 Łubowo (21), 26-08-15 Gniezno (18); 02-09-15 Mieleszyn (11); 14-09-15 Kostrzyn (17); 15-09-15 Swarzędz (10), 22-09-15 Pobiedziska (23); 24-09-15 Kleszczewo (6); 29-09-15 Kłecko (9); subject:initial analysis and specification of the suggested objectives and of their hierarchy, discussion of the search for the solutions aimed at executing the LDS, SWOT analysis and Diagnosis – supplementation, including evaluation.

7. 4 LG **working groups –** participants**:**representatives of 4 LAGs (6 persons);15.10.2015, Baranów; subject:exchange of the differences of the 4 LAGs in the scope of preparation of the LDS, preparation of joint rules in the scope of specification of the LDS objectives and indicators, discussion of the guidelines for preparation of the action plan, verification of the documents and legislative acts associated with preparation of the LDS

8. **Project fiches -** participants:LAG sectors and partnerships, including representatives of disadvantaged groups 140 persons);27.08.2015-17.12.2015, LAG area; subject:study of the preferred proposals in the scope of activities/projects they would like to be executed in the area with the use of the LAG.

9. **Expert meetings –** participants (5 persons) 05-09-2014; subject: specification of the objectives and indicators and preparation of the action plan, including the search for the solutions to execute the strategy.

**Stage III:**Development of the rules for selection of operations and for specification of the selection criteria

Application of the social participation method:

1. **Data analysis –** as above

2. **LDS consultation point -** as above

3. **4 LG working groups** – participants**:**representatives of 4 LAGs (5 persons);29.10.2015, Ostrzeszów; subject:exchange of differences of 4 LAGs in the scope of preparation of LDS, preparation of joint rules in the scope of the rules of selection of operations and of specification of the selection criteria, verification of the documents and legislative acts associated with preparation of the LDS

4. **Consultation workshops –** participants:the representatives of the disadvantaged group who are planning to undertake business activities (10 persons);18.11.2015, Łubowo; subject:consultation of the rules for selection of operations and for specification of the selection criteria,

5. **Civic Café –** participants:Representatives of the LAG sectors, including of the disadvantaged group, the LAG Council, Management Board (36 persons);19.11.2015;Iwno, subject:discussion of the objectives, of selection of operations, of the criteria of selection of operations, of other chapters of the LDS project.

6. **Working team –** participants**:**members of the LDS Team (); 16.09-28.12.2015, Łubowo;subject:advanced works on specification of the rules of selection of operations and of specification of the selection criteria, analysis of the data collected, preparation of solutions, preparation of the LDS contents, etc.

7. **Electronic consultations –** The works within the III stage included preparation of the rules of selection of operations and determined the criteria of selection of operations taking into account the conclusions from the meetings with representatives of all the sectors.

**Stage IV:**Preparation of the rules of monitoring and evaluation

Application of the social participation method:

1. **Data analysis –** as above

2**. LDS consultation point -** as above

3. **Working team –** participants**:**members of the LDS team (7 persons) 8.12.2015r.; Łubowo; subject:advanced works on specification of the rules of monitoring and evaluation, analysis of the data collected, preparation of solutions, preparation of the LDS contents, etc.

4. **4 LG working groups –** participants:representatives of 4 LAGs (5 persons);17.11.2015, Łubowo; subject:exchange of differences of 4 LAGs in the scope of preparation of LDS, preparation of joint rules in the scope of monitoring and evaluation, verification of the documents and legislative acts associated with preparation of the LDS

5. **Expert meetings –** participants**:**representatives of the Management Board, Council, LDS Team (6 persons) – 08.12.2015; subject:presentation of the general assumptions of Monitoring and Evaluation, discussion of the respective elements of the system and of the execution thereof.

6. **Individual interviews –** participation:deputy president of the Management Board of the LAG;15.12.2015;Łubowo; subject:detailed discussion of the remarks and proposed changes submitted to the LAG as a result of familiarizing the LAG members with the proposal of the Local Development Strategy, including the rules of monitoring and evaluation – on the basis of the experience in a self-government position.

7. **Electronic consultations**

**Stage V:**Preparation of the communication plan

1. **Data analysis –** as above

2. **LDS consultation point -** as above

3. **Individual interviews –** participation**:**president of the Agricultural Cooperative, president of the LAG Council, president of the Cooperative;15.12.2015;Łubowo; subject:detailed discussion of the remarks and proposals of changes submitted to the LAG as a result of familiarizing the LAG members with the proposal of the Local Development Strategy, in particular in the scope of a communication plan.

4. **Electronic consultations**

The communication plan which constitutes an appendix to this strategy, has been developed on the basis of the conclusions from the application of the indicated methods.The conclusions from the respective methods were applied in the preparation of the respective chapters of the strategy.The applied participation methods constitute a crucial source of knowledge provided directly from representatives of the respective groups and allowed to “adapt” the LDS to the potential and needs of the area.The LAG is planning to adapt the participation methods also at the stage of LDS introduction, in particular while:

- monitoring and assessing the level of execution of the strategy,

- updating the document,

- preparing and changing the local selection criteria.

The participation of the respective groups of stakeholders at the introduction stage will allow to update the document towards actual needs, while the potential changes in the criteria will allow to execute the assumptions included in this document.

During the execution of the social participation methods, LAG each time informed the meeting participants of the co-financing of the activities from the resources of the European Union within action: “ Support for local development within the LEADER initiative”, Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, Submeasure 19.1 Preparatory support, and the EU and Rural Development Programme logos were used in accordance with the Draft Book of visualization of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 logo.

**5. The basic information on the conducted LDS consultations with the local community and the number of participants is presented together with the results of the analysis of the proposed applications from the social consultations, transferred to the Strategy objectives and criteria of operation selection, together with the results of detailed, individual analysis together with the acceptance or rejection of each of them individually, with justification if they are rejected from the Strategy by the LDS Team.**

**Table 2. List of the LDS consultation meetings, including the objectives and operation selection criteria, the fact of acceptance or rejection (with justification of rejection).**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Date | Participants | Number of participants | Objectives | Criteria |
| 1st round  Pre-consultations | 01-10-14 | LAG members | 21 | Economic development, support for business activity, prevention of exclusion, promotion of tourism.  ACCEPTED | Family businesses – not accepted – unmeasurable criterion.  Work for the unemployed and persons aged 50+ - not accepted – the resources may be obtained from the State Fund of Rehabilitation of Handicapped People (PFRON) and from the District Employment Agencies.  Local heritage  ACCEPTED. |
| 05-11-14 | Commune ofŁubowo | 25 |
| 17-12-14 | Commune ofKleszczewo | 34 |
| 19-12-14 | Commune ofGniezno | 40 |
| 27-01-15 | Commune ofPobiedziska | 61 |
| 09-02-15 | Commune ofSwarzędz | 49 |
| 11-02-15 | Commune ofLubochnia | 15 |
| 17-03-15 | Commune ofKłecko | 38 |
| 2nd round  Social consultations | 30-07-15 | Commune ofCzerwonak | 30 | The need for “small grants”, increase in integration, economic development, support for business activity  ACCEPTED | Attractions for children, integration gazebos, development of activities.  ACCEPTED |
| 25-08-15 | Commune ofŁubowo | 21 | Increase in integration.  Prevention of exclusion.  Local heritage – promotion.  ACCEPTED | Village community centres, attractions for the youth, employment of the local inhabitants – women (disadvantaged group), use of local benefits, innovativeness.  ACCEPTED |
| 26-08-15 | Commune ofGniezno | 18 | Increase in integration, protection and promotion of local heritage, economic development, support for business activity.  ACCEPTED | Village community centres, start of business activities (job for 1 person – maintaining it within 3 years of the end of the project).  ACCEPTED |
| 02-09-15 | Commune ofMieleszyn | 11 | Economic development, support for business activity, social capital  ACCEPTED | Companies for 24 months in the given sector, village community centres, programme for the youth, integration of the local community.  ACCEPTED |
| 14-09-15 | Commune ofKostrzyn | 17 | Economic development, support for business activity, prevention of exclusion, increase in integration.  ACCEPTED | Development of and support for business activities (existing entities and services), disadvantaged group, village community centres – co-financing.Social communication of the local community (events, meetings, etc.).  ACCEPTED. |
| 15-09-15 | Commune ofSwarzędz | 10 | Prevention of exclusion, support for business activities, promotion of local heritage.  ACCEPTED | Disadvantaged groups:women, seniors (Nurseries, Children Clubs, day care centres).  Starting of business activities, local heritage, development of the infrastructure.  ACCEPTED |
| 22-09-15 | Commune ofPobiedziska | 23 | Support for the sustainable development based on local resources.  Development of social capital.  ACCEPTED | Entrepreneurship – hiring local employees and persons aged 50+ - not accepted  Inhabitants’ communication.  Village community centres – co-financing.  Promotion of local values.  Integration in villages (meetings, events, etc.)  ACCEPTED |
| 24-09-15 | Commune ofKleszczewo | 6 | Support for business activities.  Development of social capital.Increase in social integration.  ACCEPTED | Development of local entrepreneurship.  Assistance to young people in starting business activities (chance for reducing the emigration of that group).  Village community centres and social communication.  Development of the tourism and recreation infrastructure  ACCEPTED |
| 29-09-15 | Commune ofKłecko | 9 | Support for business activities.  Development of social capital.  Protection of local heritage.  Prevention of exclusion.  ACCEPTED | Creating jobs for women (disadvantaged group).  Adaptation of the road infrastructure.Rejected – to be performed by the Commune  Establishment of a Social Cooperative.Not accepted – to be executed outside of the LDS  Local heritage.  ACCEPTED |
|  |  | 428 |  |  |

Source:own work

**The conclusions from the studies, analyses, recommendations, meetings, etc. used in the preparation of the LDS, included the areas that need intervention and the target groups to whom activities will be directed, and disclosed the disadvantaged group.They were used in full for preparation of the document.**

**Inhabitants, social organizations, informal groups, Local Self-Government Units.**Most member communes are characterized by a rising number of inhabitants which results from the proximity of large cities and good road transportation.The increase is considered to constitute both a strength and a weakness of the area, because it results in a high degree of variability in the society, causing the occurrence of new needs and an increase in the risk of conflicts and lack of the feeling of attachment to one’s place of residence.Bilateral stereotypes and differences in lifestyles impede communication, integration and joint involvement in improving the quality of life in the given area.There is also noticed a discrepancy between the inhabitants of a city and a village within one commune.That is why the consultation participants emphasized the need to develop the conditions for integration of inhabitants and to increase their social activity, while indicating the limited possibility to finance it.The activity of the village administrators and village councils, non-government organizations and informal groups is positive, and there is the need to decentralize cultural activity by making use of the potential of the village community centres and of the activity of seniors with the use of day care homes.What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.It is necessary to improve knowledge of the local resources, as well as the flow of information, labelling of trails, promotion of attractions, including with the use of new technologies.The area has significant natural resources, but the inhabitants lack the knowledge in that area, and there are few people who demonstrate pro-environmental attitudes.The LAG has very valuable historic resources, associated with the establishment of the Polish state, the activities of the Piasts, the Wielkopolska Uprising.That potential, including the potential of the Piast Trail, is unused.

**Disadvantaged group –** women**.**The area is partially affected by the problem of unemployment, so there is the need to create jobs in the LAG area, particularly close to the places of residence of the women returning to the job market after a maternity leave, and to assist young people in starting business activities.The position women in the business and public life is weaker.Most unemployed people are women.As for the persons running their own businesses – women also constitute a minority.Most councilors and village administrators are men.At the same time, women are more willing to engage in social activities within informal groups and local initiatives.

**Entrepreneurs, natural persons planning to start business activities.**The limited number of the possibilities to finance the business activities of the already existing entities indicates that that area requires more support in order to allow people to start business activities, from the county employment agencies.Development of business activities related to tourism bears the risk associated with seasonality.The services should be networked, and there should be developed the recreation activities that are mainly aimed at inhabitants.The existing tourist, recreational and sports infrastructure is unequally distributed in the area, and requires expansion or combination.There is a shortage of entities providing local services, including those related to recreation and tourism.

**Other issues important for the area.**The inhabitants would like to see an improvement of the road infrastructure and public transportation system, but the financial requirements cannot be covered from the LDS budget.Similarly, digitization is listed in each part of the SWOT analysis, except for strengths, which makes it an urgent need demonstrated by local communities which, however, is impossible to finance from the LAG.

1. **Description of involvement of the local community in the process of strategy execution, including the introduction, execution and updating of the LDS.**

In the case of the need to update the LDS, it will be consulted with the local community.

The applications associated with updating the LDS may be submitted at any time in the LAG office in Łubowo 1, as well as by phone and email. Depending on the needs and the submitted applications, there will be organized meetings of the members of the LAG Office and the interested inhabitants, aimed at developing the update materials. Such meetings will be reported by the Office at its websites and by email.LDS updates may be submitted at the Annual Meeting.  The LAG Office maintains a Register of the submitted LDS updates.

The proposed changes in the LDS, including in the criteria of operation selection, may be submitted by the community to the Council, the office Director or the LAG Office.The Management Board will prepare proposals of changes.After consultations, the Management Board will submit the proposed changes to the Annual Meeting.

1. **Indication and concise characteristics of the planned methods of animation of the local community.**

The planned activities and campaigns aimed at including the local community, animating and empowering it, are described in the Communication Plan chapter of this Strategy.However, it should be indicated that in the whole period of introduction of the 2014-2020 LDS, the “Piast Trail” LAG will undertake activities aimed at:improving the quality of the executed operations and submitted applications, assisting the persons who, for various reasons, are not able to strive to obtain assistance from the LDS and/or other competitions, preparing current analyses, identifying and motivating the groups of people that potentially may be interested in the execution of the operations in the scope of local development but, for some reasons, do not do it, activating the inhabitants to participate in the broadly understood local development, stimulating the potential beneficiaries, assisting the local project coordinators in development of their own ideas into the projects that may qualify for financial support.

The preparation of this chapter took into account the results of own studies and of the evaluation during two rounds of social consultations.Meetings were held in some member communes which allowed to prepare a comparison.The conclusions from the second round indicated that, according to participants, no significant changes took place in their perception of their surroundings, and thus the SWOT analysis and diagnosis were still valid.

During the execution of the social participation methods, LAG each time informed the meeting participants of the co-financing of the activities from the resources of the European Union within action: “ Support for local development within the LEADER initiative”, Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, Submeasure 19.1 Preparatory support, and the EU and Rural Development Programme logos were used in accordance with the Draft Book of visualization of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 logo.

**Chapter III.Diagnosis – description of the area and inhabitants**

1. **Introduction**

A diagnosis of the area constitutes the basis for preparing the Local Development Strategy.It refers to the resources, potential, problems, shortages and the community itself.It was prepared on the basis of statistics and own studies, in cooperation with the LDS Team.The diagnosis referred t o a broad range of activities; the chapter presents the elements which may be supported within the LDS.The base date in statistical data was considered to be 31 December 2013, to analyze the changes during the period of introduction of the previous 2007-2013 Rural Development Programme.The process of preparation of the diagnosis was joined by the inhabitants of the area, through a number of different participation methods and tools described in chapter II of the LDS.

1. **The groups that are particularly important from the perspective of execution of the LDS**

The most important recipient of all the LAG activities is the whole community – i.e. the inhabitants.In the whole process of creating and implementing the LDS, the LAG is planning to cover as many inhabitants as possible.The financial capacities are limited, so the diagnosis, the SWOT analysis and the social consultations resulted in formulating the operation selection criteria so that the operations best execute the LDS objectives.Thus, the group of beneficiaries of and participants in the LDS activities is limited.However, it is the inhabitants and the quality of their life that is the main subject of the introduction process.The studies conducted suggest that the situation of **women** is problematic, and should be paid most attention by the LAG.Women are the group with biggest problems in the job market, who are least visible in public life, while at the same time are most willing to engage in social activities.That group requires support independently of their age – women are minders of children and of the non-independent adult members of their families; because of the minding obligations, they do not undertake the work that requires long commutes or shift-based work.The road transportation network in the area is good, but there are not enough means of public transport, so in the families where the man drives a car to work, the woman is excluded from professional and social life.Also, elderly women also engage to a higher degree in helping their children and grandchildren, instead of parents or care centres.That is why women constitute the disadvantaged group within our LDS, not only in terms of access to the job market.Therefore, it is the entrepreneurial women from our area that will constitute an important group from the point of view of execution of the LDS.We want the ladies who have achieved professional success, to inspire the remaining ladies, we will develop the channels for exchange of experiences, support the women who start business activities, so as to reduce the differences in the access to the job market and social activity among women and men in the rural areas of the LAG.The disadvantaged group was indicated by the local communities during the LDS consultation meetings with the inhabitants of communes, during conferences and focus meetings.

The group of persons associated with **self-government administration and local authorities** is important in terms of the competences and resources possessed.The commune self-government invests in the infrastructure, which is the subject of interest among all the inhabitants, and it manages the social, educational and cultural policies in the respective communes.Under the LDS assumptions, it will execute the undertakings associated with the non-commercial recreation and cultural infrastructure.That type of investment, due to the amount of operation costs, may be executed to a limited degree by other entities, e.g. non-government organizations, and the results of the studies and consultations indicate that the inhabitants expect that LAG is going to finance such activities.The circles associated with **non-government organizations** are also important for execution of the LDS – they will be the main executor of the activities within the grant projects, they concentrate the active people who concentrate their efforts on specific objectives, which will help to implement and promote the LDS objectives.Half of the LAG budget will be spent on establishing and maintaining jobs.That is why the entrepreneurs and their activities will be permanently present in the LAG activities, with special emphasis on the disadvantaged group.On account of the limited capacities for supporting the establishment of jobs and development of the already existing entities, the LAG will promote the business projects executed within partnerships, it will network the entities so that more recipients may benefit from the resources spent.Another important group, the activities of which may be conducive to the success of the LDS, is the village administrators.There are 177 villages in the area of the LAG.**Village administrators** are representatives of the self-government authorities, persons of public trust, sources of information and animators of inhabitants’ integration.The cooperation with the village administrators constitutes the basis for effective provision of the information on our activities, and for the LAG - it will be a source of the knowledge of the expectations of local communities.Although the village administration offices do not have legal personality and so may not execute tasks directly, they will certainly participate in numerous tasks associated with social animation and integration.The village administration offices and village community centres usually concentrate the activity of the local community, including of the informal groups.

1. **Intervention areas**

- The social infrastructure that is conducive to regional and local development.

- Development of activities of small and medium enterprises, support for entrepreneurship and establishment of enterprises.

- Development and promotion of tourist attractions among small and medium enterprises.

- Development and promotion of tourist services among small and medium enterprises.

- Environmental protection and green infrastructure.

- Development and promotion of the tourist and recreation potential of natural areas.

- Development and promotion of public tourist and recreation services.

- Promotion of employment.

- Self-employment, entrepreneurship and establishment of enterprises, including innovative micro-, small and medium enterprises.

- Equality of women and men in all the areas, including in access to employment, career development, balance between professional and private life.

- Active inclusion, including for the purpose of promoting equal opportunities, active participation and better employment opportunities.

**4. Location and transportation network of the LAG**

The area of the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group is cohesive in terms of space, i.e. it covers 1124 km2 and 9 communes from the Poznański and Gnieźnieński counties.Within the area, the town of Swarzędz is not subject to the support within the Leader activity.The LAG area has very good transportation links, via A2 motorway, S5 expressway, DK15 and DK92 national roads, and with the Poznań-Warszawa, Poznań-Gniezno and Poznań– Bydgoszcz railway lines.Some of the LAG communes (Swarzędz, Pobiedziska, Łubowo) are connected to each other with former national road No. 5 between Gniezno and Poznań.This road has been important from a tourist point of view, because it leads to the Museum of the First Piasts at Lednica and to the Wielkopolski Etnographic Park Dziekanowice, and mainly covers the Piast Trail – a well-known tourist trail.Another element that makes the area cohesive is the proximity of large cities:Poznań and Gniezno.Both cities provide the LAG inhabitants with jobs, a sales market, and constitute a source of new inhabitants and ideas for our area.The proximity of the towns of Swarzędz and Września is also important from the point of view of access to jobs.

