

# OUR EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE

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author: Michalina Andrzewska, photo taken in Ostrowo in the Powidz commune in the Stupca powiat

„Harvest as before”



EUROPEAN UNION



WIELKOPOLSKA  
REGION



„European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas”.

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**Krzysztof Grabowski**  
*Deputy Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region*

Dear Sir or Madam,

This year, we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of Poland's membership in the European Union. This is a good time to summarize the effects of Rural Development Programmes implemented with the use of EU funds. The local government of the Wielkopolska Region is finishing their implementation of the second full programming period addressed to rural areas. The amount of support granted to the beneficiaries of activities supervised by our local government under the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 and the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 exceeds PLN 2 billion. In this issue of the bulletin, we are publishing synthetic data on the distribution of funds from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development in the Wielkopolska Region over the last twenty years.

In June 2024, I had the pleasure of signing 29 agreements with representatives of municipalities for co-financing investments such as "Water resources management" under the

Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. It is the result of the last recruitment under the previous financial perspective.

This summer is full of interesting initiatives, some of them financed by the European Union as part of the National Rural Network. An example of such an activity is a training for members of the Farmers' Wives' Association in Kobierno, organized by the Wielkopolska Region Government in cooperation with the Town and Municipality of Krotoszyn. In this issue of the "Our European Countryside" bulletin, we are also presenting information about eateries opening in the region and the implementation of the Wielkopolska Rural Renewal programme. We also announced the results of the next edition of the "RDP through the lens" photo competition. The winning photos will be published periodically in the newsletter.

I wish you pleasant reading.

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## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RDP

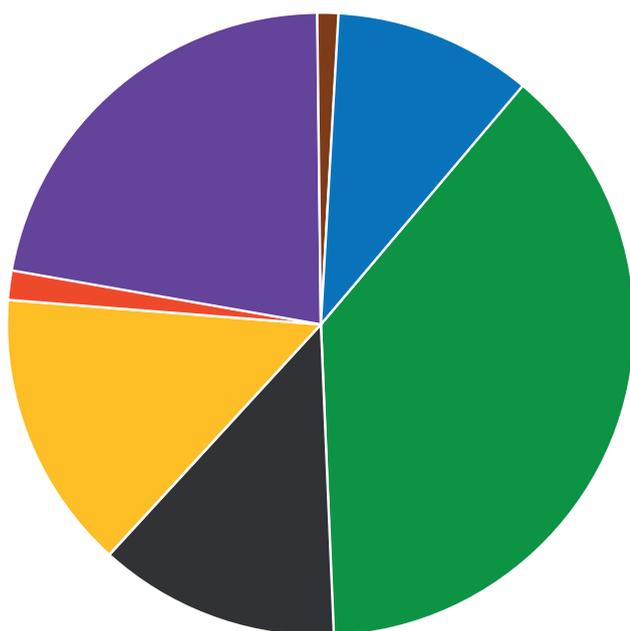
# 20 years have passed - the balance of Wielkopolska's membership in the European Union

**We are summarizing the implementation of two financial perspectives under the Rural Development Programmes and publishing statements of people participating in the implementation of the programmes. Beneficiaries from the Wielkopolska Region received a total of over PLN 2 billion.**

On May 1, 2004, Poland joined the European Community with great hopes for civilisational, economic and social progress. Such hopes also accompanied the people of the Wielkopolska Region. From the perspective of the past 20 years, there is no way to question the benefits that our region has gained

by becoming part of the European Union. We are witnessing very significant changes in agriculture and rural areas. Beneficiaries of Rural Development Programmes in the Wielkopolska Region have so far received more than PLN 2 billion, but the amount is constantly growing because in the summer of 2024

### Summary of funds distributed under Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 and Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 in the Wielkopolska Region



land consolidation	19 239 357,63 zł
Water resources management / Management of agricultural water resources	207 829 135,46 zł
Water and sewage management	770 506 558,00 zł
Construction or modernization of local roads	251 979 135,00 zł
Culture, public space, protection of monuments	298 262 447,49 zł
Investments in marketplaces	29 697 234,23 zł
LEADER (LSR implementation)	449 556 671,97 zł

Total: **2 027 070 539,78 zł**

new funds are still being contracted under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, and at the same time, intensive work is underway related to the implementation of the new financial perspective for 2023 -2027. The positive balance of the 20th anniversary of the Wielkopolska countryside in the European Union is clearly demonstrated by the material effects of projects implemented with the participation of the

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Have a look at a table that includes both the results of undertaken infrastructure investments, as well as the effects of the LEADER initiative in the 2014-2020 perspective in the field of entrepreneurship development in rural areas. In the bulletin, we are publishing statements of people who actively participated in the implementation of Rural Development Programmes

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### Effects of RDP in the Wielkopolska Region

Scope	Number
Number of kilometres of local roads built or reconstructed	376
Number of kilometres of built or reconstructed sewage networks	1840
Number of kilometres of water supply networks built or reconstructed	914
Number of household sewage treatment plants	4295
Number of rural community afternoon centres and community culture centres built or modernized	1349
Number of marketplaces built or modernized	32
Number of equipped playgrounds and outdoor gyms	1182
Number of sports fields built or modernized and sports facilities	328
Number of new companies	1178
Number of enterprises that have expanded their operations	438
Number of new jobs	2061

2007-2013 and 2014-2020 at the level of the entire European Union, but we especially present experiences and reflections resulting from their activities for the benefit of the Wielkopolska countryside.



