

**Organization of World Expositions „EXPO”** – PARP was entrusted organization of two Polish participations in World EXPO expositions. In 2008, there was an exposition in Saragossa. Polish pavilion was visited by 400 000 people and received Third Prize in the most attractive pavilion category. PARP was also responsible for Polish participation during EXPO 2010 in Shanghai. Poland Pavilion was visited by a record amount of 8 million visitors and was awarded the silver medal for the most creative presentation during EXPO 2010.

**Publishing activity** – Polish Agency for Enterprise Development has been carrying on publishing activity since 1966. Every year around 30 new titles are published concerning issues such as entrepreneurship, condition of the SME sector, innovation and technology, and development of human resources. Moreover, PARP prepares and publishes information materials and guides for enterprises concerning inter alia realization and settlement of projects financed from European Union resources.

2011

## Polish Agency for Enterprise Development



**Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP)** is a governmental agency that is under authority of the Minister of Economy. It was created by virtue of the act of 9 November 2000. The tasks carried out by the Agency are financed from the government budget and European Union funds.

**The mission of PARP** is to create positive conditions for sustainable development of the Polish economy by supporting innovation and international activity of enterprises, and to promote environment friendly methods of production and consumption.

**The goal of PARP** is to realize economy development programmes supporting innovative and research activities of small and medium enterprises, as well as regional development, export growth, new jobs creation, human resources development and use of new technologies.

## Strategic priorities of PARP

- Creation of favourable conditions development of patterns for sustainable production and consumption
- Enhancement of the Agency as a partner for creating good conditions for the enterprise development
- Creation of positive conditions for development of enterprises' innovation
- Provision of high quality and effectiveness of actions carried out by the Agency

## Structural Funds 2007-2013

Under financial perspective 2007-2013, the Agency is responsible for implementation of actions under three operational programmes:

**OP IE** Innovative Economy

**OP DEP** Development of Eastern Poland

**OP HC** Human Capital

The key role of the **Operational Programme Innovative Economy (PO IG)** is to support development of innovative enterprises and competitiveness of the Polish economy. Under PO IG financing is provided to projects on the national or international level, connected mainly with the use of new technology solutions, products, services or organizations. The task of the programme is also to make access to financing innovative undertakings taken by small and medium enterprises (SME) easier; it is also aimed at promotional activities for the benefit of the economy, export and enhancement of the image of Poland as a country which is attractive to investors. The programme is to encourage companies for example to carry on research and development activity and to transfer solutions from the science into the business. Advantage of the actions implemented by PARP under PO IG can be taken both by enterprises and business environment. Actions implemented by the Agency under PO IG are worth EUR 3.9 bn.

The goal of **Operational Programme Human Capital (PO KL)** is to increase level of employment and to make the idea of improving professional qualifications more popular among people. PARP, as part of realization of the programme targets, tries to enhance competitiveness of companies by increasing investments in human capital (first of all through trainings) and by improvement of access to high quality services supporting enterprise development. To actions connected with PO KL programme EUR 672 million has been allotted. Beneficiaries of this program are mainly enterprises and their employees, as well as economical and social partners, scientific and research-and-development entities, technology parks, technology transfer centres, business incubators, training institutions, institutions and centres promoting enterprise, people who want to start their own economic activity, government and self-government administration and media.

The goal of **Operational Programme Development of Eastern Poland (PO RPW)** is to increase the speed of social and economical development in the so called "Eastern Wall" provinces, i.e. lubelskie, podkarpackie, podlaskie, świętokrzyskie and warmińsko-mazurskie. Support under the programme will be provided mainly to initiatives connected with improvement of road network, preparation of lands for investments, development of institutions of higher education, congress infrastructure, technology parks, wideband Internet access networks and development of ecological public transport. Subsidies will be provided to projects increasing tourist and investment attraction of the five Eastern provinces and indirectly the funds will stimulate innovation and resourcefulness of the residents. It is the best investment ensuring durable social and economic development of those regions. The pool of funds allotted to realization of the programme amounts to over EUR 2.67 bn.

## PARP Initiatives

PARP initiatives are focused on stimulation and creation of entrepreneurial attitudes, support and development of competitiveness of companies, as well as development of personnel, business environment institutions and regions. The Agency is involved in research and analytical activity within its competence, which is to identify the needs of enterprises, especially small- and medium-sized, in order to use that knowledge to create propositions of new actions that will influence (positively) the business, innovation and human resources development.

### Examples of projects carried out under PARP initiatives:

**Portal "We are supporting e-business"** – it is a system project. Its main task is to popularize the idea of information society and economy based on knowledge by increasing the enterprises' awareness of the offer of actions 8.1 and 8.2 of POIG ([www.web.gov.pl](http://www.web.gov.pl)).

**Polish Future Product (PPP)** – a competition that has been organized since 1997. Its goal is to promote and popularise innovative techniques and technologies that are likely to become known on the Polish market. This initiative is aimed at innovative enterprises, research and development units, research institutes, experimental institutions, as well as individual inventors from the European Union countries ([www.ppp.pi.gov.pl](http://www.ppp.pi.gov.pl)).

**Innovation Portal** – it is a source of information about innovation support methods and technology transfer. The website provides information about e.g. availability of new technologies, sources of financing innovations, institutions, as well as programs supporting innovation ([www.pi.gov.pl](http://www.pi.gov.pl)).

**PARP Academy** – an educational portal designed for small and medium enterprises. Its task is to popularize e-learning by allowing access to free Internet trainings ([www.akademiaparp.gov.pl](http://www.akademiaparp.gov.pl)).

**Enterprise Europe Network** – the was created within Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme. This network comprises almost 600 centres affiliated to institutions supporting enterprise development in the European Union and other countries. Consultants of this network offer comprehensive services for small and medium enterprises, which are to help them to fully develop potential and innovation capacities. More info can be found at ([www.een.org.pl](http://www.een.org.pl)).

**National Services System for Small and Medium enterprises** – a network of 200 co-operating non-commercial organisations that provide advisory, information, training and financial services for micro entrepreneurs, small and medium enterprises and entities starting business activity.

**National Innovation Network** – a group of service providers who offer pro-innovative advisory services, such as technological audit, evaluation of technological potential and technological needs of the enterprise, as well as performance of technology transfer processes.

**Consulting Desks** – a country-wide network of departments providing free-of-charge information services for enterprises and people who want to start business activity in the matter of general enterprise development and accessible forms of support for enterprises.