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Operational Programme Digital Poland for 2014-2020

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1. Strategy for the programme's contribution to the implementation of Europe 2020 strategy

1.1. Description of the programme's strategy for contribution to the implementation of Europe 2020 strategy

[max. 70,000 characters]

The aim of the programme is to strengthen digital foundations for the national development. According to the Partnership Agreement (PA), those foundations include: common access to a high-speed Internet, effective and user-friendly public e-services and a continuously rising level of digital competences of the society.

• Cohesion with European strategy papers

Key EU guidelines for the development of OP DP are included in the following documents:

- Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2013 of Poland and delivering a Council opinion on the Convergence Programme of Poland, 2012-2016,
- Europe 2020 strategy¹,
- DAE².

In its recommendations, the Council claimed that “despite recent efforts, Poland still lags considerably behind other Member States when it comes to seizing the growth potential of information and communication technologies (ICT)”. In particular, the Council pointed to:

- low fixed broadband coverage,
- relatively low efficiency of public administration,
- relatively low level of the use of e-government,
- a very low proportion of adults participating in lifelong learning.

The implementation of OP DP will contribute to the improvement of the situation in the above areas. The support will focus on the development of broadband networks and the improvement of the quality and efficiency of public services through their digitisation.

The method of implementing public e-services will include the mechanisms preventing “the digitisation of bureaucracy”, enforcing a positive influence of projects on administrative processes.

The support for digital competences planned in OP DP will increase the number of people using ICT tools, i.e. in the area of special importance for the quality of life, participation in social life and also often for competitiveness on the labour market.

The Europe 2020 strategy outlines three dimensions in which the European social market economy should develop:

- smart growth (based on knowledge and innovation),
- sustainable growth (environmentally friendly),
- inclusive growth (ensuring a high level of employment and economic, social and territorial cohesion).

The OP DP complies with the Europe 2020 strategy mainly in the dimension of smart growth. ICT stimulate innovation both in the private and in the public sector. This innovation also translates into resource-saving measures which reduce the use of energy, fuel and paper. Moreover, the Internet increases the range of provided services, reduces their cost and improves their transparency. It makes them more available - both in the sense of the possibility to use a service remotely (“availability” dimension) and in the sense of adapting the method of providing a service to the recipient’s perceptive abilities (“accessibility” dimension). Thus, digitisation creates special opportunities for the improvement of the quality of life of persons with disabilities or at risk of social exclusion.

¹ Communication from the Commission “A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth”, COM (2010) 2020.

² Commission Communication “A Digital Agenda for Europe”, COM(2010) 245.

The OP DP contributes to achieving the objectives of DAE, which is one of the seven “flagship initiatives” provided for in the Europe 2020 strategy. Following the changes from December 2012³, DAE includes 7 priority areas:

1. A European borderless economy — the Digital Single Market,
2. Speeding up public sector innovation,
3. Very fast internet supply and demand,
4. Cloud computing,
5. Trust and security,
6. Entrepreneurship and digital jobs and skills,
7. Beyond R&D&I: An industrial agenda for key enabling technologies.

The above-mentioned areas constitute a reference framework for OP DP. At the same time, they require reinterpretation in the light of specific needs and conditions of Poland and the rules of using structural funds.

For the purposes of OP DP, the following four main diagnostic and programming areas have been adopted:

- access to high-speed Internet (corresponds to area 3 of the DAE review),
- public e-services (corresponds to area 2 and partly to areas 4 and 5 of the DAE review),
- digital competences (consistent with areas 5 and 6 of DAE review, addressing social problems with the use of ICT that stem from the lack of trust, skills and the awareness of benefits).

• **Conclusions from the analysis of needs for broadband networks⁴**

Current state of the development of broadband infrastructure and the level of its use are low compared with most UE countries and also far from the objectives adopted in DAE.

At the end of 2012, key indicators of these objectives had the following values:

- fixed Internet access was provided for 69.1% of households⁵ (compared with the average 95.5% for EU 27, with the target of 100% by 2013);
- the coverage of Internet access with the speed of at least 30 Mbps 44.5% of households (compared with 53.8% for EU 27, with the target of 100% by 2020);
- approximately 1.3 % of households used fixed broadband with the speed of at least 100 Mbps (compared with 3.4% for EU 27, with the target of 50% by 2020)⁶.

Currently, active Internet connections in Poland differ⁷ in terms of transmission speed from the European average and also from the objectives of DAE. Almost 76% of active connections allow for transmission to the user at the speed not exceeding 10Mbps and only 4% guarantees an access \geq 30Mbps. In turn, from the perspective of the availability of infrastructure, 44.5% of households in Poland are within the coverage area of NGA networks. This means that achievement of DAE objectives will require not only the development of networks in new locations, but also the modernisation of the existing infrastructure and stimulation of the demand for services at the highest transmission speed.

Mobile solutions currently offered in Poland do not ensure a constant transmission speed of 30 Mbps or more. A further development of fourth-generation (4G) networks will enable such transmission in specific conditions in the future. However, all types of technical solutions for building of networks, including mobile networks, will require the development of a backbone and distributional fibre-optic network which is necessary for a mass introduction of FTTH and four generation mobile radio networks.

³ Communication from the Commission “The Digital Agenda for Europe - Driving European growth digitally”, COM(2012) 784.

⁴ A full diagnosis for the entire thematic scope of OP DP constitutes Annex 1 to the programme.

⁵ Households in the areas serviced by the providers of fixed broadband access.

⁶ National Broadband Plan. NBP is an implementing document for the Efficient State Strategy; The compatibility of OP DP with NBP ensures also the contribution of OP DP in the implementation of ESS.

⁷ As of the end of 2012.

Poles buy broadband access services less willingly than other EU citizens. In Poland, there are 19 active lines per 100 persons⁸ who have the possibility to obtain broadband access, while the EU average is 29. Assuming that the current trends persist, almost all people up to 50 years of age will be using the Internet in 2020 (it is almost 85% already), while there will still be few users in the older age groups, especially among people over 70. Thus, the promotion of the use of the Internet by the elderly is an important task.

Consumer research conducted by the CSO reveal two main reasons for not having Internet access at home: the lack of need (almost 60% of respondents) and the lack of required skills (approximately 40% respondents).⁹ At the same time, a decreasing percentage of people not having Internet access (compared to previous years) justified it by claiming the costs were too high. This means that, over time and with an increasing competitiveness on the market, price factors are becoming smaller barriers; therefore, future demand-stimulating actions should focus on education and promoting awareness of the benefits of broadband access.

• **Conclusions from the analysis of needs for public e-services and open government**

In 2010, the maturity level of public e-services available in Poland, as examined by the EC, was 90% for e-services provided for entrepreneurs (with the EU average of 94%) and 85% for e-services for citizens (with the EU27 average of 87%).¹⁰ When it comes to usage of e-services, the disparity between enterprises and citizens is even more pronounced. At the turn of 2011 and 2012, e-government services were used by 90% of enterprises (employing 10 or more persons) and only 48% of citizens. 16% of citizens submitted completed forms via the Internet - with the EU average of 29.5% and the DAE objective for 2015 at the level of 25%.

According to the study entitled "E-government in the eyes of Internet users"¹¹, 89% of Internet users find it very important or important to be able to access job offers on the Internet, including databases of employment offices. For 81%, it is important to be able to make an appointment with a doctor via the Internet. Other areas which are of major importance for the Internet users include: online access to health/medical records (77%), access to library catalogues (75%), possibility for parents to contact school (74%), and participation in public consultations (62%).

Based on the results of diagnostic measures, including those carried out for the purposes of NIIP¹², some key subareas on which the intervention should focus may be identified:

1. "horizontal" functions,
2. key areas of public e-services,
3. improvement of access to public sector information and the possibility to reuse it,
4. digitisation of internal administrative processes for improvement of external customer service.

Further actions that need to be undertaken in individual areas are identified below. A more detailed description can be found in a diagnosis constituting Annex I to OP DP.

1. Horizontal functions:

- popularisation and improvement of functionality of the main mechanism for confirming the identification of a citizen in the electronic contact with administration, including via mobile devices (ePUAP trusted profile);
- improvement of data quality and the ability of public registers to a mutual data exchange;
- optimisation of infrastructure expenditure (i.a. through the use of cloud computing technology);
- development of functionality and reliability of the central access point to public e-services (ePUAP platform).

⁸ As of the end of 2012.

⁹ The respondents could indicate more than one reason for not having an Internet access. A CSO survey from 2012.

¹⁰ Digitizing Public Services In Europe: Putting ambition into action, 9th Benchmark Measurement, prepared by Capgemini, IDC, Rand Europe, Sogeti and DTi for the European Commission, December 2010.

¹¹ <https://mac.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/e-administracja-w-oczach-internet%C3%B3w-2012.pdf>

¹² National Integrated Informatisation Programme (NIIP), version from November 2013. NIIP is an implementing document for the Efficient State Strategy specifying how informatisation will contribute to the implementation of the "optimum state" model defined in ESS. Due to the compliance of OP DP with NIIP, OP DP is at the same time in line with ESS.

2. Key areas of e-services:

Labour market:

- centralisation of services for the unemployed, job seekers, employees and entrepreneurs as well as public employment services via e-PUP,
- ensuring a single access point for all job offers from the public sector,
- enabling to apply for work in the public sector in an electronic form; currently all job offers posted in the Public Information Bulletin of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister (which does not cover the whole public sector but only central government administration) require submitting documents in paper form,
- transferring more labour market services (apart from already available registration of unemployed persons and browsing offers) to the Internet.

Social contributions and benefits:

- Internet account of the insured, integrated with other e-government services,
- services of the Social Insurance Institution (ZUS): further electronisation of sick leaves and their transfer from the issuing doctors to ZUS (the service is dependent also on the results of the P1 project from the e-health area - it requires communication between the Communication and Information Systems of health care centres, the P1 platform and ZUS system); building a statistical and analytical platform which can be made available to other systems and institutions,
- creating a consolidated IT system on the central level which supports gminas, poviats and voivodships in the implementation of social security activities (rationalisation of nationwide spending on infrastructure, standardisation of working practices of individuals, mitigating staff problems concerning IT in gminas and improving the effectiveness of reporting mechanisms).

Health care:

- developing e-services, including those made available in projects P1 and P2, connected with the development of the management of the electronic medical record by the patient; ePrescription, eReferrals, eSick leaves (a service integrated with e-service provided by ZUS); eRegistration for an appointment with a doctor (with the use of identification i.a. the trusted profile); introducing an electronic Health Insurance Card; information about the availability of medicines,
- in ROP: resources for adapting the communication and information systems of care providers to exchanging data in the framework of the nationwide information system; project selection criteria verifying the complementarity and non-duplication of functions with national systems,
- adapting health care centres supervised by ministries to exchanging data with the medical information system,
- support for telemedicine: consultations between health care professionals; patient-doctor contacts; development of digital applications supporting health monitoring, disease prevention and healing processes; emergency medicine and Emergency Medical Service.

The above-mentioned services are identified in the implementing document prepared by the Ministry of Health and entitled *Policy Paper on health care for 2014-2020 - National Strategic Framework*. The document presents key actions to address the identified challenges in terms of health care priorities of the state for 2014-2020.

Conducting business activity:

- issuing and sending electronic invoices by the entrepreneurs to all public entities (thanks to the creation of a platform enabling the exchange of e-invoices),
- developing new functionalities of the Point of Single Contact (e.g. English version, mechanisms for the creation of management information for the implementation of administrative procedures, extending the information available on the website),
- electronic communication with tax administration via Tax Web-portal,
- enabling a full electronic access to tax cases records.

Justice and judiciary:

- enabling electronic submission of procedural writs in civil proceedings along with attachments (proofs) and making deliveries,
- implementing electronic case files, available on the Internet for judges, parties to the proceedings and to their representatives (the possibility to become familiar with judicial documents and electronic minutes of the hearing without the need to appear in court in person; saving the costs related to printing, correspondence and transportation),
- audio-video recordings of hearings in civil and delinquency proceedings (full recording of the actual course of the proceedings),
- conducting procedural steps (e.g. hearing of witnesses, experts and parties to the proceedings) remotely via video conferencing systems.

Presentation and provision of spatial and statistical data:

- vectorisation of maps constituting geodesy and cartographic resources,
- continuation of the process of sharing e-services created on the basis of the integrated data of national geodesy and cartographic resources (PZGIK) and geospatial data of central government and local government authorities within the standard of the INSPIRE directive,
- ensuring that each person has access to data and documents collected in poviats public registers of national geodesy and cartographic resources, especially in EGIB land and buildings register (real estate cadastre), topographic objects database (BDOT500) and geodetic register of infrastructural networks (GESUT),
- ensuring the possibility to browse, search, download and edit spatial data from national spatial information infrastructure registers kept by authorities other than geodetic and cartographic service,
- modernisation of the processes related to the production and making available of statistical data.

Science and higher education:

- creating a central tool for accessing public information, scientific resources and interactive electronic services for students, researchers, entrepreneurs, public administration and citizens,
- enabling remote applying for science financing, assuming: the highest transactional degree of the procedure, process-oriented approach, comprehensive electronic service from submission of a request, through the opinion of examiners to the issuance of a decision,
- providing a remote reporting service and central updating of database by higher education entities.

Taxes and customs:

- creating new services for VAT and CIT taxpayers and increasing the level of e-services already available to 5,
- increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of customer service through the creation of electronic integrated border (land, sea, air and rail) customer service system,
- enabling automatic data exchange between the central database of fiscal administration and other units of state administration (the integration of the Central Register of Entities – National Taxpayer Register as a reference register with other state reference registers),
- automation of activities from placing goods under a customs procedure until the completion of this procedure (currently only customs entry is processed electronically and the process of carrying out the economic procedure, including contact with the entrepreneur, is not electronically supported).

Administrative issues, especially civil affairs:

- enabling, to the maximum extent possible, electronic handling of official matters related to passports,
- introducing the service of making an appointment with the office via the Internet in order to handle official matters,
- enabling submission in electronic form of a request for issuing a voting rights certificate,
- providing electronic access to the electoral register and electoral roll.

Public procurement:

- creating an e-service that enables carrying out the whole public procurement process by electronic means,
- electronisation of the process of public procurement in procedures initiated by the publication of a contract notice and a dynamic process of electronic purchase and bidding system,
- automatic, ongoing documentation of actions undertaken during the proceedings,
- automatic generation of tender documents,
- automatic evaluation of tenders and applications for participation in the procedure when it is possible to quantify the selected conditions for participation in the procedure and the criteria for the evaluation of the quality of tenders.

Safety and emergency notification:

- enabling mass alert notifications by means of messages sent to mobile phones or digital terrestrial television,
- possibility to make Police notifications and calls by means of mobile applications,
- personalised emergency notifications (automatically adding specified data allocated to a given customer - so-called golden list, to a notification),
- eCall: automation of notifications regarding road accidents (communication between the system installed in a vehicle with the system of emergency services),
- services supporting foreseeing natural threats and dangerous events and increasing the protection against their effects.

3. Improvement of access to public sector information and the possibility to reuse it

The idea of the “open government” is connected with increasing the transparency and accountability of the activities of the state, sharing the data and resources owned by the state and engaging citizens in the governing process. Key element of the activities for the open government is an improvement of the availability and quality of public sector information (PSI).

According to EC, the value of the whole PSI market in the EU reached EUR 28 billion in 2008.¹³ Economic gains resulting from further opening up public sector information by allowing easy access to that data are around EUR 40 billion a year for the EU27. Total direct and indirect economic gains resulting from the use of public sector information across the whole EU27 economy were estimated at approximately EUR 140 billion annually.

At the moment, there are no such estimations for Poland, however, numerous significant weaknesses in terms of PSI supply are widely recognised. The amount and quality of “open data”, as well as of the ways of making them available, are relatively low. As a result, the potential of PSI remains unused. Thus, there is the need to undertake the following actions:

- developing standards regarding electronic, request-free sharing of PSI with the use of modern tools, such as application program interfaces (API) and online repositories,
- developing a coherent system of metadata for PSI,
- describing particular PSI collections with the use of metadata,
- transforming the relevant PSI into a machine-readable form,
- providing an Internet portal functioning as a catalogue, an access point and a search engine for PSI owned by individual public institutions (Central Repository of Public Information - CRPI),
- enabling the possibility of an interactive link between CRPI and thematic systems or posting public sector information directly in CRPI.

4. Digitisation of internal administrative processes to improve external customer service:

¹³ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Open data - An engine for innovation, growth and transparent governance, COM (2011) 882.

In 44% of local government administration, only paper documents are used, while in 55% paper and electronic documents.¹⁴ In central government administration, the respective proportions are 24% and 69%, while 7% of these institutions use only electronic circulation of documents. An increasing number of offices use electronic document management system - in 2012, they accounted for 46% of all offices (41% a year before).

The percentage of offices with an electronic mailbox is increasing. In 2012, it was 96% (88% a year before), out of which 87% had it on ePUAP platform. However, only 1% of all correspondence to government administration offices was received electronically and 2% of correspondence from these offices was sent electronically. The corresponding percentages for local government administration amounted to 8% and 6%.

Among others, MAD studies also indicate an unsatisfactory level of computer skills of public administration officials, lack of highly qualified e-government specialists, low awareness of decision makers (less than 9% of offices have a strategic document in the form of an ICT development plan or programme), insignificant tendency to use innovative solutions, too restricted budgets for digitisation of tasks and services, insufficient number of persons designated for IT service compared with the demand (especially in government administration).

Over a quarter of offices evaluate the level of IT skills of office employees as insufficient. 71% of offices did not train their staff in this regard in the first six months of 2012. Among others, the areas in which office employees need to increase their knowledge are: managing electronic documents in accordance with the requirements imposed by the Code of Administration Procedure and new office document flow instructions¹⁵ (73% of offices), application and using of a safe electronic signature, ePUAP platform and Trusted Profile (60% of offices), dedicated applications (49% of offices), IT security rules (49% of offices).

On the other hand, the main identified areas of the training needs of IT services are i.a.: database management, server management, data backup, integration with ePUAP, system safety, development and integration of IT systems, good foreign and national IT practices.

• **Conclusions from the analysis of needs for digital competences and digital inclusion**

ICT are of major importance for the development of the economy and lead to dynamic changes in social life. They offer a potential for the development of the citizens creative and intellectual capital through a wide access to public life and digital culture, create new professions and jobs, but they also bear the risk of deepening the social divide connected with digital exclusion.

With the growing range of applications of modern technologies supporting traditional (analogue) means of communication and access to knowledge, information and culture, the effects of not using them might be increasingly more severe. However, the benefits of using ICT are vast – both in the scale of the whole society and economy and from the perspective of individual user. They are connected with convenience, saving time and money, creating conditions for personal and professional development, most of the time increasing chances on the labour market, which in turn influences the improvement of the quality of life.

On the one hand, using the potential of digital technologies requires the creation of an appropriate supply offer (i.e. access to broadband infrastructure, an attractive offer of e-services and e-content); on the other hand, it requires the creation of demand for them through the dissemination of knowledge about the benefits and practical applications of new technologies and also about building the competences of users.