**Krzysztof Hetman**  
Member of the European Parliament  
since 2014

The Common Agricultural Policy was established in 1962 by the six founding countries of the European Communities and is the oldest EU policy still in operation today. It aims at ensuring food security for all EU citizens

through access to affordable, safe and high-quality food, while guaranteeing a fair standard of living for farmers and supporting the development of rural areas.

Poland's accession to the European Union in 2004 raised both hopes and doubts, especially among Polish farmers who feared that our market would be flooded with cheaper and better quality food from EU countries. Polish agriculture was weak and underinvested, and the infrastructure of farms and rural areas did not ensure a minimum of competitiveness. Two

years before accession, Poland was still importing food; the value of imports exceeded exports by almost EUR 400 million.

The fears turned out to be unfounded, Polish farmers quickly noticed and successfully used the opportunity offered by EU agricultural production co-financing systems, both in the form of direct payments, investment funds and Sectoral Operational Programmes. Rural areas have also experienced a radical civilisational leap thanks to investments from SAPARD and Rural Development Programmes.

Since 2004 to the present, 78 billion euros have been transferred to the Polish countryside, of which 50 billion euros in direct payments, 26 billion euros in the form of Rural Development Programme investments and 1.8 billion euros in market interventions. More than a million new jobs have been created, the average farm area in 2023 has increased to 12.7 ha (8.7 ha before accession), 1.24 million farms have submitted applications for direct payments, and farmers' incomes have increased more than 2.5 times since 2004.

Polish food is conquering the world, the value of exports last year amounted to EUR 51.8 billion, which is 11 times more than before accession, while the positive balance amounted to more than EUR 18.6 billion. In a number of food production

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sectors: cereals, sugar beets, milk, poultry, fruit and vegetables, our farmers are clearly leaders in Europe.

We are facing the last EU budget from which Poland can obtain significant funds. We must continue to strengthen our agriculture so that it can compete effectively in the dynamically changing world.



**Paweł Rajski**  
*Ostrów Wielkopolski Starost*

EU funds are an important source of funds. As a powiat, we are trying to obtain them effectively from all available sources and programmes. We also took advantage of support under the Rural Development Programme in the 2014-2020 perspective under

the Sub-measure "Support for Investments Related to the Creation, Improvement or Extension of All Types of Small Infrastructure in Renewable Energy and Energy Saving".

It was co-financing of the reconstruction of the Wysocko Małe - Przygodzice road in the amount of PLN 1,086,830.62. The contract for the task was signed in August 2016. Thanks to the support and funds from the district budget in the amount of PLN 628,718.88, it was possible to modernize the roadway on a section of almost 1.7 km. A new sidewalk was also made, longer than 1,700 m, it improved the safety of pedestrians.

Rural Development Programme funds allowed for the implementation of a very important investment connecting municipal and district roads with a national road. The connection is now eagerly used by drivers as an alternative to congested main routes.



**Adam Sperzyński**  
*Rawicz Starost*

EU funds are becoming increasingly important in the implementation of the tasks of the powiat and other units. As part of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, approximately PLN 3.9 million was used to improve the condition of local roads in the

Rawicz district. The funds have influenced the socio-economic development of the region. The Pakosław municipality allocated PLN 1.1 million in funding for the reconstruction of the communal road connecting Golejewko, Ostrobudki and Baranowo, as well as Góreczki Wielkie. The Municipality of Miejska Górka rebuilt Nowa Street in Dąbrowa and Hubala Street in Miejska Górka. The obtained funding was also allocated for the construction of a sanitary sewage system in

the town of Kołaczkowice, together with a water supply network on the Dłoń-Kołaczkowice section. In 2020, it received financial assistance from the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 for the construction of a sanitary sewage system and the reconstruction and construction of a water supply network in the Sobiałków part. In the Bojanowo municipality, the communal road on the Zaborowice – Trzebosz section was renovated and four new playgrounds were established. What is more, the Jutrosin municipality renovated ponds along with recreational development of their area, renovated drainage ditches and planted trees. Similar activities related to improving landscape values and small retention in selected rural areas were carried out in the following municipalities: Miejska Górka, Rawicz, Pakosław. The Rawicz municipality also implemented an investment from the Rural Development Programme. The funds obtained were allocated to the reconstruction of Wrocławska Street along with the construction of technical infrastructure in Dębno Polskie.