The above-mentioned issues were emphasized as important for the local communities, in the SWOT analysis prepared in most member communes with the use of participation methods.

1. **Demographic potential**

Under the demographic projection for the period of 2014-2050 for the Wielkopolskie Province, prepared by the Central Statistical Office of Poland, an increase in the number of inhabitants may be expected from 2022.According to the estimates, after that period the number of inhabitants is going to drop.The decrease in the number of city inhabitants is going to be even greater.The fact of suburbanization of Poznań and of semi-urbanization of the towns bordering with Poznań also affects the demographic situation of the LAG area.There is observable a permanent increase in the number of inhabitants, including as a result of migration from cities and towns.The area is recording a positive birth rate and more people moving in than out.

**Figure 1.Migration balance in the LAG in 2014**

Source:own work on the basis of the data from the Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

1. **Characteristics of the economy and entrepreneurship.**

What is important for the economic potential of the area is the location in the vicinity of the Poznań agglomeration – some of the communes (Czerwonak, Kleszczewo, Kostrzyn, Pobiedziska and Swarzędz) are members of the Poznań Metropolis Association and so were covered by the Integrated Territorial Investments – instruments of the local self-governments, financed from the European Funds.This guarantees additional investments aimed at developing the economic potential of those communes.

Figure 2.Entities of the national economy entered in the REGON register (Polish National Business Register) (number)

*Swarzędz – rural area*

*Swarzędz – town*

Source:own work on the basis of the data from the Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

In turn, the communes of Łubowo, Gniezno and Kłecko are covered by the Gniezno Strategic Intervention Area which is provided with the European funds of subregional character.Within the Territorial Mandate, the commune of Łubowo executes the project entitled "Development of the infrastructure of the investment areas in the Commune of Łubowo, which are to be included in the “INVEST-PARK” Wałbrzych Special Economic Zone – Łubowo Subzone, which results in new opportunities for development of entrepreneurship in the area of the LAG.

The area records an increase in the number of business entities.

**Table 1. Businesses by types of activities (number)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Territorial unit | Industry and construction | Industry and construction | Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing | Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing | Other activities | Other activities |
| 2012 | 2013 | 2012 | 2013 | 2012 | 2013 |
| Gniezno | 288 | 297 | 65 | 72 | 691 | 748 |
| Kłecko | 203 | 206 | 44 | 54 | 363 | 368 |
| Łubowo | 162 | 183 | 39 | 42 | 384 | 397 |
| Mieleszyn | 94 | 94 | 27 | 28 | 191 | 191 |
| Czerwonak | 767 | 779 | 31 | 32 | 2429 | 2465 |
| Kleszczewo | 167 | 175 | 33 | 38 | 556 | 610 |
| Kostrzyn | 550 | 546 | 67 | 69 | 1264 | 1345 |
| Pobiedziska | 644 | 641 | 57 | 59 | 1639 | 1692 |
| Swarzędz - miasto | 1150 | 1114 | 20 | 21 | 3578 | 3630 |
| Swarzędz - obszar wiejski | 622 | 652 | 40 | 37 | 1539 | 1687 |

Source:Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

It follows from the data from the Central Business Register and Information Service (CEIDG) that the most popular sectors of the businesses registered in the respective communes are retail (code PKD 47.91.Z and 47.99.Z in the Polish Classification of Business Activities), transportation services (code PKD 49.41.Z) as well as construction and renovation services (code PKD 43.33.Z).The commune of Swarzędz is well-known (not only in its surroundings) from sales of furniture – based on the CEIDG data as many as 401 business entities in that commune conduct the business activities with code PKD 31.09.Z – Production of other furniture.The economy of the area is affected by the activities of the large business entities operating in the LAG area or in its vicinity, in the furniture production and automotive sectors (VW, Bridgestone) or the food sector (Lisner).The existence of large entities results in occurrence of related activities – the entities performing some of the works required.Thus, in the case of a crisis resulting in liquidation of a large factory, the problems related to unemployment may affect not only the employees of that factory, but also the subcontractors.From the point of view of the disadvantaged group, the data on the share of women in the enterprises proves to be interesting.

**Table 2. Entrepreneurs operating in the LAG area, by sex.Condition as of 31 December 2013**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| COMMUNE | Women | Men | % of women |
| Swarzędz | 2161 | 3769 | 36.4 % |
| Mieleszyn | 101 | 195 | 34.1 % |
| Gniezno | 358 | 743 | 32.5 % |
| Kleszczewo | 282 | 472 | 37.4 % |
| Łubowo | 176 | 406 | 30.2 % |
| Kostrzyn | 572 | 1135 | 33.5 % |
| Kłecko | 177 | 413 | 30 % |
| Pobiedziska | 725 | 1395 | 34.2 % |

Source:CEIDG – commune report on the entrepreneurs operating in the respective communes by type of conducted activities.

Social cooperatives are operating in the area of the LAG.Currently, there is being analyzed the need reported within the social consultations, associated with establishment of more social entrepreneurship entities, in particular in the light of the development programs adopted on 12 August 2014 – the Domestic Programme of Social Economy Development and the Domestic Prevention of Poverty and Social Exclusion.A new dimension of active integration of the public social services.The LAG area is covered by accredited activities of the Konin Centre for Supporting Social Economy.

1. **Description of the job market**

As of December 2013, the level of registered unemployment in the Poznań county amounted to 4.5%, while in the Gniezno county – 15.3%.

**Figure 3. Condition of the job market.Unemployed people by sex.Condition as of 31 December 2013 (number)**

Source:Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

It follows from the above data that it is women who constitute the majority of all the unemployed persons.

**Figure 4.Condition of the job market.Registered unemployed persons by age.Condition as of 31 December 2013 (number)**

*24 years and less*

*55 years and more*

Source:Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

It follows from the above data that there is no justification for promoting the access to the job market for people aged 50 or more or for young people.

The situation of the large factories outside of the LAG area makes the job market dependent on the quality of the transportation system – the individual and public systems as well as company transportation systems which are quite common in the area.That is why, in terms of transportation, the households with only one car have limited access to jobs.

1. **Activities of the social sector, and social problems**

The permanent increase in the number of inhabitants, on account of the main influx of people from towns and cities, is having a positive effect in the form of new social initiatives, exchange of experiences, but also a negative one – the inhabitants report the problem of lack of understanding between the “old” and “new” inhabitants, lack of familiarity of old customs, and local separateness.Both parties also state that there not enough cultural, recreational or sports activities to integrate both groups.

The increase in the number of inhabitants is illustrated in the table below.Only the communes of Mieleszyn and Kłeczko are significantly different in terms of population dynamics – which may be explained by the fact that both communes are furthest away from cities.

The area is socially active, but the forms of activities are diverse.The inhabitants are active in non-government organizations and in the informal groups concentrated around village administration offices and village community centres.The inhabitants themselves undertake the activities aimed at social integration.Most non-government organizations operate in the communes of Swarzędz, Czerwonak and Pobiedziska.9 non-government organizations are registered in the commune of Mieleszyn.Traditionally, the rural areas are characterized by the activities of the Volunteer Fire Departments which are now operating as non-government organizations.Additionally, such women’s’ organizations as Country Housewives’ Clubs enjoy a long tradition – although nowadays their character, activities and names are changing.There is observable an increased tendency of association of seniors.These organizations, usually called Seniors Clubs, have either the status of registered organizations or informal groups.The number of such entities in the LAG area is as follows:Czerwonak - 3, Kleszczewo – 1, Łubowo – 2, Mieleszyn – 2, Pobiedziska – 5, Kłecko – 1, Swarzędz – 11, Kostrzyn – 7, Gniezno – 2.

**Table 3. Number of inhabitants in the respective communes in the years of 2007-2014, with division into rural and town areas**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| COMMUNE | | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
| Swarzędz | Total | 41400 | 42257 | 42965 | 44521 | 44659 | 45807 | 46530 | 47160 |
| Town | 29974 | 30222 | 30352 | 30893 | 30928 | 31100 | 31084 | 31035 |
| Village | 11426 | 12635 | 12613 | 13628 | 13731 | 14707 | 15446 | 16125 |
| Pobiedziska | Total | 16896 | 17211 | 17580 | 18115 | 18146 | 18580 | 18814 | 18969 |
| Town | 8458 | 8534 | 8677 | 8873 | 8879 | 8997 | 9043 | 9091 |
| Village | 8438 | 8677 | 8903 | 9242 | 9297 | 9583 | 9771 | 9878 |
| Kostrzyn | Total | 15831 | 16138 | 16378 | 17067 | 17117 | 17317 | 17465 | 17593 |
| Town | 8735 | 8866 | 8965 | 9327 | 9341 | 9426 | 9492 | 9542 |
| Village | 7096 | 7252 | 7413 | 7740 | 7776 | 7891 | 7973 | 8051 |
| Kłecko | Total | 7561 | 7558 | 7569 | 7571 | 7580 | 7587 | 7593 | 7614 |
| Town | 2672 | 2650 | 2648 | 2676 | 2684 | 2670 | 2669 | 2681 |
| Village | 4889 | 4968 | 4921 | 4895 | 4896 | 4917 | 4924 | 4932 |
| Czerwonak | | 24525 | 25056 | 25455 | 25995 | 26285 | 26529 | 26750 | 26861 |
| Kleszczewo | | 5718 | 5848 | 6003 | 6166 | 6384 | 6623 | 6951 | 7221 |
| Mieleszyn | | 4009 | 4000 | 3962 | 4061 | 4055 | 4075 | 4053 | 4050 |
| Łubowo | | 5491 | 5621 | 5698 | 5929 | 5952 | 6094 | 6214 | 6280 |
| Gniezno | | 8782 | 9025 | 9330 | 3756 | 9833 | 10248 | 10597 | 10846 |

Source: Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

**Figure 5.Feminization indicator in the LAG communes in 2014**

Source:own work on the basis of the data from the Regional Data Bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland

On account of the changes introduced in the Associations Act and of the simplification of the process of registering non-government organizations and of granting new entitlements to regular associations, we are expecting an increase in activity of the inhabitants in that scope.The situation of women in the rural areas constitutes a social problem.The above-mentioned transportation issues – one car per household, as well as lack of sufficient transportation routes in smaller towns, and infrequent buses to larger towns and cities, make women excluded not only from the job market but also from the social and cultural life.According to the Central Statistical Office of Poland, in Wielkopolska, women comprise only 24 out of 100 members of non-government organizations.In the LAG area, the women active in the public sphere constitute a minority.The problem mentioned in the area study process, mentioned by participants in the consultations, in particular during the 1st Women’s Congress organized by LAG, is lack of sufficient forms of looking after minor children, such as nurseries and children clubs.Joint activities are undertaken by self-governments and local entities to increase the number of spots in kindergartens.

**Table 4. Councilors in Commune Councils by sex (condition as of 03.12.2015)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Commune | Total | Including women |
| Gniezno | 15 | 4 |
| Łubowo | 15 | 5 |
| Mieleszyn | 15 | 2 |
| Kłecko | 15 | 4 |
| Swarzędz | 21 | 7 |
| Pobiedziska | 15 | 3 |
| Kleszczewo | 15 | 3 |
| Czerwonak | 21 | 10 |
| Kostrzyn | 15 | - |
| Total: | 147 | 38 |

Source:Own study and information collected from the commune offices.

**Figure 6.Village administrators in the LAG communes by sex (condition as of 03.12.2015)**

*Men*

*Women*

Source: Own study and information collected from the commune offices

**Table 5. Looking after children in the LAG area.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Territorial unit | Spots in kindergartens | Kindergarten units | Nurseries | Children clubs |
| Gniezno | 273 | 14 | - | - |
| Kłecko | 176 | 12 | - | - |
| Łubowo | 125 | 5 | - | - |
| Mieleszyn | 70 | 4 | - | - |
| Czerwonak | 767 | 37 | 1 | - |
| Kleszczewo | 450 | 18 | - | - |
| Kostrzyn | 415 | 22 | - | 1 |
| Pobiedziska | 672 | 30 | 2 | - |
| Swarzędz | 1635 | 67 | 4 | - |
| Swarzędz – rural area | 267 | 11 | 2 | - |

Source: Local data bank of the Central Statistical Office of Poland and information from commune offices.

It follows from analyzing the 12 meetings (with the use of participation methods) that the issues associated with the broadly understood social capital play a crucial role in the assessment of the strengths or weaknesses of the studied communities (11 first answers by frequency of arguments).

1. **Historical-cultural heritage, natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness.**

In the area there is the Piast Trail, known all over Poland, with the Museum of the first Piasts at Lednica (Commune of Łubowo), joining Poznań with Gniezno and then outside the our LAG area.The starting celebration of the 1050th anniversary of christening of Poland will attract many tourists and pilgrims to our area.Other cultural trails in the LAG include:St. Jacob’s Trail, the Cistercian Trail, Wooden Church Trail, Puszcza Zielonka Trail.In the area, there occur urban-architectural monuments, sacral monuments, including wooden churches, castles, palaces and courts.A challenge for the area is to preserve the monuments in a good condition, and to increase their availability by providing better information on them.The inhabitants of the LAG area still remember the heroes of the Wielkopolska Uprising.The area has rich history of Olender settlements. The remnants of that period include cemeteries and historic houses.German settlements also left their mark in the form of cemeteries that, in most cases, require renovation and protection from further devastation.

The area is characterized by a rural landscape which, however, is diverse and attractive.What is particularly charming is the group of terminal moraines, valleys of the Cybina and Główna rivers, as well as tunnel valleys with lakes.The area is attractive from the point of view of recreation, because there are numerous water reservoirs, such as :the Lednickie, Kłeckie, Działyńskie, Biskupickie, Kołatkowskie, Stęszewskie, Wronczyńskie, Biezdruchowo and Swarzędzkie lakes as well as the Cybina, Główna, Warta and Wełna rivers.The lakes make up natural water paths connecting the respective communes of the area.In 2012, in the Commune of Pobiedziska there was established a kayak trail in the tunnel valleys and in the picturesque lands of the “Puszcza Zielonka” Landscape Park.The length of the trail is ca. 11.3 km.It starts in Pobiedziska on the Biezdruchowo lake and runs through a segment of the Główna river, through the tunnels of the Jerzyńskie, Wronczyńskie Małe and Duże lakes – and ends in the Stęszewsko-Kołatowskie lake in Tuczno.On the route, there are situated portages that facilitate the transportation of kayaks, and even more portages are planned.The trail has potential for development, it attracts interest, and the LAG received project fiches connected with the business activities related to using that trail.It is possible to flow down the Wełna and Mała Wełna rivers which, however, is currently hindered due to the level of water in the rivers after a particularly dry year.

**Table 6. Natural resources**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Commune | Natural resources |
| Czerwonak | Dziewicza Mountain – the second largest hear near Poznań (144.9 m.a.s.l.), the Poznań Warta Gorge - an interesting segment of the valley. |
| Gniezno | The Royal Forest Complex – one of the largest forest complexes on the borderline of Wielkopolska and Kujawy, Natura 2000 Area, the “Gniezno Lakeland” Wierzbiczańskie Lake – a valuable ecosystem of bulrush and deciduous forests. |
| Kleszczewo | The Kopeli Valley – one of the few watercourses within the valley, together with meadow and pasture ecosystems. |
| Kłecko | Waliszewskie Hill – a vantage point.The Land of Ten Lakes.Grodziska. |
| Kostrzyn | Natura 2000 Areas: “Refuge near Promno” and “Cybina Valley” – large fragments of forests, with relic species of natural forests. |
| Łubowo | Lednica Lake – a refuge of water and bulrush vegetation, with transparent waters;Imielenko Swamps – a complex of meadows and peatlands, a refuge of valuable species;Valley of the Główna river;Szkielnie – a complex of relic hornbeam and alder forests. |
| Mieleszyn | A complex of Royal Forests. |
| Pobiedziska | Promno Landscape Park – large areas covered by old deciduous forests, with species representative of the former primeval forests of the Wielkopolska area.  A valley of two rivers – parallel Cybina and Głowna rivers. |
| Swarzędz | Natura 2000 “Cybina Valley” Area with the Swarzędzkie Lake. |

Source:“Wybrane walory przyrodnicze gmin przynależących do Lokalnej Grupy Działania „Trakt Piastów”” Natalia Olejnik, Maciej Jędrzejczak.

The richness of the landscape parks, including the largest forest complex in our area – the Puszcza Zielonka Landscape Park, Promno, the Lednica Landscape Park, the natural reserves – Dębiniec Lake, Drążynek Lake, Deciduous Forest in Promno, Okrąglak and the Natura 2000 areas (Cybina Valley, Mała Wełna Valley near Kiszkowa, Refuge near Promno, Gnieźnieńskie Lakeland, Kiszkowskie Ponds, Puszcza Zielonka Nature Reserves) demonstrate the natural richness of the area that requires special protection and promotion among the inhabitants.Especially that the inhabitants are concerned about the developing residential and industrial buildings near the areas of landscape and natural value (commune of Czerwonak and surroundings of Puszcza Zielonka).The Puszcza Zielonka plays a special role for a part of the area (Czerwonak, Pobiedziska).It was established in 1993 for the purpose of maintaining, protecting and renovating the largest forest complex of central Wielkopolska, most similar to the original one, with significant natural, landscape and educational-didactic values.The park covers 12,202 ha.The Lednica Landscape Park was established for the purpose of protecting the lands around the Lednickie Lake which constitute the birthplace of Polish statehood.Lack of ecological education continuous to cause the problem of uncontrolled removal of waste by burning it in ovens or throwing it away in the forests.Waste is collected in every commune, so these problems associated with the behavior of the inhabitants must result from lack of ecological and pro-environmental awareness.In each of the member communes, there are situated interesting natural places which may provide the basis for promoting and educating the area in environmental protection.It follows from the social consultations and from the experiences of the LAG in working with the local community that the inhabitants are not familiar with the resources of their communes, including the natural ones, so it would be important to introduce educational projects and innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change.

The environmental, tourist and recreational issues are placed, by the local communities, in the second position, in terms of frequency, as the strengths or weaknesses of the analyzed areas (9 first answers per 12 meetings).The whole community was involved in the works on the preparation of the diagnosis and SWOT analysis, and care was taken to ensure that the works be conducted on equal rules and, to a relative degree, proportionally, by representatives of all the sectors on which the LAG activities are based, i.e. the NGO and inhabitants sectors, as well as the public and business sectors.At that stage of preparation of the LDS, there were used the methods and tools of participation, such as data analysis, surveys, consultation meetings (2nd round: 10 meetings), a meeting of the working group (1), of the working team (1), of the Council (1), individual interviews (19), a meeting of experts (1), online consultations.