¹⁴ Description according to: Efficient State Strategy, February 2013, pp. 15-16, based on the study "The impact of digitisation on the operation of public administration offices in Poland in 2012", carried out by PBS Sp. z o. o. commissioned by MAD in September 2012 with the participation of over 1,500 offices of all administrative levels in Poland.

¹⁵ Regulation of the Prime Minister of 18 January 2011 on office instructions, uniform material lists of files and instructions regarding the organisation and scope of activities of company archives

In 2013, 32%¹⁶ of people in Poland admitted to never having used the Internet (in the EU 28–20%), and only 60% of users used the Internet regularly (UE 28–72%)¹⁷. There are also enormous differences between users concerning the ways of using the Internet and the level of advancement of digital competences.

Over 30% of people using the computer have no basic computer skills and used the computer only to access the Internet.¹⁸ Most persons with elementary or secondary education, living in towns with the population under 100,000, and whose income is up to the third quartile, use the Internet for entertainment and communication purposes. Comprehensive Internet usage is mainly the domain of young people who are well educated and live in big cities.¹⁹

The level of digital skills in Poland is similar to the EU average, however, compared with Sweden (a very advanced country in promoting the use of computers - 95% of population using computers) and Lithuania (a country where the percentage of people using computers is very similar to Poland - 68% compared with 63%),²⁰ Poland has a significant deficit of average and high skills. At the same time - there were approximately 15,000 graduates of IT studies in Poland in 2012²¹. In Top Coder rating (as of June 2014), Poland comes third, after Russia and China, in the category of algorithms.²² This points to a great potential of young IT specialists which could significantly influence the acceleration of economic development if properly used in practice.

On the other hand, we are dealing also with digital exclusion. This phenomenon affects mainly the elderly people, pensioners, the disabled, farmers and inhabitants of rural areas as well as poorly educated people. While one third of the world population does not use the Internet, this concerns 39% of inhabitants of rural areas and 27.3% of inhabitants of cities.²³ However, the main dimension of digital exclusion in Poland is age. Among 13.7 million of people aged 50 and over, as much as 67%, i.e. over 9 million, do not use the Internet. Also the disabled persons in Poland are particularly exposed to digital exclusion - only 38% of them use the Internet.

Dissemination of the use of ICT and the Internet and support for e-inclusion cannot be limited to providing access to the Internet and computer equipment as well as a basic set of trainings concerning its operation. Research shows that financial barriers currently are less important than mental (i.e. lack of motivation and need to use modern technologies) and competence barriers. The reason for not using the Internet, which is mentioned most often, is the lack of such need, which was indicated by 57% of households in Poland with no access to the Internet, and it is alarming that this percentage has increased compared with the previous years.²⁴ Another important reason for the lack of access to the Internet is the lack of skills to use it, which concerns every fourth household without the access to the Internet.

At the same time, with the significant differences concerning the use of new technologies and existing gaps in skills between the generations and different social groups, the key issue is to provide appropriate information about the benefits of using the Internet and well selected forms of counselling and training assistance depending on the needs of a given social group (personalisation of training programmes).

¹⁶ <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&pcode=tin00011&plugin=1>

¹⁷ <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&pcode=tin00091&plugin=1>

¹⁸ Social Diagnosis, reports: Czapiński J., Panek T. (ed.), (2013). Social diagnosis 2013. www.diagnoza.com, 11/07/2013

¹⁹ Social diagnosis distinguishes four types of Internet usage - communication, entertainment, professional and economic use and comprehensive use. Comprehensive use is still below average among the people whose education is up to secondary, living in towns with the population up to 100,000 and whose income reaches up to third quartile. Social Diagnosis, reports: Czapiński J., Panek T. (ed.), (2013). Social diagnosis 2013. www.diagnoza.com 11/07/2013

²⁰ <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&pcode=tin00028&plugin=1>

²¹ Higher Education Institutions and their Finances in 2012, CSO, 2013.

²² In the top 20 of the Top Coder rating in the algorithm category, there are three Polish universities: http://community.topcoder.com/stat?c=country_avg_rating.

²³ http://stat.gov.pl/download/gfx/portalinformacyjny/pl/defaultaktualnosci/5497/3/10/4/nts_wyniki_badan_wykorzystania_ict_2013_calosc.zip

²⁴ Social Diagnosis, reports: Czapiński J., Panek T. (ed.), (2013). Social diagnosis 2013. www.diagnoza.com 11/07/2013

1.2. Justification for the choice of the thematic objective and investment priorities

Thematic objective (TO) and investment priorities (IP) of OP DP were indicated in line with the PA. Using the potential of digital technologies is one of the priorities of Poland for the next few years. Measures concerning this issue are provided for in the Long-term National Development Strategy 2030, National Development Strategy 2020 and most of the nine integrated development strategies.²⁵ In these documents, digital growth is considered to be the key to the improvement of competitiveness and innovation of the Polish economy. It is also indicated that there is a need to move from absorbing to creating innovation, from constant catching up with digital developments to creating solutions that are above average on the global scale in terms of practical application, international competitiveness and technological advancement.

A summary of all digital development activities from the package of strategic documents can be found in the *Policy Paper on digital development of Poland by 2020*.²⁶ According to the *Policy Paper*, in the next few years Poland will carry out comprehensive activities on three pillars:

- common access to broadband Internet,
- content and services available online,
- digital competences of the society.

The first two pillars indicate the directions of the improvement of the amount and quality of infrastructure, services and content. The third pillar is to help create the demand due to an increasing digital competences of the society and to remove mental barriers in using the opportunities digital technologies offer.

An important addition to the national development management system is the National Reform Programme (NRP) which determines how the actions set out in Polish strategy papers are to be implemented so that they are in line with the priorities under common actions in the whole EU.²⁷ An annual update of NRP is a part of the process of the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy, however, it results in the fact that NRP cannot constitute a reliable point of reference for OP DP. Where possible, institutions implementing the programme will consider the measures which are planned in NRP that are to be implemented in a given year.

In order to address the identified challenges, OP DP will implement the following investment priorities assigned to TO2: 2.a. *extending broadband deployment and the roll-out of high-speed networks and supporting the adoption of emerging technologies and networks for the digital economy* and 2.c. *strengthening ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-social inclusion, e-culture and e-health*.

A support for some ICT applications should be left beyond OP DP, so that it is in line with the sectoral logics using ICT for reaching specific objectives defined in applicable policies, such as research and development policy, education policy, labour market policy, business development policy, transport policy and energy policy. However, there are special links between OP DP and TO11 concerning the efficiency of the state, which is implemented under OP KED. The rules for coordination of support between particular programmes are described in Chapter 8.

[max 1,000 characters per IP]

Table 1 Justification for the selection of thematic objectives and investment priorities

Selected thematic objective	Selected investment priority	Justification for the selection [max. 1,000 characters]
2. Enhancing access to, use and quality of	2.a. Extending broadband deployment and the roll-out of high-speed networks and	1) The need to strengthen the measures leading to the achievement of DAE performance indicators concerning the supply of high-speed Internet,

²⁵ Strategy for innovation and effectiveness of the economy; Human Capital Development Strategy; Transport Development Strategy; Energy Security and the Environment; Efficient State Strategy; Social Capital Development Strategy; National Strategy of Regional Development 2010–2020. Regions, cities, rural areas; Strategy for National Security; Strategy for sustainable development of rural areas and agriculture.

²⁶ Document adopted by the Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation on 21 May 2014.

²⁷ An update of NRP for 2013-2014 was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 30 April 2013. This document describes how Poland will implement the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy in the years 2013-2014. NRP is updated once a year, according to the schedule of the European Semester which has been the main mechanism for the coordination of economic policies in the UE since 2011.

information and communication technologies	supporting the adoption of emerging technologies and networks for the digital economy	2) The need to shorten the payback period for commercial investments in the access network in the areas of lower population density.
	2.c. Strengthening ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion, e-culture and e-health	1) Acceleration of achieving DAE indicators for e-government and Internet usage. 2) The need to undertake the measures indicated in the diagnosis which increase the efficiency of the public sector. 3) Stimulation of e-economy and NGO services due to the increase in the availability of PSI and the possibility to create integrated added services on the basis of e-government services. 4) The need to strengthen the demand for e-services. 5) Increasing social coherence through digital inclusion and development of digital competences. 6) The need to strengthen the potential of people with advanced digital competences and increasing social awareness in terms of the possibilities to solve significant social or economic problems with the use of ICT.

1.3. Justification for the financial allocation

[max. 7,000 characters]

The basis for the establishment of the allocation of resources to particular OP DP priority axes, including the main intervention areas of the programme which are in line with the needs analysis presented in Chapter 1.1, are strategic documents contributing to the fulfilment of ex-ante conditionalities for TO2, which are the NBP and NIIP. It needs to be underlined that the resources available under OP DP are not sufficient to fully cover the expenditure estimated in the documents mentioned above. However, the presented breakdown of the allocation might contribute to the maximisation of extent to which their objectives have been achieved.

Pursuant to the NBP, investments with the total cost of at least PLN 17.3 billion (i.e. over EUR 4.1 billion) are required to create broadband Internet infrastructure which will be supported under the OP DP axis I, which will enable Poland to meet the objectives of DAE. The division of sources of financing presented in the NBP points to the need to secure approximately EUR 1.03 billion under OP DP for this purpose. The remaining amount will come mostly from the resources of the commercial sector and from operational programmes of the 2007-2013 financial perspective, for completion of the investments which are underway, as well as from the state budget and budgets of local government units.

In the case of NIIP, the basis for estimation of the costs of achieving its objectives were indicative costs of the proposed projects concerning the creation or development of public e-services whose value has been established at PLN 5 billion (i.e. over EUR 1.2 billion). However, it is worth noting that these costs do not include all e-services recommended by NIIP, and do not concern the implementation of cross-sector projects concerning i.a. Communication and Information System security, organisation of public registers or optimisation of investments in the public infrastructure connected with technologies of processing and storing data. Expenditure for the remaining areas under OP DP, concerning the improvement of the internal processes of public administration and the digitisation and sharing of public sector information should not exceed PLN 900 million.

In order to ensure an appropriate demand which makes investments in access infrastructure and public e-services profitable, it is necessary to support digital competences among the citizens as well. The allocation for axis III, planned under OP DP, will allow to support a number of comprehensive measures from the area of e-inclusion, and innovative solutions for using ICT, addressed to recipients with various levels of advancement in this regard, and due to this it will contribute to the increase of

the level of exploiting the effects of investments carried out under axis I and II and the fulfilment of the aims of DAE.

Table2 Overview of the investment strategy of OP DP

Axi s	Fund	EU support (in EUR)	Share of total EU support in total budget of the programm e	Thematic objective	Investment priorities	Specific objectives of investment priorities	Common and programme- specific output indicators for which a target value has been defined
I	ERDF	1,020,222,652	46.96%,	2. Enhancing access to, use and quality of information and communication technologies	2.a. Extending broadband deployment and the roll-out of high-speed networks and supporting the adoption of emerging technologies and networks for the digital economy	1: Eliminating territorial differences in terms of access to high- speed and ultra-fast broadband Internet	Households covered by Internet access with the capacity of at least 30 Mbps (DAE)
II	ERDF	949,604,018	43.71%,	2. Enhancing access to, use and quality of information and communication technologies	2.c. Strengthening ICT applications for e-government, e- learning, e-inclusion, e-culture and e- health	2: High availability and quality of public e-services	The percentage of people using the Internet to contact public administration (DAE) The percentage of enterprises using the Internet to contact public administration in order to send completed forms in electronic form
						3: Digitisation of back-office processes on in government administration	Share of electronic documents in correspondence from administrative authorities The percentage of state administration offices using the electronic documentation management system as the basis for documenting the course of handling and resolving cases

						4: Digital availability and usefulness of public sector information	<p>The percentage of Internet users positively evaluating the easiness of finding public sector information.</p> <p>The percentage of Internet users positively evaluating the usefulness of public sector information.</p>
III	ERDF	145,000,000	6.67%	2. Enhancing access to, use and quality of information and communication technologies	2.c. Strengthening ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion, e-culture and e-health	5: Increasing the degree and the improvement of Internet skills, including public e-services	<p>Percentage of individuals who are regular Internet users</p> <p>Percentage of individuals who have never used the Internet</p> <p>The percentage of individuals aged 16-74 years with average or high Internet skills</p>
IV	ERDF	57,668,000	2.65%	Not applicable	Not applicable	6. Efficient management and implementation of the Programme	
						7. Coherent and efficient information and promotion system	
						8. Enhanced competences of beneficiaries in the process of project preparation and implementation	

2. Priority axes

2.1. Priority axis I. Common access to high-speed Internet

- **Justification for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region**

[max. 3,500 characters]

The axis will support activities conducted mainly on the basis of the data collected under the infrastructure and telecommunications services inventory conducted by the President of the Office of Electronic Communications and the analyses of access to broadband services developed on its basis. Support and its amount will depend on the investment needs in a given area identified this way, resulting from the circumstances of particular areas, including especially a multifaceted (e.g. presence of infrastructure, availability of services, population density, type of building development, landscape) assessment of the economic viability of investments. A construction of the axis which takes into account only one category of regions would not be justified for technical and implementation reasons. In a more developed region (i.e. in Mazowieckie) the investments that will be carried out will be of the same type as in other regions and they will be geared towards the same objectives.

Any support from OP DP resources under priority axis I will be granted with regard to applicable material and procedural rules concerning State aid that are in force on the day of granting that support.

- **Fund, category of region and basis for calculation of Union support**

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	Less developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	More developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

- **Investment priority**

Investment priority	<i>IP 2.a Extending broadband deployment and the roll-out of high-speed networks and supporting the adoption of emerging technologies and networks for the digital economy</i>
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- **Specific objective 1: Eliminating territorial differences in terms of access to high-speed broadband Internet**

[max. 500 characters – name + max. 3,500 characters – description of expected results]

Specific objective 1 will support activities enabling the widest possible access to broadband networks with the highest technical parameters in the areas where market failures or significant inequalities in terms of access to the Internet have been found. The created infrastructure should enable reaching the parameters of at least 30 Mbps, allowing for a step change.²⁸ At the same time, solutions enabling further improvement of the parameters with a relatively low level of additional expenditure will be

²⁸ "Step change" within the meaning of the Communication from the Commission - EU Guidelines for the application of State aid rules in relation to the rapid deployment of broadband network (2013/C 25/01).

promoted. In order to implement DAE, a requirement for the infrastructure to enable achieving the parameters of minimum 100 Mbps might be introduced. According to NBP: the intervention of OP DP, investments under 2007-2013 perspective and private investments should enable achieving DAE indicators both for the 30 Mbps network and for the 100 Mbps network.

The study²⁹ shows that in the areas which are at a particular risk of a permanent digital exclusion with no adequate access to basic broadband networks and where building a network with a speed of minimum 30 Mbps is especially economically inefficient, it might be justified to support projects of deployment broadband networks with parameters lower than 30 Mbps, ensuring a step change and favouring the solutions which enable a further improvement of parameters with a relatively low level of additional expenditure.

The scope of the intervention mentioned above will contribute to achieving a full national broadband Internet coverage.

It is assumed that the result of the intervention should be i.a. connecting educational establishments (e.g. public schools) and other similar establishments to fast and ultra-fast Internet.

Table 3 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 1

No	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Category of region	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1	Total NGA broadband coverage (DAE)	%	Poland in total	44.50	2012	100	Digital Agenda Scoreboard	1 year

• **Actions to be supported under IP 2.a of axis I**

[max. 17,500 characters per IP]

Specific objective 1: Eliminating territorial differences in terms of access to high-speed broadband Internet

Public funds will be used to complement and stimulate private investments. The support will be granted to projects related to building/extending or restructuring access networks and their necessary sections to distribution or backbone network nodes and also with backbone and distribution networks. The developed access networks will ensure at least NGA parameters (min. 30 Mbps). Backbone and distribution networks can be built/extended and restructured to the extent necessary to develop access networks, and their backbone and distribution nodes might be developed only in the locations which were not in the plans for the 2007-2013 period.

Moreover, if investments in the 2007-2013 perspective and the investments of private operators are insufficient to reach the DAE goal of 50 % of households accessing the Internet at the speed of minimum 100 Mbps, then within the limits of the available resources, the intervention might focus more on supporting the development of ultra-fast broadband (min. 100 Mbps).

Only in duly justified cases, as indicated above, it will be possible to support projects based on providing access to services with parameters lower than 30 Mbps.³⁰ Introduction of such a highly

²⁹ According to the study *Estymacja dotycząca budowy infrastruktury telekomunikacyjnej zapewniającej szerokopasmowy dostęp do Internetu, spełniającej wymagania Europejskiej Agendy Cyfrowej w Polsce do roku 2020 na podstawie aktualnego stanu rozwoju infrastruktury telekomunikacyjnej. Obszary, koszty, technologie i najbardziej efektywne sposoby interwencji publicznej* [Estimation concerning the development of telecommunications infrastructure providing broadband Internet access, satisfying the requirements of the Digital Agenda for Europe in Poland by 2020 on the basis of the current development state of telecommunications infrastructure. Areas, costs, technologies and the most effective public intervention methods], InfoStrategia - Andrzej Szczerba i Wspólnicy Spółka Jawna, 2013, this percentage will amount to 6-8% of households.

³⁰ Minimum parameters concerning the access to broadband Internet will be defined at the implementation stage.

focused intervention will cover a small percentage of households and will be considered in situations where a different intervention method would be ineffective or inefficient.³¹

The support might be granted also for building/extending or restructuring of passive broadband infrastructure and for civil engineering works connected with broadband infrastructure.

Support under specific objective 1 will be granted taking into account the principle of technology neutrality.

Projects of the financial perspective 2007-2013 will not be co-financed in the framework of OP DP intervention.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: This kind of support will contribute to reducing territorial differences in terms of access to broadband Internet through further development and complementing of the existing access networks and backbone and distribution networks.

Groups of beneficiaries: telecommunications operators, local government units or their unions and associations (in duly justified cases, i.e. when telecommunications operators are not interested in the implementation of an investment in the given area).

The possibility of implementing projects in public-private partnerships is planned.

Territorial focus: contest projects will be implemented in the areas where market failures or important inequalities in terms of access to the NGA network have been found, in rural areas and with consideration of relevant legislation regarding State aid.

- **Guiding principles for selection of projects**

[max. 5,000 characters]

All projects, under OP DP, will be selected for co-financing on the basis of selection criteria approved by the OP DP Monitoring Committee. Development of the proposed criteria will be preceded by consultation with social and economic partners, including with a number of experts with expertise in a given field and an analysis of experience in that field from the previous financial perspective.

Projects will be selected under the contest procedure. Detailed rules for selection of projects will be determined most of all on the basis of data and information obtained from Office of Electronic Communications in the framework of an annual infrastructure and telecommunications services inventory which will allow to determine the areas of the country which require public intervention with the support of EU funds.

Selection criteria and contest procedure will be conducted in a way which ensures i.a. minimising State aid whilst keeping an adequate quality of the network (maximisation of private capital's commitment); not crowding out private investments; using technical solutions which enable improving network parameters in the future and taking into account the impact on the environment.