To sum up, local government units, as one of the groups of Rural Development Programme beneficiaries, were able to implement projects that would be difficult to implement without external funds



**Grzegorz Kaczmarek**  
*Head of Stawiszyn*

Membership in the EU structures is a great benefit for our country, for its citizens, for agriculture, the economy and the environment. In the Municipality and Town of Stawiszyn, we took advantage of funding for projects that were very much needed and significantly improved the quality of life of our residents. Due to EU funds from the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, we renovated and carried out thermal modernisation of the building of the Sugar Sports Club in Zbiersk, we carried out thermal modernisation of the building of the GLZS "Korona-Pogoń" sports club in Stawiszyn. Renovations were carried out in village community centres in OSP buildings in Piątek Wielki, Piątek Mały, Zbiersk, Zbiersk Kolonia, Pólko Ostrówek, Długa Wieś Trzecia. We equipped many playgrounds with new equipment. In the 2014-2020 perspective, we reconstructed the Town Park in Stawiszyn with an amphitheatre stage, and the market in Stawiszyn, which was equipped with buildings for veterinary services with a shelter for selling animals. We purchased and installed photovoltaic panels in the entertainment and sports hall at the Primary School in Zbiersk Cukrownia and Stawiszyn. We reconstructed communal roads in Długa Wieś Druga, Wyrów and Złotniki Małe Kolonia, including: new sidewalks, bicycle lane, platforms at bus stops. We also reconstructed the Water Treatment Plant in Zbiersk.

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We actively use the support of the National Rural Network. We organized, among others: reviews of singing groups, cooking competitions, study trips, exchanges of good practices, meetings of village heads.

Under both financial perspectives of the Rural Development Programme, we received support in the amount of nearly PLN 11 million.



**Jakub Gwit**  
*Head of the Powidz Municipality*

Support for investments in rural areas is intended to improve the social and economic conditions in a given area. I believe that the goal is well achieved. Due to Rural Development Funds, the Powidz Municipality constructed a promenade in Powidz on the Powidz Lake shores and recreational piers in Powidz and Przybrodzino. The Powidz municipality is distinguished by its tourist character, and as a result of the investments made, its infrastructure condition has improved. Thanks to it, more people visit Powidz and the surrounding area even not in the season to ride a bike or walk on the promenade. It is important for the local economy - there are numerous entrepreneurs who run catering establishments or offer accommodation.

In Ostrów, we used the funds from the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 to construct a sewage system, it allowed us to connect the properties of permanent residents and holidaymakers, and thus take care of the naturally valuable areas of the Powidz Landscape Park. The Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 made it possible to build a village community centre in the furthest village from Powidz - Anaszewo, it contributed to the activation of society: a Farmers' Wives' Association was established, workshops and picnics are organized. Social capital is an important factor in the development of local communities.



**Paweł Szczepankiewicz**  
*Head of the Wierzbinek Municipality*

20 years of Poland's membership in the European Union have been a very fruitful time for the Wierzbinek Municipality.

In the years 2007-2013, the municipality implemented many projects with the Rural Development Programme.

The most important of them include: expansion of the water supply network in Racięcino, construction of a biological

sewage treatment plant in Sadlno, construction of a sewage system in Wierzbinek. Using the funds obtained, we increased the attractiveness of the municipality by revitalizing historic parks, building playgrounds for children, and expanding the publicly accessible municipal sports field. In the years 2014-2020, we continued the idea of improving the quality of life of residents. We have increased the scope of the water supply network and developed the sewage system. Many local roads and bicycle paths have been created. In the above-mentioned years, we did not miss out any village communities in our projects. Numerous playgrounds and outdoor gyms were built, we renovated the fire station buildings, equipped village community centres and renovated the building of the Municipal Public Library in Wierzbinek. Thanks to the Rural Development Funds, our municipality has become more beautiful and the quality of life of its residents has improved significantly.

I am convinced that the funds obtained from the Rural Development Programme were very well distributed, as evidenced by the diplomas received by the Wierzbinek Municipality: for taking the first place in the ranking for concluding the largest number of contracts and for taking the first place in the ranking for the highest total value of aid granted under RDP activities.



**Piotr Lach**  
*Head of the Złotów Municipality*

When it comes to RDP, it's hard to be original and not express your satisfaction with the tasks completed. I have been the head of the Złotów Municipality since 2010, and previously I was the Head of the Złotów Municipality Council for two terms.

Therefore, it can be said that in my local government life I grew up surrounded by investments financed from the Rural Development Programme. But before the money appeared, tasks had to be prepared and applications had to be drawn up. At this point, it is worth thanking the substantive employees who overcame the emerging problems step by step. Since the beginning of its operation, we have obtained almost eleven million PLN from the Programme by implementing approximately 30 smaller and larger tasks. In my opinion, the programme worked well and the people who implemented it at various stages did a good job.

The invested funds can be seen almost everywhere. They raised new expectations and introduced certain standards. Therefore, it is worth continuing to support rural areas. They deserve it.

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# Municipalities invest in water reservoirs

In June 2024, 17 municipal governments from the Wielkopolska Region signed contracts under the Rural Development Programme for 2014-2020 to support 29 investments regarding “Water Resources Management”. For the purpose, the Government of the Wielkopolska Region allocated support in the amount of approximately PLN 10 million.