**Chapter IV.SWOT Analysis**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Strengths of the area**   * good transportation links (road, railway) - S5, A2, DK15, DK92, the Poznań-Warszawa, Poznań-Gniezno, Poznań – Wągrowiec railway lines; * Proximity of Poznań, Gniezno, Września, Swarzędz – a large job and sales market; * the existing tourist, recreation and sports infrastructure; * an influx of inhabitants, including those financially sound and educated; * active inhabitants (village administration offices, Volunteer Fire Departments, Country Housewives’ Clubs, senior clubs, NGOs, informal groups); * existing village community centres; * existence and activities of culture institutions (culture centres, Museum of the First Piasts, Wielkopolska Etnographic Park, Natural and Hunting Museum in Uzarzewo); * historical and cultural heritage (birthplace of Polish statehood, Piast Trail, Wielkopolska Uprising, Olenders, Wooden Church Trail); * natural resources (Warta, Wełna, Cybina rivers, large forest areas, landscape parks, multiple lakes, diversity of species); * available areas for investment and business activation * high professional and business activity of inhabitants; * existing single-family buildings; * low criminality; | **Weaknesses of the area**   * lack of a comprehensive idea for using the local resources; * poorly developed recreational-sports and tourist infrastructure; * insufficient number of places for integration of inhabitants, in comparison with their needs; * very limited access to culture * shortage of information, promotional materials, of trail markings, information boards, applications associated with area resources * too low level of cooperation among business entities, also in the scope of tourism * lack of service companies * investment zones included in distant plans * unemployment, especially of women * poor availability of the funds for developing business activities * insufficient digital infrastructure, including poor access to fast Internet * too few spots in nurseries and children clubs in comparison with the needs and with the demographic situation * poor offer for seniors in comparison with needs * the area is treated as a "dormitory town” for the Poznań and Gniezno agglomerations – the potential of the area is perceived as limited * a continuous influx of new inhabitants – a high degree of change in the social tissue resulting in the appearance of new needs and increase in the risk of conflicts, and lack of the feeling of attachment to one’s place of residence * poor offer of additional activities for various age groups, in particular for seniors, children and youth, in comparison with their needs * limited possibilities to finance the activities of village administration offices; * neglected memorial sites, monuments, cemeteries; * lack of support for the cultural activities of inhabitants; * lack of a regional history policy * deficit of the knowledge and of pro-ecological and pro-environmental attitudes among inhabitants * insufficient number of transportation links, in particular on days off work * poor condition of the local road infrastructure |
| **Opportunities**   * new places for looking after children * electronic globalization * promotion of sports attitudes * increased availability of the Internet * improvement in Poles’ incomes * increasing mobility of inhabitants * increase in ecological awareness of Poles * existing possibilities to obtain external funds for investments and soft activities * pending process of development of a service network * increase in activity of seniors * expansion of expressways and motorways | **Threats**   * aging society * emigration of young people * electronic ignorance * disappearance of professions * social exclusion * pace of everyday life * administrative barriers * sustained bureaucratization * the reimbursement in the form of external funds requires a prior investment of own funds |

It follows from the social consultations conducted by the “Piast Trail” LAG with the use of various participation methods and tools, that there are several joint issues which lead to the following conclusions:

1. 7 out of 9 member communes are characterized by a permanent influx of inhabitants.In 6 communes, this is mainly associated with single-family buildings, proximity of large cities and a good road network.
2. The increase in the number of inhabitants is considered to be both a strength and weakness of the area.The new inhabitants are often people of good financial and professional condition who are socially active, with a visible unwillingness to become integrated with the locals, with lack of respect to obsolete tradition, and wanting to change the local traditions.At the same time, the “old” inhabitants are often not willing to kindly welcome the new neighbours.Bilateral stereotypes and differences in lifestyles impede communication, integration and joint involvement in improving the quality of life in the given area.There is also noticed a discrepancy between the inhabitants of a city and a village within one commune.
3. That is why the consultation participants emphasized the need to develop the conditions for integration of inhabitants and to increase their social activity, while indicating the limited possibility to finance it.The activity of village administrators and village councils, non-government organizations and informal groups, is positive.
4. There is the need to decentralize cultural activity by making use of the potential of the village community centres and of the activity of seniors with the use of day care homes.
5. What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.It is necessary to improve knowledge of the local resources, as well as the flow of information, labelling of trails, promotion of attractions, including with the use of new technologies.
6. The area has significant natural resources, but the inhabitants lack the knowledge in that area, and there are few people who demonstrate pro-environmental attitudes.
7. The LAG has very valuable historic resources, associated with the establishment of the Polish state, the activities of the Piasts, the Wielkopolska Uprising.That potential, including the potential of the Piast Trail, is unused.
8. The area is partially affected by the problem of unemployment, so there is the need to create jobs in the LAG area, particularly close to the places of residence of the women returning to the job market after a maternity leave, and to assist young people in starting business activities.
9. The position women in the business and public life is weaker.Most unemployed people are women.As for the persons running their own businesses – women also constitute a minority.Most councilors and village administrators are men.At the same time, women are more willing to engage in social activities within informal groups and local initiatives.
10. The limited number of the possibilities to finance the business activities of the already existing entities indicates that that area requires more support in order to allow people to start business activities, from the county employment agencies.
11. Development of business activities related to tourism bears the risk associated with seasonality.The services should be networked, and there should be developed the recreation activities that are mainly aimed at inhabitants.
12. The existing tourist, recreational and sports infrastructure is unequally distributed in the area, and requires expansion or combination.There is a shortage of entities providing local services, including those related to recreation and tourism.
13. Similarly, digitization is listed in each part of the SWOT analysis, except for strengths, which makes it an urgent need demonstrated by local communities which, however, is impossible to finance from the LAG.
14. The inhabitants would like to see an improvement of the road infrastructure and public transportation system, but the financial requirements cannot be covered from the LDS budget.

In the key stage of preparation of the LDS, i.e. in the SWOT analysis, information was collected using numerous methods.As a result, the opinions from all the sectors of the LAG partnership were collected.The first steps included data analysis, consultation meetings, IDI and FGI interviews.Then, consultation meetings (9), tables, a meeting of the working group (1), of the working team (1), of the Council (1), and there were provided project fiches and an online survey.The last stage included online consultations.

Every inhabitant of the area had the opportunity to express its opinion – the invitations were published on websites, in social networks, plus invitations and posters were sent to 177 village administrators who presented them to the inhabitants of the whole LAG area.

All the collected data and conclusions were presented to the LDS Team for analysis and for acceptance or rejection within the LDS.The recommendations made by the Team were included in Chapter II.

**Chapter V. Objectives and indicators**

**Specification and description of the general objectives, with assigned specific objectives and undertakings, with justification**

1.Specification and description of the general objectives, with assigned specific objectives and undertakings, with justification of their formulation on the basis of social consultations, SWOT analysis and diagnosis of the area.Sources of financing.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General objective: Support for sustainable development based on local resources | Specific objective  Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | Undertaking: Construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | Connections with the diagnosis:constantly increasing number of inhabitants; cultural and natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness.  Connections with the SWOT:the existing tourist, recreational and sports facilities; a constant influx of inhabitants; active inhabitants; lack of a comprehensive idea for making use of the local resources; poorly developed recreational-sports and tourist infrastructure; insufficient number of places and opportunities for integration of inhabitants;  Conclusions from consultations:The problem of lack of sufficient infrastructure was mentioned during consultations with inhabitants in all the communes.That is why the consultation participants emphasized the need to develop the conditions for integration of inhabitants and to increase their social activity, while indicating the limited possibility to finance it.The existing tourist, recreational and sports infrastructure is unequally distributed in the area, and requires expansion or combination.The LAG received 15 project fiches associated with that issue from the local self-governments.  Intervention areas:The social infrastructure that is conducive to regional and local development.  Development and promotion of the tourist and recreation potential of natural areas.  Justification:Due to the size of the area and the limited resources, the commune self-governments are going to execute larger projects. | |
| Undertaking: Informing of the area, including with the use of modern technologies. | Connections with the diagnosis:constantly increasing number of inhabitants; cultural and natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness.  Connections with the SWOT:constant influx of inhabitants; active inhabitants, lack of a comprehensive idea for making use of the local resources; shortages of information, promotional materials, trail markings, information boards, application associated with the area resources  Conclusions from consultations:The increase in the number of inhabitants is considered to be both a strength and weakness of the area.The new inhabitants are often people of good financial and professional condition who are socially active, with a visible unwillingness to become integrated with the locals, with lack of respect to obsolete tradition, and wanting to change the local traditions.At the same time, the “old” inhabitants are often not willing to kindly welcome the new neighbours.Bilateral stereotypes and differences in lifestyles impede communication, integration and joint involvement in improving the quality of life in the given area.There is also noticed a discrepancy between the inhabitants of a city and a village within one commune.What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.It is necessary to improve knowledge of the local resources, as well as the flow of information, labelling of trails, promotion of attractions, including with the use of new technologies.  Intervention areas:The social infrastructure that is conducive to regional and local development.Development and promotion of the tourist and recreation potential of natural areas.Development and promotion of public tourist and recreation services.  Justification:Entrepreneurship is to serve the local community and to address the need of getting to know better different aspects of one’s own area. |
| Specific objective: Support for business activities | Undertaking: Starting business activities | Connections with the diagnosis:The situation close to city agglomerations makes the inhabitants look for work outside of their own area.This results in mobility which may exclude the family members without cars.At the same time, in the area there will appear investment areas which may provide an impulse for starting business activities with the support from the LAG.Starting business activities require support from the LAG.  Connections with the SWOT:good transportation links, proximity of a large job market and sales market; available areas for investments and business activation; lack of service companies; lack of investment zones; emigration of young people; disappearance of professions; social exclusion; reimbursement of external funds requires prior investment of own funds.  Conclusions from consultations:there is the need to create jobs in the LAG area, particularly close to the places of residence of the women returning to the job market after a maternity leave, and to assist young people in starting business activities.Most unemployed people are women.As for the persons running their own businesses – women also constitute a minority.  Intervention areas:Self-employment, entrepreneurship and establishment of enterprises, including innovative micro-, small and medium enterprises.Equality of women and men in all the areas, including in access to employment, career development, balance between professional and private life, as well as to promotion of equal remuneration for the same work.  Justification:on account of fighting poverty and exclusion, the LAG is planning to support the development of service-related businesses in its area, in particular by women, to develop the recreational functions of the area. |
| Undertaking: Developing business activities | Connections with the diagnosis:constantly growing number of inhabitants, conducting business activities as subcontractors for large companies.  Connections with the SWOT:proximity of a large labor and sales market; available areas for investments and business activation; high level of professional and business activity of inhabitants; low level of cooperation among business entities; lack of investment zones; poor availability of funds for developing business activities; emigration of young people; disappearance of professions;  Conclusions from consultations:The limited number of the possibilities to finance the business activities of the already existing entities indicates that that area requires more support in order to allow people to start business activities, from the county employment agencies.  Development of business activities related to tourism bears the risk associated with seasonality.The services should be networked, and there should be developed the recreation activities that are mainly aimed at inhabitants.There is a shortage of entities providing local services, including those related to recreation and tourism.  Intervention areas:Development of activities of small and medium enterprises, support for entrepreneurship and establishment of enterprises.Self-employment, entrepreneurship and establishment of enterprises, including innovative micro-, small and medium enterprises.  Justification:The consultation results indicate that entrepreneurs are interested in development of their enterprises, including in hiring employees in order to increase their competitiveness or expand the scope of services. |
| Specific objective  Prevention of exclusion | Undertaking: Starting business activities associated with looking after young children or elderly people. | Connections with the diagnosis:higher unemployment rate of women, aging society; fewer businesses operated by women; shortage of the places for looking after young children and elderly people.  Connections with the SWOT:the number of spots in nurseries and children clubs is too low in comparison with the needs and the demographic situation; the offer of services for seniors is too poor in comparison with the needs; the offer of additional activities for various age groups (in particular for seniors, children and youth) is too poor in comparison with the needs;  - new places for looking after children; aging society; pace of daily life.  Conclusions from consultations:The area is not affected by the problem of unemployment, but there is the need to create jobs in the LAG area, particularly close to the places of residence of the women returning to the job market after a maternity leave, and to assist young people in starting business activities.The LAG has received proper project fiches, including connected with self-employment of women.  Intervention areas:Self-employment, entrepreneurship and establishment of enterprises, including innovative micro-, small and medium enterprises.Active inclusion, including for the purpose of promoting equal opportunities, active participation and better employment opportunities.  Justification:the undertaking is addressed to the disadvantaged group - the problem was reported during consultations. |
| Undertaking: Activities aimed at the groups at risk of exclusion, including the disadvantaged group. | Connections with the diagnosis:situation of women in the area:lower degree of business and public activity, with the simultaneous involvement in social activities; risk of exclusion due to problems with transportation and commuting; aging society;  Connections with the SWOT:aging society; social exclusion; pace of daily life  Conclusions from consultations:In the LAG consultation centre, there appeared the women looking for support in becoming independent.The issue was addressed at the 1st Women's Congress and in the focus groups.Attention was paid to the aging society and lack of offer for that group.  Intervention areas:Equality of women and men in all the areas, including in access to employment, career development, balance between professional and private life, as well as to promotion of equal remuneration for the same work.Active inclusion, including for the purpose of promoting equal opportunities, active participation and better employment opportunities.  Justification:The task of the LAG is to support the disadvantaged group in various aspects, including through Activation. |
| General objective: Development of social capital | Specific objective: Improvement of integration and social competences | Undertaking:  Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres. | Connections with the diagnosis:constantly increasing number of inhabitants; cultural and natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness.  Connections with the SWOT:existing tourist, recreational and sports infrastructure; active inhabitants (village administration offices, Volunteer Fire Departments, Country Housewives’ Clubs, senior clubs, NGOs, informal groups); existing village community centres; insufficient number of places and opportunities for integration of inhabitants in comparison with the needs; limited access to culture;the area is treated as a "dormitory town” for the Poznań and Gniezno agglomerations – the potential of the area is perceived as limited;a continuous influx of new inhabitants – a high degree of change in the social tissue resulting in the appearance of new needs and increase in the risk of conflicts, and lack of the feeling of attachment to one’s place of residence; the offer of services for seniors is too poor in comparison with the needs; the offer of additional activities for various age groups (in particular for seniors, children and youth) is too poor in comparison with the needs; limited possibilities of financing the activities of the village administration offices; lack of support for the cultural activities of inhabitants; promotion of pro-sports attitudes  Conclusions from consultations:The increase in the number of inhabitants is considered to be both a strength and weakness of the area.The new inhabitants are often people of good financial and professional condition who are socially active, with a visible unwillingness to become integrated with the locals, with lack of respect to obsolete tradition, and wanting to change the local traditions.At the same time, the “old” inhabitants are often not willing to kindly welcome the new neighbours.Bilateral stereotypes and differences in lifestyles impede communication, integration and joint involvement in improving the quality of life in the given area.There is also noticed a discrepancy between the inhabitants of a city and a village within one commune.That is why the consultation participants emphasized the need to develop the conditions for integration of inhabitants and to increase their social activity, while indicating the limited possibility to finance it.There is the need to decentralize cultural activity by making use of the potential of the village community centres and of the activity of seniors with the use of day care homes.What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.  Intervention areas:The social infrastructure that is conducive to regional and local development.  Justification:A grant competition will help to execute activities also through informal groups of active inhabitants. |
| Undertaking:  Improvement of social competences | Connections with the diagnosis:the women are less active in the social sphere;the number of women in social organizations;disproportions in activity of inhabitants within non-government organizations in the respective communes of the area.  Connections with the SWOT:high changeability of the social tissue resulting in the appearance of new needs and in an increase in the risk of conflicts and lack of the feeling of attachment to one's place of residence; existing possibilities to obtain external funds for investments and soft activities; social exclusion  Conclusions from consultations:the inhabitants require support from institutions, advice and trainings in order to improve their competences.  Intervention areas:The social infrastructure that is conducive to regional and local development.  Justification:Day-to-day activities of the LAG by maintaining an office, providing advisory services to individuals and groups, and providing trainings for employees of the office and LAG authorities will improve the social competences, among others in the scope of obtaining external funds, organizing social activities, effectively implementing the LDS and social animation. |
| Specific objective  Protection and promotion of local heritage | Undertaking:  Organization of activities promoting the LAG area | Connections with the diagnosis:cultural and natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness.  Connections with the SWOT:existing tourist facilities;historical and cultural heritage; various natural resources; lack of a comprehensive idea for making use of local resources;  Conclusions from consultations:it is necessary to increase the knowledge of the local resources;The LAG has very valuable historical resources, but their potential is unused.  Intervention areas:Development and promotion of the tourist and recreation potential of natural areas.  Justification:The projects will be executed in cooperation with neighbors in the scope of developing a network of tourist services and promotion of resources.The international project will be based on promotion of human and natural resources, including Puszcza Zielonka. |
| Undertaking:  Preservation of local heritage | Connections with the diagnosis:cultural and natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness.  Connections with the SWOT:existence and activities of cultural institutions, historical and cultural heritage; various natural resources; lack of a comprehensive idea for using the local resources; neglected memorial sites, monuments, cemeteries; lack of support for the cultural activities of inhabitants;  Conclusions from consultations:What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.It is necessary to improve knowledge of the local resources, as well as the flow of information, labelling of trails, promotion of attractions, including with the use of new technologies.The focus group associated with culture indicated the demand for co-financing the cultural activities for inhabitants.The area has significant natural resources, but the inhabitants lack the knowledge in that area, and there are few people who demonstrate pro-environmental attitudes.The LAG has very valuable historic resources, associated with the establishment of the Polish state, the activities of the Piasts, the Wielkopolska Uprising.That potential, including the potential of the Piast Trail, is unused.  Intervention areas:The social infrastructure that is conducive to regional and local development;Development and promotion of the tourist and recreation potential of natural areas.  Justification:The grant competition will allow to support various activities associated with the very rich local heritage, both through investment and soft activities. |
| Undertaking:  Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | Connections with the diagnosis:rich natural resources, tourist and recreational attractiveness, lack of environmental awareness among inhabitants;  Connections with the SWOT:deficit of the knowledge and of pro-ecological and pro-environmental attitudes among inhabitants  Conclusions from consultations:The area has significant natural resources, but the inhabitants lack the knowledge in that area, and there are few people who demonstrate pro-environmental attitudes.The inhabitants of the communes with rich natural resources emphasized their pride in them, but also indicated reprehensible behaviors of other inhabitants, e.g. throwing waste away in forests.During the conference associated with the resources of Puszcza Zielonka, the participants emphasized the need to undertake proper educational activities, of innovative, extra-school character.  Intervention areas:Environmental protection and green infrastructure.  Justification:On account of significant resources being spent in the Environmental Protection Funds on the operations and investments in that scope, the LAG activities are aimed at small actions to increase the awareness of the inhabitants, so that they know that their daily behaviors may help to protect the environment.Due to the significance of the issue, there need to be undertaken innovative tasks, not seen in this area before. |

**2. Indication of compliance of objectives with the objectives of the programmes planned to finance the LDS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Programme | Specific objectives of the programme | Cross-cutting objectives | Justification of compliance with the LDS objectives |
| Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 | B6 “supporting local development in rural areas” within priority 6 “promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas" | Environmental protection  Preventing climate change  Innovativeness | The LAG is planning interventions in the area of business activity, promotion of employment and activities for the disadvantaged group, also in terms of access to the job market.The group is at risk of exclusion and poverty, so it will be provided with training and advisory support, and the resources for the business activities related to looking after young children and elderly people, will allow the women to return to the job market.The protection and promotion of heritage, together with the funds for starting or developing business activities will result in economic development of rural areas.  The objectives and undertakings of the LDS are consistent with 3 cross-cutting objectives of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020: the “Protection and promotion of local heritage” includes the undertaking entitled “Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change, executing all 3 cross-cutting objectives.Additionally, innovativeness is rewarded in the undertakings associated with business activities; the undertaking associated with the recreational, cultural or tourist infrastructure promotes the operations that include the application of technological solutions to protect the environment or prevent climate change. |

1. **Objectives by sources of funding.**
2. **Presentation of the undertakings executed within the Community-Driven Local Development and indication of the method of executing them, with justification.**