- **Planned use of financial instruments**

[max. 7,000 characters]

Using financial instruments under priority axis I is not planned. If a need arises during the implementation of the programme to use financial instruments, an ex-ante evaluation will be conducted in line with the requirements described under 37(2) of the Framework Regulation.

- **Planned use of major projects**

[max. 3,500 characters]

³¹Allocation for this intervention field will not exceed 10% of the allocation for OP DP priority axis I and will not exceed the amount of EUR 100 million.

Implementation of major projects is not planned under axis I.

- **Output indicators**

Table 4 Common and programme-specific output indicators for IP2 in axis I

No	Output indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1	Additional households with broadband access of at least 30 Mbps	Households	ERDF	Less developed regions	679,682	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
2	Additional households with broadband access of at least 30 Mbps	Households	ERDF	More developed region	46,835	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year

- **Performance framework of priority axis I**

Table 5. Performance framework of the priority axis

Indicator type (key implementation step, financial, output or result indicator)	No	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Milestone (2018)	Final target (2023)	Source of data	Explanation of relevance of the indicator
Output indicator	1	Additional households with broadband access of at least 30 Mbps	Households	ERDF	Less developed regions	0	679,682	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Key implementation step	2	Additional households with broadband access of at least 30 Mbps based on the target value from the signed co-financing contracts	Households	ERDF	Less developed regions	475,777	-	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Financial indicator	3	Total amount of certified eligible	EUR	ERDF	Less developed regions	183,389,995	1,119,793,809	IT system for programme	The indicator shows the actual pace

		expenditure						me monitoring	of incurring and verifying eligible expenditure of projects.
Output indicator	4	Additional households with broadband access of at least 30 Mbps	House holds	ERDF	More developed region	0	46,835	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Key implementation step	5	Additional households with broadband access of at least 30 Mbps based on the target value from the signed co-financing contracts	House holds	ERDF	More developed region	32,785	-	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Financial indicator	6	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	ERDF	better developed region	14,002,012	85,497,394	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator shows the actual pace of incurring and verifying eligible expenditure of projects.

- **Categories of intervention under priority axis I**

Table 6 Intervention categories for axis I

<i>ERDF, less developed regions</i>							
Dimension 1 Intervention field		Dimension 2 Form of finance		Dimension 3 Territory type		Dimension 4 Territorial delivery mechanisms	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
046	951,824,737	01	951,824,737	07	951,824,737	07	951,824,737

<i>ERDF, more developed regions</i>							
Dimension 1 Intervention field		Dimension 2 Form of finance		Dimension 3 Territory type		Dimension 4 Territorial delivery mechanisms	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
046	68,397,915	01	68,397,915	07	68,397,915	07	68,397,915

- **Summary of the planned use of technical assistance including, where necessary, actions to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities involved in the management and control of the programmes and beneficiaries**
[max. 2,000 characters]

The use of technical assistance at the priority axis level is not planned.

2.2. Priority axis II. E-government and open government

- **Justification for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region**

[max. 3,500 characters]

Under the axis, the support will be provided to projects with a nationwide impact. Public sector information and services made available by electronic means will be used by the inhabitants of all regions of Poland. A construction of the axis which takes into account only one category of regions would not be possible because due to the nature of the projects it is not possible to exclude any voivodeship from benefitting from their effects.

Cross-financing is planned in all specific objectives of priority axis II, mostly for training on the operation and use of the established Communication and Information Systems.

Any support from OP DP resources under priority axis II will be granted with regard to applicable substantive and procedural rules concerning State aid that are in force on the day of granting that support.

- **Fund, category of region and calculation basis for Union support**

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	Less developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	More developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

- **Investment priority**

Investment priority	IP 2.c <i>Strengthening ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion, e-culture and e-health</i>
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- **Specific objective 2: High availability and quality of public e-services**

[max. 500 characters – name + max. 3,500 characters – description of expected results]

The aim of the support will be to extend the scope of matters which citizens and entrepreneurs can handle by electronic means. This will be done directly through:

- electronisation of new services,
- improvement of the functionality and e-maturity³² of existing services.

Actions which do not directly implement new A2C or A2B services but create conditions for them, i.a. due to modernisation and ensuring interoperability of public registers and ensuring safety of communication and information systems, will be particularly important as well. The optimisation of infrastructure expenditure due to the use of cloud computing technology will be supported. An added effect in the form of professional preparation of recorded data for re-use will be promoted.

Priority support will be given to projects which correspond to the key areas described in part 1.1. of the programme.

³²“E-maturity” means the scope in which a given matter can be handled via the Internet. It is measured according to a five-grade rating system developed by Capgemini company commissioned by EC.

According to DAE and NIIP, a synthetic indicator will be the demand for public e-services by citizens and entrepreneurs. Such an attitude is in line with EC expectations that “the number of specific objectives per investment priority should be limited as far as possible”.³³ Establishing separate specific objectives for registers, infrastructure, safety and each of the priority areas of e-services would risk excessive fragmentation of a programme. Each of such objectives would be implemented by just several projects or only one project.

Individual projects should relate to specific and measurable objectives which are to be achieved through these projects. Through the procedures of calls for proposals, reporting and evaluation, MA will influence the proper formulation and monitoring of these objectives.

Table 7 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 2

No	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Category of region	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1.	Individuals interacting online with public authorities, last 12 months	%	Poland in total	22.6	2013	45.6	Digital Agenda Scoreboard	1 year
2.	Enterprises returning filled in forms to public authorities, over the internet	%	Poland in total	86.2	2013	91.5	Eurostat	1 year

• Specific objective 3: Digitisation of back-office processes in government administration

[max. 500 characters – name + max. 3,500 characters – description of expected results]

Support will be directed at improving the quality of work in offices through digitisation of processes and procedures for the generally understood improvement of back-office functioning. The above will consist in creation, development and implementation by the offices of organisational IT standards and good practice in key scopes from that point of view, such as: IT security policies and processing and protecting personal data, good practice concerning IT systems procurement and system elements: modern, open electronic documentation management systems, tested ERP systems, service and data interfaces between systems within a single institution and between institutions, common e-service platforms. Thematic training profiled according to the competences necessary for the efficiency of instruments supporting informatisation of government offices, increasing the competences of IT staff and other officials will be conducted in the framework of the projects. Due to such a comprehensive approach achieving the specific objective will contribute to a sustainable improvement of the relation of the effects of digitisation to the expenditure for it.

Electronic document management is a horizontal issue which increased the transparency of the functioning of administration and ensures an open contact with citizens and entrepreneurs. In NIIP, two indicators have been proposed in that respect: the share of electronic documents in the correspondence from the government office with the use of an electronic mailbox and the percentage of offices using electronic document management as the basis for documenting cases. The efficiency of administration customer service is often perceived in connection with the pace of document circulation, including the speed of transferring and generating information both between offices and within one office. Thus, two connected measureable effects of this process need to be indicated, which will translate into increasing the quality of support for citizens and entrepreneurs.

Table 8 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 3

No	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Category of region	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
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³³ Draft template and guidelines for the content of the operational programme, version 3, 21.05.2013, p. 9.

1.	Electronic documents sent using the electronic mailbox in correspondence from state administration offices ³⁴	%	Poland in total	15	2013	65	MAD	1 year
2.	State administration offices using the electronic documentation management system as basic method of documenting the course of handling and resolving cases	%	Poland in total	29	2013	62	MAD	1 year

- **Specific objective 4: Digital availability and usefulness of public sector information**

[max. 500 characters – name + max. 3,500 characters – description of expected results]

The EC defined public sector information resources as “a gold mine” and stated that much of that data are not re-used by entities outside administration and serve only a limited purpose. It also recommended that Member States should maximise the value of the re-use of that data through their improved digital supply consisting in i.a. making raw data available in machine-readable formats or setting-up portals such as data.gov.³⁵ This specific objective contributes to the implementation of that recommendation. Measures reflecting the availability and usefulness of the information made available in digital form are proposed to be used as result indicators. An increase in these measures will be a premise to conclude that the barriers have been limited for the re-use on the side of supply which is too low or of too low quality.

Table 9 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 4

Result indicator	Measurement unit	Category of region	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
Internet users positively evaluating the easiness of finding public sector information.	%	Poland in total	63	2013	80	MAD	1 year
Internet users positively evaluating the usefulness of public sector		Poland in total		2013	80	MAD	1 year

³⁴ Public administration means government administration and central offices which are not under direct government supervision, e.g. Chancellery of the Sejm, Senate and President, Supreme Audit Office or National Broadcasting Council.

³⁵ EC, The European eGovernment Action Plan 2011-2015, COM(2010) 743. Cf. also: EC, Open data - An engine for innovation, growth and transparent governance, COM(2011) 882.

information.	%		74				
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• **Actions to be supported under IP 2.c of axis II**
[max. 17,500 characters per IP]

Specific objective 2: High availability and quality of public e-services

The intervention will include support for public entities in creating and developing modern e-services with a particular focus on services with a high level of e-maturity, security and integration, i.a. on the common platform of public administration e-services.

Avoiding the “digitisation of bureaucracy” will be crucial in informatisation of public services. This means that the IT layer of projects should be the element of a qualitative organisational change.

Priority will continue to be given to supra-ministerial projects in the following areas:

- organisation of public registers and ensuring their interoperability,
- optimisation of infrastructure use due to the use of cloud computing technologies,
- ensuring security of communication and information systems.

Due to the objectives and scope (providing certain functionalities on the government administration scale) as well as a close connection with thematic services and despite performing internal administrative functions (A2A), such projects should be carried out under specific objective 2 and not 3 (where projects will relate to improving the work of individual offices). The objective of implementing supra-ministerial projects is to ensure adequate conditions for cooperation, effective exchange of data (according to interoperability requirements and other standards) and to make the information available while ensuring adequate levels of safety. The implementation of such projects is intended to enable the best possible provision of e-services by public entities constituting a part of government administration.

Priority will be given to projects which correspond to the key areas described above in part 1.1. of the programme, i.e.:

- labour market,
- social contributions and benefits,
- health care,
- conducting a business activity,
- justice and judiciary,
- presentation and making available of spatial and statistical data,
- science and higher education,
- taxes and customs,
- administrative issues, especially civil affairs,
- public procurement,
- safety and emergency notification.

In the case of the thematic projects mentioned above, special preference will be given to projects which implement the Council Recommendations on National Reform Programme 2014 of Poland (CSR), i.e.:

- the improvement of business environment conditions through:
 - reduction of the costs of starting a new business and running it (including a single contact point, taxes and customs, applying for public procurement, e-invoicing),
 - reduction of time and cost of contract enforcement,
 - reduction of time and cost of obtaining construction permits,
- improvement of the efficiency of tax and customs administration,

- reduction of unemployment and increasing labour market participation,
- improvement of the cost-effectiveness of expenditure and general efficiency of the healthcare sector.

Ministerial projects, the main purpose of which is to provide the infrastructure, might be implemented provided that the infrastructure is necessary for the creation, implementation or functioning of public e-services. These projects should use the solutions and services which use the virtualisation of hardware and application environments, enabling their ultimate integration under a private public administration cloud computing.

Investment in infrastructure must be justified by the objectives of the project and an analysis indicating the unavailability of sufficient resources in the public finance sector. In order to ensure a satisfying effect-expenditure relationship, the amount of the support for the proposed projects will be linked with their results.

Services and content created as a result of project implementation must be characterised by a high availability in line with at least WCAG 2.0 standards, continuity, universality and quality of service expected by the users which will be monitored after the implementation.

Using public e-services should be possible regardless of the location of the user and type of technology used by the recipient (equipment, software). Additionally, professional preparation of public sector information for its re-use (e.g. through making interface available for programmers, so-called API) will be awarded. Electronic documentation generated as a result of the provision of e-services must be recordable in a way which enables its storing and sharing in the long term, regardless of the Communication and Information System in which it was generated, especially in respect of the part of documentation which constitutes archives.

On-the-job training improving the competences of officials delivering e-services, including IT security, will be conducted under the projects.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: the introduced solutions will improve the three key parameters for the provision of public services, i.e. availability (both in the dimension of availability and accessibility), quality and effectiveness. An expected effect for the citizens and entrepreneurs will be greater convenience and shortening the time needed for handling particular types of cases and decreasing the related administrative burden.

Groups of beneficiaries: government administration units, their subordinate units and the units they supervise (excluding the units indicated below as potential partners), courts and public prosecutor's office units, partnerships of the units mentioned above with enterprises, non-government organisations, research units or health care centres for which the creating entity is a minister or a medical higher education institution.

Specific objective 3: Digitisation of back-office processes in government administration

The aim of the support is to improve the functioning of government administration through the creation, development and dissemination of standards and good practice in key scopes from that point of view, such as e.g.: IT security policies and processing and protecting personal data, good practice concerning IT systems procurement and system elements: modern, open electronic documentation management systems, tested ERP systems, service and data interfaces between systems within a single institution and between institutions, common e-service platforms, increasing the qualifications of IT staff and officials.

Support under specific objective 3 concerns the back-office area (systems which horizontally improve functioning of particular offices) and under specific objective 2 - the front-office area (understood as thematic e-services A2B/A2C with the supporting infrastructure and closely related A2A services). The activities under SO3 will therefore contribute to increasing the effectiveness of

projects carried out under specific objective 2.

Additionally, training will be organised in the framework of the two objectives mentioned above. Specific objective 2 focuses on training workers delivering specific public e-services, while under specific objective 3 a broader thematic horizon is established. Support is to be provided for thematic training profiled according to the competences necessary for the efficiency of instruments supporting informatisation of government offices.

Actions under specific objective 3 will reinforce organisational structures, facilitate transfer of experiences and proven solutions, facilitate contacts between officials and citizens. They will promote interoperability, sharing resources and unifying solutions used in ICT on the basis of the best identified practices.

A condition for obtaining support is the inclusion of the planned measures in the catalogue of digital office recommendations developed by the minister responsible for informatisation.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: Implementation of the IT solutions mentioned above will contribute to increasing the effectiveness of the informatisation of offices and to the improvement of the service role of public administration and will improve the relationship between the effects of the applied IT tools and expenditure for its maintenance.

Groups of beneficiaries: government administration units, including voivodship offices, their subordinate units or the units they supervise. In the case of offices which have local units, the entity applying for support is the office, however, the support might be given also to its subordinate local units. In the case of local offices of combined administration, the entity applying for support is the Voivodship Office.

Specific objective 4: Digital availability and usefulness of public sector information³⁶

1) Digital availability of public sector information

Under the specific objective projects improving the supply of PSI will be financed through:

- describing PSI with the use of metadata according to standards proposed by the minister responsible for informatisation,
- adapting information to machine-readable formats,
- linking thematic systems with national and foreign central systems (e.g. CRPI³⁷),
- improving the quality of data,
- making information available on-line with the use of professional tools, especially programming interfaces (API) and raw data repositories,
- improvement of the accessibility of PSI according to at least WCAG 2.0 standards,
- ensuring electronic on-line access to national registers,
- ensuring security of systems making PSI available,
- ensuring an adequate level of sharing services,
- digitisation of PSI, especially cultural heritage resources and scientific resources,
- building or extending infrastructure for storing the shared information.

Many institutions possess information in the electronic version, however, until now, it has not been

³⁶ Intervention field under specific objective 4 will cover:

- public information within the meaning of the Act of 6 September 2001 on access to public information and cultural heritage resources owned by libraries, museums and archives owing to the changes brought by the Directive 2013/37/EU amending Directive 2003/98/EC of 17 November 2003 on the re-use of public sector information,
- audiovisual resources, provided that they are made available for re-use,
- scientific resources, provided that they are made available for re-use,

The term "public sector information" used in the description of this specific objective and the abbreviation PSI should be understood as including the three categories of resources mentioned above.

³⁷ CRPI (danepubliczne.gov.pl) is a portal which combines the functions of a catalogue, browser and an access point to other locations containing public sector information. It also offers a fixed set of functions (API) due to which application developers will be able to create added value on the basis of the resources available in CRPI and in systems and other entities linked with it.

stored in order to be made further available which is why it is not described with the use of metadata or stored in a machine-readable form. Standardisation of the description of data with metadata will allow for a more effective sharing and searching information in CRPI and repositories of individual entities and will facilitate processing information in innovative applications and services.

Support will be provided to the following areas:

- data from administrative sources, e.g. demographic data, data concerning the production and consumption of energy, budget and tax data, data concerning business activity, environment protection and pollution data, information about the law and legislative processes;
- cultural heritage resources: continuation of digitisation projects according to the recommendations in EU documents indicating the priority meaning of i.a. digitisation of cultural property for the fulfilment of the aims of DAE.³⁸ Cultural and creative industry was considered one of the fastest growing in the last few years and its estimated share in EU GDP is around 4.5%. ICT enable the re-use of digitalised property through building innovative business models around cultural content³⁹;
- scientific resources: making available scientific resources of major importance for development of the economy, competitiveness, labour market and innovation.

Contest procedure, which will include assessment of i.a. the potential economic influence of particular projects (socio-economic rate of return), will contribute to the selection of the best projects. A criterion concerning the identification of legal barriers and a plan to overcome them will also be applied. Presentation of measures preventing multiple digitisation of the same resources by the applicant will constitute an important requirement. Making PSI openly available, that is free of charge and with the smallest possible barriers for its use, will be awarded.

The condition for receiving support for digitisation will be making its effects available for re-use.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: Key barriers to the increase of the re-use of PSI concern the supply of that information, namely its quality and scope and the ways in which it is made available by public institutions. Support for the entities which make information and resources available will allow to unlock the PSI social and economic potential. The actions will directly increase the accessibility and availability of PSI, which will give citizens and entrepreneurs more room for innovation activities.

Groups of beneficiaries: government administration units, their subordinate units and the units they supervise, state cultural institutions or cultural institutions co-run with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, national archives, nationwide radio or television broadcasters, research units, partnerships of the units mentioned above with enterprise or non-government organisations.

2) Developing services and applications using public e-services and public sector information

The support consists in providing incentive to non-government entities to develop services, content and applications using public e-services and PSI. Such services will be offered by various entities, in different organisational and business models.

The basic condition for receiving support will be the compliance of projects with the scope of investment priority 2c. Thus, the developed services and content will have to contribute to strengthening ICT applications for e-government (e.g. through making available a nonstandard, extended interface for the integrated use of public services or sharing processed political and administrative information), e-learning, e-social inclusion, e-culture or e-health.

Projects which achieve public objectives and increase the accessibility of content and services according to at least WCAG 2.0 standards will be promoted. The supported projects may develop in particular:

- public e-services through extending e-service functions offered by the administration;

³⁸ Commission Recommendation of 27 October 2011 on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation (2011/711/EU).

³⁹ [ICT PSP Work Programme 2012](#), Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme, European Commission, p. 15.

- integration of public e-services from different institutions and units of the public sector;
- combining public e-services with commercial e-services;
- animating the development of e-services integrating dispersed public sector services and information (so-called e-service platforms) by the private sector.

This action will enable the dissemination of the re-use of PSI.