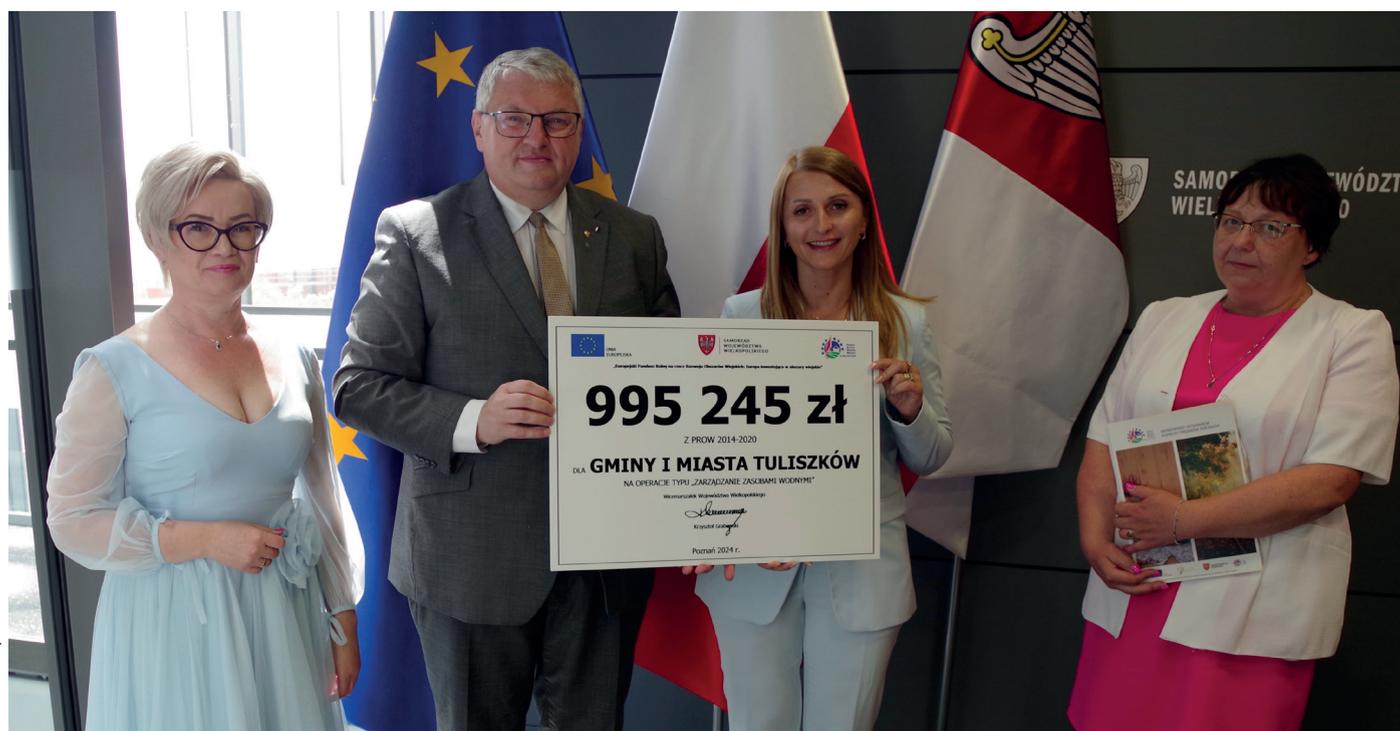


Photo A. Kapuściński

Nearly one million PLN will go to the Municipality and Town of Tuliszków for the revitalization of ponds in Piętno and Tuliszków.

The funding granted results from the last call for applications in the ending programme perspective. The recruitment took place in December 2023.

*- We have concluded the last call for applications under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. This time, the funds were provided to municipal governments. We provided co-financing for 29 projects involving the construction or reconstruction of open retention reservoirs. They are very important investments that, in the face of worsening weather phenomena, have a significant impact on eliminating threats to agriculture in the area, i.e. reducing the effects of drought and preventing floods - emphasizes Krzysztof Grabowski, a deputy marshal of the region.*

The aid that could be received for operations such as "Water Resources Management" is granted in the form of a refund of up to 100 percent of eligible costs. Co-financed investments concern open retention reservoirs with an area not exceeding 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> and a depth not exceeding 3 m. The reservoirs are intended to collect primarily rainwater and meltwater, but they can also use groundwater and flowing water, e.g. in drainage ditches. Eligible costs also include accompanying infra-

structure, including: costs of arranging the so-called buffer zones to reduce pollutants flowing into reservoirs, arranging watering holes - with a gentle inclination of the entrance to the water for wild animals, strengthening inlets and outlets, sluices, overflows and embankments. Investments co-financed from the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 can only be implemented in towns with up to 5,000 inhabitants. The maximum amount of support for a single investment from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development is PLN 500,000.