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| Construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | An undertaking of investment character, mainly dedicated to the operations associated with construction of new recreation infrastructure, because the social consultations demonstrate a significant demand for that type of operations.More and more people live in the area.They are planning to spend their free time near their places of residence.The SWOT diagnosis emphasized the general trend of an increase in the number of people doing sports, i.e. the trend of being fit.The inhabitants are also expecting that the authorities will create the opportunities for integration and active leisure – which may be done through this undertaking.The undertaking will be executed through:construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area, e.g.:beaches, playgrounds, open-air gyms, pitches, village community centres, management of parks, skateparks.The activity is dedicated particularly to local self-governments.Amount of support:units of the public finance sector – 63.63%, non-government organizations – 90%, other beneficiaries – 50%. |
| Informing of the area, including with the use of modern technologies | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | The undertaking is to improve the access to information on the area, which has been mentioned by inhabitants.It is to concern the resources, but it is also to assist the new inhabitants in obtaining the basic information on the given town, to which they moved in.It is planned that the undertaking will include preparation of publications, applications, websites, information boards, trail markings.In the age of digital development, it seems necessary to prepare an application for mobile devices which will become the basic tool of exchange of information and a compendium of the basic knowledge of the whole LAG area.The undertaking will be executed through a grant competition and LAG’s own operations.Level of support:units of the public finance sector – 100%, non-government organizations – 100%, other beneficiaries – 50%, LAG – 100%. |
| Starting business activities | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | The undertaking results from the needs expressed by inhabitants during the consultations at the consultation point or during interviews – the inhabitants are active and entrepreneurial, they have ideas, but they lack the funds for starting business activities.They consider the funds from the County Employment Agency – ca. PLN 20,000 – to be insufficient, but they are more accessible than resources for development.It follows from the project fiches submitted to the LAG office that the needs concentrate on 2 thresholds, but the LAG decided there would be the possibility to apply to the LAG for a bonus of PLN 50,000, in order to support more beneficiaries.The amount of the bonus will result from the business plan.Bonuses will be awarded to the operations related to improvement of the competences that will allow to achieve a permanent effect and the operations that assume the establishment of more than one job. |
| Development of business activities | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | The undertaking also addresses a need indicated during the consultations - the entrepreneurs are ready to develop and employ, but they require support in expanding their offers and improving their production capacities.The inhabitants most complained about shortages in the scope of services, so this will be the sector that will be awarded, as well as the operations expanding the recreational offer of the area, prepared in partnerships.Networking is assumed.Level of support for entrepreneurs: - 50% (70% possible in the Rural Development Programme). |
| Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people. | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | The undertaking is dedicated to the disadvantaged group.The problems of the women who would like to enter or return to the job market is associated with the caring functions that they have.The participants in the 1st Women’s Congress emphasized the benefits from the possibility to balance working and looking after family members – children or elderly parents.Additionally, it follows from the diagnosis that there are significant differences in access to nurseries.The undertaking is to promote self-employment and assist in balancing professional and family life.The bonus will amount to 100,000, which results from analyzing the project fiches sent to the LAG.The costs of starting business activities in that scope are very high and, for the objectives to be fulfilled, the bonus for starting operations within this undertaking will amount to 100,000.The operations associated with looking after seniors or with establishing a nursery, will be awarded. |
| Activities aimed at the groups at risk of exclusion, including the disadvantaged group | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | Undertaking executed within Activation.Refers to organization of information and consultation meetings addressed to the groups at risk of exclusion, particularly women and seniors.In the LAG consultation centre, there appeared the women looking for support in becoming independent.The issue was addressed at the 1st Women's Congress and in the focus groups.Attention was paid to the aging society and lack of offer for that group. |
| Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres. | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | A permanent increase in the number of inhabitants is an important element of the social life of the area.The new inhabitants are often people of good financial and professional condition who are socially active, with a visible unwillingness to become integrated with the locals, with lack of respect to obsolete tradition, and wanting to change the local traditions.At the same time, the “old” inhabitants are often not willing to kindly welcome the new neighbours.Bilateral stereotypes and differences in lifestyles impede communication, integration and joint involvement in improving the quality of life in the given area.There is also noticed a discrepancy between the inhabitants of a city and a village within one commune.That is why the consultation participants emphasized the need to develop the conditions for integration of inhabitants and to increase their social activity, while indicating the limited possibility to finance it.The activity of village administrators and village councils, non-government organizations and informal groups, is positive.There is the need to decentralize cultural activity by making use of the potential of the village community centres and of the activity of seniors with the use of day care homes.What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.It is necessary to improve knowledge of the local resources, as well as the flow of information, labelling of trails, promotion of attractions, including with the use of new technologies.The existing tourist, recreational and sports infrastructure is unequally distributed in the area, and requires expansion or combination.During consultations and in the information point, there was observed significant activity of village administrators who were looking for sources of financing the activities of village inhabitants for integration purposes.The undertaking is dedicated to individuals, non-government organizations, culture institutions, as a grant project executed by the LAG.Level of support:units of the public finance sector – 100%, non-government organizations – 100%, other beneficiaries – 50%. |
| Improvement of social competences | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | Day-to-day activities of the LAG by maintaining the office (employee remuneration, office equipment, IT services, etc.) , providing advisory services to individuals and groups, and providing trainings for employees of the office and LAG authorities will improve the social competences, among others in the scope of obtaining external funds, organizing social activities, effectively implementing the LDS and social animation. |
| Organization of activities promoting the LAG area | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | Undertaking resulting from remarks of the inhabitants saying there were no ideas for promoting the area and the regional historical policy.There is a shortage of recreation and tourist infrastructure and information.It is important to emphasize the social capital in development of the area.The undertaking will be executed as cooperation projects with the neighbouring LAGs in the scope of developing a network of tourist services and promotion of resources.The international project will be based on promotion of human and natural resources, including Puszcza Zielonka, in cooperation with a Finnish LAG. |
| Preservation of local heritage | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | What needs to be improved is the activities aimed at developing the feeling of attachment to and pride of the area, where one lives.It is necessary to improve knowledge of the local resources, as well as the flow of information, labelling of trails, promotion of attractions.The focus group associated with culture indicated the demand for co-financing the cultural activities for inhabitants.The area has significant natural resources, but the inhabitants lack the knowledge in that area, and there are few people who demonstrate pro-environmental attitudes.The LAG has very valuable historic resources, associated with the establishment of the Polish state, the activities of the Piasts, the Wielkopolska Uprising.That potential, including the potential of the Piast Trail, is unused.Undertaking executed as a grant project, covering such activities as purchasing instruments and uniforms for the bands, establishing regional chambers, renovating memorials, co-financing the activities of cultural institutions, including regular and open-air museums.Level of support:units of the public finance sector – 100%, non-government organizations – 100%, other beneficiaries – 50%. |
| Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | |
| Method of executing the undertaking with justification | The area has significant natural resources, but the inhabitants lack the knowledge in that area, and there are few people who demonstrate pro-environmental attitudes.The inhabitants of the communes with rich natural resources emphasized their pride in them, but also indicated reprehensible behaviors of other inhabitants, e.g. throwing waste away in forests.During the conference associated with the resources of Puszcza Zielonka, the participants emphasized the need to undertake proper educational activities, of innovative, extra-school character.The activity covers training and educational projects, assembly of installations for climate analyses, publications and applications, etc.Activity executed in the form of a grant project.Level of support:units of the public finance sector – 100%, non-government organizations – 100%, other beneficiaries – 50%. |

1. **Specification of the indicators assigned to the undertakings, specific objectives and general objectives, with justification of selection of the given indicator in terms of its adequacy to the objectives and undertakings.**

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| 1.0 | General objective | SUPPORT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA BASED ON LOCAL RESOURCES | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Specific objectives | Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 | Support for business activities | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.3 | Prevention of exclusion | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | Impact indicators for the main objective | | | | | Unit of measurement | | 2014 initial condition | 2023 Plan | Source of data/ method of measurement |
| W.1.0 | Individuals conducting business activities | | | | | | Person | | 11,276 | 11,300 | GUS statistical data |
| W.1.0 | Share of registered unemployed women in the total number of women of working age | | | | | | Percentage | | 5.15 | 5.11 | GUS statistical data |
|  |  | Indicator of result for specific objectives | | | | | Unit of measurement | | 2016 initial condition | Plan  2022 | Source of data/ method of measurement |
| w.1.1 |  | Increase in the number of people using the recreational, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities | | | | | Person | | 0 | 5,000 | Data from beneficiaries |
| w.1.2 |  | Number of jobs created | | | | | FTE | | 0 | 29 | Data from beneficiaries |
| w.1.3 |  | Number of jobs in the businesses associated with looking after small children or elderly people | | | | | FTE | | 0 | 5 | Reports from beneficiaries |
| w.1.3 |  | Number of participants in information and consultation meetings | | | | | Person | | 0 | 150 | LAG own data |
| w.1.3 |  | Number of people with positive opinions on the meetings organized by the LAG | | | | | Person | | 0 | 100 |
| Undertakings | | Target group | | Execution method | | Product indicators | | | | | |
| Name | Unit of measurement | Value | | Source of data/ method of measurement | |
| Initial 2016 | Final  2022 |
| 1.1.1 | Construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | Inhabitants, tourists | | Competition | | Number of new or modernized recreation, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities. | Item | 0 | 18 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys |
| 1.1.2 | Informing of the area, including with the use of modern technologies | Inhabitants, tourists, units of the public finance sector | | Grant project | | Number of information materials and publications about the area | Item | 0 | 20 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys |
| Inhabitants, tourists | | LAG own project | | Mobile application presenting the resources of the area | Item | 0 | 1 | LAG data | |
| 1.2.1 | Starting business activities | Individuals | | Competition | | Number of operations consisting in starting new businesses | Operation | 0 | 29 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys |
| 1.2.2 | Development of business activities | Individuals/Entrepreneurs | | Competition | | Number of operations consisting in development of existing businesses | Operation | 0 | 25 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys |
| 1.3.1. | Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people | Disadvantaged group/Individuals | | Competition | | Number of operations consisting in starting a business associated with looking after young children and elderly people – indicator associated with operational objective 6.12 Development of the “silver” sector of the economy within the Wielkopolskie Province Development Strategy | Operation | 0 | 5 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys |
| 1.3.2. | Activities aimed at the groups at risk of exclusion, including the disadvantaged group | Inhabitants, including the disadvantaged group | | Activation | | Number of information and consultation meetings of the LAG and inhabitants | Meeting | 0 | 10 | LAG own data |  |
| 2.0 | General objective | DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL CAPITAL | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Specific objectives | Improvement of integration and social competences | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2 | Protection and promotion of local heritage | | | | | | | | | |
| W.2.0 |  | Impact indicators for the main objective | | | | | Unit of measurement | Initial condition  2014 | 2022 Plan | Source of data/ method of measurement | |
| W.2.0 | Number of non-government organizations per 10,000 inhabitants | | | | | | Organization | 25 | 28 | Statistical data / GUS | |
| W.2.0 | Average number of participants in events in culture centres, clubs, including community centres per 1 citizen | | | | | | Person | 0 | 0.1 | STRATEG database | |
|  |  | Indicator of result for specific objectives | | | | | Unit of measurement | 2016 initial condition | Plan | Source of data/ method of measurement | |
| w.2.1 |  | Number of people assessing the integration events or the events that improve competences, as adequate to the needs | | | | | Person | 0 | 200 | LAG own survey | |
| w.2.2 |  | Number of projects addressed to the following target groups:inhabitants, entrepreneurs, tourists, | | | | | Project | 0 | 3 | LAG data | |
| Increase in the number of visitors to monuments | | | | | Person | 0 | 200 | Data from beneficiaries | |
| Number of participants in the innovative activities related to environmental protection and climate change | | | | | Person | 0 | 200 | Data from beneficiaries | |
| Undertakings | | Target group | Execution method | | Product indicators | | | | | | |
| Name | Unit of measurement | Value | | Source of data/ method of measurement | | |
| Initial 2016 | Final 2022 |
| 2.1.1 | Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres. | Individuals, non-government organizations, culture institutions | Grant project | | Number of operations of integration character | Project | 0 | 50 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys | |
| 2.1.2 | Improvement of social competences | NGOs, individuals, units of the public finance sector, entrepreneurs, members of the LAG authorities and office | Running costs  Activation | | Number of person-days of trainings for the LAG employees | Person-day | 0 | 70 | LAG data – attendance lists | | |
| Number of person-days of trainings for the LAG bodies | Person-day | 0 | 329 | LAG data – attendance lists | | |
| Number of entities provided with individual advisory services | Entity | 0 | 150 | LAG advisory card | | |
| Number of entities provided with group support | Entity | 0 | 100 | Attendance list | | |
| 2.2.1 | Organization of activities promoting the LAG area | LAG inhabitants, including LAG partners within a cooperation project | Cooperation projects | | Number of LAGs participating in the cooperation projects | Item | 0 | 5 | LAG own data | | |
| Number of executed cooperation projects, including international cooperation projects. | Item | 0 | 3 | LAG own data | | |
| 2.2.2 | Preservation of local heritage | Individuals, non-government organizations, culture institutions | Grant project | | Number of culture-related entities supported within the LDS. | Item | 0 | 30 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys | |
| 2.2.3 | Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | NGOs, individuals, units of the public finance sector | Grant project | | Number of operations aimed at innovations | Operation | 0 | 10 | Reports from beneficiaries | Verification of the data from monitoring surveys | |

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| Indicator | Justification of selection in terms of adequacy to objectives and undertakings | |
| General objective SUPPORT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BASED ON LOCAL RESOURCES | | |
| Impact indicator:Individuals conducting business activities | An increase in the number of persons conducting business activities in the area demonstrates development in the form of more jobs. | |
| Impact indicators:Share of registered unemployed women in the total number of women of working age | The strategy is aimed at supporting the disadvantaged group also in terms of access to the job market – i.e. women, especially those entering the job market or returning to it after a break resulting from looking after children.A decrease in the number of unemployed women will demonstrate the LDS works correctly. | |
| Specific objective:Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | | |
| Result indicator:Increased number of the persons using the recreational, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities. | Obligatory indicator.It will be the basis for demonstrating that the investments within that objective have been attractive and that they have encouraged the inhabitants to use the infrastructure facilities. | |
| Specific objective:Support for business activities | | |
| Result indicator:Number of jobs created | Obligatory indicator.New jobs demonstrate business activity of inhabitants (which fulfills the objective). | |
| Specific objective:Prevention of exclusion | | |
| Result indicator:Number of participants in information and consultation meetings | Obligatory indicator.The persons provided with support will participate in the meetings to help them get the knowledge and information in the scope of activities, including business activities. | |
| Result indicator:Number of people with positive opinions on the meetings organized by the LAG | Obligatory indicator.The persons who will participate in the meetings organized by the LAG should be convinced of their purposefulness, otherwise they will not get the competences needed for activities, including business activities. | |
| Result indicator:Number of jobs in the businesses associated with looking after small children or elderly people | The objective of exclusion prevention will be achieved by providing opportunities for the women entering or returning to the job market.The indicator demonstrates how many jobs have been created in the areas important for women and in the activity in which women are rewarded. | |
| Undertaking:Construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | | |
| Product indicator:Number of new or modernized recreation, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities. | Obligatory indicator.Demonstrates an increase in recreation or tourist attractiveness on account of establishment or new facilities or adaptation of the existing ones. | |
| Undertaking:Informing of the area, including with the use of modern technologies. | | |
| Product indicator:Number of information materials and publications about the area | The undertaking will include co-financing the activities associated with informing about the area, not only in the form of traditional publications, but also other materials, such as websites, information boards. | |
| Product indicator:Mobile application presenting the resources of the area | Within the undertaking, the LAG own task will consist in creating one application for mobile devices, associated with the whole area. | |
| Undertaking:Starting business activities | | |
| Product indicator:Number of operations consisting in starting new businesses | Obligatory indicator.The indicator is directly associated with undertaking and, in general, with supporting business activities. | |
| Undertaking:Development of business activities | | |
| Product indicator:Number of operations consisting in development of existing businesses | Obligatory indicator.The indicator is directly associated with developing and, in general, with supporting business activities. | |
| Undertaking:Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people | | |
| Product indicator:Number of operations consisting in starting an enterprise associated with looking after young children or elderly people | Obligatory detailed indicator.The indicator indicates how many enterprises were started by representatives of the disadvantaged group.The operation selection criteria would make it impossible to select that type of operations in other undertakings. | |
| Undertaking:Activities aimed at the groups at risk of exclusion, including the disadvantaged group | | |
| Product indicator:Number of information and consultation meetings of the LAG and inhabitants | Obligatory indicator.It is the second activity dedicated to the disadvantaged group.The indicator will demonstrate the involvement of the LAG in organization of subject matter support for the inhabitants, including for the disadvantaged group. | |
| General objective DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL CAPITAL | | |
| Impact indicator:Number of non-government organizations per 10,000 inhabitants | | The social capital is channeled through non-government organizations which may benefit from the LAG funds.The LAG activation activities and the possibility to obtain funds may result in an increase in formalized activity. |
| Impact indicator:Average number of participants in events in culture centres, clubs, including community centres per 1 citizen | | Data from the reports on the activities of culture centres, clubs, including community centres, i.e. potential beneficiaries.The indicator will demonstrate that the activity in that area has increased. |
| Specific objective:Improvement of integration and social competences | | |
| Result indicator:Number of people assessing the integration events or the events that improve competences, as adequate to the needs | | The activities organized within that objective may bring the expected results only if the participants have the feeling that the event is necessary and that it addresses their needs. |
| Specific objective:Protection and promotion of local heritage | | |
| Result indicator:Number of projects addressed to the following target groups:inhabitants, entrepreneurs, tourists, | | Obligatory indicator.The indicator demonstrates the scope of the planned cooperation projects. |
| Result indicator:Increase in the number of visitors to monuments and culture sites | | Obligatory indicator.The promoted activity in the scope of local heritage will mainly refer to the operations related to cultural activities.An improvement of their attractiveness should increase the number of people participating in cultural events. |
| Result indicator:Number of participants in the innovative activities related to environmental protection and climate change | | On account of the planned innovative operations, the indicator will demonstrate the number of persons covered by those activities |
| Undertaking:Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres. | | |
| Product indicator:Number of operations of integration character | | The undertaking assumes organization of as many integration operations as possible, so as to allow the participation of as many representatives of the community as possible.This indicator was selected because multiple activities may be conducted within one operation, which would be impossible to estimate at the stage of LDS planning. |
| Undertaking:Improvement of social competences | | |
| Product indicator:Number of person-days of trainings for the LAG employees | | Obligatory indicator.It demonstrates the support for the office employees in the proper and effective LDS introduction.The systematic achievement of the indicator will allow the office employees to update their knowledge of a regular basis and to achieve proper competences. |
| Product indicator:Number of person-days of trainings for the LAG bodies | | Obligatory indicator.It demonstrates the support for the LAG authorities in the proper and effective implementation of the LDS - particularly refers to the decision-making body - the Council. |
| Product indicator:Number of entities provided with individual advisory services | | Obligatory indicator.Indicates the activity of the LAG in active implementation of the LDS and in meeting the obligations included in the framework agreement. |
| Product indicator:Number of entities provided with group support | | Indicates the activities of the LAG in the scope of group advisory services, in particular those related to the respective sectors. |
| Undertaking:Preservation of local heritage | | |
| Product indicator:Number of LAGs participating in the cooperation projects | | Obligatory indicator.Indicates the number of partners involved. |
| Product indicator:Number of executed cooperation projects, including international cooperation projects. | | Obligatory indicator.Indicates the number of projects executed. |
| Undertaking:Preservation of local heritage | | |
| Product indicator:Number of culture-related entities supported within the LDS. | | Obligatory indicator.The undertaking is mainly directed to the cultural activities of culture institutions and non-government organizations.Indicates the number of entities supported within the undertaking. |
| Undertaking:Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | | |
| Product indicator:Number of operations aimed at innovations. | | Obligatory indicator.Indicates the number of innovative operations.The selection criteria within this undertaking will allow to only choose the operations of innovative character. |

1. **Sources of data for the measurements.**

beneficiary monitoring survey and beneficiary final reports within the grant projects, as well as the grant settlement applications; attendance lists and advisory cards from the activities conducted through the LAG office; application for payment and monitoring survey within a cooperation project; application for payment and monitoring survey within own operations; statistical data.

1. **Method and frequency of measuring and updating the data.**

The LAG Office Director will inspect the implementation of the LDS – with the use of electronic systems, it will verify, on a regular basis, the achievement of the respective indicators.The indicator progress list will be presented by the office Director each time to the LAG Council, and at least once a year to the LAG Management Board.The assessment of indicators will undergo special inspection specified in the framework agreement.

1. **Starting level of the indicator and explanation of the method of determining it.**

As for the effect and product indicators, the starting level was specified as the year 2014, from which the statistical data is available.The starting condition of the product indicators is the starting year of implementation - i.e. 2016.

1. **Target level of the indicator and explanation of the method of determining it.**

The target level is considered to be the year 2023, when the introduction of the LDS will end.Some of the indicators, including those related to products and results, will have been achieved earlier, which is visible in detail in the Action Plan.