Re-use of PSI in the form of e-services developed by entities from outside of the public finance sector will contribute to achieving the educational and professional objectives of citizens, as well as enables to include the cultural and scientific heritage in digital services and products more easily.

An adequate level of public e-services or availability of public sector information must be ensured to the beneficiary for the whole required lifetime of a project. This might be expressed in the form of a contract between the beneficiary and the public institutions which make the information and e-services available or by indicating the general opinion of a public institution containing a declaration of availability of the offered information or the level of the e-service provided.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: the action will directly increase the level of PSI re-use. It will help generate digital services whose development would be difficult due to the lack of access of the applicants to financial resources and knowledge about the availability of PSI. As a result, new, appealing digital applications will be developed. An increase in the supply of digital services should directly contribute also to the increase in demand for broadband Internet.

Groups of beneficiaries: research units, non-government organisations, entrepreneurs.

• **Guiding principles for selection of operations**

[max. 500 characters]

Support under axis II will be allocated under the contest procedure with its aim being i.a. to ensure competitiveness between individual sectors of e-services.

All projects will be selected on the basis of criteria approved by the OP DP Monitoring Committee. The most important issues which the Managing Authority intends to incorporate in the criteria for project selection under the contest procedure (in line with the scope of a particular specific objective) include:

- legislative readiness, necessary for achieving the functionalities planned,
- reliable cost-benefit analysis which enables to estimate socio-economic rate of return,
- authorisation of the citizen through the trusted ePUAP profile and enabling making the services implemented under a project available via ePUAP platform,
- close links between digitisation measures with public policy in a given scope,
- presentation by the beneficiary of the plan for optimising business processes to which the informatisation relates,
- preference for projects organizing public registers and ensuring their interoperability,
- preference for thematic projects which are in line with the thematic areas described in part 1.1 of the programme and preference for projects which implement Council Recommendations on the national reform programme of Poland,
- carrying out investments in project methodology which fulfils specific requirements,
- if a project is a continuation of an investment from the period 2007-2013 - completion of the previous stage of the project.

Projects concerning e-health will be in line with the recommendations of ESIF Steering Committee.

• **Planned use of financial instruments**

[max. 7,000 characters]

Using financial instruments under priority axis II is not planned. If a need arises during the implementation of the programme to use financial instruments, an ex-ante evaluation will be conducted in line with the requirements laid down in Article 37(2) of the Framework Regulation.

- **Planned use of major projects**
[max. 3,500 characters]

Implementation of major projects is not planned under axis II.

- **Output indicators**

Table 10 Common and programme-specific output indicators for IP 2.c under axis II

No	Output indicator for the specific objective 2. High availability and quality of public e-services	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1	Public services available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (two-way interaction)	Number	ERDF	Less developed region	147	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
2	Public services available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (two-way interaction)	Number	ERDF	More developed region	12	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year

No	Output indicator for the specific objective 3. Digitisation of back-office processes in government administration	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
3	Public offices which have implemented recommendations concerning digital advancement	Number	ERDF	Less developed region	15	Office evaluation system / IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
4	Public offices which have implemented recommendations concerning digital advancement	Number	ERDF	More developed region	1	Office evaluation system / IT system for programme monitoring	1 year

No	Output indicator for the specific objective 4. Digital availability and usefulness of public sector information	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
5	Entities which have made public sector information available on-line	Number	ERDF	Less developed region	44	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
6	Entities which have made public sector information available on-line	Number	ERDF	More developed region	4	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
7	Applications based on re-use of public sector information and public e-services	Number	ERDF	Less developed region	40	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
8	Applications based on re-use of public sector	Number	ERDF	More developed	4	IT system for programme	1 year

	information and public e-services			region		monitoring	
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- Performance framework of priority axis II

Table 11 Performance framework of priority axis II

Indicator type (key implementation step, financial, output or, where appropriate, result indicator)	No	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Milestone (2018)	Final target (2023)	Source of data	Explanation of relevance of the indicator
Output indicator	1	Public services available online with the maturity level of at least 3 (two-way interaction)	Number	ERDF	Less developed region	0	147	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Key implementation step	2	Public services available online with the maturity level of at least 3 (two-way interaction) based on the target value from the signed co-financing contracts	Number	ERDF	Less developed region	24	-	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Financial indicator	3	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	ERDF	Less developed region	174,515,517	1,038,978,516	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator shows the actual pace of incurring and verifying eligible expenditure of projects.
Output indicator	4	Public services available online with the maturity level of at least 3 (two-way interaction)	Number	ERDF	More developed region		12	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Key implementation step	5	Public services	Number	ERDF	More developed region	2	-	IT system for	The indicator

n step		available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (two-way interaction) based on the target value from the signed co-financing contracts	er		d region			programm e monitoring	measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Financial indicator	6	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	ERDF	More developed region	13,947,428	83,090,352	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator shows the actual pace of incurring and verifying eligible expenditure of projects.

- Categories of intervention under priority axis II

Table 12 Categories of intervention under axis II

<i>ERDF, less developed regions</i>							
Dimension 1 Intervention field		Dimension 2 Form of finance		Dimension 3 Territory type		Dimension 4 Territorial delivery mechanisms	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
078	623,400,963	01	623,400,963	07	623,400,963	07	623,400,963
079	171,417,600	01	171,417,600	07	171,417,600	07	171,417,600
101	88,313,174	01	88,313,174	07	88,313,174	07	88,313,174

<i>ERDF, more developed regions</i>							
Dimension 1 Intervention field		Dimension 2 Form of finance		Dimension 3 Territory type		Dimension 4 Territorial delivery mechanisms	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
078	46,922,653	01	46,922,653	07	46,922,653	07	46,922,653
079	12,902,400	01	12,902,400	07	12,902,400	07	12,902,400
101	6,647,228	01	6,647,228	07	6,647,228	07	6,647,228

2.3. Priority axis III. Digital competences of the society

- **Justification for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region**

[max. 3,500 characters]

Under the axis, support will be provided to projects implemented throughout the country, taking into account the diagnosed needs of the society regarding the increase in activity and the improvement of Internet skills, including in particular the use of public e-services. The intervention planned under axis III will be implemented from the national level which is due to experience from implementation of such projects in the years 2007-2013. The above will allow to ensure the consistency of implemented measures and will increase their effectiveness, synergy and coordination (including also with other TO and support from other public and private sources).

The construction of the axis which takes into account only one category of regions would not be justified for technical and implementation reasons and would not allow to achieve the assumed objectives and their corresponding indicators. In a more developed region (i.e. in the Mazowieckie Voivodeship) the investments that will be carried out will be of the same type as in other regions and they will be targeted at the same objectives.

Any support from OP DP resources under priority axis III will be granted with regard to applicable substantive and procedural rules concerning State aid that are in force on the day of granting that support.

- **Fund, category of region and calculation basis for Union support**

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	Less developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	More developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

- **Investment priority**

Investment priority	IP 2.c. <i>Strengthening ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-social inclusion, e-culture and e-health;</i>
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- **Specific objective 5: Increasing the degree and the improvement of Internet skills, including public e-services**

[max. 500 characters – name + max. 3,500 characters – description of expected results]

Digital activity of Poles must be increased to enable all citizens benefit from the effects of the civilisational leap resulting from the wider use of ICT in social and economic life. The available studies and analyses show that hard (infrastructural or financial) barriers to Internet access are decreasing, while soft barriers, such as the lack of knowledge and informed needs, as well as the lack of appropriate digital competences, are increasing obstacles to dissemination of new technologies.

In order to enable the use of digital development products, the largest possible group of people should be provided with tailored mechanisms to acquire and increase digital competences at various degrees of proficiency, and the benefits of ICT for those who know how to use them should be promoted among the general public. Digital competences should be understood not only as computer and Internet skills, but the ability to use the Internet access and online services, in particular public e-

services, in practice. At the same time, attention should be paid to the most advanced skills related to programming and development of IT and digital products, as well as the related spectacular successes of Polish students and young scientists in international IT competitions, i.e. the potential the better use of which may translate into innovative development and wide application of ICT in solving social or economic problems.

The above approach will contribute to achieving the DAE objectives regarding increasing the regular use of Internet and digital includes, thus directly contributing to an increase in the use of public e-services and ICT tools based on PSI, and will also ensure demand and therefore the effective disbursement of the EU funds under axis I and II of OP DP, as well as the measures implemented in the years 2007-2013.

Intervention under axis III will be addressed to groups with various levels of digital competences, and particular emphasis will be placed on actions for digital inclusion. The support will be targeted at developing the competences of persons from groups at risk of digital exclusion to enable them to use the Internet, including public and commercial e-services, and to further develop their skills by means of e.g. self-education. Intervention will also be addressed to users who wish to develop their digital competences and will have the form of innovative projects aimed at their e-activation, understood as an increase in active and comprehensive use of new technologies. Actions aimed at strengthening and using the potential of programmers will match their skills with important social and economic needs and will promote the benefits that ICT can generate for their holder and the general public. The elimination of mental barriers to using ICT will also be the target of education and information campaigns addressed to the general public which are planned under the axis.

The intervention will contribute to acquisition and development of digital skills and to increased awareness of benefits stemming from the use of ICT, and therefore the main barriers to the use of ICT and public e-services in Poland will be addressed in a way complementary to axis I and II of OP DP.

Table 13 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 5

No	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Category of region	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1	Individuals who are regular internet users (at least once a week)	%	Poland in total	60	2013	81	Central Statistical Office	1 year
2	Individuals who have never used the internet	%	Poland in total	32	2013	12	Central Statistical Office	1 year
3	Individuals aged 16-74 years with medium or high internet skills (3 or more of 6 internet activities)	%	Poland in total	42.8	2013	54	Central Statistical Office	1 year

• **Actions to be supported under IP 2.c of axis III**

[max. 17,500 characters per IP]

Specific objective 5: Increasing the degree and the improvement of Internet skills, including public e-services

1) Training activities for development of digital competences

The measure consists in support for acquisition and development of digital competences allowing to create demand for the Internet and ICT, with a particular emphasis on public e-services that are already available and will be launched in the coming years with the use of the EU financing. The actions will be aimed at teaching on how to use e-services in such areas as citizenship, health care, social benefits, taxes and customs, business activity, justice or PSI, including spatial information and digital cultural and scientific resources.

Based on identified detailed needs and characteristics of individual target groups, the support will be aimed at acquiring the skills to use e-services, starting from learning to use computer and the Internet and to develop more advanced competences. In order to obtain the most effective results of those activities, other forms of knowledge transfer than stationary courses and trainings will also be possible. They will integrate and involve their participants, using the available ICT tools. In this context, comprehensive projects combining various forms of reaching to final beneficiaries are also possible.

One of the requirements for obtaining co-financing will be the maximisation of effectiveness of fund disbursement, including the use of the existing infrastructure and equipment co-financed from the EU funds and other public and private resources (e.g. funds of non-governmental organisations) in the previous years. The co-financing for purchase of equipment will be granted only in justified cases and to a limited extent, taking into account the prior inventorying at the local level. This approach will contribute to complementarity of implemented investments and will ensure appropriate technical conditions for training activity. Projects involving local government units in a partnership will also be promoted in order to ensure durability of implemented initiatives and create a substantive and technical basis for continuation of such activities also after the completion of OP DP intervention.

The intervention will concern the entire country which will ensure the cohesion of actions and synergy with other ICT support instruments, including under axis I and II OP DP, and will be implemented based on the analysis of local needs in a given area and the training scope developed on its basis.

The persons who received the training will be monitored, also in terms of acquired competences, in order to determine the impact on objectives defined under axis II OP DP, in particular with regard to an increase in the use of public e-services.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: The measure provides for the development of digital competences necessary to use the Internet and public e-services, and therefore its implementation will contribute to more active usage of the Internet and new digital technologies and thus to increasing the demand for broadband and digital services and content.

Groups of beneficiaries: non-governmental organisations, local government units and their unions and associations, institutions conducting activities related to universities of the third age, as well as partnerships of NGOs and local government units.

Umbrella projects, i.e. projects for which a grant was provided and which are implemented through microprojects (specific parts of an umbrella project), may also be implemented. An umbrella project includes one lead partner (applicant), microproject partners and participating partners. All measures of microprojects under an umbrella project are to form one coherent project and have a common objective.

2) Innovative solutions for promoting digital activity

The measure provides for support for innovative solutions aimed at promoting e-activity of persons with at least elementary digital competences to increase and develop those competences by means of their use in practice, e.g. through learning of programming or using the software to create multimedia. The support will also indirectly contribute to building social capital using digital technologies.

The supported projects may have the form of implementation of joint IT and social projects, i.e. participation in design work aimed at creating or developing applications, as well as thematic workshops and other forms of distance learning (e.g. e-learning⁴⁰, massive open online courses⁴¹) or mixed forms. The support will also be provided for software development, including applications for development of digital competences and digital activity.

Such initiatives should be aimed at stimulating creativity, developing participative and civic attitudes, building interdisciplinary cooperation and generating valuable and high-quality content presenting the opportunities and benefits of using ICT and the Internet.

⁴⁰ E-learning – distance learning using computer networks and the Internet,

⁴¹ Massive open online courses (MOOC) enable remote and free-of-charge participation in selected academic courses, sometimes finished with an examination. The status of a university student is not required.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: Intervention under this measure will contribute to increasing the degree and quality of using ICT and thus to increasing the use of public e-services. The measure will also contribute to promotion of e-activity of the society by acquiring and developing digital competences and to development of social and creative capital based on digital technologies.

Groups of beneficiaries: non-governmental organisations, their partnerships with local government units, institutions conducting activities related to universities of the third age, public institutions from the field of science, education and culture and higher education institutions.

3) e-Pionier – support for talented programmers to solve the identified social or economic problems.

The measure involves a project aimed at supporting the ideas of talented programmers or interdisciplinary teams with the participation of programmers on how to solve important social or economic problems using the ICT-based tools. The measure will allow to establish cooperation between the public and the private sector to promote innovation in the areas that are important from the socio-economic point of view.

Its implementation is to involve i.a. an innovative formula of pre-commercial procurement which means that social or economic problems will be first identified with the participation of public administration authorities concerned. The proposals of private sector operators, NGOs and citizens may also be used, provided that they comply with the objectives of the measure. The support should result in developing appropriate solutions in the form of MVP (minimum viable product) or prototype and their development for testing by potential users.

The objective of the intervention is to use the potential of programmers through activities which will adjust their skills to the needs of the market, i.e. development of IT solutions tailored to the customer's needs, project management, entrepreneurship or work in an interdisciplinary team. The support will also cover technological and business verification of proposed solutions. The programmers will also receive i.a. coaching, mentoring of experienced practitioners, consulting, opportunities to extend their knowledge and develop their competences.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: The measure will contribute to promotion of advanced digital skills and benefits that they can offer to those who have them and to the general public. Therefore, the intervention will contribute to increasing the use of ICT, while the developed solutions to social or economic problems will increase the usage of ICT products and provide a real opportunity to implement the new solutions in public administration units.

Groups of beneficiaries: Beneficiary of a non-contest project – public entity having appropriate technical and substantive potential, as well as experience in implementation of the given type of projects, also with the use of the EU funds, in the years 2007-2013. Final beneficiaries of support, i.e. programmers or interdisciplinary teams with the participation of programmers, will be selected according to a contest procedure based on clear and objective criteria.

4) Education and information campaigns to popularise benefits from using digital technologies

The education and information campaigns will be aimed at raising public awareness of benefits stemming from using digital technologies, including public e-services. The measure is to build and strengthen motivations of the population regarding the use of ICT, develop necessary skills and change negative attitudes and opposition to using those technologies, as well as eliminate stereotypes which result in the lack of interest in using ICT. The actions will concern ICT to a greater extent than the OP DP intervention, responding to the changing social trends, technological innovation or demographic developments.

The education and information campaigns will focus on 3 main aspects, i.e. awareness, attractiveness and safety, and individual actions will concern i.a.:

a) in terms of user awareness:

– increasing awareness of benefits stemming from using the Internet and, in consequence,

- stimulating the increase of demand for public e-services⁴²;
- b) in terms of attractiveness of using digital technologies:
- increasing the common/general knowledge of the society about the possibility to use the Internet to improve their comfort and quality of life;
 - providing information to the society about online services using networks with high data transmission capacity and creating the needs in this regard;
- c) in terms of safety:
- increasing the awareness of the society about safe use of the Internet and e-services and their knowledge about available safety-increasing tools.

The education and information campaigns will be conducted based on previously identified thematic areas, target groups and tools for communication with the target groups.

Contribution to achieving the specific objective: The measure will contribute to eliminating mental barriers and increasing public awareness of benefits stemming from using ICT which will contribute to increasing the demand for public services provided electronically and the demand for access to Internet with high data transmission capacity.

Groups of beneficiaries: beneficiary of a non-contest project – public administration unit the aim of which is mainly to specify the detailed topics of education and information campaigns and to select the most effective concept of their implementation by contractor or contractors (e.g. media houses, advertising agencies) selected under the contest procedure based on clear and objective criteria.

- **Guiding principles for selection of operations**

[max. 5,000 characters]

All projects will be selected for co-financing under OP DP on the basis of selection criteria approved by the OP DP Monitoring Committee. Development of the proposed criteria will be preceded by consultation with social and economic partners, including a number of experts with expertise in a given field and an analysis of experience in that field from the previous financial perspective.

In the first and second area of support, projects will be selected under the contest procedure to ensure that the best projects on development of digital competences are selected. In the third area of support, one beneficiary (public entity) will be selected under the non-contest procedure. The beneficiary will have the appropriate experience and knowledge in a given field and will provide content-related and technical services with regard to support for programmers. Programmers, also those participating in interdisciplinary teams, who will be selected under the contest procedure will be the final beneficiaries of support. As regards the fourth area of support, due to the need to maintain cohesion of the content provided, there will be one non-contest beneficiary (public administration unit) that will organize a contest for contractors conducting education and information campaigns on specific subjects.

- **Planned use of financial instruments**

[max. 7,000 characters]

The use of financial instruments is not planned under priority axis III. If a need arises during the implementation of the programme to use financial instruments, an ex-ante evaluation will be conducted in line with the requirements laid down in Article 37(2) of the Framework Regulation.

- **Planned use of major projects**

[max. 3,500 characters]

Implementation of major projects is not planned under axis III.

- **Output indicators**

⁴²Factors stimulating demand for broadband services according to the National Broadband Plan, Chapter 3.1.3 Stimulation of demand for broadband services.