The list of co-financed projects starts with an investment to be implemented by the Municipality and Town of Witkowo in the Gniezno powiat. The beneficiary obtained PLN 388,037 for the reconstruction of an earthen pond in Mąkownica. Three other projects will be implemented in the Gniezno powiat, for which support was requested by the Czarniejewo municipality authorities. The total value of the funding granted is PLN 818,783 and will allow for the reconstruction of ponds in Żydowo, Czarniejewo and Szczytniki Czarniejewskie. The Żerków municipality in the Jarocin district has planned the most investments of the type. Thanks to financial aid in the

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amount of PLN 2,026,053, as many as five reservoirs will be rebuilt. All of them are located in Żerków, one at Cmentarna, three between Parkowa and Jarocińska streets and one at Targowisko. In the neighbouring Kotlin municipality, an earthen pond in Sławoszew will be reconstructed. Support in the amount of PLN 323,844 was allocated for the purpose.

Two municipalities from the Gostyń powiat will implement several investments each. The Krobia municipality obtained funds worth a total of PLN 816,625 for the renovation, reconstruction and development of ponds in Chumęki, Ziemiń, Pudliszki and Posadowo. The Gostyń municipality, in turn, successfully applied for PLN 923,213, which will be used for the revitalization and reconstruction of two ponds in Daleszyn and one in Kosowo. PLN 488,750 will go to Włoszakowice in the Leszno powiat, where an open water reservoir will be reconstructed. In the Nowy Tomyśl powiat, two municipalities took advantage of the opportunity to receive funding: Lwówek and Opalenica. The first of them obtained PLN 306,622 for the reconstruction of the pond in Bródki, while the second one will use the aid in the amount of PLN 500,000 for an investment of the same kind in Jastrzębniki. The Rakoniewice municipality in the Grodzisk powiat will implement an investment involving the expansion of the retention reservoir in Rakoniewice. The support granted for the purpose amounts to PLN 471,289. There are also needs to regulate small retention in the east of Wielkopolska. The Municipality and Town of Tuliszków in the Turek powiat received PLN 995,245 for the revitalization of the water reservoir in Piętno, as well as for the revitalization

and reconstruction of hydrotechnical devices with which the reservoir in the park in Tuliszków is equipped.

Five of the projects covered by funding concern the construction of new retention reservoirs. Such a facility constructed from scratch will be there in Witkowice in the Kaźmierz municipality (Szamotuły powiat). Each municipality received support in the amount of PLN 411,878. Funds from the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 will also go to the Czermin municipality in the Pleszew powiat. An open water reservoir and accompanying infrastructure will be constructed in Broniszewice. The task was granted funding in the amount of PLN 232,511. Three new retention reservoirs will appear in the municipalities of the Złotów powiat in the north of Wielkopolska. The Złotów municipality, thanks to the aid obtained in the amount of PLN 274,942, will construct an earthen retention pond in Nowiny. A water facility will be constructed in Nadarzyce, in the Jastrowie municipality, which, apart from its main retention function, will also be used for recreational purposes. The construction of the reservoir will be possible thanks to co-financing of PLN 330,517. The Lipka municipality obtained PLN 143,758 for the construction of a small retention earth water reservoir in Białobłocie.

In Chłudów near Poznań located in the Suchy Las municipality, with the participation of EU funds in the amount of PLN 485,513, conservation of the "Balaton" water reservoir will be carried out.



Source: Beneficiary's Archive

Support for operations such as "Water Resources Management" is not the only possibility of benefiting from financial assistance for investments related to retention. Municipalities could also apply for funds for the purpose under the LEADER initiative. We are talking about municipalities belonging to local action groups that took into account the needs related to the regulation of water relations in their community-led local development strategies. An example of such a strategy is a document developed by the LAG Gościnną Wielkopolska based in Pępowo.

# Kobierno as the new capital of Polish leatherwork?

**In July 2024, with full support from European funds, four workshop meetings were held for members of the Farmers' Wives' Association in Kobierno in the Krotoszyn municipality as part of the National Rural Network. The ladies learned a wealth of leather-making techniques and intend to use their knowledge to promote their little homeland by producing small accessories made of boar skin.**



Photo: A. Kapuściński.

Practical classes took place at two weekends in July at the Village Cultural Centre in Kobierno, a facility co-financed by the Rural Development Programme.

The local government of the Wielkopolska Region, in cooperation with the Town and Municipality of Krotoszyn, has taken a real initiative to protect the disappearing profession of leather-making. Where did the idea to support the type of craft come from? The idea was born during one of the visits of the delegation of the Wielkopolska Region to Japan, it was led by the Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski.