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| Logic matrix of relationships between area and population diagnosis and the SWOT analysis of objectives and indicators | | | | | | | |
| Identified problems/ socio-economic challenges | General objective | Specific objectives | Planned undertakings | Products | Results | Effects | External factors affecting the execution of activities and the achievement of indicators |
| Insufficient number and condition of the generally accessible and non-commercial tourist and recreational infrastructure in the area.  Insufficient amount of information on the area.  Difficult access to funds for starting and developing  business activities.  Reimbursement of funds for assistance.  Low percentage of women among self-employed people.  Insufficient number of job offers for women, resulting in a high unemployment rate among women.  Insufficient number of units to look after young children or elderly people.  Need to support the people at risk of exclusion. | 1.0  Support for the sustainable development of the area based on local resources | 1.1  Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | 1.1.1.  Construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | New or modernized recreation, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities. | w.1.1.  Increased number of the persons using the recreational, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities. | W.1.0  Measurable increase in the number of people conducting business activities  W.1.0  Increase in the share of registered unemployed women in the total number of women of working age. | Migration from towns and cities to rural areas and increased demand for new units for looking after children.  Electronic globalization and access to the Internet.  Better incomes of Poles and rising mobility of employees.  Promotion of sports attitudes.  Increase in ecological awareness of Poles.  Existing possibilities to obtain external funds for investments and soft activities.  Pending process of development of a service network.  Increase in activity of seniors  Expansion of expressways and motorways  Aging society  Foreign emigration of young people.  Electronic ignorance.  Social exclusion  Increased pace of daily life.  Reimbursement in the form of external funds requires a prior investment of own funds |
| 1.1.2  Informowanie o obszarze, w tym z wykorzystaniem nowoczesnych technologii. | Publications and materials with information on the area |
| Mobile application presenting the resources of the area |
| 1.2  Support for business activities | 1.2.1  Starting business activities. | Establishing new enterprises. | w.1.2  Increased number of jobs. |
| 1.2.2  Development of business activities. | Development of existing enterprises |
| 1.3  Prevention of exclusion | 1.3.1  Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people. | Establishing enterprises associated with looking after young children or elderly people. | w.1.3  Increased number of jobs in the businesses associated with looking after small children or elderly people. |
| 1.3.2  Activities aimed at the groups at risk of exclusion, including the disadvantaged group. | Information and consultation meetings between the LAG and the inhabitants. | w.1.3  Number of participants in information and consultation meetings. |
| w.1.3  Number of people with positive opinions on the meetings organized by the LAG. |
| Permanent increase in the number of inhabitants resulting in insufficient level of integration.  Insufficient number of and participation in local cultural, sports, recreational or tourist activities.  Insufficient level of promotion of the local cultural heritage and monuments among inhabitants.  Insufficient development of the pro-environmental awareness which requires innovative activities. | 2.0  Development of social capital. | 2.1  Improvement of integration and social competences | 2.1.1  Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres. | Integration activities. | w.2.1  Number of people assessing the integration events or the events that improve competences, as adequate to the needs | W.2.0  Measurable increase in the number of non-government organizations per 10,000 inhabitants.  W.2.0  Average number of participants in events in culture centres, clubs, including community centres per 1 citizen |
| 2.1.2  Improvement of social competences | Trainings for the LAG employees. |
| Trainings for the LAG authorities. |
| Individual advisory services. |
| Group support. |
| 2.2.  Protection and promotion of local heritage | 2.2.1  Organization of activities promoting the LAG area | Number of LAGs participating in the cooperation projects. | w.2.2  Number of projects addressed to the following target groups:inhabitants, entrepreneurs, tourists. |
| Number of executed cooperation projects, including international cooperation projects. |
| 2.2.2  Preservation of local heritage | Number of culture-related entities supported within the LDS. | w.2.2  Increased number of visitors to monuments. |
| 2.2.3  Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | Innovation-oriented operations. | w.2.2  Increased number of participants in the innovative activities related to environmental protection and climate change |

The whole community was involved in the process of constructing and consulting the objectives and indicators, and care was taken to ensure that the works be conducted on equal rules and, to a relative degree, proportionally, by representatives of all the sectors on which the LAG activities are based, i.e. the NGO and inhabitants sectors, as well as the public and business sectors, taking into account the disadvantaged group.At that stage of preparation of the LDS, there were used the methods and tools of participation, such as data analysis, surveys, consultation meetings (2nd round: 10 meetings), a meeting of the working group (1), of the working team (1), of the Council (1), individual interviews (19), a meeting of experts (1), online consultations.The preparation process was analyzed and adjusted because of the planning documents for the whole country, for the Wielkopolskie Province, the counties, to which the member comes belong, and because of the local commune strategies.

**Chapter VI.Method of operation selection and assessment and method of determination of the selection criteria**

1. **General characteristics of the adopted formal and institutional solutions, method of procedure development, their objectives and assumptions**

The Council is the decision-making authority responsible in the scope of managing the local development.Its competences include:

a) assessing and selecting the applications

b) examining the protests

c) monitoring the level of achievement of the LDS indicators

d) applying to the Management Board for changing the procedures, including the operation selection criteria, if they require streamlining or updating on account of the risk of failure to achieve the LDS objectives.

The detailed conduct regarding the selection of applications is regulated by proper procedures.

**Table 1. Conduct of the respective LAG authorities and the office in the process of submission and selection of the applications submitted by entities other than the LAG**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CALL FOR APPLICATIONS | |
| MANAGEMENT BOARD | Specifies the deadline for submission, the amount of funds available and calls for applications, in agreement with the Province Board. |
| OFFICE | Publishes the call for applications in the LAG website and sends it for publication in the websites of the member communes.Provides advisory services.The employees do not conduct their own activities in the scope related to the tasks of the Office. |
| COUNCIL | Training for the Council members – as needed |
| SUBMISSION | |
| MANAGEMENT BOARD | Supervises the work of the Office |
| OFFICE | Provides and registers advisory services.Takes and records the applications submitted.Presents the list of applications submitted, to the Management Board and Council President. |
| COUNCIL | The President convenes a meeting of the Council. |
| ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIOSN AND SELECTION OF OPERATIONS | |
| MANAGEMENT BOARD | Supervises the work of the Office.A member of the Management Board has the right to participate in meetings of the Council.It may be an application rapporteur. |
| OFFICE | Handles the Council meetings.It may be an application rapporteur.It takes minutes of meetings, including information on exclusions from the decision-making process, with description of the scope of exclusion.Supports the Council members in performance of their tasks.Verifies the compliance of the cards with the call for applications. |
| COUNCIL | Assesses and selects the operation, in accordance with the quorum and sector parity.The members are impartial by submitting declarations of impartiality or by excluding themselves from assessment in the instances indicated in the Regulations as well as in situations, if their impartiality might be doubtful.They actively participate in the works.The president conducts the deliberations and controls the compliance with the order specified in the regulations, it maintains a Council Member Interest Register in agreement with the Management Board, to identify the character of relationships with the applicants/with the respective projects.The Returning Committee examines whether the cards are properly filled in, asks for potential adjustments to make the documentation correct in formal terms.  Under the Council regulations, the President is entitled to discipline its members.The regulations describe a method of conduct in if different operations are granted the same number of points or if the assessments of the criteria are inconsistent.  The voting takes place by filling in the assessment cards and adopting the resolutions, with a simple majority of votes. |
| PUBLICATION OF THE ASSESSMENT RESULTS | |
| MANAGEMENT BOARD | Informs the applicants of the assessment results and of the right to submit a protest.Sends the selected applications, resolutions and other documentation to the Province Self-Government. |
| OFFICE | Prepares a report and submits it to the Council for approval.Publishes the report approved by the Council. |
| COUNCIL | Approves, or amends and approves, the report on the meeting. |
| EXAMINATION OF PROTESTS | |
| MANAGEMENT BOARD | Maintains a protest register.Informs the Council President and the Province Self-Government of submission of a protest.Monitors the course of the protest examination process.  Calls for removal of the potential formal defects from the protest. |
| OFFICE | Supports the Council in examination of the protests. |
| COUNCIL | The protest is examined.The applicant and the Province Board are informed of the results. |
| COUNCIL’S OPINION ON AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT | |
| MANAGEMENT BOARD | Informs the President of submission of an application. |
| OFFICE | Supports the Council in examination of the application. |
| COUNCIL | Reexamines the area indicated in the application. |

1. **Rules of determining and changing the procedures, including the selection criteria.**

Working group (Ostrzeszów 29.10.2105), Expert meeting (Łubowo, 6.11.15), Consultation workshops for the disadvantaged group (Łubowo 18.11.15), Civic café ( Iwno 19.11.2015). The respective proposals were analyzed and examined, and the results presented in detail in Chapter II of the LDS.The procedures were analyzed by the LDS Team, members of the Council and Management Board, with participation of the experts and community.The adopted procedures are consistent with the Guidelines of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development in the scope of uniform and correct execution by local action groups of the tasks associated with execution of community-driven local development strategies within the action entitled "Support for local development within the Leader initiative” within the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.Special attention was paid at the respective stages of works on the procedure to make them non-discriminatory and transparent.The procedures include the regulations that assure a sector parity is maintained – the sector character is examined before any decision is made, and no operation may be selected without maintaining the parity.The President, in agreement with the Management Board, maintains a Member Interest Register on the basis of declarations by members of the Council, including membership declarations.The procedures include the obligation that the Council members must be impartial, and before each operation they submit a declaration of impartiality.There was also specified the conduct if operations receive the same number of points. Separate procedures were also prepared for grant projects and own operations.Only the Council may apply for a procedure change to the Management Board.The Management Board is obliged to prepare the changes and present them to the Annual Meeting of Members for approval.Also, the following entities have the right to apply for a criteria change:

a) the Management Board,

b) the LAG members (at least 5),

c) potential applicants (at least 10),

d) Director of the LAG Office.

An application for criteria change, with justification and indication of one’s own justified proposal, is to be submitted to the Council President.The proposal will be examined by the Council at the next meeting, and adopted as a resolution.A selection criteria change is not possible from the moment of notification of the call for applications until the end of the procedure of assessment and selection of applications.The operation selection procedures, including the criteria, will be made public, accessible without limitation at the LAG website and in the LAG Office for the whole period of execution of the LDS, as per the provisions of the framework agreement.In order to best secure the achievement of the LDS objectives, separate selection criteria were developed for the respective undertakings.This will allow the potential applicants to better prepare a project.The criteria are unequivocal, measurable or with calculation methodology, preferably based on yes/no answers, with no doubts as to interpretation, which was consulted using participation methods with the Council members, or with additional descriptions/definitions.Additionally, the criteria are non-discriminatory, and if they promote a certain group (e.g. women, service sector) - it results from the diagnosis of the area.At the same time, some of them are not directly associated with the SWOT analysis and are conducive to achievement of the indicators of objectives and undertakings.The amount of support for starting business activities was specified on the basis of the diagnosis and social consultations.

It follows from the project fiches submitted to the LAG office that the needs concentrate on 2 thresholds, but the LAG decided there would be the possibility to apply for a bonus of PLN 50,000, in order to support more beneficiaries within the undertaking entitled “Starting business activities”.The county employment agencies in Gniezno and Poznań provide funds for starting business activities on a one-time basis.In the Poznań county, in 2016 the funds will amount to PLN 18,000, while in the Gniezno county - they may not exceed 6 times the average remuneration.The interest in those funds is very significant which demonstrates that the amount of PLN 50,000 will be sufficient for starting new business entities.

The amount of PLN 100,000 may be applied for by the applicants within the undertaking entitled “Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people”.This is associated with the fact that a start of such activities is associated with significant costs, which is confirmed by the project fiches submitted to the LAG, and the activity is dedicated to the disadvantaged group, and the achievement of indicators in that scope is a priority.

Bonuses will be awarded to the operations related to improvement of the competences that will allow to achieve a permanent effect and the operations that assume the establishment of more than one job.

**The amount of the funds will be determined through:**application of different level of assistance for the given group of beneficiaries and different bonuses for starting business activities.The level of financial support will be as follows:finance sector units – 63.63% (100% in the case of grant competitions) of eligible costs, non-government organizations – 100%, other beneficiaries – 50% of eligible costs, LAG – 100% - in the case of own operations.

**Table 2. Relationship between the selection criteria and the area diagnosis, objectives and indicators**

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| UNDERTAKINGConstruction or adaptation of the non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The operation will be conducive to development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Preference of the operations aimed at developing the recreational functions of the area.The criterion is measurable and adequate to the SWOT – development of the tourist and recreational facilities.Recreation is understood as forms of activities in free time, for leisure, entertainment and development of own personality.  The criterion affects the achievement of the result indicator in 1.1 and the product indicator: “Number of new or modernized recreation, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities” | Application for financial assistance. |
| The applicant is a commune  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | In all the communes in the area, the inhabitants said that in investments in the infrastructure constitute the tasks of the communes.The criterion is measurable and adequate to the diagnosis, and refers to the persons associated with self-government administration and local authorities.Additionally, that type of beneficiary better guarantees the effective execution of tasks because of its financial capabilities. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation includes application of technological solutions aimed at protecting the environment or preventing climate change:  YES - 1 point  NO – 0 points | It follows from the diagnosis that the inhabitants care about the environmental issues.The investments that are conducive to environmental protection or prevention of climate change, are adequate to the diagnosis and SWOT.The need to improve ecological knowledge results from lack of ecological education and lack of ecological and pro-environmental awareness. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The amount of total costs of the operation does not exceed PLN 600,000  YES - 10 points  NO – 0 points | It follows from the SWOT analysis that the needs in the scope of infrastructure appear in every member commune, and the budget of the undertaking limits the possibility to execute them – the operations below PLN 600,000 are rewarded, so as to allow the execution of as many operations in the whole area as possible.The criterion affects the achievement of the product indicator: “Number of new or modernized recreation, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities” | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation will be executed in the towns/villages inhabited by less than 5,000 inhabitants  YES - 1 point  NO – 0 points | The operations organized in smaller towns/villages, in rural areas, are preferred, because the access to recreational and cultural infrastructure is poorest there.Measurable criterion.The criterion is required by the Rural Development Programme. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The first operation submitted by the applicant within this process  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process. | List of applications submitted |
| The operation will help achieve more than one product indicator within the undertaking  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process. | Application for financial assistance |
| Maximum number of points - 26 | Minimum required number of points - 13 | |

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| Undertaking:Informing of the area, including with the use of modern technologies | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The applicant is a non-government organization  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | Measurable criterion.Applicants from outside of the public finance sector are preferable due to the financing conditions. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation will help achieve more than one product indicator within the undertaking  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process.  The criterion affects the achievement of the product indicator: “Number of information materials and publications about the area”. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The amount of financial assistance requested:  Does not exceed 15,000 – 5 points  Exceeds 15,000 – 0 points | The criterion affects the achievement of the product indicator: “Number of information materials and publications about the area”. | Application for financial assistance. |
| This is the first application submitted by the Applicant within this process  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion helps more entities to execute operations.Based on the SWOT analysis.S5 | Application for financial assistance. |
| The application describes a project covering more than one town/village  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion prefers complex operations aimed at a larger community, so as to integrate the inhabitants and improve their social activity.Based on the SWOT analysis.S3 | Application for financial assistance. |
| The applicant included and described a method of promoting the “Piast Trail” LAG within the operation  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Promotion of the LAG will increase the number of potential beneficiaries and thus will make the achievement of the LDS objectives more probable. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The project includes participation of the local community:  At the stage of planning and execution – 3 points  At the stage of execution – 1 point.  No community participation – 0 points. | On account of application of the participation methods in the preparation and implementation of the LDS, what is rewarded is the projects that include cooperation with the local community. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Is the project cohesive?  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Project cohesion means the logical relationship between the results of the diagnosis of needs and the planned objectives of the project that guarantee the achievement of those results.Also, the project should be cohesive in terms of titles, objectives, description, time schedule and planned budget.  Project cohesion will facilitate its assessment by the Council. | Application for financial assistance |
| Are the planned costs rational, market-based and justified with the scope of operation?  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion rewards the operations prepared in compliance with the rules of rationality of spending. | Application for financial assistance |
| Maximum number of points - 36 | Minimum required number of points - 18 | |

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| Undertaking:Starting business activities | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences |  |
| The operation will be conducive to development of the recreational functions of the area.  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | Preference of the operations aimed at developing the recreational functions of the area.  The criterion is measurable and adequate to the diagnosis.The area is attractive in terms of recreation, so the services should be networked and activities should be started in the scope of recreation for inhabitants.Recreation is understood as forms of activities in free time, for leisure, entertainment and development of own personality. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation is associated with improvement of competences.  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferred.An improvement of professional competences gives better chances of permanence of the effects.The applicant declares improving its competences and/or the competences of its employees in the scope of the planned business activities and indicates what financial outlay it will have on that account in the application documents/ financial and property list for the application for financial assistance, or demonstrates other sources of funding for improving its competences.  Objective and measurable criterion. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation is innovative:  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | It introduces the following in the commune, in which the operation is to be executed:  - a new or significantly improved product, including significant improvement of technical parameters, components, materials or functionality,  - a new marketing method including significant changes in the appearance of the product, its packaging, positioning, promotion, pricing policy or business model,  - a new process in the methods of producing goods or in the methods of providing services, also in the manners of finding recipients for products,  - a new method of organization within the business practices of an enterprise, organization of a workplace or internal relations. | Application for financial assistance.  Additional appendix – justification for innovativeness |
| The project is solely of construction character  YES - 0 points  NO – 2 points | The maximum amount of the funds from the bonus for construction, renovation, adaptation, modernization does not exceed 60%. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Does the Applicant represent the disadvantaged group?  YES - 4 points  NO – 0 points | Projects executed by women are preferred, as they are the disadvantaged group in terms of access to the job market.  Measurable criterion. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Planned number of new jobs in annual average full-time equivalents:  - two and more jobs – 2 points  - one job – 1 point | The economic benefit of the operation in terms of new jobs | Application for financial assistance |
| The applicant has knowledge and/or experience in the scope of the planned operation and it has attached the documents to confirm that  YES - 5 points or  The applicant has knowledge and/or experience in the scope of the planned operation  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | Measurable criterion.Possessed experience means better chances of achieving the objectives and the LDS indicators | Applicant’s declaration and applicant’s documents. |
| The operation is not connected with establishing a new enterprises associated with looking after young children or elderly people.  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion allows objectives to be achieved and Application for financial assistance | Application for financial assistance. |
| Completeness of the application:  YES - –5 points  NO – –0 points | The completeness of the application and of the following documentation attached are assessed:  - appendices  - additional documentation resulting from the specific character of the operation executed, i.e. regulations, time schedules, cost estimates, offers, etc. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Merit of the project:  The project is cohesive, justified, includes a detailed description, in particular within the context of the local conditions, and the attached documents confirm that data – 5 points  The project is cohesive, justified, includes a detailed description, and the attached documents confirm that data – 4 points  The project is cohesive, justified, includes a detailed description– 3 points  The project is cohesive, justified, includes a description, – 2 points  The project is cohesive and justified – 1 point  No cohesion or justification of the project - 0 | What is assessed is the possibility to execute the operation and to achieve its effects, the correct description of the project, including consequence, justification. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Maximum number of points - –38 | Minimum required number of points - 19 | |