Table 14 Common and programme-specific indicators for IP 2.c under axis III

No	Output indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1	Persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services)	Persons	ERDF	Less developed regions	372,535	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
2	Persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services)	Persons	ERDF	More developed region	27,070	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
3	Education and information campaigns concerning ICT	Number	ERDF	Poland in total	4	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
4	Supported programmers	Number	ERDF	Less developed regions	245	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year
5	Supported programmers	Number	ERDF	More developed region	43	IT system for programme monitoring	1 year

- **Performance framework of priority axis III**

Table 15 Performance framework of priority axis III

Indicator type (key implementation step, financial, output or, where appropriate, result indicator)	No	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Milestone (2018)	Final target (2023)	Source of data	Explanation of relevance of the indicator
Output indicator	1	Persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services)	Persons	ERDF	Less developed regions	0	372,535	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Key implementation step	2	Persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services) based on the target value from the signed co-financing contracts	Persons	ERDF	Less developed regions	149,014	-	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis

Financial indicator	3	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	ERDF	Less developed regions	25,981,822	158,647,061	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator shows the actual pace of incurring and verifying eligible expenditure of projects.
Output indicator	4	Persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services)	Persons	ERDF	More developed region	0	27,070	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Key implementation step	5	Persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services) based on the target value from the signed co-financing contracts	Persons	ERDF	More developed region	10,828	-	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator measures progress towards the objectives of the axis
Financial indicator	6	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	ERDF	More developed region	2,077,848	12,687,500	IT system for programme monitoring	The indicator shows the actual pace of incurring and verifying eligible expenditure of projects.

- **Categories of intervention under priority axis III**

Table 16 Categories of intervention

<i>ERDF, less developed regions</i>							
Dimension 1 Intervention field		Dimension 2 Form of finance		Dimension 3 Territory type		Dimension 4 Territorial delivery mechanisms	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
080	134,850,000	01	134,850,000	07	134,850,000	07	134,850,000

<i>ERDF, more developed regions</i>							
Dimension 1 Intervention field		Dimension 2 Form of finance		Dimension 3 Territory type		Dimension 4 Territorial delivery mechanisms	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
080	10,150,000	01	10,150,000	07	10,150,000	07	10,150,000

2.4. Priority axis IV. Technical Assistance

- **Justification for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region**

[max. 3,500 characters]

The axis will provide support for institutions involved in management and implementation of OP DP and the call for proposals will take place under the non-contest procedure. In view of the adopted intervention system under the programme, its effectiveness must be ensured by providing qualified human resources and appropriate tools for handling the OP DP implementation process. Due to the nationwide scope of OP DP and the scale of its actions, it is impossible to separate interventions under axes for individual categories of region. Therefore, the technical assistance axis should be established to cover two categories of regions.

The support under technical assistance of OP DP will be provided according to the provisions of the demarcation line between OP TA and the Technical Assistance component of OP DP.

- **Funds and category of region**

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	Less developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

Fund	European Regional Development Fund
Category of region	More developed regions
Calculation basis (public or total)	Total

- **Specific objective 6 Efficient management and implementation of OP DP**

[max. 3,500 characters]

The intervention regarding the OP DP management and implementation system will result in high professional qualifications of the employees of institutions of the programme implementation system, ensuring efficient and appropriate implementation of the Programme.

Table 17 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 6

No	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1.	Annual average number of training forms per one employee of an institution of the EF implementation system.	Number	0.82	2013	Increasing the number of training forms per one employee	IT system for programme monitoring	Once a year

- **Specific objective 7 Coherent and efficient information and promotion system**

The support for information and promotion system will result in high awareness of beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries about interventions under the Programme.

- **Specific objective 8 Enhanced competences of beneficiaries in the process of project preparation and implementation;**

The support for increasing the competences of beneficiaries will result in high quality of projects prepared and implemented under the Programme.

Table 18 Programme-specific result indicators for specific objective 8

No	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
1.	Assessment of the usefulness of trainings for beneficiaries	Scale 0-5	4.08	2013	4.2	Surveys	Once a year
2.	Average time for project approval (from submission of application for co-financing to signing of a contract)	Number of days	301	2013	Reduction of the time for project approval	IT system for programme monitoring	Once a year

- **Actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives of axis IV**
[max. 7000 characters – description of expected results]

Specific objective 6: Efficient management and implementation of OP DP

In order to accomplish the objectives of the programme, which groups together the interventions regarding digitisation that were dispersed under the 2007-2013 perspective, it is important to ensure comprehensive support and administrative and technical services for the system of institutions (established for the purposes of the programme) that are responsible for preparation, management and implementation, i.e. monitoring, information, control, financial settlement and assessment and evaluation of operations financed from the programme funds.

One of many problems related to implementation of priority axes in terms of broadly understood digitisation under the 2007-2013 perspective was the lack of necessary experience and competence (in particular at the initial stage of implementation) on the part of public entities. Therefore, efficient management and implementation of OP DP requires ensuring an adequate number of highly qualified employees at each stage of the programme implementation and providing an adequate system of managing and motivating the employees to prevent staff turnover and increase labour productivity i.a. by means of increasing the qualifications of employees of institutions involved in the OP DP management and implementation, including participation in various forms of advanced vocational training, i.e. trainings, workshops, seminars, post-graduate studies and study visits. At the same time, the possibility to expand one's knowledge and participate in vocational training is one of the major incentives for employees involved in the programme implementation.

In addition, appropriate working conditions and appropriate equipment for work places must be ensured for the employees of the said institutions.

The planned expenditure includes expenses related to maintenance, operation and potential building of a local IT system for the purposes of OP DP, which will be connected to the national IT system.

The specific objective includes measures aimed at preventing and counteracting fraud and corruption in the area of ICT. To this end, experience from the 2007-2013 financial perspective, resulting i.a. from the Remedial Action Plan for axis VII of OP IE, will be taken into account and implemented by introducing standards preventing fraud and corruption at the level of beneficiaries.

To ensure efficient implementation of OP DP, including the establishment and changes of the legal system and coordination of "country-region" actions, institutions supporting the OP DP implementation must receive assistance in the form of i.a. access to financing of advisory services, translation, public procurement, expert opinions, analyses and studies. The support is also necessary for the system of monitoring, evaluation, audit, control and detection of irregularities, the process of project selection and organisation of monitoring committees, working groups and teams, meetings and conferences, assistance of external experts, as well as technical support to ensure efficient and effective functioning of involved institutions and possibilities of programming future interventions in the field of digitisation.

The above support will also provide for financing of salaries and other expenditure of the Office of Electronic Communications, which are necessary to perform the role of the specialist institution in terms of digitisation, and of the Ministry of Administration and Digitization (as the institution support the implementation of OP DP) – only with regard to implementation of the cost directive.⁴³

Another important area of objective implementation will include the measures for coordination of TO2 in Poland in the years 2014-2020, defined in the General Regulation for the cohesion policy for 2014-2020 in the field of enhancing access to, and use and quality of, ICT. The support for coordination process is important from the point of view of the programme's measures and is justified by previous experience, i.e. the lack of actions under the 2007-2013 which would provide support for tools necessary to exchange knowledge and experience related to implementation of tasks in the area of information society.

Beneficiaries:

Institutions involved in the OP DP implementation, supporting the OP DP implementation and specialists institutions

Specific objective 7: Coherent and efficient information and promotion system

Due to the nature of the programme, i.e. both its thematic scope and the fact that it constitutes a completely new intervention at the level of the country, information, promotion and educational activities will focus on providing beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries with reliable and exhaustive knowledge about the objectives of the programme and its individual axes, in terms of both support under OP DP and requirements for project implementation. A wide range of information and promotion measures, addressed in particular to beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the general public, will be implemented. The main objective of those measures will be to facilitate the decisions of beneficiaries to apply for funds and then to efficiently implement and settle the projects and to disseminate knowledge about intervention areas eligible for support under OP DP, as well as the effects of the programme implementation.

Beneficiaries:

Institutions involved in the OP DP implementation, supporting the OP DP implementation and specialists institutions

Specific objective 8: Enhanced competences of beneficiaries in the process of project preparation and implementation

Due to requirements related to application and implementation of projects that some of the programme beneficiaries must meet and in view of problems identified under the previous financial perspective, in particular in the area of public procurement, feasibility studies, project management methods, etc., technical assistance provides for measures to increase the competences of beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries of OP DP by offering them with advisory services and training on how to prepare project documentation and apply and implement projects under OP DP. The support will contribute to correct and timely preparation of projects to be implemented under individual axes. The measures to prevent fraud and corruption will include raising beneficiaries' awareness of threats in this regard which will allow to reduce the risk of corruption and fraud under the programme to the minimum.

Beneficiaries:

Institutions involved in OP DP implementation

⁴³ Directive 2014/61/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on measures to reduce the cost of deploying high-speed electronic communications networks.

Table 19 Output indicators for axis IV

No	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023) (optionally)	Source of data
1	Number of FTE-months funded by technical assistance	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
2	Number of participants of training forms for institutions	Person	N/A	IT system for monitoring
3	Number of conducted evaluations	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
4	Number of supported projects	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
5	Number of participants of training forms for beneficiaries	Person	N/A	IT system for monitoring
6	Number of wide-ranging informational and promotional measures	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
7	Number of visits to the information portal/website	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
8	Number of acquired devices and workplace equipment items	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
9	Number of newly created or adjusted IT systems	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
10	Number of conducted expertises	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring
11	Number of organised meetings, conferences and seminars	Number	N/A	IT system for monitoring

- **Categories of intervention under priority axis IV**

Table 20 Categories of intervention under axis IV

Dimension 1. Intervention field		Dimension 2. Form of finance		Dimension 3. Territory type	
Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)	Code	Amount (EUR)
121	37,668,000	01	37,668,000	07	37,668,000
122	5,000,000	01	5,000,000	07	5,000,000
123	15,000,000	01	15,000,000	07	15,000,000

3. Financial plan

OP DP is an operational programme financed from the ERDF. It is implemented throughout Poland, i.e. in 15 regions considered less developed and in Mazowieckie Voivodeship as a more developed region with a special status as a former less developed region, resulting from the Framework Regulation.

In line with the Partnership Agreement, the allocation of ERDF funds for OP DP amounts to EUR 2,172.5 million. The minimum level of national financing, estimated pursuant to Article 120 of the Framework Regulation that stipulates the maximum co-financing rate under each priority axis in less developed regions at 85% and for Mazowieckie Voivodeship at 80%, amounts to EUR 394.3 million at the time of programming. The OP DP implementation will involve public and private national funds. It is assumed that the final amount of national funds, mainly private funds, upon the OP DP closure may be higher, depending on the scope and level of state aid granted under the programme.⁴⁴

- **Certification basis**

Total eligible expenditure constitutes the basis for calculating the EU contribution under OP DP.

- **Categories of regions**

Each priority axis of OP DP has two financial envelopes: one for 15 regions and the other one for Mazowieckie Voivodeship with co-financing rates amounting to 85% and 80%, respectively. According to the principles stipulated by the Partnership Agreement, there are two types of priority axes under the Programme, namely, “pro-rata axes” and “standard axes”.

- „Pro rata axes” includes axis II E-government and open government, axis III Digital competences of the society and axis IV Technical Assistance. They are national axes, with all their projects concerning entire Poland, not just individual categories of regions. The relation between the envelopes for less developed regions and Mazowieckie Voivodeship under those axes is 93% (15 less developed regions) and 7% (Mazowieckie Voivodeship), which corresponds to the relation between structural funds for less developed regions and for Mazowieckie Voivodeship in Poland. Projects implemented under those axes will use the allocations from both envelopes at the above proportion.
- “Standard axes” include axis I Common access to high-speed Internet. As a rule, the axis is not national – the project coverage can be assigned to a given place of implementation. The relation between the envelopes for less developed regions and for Mazowieckie Voivodeship results from the analysis of needs and availability of funds. At the stage of project implementation, expenditure will be assigned to envelopes of individual categories of regions proportionally to the number of regions covered by the project. For example, for a project implemented in five voivodeships, including Mazowieckie Voivodeship, 80% of funds will come from the envelope for less developed regions and 20% from the financial envelope for Mazowieckie Voivodeship. It will also be possible to finance a nationwide project. In this case, one sixteenth of the funds for the project will be provided from the Mazovian envelope and fifteen sixteenths from the budget for undertakings in less developed regions.

⁴⁴The provisions of the Framework Regulation, in particular Article 129, guarantee that regardless of the co-financing rate adopted for the priority axis in Table 22, the value of funds ultimately paid out by the European Commission by the closure of the programme will never be higher than the public contribution provided to beneficiaries. Article 130(2) additionally stipulates that in the framework of intermediate payments, the Commission shall always pay out the lower of the two amounts: the amount resulting from multiplying the certification basis from the payment application by the co-financing rate for the priority axis from Table 22 or the amount of public expenditure indicated in the application. The amount of intermediate payments will also take into account the rules related to the system of annual account audit and approval, which consists inter alia in granting annual advance payments, paying out only 90% of due payments in a year and annual account settlement by balancing the annual advance of the funds paid out and 10% of withheld intermediate payments.

- **Performance reserve**

The Operational Programme Digital Poland provides for a performance reserve of 6% of its total ERDF allocation, of which 6% for each category of region.

The performance reserve at the level of individual axes constitutes 5% to 7% of the axis value, except for the Technical Assistance axis for which, in line with the regulation, the reserve has not been established (excluding the Technical Assistance axis requires increasing the reserve for other axes to maintain the required reserve level for funds) (Table 22).

- **Thematic concentration**

The levels of thematic concentration envisaged in OP DP result from the Partnership Agreement and allow to maintain the levels of concentration at the level of PA required by the EU regulations.

3.1. Financial appropriation from each fund and amounts for performance reserve

Table 21 Table presenting the total amount of financial resources envisaged as contribution of each of the funds to the programme, by year and category of region, with performance reserve (EUR)

	Fund	Category of region	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		Total	
			Main allocation ⁴⁵	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve												
1	ERDF	Less developed regions	216,129,825	13,795,521	235,057,175	15,003,649	254,870,340	16,268,320	272,595,180	17,399,692	290,290,265	18,529,166	307,864,848	19,650,948	325,223,819	20,758,966	1,902,031,452	121,406,262
2		More developed regions	15,921,248	1,016,250	17,315,535	1,105,247	18,775,076	1,198,409	20,080,780	1,281,752	21,384,292	1,364,955	22,678,927	1,447,591	23,957,681	1,529,213	140,113,539	8,943,417
3		Total	232,051,073	14,811,771	252,372,710	16,108,896	273,645,416	17,466,729	292,675,960	18,681,444	311,674,557	19,894,121	330,543,775	21,098,539	349,181,500	22,288,179	2,042,144,991	130,349,679

⁴⁵Total allocation less performance reserve.

3.2. Total financial appropriation by fund and national co-financing (EUR)

Table 22: Financial plan

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Basis for calculation of Union support (Total eligible cost or public eligible cost)	EU contribution (A)	National counterpart (B) = (C) + (D)	Indicative breakdown of national counterpart		Total funding (E) = (A) + (B)	Co-financing rate (F) = (A)/(E)	For information	Main allocation ⁴⁶		Performance reserve		Share of performance reserve (EU support) in the total amount of EU support for priority axis
						National public funding (C)	National private funding (D)				EU contribution (H) = (A) - (J)	National counterpart (I) = (B) - (K)	EU contribution (J)	National counterpart (K) = (B) * ((J) / (A))	
Axis 1	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total eligible cost	951,824,737	167,969,072	0	167,969,072	1,119,793,809	85%	0	885,197,006	156,211,237	66,627,731	11,757,835	7%
		More developed regions		68,397,915	17,099,479	0	17,099,479	85,497,394	80%	0	63,610,061	15,902,515	4,787,854	1,196,964	7%
Axis 2	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total eligible cost	883,131,737	155,846,779	154,205,602	1,641,177	1,038,978,516	85%	0	837,792,706	147,845,773	45,339,031	8,001,006	5%
		More developed regions		66,472,281	16,618,071	16,443,071	175,000	83,090,352	80%	0	63,027,218	15,756,805	3,445,063	861,266	5%
Axis 3	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total eligible cost	134,850,000	23,797,061	17,300,737	6,496,324	158,647,061	85%	0	125,410,500	22,131,267	9,439,500	1,665,794	7%
		More developed regions		10,150,000	2,537,500	2,012,500	525,000	12,687,500	80%	0	9,439,500	2,359,875	710,500	177,625	7%
Axis 4	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total eligible cost	53,631,240	9,464,338	9,464,338	0	63,095,578	85%	0	53,631,240	9,464,338	0	0	0%
		More developed regions		4,036,760	1,009,190	1,009,190	0	5,045,950	80%	0	4,036,760	1,009,190	0	0	0%
Total	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total eligible cost	2,023,437,714	357,077,250	180,970,677	176,106,573	2,380,514,964	85%	0	1,902,031,452	335,652,615	121,406,262	21,424,635	6%
		More		149,056,956	37,264,240	19,464,761	17,799,479	186,321,196	80%	0	140,113,539	35,028,385	8,943,417	2,235,855	6%

⁴⁶Total allocation less performance reserve.

		developed regions														
TOTAL	ERDF			2,172,494,670	394,341,490	200,435,438	193,906,052	2,566,836,160	85%	0	2,042,144,991	370,681,000	130,349,679	23,660,490	6%	

Table 23 Financial plan by priority axis, fund, category of region and thematic objective

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Thematic objective	EU contribution	National counterpart	Total funding
Priority axis 1	ERDF	Less developed regions	Thematic objective 2	951,824,737	167,969,072	1,119,793,809
		More developed regions	Thematic objective 2	68,397,915	17,099,479	85,497,394
Priority axis 2	ERDF	Less developed regions	Thematic objective 2	883,131,737	155,846,779	1,038,978,516
		More developed regions	Thematic objective 2	66,472,281	16,618,071	83,090,352
Priority axis 3	ERDF	Less developed regions	Thematic objective 2	134,850,000	23,797,061	158,647,061
		More developed regions	Thematic objective 2	10,150,000	2,537,500	12,687,500
Priority axis 4	ERDF	Less developed regions	Technical Assistance	53,631,240	9,464,338	63,095,578
		More developed regions	Technical Assistance	4,036,760	1,009,190	5,045,950
TOTAL	ERDF	Less developed regions	Thematic objective 2	1,969,806,474	347,612,912	2,317,419,386
TOTAL		More developed regions	Thematic objective 2	145,020,196	36,255,050	181,275,246
TOTAL	ERDF		Thematic objective 2	2,114,826,670	383,867,962	2,498,694,632
TOTAL PROGRAMME	ERDF	Less developed regions		2,023,437,714	357,077,250	2,380,514,964
TOTAL PROGRAMME		More developed regions		149,056,956	37,264,240	186,321,196

TOTAL PROGRAMME	ERDF			2,172,494,670	394,341,490	2,566,836,160
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4. Integrated approach to territorial development

[max. 3,500 characters]

Due to the specific nature of OP DP as a programme to provide support for enhancing access to and use of ICT to improve the quality of life in Poland, its measures are mainly horizontal and do not correspond precisely to individual areas of strategic intervention defined in PA. Effective programming and implementation of specific objectives under OP DP priority axes requires taking into account the barriers and potentials of individual areas of Poland in terms of digital development policy, which must result in appropriate adjustment of interventions to their identified specific characteristics. Therefore, the allocation dedicated to specific areas of strategic intervention is not planned, since the effects of OP DP will be assessed in terms of the entire country, including all types of such areas.

The integrated approach to territorial development under individual OP DP axes is presented below.

