



Annual report on the implementation of the Operational Programme
Infrastructure and Environment 2014-2020 for 2018

SUMMARY

About the programme

Infrastructure and Environment 2014-2020 is the largest programme funded from the European Funds not only in Poland but in the European Union.

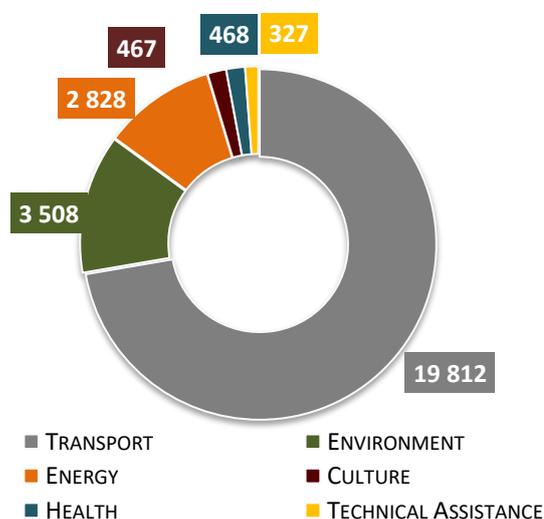
Major areas for which the funds shall be allocated are: low-carbon economy, environmental protection, adaptation to climate change, transport and energy security as well as healthcare and cultural heritage.

The programme is funded from three sources:

- **European Regional Development Fund**, allocating EUR 4,905.9 million,
- **Cohesion Fund**, with the amount of EUR 22,507.9 million,
- **National funds** – public and private whose minimal involvement is EUR 4,852.7 million.

Areas of support under the programme:

1. Low-emission economy;
2. Environmental protection, including adaptation to climate change;
3. Development of the TEN-T road network and multimodal transport;
4. Road infrastructure for cities;
5. Development of the railway transport in Poland;
6. Development of low-carbon mass transport in cities;
7. Improving energy security;
8. Protection of cultural heritage and development of cultural resources;
9. Strengthening the strategic healthcare infrastructure.



Review of the implementation of the programme

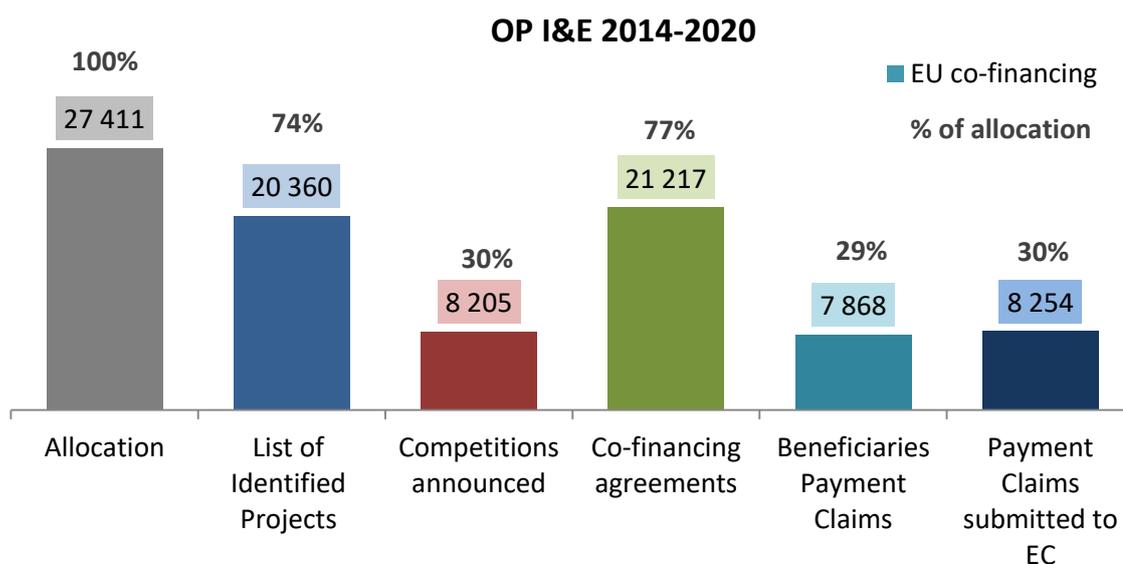
The Infrastructure and Environment Programme was approved by the European Commission on 16 December 2014.

In 2018:

- the project selection criteria were adopted and some of them updated;
- new projects were introduced to the *List of projects identified under the non-competition procedure*;
- new competitions for operations were announced and applications submitted were being assessed;
- the process of signing co-financing agreements and applying for payments has been continued.

By the end of 2018:

- we announced **86 competitions** in all sectors: energy, environment, transport, culture and health, for the amount of funding of **EUR 8.2 billion**¹;
- the *List of projects identified under the non-competition procedure* contained **700 projects** with the estimated amount of EU funding of **EUR 20.4 billion**;
- we signed **2 070 co-funding** agreements for the amount of EU support of **EUR 21.2 billion**
- beneficiaries submitted **payment claims** for the amount of more than **EUR 11 billion** of which the amount of EU funding was **EUR 7.9 billion**;
- we submitted to the European Commission **payment claims** for the amount of **eligible expenditure of EUR 9.7 billion**, the requested amount was **EUR 8.25 billion**.



¹ Financial data according to the EBC exchange rate from January 2019 - 4,3028PLN/EUR.

Issues affecting the implementation of the programme and the appropriate measures taken

- The horizontal issue that affected all investment projects in the program in 2018 was the increase in project costs as a result of tender procedures
- The increase in investment costs results from the unfavorable situation on the construction services market. As a result of cost overruns beneficiaries are forced to cancel the tenders, which causes delays in the implementation of projects. Institutions involved in the implementation of priority axes analyze each case where the project costs have increased as a result of the tender procedure. As the funds are available, in justified cases, there are decisions taken to increase co-financing for projects, after prior assurance of compliance with the selection criteria. In case of cities that overcome problems with the settlement of the main tenders due to the significant overruns of the offered prices, each case is being analysed individually in cooperation with beneficiaries.

Other priority axes are implemented without major disruptions. Encountered issues were solved on a daily basis.

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