Urząd Marszałkowski Województwa Lubelskiego w Lublinie



INNOVATION VOUCHERS IN POLAND

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Background



Vouchers for Innovation from Poland - good practice identified in the BRIDGES project

https://www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/voucher-for-innovation)

> BRIDGES (Bridging competence infrastructure gaps and speeding up growth and jobs delivery in regions) - Interreg EUROPE project

https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/bridges/

The challenge

The main challenge for regional and national economy was low level of overall innovation performance in SME sector due to:

- ➤ limited potential to develop R&D works internally;
- ➤ limited awareness of possible forms of cooperation with R&D sector;
- ➤ fear of risk;
- ➤ need for different from innovative companies type of support (simply instrument, to enable quick improvement of product/service);
- ➤ high percentage of micro and small companies, operating in local scale (not interested in competing with big companies)

The aim for 2014-2020 perspective

public bodies (universities, institutes, etc.) To rise innovation activity of SMEs through

investments in R&D infrastructure and

private R&D institutions, R&D units in company

acceleration

programmes

implementation of instruments enhancing cooperation of SMEs and R&D sector

R&D projects (company +university)

open
innovation –
technology
transfer

innovation services for SMEs

innovation vouchers



Innovation vouchers in 2014-2020 in Poland



- Smart Growth OP
- Sub measure 2.4.2.
 Innovation vouchers for SMEs
- IB: Polish Agency for Enterprise Development



- ROP for Lubelskie Voivodship
- Measure 1.5. Innovation vouchers
- IB: Lublin Agency for Entrepreneurship Support

How does it work?

business idea for innovation

competitive procedure to select R&D partner

research institute ready to cooperate

project application

R&D institutions with headquarter in Poland:

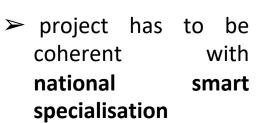
- ➤ universities and their special purpose companies, RTTC;
- ➤ R&D companies;
- > accredited laboratories

How does it work?

submition of application



open call: IX rounds, 3 months each round;





- ➤ 4 calls for proposal;
- project has to be coherent with regional smart specialisation

	PL		LV
	Phase I	Phase II	
Max. EU funding	340 000 PLN	560 000 PLN	300 000 PLN
	(~77 000 E)	(~127 000 E)	(~ 68 000 E)
Eligible costs of the project	60 000-400 000 PLN	up to 800 000 PLN	Min. 15 000 PLN
	(~ 13.6 000 – 91 000 E)	(~182 000 E)	(~3.4 000 E)

How does it work?

implementation of the project



Phase I. Purchase of R&D services leading to preparation of new or significantly improved product, service, technology or new design project

Phase II. Implementation of technological innovation elaborated in Phase I (initial investment)



- Purchase of R&D services leading to preparation of new or significantly improved product, service, technology or new design project
- Purchase of R&D services enabling implementation or development of product/service/ technology

Benefits for SME

- ➤ quick procedure: evaluation takes 90 days;
- simple application (simple template with basic information (PL), submission online);
- ➤ relatively low entry threshold (minimum eligible costs);
- > modular character of support (PL).

Recomendations

- strong impact on the launching of innovation oriented activities, but minimal impact on employment;
- ➤ IV on regional level less popular than at national level (more bureaucracy, less flexible schedule of calls for proposals);
- SME appreciate cooperation with R&D institutions, new knowledge and competences for employees;
- high percentage of SME that started their very first research project;
- relatively low flexibility of scope of support, limited possibilities of modification during R&D works





THANK YOU

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