Under priority axis I of OP DP concerning common access to high-speed Internet, the areas of support will be identified based on i.a. the data collected during the inventorying of telecommunication services and infrastructure performed by the President of the Office of Electronic Communications and the resulting analyses of access to broadband services, combined with the multifaceted economic assessment of investment profitability. The areas of particular relevance for the thematic scope of the operational programme are the areas where telecommunications operators do not provide the connections to broadband Internet. Taking into account the results of the abovementioned inventorying and the data from the diagnosis of this axis, an assumption may be made that the intervention under the axis will take place mainly in rural areas, but support may be granted also to other areas eligible in line with the above rules.

Specific objective 2 of priority axis II of OP DP, which is dedicated to e-government, is to launch public e-services at the national level that are available regardless of the location of the user and the type of technology used by the recipient (equipment, software). Therefore, the axis implements horizontal objectives, without territorial orientation.

Training and advisory activities under priority axis III of OP DP, which provides support for e-inclusion and diffusion of ICT, must be defined based on a thorough analysis of local needs in terms of e-competence development. The data presented in the diagnosis for this axis show that the intervention will mainly take place in rural areas and small towns. However, it may be carried out also in other areas, provided that the conditions for applying for support under the axis are met.

Intervention under priority axis IV of OP DP, which is dedicated to technical assistance, will be linked to measures laid down in other axes.

It is estimated that approximately EUR 800 million may be allocated to measures for rural areas.

4.1 Contribution of the planned actions to macro-regional and sea-basin strategies

[max. 3,500 characters]

Due to the basic assumptions of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR), concerning the solving of major environmental problems of the European internal sea and improving the dynamics of economic growth of areas located at the sea, the horizontally and nationally oriented OP DP only indirectly contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the EUSBSR.

Intervention under OP DP contributes indirectly to the implementation of the following objectives and priority areas of EUSBSR:

- connect the region, including development of interpersonal contacts – OP DP intervention concerning the building of broadband Internet networks and support for e-inclusion and diffusion of ICT may contribute indirectly to the achievement of the EUSBSR assumptions;
- increase prosperity, including development of entrepreneurship, innovation, education and improvement of health of the population – OP DP intervention concerning the building of broadband Internet networks, development of public e-services and support for e-inclusion and diffusion of ICT may contribute indirectly to the achievement of the EUSBSR assumptions.

Therefore, at the stage of defining the OP DP axes and priority measures, the EUSBSR was not taken into account directly in the planned types of intervention under the programme. There are no plans to organise calls for proposals aimed at actions implementing directly the EUSBSR indicators, to give additional points to such projects or to conduct monitoring and control under OP DP dedicated to implement the EUSBSR.

5. Specific needs of geographical areas most affected by poverty

Under OP DP, there will be no measures which focus directly on preventing poverty. The support granted under OP DP may indirectly contribute to reducing poverty and minimizing its consequences.

6. Specific needs of geographical areas affected by severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps

The OP DP does not provide for intervention focused on specific needs of areas affected by natural or demographic handicaps.

7. Institutional system

The institutional system under the Programme corresponds to the institutional system for the cohesion policy, described in the Partnership Agreement.

The Managing Authority is the minister responsible for regional development. The Managing Authority is also the Certifying Authority. Some tasks will be delegated to the Intermediate Body, the role and functions of which are defined in relevant inter-institutional arrangements. The Implementing Bodies may also be appointed, if necessary. Tasks will be delegated only if it would result in improving the Programme implementation effectiveness and efficiency.

While establishing the management and control system under OP DP, the MA will take into account the improvements resulting from the Remedial Action Plan for axis VII of OP IE.

Furthermore, the MA will introduce efficient and proportional measures aimed at prevention, detection, correction and reporting of fraud, pursuant to Article 125(4)(c) of Regulation 1303/2013. The institutions in the OP DP implementation system will analyse the risk in line with the European Commission's Guidance on Fraud Risk Assessment and Effective and Proportionate Anti-Fraud Measures. The risk assessment results will be taken into account in the control system.

Detailed rules of the management, control, monitoring, evaluation, information, promotion and IT systems under the Programme result from the Partnership Agreement and relevant Regulations.

7.1 Identification of institutions involved in the programme implementation

Table 24 Relevant institutions and bodies

Institution	Name of institution and department/unit	Head of institution (position)
Designating body	The ministry supporting the minister responsible for regional development, Department of Certification and Designation	Minister responsible for regional development
Managing Authority	The ministry supporting the minister responsible for regional development, Department of Digital Development	Minister responsible for regional development
Intermediate Body	Implementing Authority for European Programmes, Ministry of Administration and Digitization	Head of the Implementing Authority for European Programmes
Certifying Authority	The ministry supporting the minister responsible for regional development, Department of Digital Development	Minister responsible for regional development
Audit Authority	Ministry of Finance, Department for Protection of EU Financial Interests	Minister responsible for public finance
Authority responsible for receiving payments from the European Commission	Ministry of Finance, Paying Authority Department	Minister responsible for public finance

Organisational arrangements and procedures under the PA and individual programmes will ensure independence of the body responsible for designation from the bodies subject to designation (MA/CA) and the appropriate division of functions. In practice, the organisational regulations of the MID supporting the minister responsible for regional development will ensure independence of the

designating body from the MA/CA by means of entrusting the tasks of the designating body to a different organisational unit of MID than the organisational unit performing the functions of the MA/CA of OP DP and ensuring that those organisational units are supervised by different, independent members of the ministry management (undersecretaries of state).

7.2 Involvement of relevant partners

[max. 14,000 characters]

In order to ensure the compliance with the partnership principles while programming the intervention concerning digital development from the cohesion policy funds in the years 2014-2020, an informal Working Team was established. Its inaugurating meeting was held on 11 October 2012. The Working Team includes three task forces on broadband infrastructure, electronic content and public services, and the development of digital competences of the society and counteracting digital exclusion. The task forces met in the second half of December 2012 to discuss the diagnosis and SWOT analysis on OP DP.

In February 2013, the Team was transformed into the formal Group for preparation of the operational programme for digital development and coordination of TO2.

The Group was established based on the Order No 4 of the Minister of Regional Development of 11 February 2013. Its tasks included participation in the work on preparing the draft operational programme for digital development and ensuring coordination of intervention under TO2, including the proposals for its objectives and scope, taking into account national and European strategic documents; development, discussion, analysis and consultation of solutions regarding horizontal, financial and institutional issues, and discussion on issues related to ex ante evaluation and environmental impact assessment of OP DP.

The representatives of competent ministers, the Association of Voivodeships of the Republic of Poland, academic and scientific community, experts on ICT, social and economic partners, non-governmental organisations, as well as the representatives of sectoral associations and chambers, were invited to participate in the work of the Group.

In addition, an online platform was launched, presenting materials for opinion and discussion with regard to OP DP and inclusion of TO2 in other operational programmes for the years 2014-2020. An e-mail address for contact on OP DP and TO2 was also launched to streamline with work on OP DP.

The meetings of the Group were convened in line with the progress of work on drafting OP DP, and the members of the Group received materials related to programming of digital growth in the years 2014-2020 for opinion by electronic mail and/or via the online platform. In 2013, four meetings of the Group were held. The Group established task forces on:

- broadband infrastructure,
- e-government,
- e-inclusion and digital competences,
- e-economy.

Working meetings with the representatives of managing authorities of individual ROP were also held to discuss the scope of intervention under OP DP and ROP.

In July 2013, four regional conferences were organised (in Warsaw, Poznań, Gdańsk and Kraków) during which the assumptions to draft OP DP were presented. The conferences were addressed to a wide range of stakeholders (including representatives of socio-economic partners, institutions and organisations operating in the field of ICT in all voivodeships, entrepreneurs, representatives of central and local government).

As a result of draft Programme consultation as part of the work of the Group for the development of OP DP, as well as a number of bilateral meetings and working discussions, on 2 October 2013 the public consultation of draft OP DP started. 556 comments were submitted, of which almost half concerned the continuation of the programme entitled “Digital Poland of Equal Opportunities” and

were submitted by persons who delivered and who received training under the project. Other comments were submitted i.a. by central government administration units, local government units, foundations and associations, cultural and educational institutions, research units, health care centres, economic chambers, entrepreneurs and natural persons and concerned in particular:

- extending or specifying the groups of beneficiaries under individual specific objectives of the Programme;
- proposals to include specific projects for support under the Programme;
- modification of the planned intervention field under individual priority axes;
- modification of indicators;
- specification of the issues related to the institutional system and coordination mechanisms;
- distribution of allocation between individual axes and categories of region;
- more precise descriptions of priority axes and the diagnosis.

In total, 84 comments were taken into account (wholly or in part), while 57 comments, due to their detailed nature, were referred for consideration at the stage of preparing solutions and implementing documents. Other comments were deemed ungrounded.

The major changes introduced in OP DP 4.0 as a result of analysis of the collected comments include the specification of provisions on requirements to be met by the project co-financed under axis I, indicating the area of agriculture and science and higher education as a potential area of support under axis II and reformulation of the scope of support under specific objective 6 in axis III.

During the public consultation, an additional meeting of the Group for the development of OP DP was organised and a consultation conference took place on 4 November 2013.

Furthermore, in line with the requirements of the Act of 3 October 2008 on providing information on the environment and its protection, the participation of the society in environmental protection and on environmental impact assessments (Dz. U. of 2008, No 199, item 1227, as amended), the work began on drawing up environmental report on the draft OP DP. One of the elements of the report was to formulate recommendations on developing the criteria for project selection to meet the environmental protection requirements and sustainable development assumptions. The above and other recommendations formulated in the report will be taken into account in the course of work on establishing the programme implementing principles.

The most important results of the draft OP DP consultation process include the establishment of a separate priority axis dedicated to development of digital competences of the society and e-inclusion and the resignation from the priority axis providing for actions in the field of e-economy.

The draft OP DP was also subject to ex ante evaluation, carried out in a participatory way. The evaluator analysed the draft programme on an ongoing basis, providing the evaluation of its subsequent versions.

The Monitoring Committee will play a key role in the OP DP implementation. It will consist of representatives of organisations listed in Article 5 of the Framework Regulation. The composition of the Monitoring Committee will ensure the balance between the central government, local government and socio-economic partners.

At the stage of monitoring and evaluation, the partnership principle will be taken into account by the participation of partners in the reporting system, provision of information about progress in the programme implementation and participation in discussion on the results of the programme evaluation.

8. Coordination system

[max. 14,000 characters]

8.1. General principles

As one of the programmes aimed at PA implementation, OP DP is covered by the coordination system described in detail in the PA. Close coordination has been ensured already at the stage of preparing operational programmes i.a. within the Interministerial Team for the Programming and Implementation of the EU Funds which comprises all Managing Authorities and the ministries which most often act as Intermediate Bodies. In line with the PA provisions, the minister responsible for regional development plays the leading role in coordinating the measures between OP DP and other operational programmes of the cohesion policy, the common agricultural policy and common fisheries policy. The tasks and functions of the PA Coordination Committee are laid down in the PA. The above-mentioned Interministerial Team ensures coordination at the level of implementation and at the operational level.

In the case of TO2, efficient coordination is essential due to cross-cutting nature of ICT and their role as general purpose technologies and experience from the 2007-2013 financial perspective, when the lack of strategic coordination and the fragmentary nature of measures proved to be factors reducing the efficiency and effectiveness of public intervention.

The scope of support provided under OP DP is complementary to support from other programmes implementing the PA objectives. The agreed demarcation line is applied if there is a risk of overlapping between the areas covered by support.

Intervention complementarity was an important factor at the stage of programming, but its practical utilisation will be equally important at the stage of programme implementation. Therefore, measures will be taken to ensure actual complementarity at the stage of project selection and implementation. These mechanisms were described in greater detail in the PA and may be specified further in the programme documents.

8.2. Coordination in the field of broadband networks

In line with the PA assumptions, construction, extension or reconstruction of broadband networks will be financed from the EU funds only under the OP DP. The solution is a reaction to fragmentation of support under the 2007-2013 perspective, when the projects concerning the creation of Internet access infrastructure were implemented at the regional level and under two centrally managed programmes which had an adverse impact on both complementarity and timeliness of the implemented projects.

The OP DP implementation system will be regularly fed with knowledge from external sources, such as the cooperation system under "Memorandum on cooperation for construction and development of broadband network passive infrastructure" and annual inventorying of telecommunications infrastructure by the President of the Office of Electronic Communications, which will reduce the risk of overlapping of programme intervention with investment plans of the commercial sector implemented using private funds. The OP DP implementation in terms of broadband Internet access should be supported with legal and political measures reducing financial and procedural barriers encountered by telecommunications operators and identified i.a. in the recommendations formulated in the Memorandum.

At the stage of OP DP preparation, the issues related to the scope of support for broadband Internet infrastructure were consulted with the representatives of experts in the field, including telecommunications operators, as well as with the representatives of regional authorities. Such cooperation in a specific form is to be continued at the stage of programme implementation.

It will also be important for OP DP implementation to introduce the tools reducing the costs of deploying broadband infrastructure, which are currently generated at the national and the European

level.⁴⁷ The implementation of those mechanisms, which maximize the effectiveness of broadband project implementation due to their high level of detail and interdisciplinary nature, will be coordinated at the level of the National Broadband Plan implementation.

8.3. Coordination in the field of e-government and open government

The OP DP will provide support to nationwide public e-services, implemented in particular by central government level entities. Voivodeship offices will be able to act as independent beneficiaries of projects supporting the implementation of the “digital office” recommendation.

The ROP will provide support for e-services which are to be provided by local governments, autonomous e-service projects of regional units of government administration and projects of provision of cultural resources held by other entities than those listed in the description of specific objective 4 of OP DP.

In order to efficiently manage the interdependence between the abovementioned levels, the coordination system will be implemented based on the Coordination Team appointed by the Minister for Administration and Digitisation which will consist of i.a. representatives of all voivodeship governments and competent ministries.

The objective of the Team will be to coordinate the actions by ensuring efficient spending of public funds, including the EU funds, in the area of informatisation of the state. Its tasks will include in particular:

- monitoring of the effects of the state policy, including the impact of the cohesion policy in the area of informatisation, and formulating recommendations in this regard;
- exchange of information on projects concerning public e-services and provision of public sector information (PSI) aimed at efficient use of public funds;
- ensuring interoperability and complementarity of projects financed from OP DP and ROP, including by means of recommendations for relevant monitoring committees on the criteria of project selection in the abovementioned area;
- identification of barriers, in particular legal and organisational ones, and support for their elimination;
- identification and dissemination of good management and technological practices;
- ensuring the exchange of information about the actions at the EU, national and regional level in the field of e-government and open government;
- exchange of information about strategic actions in the field of public e-services and provision of PSI.

The effects of the Team’s work will be forwarded to: the Interministerial Team for the Programming and Implementation of the EU Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund – in the scope related directly to implementation of the Partnership Agreement or programmes, or to the Coordination Committee for the Development Policy with regard to systemic issues going beyond the scope of the Partnership Agreement.

In terms of coordination of areas where public e-services will be implemented and PSI will be provided, the Coordination Team cooperates with:

- the minister responsible for informatisation with regard to e-government, by means of the so-called “Line of Cooperation between central and local government;”
- the minister responsible for health by means of activities of the Steering Committee for coordination of EFSI intervention in the health care sector (SC), in terms of e-health;
- the Surveyor General of Poland (GGK) ensuring cooperation with representatives of regional authorities in the field of spatial information;
- the minister responsible for culture and protection of national heritage implementing coordination measures in terms of digitisation of resources of the Polish cultural heritage.

⁴⁷Related also to the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council *on measures to reduce the cost of deploying high-speed electronic communications networks* (COM(2013) 147).

The Coordination Team will support the Steering Committee for coordination of EFSI intervention in the health care sector in terms of e-health.

The OP DP will provide support for e-health projects addressed to both public and private entities. The scope of support under OP DP is different from the scope of support under ROP mainly due to nationwide nature of investments.

The minister competent for public administration is responsible for coordination in terms of spatial information infrastructure and performs tasks in this area through the Surveyor General of Poland. The Surveyor General of Poland ensures cooperation with voivodes and local government units in terms of their activities related to creation and functioning of infrastructure. He signs letters of intent, agreements with marshals, voivodes and starostes to perform the tasks related to public registers.

The synergy between OP DP and OP KED will concern in particular the spatial planning. It will be reinforced thanks to development of spatial information infrastructure under OP DP and “soft” (training) measures i.a. under OP KED 2014-2020. Training measures are necessary to increase the level and skills of using spatial data and spatial data services in Poland as a necessary element to improve the effectiveness of implementation of the tasks of administration, including tasks related to investment and construction process.

Key indicators common for OP DP and ROP will be implemented under the national IT system.

8.4. Coordination in the field of e-competences and e-inclusion

Support for e-competences financed from the European Regional Development Fund under TO2 is complementary to the intervention under the European Social Fund. Support from the ERDF is targeted at actions for e-inclusion which was explicitly indicated in investment priority 2.c. of TO2, understood as increasing the use of Internet, as well as building demand for Internet, e-services and e-content. Support from the ESF under TO 8-10 is treated as an element of the policy aimed at improving the situation in the labour market, increasing labour force participation, improving the quality of formal education and reducing the scale of social exclusion measures mainly with the level of poverty.

Pursuant to the provisions of the PA, support from the ERDF for e-inclusion will be provided at the national level i.e. under axis III of OP DP. Therefore, in the field of digital competences the coordination will concern the measures implemented under OP DP and the measures financed from the ESF at the regional and national level. It should be noted that, in principle, apart from continuation of the government programme for developing competences of pupils/students and teachers in using ICT – “Digital School”, no separate measures concerning only e-competences are planned under ROP and OP KED. The ESF support in this regard will be mostly an element of comprehensive actions for employment and labour market.

In order to ensure coordination and thus complementarity of interventions and reduction of the risk of its overlapping, the following measures are planned:

- establishment of a new or use of the existing forum for cooperation between MA OP DP, MA ROP and MA OP KED (and other authorities involved in implementation of the abovementioned programmes) to programme and implement complementary measures and solutions, discuss their effectiveness and exchange knowledge and information in the field of digital competences;
- opinions issued by the MID on provisions of ROP programme documents and proposals for project selection criteria (under specific measures) and their amendments;
- preparing proposals of recommended indicators and selection criteria for projects regarding digital competences;
- drawing up guidelines, good practices, recommendations on development of digital competences and acting for their dissemination.

8.5. Coordination with other EU policies and instruments

The Horizon 2020 Programme will provide support to research and innovation projects implementing 3 main objectives: supporting the EU's position as a world leader in science, securing industrial leadership of European enterprises in innovation and addressing challenges in the areas of the greatest importance for Europeans, such as climate and demographic change, sustainable transport and mobility or increasing the availability of renewable energy resources. The components concerning ICT will undoubtedly be of key importance under the above objectives, due to their possible cross-cutting application and innovation potential. However, the main target of support under this instrument, i.e. research, will not be implemented under OP DP, but under OP SG.

The OP DP implementation will be complementary to the scope of CEF support laid down i.a. in the Regulation (EU) No 283/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on guidelines for trans-European networks in the area of telecommunications infrastructure.