*- Despite the great geographical distance, Poland and Japan have a lot in common. One of the significant problems in the Far Eastern country is the excessive population of wild boars, which increasingly pose a threat to inhabitants. We are experiencing a similar problem in our country. By regulating the wild boar population through an appropriate hunting policy, on the one hand, we provide an attractive raw material for the gastronomy industry, and on the other hand, there remains the issue of waste management in the form of wild boar skin. In the Japanese city of Miosato, we observed good practice implemented by women associated with the organization corresponding to our farmers' wives' associations. The ladies have been trained in leatherwork and make beautiful haberdashery items from properly tanned wild boar skins, says the Deputy Marshal Grabowski.*

The initiative to start haberdashery production from wild boar skin in our region came from the then head of the town and municipality of Krotoszyn, president of the LAG Okno Połu-

dniowa Wielkopolska, Franciszek Marszałek, whose involvement led to the signing of a cooperation agreement between Krotoszyn and Okinoshima a few years ago. In Tomnice, in the Krotoszyn municipality, the company LAS Kalisz operates, it deals mainly with game meat processing and the promotion of game in our country. The company, as a partner of the project co-financed by the NRN, has undertaken to provide free of charge tanned wild boar skin with appropriate parameters enabling the production of leather goods. Katarzyna Pokszan from Łódź, the only master leatherworker in Poland with appropriate didactic education enabling the implementation of professional training, was invited to cooperate in the implementation of the project.

The project "Activation of the inhabitants of the Krotoszyn powiat towards taking up business activities in the field of leatherwork", financed entirely from European Union funds under the NRN, is the result of a letter of intent signed in April 2024 between the Government of the Wielkopolska Region, the Town and Municipality of Krotoszyn, the Kobierno Farmers' Wives' Association and the company LAS Kalisz. The project implementation enabled five women from the Association in Kobierno to take their first steps in leather-making, they intend to develop their new passion and turn it into their personal professional success, but also to ensure attractive promotion of their small homeland and the entire region.

## The local government takes care not to waste food

**PLN 4 million from the budget of the Wielkopolska Regional Government has so far been allocated to reduce food waste in our region. All thanks to the programme to reduce food waste and losses in the Wielkopolska Region, it has been implemented since 2021.**

Statistical data shows that food waste is a widely known problem, but it still remains a niche issue that is not effectively combated. The Federation of Polish Food Banks has published the "Don't Waste Food 2023" report as part of the Food Waste Rationalization and Reduction Programme (PROM). It shows that 4.8 million tons of food are wasted annually in Poland, consumers are responsible for throwing away 60 percent of the food. About 10 percent wasted food is due to the inhabitants of the Wielkopolska Region, it translates into approximately 500,000 tons per year.

The local government of the Wielkopolska Region had noticed the problem of food waste and losses much earlier, because the fight against food waste was included in the "Development Strategy of the Wielkopolska Region until 2030", as adopted in January 2020.

*- We have launched grant competitions, both for municipalities and non-governmental organizations. For four years, we have been supporting the transport and storage of food at risk of being wasted, the creation of food sharing points, the purchase of small mobile workshop kitchens and the launch of food waste reduction centres and food aid - says Krzysztof Grabowski, the Deputy Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region.*

You can share food, for example in food sharing points. They are special points where people leave food fit for consumption for people who want it.

Thanks to the financial support of the Wielkopolska Region Government in 2021, 6 food sharing points have been established in the Wielkopolska Region, other 14 in 2022, and other 7 in 2023. Plans for 2024 include the creation of two food sharing points: in Mikstat (Ostrzeszów powiat) and Pobiedziska (Poznan powiat).

Since the beginning of the programme, the Wielkopolska Regional Government has allocated more than PLN 600,000 to co-finance the creation of food sharing points. The level of financial aid is a maximum of 80% of the incurred and documented eligible costs included in the application for funding, but not less than PLN 5,000 and not more than PLN 25,000.00 for a single project.

Food sharing points opened thanks to the support from the budget of the Wielkopolska Region		
municipality	town/village	location
Chodzież	Chodzież	W. Reymonta 12
Budzyń	Budzyń	Lipowa 1
Trzcianka	Trzcianka	Orzeszkowej 2
Czarniejewo	Czarniejewo	Pl. Kpt. Pawła Cymsa
Witkowo	Witkowo	Gnieźnierska 4
Jarocin	Jarocin	Wrocławska 39
Kępno	Kępno	Ogrodowa 7
Sulmierzyce	Sulmierzyce	Strzelecka 10
Zduny	Zduny	Rynek 2
Leszno	Leszno - Centrum	Niepodległości 27c
Leszno	Leszno - Śródmieście	Towarowa 10
Rogoźno	Rogoźno	Kościuszki 41
Oborniki	Oborniki	Droga Leśna 60
Wyrzysk	Wyrzysk	Targowisko 3
Swarzędz	Swarzędz	Poznańska 25
		Zamkowa 32
		Mielżyńskiego 3a
Luboń	Luboń	Źródłana 1
Dopiewo	Dopiewo	Konarszewska 12
Kostrzyn	Kostrzyn	Braci Drzewieckich 1
Stęszew	Stęszew	Poznańska 11
Rawicz	Rawicz	Ignacego Buszy 5
Słupca	Słupca	Plac Parysa 9
Szamotuły	Szamotuły	Franciszkańska 5
	Pamiętkowo	Sportowa 23
	Otorowo	Łąkowa 3
Wągrowiec	Wągrowiec	Kościuszki 15a
Poznań	Poznań	Grunwaldzka 377
Pobiedziska	Pobiedziska	Wł. Jagiełły 41
Mikstat	Mikstat	Chopina 1

## OTHER PROGRAMMES

# The Wielkopolska countryside is becoming more beautiful not only thanks to EU funds

The Wielkopolska Regional Assembly adopted a resolution on co-financing 192 projects as part of the 14th edition of the More Beautiful Wielkopolska Countryside competition. It is the flagship competition of the Wielkopolska Rural Renewal aimed at supporting villages. The Wielkopolska Rural Renewal Programme, financed entirely from the region's own funds, has been implemented since April 2013, even though the first funds for co-financing village initiatives were allocated in the regional budget as early as in 2009.