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| Undertaking:Development of business activities | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The operation is associated with development of local services  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The service is mainly addressed to the needs of the local community, i.e. the inhabitants of the LAG area or a part thereof. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation will be conducive to development of the recreational functions of the area.  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | Preference of the operations aimed at developing the recreational functions of the area.  The criterion is measurable and adequate to the diagnosis D7, S12. Area attractive in recreation terms, needing expansion of the recreational facilities.  Recreation is understood as forms of activities in free time, for leisure, entertainment and development of own personality. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Will the operation produce more than one new job?  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion allows to achieve the objectives and the LDS indicators.  Planned number of new jobs in annual average full-time equivalents:  - two jobs – 2 points,  - three and more jobs – 4 points,  What is assessed is the economic benefit of the operation in terms of new jobs. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation is innovative:  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | It introduces the following in the commune, in which the operation is to be executed:  - a new or significantly improved product, including significant improvement of technical parameters, components, materials or functionality,  - a new marketing method including significant changes in the appearance of the product, its packaging, positioning, promotion, pricing policy or business model,  - a new process in the methods of producing goods or in the methods of providing services, also in the manners of finding recipients for products,  - a new method of organization within the business practices of an enterprise, organization of a workplace or external relations | Application for financial assistance. |
| The project is solely of construction character  YES - 0 points  NO – 2 points | Preference is granted to the projects of non-construction character which do not require a building permit, because of the procedural difficulties associated with project execution and of the potentially long period of time required for that execution.  Measurable criterion.  The maximum amount of the funds from the reimbursement for construction, renovation, adaptation, modernization does not exceed 60%. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Is it the only operation submitted within the procedure?  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | Preference is granted to the applicants who have not been selected by the LAG so far (within the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020), in order to increase the number of beneficiaries.  Measurable criterion. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The applicant has been conducting the business activities, the development of which is the subject of the application, for at least 24 months.  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Preference is granted to the applicants of well-founded situation, experienced in the activities conducted.It substantiates the correct execution of the application. | Applicant’s declaration |
| The operation is executed by joint applicants  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | What is rewarded is networking of business entities and development of comprehensive services. | Application for financial assistance.  Partnership agreement based on the template from the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture |
| The activities associated with the operation includes application of the solutions conducive to environmental protection or prevention of climate change.  YES - 1 point  NO – 0 points | The applicant indicates its planned financial outlay on that account in the financial and property list attached to the application for financial assistance and in its business plan.  Objective and measurable criterion.  The criterion prefers the operations conducive to environmental protection or prevention of climate change.  For example, these may include the activities associated with:expanding or revitalizing green areas, planting of trees, shrubbery, plants, improvement of small-scale water retention systems, replacing impervious soils with permeable ones, using renewable energy sources, preventing gas emissions, applying the solutions that guarantee saving of raw material, energy efficiency, saving water, etc.  The applicant should justify in detail the fact of meeting the criterion, and the justification must be reflected in the planned investment costs.  The criterion will be verified on the basis of the information from the application documents. | Application for financial assistance |
| The operation is associated with improvement of the competences:  -of the applicant – 2 points  -of applicant’s employees – 5 points  The operation is not associated with improvement of competences – 0 points | Measurable criterion (based on the verifiable data from the application).It also indicates what financial outlay will be incurred on that account in the financial and property list attached to the application for financial assistance, or other sources of financing for improving the competences.Objective and measurable criterion. | Application for financial assistance |
| Completeness and cohesion of the application:  - the application is complete, cohesive, realistic, properly filled in – 5 points  - the application is complete – 3 points  - no cohesion or completeness – 0 points | The applicant has submitted an application that is complete and cohesive, realistic and well-described.  The criterion will grant preference to cohesive and realistic operations, with well-described activities.The application should be properly filled in and contain all the required attachments.  The criterion will be verified on the basis of the information from the application and the attached documents.  A Council member may assign points in one of the categories | Application for financial assistance |
| Maximum number of points - 38 | Minimum required number of points: 19 | |

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| Undertaking:Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The applicant has knowledge and/or experience in the scope of the planned operation and it has attached the documents to confirm that  YES - 5 points or  The applicant has knowledge and/or experience in the scope of the planned operation  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | Measurable criterion.Possessed experience means better chances of achieving the objectives and the LDS indicators | Applicant’s declaration and applicant’s documents. |
| The operation is of innovative character  YES - 1 point  NO – 0 points | It introduces the following in the commune, in which the operation is to be executed:  - a new or significantly improved product, including significant improvement of technical parameters, components, materials or functionality,  - a new marketing method including significant changes in the appearance of the product, its packaging, positioning, promotion, pricing policy or business model,  - a new process in the methods of producing goods or in the methods of providing services, also in the manners of finding recipients for products,  - a new method of organization within the business practices of an enterprise, organization of a workplace or external relations | Application for financial assistance.Applicant’s declaration. |
| The operation is associated with looking after seniors  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion of senior-related activities, including day care homes or other forms of care:  - stationary care (e.g. clubs, including community centres, day support),  - non-stationary – provided 24/7 or in hours, e.g. in the client’s environment.  It may also be associated with medical services or activation and rehabilitation.  The criterion is associated with the result indicator W.1.3 and the product indicator “Number of operations consisting in starting or developing a business associated with looking after elderly people” | Application for financial assistance |
| The operation is associated with a children club or a nursery  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | In the case of starting a nursery or a children club, it is necessary to meet the requirements of the act on looking after children aged three or less and certain other acts, including legislative acts.The support within the undertaking also includes starting short-term children's care units, play clubs, activation, etc.  The criterion is associated with the result indicator W.1.3 and the product indicator “Number of operations consisting in starting or developing a business associated with looking after young children” | Application for financial assistance |
| The planned operation is associated with self-employment of a representative of the disadvantaged group  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Compliance with SWOT.S8 Motivating women to start businesses.The whole undertaking is dedicated to the disadvantaged group and is to improve access to the job market | Application for financial assistance |
| Completeness and cohesion of the application:  - the application is complete, cohesive, realistic, properly filled in – 5 points  - the application is complete – 3 points  - no cohesion or completeness – 0 points | The applicant has submitted an application that is complete and cohesive, realistic and well-described.  The criterion will grant preference to cohesive and realistic operations, with well-described activities.The application should be properly filled in and contain all the required attachments.The criterion will be verified on the basis of the information from the application and the attached documents.A Council member may assign points in one of the categories | Application for financial assistance. |
| Maximum number of points - 26 | Minimum required number of points:13 | |

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| Undertaking:Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The applicant is a non-government organization acting on its own behalf or on behalf of an informal group  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Measurable criterion.Applicants from outside of the public finance sector are preferable due to the financing conditions. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation will be conducive to organization of more than one type of task specified within the undertaking  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process.  Refers to cultural, sports, recreational or integration activities. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The amount of financial assistance requested:  Does not exceed 6,000 – 5 points  Exceeds 6,000 – 0 points | Preference is granted to the operations with lower costs, in order to execute as many projects as possible.The criterion is associated with the result indicator W.2.1 and the product indicator: “Number of operations of integration character” | Application for financial assistance. |
| This is the only application submitted by the Applicant within this process  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The point is to allow as many entities as possible to benefit from the support.The criterion is associated with the result indicator W.2.1 and the product indicator: “Number of operations of integration character” | Application for financial assistance. |
| The application describes a project covering more than one village  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The point is for activities to cover the biggest area possible, so as to facilitate integration.Compliance with the SWOT indicator D2.S3.: integration of inhabitants and increase in social activity. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The applicant included and described a method of promoting the “Piast Trail” LAG within the operation  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Promotion of the LAG will increase the number of potential beneficiaries and thus will make the achievement of the LDS objectives more probable. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The project includes participation of the local community:  At the stage of planning and execution – 3 points  At the stage of execution – 1 point.  No community participation – 0 points. | On account of application of the participation methods in the preparation and implementation of the LDS, what is rewarded is the projects that include cooperation with the local community. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Project execution takes into account the use of a village community centre:  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion rewards the use of the local resources for integrating the community. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Is the project cohesive?  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | A cohesive project means that the planned objectives result from diagnosed needs, and the selected execution measures allow to realize them.There are no discrepancies among the operation title, objectives, description, time schedule or operation budget.The point is to reduce the difficulties in assessment of the project by the Council. | Application for financial assistance |
| Are the planned costs rational, market-based and justified with the scope of operation?  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion rewards the operations prepared in compliance with the rules of rationality of spending. | Application for financial assistance |
| Maximum number of points - 40 | Minimum required number of points: 20 | |

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| Undertaking:Preservation of local heritage | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The operation will be executed in the towns/villages inhabited by less than 5,000 inhabitants  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Measurable criterion.Due to the limited access to culture in the rural areas, preference is granted to execution of the operations in the towns and villages of the number of inhabitants below 5,000.The criterion is consistent with the requirements of the Rural Development Programme | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation will help achieve more than one product indicator within the undertaking  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The amount of financial assistance requested:  Does not exceed 15,000 – 5 points  Exceeds 15,000 – 0 points | Preference is granted to the operations with lower costs, in order to execute as many projects as possible.The criterion is associated with the result indicator W.2.1 and the product indicator: “Number of operations of integration character” | Application for financial assistance. |
| This is the only application submitted by the Applicant within this process  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The application describes a project covering more than one town/village  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The point is for activities to cover the biggest area possible, so as to facilitate integration.Compliance with the SWOT indicator D2.S3.: integration of inhabitants and increase in their social activity. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The applicant included and described a method of promoting the “Piast Trail” LAG within the operation  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Promotion of the LAG will increase the number of potential beneficiaries and thus will make the achievement of the LDS objectives more probable. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The project includes participation of the local community:  At the stage of planning and execution – 3 points  At the stage of execution – 1 point.  No community participation – 0 points. | On account of application of the participation methods in the preparation and implementation of the LDS, what is rewarded is the projects that include cooperation with the local community. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Is the project cohesive?  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Project (operation) cohesion means the logical relationship between the results of the diagnosis of needs and the planned objectives of the project that guarantee the achievement of those results.Also, the project (operation) should be cohesive in terms of title, objectives, description, time schedule and planned budget.  Project cohesion will facilitate its assessment by the Council. | Application for financial assistance |
| Are the planned costs rational, market-based and justified with the scope of operation?  YES - 3 points  NO – 0 points | The criterion rewards the operations prepared in compliance with the rules of rationality of spending. | Application for financial assistance |
| Maximum number of points - 38 | Minimum required number of points: 19 | |

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| Undertaking:Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | | |
| Local criteria of operation assessment | Adequacy to the diagnosis and/or SWOT analysis/ Reference to product and result indicators/ Preferences | Source of data |
| The operation is innovative in the whole area – 5 points  In the whole commune – 3 points  No – 0 points | Innovativeness is understood as conduct of a new or significantly modified activity. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The operation will help achieve more than one product indicator within the undertaking  YES - 2 points  NO – 0 points | Complex operations are preferable to limit the number of applications and streamline the implementation process. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The amount of financial assistance requested:  Does not exceed 10,000 – 5 points  Exceeds 10,000 – 0 points | Preference is granted to the operations of non-investment character, so the amount of the grant is limited.Compliance with the SWOT, absence of ecological education | Application for financial assistance |
| Is the applicant experienced in the scope of the projects associated with environmental protection and climate change?  YES - 1 point  NO – 0 points | Measurable criterion.The applicants with experience in execution of the operations consistent with the specific objective 2.2 are rewarded | Application for financial assistance.Applicant’s declaration. |
| The application describes a project covering more than one town/village  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | The point is for the activities to cover the biggest area possible, to improve the environmental awareness of the largest community possible, to integrate the inhabitants and increase their social activity. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The applicant included and described a method of promoting the “Piast Trail” LAG within the operation  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Promotion of the LAG will increase the number of potential beneficiaries and thus will make the achievement of the LDS objectives more probable. | Application for financial assistance. |
| The project includes participation of the local community:  At the stage of planning and execution – 3 points  At the stage of execution – 1 point.  No community participation – 0 points. | On account of application of the participation methods in the preparation and implementation of the LDS, what is rewarded is the projects that include cooperation with the local community. | Application for financial assistance. |
| Is the project cohesive?  YES - 5 points  NO – 0 points | Project (operation) cohesion means the logical relationship between the results of the diagnosis of needs and the planned objectives of the project that guarantee the achievement of those results.Also, the project (operation) should be cohesive in terms of title, objectives, description, time schedule and planned budget.  Project cohesion will facilitate its assessment by the Council. | Application for financial assistance |
| Are the planned costs rational, market-based and justified with the scope of operation?  YES - 3 points  No – 0 points | The criterion rewards the operations prepared in compliance with the rules of rationality of spending. | Application for financial assistance |
| Maximum number of points - 34 | Minimum required number of points: 17 | |

1. **Innovativeness**

In the undertaking not associated with the business sector, innovativeness is understood as conducting a new or significantly modified activity in that scope, in the LAG area.

Under the Oslo Manual (an international methodology manual for statistical research of innovation, recommended in the OECD and EU countries), innovation means implementing a new or significantly improved product (or service), a new or significantly improved process, a new marketing method or a new organization method in the scope of business practices, workplace organization or relationship with the environment (Oslo Manual 2005, IECD/Eurostat).For the purposes of strategy in the economic scope, it should be assumed that an operation is innovative if it introduces the following in the area of the commune where the operation is planned to be executed:

- a new or significantly improved product, including significant improvement of technical parameters, components, materials or functionality,

- a new marketing method including significant changes in the appearance of the product, its packaging, positioning, promotion, pricing policy or business model,

- a new process in the methods of producing goods or in the methods of providing services, also in the manners of finding recipients for products,

- a new method of organization within the business practices of an enterprise, organization of a workplace or internal relations.The selection criteria are specified in the procedures attached to the Council Regulations

**4. Grant projects and own projects.**

The LAG is planning to achieve its objectives by executing grant projects and own operations.The details are specified in the procedures.

The adopted procedures are consistent with the Guidelines of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development in the scope of uniform and correct execution by local action groups of the tasks associated with execution of community-driven local development strategies within the action entitled "Support for local development within the Leader initiative” within the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

**Chapter VII.Action plan**

An action plan for three years was developed.Therefore, 3 main periods of execution of the LDS were specified.Most tasks are planned for the first period, and most indicators will be achieved then.It results from analysis of the data from the social consultations and from the readiness of the potential applicants to execute operations, including investment operations.The expectations of the participants in the social consultations also affected the planned activities.The detailed time schedule of reaching the objectives and indicators, indicating the time for achieving the key effects of implementation, is included in appendix No. 3 to the LDS.

**Chapter VIII.Budget**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUDGET AND THE OBJECTIVES | | |
| SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE | **BUDGET FOR THE OBJECTIVE / % of the whole budget** | **JUSTIFICATION** |
| Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | 5,750,000.00  35.28% | The specific objective includes the operations mainly associated with investments, including investments in infrastructure.Shortages in that scope were indicated by the inhabitants of the whole area.Due to the size of the area and the continuously increasing number of inhabitants, it is necessary to undertake the activities aimed at providing better access to information – both traditional, in the form of information materials and tables, and modern – with the use of modern technologies.Within its own project, the LAG is planning to create an innovative product, i.e. an application for mobile devices, associated with the resources of the whole area. |
| Supporting business activities | 6,050,000.00  37.12% | The support for business is divided into two separate undertakings |
| Prevention of exclusion | 520,000.00  3.19% | The resources spent on the activities associated with the disadvantaged group and with the activities for the benefit of the groups at risk of exclusion.1 million is the amount of resources for creating jobs connected with looking after children or elderly people – women have trouble with entering or returning to the job market because of the caring functions they have in their families.The creation of children clubs/nurseries/kindergartens or nursing homes will take a load off women’s backs and will allow them to spend their time on professional work.  The LAG animation in that scope will be mainly associated with developing a database of good practices, study tours and entity networking. |
| Improvement of the integration and social competences of the LAG inhabitants | 2,930,000.00  17.97% | Most resources within the running costs and activation are assigned to that objective, thus the planned amount.A grant project for the amount of 300,000 is to integrate local communities. |
| Protection and promotion of local heritage | 1 050 000,00  6,44% | Three undertakings will be executed within that objective:one will be a grant project for the amount of PLN 300,000 for the tasks associated with local heritage, another for PLN 200,000 within the cooperation project.The resources were provided for innovative activities in the scope of the environment and climate change.These are to include, in particular, soft operations of educational and non-investment character, which justifies the amount of the planned resources (PLN 100,000).The planned cooperation project will also not be associated with investments, but rather with exchange of knowledge and experiences. |
| TOTAL | 16,300,000.00 |  |

**Chapter IX.Communication plan**

The more detailed plans of the activities and campaigns aimed at including the local community, animating and empowering it, are described in appendix No. 5 Communication Plan.However, it should be indicated that in the whole period of introduction of the 2014-2020 LDS, the “Piast Trail” LAG will undertake activities aimed at:improving the quality of the executed operations and submitted applications, assisting the persons who, for various reasons, are not able to strive to obtain assistance from the LDS and/or other competitions, preparing current analyses, identifying and motivating the groups of people that potentially may be interested in the execution of the operations in the scope of local development but, for some reasons, do not do it, activating the inhabitants to participate in the broadly understood local development, stimulating the potential beneficiaries, assisting the local project coordinators in development of their own ideas into the projects that may qualify for financial support.The Communication Plan, as an appendix to this strategy, was developed on the basis of the conclusions from the application of participation methods during the development of the LDS, and consulted with the LAG members and inhabitants.

**Chapter X. Integration**

The objectives included in this Local Development Strategy are consistent with the objectives specified in the strategic documents prepared at various levels of territorial self-government, of the Wielkopolskie province, of the Poznański and Gnieźnieński counties and by various institutions, associated with certain aspects of social and business life.Please find below a comparison of the objectives and assumption of those documents with the LDS objectives.

The document that sets the priorities for regional development of the country for the next decade is the **National Strategy for Regional Development 2010—2020.**The document specifies the objectives and priorities of development of Poland at the territorial level, the rules and instruments of regional policies, the new role of the regions within the regional policies and the outline of the mechanism for coordinating the activities undertaken by the respective ministries. The National Strategy for Regional Development included the following regional policy objectives: 1. Supporting the increase in regions’ competitiveness (“competitiveness”). 2. Developing territorial cohesion and preventing marginalization of problematic areas (“cohesion"). 3. Developing of conditions for effective and partnership-based execution of the developmental activities in the territories (“effectiveness”).The first objective of the regional policy until 2020 applies to the whole territory of Poland.Its basic directions of activities include:developing the mechanisms for promoting the developmental processes from the growth poles, while also developing the absorption potential and using the endogenous potential of other areas, such as subregions, rural areas and other functional areas of clear spatial specialization.The above objectives are associated with the LDS objectives **“Support for the sustainable development based on local resources” and “Development of Social Capital”.**

1. **Updated Wielkopolskie Province Development Strategy until 2020.**

The general objective of the strategy of the Wielkopolskie province for the next three years is as follows:**Effective use of the development potential to increase the competitiveness of the province, to improve the quality of life of inhabitants in the conditions of sustainable development.**

**Table 1. Matrix of relationships among the specific objectives of the local development strategy and the objectives included in the Wielkopolskie Province Development Strategy**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | General objectives of the LDS | | | | |
| 1. SUPPORT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA BASED ON LOCAL RESOURCES | | | 2. DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL CAPITAL | |
| Wielkopolskie Province Development Strategy | Specific objectives of the LDS | | | | |
| 1.1 Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | 1.2. Support for business activities | 1.3 Prevention of exclusion. | 2.1 Improvement of integration and social competences | 2.2 Protection and promotion of local heritage |
|  | Strategic objective No. 5  Increase in cohesion of the province,  operational objective 5.2 – Development of rural areas,  operational objective 5.6  Support for the areas of exceptional cultural environment. | Strategic objective No. 6 Support for the economic potential of the region  operational objective 6.1  Increase in innovativeness of enterprises | Strategic objective No. 7  Increase in inhabitants’ competences and employment,  operational objective 7.4  Promotion of entrepreneurship and employability | Strategic objective No. 8  Increase in resources and balancing of the social potential of the province,  operational objective 8.8 Building social capital for the benefit of civil society | strategy objective No. 7 – Increase in competences of inhabitants and employment, executed through operational objective 7.3 – Development and promotion of creative and innovative attitudes,  Strategic objective No. 2  Improvement in condition of the environment and rational management of resources,  operational objective 2.10 Promotion of ecological attitudes |

The province strategy specifies the key areas for development of key importance for the province:quality of life, social capital, entrepreneurship, work, education and infrastructure.Special attention was paid to the need to maintain sustainable development in terms of improving the quality of life, applying innovativeness as the basis for entrepreneurship and obtaining social inclusion as the foundation for developing social capital.Therefore, the main objective of the Local Development Strategy: “**Support for the sustainable development based on local resources”** and “**Development of Social Capital"** are consistent with the general objective of the province development strategy, because it assumes improvement of the quality of life through development of the area.From the economic perspective, local development directly refers to the following priority areas of the province:work, entrepreneurship and infrastructure.Social development refers to social capital and education.The key objectives of both the LDS and the province strategy, emphasize the need for innovativeness and sustainable development which includes, in particular, environmental protection and prevention of climate change.The basis for developing and executing the local development strategy of the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group is, in particular, the broadly understood development of rural areas, which is consistent with strategic objective No. 5 of the province development strategy – **Increase in cohesion of the province** which is going to be executed through operational objective 5.2.**Development of rural areas** assuming the activation of the local communities in favor of development.

