



## **Social Empowerment in Rural Areas of the Baltic Sea Region (SEMPRE)**

### **1. Capacity for innovation**

#### **1.3 Non-technological innovation**

#### **WHY SEMPRE and SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT?**

INTERREG is about fostering and supporting partners from around the Baltic Sea area in order to learn from each other, to share experience and to develop new products and innovative approaches jointly.

SEMPRE intends to network and cooperate on a transnational basis - our partnership has a comprehensive knowledge base and will enrich competences and skills of organisations from other EU countries and regions, and individuals including Greater Poland region. This is the surplus of working transnationally!

The project design foresees a combination of transnational activities and parallel regional processes that are intertwined and reinforcing each other. The partnership jointly develops a methodology, reference framework and evaluation approach. The implementation and testing is carried out by the partners in their own regions, and results are fed back into the transnational partnership.

According to the INTERREG Programme design, our main focus is on capacity building of professionals working in the social service sector. Enabling the staff to work with their end users /beneficiaries / clients /customers more effectively and efficiently will contribute to a sustainable and affordable social infrastructure on a financially sound basis.

Micro projects are testing ground for this innovative approach.



SEMPRE follows a multi-level and cross-sector approach. This diversity is mirrored in the project results and products (among them the empowering tools).

Social service providers will deploy more and better tools for empowering members of marginalised groups starting from the macro (European) till micro (local) level.

SEMPRE is understood to be a laboratory for experiment and development. The Handbook will illustrate and summarise processes of how new ways and forms of learning and cooperation between service staff and end users are developed, implemented and evaluated in order to equip stakeholders within and outside the SEMPRE project context with knowledge of improving services in their particular regions.

Recommendations will target political levels and the frameworks (financial, political, juridical) which support or hinder the development of services and the social economy in a broader sense.

The end users, their expectations and needs are but one focus of SEMPRE!

## **WHY SEMPRE IN/FOR POLAND/ GREATER POLAND REGION?**

*Greater Poland (Wielkopolska) region:*

- area: 29 826 km<sup>2</sup>, 2nd largest in Poland
- together 3 462 196 inhabitants-3rd highest in Poland (data 2012)
- 95,0% are rural areas with 1 542 079 inhabitants, that is about 44,5% of the whole region

(Source: Powierzchnia i ludność w przekroju terytorialnym w 2013 r., Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2013, [http://www.stat.gov.pl/gus/5840\\_908\\_PLK\\_HTML.html](http://www.stat.gov.pl/gus/5840_908_PLK_HTML.html))

*SEMPRE is answering the social needs of Poland and Greater Poland region, including social challenges described in publications (in Polish) :*

1. WIELKOPOLSKA 2020 ZAKTUALIZOWANA STRATEGIARozwoju WOJEWÓDZTWA WIELKOPOLSKIEGO DO 2020 ROKU (The strategy of Greater Poland voivodeship till 2020)
2. RYNEK PRACY NA OBSZARACH WIEJSKICH W WIELKOPOLSCE. DETERMINANTY MOŻLIWOŚCI I OGRANICZENIA ROZWOJU, Raport pełny z badania, Samorząd Województwa Wielkopolskiego Wojewódzki Urząd Pracy w Poznaniu, 2014 (Labour market in the rural areas in the Greater Poland. Opportunities and development limits. Full report on behalf of Local government of Greater Poland voivodeship and Greater Poland Labour Office in Poznań)
3. OBSZARY WIEJSKIE POLSKI ZACHODNIEJ W WARUNKACH DYNAMIZACJI ZMIAN STRUKTURALNYCH Mirosław Struś, Henryk Łabędzki, Adam Czarnecki, WROCŁAW, kwiecień 2011 (Rural areas of Western Poland under the dynamic structural changes)
4. Ekspertyza Rozwoju obszarów wiejskich w kontekście zróżnicowań przestrzennych w Polsce i budowania spójności terytorialnej kraju, dr Andrzej Hałasiewicz (Inquiry of experts on development of rural areas in Poland under the context of spatial differences and building of territorial cohesion)

***The benefits for Greater Poland region with SEMPRE project - Micro project: Local Point/Centre of Activities for Youth***

Target groups: all (youth, students, NGOs, other local initiative groups)

1. Youth in general 13-19/20 (gymnasium, high school)
2. Youth from orphanages and foster homes
3. Youth with physical disabilities
4. Students with physical disabilities

**Service:**

workshops, group and individual coaching, different hobbies (helping youth to discover their potential and their 'element'- what they good at and what they like to do); meetings and study visits with local entrepreneurs

**Actors:**

NGOs, actors/musicians/other hobbies' practitioners, coaches, psychologist etc., local entrepreneurs, local authorities, schools

**Results:**

- Enhancing the youth, other special groups to cooperate together (going out of their homes) and take local initiatives
- Developing of self-esteem, proactivity attitude and 'it is doable' approach (I can!)
- 1 place where different groups can spend their time with others 'similar' to them (outside of schools or homes) with the aim to contribute
- Joint developing of products and services which are supporting social innovations and service innovations
- renewing public services through innovations- after the project is finished the local centres could be run by the local authorities (yet the challenge may be the lack of trust towards the local authority) or by an NGO with support (also financial) of local governmental that could secure the sustainability of the results (also after 2020 when we UE funds will be very limited for Poland)



- we need to bring the beneficiaries together and help them invent and collaborate as well as match make them with other actors

Budget 3,5 year, about 300.000 EUR

Budget overall for all partners 5 Mio. EUR

### **WHY THE FOUNDATION PERITIA as a PARTNER IN POLAND/ GREATER POLAND REGION?**

Our contribution to the project that guarantees the quality as well as manageability of caring on the project.