Source: Municipality Office in Lisków.



Lisków, Koźlątków and Zakrzew are village administrations in the Lisków municipality in the Kalisz powiat that this year benefited from support as part of the "More Beautiful Wielkopolska Countryside" competition"

- For 11 years we have been implementing the Wielkopolska Rural Renewal programme, it is used by municipalities for the benefit of their village administrations. Such competitions as "More Beautiful Wielkopolska Countryside" and "Rural Renewal as a Chance for Active Villages" are addressed to them. Specific funds

also go to non-governmental organizations as part of the "Our countryside, our common cause" competition. We are also trying to appreciate people who are active in their local communities, awarding them in the "Active Wielkopolska Countryside" competition - emphasizes Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski.

Source: Municipality Office in Kobylin



The village administrations of Górka and Sroki in the Kobylin municipality in the Krotoszyn powiat received a total of PLN 140,000 as part of co-financing for tasks submitted to the "More Beautiful Wielkopolska Countryside" competition in 2024.

## OTHER PROGRAMMES

Source: Grodziec Municipality Office

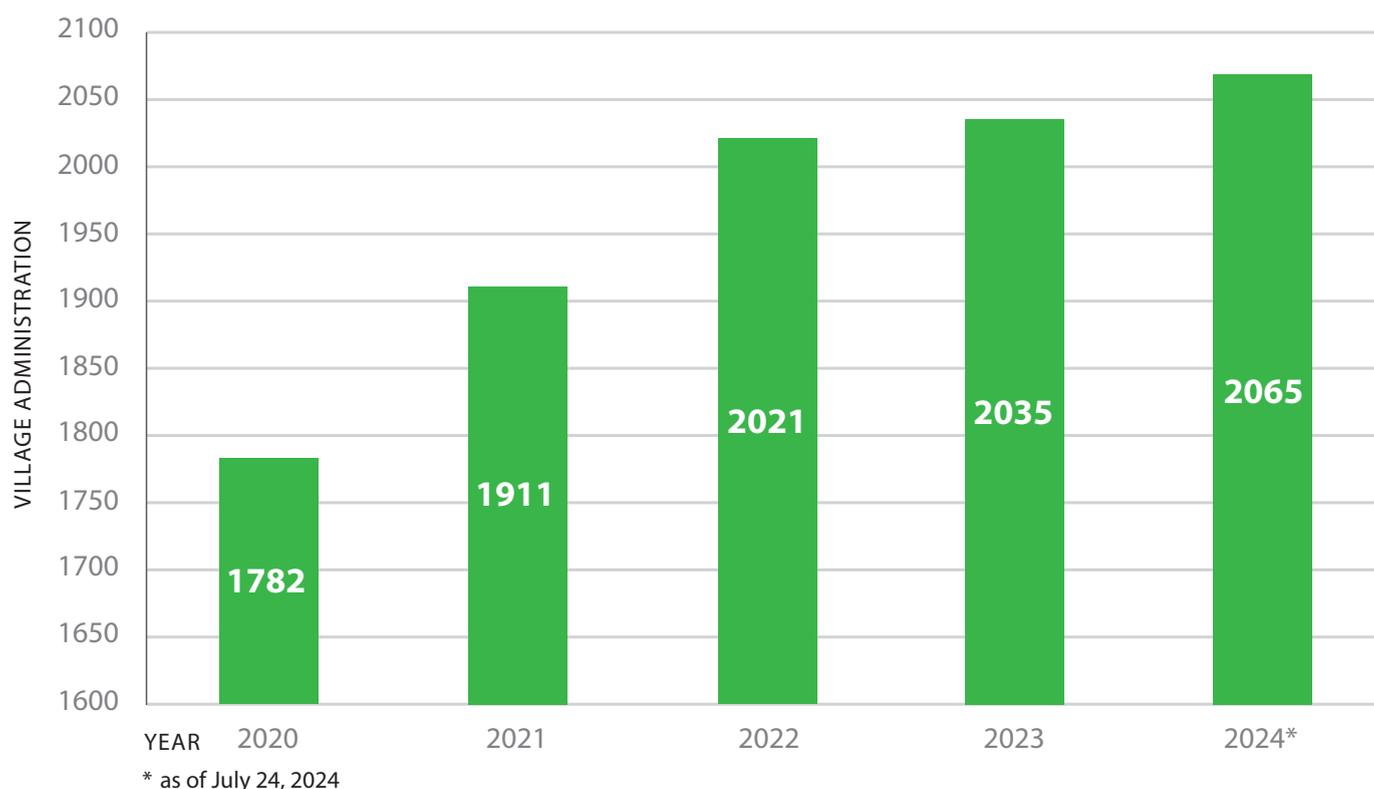


The village administrations of Junno and Biskupice in the Grodziec municipality in Konin poviat obtained funds for a total amount of PLN 124,000.