The compliance among the objectives also takes place at the lower level of the hierarchy of objectives.

The specific objectives of the LDS are consistent with the following strategic and operational objectives of the province development strategy:

**Table 2. Matrix of relationships among the specific objectives of the local development strategy and the objectives included in the commune development strategies.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | General objectives of the LDS | | | | |
| 1. SUPPORT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA BASED ON LOCAL RESOURCES | | | 2. DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL CAPITAL | |
| Commune Development Strategies | Specific objectives of the LDS | | | | |
| 1.1 Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | 1.2. Support for business activities | 1.3 Prevention of exclusion. | 2.1 Improvement of integration and social competences | 2.2 Protection and promotion of local heritage |
| Development Strategy of the Mieleszyn Commune | General objective No. 1  Construction and modernization of the infrastructure meeting the needs of the inhabitants and stimulating the development of the commune.  Specific objective No. 1.3  Modernization and expansion of the tourist and sports facilities. | General objective No. 2  Economic development based on the agricultural sector and diversification of activities in rural areas.  Specific objective No. 2.1  Provision of the conditions beneficial for development of small and medium enterprises (development of non-agricultural activities).  Specific objective No. 2.2  Improvement of the condition in the local job market. | General objective No. 3  Preventing and solving social problems as strategic objectives of development of the commune.  Specific objective No. 3.2  Prevention of social and digital exclusion. | General objective No. 3  Preventing and solving social problems as strategic objectives of development of the commune.  Specific objective No. 3.1  Development of social infrastructure.  Specific objective No. 3.4  Improvement in the offered sports and cultural services. | General objective No. 4  Intensification of activities aimed at environmental protection.  Specific objective No. 4.1  Increase in ecological awareness of the commune inhabitants. |
| Development Strategy of the Czerwonak Commune | General objective No. 3  Education, culture, sports.  Specific objective No. 3.1  Increase in quality of the recreational and leisure services offered in the commune. | General objective No. 4  Economic development.  Specific objective No. 4.1  Providing conditions for further economic development of the commune. | General objective No. 1  Health, social welfare, safety.  Specific objective No. 1.7  Activation of the groups at risk of social exclusion. | General objective No. 1  Health, social welfare, safety.  Specific objective No. 1.8  Providing the basis for development of cooperation with non-government organizations. | General objective No. 2  Natural environment, environmental protection, tourism.  Specific objective No. 2.1  Undertaking activities for improving the quality of environmental protection in the Czerwonak commune. |
| Development Strategy of the Swarzędz Commune | General objective No. 1  Well-educated, active, creative and cultural local community emotionally connected to its place of residence.  Specific objective No. 1.4  Development of cultural infrastructure based on the expectations and aspirations of the inhabitants and of the potential of the commune.  Specific objective No. 1.8  Development and implementation of an effective system for supporting sports and tourism.  General objective No. 3  A functional and effective system of technical and social infrastructure.  Specific objective No. 3.12  Adaptation of the sports and tourist facilities to the increasing needs and requirements of the inhabitants. | General objective No. 2  Effective and modern economy in sustainable sector and size structure.  Specific objective No. 2.1  Improving the sector structure of the economy. | General objective No. 3  A functional and effective system of technical and social infrastructure.  Specific objective No. 3.9  Organization of a system of assistance and support for handicapped people, children and the elderly; prevention of social exclusion.  General objective No. 4  High level and high quality of life and better level of services for the inhabitants.  Specific objective No. 4.9  Decisive combating of social pathologies and prevention of social exclusion. | General objective No. 1  Well-educated, active, creative and cultural local community emotionally connected to its place of residence.  Specific objective No. 1.7  Organization and maintenance of meeting places and integration of various age groups.  General objective No. 4  High level and high quality of life and better level of services for the inhabitants.  Specific objective No. 4.4  Providing the commune inhabitants with opportunities for recreation, leisure and sports adapted to their interests and age. | General objective No. 5  A city attractive for inhabitants and investors.  Specific objective No. 5.4  Maintenance of the previous tendencies of development of the green areas in the city.  General objective No. 6  Spatial order and balance in the natural, social and economic environment.  Specific objective No. 6.3  Preference of sustainable development of a commune that guarantees the balance among the environmental, social and economic subsystems.  Specific objective No. 6.4  Protection of local landscapes and unique natural resources.  Specific objective No. 6.5  Applying the rules of the New Athens Charter and Leipzig Charter in planning the development of the commune.  General objective No. 7  Leading position and significant role in the Poznań Agglomeration.  Specific objective No. 7.4  Promotion of the specific character and values of the commune in the agglomeration development programmes.  Specific objective No. 7.6  Providing the inhabitants of the agglomeration with natural resources as well as tourist and recreational services. |
| Development Strategy of the Pobiedziska Commune | General objective No. 3  Developing the image of a tourist and recreational commune  Specific objective No. 3.1.  Maintenance and expansion of the tourist and recreational facilities. | General objective No. 2  Support for economic development.  Specific objective No. 2.1  Support for development of entrepreneurship. |  | General objective No. 1  Improvement of life conditions of inhabitants.  Specific objective No. 1.6  High quality of life in the commune areas. | General objective No. 1  Improvement of life conditions of inhabitants.  Specific objective No. 1.3  Implementation and promotion of ecological activities.  General objective No. 3 Development of the image of a tourist and recreational commune  Specific objective No. 3.2  Promotion of the commune. |
| Development Strategy of the Gnieźnieński County | General objective No. 4  Increase in the effectiveness of making use of natural resources  Specific objective No. 11  Development of tourism potential.  Specific objective No. 12  Development of cultural as well as sports and recreational activities. | General objective No. 1  Development of space for improving the quality of life and support the economic development of the County.  Specific objective No. 3  Development of entrepreneurship – creating a platform for cooperation with entrepreneurs. | General objective No. 2  Increase in the level of education of the inhabitants and adaptation of their qualifications and competences to the needs of the Poznań Agglomeration market.  Specific objective No. 6  Promotion of employment, limitation of the phenomenon of high level of unemployment and elimination of its negative effects. | General objective No. 3  Increase in social integration, improvement of the health and public security of the County inhabitants.  Specific objective No. 10  Development of civic society. | General objective No. 1  Development of space for improving the quality of life and support the economic development of the County.  Specific objective No. 2  Improvement in the condition of the natural environment. |
| Development Strategy of the Poznański County | Operational objective No. 2.3  Sustainable development of living conditions, health, activity and leisure of inhabitants. | Operational objective No. 1.1  Increase in economic attractiveness through creation of conditions for investment and development of entrepreneurship. | Operational objective No. 2.4  Assisting the inhabitants in the job market. | Operational objective No. 2.8  Support for the socially useful initiatives submitted by inhabitants and non-government organizations. | Operational objective No. 3.3  The Gniezno county as the heart of the Piast Trail, the image product of Wielkopolska. |

The local development strategy also includes specific objectives, within which undertakings are executed in a cohesive and comprehensive manner, with the use of various methods and involvement of various sectors and partners, so as to address the need identified in the SWOT analysis and providing proper sequence of interventions.One of the objectives is **specific objective No. 2.0 Development of Social Capital.**Two undertakings will be executed within that objective:**2.1 – Improvement of integration and social competences and 2.2 Protection and promotion of local heritage.**The undertakings address the need specified in the SWOT analysis in a comprehensive and cohesive way – the need consists in shortage of proper use of the possessed local cultural and natural resources, both tangible and intangible, and absence of proper information and promotion activities.The local strategy describes various forms of execution of those undertakings – a competition, a grant project and a cooperation project, to engage a wide range of entities and partners.The undertakings are addressed to non-government organizations, units of the public finance sector, culture institutions, so the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group will participate in those undertakings through a cooperation project, including an international cooperation project associated with historical and cultural resources and activity of inhabitants.The execution of undertakings 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 assume the application of various methods and methods of addressing the need identified in the SWOT analysis.The plans also include execution of soft projects – such as cultural events, promotional studio visits, as well as hard projects – preparation of promotional and information publications, installation of information boards.As a result, the undertakings within specific objective No. **2.2 Protection and promotion of local heritage** are of comprehensive character – they cover the whole issue of local heritage, not only certain fragments. Additionally, they are cohesive, because there exists a logical relationship and consequence among the activities undertaken.The local development strategy includes proper sequence of interventions through execution of proper steps:the social consultations that allow to get to know the area inhabitants, planning and defining of the manner of meeting the diagnosed need, systematic and regular publication of competitions, and preparation of grant projects

**They engage various partners and sectors:**

NGO, units of the public finance sector, culture institutions, the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group

**Comprehensive and cohesive:**

- they cover the whole issue and are logically linked

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Specific objective 2.2 Protection and promotion of local heritage | | |
| Undertaking 2.2.1.  Organization of activities promoting the LAG area. | Undertaking 2.2.2.  Protection of local heritage. | Undertaking 2.2.3.  Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change. |

**They result from the need identified in the SWOT analysis**

**They allow the application of various methods,**

**provide a proper sequence of interventions**

**The local development strategy integrates at least three sectors of business activity**, understood as different sections of the Polish Classification of Businesses (PKD), by providing financial support for the companies operating in those sectors.Specific objective 1.2 “Support for business activity” and specific objective 1.3 “Prevention of exclusion” assume support for the enterprises (in particular those run by women) operating in the following sectors (based on the PKD sections):

Section Q – Healthcare and social welfare (Chapter 88);

Section R – Activities related to culture, entertainment and recreation;

Section S – Other service activities.

**Chapter XI.Monitoring and evaluation**

The supreme objective of the monitoring and evaluation system is to provide the information necessary for better management of the LDS and for informing the society of the results of its use.The use of the system will allow, in particular, to:

* assess the effectiveness and correctness of implementation of the LDS and functioning of the LAG,
* identify the risk factors and to provide early warning against threats,
* provide information for making the decision on the potential changes in the LDS and LAG,

The system consists of two subsystems:

* monitoring – it covers the collection and selection of data, as well as the collection, storage and processing of the information necessary for the evaluation;“records” the most direct effects of LDS implementation and LAG functioning (contribution and products);
* Evaluation – it covers the analysis and interpretation of the data collected in the monitoring subsystem; it specifies the relationships between the undertaken activities and the effects (results and impact) and helps to prepare recommendations for the future.

The monitoring and evaluation subsystems will be coordinated.

The whole system will be manager by the proper respective internal entities of the LAG or external entities, depending on the needs determined by the subject of the study and on the complexity of the issues subject to the given study.The system will be maintained by the representatives of the respective sectors and by the inhabitants of the LAG area, including the assistance beneficiaries and the actual beneficiaries of the activities conducted by the LAG who, on the one hand, will be obliged to provide all the information necessary for monitoring and evaluation purposes, and on the other – will play an important role of recipients of the evaluation results.The LAG functioning and LDS implementation will be successively monitored and evaluated for the purpose of maintaining or improving the quality and effectiveness of activities, effectively spending the public funds, and quickly reacting to the changing conditions of the internal and external conditions in the LAG area.Each conducted monitoring or evaluation activity will end in preparation of the conclusions and recommendations for improving the quality of future activities.After their preparation, the LAG will commence implementation of the recommendations, based on the rules of realism and effectivity of activity.In the case of budget limitations, the following example solutions will be assumed in the process of monitoring and evaluation:limiting the scope of research to the most crucial, priority research, reducing the researched number of entities while maintaining the minimum level necessary for conducting a representative study, selecting cheaper solutions, tools, techniques, etc. for conducting the research, conducting the research or certain stages thereof on one’s own, while maintaining objectivity and proper quality of research, developing the research procedures so as to aggregate various pieces of data and analyze the key relationships among them, developing the measurement tools and methods as per the methodology, so as to allow detection of the expected changes and of the hindering factors – e.g. by using the same tools on multiple occasions.

1. **Monitoring the implementation of the LDS and the functioning of the LAG**

Monitoring, as an element of the LDS management, will consist in observing the process of implementation of the LDS and the functioning of the LAG, including the contributions and products covered.It will constitute the basic condition for obtaining reliable information for evaluation purposes.Its purpose will be to obtain feedback and to assess the compliance of the activities with the prior assumptions.

Stages of monitoring:

1. Obtaining and documenting the data.

2. Verifying the collected data.

3. Editing and updating the data by comparing it with the planned values.

4. Preparing the data for evaluation.

**The monitoring will be conducted on the basis of the following key criteria:**usefulness – whether it provides the information necessary for assessment of the implementation of the LDS and of the functioning of the LAG; feasibility – whether it takes into account the time and financial restrictions; applicability – whether the information and the factors, which are necessary to execute the research objectives, in compliance with ethical rules, will be included in the research; technical adequacy – whether it will be conducted correctly, guaranteeing the quality and credibility of the results, with the assumed outlays and possibilities.

The monitoring process, taking into account social participation, will include monitoring of the implementation of the LDS and of the functioning of the LAG from the following points of view:1. factual (measurable and verifiable data and indicators, 2. operational (contacts with beneficiaries, site inspections of operations, 3. financial (spending of funds from the budget).

The monitoring indicators will be defined at two levels:

1. The contribution indicators, associated with the resources involved in the implementation of the LDS and the functioning of the LAG; although usually a contribution covers funds, it will also include human, substantive and organizational resources, involved at the respective stages of monitoring.

2. The product indicators, associated with specific activities conducted within the implementation of the LDS or the functioning of the LAG; which describe all the tangible products and services generated from the funds at the respective stages of monitoring.

1. **Evaluation of the implementation of the LDS and the functioning of the LAG**

One of the main tasks of evaluation will be to objectively assess the actual and expected effects of implementation of the LDS and of the functioning of the LAG, in terms of reaching the assumed LDS objectives and determining the cause and effect relationships between the undertaken activities and the achieved results and impact.Evaluation will also constitute a useful tool of social mobilization, and will increase the transparency of the activities undertaken by the LAG on account of spending public funds.Presentation of the positive effects of the LDS may be conducive to an increase in the broad understanding and social support for that type of interventions.Moreover, with social participation, the evaluation will be conducive to an increase in the opportunities for involvement of representatives of the sectors and inhabitants in the implementation of the LDS, and, as a result – the partnership principles will be executed to a higher degree.

Evaluation stages:

1. Formulating the criteria and scope of evaluation
2. Studying and analyzing the data, including the monitoring data
3. Consulting and reporting the results
4. Presenting recommendations and using the results of the evaluation

The evaluation will be conducted on the basis of the following key criteria:

* suitability (do the assumptions meet the needs of the beneficiaries?)the degree to which the adopted activities address the problems in the diagnosed area and/or the actual problems of the target group; the application of that criterion may result in making the decision to continue the activities in the current mode or to partly modify them in the specified scope or to replace them in full, including to suspend or resign from further execution (application:ex-ante, mid-term and ongoing evaluation);
* efficiency/cost-effectiveness (whether the activities are rational in economic terms)comparison between the (financial, human and time) resources spent and the achieved results; the application of that criterion for comparison of the evaluated activities to alternative ones – in a similar area – will allow to analyze the possibility to achieve similar effects with smaller resources or better effects with comparable resources;(application:ex-ante, mid-term, ongoing, ex-post evaluation);
* effectiveness (are the implemented activities conducive to fulfilment of the assumptions?)assessment of the degree, to which the defined undertakings were achieved; the criterion will be applied for assessment of the fulfilment of assumptions at the respective stages of verification, while assuming the appearance of both positive and negative effects, as well as planned and unplanned effects (application:ex-ante, mid-term, ongoing, ex-post evaluation);
* usefulness (will the task execution be conducive to reduction in the problems identified?)the degree of meeting the needs of the target groups and the areas that require support, as a result of achievement of the results of the executed undertakings; the application of that criterion will allow to assess whether the changes caused by the activities undertaken are positive from the point of view of their recipients and of the LDS assumptions, whether they address the diagnosed problems and needs (application:ongoing, ex-post evaluation);
* durability/continuity (is it possible to maintain the positive effects of activities after their completion?)checking to what degree the changes caused by the undertakings executed are noticeable and permanent; the application of that criterion will allow to assess the permanence of the activities undertaken, including after the cessation of the external financial assistance, and their impact over a long period of time on development processes (application:ex-post evaluation).

The evaluation will include systematic studies of the values or properties of the respective elements of LDS implementation and LAG functioning, in comparison with the assumed criteria.

Classification of evaluations in terms of when they are executed:

**Ex-ante evaluation:**it will be conducted before the execution of the LDS, it will include analysis of the quality, cohesion, validity and correctness of the LDS before its commencement, it will identify the potential difficulties and opportunities, specify the needs and expectations of the target group, allow to analyze the planned system of programme implementation in organizational terms, and assess the potential impact of the LDS on the area and on the beneficiaries, taking into account the allocated resources.

**Mid-term evaluation:**it will be conducted in comparison with the milestones of LDS execution, it will assess and analyze the effects and results achieved, and may help to modify and update the assumptions made.

**Ex-post evaluation:**it will be conducted after the completion of the LDS;it will include an assessment of the achieved effects and of the level of execution of activities, it will study the impact and long-term effect of the LDS implementation and LDS functioning, and it will constitute a comprehensive summary of the LDS implementation and LDS functioning.It will provide an assessment of the significance of the conducted activities in satisfying the needs that are supposed to be addressed by the LDS, and of the unplanned effects.As the information necessary for assessment of the actual impact may not be available for many years after completion of the LDS, the evaluation will provide a full assessment of the LDS impact only to a limited degree (evaluation criteria:efficiency, effectiveness, usefulness, durability).

**Ongoing evaluation:**it will be conducted on an ongoing basis, through the whole period of the intervention; during its implementation it will allow to adjust, on a regular basis, the conducted and planned activities, it will allow to prepare a preliminary analysis of partial effects and potential problems, structural weaknesses or changes in the environment, it will allow to analyze the information flow, documents, funds and execution of tasks; it will facilitate identification of barriers and of their causes, by recommending suitable improvements; it will estimate the degree of reaching the assumed effects in comparison with the remaining evaluations and will supplement, on an ongoing basis, the remaining evaluations though in-depth assessment at the level of the respective stages and activities and by studying the respective subject areas.It will concentrate on the ongoing problems and barriers in the LDS implementation and LAG functioning.The current condition of the key elements of implementation will be particularly reviewed.

Adopted classification of evaluations in terms of method of organization and methods of risk prevention:

* internal evaluation – assessment by the entities involved in the implementation of the given intervention;
* external evaluation – assessment by an external entity (evaluator) who is not directly involved in the implementation of the given intervention;

The evaluation indicators are specified at two levels:

* result indicators – associated with the direct and immediate effects of activities; they provide information on the changes resulting from the activities;
* impact indicators – associated with the consequences of the given activity, exceeding the immediate effects; impact is measured at two levels:direct beneficiaries of activities, at a certain moment after their completion, and indirect beneficiaries of activities from the point of view of short-term and long-term effects.

**Chapter XII.Strategic environmental impact assessment**

The strategy drafts, as the documents, the execution of which may potentially have a significant impact on the environment, may require, at the stage of drafting, that their contents undergo a strategic assessment of impact on the environment.However, those subject provisions make the conduct of such an assessment dependent on the individual contents of the document and on the external conditions of its execution.The premise which qualifies a draft strategy for such an assessment is the risk of occurrence of a significant negative environmental impact, including on the Natura 2000 areas, on account of the execution of the planned undertakings.

The environmental impact assessment for the Strategy of Community-Driven Local Development for the area of the “Piast Trail” Local Action Group Association, has been developed in compliance with the guidelines of the Act on the Provision of Information on the Environment and its Protection, Public Participation in Environmental Protection and Environmental Impact Assessments (Journal of Laws of 2013, item 1235, as amended).The analysis refers to the following contents of the analyzed LDS:analysis and assessment of the natural environment and of the problems with protecting it, identification and characterization of the projected significant impacts and findings included in the LDS.

