

*Role of central, regional and local  
authorities in the development of  
cross-border cooperation*

**INTERREG Initiative Department,  
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# **Basic Polish legal acts concerning international cooperation of the regions**

1. Constitution of Poland and their regulations on the participation of the voivodeships in the international cooperation.
2. Laws on self-government of the: voivodeships, districts and municipalities.
3. Law on the principles of joining the international associations of local and regional communities by the units of territorial self-government.

# **Agreements on international and cross-border cooperation ratified by Poland**

- European Charter of Territorial Self-government
- European Outline Convention on transfrontier cooperation between territorial communities and authorities (Madrid Convention)
- European Charter of Border and Cross-Border Regions
- European Charter of Regional Self-government

# **Documents and forms of cooperation on the non-central level (1)**

**The main role in this process play the voivodeships institutions who prepare following documents:**

- **Development strategies whose important elements are the topics of international and cross-border cooperation**
- **Priorities of development of the international cooperation**

## **Documents and forms of cooperation on the non-central level (2)**

**Very active institutions engaged in the implementation of the cross border cooperation in case of the Polish borders are euroregions.**

- At this moment there are 17 euroregions along all Polish borders
- They are operating since 1991, first were established on Polish-German border
- Euroregions on the Polish side function in the legal form of voluntary associations

The other institution with limited participation of central level authorities are common intergovernmental committees on cross-border cooperation (except of representatives of the ministries there are also members of regional and local authorities and institutions involved in CBC activities). They are established on the base of bilateral agreements between Poland and its neighbours.

# **The role of institutions in the implementation of cross-border programmes within the framework of INTERREG III Initiative (1)**

- Institution of central level (2003-Ministry of Economy, Labour and Social affairs) played a leading role in the process of programming; in these actions were also engaged representatives of self-government authorities from the voivodeships and members of the euroregions
- In the phase of implementation of the programmes institution of the central level (now Ministry of Regional Development) works as the Managing Authority or National Authority close cooperating with the MA
- As the Paying or Subpaying Authority acts the Polish Ministry of Finance

## **The role of institutions in the implementation of cross-border programmes within the framework of INTERREG III Initiative (2)**

- Voivodeships Offices are involved in the process of contracting as the intermediate bodies
- In the case of microprojects funds significant role play euroregions who are responsible for implementation of the projects after submitting „umbrella” applications
- In the Marshal Voivodeships Offices work regional info points who are responsible for consultancy and information for beneficiaries

# Institutional system of implementation of cross-border programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation 2007-2013

- As the Managing or National Authority will act INTERREG Initiative Department of the Ministry of Regional Development
- The role of Certifying Authority will play the other, separated department in MRD whose responsibilities are concerning certification of expenditures
- Audit Authority – General Inspector of Fiscal Control and members of Group of Auditors
- Regional info points - Marshal Voivodeships Offices
- Euroregions responsible for managing the microprojects funds

## **Participation of non-central authorities in the process of programming and implementation of the programmes**

- They participate with the equal rights in the work of Joint Task Forces as their members (representatives of the Marshal Voivodeships Offices)
- They will be taking part in the work of Monitoring and Steering Committees of the Programmes

# European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation

- Poland treat this initiative as an interesting tool in the implementation
- At the moment there are discussions and analysis on concrete measures and provisions on EGTC adoption to the national law
- In the future it is possible to use the EGTC instrument in the process of project, but not programmes management

Thank you very much for your attention!

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