Pursuant to the above Regulation, the CEF support for widely understood e-services will be primarily targeted at "core service platforms" meaning "central hubs of digital service infrastructures aiming to ensure trans-European connectivity, access and interoperability." The "generic services", i.e. links between national infrastructures and core service platforms, will be implemented next. The prerequisite for synergy will be to ensure interoperability between national projects (OP DP) and trans-European projects (CEF) in such sectors as e-government, open data, cultural heritage resources, cybersecurity, e-procurement, registers of enterprises. The beneficiaries of OP DP will have to demonstrate links (or justify their lack) with projects and trans-European standards in the relevant sectors. This provides an opportunity to achieve interoperability on a European scale which may enhance the common market, further integrate the economies and administrations of Member States, increase the mobility of Europeans and the effectiveness of operations of enterprises. In order to seize this opportunity, entities involved in implementation of CEF must efficiently disseminate information about the scope and dates of projects and developed interoperability standards.

9. Ex-ante conditionalities

[max. 14,000 characters]

Ex ante conditionalities are important elements of the cohesion policy implementation system under the 2014-2020 financial perspective, which consists in identification of prerequisites that are critical for efficiency and effectiveness of cohesion policy investments and their fulfilment before or at the very beginning of implementation of operational programmes. Their goal is to demonstrate that a Member State ensured appropriate institutional framework (administrative capacity), regulatory framework (included in the EU directives related to the areas of intervention of funds) or strategic framework (investments co-financed from the EU funds are aligned with national investments and targeted at priority areas from the EU perspective). The inclusion of ex ante conditionalities in the regulations on the cohesion policy implies the need to fulfil them.

The general rules of using this tool are laid down in Article 19 of the Framework Regulation and Annex XI to that Regulation which presents ex ante conditionalities and the criteria for their fulfilment. The conditionalities listed in Annex XI are divided into thematic conditionalities assigned to thematic objectives and general conditionalities. Pursuant to the provisions of the Framework Regulation, draft PA and drafts of operational programmes submitted by Poland should include the self-assessment of fulfilment of conditionalities linked to the scope of planned intervention from the EU funds. If any of the criteria is not fulfilled upon submission of those documents to the European Commission, Poland should present the plan and timetable of actions leading to fulfilment of the said criterion by the end of 2016. If all ex ante conditionalities are not fulfilled by that deadline, the Commission may introduce sanctions in the form of suspension of payments for a given programme or programmes. Moreover, if upon approval of PA or programmes by the Commission, one of particularly important conditionalities is not yet fulfilled, the Commission may suspend part or all payments for a given programme from the very beginning of its implementation. The suspension will not concern pre-financing. The Member State affected may still submit payment applications, but the payments will be launched when the conditionality in question is fulfilled.

Ex ante conditionalities referring to TO2 under the Framework Regulation were formulated as follows:

- 2.1. Digital growth: A strategic policy framework for digital growth to stimulate affordable, good quality and interoperable ICT-enabled private and public services and increase uptake by citizens, including vulnerable groups, businesses and public administrations including cross border initiatives.
- 2.2. Next Generation Network (NGN) Infrastructure: The existence of national or regional NGN Plans which take account of regional actions in order to reach the Union high-speed Internet access targets, focusing on areas where the market fails to provide an open infrastructure at an affordable cost and of a quality in line with the Union competition and State aid rules, and to provide accessible services to vulnerable groups.

The Ministry of Administration and Digitization is the institution responsible for fulfilling the conditionalities for TO2. The strategic document which ensures that conditionalities 2.1 and 2.2 are fulfilled is the Efficient State Strategy (ESS) adopted by the Council of Ministers on 12 February 2013.

In addition, two implementing documents for ESS were drawn up:

- National Integrated Informatisation Programme (referring to conditionality 2.1)
- National Broadband Programme (referring to conditionality 2.2).

In addition, in line with the provisions of the ESS, actions for development of ICT were further specified in the *Policy Paper on Digital Growth of Poland by 2020 (Policy Paper)*, which based on the medium-term National Development Strategy 2020 and individual integrated development strategies, present the vision of actions for digital growth to be taken by 2020. As an auxiliary document, the *Policy Paper* serves as a reference for programming of intervention from the European Union funds, in particular the cohesion policy funds, under TO2. The document was adopted by the Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation on 15 November 2012 and then updated by MAD and re-adopted by the Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation on 21 May 2014.

9.1. Identification of ex ante conditionalities for the programme and assessment of their fulfilment

Table 25 Applicable ex ante conditionalities and assessment of their fulfilment

Ex ante conditionality applicable to the programme	Priority axis to which conditionality applies	Ex ante conditionality fulfilled: Yes/No/Partially	Criteria	Criteria fulfilled: Yes/No	Reference (reference to strategies, legal act or other relevant document, including reference to relevant sections, articles or parts, accompanied by link to website with the full text)
<p>General conditionality 1. Anti-discrimination</p> <p>The existence of administrative capacity for the implementation and application of Union anti-discrimination law and policy in the field of ESI Funds.</p>	<p>Axis 1</p> <p>Axis 2</p> <p>Axis 3</p> <p>Axis 4</p>	Partially	<p>Arrangements in accordance with the institutional and legal framework of Member States for the involvement of bodies responsible for the promotion of equal treatment of all persons throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes, including the provision of advice on equality in ESI fund-related activities</p> <p>Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of Union anti-discrimination law and policy</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	<p>Act of 3 December 2010 on the implementation of certain provisions of the European Union on equal treatment</p> <p>http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20102541700</p> <p>Agenda for equal opportunities and non-discrimination under the 2014-2020 EU funds.</p> <p>The Agenda was submitted to the European Commission by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development on 12 August 2014.</p>
<p>General conditionality 2. Gender equality</p> <p>The existence of administrative capacity for the implementation and application of Union gender equality law and policy in the field of ESI Funds.</p>	<p>Axis 1</p> <p>Axis 2</p> <p>Axis 3</p> <p>Axis 4</p>	Partially	<p>Arrangements in accordance with the institutional and legal framework of Member States for the involvement of bodies responsible for gender equality throughout the preparation and implementation of</p>	Yes	<p>Act of 3 December 2010 on the implementation of certain provisions of the European Union on equal treatment</p> <p>http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20102541700</p> <p>Agenda for equal opportunities and non-discrimination under the 2014-2020</p>

			legislation, as appropriate Arrangements to ensure monitoring of the implementation of Article 9 of the UNCRPD in relation to the ESI Funds throughout the preparation and the implementation of the programmes		
General conditionality 4. Public procurement. The existence of arrangements for the effective application of Union public procurement law in the field of the ESI Funds.	Axis 1 Axis 2 Axis 3 Axis 4	Yes	Arrangements for the effective application of Union public procurement rules through appropriate mechanisms Arrangements which ensure transparent contract award procedures Arrangements on training and dissemination of information for staff involved in the implementation of the funds Arrangements to ensure administrative capacity for implementation and application of Union public procurement rules	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Act amending the Act - Public Procurement Law, including the adjustment to the judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU in case C-465/11, i.e. amendment of Article 24(1)(1) and Article 24(1a) of the PPL http://www.uzp.gov.pl/cmsws/page/?F;248;ustawa_pzp.html
General conditionality 5. State aid. The existence of arrangements for the effective application of Union State aid rules in the field of the ESI Funds.	Axis 1 Axis 2 Axis 3 Axis 4	Yes	Arrangements for the effective application of Union State aid rules Arrangements for training and dissemination of information for staff involved in the implementation of the funds Arrangements to ensure	Yes Yes Yes	The so-called SHRIMP database (System for Scheduling, Registration and Monitoring of State Aid), http://www.uokik.gov.pl/kompetencje_przezesa_uokik_w_zakresie_pomocy_publicznej.php Act of 30 April 2004 on the procedural issues regarding State aid (i.e. Dz. U. of 2007 No 59, item 404, as amended) http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20070590404

			administrative capacity for implementation and application of Union State aid rules		
<p>General conditionality 6. Environmental legislation relating to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).</p> <p>The existence of arrangements for the effective application of Union environmental legislation related to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).</p>	<p>Axis 1 Axis 2 Axis 3 Axis 4</p>	Yes	<p>Arrangements for the effective application of directives with respect to environmental impact assessments (EIA) and strategic environment impact assessments (SEA)</p> <p>Arrangements for training and dissemination of information for staff involved in the implementation of the EIA and SEA Directives</p> <p>Arrangements to ensure sufficient administrative capacity</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Act amending the Act - Water Law and certain other acts http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20140000850</p> <p>Act on providing information on the environment and its protection, the participation of the society in environmental protection and on environmental impact assessments http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20081991227</p> <p>Regulation of the Council of Ministers on the types of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20130000817</p> <p>Act amending the Act – Geological and Mining Law and certain other acts (Dz. U. item 1238) http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20130001238</p>
<p>General conditionality 7. Statistical systems and result indicators.</p> <p>The existence of a statistical basis necessary to undertake evaluations to assess the effectiveness and impact of the programmes.</p> <p>The existence of a system of result indicators necessary to select</p>	<p>Axis 1 Axis 2 Axis 3 Axis 4</p>	YES	<p>Arrangements for timely collection and aggregation of statistical data with the following elements are in place:</p> <p>the identification of sources and mechanisms to ensure statistical</p>	YES	<p>Act on official statistics of 29 June 1995 (as amended). http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU19950880439</p>

<p>actions, which most effectively contribute to desired results, to monitor progress towards results and to undertake impact evaluation.</p>			<p>validation</p> <p>arrangements for publication and public availability of aggregated data</p> <p>An effective system of result indicators including:</p> <p>the selection of result indicators for each programme providing information on what motivates the selection of policy actions financed by the programme,</p> <p>the establishment of targets for these indicators,</p> <p>the consistency of each indicator with the following requisites: robustness and statistical validation, clarity of normative interpretation, responsiveness to policy, timely collection of data</p> <p>Procedures in place to ensure that all operations financed by the programme adopt an effective system of indicators.</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>YES</p>	
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2.1. Digital growth: A strategic policy framework for digital growth to stimulate affordable, good quality and interoperable ICT-enabled private and public services and increase uptake by citizens, including vulnerable groups, businesses and public administrations including cross border initiatives.	Axis 2 Axis 3	YES	A strategic policy framework for digital growth, for instance, within the national or regional smart specialisation strategy is in place that contains:	Yes	<p>The condition has been fulfilled by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the Efficient State Strategy (http://monitorpolski.gov.pl/mp/2013/136/1)⁴⁸ – adoption of the development programme: National Integrated Informatisation Programme (implementing document for the ESS for fulfilment of condition 2.1)⁴⁹. <p>To fulfil ex-ante conditions for objective 2, the MAD has drawn up a Policy Paper on digital growth of Poland by 2020⁵⁰ which was adopted by the Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation. It is a horizontal strategic document the Ministry of Administration and Digitization collecting and complementing the ICT issues covered by integrated strategies and presenting the vision of digital growth of Poland by 2020.</p>
			budgeting and prioritisation of actions through a SWOT or similar analysis consistent with the Scoreboard of the Digital Agenda for Europe;	Yes	<p>The ESS includes some priorities of digital growth: e-government, open public resources, broadband access, and development of information society in Poland. Detailed priorities in these areas are described in NIIP, which also presents the estimated budget.</p> <p>Due to the fact that issues concerning e-business are not addressed in ESS and NIIP, the Policy Paper on digital growth of Poland by 2020 is complementary in this regard.</p>

⁴⁸ Efficient State Strategy was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 12 February 2013 (<http://monitorpolski.gov.pl/mp/2013/136/1>),

⁴⁹ National Integrated Informatisation Programme, adopted by the Council of Ministers on 8 January 2014 (<https://mac.gov.pl/projekty/program-zintegrowanej-informatyzacji-panstwa-do-2020-r>),

⁵⁰The Policy Paper was adopted by the Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation on 15 November 2012 and then updated by MAD and re-adopted by the Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation on 21 May 2014.

			an analysis of balancing support for demand and supply of ICT should have been conducted;	Yes	The ESS does not explicitly include such an analysis due to its thematic scope. The support for demand for information and communication technologies consists mainly in increasing the interest of citizens and improving their skills in using new technologies; the issue of supply is only partially covered by the ESS (access to the Internet, e-government services). An analysis of the demand and supply-side regarding the development of e-government, including the social demand for its services, digital competences, was carried out in NIIP. Additional elements of the analysis, including those regarding e-business, are included in the Policy Paper concerning the national digital growth by 2020, a detailed demand-supply analysis concerning the accessibility of Internet network can be found in NBP.
			indicators to measure progress of interventions in areas such as digital literacy, e-inclusion, e-accessibility, and progress of e-health within the limits of Article 168 TFEU which are aligned, where appropriate, with existing relevant sectoral Union, national or regional strategies;	Yes	Such indicators at the strategy level can be found in Efficient State Strategy. NIIP supplements and details the issue in this regard.
			assessment of needs to reinforce ICT capacity-building.	Yes	The ESS refers to the needs regarding the construction of broadband networks (intervention under 5.6 Common access to high quality broadband Internet service). A development

					<p>programme, namely the National Broadband Plan, will be a supporting document.</p> <p>ESS also indicates that one of development challenges is the extensive use of ICT in building efficient administration. This is reflected in cross-section in all 7 specific objectives of the Strategy. Currently, the key element of an efficient state is a full, comprehensive and universal use of new information technologies to simplify the services and to make them available via electronic means.</p> <p>This will bring measurable benefits both for the citizens and for the public administration.</p> <p>Furthermore, a development programme, namely the National Integrated Informatisation Programme, is a document detailing e-government.</p>
<p>2.2. Next Generation Network (NGN) Infrastructure: The existence of national or regional NGN Plans which take account of regional actions in order to reach the Union high-speed Internet access targets, focusing on areas where the market fails to provide an open infrastructure at an affordable cost and of a quality in line with the Union competition and State aid rules, and to provide accessible services to vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Axis 1</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>A national or regional NGN Plan is in place that contains:</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The conditions are fulfilled by the National Broadband Plan – an implementing document for the ESS (development programme).⁵¹</p>
			<p>a plan of infrastructure investments based on an economic analysis taking account of existing private and public infrastructures and planned investments;</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>NBP is developed with regard to data concerning the existing infrastructure, investment plans of telecommunication operators and investment forecasts in the 2020 perspective developed on their basis. NBP takes account of forecasts concerning the demand for telecommunication services.</p>

⁵¹ National Broadband Plan, adopted by the Council of Ministers on 8 January 2014(https://mac.gov.pl/files/narodowy_plan_szerokopasmowy_-_08.01.2014_przyjety_przez_rm.pdf).

			<p>sustainable investment models that enhance competition and provide access to open, affordable, quality and future-proof infrastructure and services;</p>	Yes	<p>NBP presents sustainable investment models. They take into the account conclusions from publications in the area, especially Broadband Strategies Handbook (World Bank) and the report <i>Guide to broadband investment</i> (Analysys Mason) prepared for the European Commission.</p> <p>For the purposes of NBP, an expert opinion has been carried out in the framework of which, inter alia, a public resources investment model has been developed, ensuring the maximisation of the effects with the available financial resources.</p> <p>Additionally, by constant consulting of NBP in the framework of the Memorandum, these models are supplied and extended with elements which are necessary to be taken into account in the Polish telecommunication market conditions.</p>
			<p>measures to stimulate private investment.</p>	Yes	<p>One of the key objectives of the NBP is to create conditions conducive for telecommunications investments of private entities. Detailed tools have been developed in this regard, such as review of the legislation in terms of investment barriers and their elimination (reduction of costs and duration of investment), providing telecommunication installations in multifamily buildings (amendment of the Regulation on technical requirements to be met by buildings and their location).</p> <p>Moreover, the need to create a long-term financing mechanism for financing the development of broadband</p>

					infrastructure was indicated as one of key elements of stimulating private investments. NBP includes a proposal for the creation of a mechanism which will ensure financing the development of the network by obtaining funds from the "Polish Investments" programme, open pension funds and from other investors interested in long term infrastructure investments.
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9.2. Description of measures to fulfil ex-ante conditionalities

Table 26 Actions which need to be taken to fulfil the applicable ex-ante conditionalities

Unfulfilled or partly unfulfilled ex ante conditionality	Criteria not fulfilled	Measures to be taken	Deadline	Responsible authority
General conditionality 1.	Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of Union anti-discrimination law and policy	Adoption of the <i>Agenda for equal opportunities and non-discrimination under the 2014-2020 EU funds by the PA Coordination Committee</i>	Q1 2015	MID
General conditionality 2.	Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of Union gender equality law and policy as well as on gender mainstreaming	Adoption of the <i>Agenda for equal opportunities and non-discrimination under the 2014-2020 EU funds by the PA Coordination Committee</i>	Q1 2015	MID
General conditionality 3.	Arrangements for training for staff of the authorities involved in the management and control of the ESI Funds in the fields of applicable Union and national disability law and policy, including accessibility and the practical application of the UNCRPD as reflected in Union and national legislation, as appropriate	Adoption of the <i>Agenda for equal opportunities and non-discrimination under the 2014-2020 EU funds by the PA Coordination Committee</i>	Q1 2015	MID

10. Reduction of administrative burdens for beneficiaries

[max. 7,000 characters]

Poland makes continuous efforts to cut red tape imposed on citizens and economic operators. During the 2014-2020 financial perspective, the institutions responsible for the implementation of Cohesion Policy in Poland will continue the measures aimed at the introduction of the widest possible catalogue of simplifications for the beneficiaries of the EU funds.

Administrative burdens may be reduced only in the areas that are governed by the national regulations of MA or IB. It should be emphasised that the implementation system of the EU funds for 2014-2020 was planned so as to continue reducing the burdens for beneficiaries and improving their institutional capacity.

During the analysis of the experiences from the implementation of projects in the financial perspective 2007-2013, whose scope is in line with the planned OP DP intervention, i.a. the following problems of procedural and administrative nature have been identified, which negatively influence the preparation or implementation of co-financed projects:

- the effort on preparation and documentation of expenditure presented in payment applications,
- administrative burdens resulting from procedures related to public procurement,
- burdens related to reporting and with the difficulty in monitoring the physical progress of the progress,
- issues related to granting and notifying State aid,
- no inventory of telecommunication infrastructure throughout the country before 2011,
- lack of clear solutions and models (guidelines) concerning the model for implementing projects by public entities in the area of telecommunication (e.g. regarding public-private partnership, services provided in the general economic interest, etc.).

In order to reduce these and other administrative burdens, the following simplifying measures for the beneficiaries were undertaken in the programming period 2007-2013:

OP IE 2007-2013:

- simplifications in the project-accounting system were introduced and procedures related to the documentation of expenditure were modified,
- the obligation of the applicant to submit a financial analysis was limited to cases where a project included investment in telecommunication infrastructure,
- an electronic project monitoring system was developed for automatic transfer of information and allowing to generate different types of cross-section reports,
- intensive training on the procedures connected with public procurement was carried out, also in the form of individual support for the beneficiaries and ex ante and ex post controls concerning tender documents.