*Our motto: Unleash your awareness, educate yourself and act!*

*Our passion is to give and share knowledge and we spread this passion all over the world.*

*By this we change the way people think and thus the world is changing!*

More than 2400 participants in the period 03.2010-12.2014 (youth, students, NGOs)

The main aim of the Foundation is to carry out comprehensive activity towards the concept of lifelong learning through:

- additional education for children and the youth
- the lifelong learning of adults
- conducting training and educational activities

relating to the improvement of professional qualifications, full social presence and the individual personal development.

It serves also to fulfill the gap between the traditional educational system and the needs of the dynamically changed environment as well as the great rate of change in the present world.

The Foundation PERITIA works closely together with external coaches, trainers, facilitators, specialists from broad environment as well as with other non-governmental organizations, public institutions and private companies in order to guarantee the highest educational level as well as unique educational programs.

So far (2010-2016) we have worked with over 60 entrepreneurs/business people, over 20 trainers/coaches/practitioners/speakers, about 25 voluntary workers.

Additionally we have :

1. Coaching experience (Monika Lagodzinska, certified coach ACC ICF, the CEO of the Foundation PERITIA)
2. Practice in working with youth (14-20 years from high schools, gymnasiums)- own development, career coaching, self-esteem and initiative, proactive attitude
3. Practice in working with students and also students with disabilities (handicapped)- own development, career coaching, self-esteem and initiative, proactive attitude
4. Consulting/support for local NGO- the NGO Poznan Centre is a kind of umbrella organisation for NGOs from Great Poland region (workshop, coaching, consulting etc.). Over 3700 in our database. Contact point for other NGOs.

### **Our activities 2010-2016**

#### *COACHING FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH 2012-2015*

(role of creator and organiser and the coach)

Foundation 'PERITIA' performed coaching sessions as a part of the project Youth Academy of Responsible Business Leaders. The project was enforced by Great Poland (Wielkopolska) Foundation of Enterprise Development, Learning Association 'Pro Academia' and the participants of Academy of Responsible Business Leaders (including Foundation 'PERITIA').

It was designed for young people (grammar schools and high schools) who are going to realize their ideas aimed to the local communities as well as to their personal development.

The Lifelong Learning Foundation 'PERITIA' offered also later free coaching sessions for the high and technical schools youth (16-19 years old)

*ENTREPRENEURIAL AND CREATIVE WIELKOPOLSKA (WPIK.pl) 2011-2014*  
(role of creator and organiser)

In total, during 6 editions (2 editions of Cytrynarium-only conferences and 4 editions of WPIK.pl- conferences + workshops) participated nearly 1200 students from Poznan and Great Poland (Wielkopolska) including nearly 120 pupils from high schools and grammar schools.

<http://wpik.pl/>

Workshops, seminars, and conferences that help young people from Great Poland (Wielkopolska) by the means of promoting the inventive and proactive attitude. WPIK.pl is a series of free training courses, workshops and lectures/presentations for:

- ambitious and creative students who are interested in personal development;
- young people who seeking for the possibilities of financing their activities,
- those who are interested in innovative and pro-active actions.

Several institutions got interested in our event and thus we gained:

- Honorary Patronage of the Voivodeship Marshal Marek Woźniak;
- Honorary Patronage of the Poznan President;
- Attendance of five universities:
  - Poznan University of Technology;
  - Adam Mickiewicz University;
  - Poznan University of Economics;
  - Poznan University of Life Sciences;
  - High School of Humanities and Journalism.

*THE POZNAN NGO CENTRE 2012-now*

(role of creator and organizer)

Budget overall 1,4 mln PLN for 30 months 2012-2014. That is about 350.000 EUR (Peritia as a Partner).

Almost 1000 members participated in events and meetings organized by the Poznan NGO Centre till now (the project period originally 01.2012-04.2014, we continue the activities for NGOs)

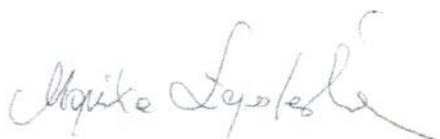
The Poznan NGO Centre (Centrum NGO Poznan) is aimed to be a place promoting the development of the NGOs from Greater Poland (Wielkopolska), offering a broad and distinct assistance with consulting, workshops and coaching. Quality of provided services is our priority. Hence, we check this issue on a regular basis by the means of questionnaire surveys.

Services provided by our trainers got 9,38 points on a 10-point scale.

Services provided by our coaches got 9,51 points on a 10-point scale.

We organized additionally from 7 conferences/seminars combined with workshops, for more than 340 participants from additional support/financing.

Sincerely Yours,



Monika Łagodzińska  
CEO