The Wielkopolska Regional Government has so far allocated approximately PLN 60 million for the implementation of regional village renewal, it enabled the implementation of more than 2,500 projects throughout the region. To the amount, one must add the funds contracted for the year as part of the “More Beautiful Wielkopolska Countryside” competition, i.e. as much as PLN 11.3 million. At the end of May 2024, the Wielkopolska Regional Assembly decided to select projects for co-financing as part of the 14th edition of the important

project. Funds were awarded to 192 local initiatives. The maximum grant amount for one project is PLN 70,000. Funded tasks must be completed no later than November 15, 2024.

It is worth emphasizing that interest in the Wielkopolska Rural Renewal programme is growing year by year, as shown in the chart below, taking into account the number of villages - participants of the currently implemented 2020+ Programme.



## CULINARY ZONE

# Goose blood soup and baked duck legs with pampuchkas and fried beetroots

On Saturday, July 13, 2024, the 23rd provincial final of the “Our Culinary Heritage - Tastes of the Regions” competition took place in Wijewo, Leszno Poviát. The competition was organized by the Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region and the Polish Chamber of Regional and Local Products in cooperation with the Wijewo Commune. You are invited to read the recipe for the dish that took third place in the provincial final of the 23rd edition of the “Our Culinary Heritage - Tastes of the Regions” competition. The author of the delicious dish is the Farmers’ Wives’ Association in Wijewo.

### GOOSE BLOOD SOUP (INGREDIENTS):

- Duck – 1 kg
- Water – 5 l
- Carrots – 2
- Celery – 1
- Leek – 1
- Parsley – 1
- Bay leaf – 4
- Allspice – 4 seeds
- Vinegar – 1 tablespoon
- Marjoram – 1 tablespoon
- Salt – 1 teaspoon
- Pepper – ½ teaspoon
- Sugar – 1 teaspoon
- Dried fruit (apples, plums)
- Fruit compote - sweet cherries and sour cherries with pits

### BAKED DUCK LEGS (INGREDIENTS):

- Duck legs – 6
- ½ teaspoon each of salt, pepper and vegeta,
- 1 teaspoon of marjoram,

### HOW TO MAKE IT:

Cook the duck with vegetables and spices. After cooking the broth, peel the meat and chop it. Add chopped meat, dried fruit and fruit compote to the broth. Pour in the mixed duck blood with vinegar.

Wash the thighs and dry them with a towel, cover them with the spice mixture and pour oil over them. Marinate for 2-3 days so that the flavours penetrate well. Fry the thighs on both sides in a pan, then simmer covered until soft. The resulting sauce will be a perfect addition to steamed yeast dumplings.

Prepare the leaven from yeast, sugar and milk - place the yeast in a bowl, add 2 tablespoons of flour, sugar and ½ cup of milk, mix until there are no lumps. Cover the vessel with the solution with a cloth and set aside in a warm place for 15 minutes. Pour 500 g of flour into a large bowl, add a pinch of salt and add the eggs. Pour ½ cup of milk and add 3 tablespoons of melted butter. Finally, add the bubbling solution, mix all the ingredients with a tablespoon and form dough.

- Onion – 1
- Garlic – 2 cloves

### STEAMED YEAST DUMPLINGS (INGREDIENTS):

- Wheat flour – 500 g
- Warm milk – 250 ml
- Melted butter – 3 tablespoons
- Eggs – 2
- Yeast – 30 g
- Pinch of salt

### FRIED BEETROOTS (INGREDIENTS):

- Beetroots – 2,5 kg.
- Water – 2 glasses
- Vinegar and sugar – ¾ cup each
- Onion – 1
- Garlic – 2 cloves
- Bay leaves – 2
- Pepper – 2 grains
- 1 teaspoon of salt and marjoram
- 1 tablespoon of horseradish



Photo: P. Chudziak

Steamed yeast dumplings need about 15 minutes to rise covered. Steam yeast dumplings for about 10 minutes.

Wash, cook and grate the beets. Boil all the ingredients for the brine together, then strain through a sieve and pour the hot brine over the beets, leaving for 24 hours. Melt three tablespoons of butter in a pan, add flour and prepare a light roux, add beets and fry for 3-4 minutes.

PHOTO ZONE



„An inseparable bond with nature”, author: Robert Cierniak, photo taken in the town of Złotów, awarded 1st place in the category “How the people of Wielkopolska Region care about tradition”



„Before Departure”, author: Piotr Tomasz Mańczak, photo taken in Bobulczyn, Ostroróg Municipality, Szamotuły powiat, awarded 1st place in the “Wielkopolska village up close” category”.

FREE PUBLICATION



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