The environmental impact analysis is aimed at verifying to what degree the LDS takes into account the objectives of environmental protection and the ecological priorities determined at the regional, domestic and international levels.The comparison of the provisions of the LDS and of the higher-level strategic documents, demonstrates a high degree of compliance among the main objectives and priorities.No contradictory or exclusive objectives were identified.During the environmental condition analysis of the LDS contents, the following problematic areas were identified:pollution of atmospheric air, mainly by municipal sources, i.e. low-stack emission and line sources – the main traffic routes, the risk of deterioration of the proper condition of surface and underground waters, noise emissions, including mainly in the vicinity of the main traffic routes, insufficient degree of development of the waste management system, insufficient development of ecological education, insufficient care for and use of the natural resources of the region, low level of access to its unique biodiversity.The indicated environmental problems in the area will be partially solved within the tasks suggested in the LDS.

The possible impact of the tasks on the following elements was analyzed:air and climate, waters, biodiversity, surface of the planet and soil, landscape, cultural heritage, including monuments, and human health.The impact on the respective elements of the environment was specified.Such an assessment allowed to determine the potentially adverse environmental impact associated with execution of the respective tasks.That assessment was prepared mainly in terms of environmental impact at the phase of construction and operation.The negative short-term impacts on the natural resources may be associated with the phase of investment execution.The potential long-term impacts are mainly associated with industrial development.The impact will consist in local land transformation, deterioration of the air quality and increase in the noise level.However, during the social consultations, the LAG has not recorded the instances, in which the potential applicants were planning to execute the operations which might have a significant environmental impact.

The basic rule adopted in the subject LDS is the rule of sustainable development which provides harmonized economic and social development consistent with the protection of natural resources.

Due to the general, framework character of the LDS, a detailed assessment of the environmental impact of the suggested activities may not be analyzed to a deeper degree.However, taking into account the degree of specification of the analyzed document and the information, available at this stage of projection, on the conditions of execution of the respective activities, the conducted analysis and assessment of all the priorities shows that, in general, their execution will be conducive to an improvement in the quality of the environment, preservation of biodiversity as well as natural and cultural heritage, and will limit the need for non-renewable natural resources.

After the conducted analysis, the position of the Management Board of the “Piast Trail” LAG is that the execution of the objectives and activities within the Strategy of Community-Driven Local Development will not cause a significant environmental impact and that the provisions of the Strategy will not designate the frameworks for future execution of undertakings which might cause a significant environmental impact, so the LDS does not require the conduct of a strategic environmental impact assessment as defined in the provisions of the above-mentioned act.The LAG communicates with the Regional Directorate of Environmental Protection in Poznań in connection with the application for withdrawal from conducting the strategic environmental impact assessment.

**Appendix No. 1 LDS updating procedure**

The socio-economic phenomena require the provisions of the LDS to be regularly adapted to the changing conditions.The LDS, as a planning and strategic document, requires certain procedures to be followed in the introduction of changes which, at the same time, should not cause social disorganization or reduce the motivation to act.The objective of the procedure is to adapt the LDS provisions to legal requirements, to update the data and the assumptions, and to adjust the provisions as a result of implementation of the LDS.The Management Board, the Council and the LAG Office are involved in the execution of the procedure – their task is to identify the changes in the surroundings which might affect the validity of the document.The need to introduce changes in the contents of the strategy may result from internal and/or external factors, such as:

* difficulty with executing the indicators/budget/time schedule of the LDS in compliance with the assumptions, negative assessment of the LDS execution based on the evaluation/monitoring, low level of social support for the executed activities, new modes and/or legal/social/economic/political changes with adverse impact on the LDS execution.

The following stages are assumed within the LDS updating procedure:

1. making the LDS available in the LAG Office and at the LAG website, and regular verification of the opinions/remarks to the LDS submitted (paper or electronic forms);
2. executing the monitoring and evaluation activities, the communication plan, the action plan, budget and time schedule, and regular verification of the compliance of the assumptions made with the results and with the legal environment;
3. in case of need – preparing recommendations for changes in the provisions of the LDS, in the form of a “Report on LDS Implementation”;
4. presenting and consulting the proposed changes in the LDS with the Management Board;
5. in case of need – consulting the proposed changes with the local community through adequate methods of social participation, including consultations with the use of the website, emails, surveys, individual meetings in the LAG Office, consultation meetings with the communities, in justified cases – external experts, etc.;
6. presenting the consulted changes at the Annual Meeting of Members and adopting the resolution on changing the LDS;
7. applying to the implementing institution for updating the LDS;
8. making the updated LDS available in the LAG Office and at the LAG website.

**Appendix No. 2 Monitoring – LAG functioning**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| WHAT? | | WHO? | HOW? | | | WHEN? | | SUMMARY | | | |
| elements to be monitored | research questions | monitoring entities | method of data collection | sources of data | monitoring criteria | measurement period | measurement time | indicators | analysis of collected data | manner of using the results of monitoring (recommendations) | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | In the case of significant discrepancies, specify adequate corrective measures | |
| information and promotion activities of the LAG | information and promotion | LAG Office | analysis of LAG internal documents,  LAG own survey,  LAG own observations | LAG data,  survey results,  observation results | Usefulness,  Feasibility,  Applicability,  technical adequacy | on a regular basis  before the planned evaluation  after execution of the respective activities | period of time from the last monitoring | contribution:activity-related costs  product:number of participants in the activity | contribution:comparison between incurred and planned costs  product:number of participants in activities in comparison with the planned level | contribution:e.g.enquiries for quotation before specification of the budget  product:e.g. better adaptation of the dates or places of activities to the beneficiaries, planning of more effective methods of promotion and information, better adaptation of the action programme to the beneficiaries, increase or decrease in group sizes | |
| activation by the LAG | what is the interest among the potential beneficiaries in activation? | as above | as above | as above | as above | as above | as above | as above | as above | as above | |
| advisory services in the LAG Office | what is the interest among potential beneficiaries in the advisory services from the LAG Office?  What is the satisfaction of the beneficiaries with the advisory services from the LAG Office? | as above | as above | as above and consultation forms | as above | as above | as above | product:number of entities benefiting from the activity  result:level of satisfaction of beneficiaries of the advisory services from the LAG Office | product:number of participants in activity in comparison with the planned level | product:e.g. planning more effective forms of promotion and information and improving the satisfaction with the advisory services (e.g. by streamlining the advisory procedures and standards) | |
| LAG competitions (calls for applications) | what is the interest among the potential beneficiaries in the competitions (calls for applications) | as above | as above | LAG data  survey results  observation results  consultation forms | Usefulness,  Feasibility,  Applicability,  technical adequacy | as above | period of time from the last monitoring | contribution:activity-related costs  product:the financial assistance used by the beneficiaries within the activity | contribution:comparison between incurred and planned costs  product:comparison between the financial assistance spent within the activity and the plan level | product:e.g. better adaptation of the dates of competition publication to the needs of the potential beneficiaries, better knowledge of the applications to be potentially submitted, planning of more effective forms of promotion and information) | |
| Others |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |

**MONITORING - LDS IMPLEMENTING**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| WHAT? | | WHO? | HOW? | | | WHEN? | | SUMMARY | | |
| elements to be monitored | research questions | monitoring entities | method of data collection | sources of data | monitoring criteria | measurement period | measurement time | indicators | analysis of collected data | manner of using the results of monitoring (recommendations) |
|  | | | | | | | | | | In the case of significant discrepancies, specify adequate corrective measures |
| indicators  within the settled operations | what is the progress of achieving the indicators in the settled operations? | LAG Office | analysis of LAG internal documents,  LAG own survey,  LAG own observations | LAG data,  survey results,  observation results,  consultation forms | Usefulness,  Feasibility,  Applicability,  technical adequacy | on a regular basis  before the planned evaluation,  after execution of the respective activities | period of time from the last monitoring | product:number of achieved indicators in the settled operations | product:comparison of achievement of the indicators in the settled operations in comparison with the planned level | product:e.g. planning of more effective forms of providing information, adjusting the names of the indicator-related criteria or assigning points to them in the criteria compliance assessment cards of the assessors of the applications for financial assistance) |
| spending the funds from the budget | what is the progress of spending the budget funds? | LAG Office | Analysis of the LAG internal documents, analysis of the external documents from superior institutions (Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture), analysis of the competition documentation of beneficiaries | LAG data, data from documentation of superior institutions (Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture), data from competition documentation of beneficiaries | usefulness,  feasibility,  applicability,  technical adequacy | as above | period of time from the last monitoring | contribution:the amount of spent funds from the budget | contribution:comparison of spent resources from the budget in comparison with the planned level | e.g. planning of more effective forms of providing information, intensification of the advisory services in the LAG Office, adjusting the criteria or their point weights in the criteria compliance assessment cards of the assessors of the applications for financial assistance) |
| fund contracting from the budget | what is the progress of contracting of the funds from the budget? | LAG Office | Analysis of the LAG internal documents, analysis of the external documents from superior institutions (Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture), analysis of the competition documentation of beneficiaries | LAG data, data from documentation of superior institutions (Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region, Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture), data from competition documentation of beneficiaries | usefulness,  feasibility,  applicability,  technical adequacy | as above | period of time from the last monitoring | contribution:the amount of contracted funds from the budget | contribution:comparison of contracted funds from the budget in comparison with the planned level | contribution:e.g. planning of more effective forms of providing information, intensification of the advisory services in the LAG Office, adjusting the criteria or their point weights in the criteria compliance assessment cards of the assessors of the applications for financial assistance) |
| publication of competitions (calls for application) | what is the process in execution of the competitions (calls for application)? | LAG Office | analysis of internal documents | LAG data | usefulness,  feasibility,  applicability,  technical adequacy | as above | period of time from the last monitoring | product:number of competitions announced | product:comparison between the time schedule of competition announcement and the planned time schedule | product:e.g. better adaptation of the dates of announcement of competitions to the remaining activities executed by the LAG, earlier submission of an application for competition to the supervisory institution |
| composition of the LAG Council before assessment of application within the competitions | what is the composition of the LAG Council before assessment of application within the competitions | LAG Office | analysis of internal documents | LAG data | usefulness,  feasibility,  applicability,  technical adequacy | on a regular basis  before the planned evaluation  before execution of the respective activities | period of time from the last monitoring | product:proper parity among members of the LAG Council taking into account the groups of stakeholders | product:comparison between the parity among members of the LAG Council taking into account the groups of stakeholders and the required parity | product:e.g. introduction of an additional procedure for changing the composition of the LAG Council |

**Appendix No. 3.Action plan**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General objective 1.0 Support for the sustainable development based on local resources | Years | 2016-2018 | | | | 2019-2021 | | | | 2022-2023 | | | TOTAL 2016-2023 | | | Programme | Submeasure/Programme scope |
|  | Indicator name | Value and unit of measurement | % of execution of the indicator, cumulatively | Planned financial support in PLN | Value and unit of measurement | | % of execution of the indicator, cumulatively | Planned financial support in PLN | Value and unit of measurement | | % of execution of the indicator, cumulatively | Planned financial support in PLN | | Total value of indicators | Total planned financial support |  |  |
| Specific objective 1.1 Development of the recreational or tourist or cultural functions of the area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Undertaking 1.1.1. Construction or adaptation of the generally accessible and non-commercial recreational or tourist or cultural infrastructure of the area | Number of new or modernized recreation, tourist or cultural infrastructure facilities. | 9 | 50% | 2,700,000 | 9 | | 100% | 2,700,000 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 18 | 5,400,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Undertaking 1.1.2. Informing of the area, including with the use of modern technologies. | Number of information materials and publications about the area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | | 100% | 300,000 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 20 | 300,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Mobile application presenting the resources of the area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 | | 100% | 50,000 | | 1 | 50,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Total specific objective 1.1 |  |  |  | 2,700,000 |  | |  | 300,0000 |  | |  | 50,000 | |  | 5,750,000 |  | |
| Specific objective 1.2. Support for business activities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Undertaking 1.2.1. Starting business activities. | Number of operations consisting in starting new businesses | 20 operations | 58% | 1,000,000 | 9 operations | | 100% | 450,000 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 29 operations | 1,450,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Undertaking 1.2.2. Development of business activities. | Number of operations consisting in development of existing businesses | 14 operations | 65.22% | 3,000,000 | 10 operations | | 97.83% | 1,500,000 | 1 | | 100% | 100,000 | | 25 operations | 4,600,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Total specific objective 1.2 |  |  |  | 4,000,000 |  | |  | 1,950,000 |  | |  | 100,000 | |  | 6,050,000 | 6,050,000 | |
| Specific objective 1.3.Prevention of exclusion | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Undertaking 1.3.1: Starting business activities associated with looking after small children or elderly people. | Number of operations consisting in starting an enterprise associated with looking after young children or elderly people | 5 operations | 100% | 500,000 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 5 operations | 500,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Undertaking 1.3.2. Activities aimed at the groups at risk of exclusion, including the disadvantaged group. | Number of information and consultation meetings | 4 meetings | 40% | 8,000 | 4 meetings | | 80% | 8,000 | 2 meetings | | 100% | 4,000 | | 10 meetings | 20,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.4 |
| Total specific objective 1.3 |  |  |  | 508,000 |  | |  | 8,000 |  | |  | 4,000 | |  | 520,000 |  | |
| Total general objective 1.0 |  |  |  | 7,208,000 |  | |  | 4,958,000 |  | |  | 154,000 | |  | 12,320,000 |
| General objective 2.0 Development of social capital | Years | 2016-2018 | | | 2019-2021 | | | | 2022-2023 | | | | | TOTAL 2016-2023 | | Programme | Submeasure/Programme scope |
| Indicator name | Value and unit of measurement | % of execution of the indicator, cumulatively | Planned financial support in PLN | Value and unit of measurement | | % of execution of the indicator, cumulatively | Planned financial support in PLN | Value and unit of measurement | | % of execution of the indicator, cumulatively | Planned financial support in PLN | | Total value of indicators | Total planned financial support |
| Specific objective 2.1. Improvement of integration and social competences | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Undertaking 2.1.1 Integration of the community – organization of cultural, sports, recreational and integration activities, including with the use of the village community centres | Number of activities of cultural, sports, recreational, integration character, including with the use of village community centres | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 activities | | 100% | 300,000 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 50 | 300,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Total specific objective 2.1 | |  |  | 0 |  | |  | 300,000 |  | |  | 0 | |  | 300, 000 |  | |
| Specific objective 2.2. Protection and promotion of local heritage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Undertaking 2.2.1. Organization of activities promoting the LAG area | Number of LAGs participating in the cooperation projects | 2 | 40% | 350,000 | 3 | | 100% | 300,000 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 5 | 650,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.3 |
| Number of executed cooperation projects, including international cooperation projects. | 1 | 33% | 2 | | 100% | 0 | | 0 | 3 |
| Undertaking 2.2.2.Preservation of local heritage | Number of culture-related entities supported within the LDS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | | 50% | 150,000 | 15 | | 100% | 150,000 | | 30 | 300,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Undertaking 2.2.3. Innovative activities in the scope of environmental protection and climate change | Number of operations aimed at innovations | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 10 operations | | 100% | 100,000 | | 10 | 100,000 | Rural Development Programme | 19.2 |
| Specific objective 2.2 | |  | | 350,000 |  | | | 450,000 |  | | | 250,000 | |  | 1,050,000 |  | |
| Total general objective 2.0 | |  | | 350,000 |  | | | 750,000 |  | | | 250,000 | |  | 1,350,000 |
| Total LDS | |  | | 7,558,000 |  | | | 5,708,000 |  | | | 404,000 | |  | 13,670,000 |
| Total planned support for the undertakings dedicated to the creation and maintenance of jobs within submeasure Execution of the LDS Rural Development Programme – 50.38% of the budget of the LDS Execution submeasure | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 13,000,000 | | 6,550,000 | |
| Total running costs – covered in full from the Rural Development Programme, submeasure 19.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2,630,000.00 | | | |

**Appendix No. 4 Amount of the EFSI financial support for the LDS within the respective submeasures**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Scope of support | Financial support | |
| Rural Development Programme | EFSI total |
| LDS execution (art. 35 section 1 letter b of regulation No. 1303/2013) | 13 000 000 | 13 000 000 |
| Cooperation (art. 35 section 1 letter c of regulation No. 1303/2013) | 650 000,00 | 650 000,00 |
| Running costs (art. 35 section 1 letter d of regulation No. 1303/2013) | 2 630 000,00 | 2 630 000,00 |
| Activation (art. 35 section 1 letter e of regulation No. 1303/2013) | 20 000,00 | 20 000,00 |
| TOTAL | 16 300 000,00 | 16 300 000,00 |

**Financial plan within submeasure 19.2 Rural Development Programme 2014-2020**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | EAFRD contribution | State budget | Own contribution being the contribution from domestic public funds | TOTAL |
| Beneficiaries other than units of the public finance sector | 4 644 990,00 | 2 655 010,00 |  | 7 300 000,00 |
| Beneficiaries being the units of the public finance sector | 3 626 910,00 |  | 2 073 090,00 | 5 700 000,00 |
| Total | 8 271 900,00 | 2 655 010,00 | 2 073 090,00 | 13 000 000,00 |

**Appendix No. 5 Communication plan**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Dates | Communication objective | Name of the communication activity | Addressees of the communication activity  (target groups) | Media (channels of reaching the target group) | Method of testing the method effectiveness | Target effects of communication activities | Budget | Indicators |
| 1st half of 2016 | Informing the potential applicants of the rules of financing projects within LDS implementation, its main assumptions, project selection criteria and receipt of feedback on the level of satisfaction and on the expectations regarding the flow of information between the LAG and the applicant | Information campaign on the general assumptions of the LDS | - inhabitants of rural areas, in particular potential beneficiaries (entrepreneurs, units of the public finance sector, NGOs)  - disadvantaged group (women) | -1 website article  - 9 posters on the information boards of public institutions  - 1 article in a social network  - 3 information meetings within sectors  - 1 meeting with the disadvantaged group (women) to demonstrate the activities within the LDS that grant preference to women  - 2 pieces of information in the local press  - emails to the persons who have submitted the fiches | - survey – assessment of the level of satisfaction and expectations | provision of information from at least 2,000 people  - participation of 100 people in information meetings | 2 publications in the local press - PLN 600 | - number of articles in the website and social network  - number of information meetings - 3  -number of information meetings with the disadvantaged group - 1  - number of articles in the local press - 2 |
| Years 2016-2023 (before each planned call for applications) | Announcement of the call for applications in order to reach as many potential beneficiaries as possible | Website publications before each call for applications | potential beneficiaries | - announcement on the LAG website (1) and on the websites of the communes in the area (9)  - sending out 50 emails | - survey concerning the source of information | - number of announcements on the websites of the LAG and of the communes within the LAG area - 10  - number of emails - 50 | PLN 0 (execution within the current operations of the office) | Provision of information to at least 50 people |
| Years 2016-2023 (before each planned call for applications) | Informing the potential applicants of the rules of granting financial support within the LDS implementation, of the potential changes in the selection criteria, of the most frequent mistakes, presentation of the application form for the purpose of increasing the opportunities for obtaining the funds and the correctness of the applications submitted | A training for potential beneficiaries before each call for applications | - potential beneficiaries within the given competition, taking into account the disadvantaged group (women) | - 1 training before each competition  information on the training on the LAG website, in the social network and at the websites of the communes of the LDS area | - survey – assessment of the level of satisfaction and expectations | - number of trainings - 12 | Trainings – 12 x PLN 120.00 = PLN 2,400.00 | - participation of at least 10 people, including women, in each training |
| Years 2016-2023 (before each planned call for applications) | Informing the people interested in execution of the projects within the LDS, to encourage them to submit applications | Individual advisory services in the LAG office before each call for applications | -people interested in the programme | - individual advice for the interested persons, provided by the LAG employees |  | - number of individual advisory services - 5 | PLN 0  (execution within the current operations of the office) | - providing information to 5 entities before each call for applications |
| YEARS 2016-2023 | Informing of the LAG activities | Information published in the information bulletins of the LAG communes (if applicable) | Inhabitants of the area, potentially interested persons. | Publication on the LGD activities | Asking the inhabitants of the area about the source of information | - number of publications in the calendar year - 3 | PLN 0  (execution within the current operations of the office) | Provision of information to 1000 people |

Special thanks to the inhabitants of the LGD area

for their active participation in preparation of the Local Development Strategy.

Łubowo, 2015

Meeting Chairperson

Bogdan Kemnitz