ROP and OP DEP 2007-2013:

- working-level meetings and workshops were conducted with the participation of representatives from Office of Electronic Communications, JASPERS and EC regarding problems connected with the implementation of projects,
- meetings and training activities concerning the area of broadband infrastructure, including the issues of State aid,
- studies supporting local government units in the implementation of broadband projects have been made available,
- cyclical videoconferences in the framework of Broadband Task Force were carried out, financed from EU funds with local government (beneficiaries) and government with the aim to improve the implementation of broadband projects,
- Memorandum of Cooperation for the construction and development of broadband between government administration, local government and telecommunication market representatives was established to create a more friendly legal and administrative environment for constructing telecommunication infrastructure and information society,
- Line of Cooperation supporting the cooperation between the local government and the government was established, which allows consultations regarding the assumptions for Communication and Information projects at the early stage in the area of electronisation of

administration services, e-skills and digital participation, the issues of open government and the creation of broadband from EU funds.

OP HC 2007-2013:

- the requirement for project implementers to submit additional annexes (information given in the application form was confirmed by the project implementer only by submitting an appropriate statement and verified only at the stage of signing a co-financing contract) together with a co-financing application was dropped,
- the obligation of Contest Organizing Institutions to enable the applicants to supplement or change the submitted application to the extent not changing its content (e.g. when an appropriate stamp or signature is missing from the application) was introduced,
- Contest Organizing Institutions were given the possibility to state in the given contest documentation that the application for co-financing may be submitted electronically via ePUAP or by any other equivalent medium allowing to identify the person/persons submitting the application,
- the methodology of settling indirect costs through a lump sum was simplified,
- a detailed catalogue of errors which a reviewer of a payment application can correct without consultation was developed and submitted to institutions engaged in the implementation of OP HC,
- institutions engaged in the implementation of OP HC were allowed to exempt the beneficiaries from the obligation to submit bank statements together with the payment application.

These experiences and introduced solutions as well as conclusions and recommendations from socio-economic partners and institutions engaged in the implementation of such projects, formulated in the course of preparatory work for the programme will be taken into consideration in determining the rules of OP DP implementation and the implementation of co-financed operations. However, it should be underlined that in relation to any problem areas identified during the OP DP implementation, the measures will be taken to eliminate the source of these problems.

Additionally, attention should be paid to the fact that the reduction of beneficiaries' burden arising from procedures of handling administrative matters should also be fostered by projects implemented under OP DP axis II and created under its public e-service whose aim is to, inter alia, reduce bureaucracy in offices as well as improve and shorten the above-mentioned procedures and as a result to provide services more effectively.

11. Horizontal principles

OP DP will be implemented according to the horizontal rules described in section 1.5 of PA. Especially OP DP, due to the thematic objectives pursued, will directly contribute to the implementation of the principles of: sustainable development, equal opportunities and anti-discrimination and equality between women and men. Moreover, the obligation of the MA, in case of aid from ESIF granted to a large entrepreneur, to ensure that the financial contribution from the funds will not result in considerable job losses in the existing locations of this entrepreneur within the European Union will contribute to applying the principle of sustainable development, understood as seeking economic growth and equitable benefit-sharing, aimed at achieving responsible, long-term growth in which various communities will participate.

11.1 Sustainable development

[max. 5,500 characters]

The implementation of OP DP will be carried out in accordance with the sustainable development rule in the meaning of Community and national law at each stage of its preparation and implementation.

At the programming stage, including consultations concerning the shape and provisions of OP DP, the participation of partners from the environmental sector was ensured, who will play an important role in the programme implementation and monitoring process, i.a. through participation in OP DP Monitoring Committee.

At the stage of project selection, adequate criteria will be proposed immediately, designed to evaluate a project in terms of all elements of environmental governance (as environmental dimension of sustainable development) and social governance in the context of health and cultural heritage protection. On the one hand, this solution will enable to eliminate projects with a justified concern of their implementation resulting in negative environmental impacts (e.g. discontinuity of eco-corridors), while on the other hand this solution helps to evaluate the scope of potential benefits for the environment (direct and indirect) from the implementation of a given investment (e.g. the use of degraded or devastated land, the use of existing broadband infrastructure and data collection and processing centres or resource saving through the reduction of the circulation of documentation). These criteria will be formulated on the basis of three groups of issues: quality of space, emission/use of raw materials and quality of life, while their selection will depend on the type of project and its belonging to a given priority axis of the programme.

Monitoring the effects of the implementation of OP DP provisions will include the identification of the impact on the environment and human health and will be two-directional. The first direction will directly include the implementation of the specific objectives pursued as well as the product and the result with regard to particular priority axes, while the other monitoring direction should include the aspects of the environmental impacts of the project as set out in the Act of 3 October 2008 *on providing information on the environment and its protection, the participation of the society in environmental protection and on environmental impact assessments*. According to the programme specification, in this context the potential effects of OP DP implementation include reduction of the digital exclusion phenomenon, effective resource management (i.a. through reducing traditional circulation of letters and documents) or reduction of the pressure on the environment (e.g. reduction of the physical movement of the potential customers to appropriate public institutions with the use of means of transport).

At the same time, it needs to be underlined that the conducted analysis of priority axes and investment priorities and the evaluation of environmental impacts showed that a significant part of projects undertaken in the framework of OP DP will not influence the environment directly. Some of the measures connected with building, extending or restructuring the infrastructure (e.g. buildings, communication and information systems or broadband networks) may have a negative impact on the environment, however, their influence on the environment will be of a transitory character as long as the implementation is carried out in accordance with the applicable legal norms and recommendations of environmental authorities, which will eliminate or minimise the negative impact on the environment. Due to their scale, the implementation of most types of projects will not contribute to significant

pollutant emissions or emissions of greenhouse gases which would have a negative impact on the climate.

When it comes to building telecommunication infrastructure under axis I, it needs to be noted that due to the technologies used at the stage of construction and use of Internet networks, these projects are usually neutral in terms of environmental policy, both at the European and national level. Moreover, the issue of the environmental impact of a project, including, e.g. rational and optimal use of the existing or planned infrastructure, such as e.g. technological channels and energy infrastructure, is planned to be taken into consideration during the procedure of evaluation co-financing applications.

In the case of axis II, it is assumed that creation of the infrastructure necessary for the development of advanced e-services for citizens and entrepreneurs will depend on the demonstration of non-availability of resources in this regard in the existing or planned public administration infrastructure or on the lack of justification for the implementation of such solutions offered on the market. In the case of measures implemented under this axis, as a rule, projects will contribute to a more effective use of resources (i.a. through reducing traditional circulation of letters and documents or increasing the possibility to handle matters without the need to appear in the office in person, a remote access of citizens to public sector information).

Under axis III, linked with the improvement of digital competences and counteracting digital exclusion, due to its "soft" character the implementation of projects with significant impact on the environment is not expected. Indirectly, however, the knowledge acquired by end beneficiaries will result in more effective resource management due to the use of the Internet as a medium facilitating functioning in the environment.

11.2 Equal opportunities and non-discrimination

[max. 5,500 characters]

According to Article 7 of the Framework Regulation, the Member States shall take appropriate steps to prevent any discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation during the preparation and implementation of programmes.

A dynamic development of the Internet also means an increase of its meaning in various aspects of life, e.g. by ensuring a quick access to information, knowledge or culture, enabling the use of various services provided by electronic means, such as e.g. banking services, or simply providing entertainment. Opportunities to participate in public life, use the information and public services, digital culture, etc. for the persons who do not use the Internet for various reasons are increasingly limited, which might result in marginalisation of their meaning in a society and, as a result, to social exclusion. The aim of the measures implemented under OP DP is to contribute to improving the quality of life through the use of opportunities of modern ICT, and at the same time they might contribute to limiting such unfavourable phenomena as social exclusion.

In order to become a legitimate user of modern ICT, it is necessary to have access to high-speed Internet. The OP DP envisages mainly the implementation of investments regarding construction, extension or reconstruction of access networks. Support and its amount will depend on the investment needs identified in a given area which result from their specific circumstances and will concern especially remote and marginalized areas with a deficit in the Internet access and where, i.a. due to the lack of economic viability, the investments mentioned above have not been implemented before. In order to counteract digital exclusion, OP DP undertakes measures whose recipients are groups which are especially vulnerable to the occurrence of the phenomenon mentioned above. The support consists in building and developing digital competences and taking measures for e-inclusion following the identification of the needs mentioned above, disadvantaged groups in the society, including i.a. assistance in the field of gaining and developing IT and information skills with the use of i.a. training programmes, didactic materials and specialist applications directed mostly at groups at risk of digital exclusion.

Intervention under OP DP will contribute to ensuring better a communication concerning contracts between the citizens and public institutions through the implementation of measures for the open access to digital content and public services. In this context, it is necessary to ensure that all the available measures and solutions are designed in a universal way, i.e. to respond to the needs of all users and that they ensure their equal access to the support offered, e.g. through suitably designed interfaces (clear, intuitive and simple).

The designed systems will be obliged to comply with at least WCAG 2.0. standards, e.g. it is necessary for the digitisation process to include OCR (Optical Character Recognition) and development of extra services (e.g. audio description or subtitles for the deaf and sign language interpreting).

Additionally, information and education activities are carried out to increase the social awareness in terms of the need to design IT systems in such a way that they ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities (non-discrimination) in terms of the access to those systems.

11.3 Equality between men and women

[max. 5,500 characters]

According to Article 7 of the Framework Regulation, the Member States shall ensure that equality between men and women and the integration of gender perspective are taken into account and promoted throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes, including in relation to monitoring, reporting and evaluation and shall take appropriate steps to prevent any discrimination.

In consideration of the above, it should be noted that the condition for reaching sustainable economic and social development is ensuring an equal share in all spheres of social life for both women and men, including the participation in decision-making processes and access to labour market, high-quality education, health care – regardless of their ethnic origin, age, health, mental and physical performance, place of residence, economic status, parental status, religion or belief, psychosexual orientation, etc. The OP DP will be implemented in line with the principle of equal opportunities within the meaning of EU and national law, which will be reflected both in the process of programming, implementation and monitoring of control, information and promotion and in the implementation of projects.

At the same time, it needs to be indicated that the general assumption is that OP DP and its intervention are not indifferent to the issues of equal opportunities, noticing the possible dimensions of the impact of the project. It needs to be indicated that provision of access to the Internet is not an element determining the scope of digital exclusion, and the way and scope of the use of digital tools and Internet resources are strongly correlated with such features of the recipients as sex, age, disability or economic situation. Moreover, in the case of projects targeted specifically at citizens, i.a. concerning the provision of public e-services and aiming at developing digital competences of the society and disseminating ICT, the implemented projects will take into consideration the principle of gender equality which is expressed both through its promotion at the programming stage and during the whole period of implementation and lifetime of projects.

12. Additional elements

12.1. List of major projects

Table 27 List of major projects

Title of the project	Planned notification/submission date (year, quarter)	Planned date of the start of implementation of the project (year, quarter)	Planned date of the end of implementation of the project (year, quarter)	Priority axis

12.2. Performance framework of the operational programme

Table 28 Performance framework of the programme (summary table)

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit	Milestone for 2018	Target value (2023)
I	ERDF	Less developed regions	Additional households covered by broadband access to the Internet with the capacity of at least 30 Mbps	Number	0	679,682
I	ERDF	Less developed regions	Additional households covered by broadband access to the Internet with the capacity of at least 30 Mbps on the basis of the target value of project co-financing contracts concluded	Number	475,777	-
I	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	183,389,995	1,119,793,809
I	ERDF	More developed region	Additional households covered by broadband access to the Internet with the capacity of at least 30 Mbps	Number	0	46,835
I	ERDF	More developed region	Additional households covered by	Number	32,785	-

			broadband access to the Internet with the capacity of at least 30 Mbps on the basis of the target value of project co-financing contracts concluded			
I	ERDF	More developed region	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	14,002,012	85,497,394
II	ERDF	Less developed regions	Number of public services available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (bilateral interaction)	Number	0	147
II	ERDF	Less developed regions	Number of public services available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (bilateral interaction) on the basis of the target value of project co-financing contracts concluded	Number	24	-
II	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	174,515,517	1,038,978,516
II	ERDF	More developed region	Number of public services available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (bilateral interaction)	Number	0	12
II	ERDF	More developed region	Number of public services available on-line with the maturity level of at least 3 (bilateral interaction) on the basis of the target value of project co-financing contracts concluded	Number	2	-

II	ERDF	More developed region	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	13,947,428	83,090,352
III	ERDF	Less developed regions	Number of persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services)	Persons	0	372,535
III	ERDF	Less developed regions	Number of persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services) based on target value from concluded contracts on project co-financing	Persons	149,014	-
III	ERDF	Less developed regions	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	25,981,822	158,647,061
III	ERDF	More developed region	Number of persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services)	Persons	0	27,070
III	ERDF	More developed region	Number of persons covered by training in using the Internet (including e-services) based on target value from concluded contracts on project co-financing	Persons	10,828	-
III	ERDF	More developed region	Total amount of certified eligible expenditure	EUR	2,077,848	12,687,500

12.3. The list of partners involved in the preparation of the programme

[max. 10,500 characters]

- 1 Business Centre Club
- 2 Centralny Ośrodek Informatyki (Center for Information Technology)
- 3 Centrum Cyfrowe Projekt: Polska (Digital Centre Project: Poland)
- 4 Centrum Studiów Regulacyjnych (Regulatory Studies Centre)
- 5 Centrum Systemów Informacyjnych Ochrony Zdrowia (Centre of Health Information Systems)
- 6 European Centre for Enterprise
- 7 EUROREG, University of Warsaw
- 8 Forum Dostępnej Cyberprzestrzeni (Accessible Cyberspace Forum)
- 9 Trade Unions Forum
- 10 Fundacja Aktywizacja formerly Fundacja Pomocy Matematykom i Informatykom Niepełnym Ruchowo (Activation Foundation formerly Assistance for Mathematicians and IT Specialists with Physical Disabilities Foundation)
- 11 Foundation Institute for Regional Development
- 12 Modern Poland Foundation
- 13 The Panoptikon Foundation
- 14 Information Society Development Foundation
- 15 Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography
- 16 Google Poland
- 17 Infostrategia Andrzej Szczerba i Wspólnicy, Spółka jawna
- 18 National Institute of Telecommunications
- 19 Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computational Modelling, University of Warsaw
- 20 National Headquarters of the State Fire Service
- 21 Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland
- 22 Polish Chamber of Commerce for Electronics and Telecommunications
- 23 National Ethernet Communication Chamber
- 24 Mazovia Cluster ICT
- 25 Ministry of Administration and Digitization
- 26 Ministry of National Education
- 27 Ministry of Finance
- 28 Ministry of Economy
- 29 Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
- 30 Ministry of Science and Higher Education
- 31 Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
- 32 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- 33 Ministry of Sport and Tourism
- 34 Ministry of the Interior
- 35 Ministry of Justice
- 36 Ministry of Health
- 37 National Audiovisual Institute
- 38 National Federation of NGOs
- 39 Polish Agency for Enterprise Development
- 40 Polish Chamber of Information Technology and Telecommunications
- 41 Polish Chamber for Electronic Communication
- 42 Polska Konfederacja Pracodawców Prywatnych „Lewiatan” (Polish Confederation of Private

	Employers “Lewiatan”)
43	Polish Tourism Organisation
44	Polish Information Processing Society
45	Employers of Poland
46	Prosecution General
47	„Cities on the Internet” Association
48	Trusted Information Consulting Sp. z o.o.
49	Poznań University of Economics
50	Office of Electronic Communications
51	Związek Pracodawców Branży Internetowej IAB Polska (IAB Poland, Internet Industry Employers' Association)
52	The Union of the Provinces of the Republic of Poland

13. List of abbreviations and terms

A2A	Administration to Administration
A2B	Administration to Business
A2C	Administration to Citizen
API	Application Programming Interface
R&D	Research and Development
BDOT500	Database of Topographical Objects
BIP	Biuletyn Informacji Publicznej (Public Information Bulletin)
CEF	Connecting Europe Facility
CIT	Corporate Income Tax
CRPI	Central Repository of Public Information
TO	Thematic objective within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
Accessibility	A feature of information and services (including digital services) which consists in the fact that information and services are presented and provided in a way which is adjusted to perceptive abilities of different types of users.
Availability	A feature of information and services which consists in the fact that information and services are actually presented and provided and that there is a possibility to access them via the Internet in a reliable and convenient way.
Cost directive	Directive 2014/61/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on measures to reduce the cost of deploying high-speed electronic communications networks
DAE	Digital Agenda for Europe
EIB	European Investment Bank
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
ESF	European Social Fund
EGIB	Land and buildings register
ePUAP	Electronic Platform of Public Administration Services
ERP	Enterprise resource planning
EU 2020	Europe 2020 strategy
FTTH	Fibre To The Home - one of optical fibre architectures of access network where the optical network termination point is located at the subscriber's premises.
GB	Gigabyte
GGK	Surveyor General of Poland
GESUT	Geodetic register of infrastructural networks
CSO	Central Statistical Office

AA	Audit authority within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
CA	Certifying authority within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
INSPIRE	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community – EU directive establishing a legal framework for the establishment and operation of an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe.
IB	Intermediate body within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
PSI	Public sector information
IT	Information technology
IW	Implementing body within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
MA	Managing authority within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
LGU	Local government units
EC	European Commission
NRP	National Reform Programme
KPRM	Chancellery of the Prime Minister
KRMC	Council of Ministers' Committee for Digitisation
NIS	National Information System
MAD	Ministry of Administration and Digitization
Mb	Megabyte
MF	Ministry of Finance
MID	Ministry of Infrastructure and Development
MCNH	Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
NGA	Next Generation Access
NBP	National Broadband Plan
ASI	Areas of strategic intervention
PESEL number	Civil Registration Number
P1	Project under axis 7 of OP IE “Electronic Platform for Collection, Analysis and Sharing of digital Medical Records”
P2	Project under axis 7 of OP IE “Platform for sharing services and resources of digital medical records with on-line business”
PUP	Powiat Employment Office
IP	Investment priority within the meaning of the Framework Regulation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
OP	Operational Programme

OP IE	Operational Programme Innovative Economy
OP SG	Operational Programme Smart Growth
OP HC	Operational Programme Human Capital
OP DP	Operational Programme Digital Poland
OP TA	Operational Programme Technical Assistance
OP DEP	Operational Programme Development of Eastern Poland
OP KED	Operational Programme Knowledge-Education-Development
RDP	Rural Development Programme
CP	Cohesion policy
PZGIK	National geodesy and cartographic resources
NIIP	National Integrated Informatisation Programme
Framework Regulation	Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006
ROP	Regional Operational Programmes
ESS	Efficient State Strategy
EUSBSR	EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
SWOT analysis	A strategic analysis which is an acronym of the words Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
EU	European Union
UKE	Office of Electronic Communications
PA	Partnership Agreement
VAT	Value Added Tax
WCAG	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines - guidelines of an international non-government organisation World Wide Web Consortium regarding the availability of Internet content.
IAEP	Implementing Authority for European Programmes
ZUS	Social Insurance Institution