

## NON-GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR CAPACITY BUILDING

Support was granted for activities aimed at capacity building and quality enhancement of the entire non-governmental sector or its individual sub-sectors, i.e. groups of organisations that share the same profile. In addition, funds to support the development and capacity building of individual NGOs were made available.

**9 systemic projects**

**3,000 NGO leaders** were engaged in consultations on the Civil Society Road Map

**450 local NGOs** were involved in the development of standards for public consultations

**45,000 NGOs** made use of new resources and tools offered by the portals [ngo.pl](http://ngo.pl) and [mojepanstwo.pl](http://mojepanstwo.pl)

**3,060 'sub-sectoral' NGOs** gained support, new skills and tools

**400 NGOs** undertook capacity building activities

Altogether, four systemic projects targeting the entire sector and five projects targeting its individual sub-sectors were completed. Moreover, 400 organisations used the available funds to further their development and capacity building (e.g. by developing new strategies or adopting new practices, raising the skill level of staff, improving communication, audits, buying equipment, building a membership base).

### Activities targeting the entire sector

Some initiatives focused on public consultations and the capacity of non-governmental organisations to engage in these processes; some addressed new technologies, facilitating networking, building the space for debating sectoral issues and a position to affect public policy.

A strategic Civil Society Road Map (CSRM) was developed, i.e. the first ever document in Poland to define the mission of the third sector based on broad consultations with 3,000 NGO leaders, including participants of the NGO Forums organised in 16 provinces. Partnerships were formed between organisations across Poland to address issues highlighted in the CSRM. [Activities implemented by the SPLOT Network and National Federation of Non-Governmental Organisations]

Standards for public consultations at the national and local level were developed in partnership with organisations, institutions, and with community members at the local level. The consultations around standards actively involved 450 organisations. The standards were implemented in five national institutions and seven municipalities. Furthermore, additional tools were used to support the consultation processes ([www.MamZdanie.pl](http://www.MamZdanie.pl)) and a knowledge base was created for organisations and administrations about consultation techniques ([www.konsultacjezasadami.pl](http://www.konsultacjezasadami.pl)). [Activities implemented by the Social and Economic Initiatives Foundation and the Shipyard Social Research and Innovation Lab]

Non-governmental organisations may now use extended and upgraded online portals ([www.ngo.pl](http://www.ngo.pl) and [www.mojepanstwo.pl](http://www.mojepanstwo.pl)) to support many aspects of their operations, including communication and promotion with access to essential data, legislation and advice, social campaigning, raising support, and searching for new allies. The portals reached 45,000 organisations. Another edition of the research on the third sector in Poland was completed — this study is the main source of information about the non-governmental sector in Poland. [Activities implemented by the Klon/Jawor Association ([www.ngo.pl](http://www.ngo.pl) and Third Sector Status Study) and the e-Państwo Foundation ([www.mojepanstwo.pl](http://www.mojepanstwo.pl))]

### Activities targeting 'sub-sectoral' organisations

These activities were designed for watchdog organisations, rural organisations, organisations focusing on addiction prevention and community archives and organisations cooperating with Food Banks. Their goal was to improve knowledge and skills, deliver tools, foster networking and provide education on regulatory and institutional change and to promote their projects and programmes among citizens.

In total, 171 watchdog organisations learned to build social support for their activities. Social campaigns and joint actions helped organisations improve their visibility and effectiveness in protecting the right to information and in raising funds from private donors. Local initiatives and organisations gained permanent access to legal advice. The new version of [www.watchdogportal.pl](http://www.watchdogportal.pl) has some 23,000 users who have access to courses for watchdogs, monitoring tools and a contact base. [Activities implemented by the Watchdog Poland Association]

Counselling, coaching, training, study visits and regional meetings helped 60 rural organisations develop systems to acquire additional revenue from 'thematic villages'. Specifically, 37 organisations tested products, of which 30 are ready to go to the market. A 'village' certification system was developed and a team of 9 business advisers was formed for rural organisations interested in making money using this format. The thematic village concept was promoted to other organisations at three regional conferences and the 1st Thematic Villages Congress. [Activities implemented by the NIDA Nidzica Development Foundation]

Training, consultations, a webinar and supervision assistance helped 263 organisations active in addiction prevention develop new skills and 1,003 organisations acquired new tools, i.e. a professional training programme for addiction prevention workers and an online portal [www.profnet.org.pl](http://www.profnet.org.pl) which offers a comprehensive knowledge base. Recommended prevention programmes were presented to local decision-makers who are responsible for prevention. [Activities implemented by the Praesterno Foundation]

In total, 345 community archiving organisations improved their skills and received IT tools to secure, edit and digitise collections (Open Archiving System). As a result of advocacy efforts, a legislative amendment came into force in 2015 that mandates the Managing Director of State Archives to hold requests for proposals for community archives. This gave organisations access to public funds. [Activities implemented by the Charter Centre Foundation]

Online tools for food acquisition and distribution (a food registration system, a new portal [www.bankizywnosci.pl](http://www.bankizywnosci.pl), a volunteering app) were delivered to 2,164 local organisations collaborating with 32 Food Banks which contributed to increased amounts of food being donated to individuals in need from 47,000 tonnes in 2014 to 140,000 tonnes in 2015. These efforts helped increase the level of civic involvement and volunteering in local communities. [Activities implemented by the Federation of Polish Food Banks]