

CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2015-2017

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF POLAND

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS

Warsaw, 11th of December 2014

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The President of the Polish delegation welcomes the Flemish delegation and presents the members of his delegation.

Polish delegation:

Ministry of the Interior

- Joanna Kapuścińska, Deputy Director, Department for International Cooperation and European Funds, Deputy Co-Chairman of the Joint Polish-Flemish Commission
- Barbara Skólska Head of Unit, Department for International Cooperation and European Funds
- Witold Kadenaci Chief Expert, Department for International Cooperation and European Funds

Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Brussels

- Artur Harazim Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Belgium

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Janusz Wołosz First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development

- Katarzyna Prokop Senior Specialist, Department for International Cooperation

Ministry of Environment

- Ewa Siddique-Olesiejuk Counsellor, Department for Sustainable Development

Ministry of Science and Higher Education

- Anna Majda Department for International Cooperation

Ministry of National Education

- Małgorzata Skórka Chief Expert, Strategy and International Cooperation Department

Interpreters

- Beata Moskała
- Aneta Wiśniewska

The President of the Flemish delegation thanks for the warm welcome and presents the members of his delegation.

Department of Foreign Affairs

- Koen Jongbloet Head of Division, President of the Flemish Polish Joint Commission
- Yves Wantens General Representative of the Government of Flanders
- Sam Vandenabeele Director, Secretary of the Flemish Polish Joint Commission
- Paula Waluk Senior Management Assistant

Mobility and Public Works Department

- Olivier Vandernickt Policy advisor

Environment Department

- Matthias De Moor Policy advisor

Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT)

- Guido Scharpé Flemish Economic Representative

To implement the dispositions of the Co-operation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of Flanders that was signed in Warsaw on the 6th of June 1994, the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of Flanders, hereafter called the Parties,

have agreed as follows, for the years 2015 – 2017:

Long-term tradition of partnership - a factor for further co-operation strengthening

Both parties shall intensify the co-operation initiated in 1994 through comprehensive actions in the fields of economy, education, culture, healthcare, infrastructure, agriculture, environment, tourism, employment and in any other matter of mutual interest.

The aforementioned actions shall include, inter alia, the exchange of specialised knowledge, information and experience, joint participation in projects, coordination of common actions and co-operation with local authorities, promotion of bilateral relations and scholarship programmes.

Both Parties declare their support for the Polish and Flemish partners involved in the implementation of the European programmes and funds.

Bilateral co-operation in each sector shall be performed considering strategic goals and European Union programmes (ERDF, Interreg IV, Lisbon Agenda, Bologna Declaration).

Flanders 2020 and Poland 2030

Following the visit of the Minister-President of the Government of Flanders, Kris Peeters, to Poland and the joint conference about the future development strategies Flanders 2020 and Poland 2030 on the 7th of March 2011, both parties exchanged information about the implementation of these programmes.

Multilateral international co-operation, especially within UNESCO

Both Parties wish to further strengthen the multilateral co-operation within the main programmes and actions taken by UNESCO, especially in the following fields: education, exact science, natural science, social and human science, culture, communication and information, as well as in actions regarding the main general issues. Both Parties shall pay special attention to this co-operation by involving their national UNESCO committees.

1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- 1.1. Both Parties shall examine ways of further optimizing their co-operation in the framework of the European open method of coordination (OMC) or the OECD between entities responsible for outlining and executing entrepreneurship policies.
- 1.2. The conditions for co-operation in the field of entrepreneurship policies can be elaborated in a separate protocol, in case both Parties can reach an agreement.
- 1.3. In the field of bilateral co-operation both Parties will stimulate mutually beneficial exchanges and co-operation in entrepreneurship policy. They will search for suitable occasions for contacts among scientific institutions, companies, universities and administrations that are in charge of entrepreneurship policies.
- 1.4. As far as multilateral co-operation is concerned, both Parties strive for joint participation of researchers in initiatives in the field of entrepreneurship financed either through regional, national and/or European funding sources (ERDF, COSME, H2020, ...). The Parties shall promote the exchange of information, best practices and role models between entities responsible for outlining and executing entrepreneurship policies.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Economy Department of the Promotion and Bilateral Co-operation
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Office of the Marshal of the Malopolskie Voivodship

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European Entrepreneurial Region (EER))

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Department of Economic Development

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Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

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2. EDUCATION

2.1. Policy co-operation and exchange

Both parties will exchange expertise and good practices on educational topics of common interest and will inform each other of relevant policy reforms and the organisation of international conferences and seminars in the field of all forms of education and training.

The Flemish Party expresses particular interest for an exchange of good practices in higher education policy, in particular in the field of quality and relevance of higher education, international benchmarking of university research, employability of graduates, etc. and looks forward to organising international seminars on these issues in partnership with Polish experts.

The Polish Party expressed special interest in the joint implementation of programmes and projects and the exchange of good practices in the organization of education and educational and professional guidance for children and young people and promoting the concept of long life learning.

Other topics of interest of the Polish party are:

- Partnerships between vocational schools, higher education institutions and employers and exchanges of good practices and solutions in this field need to be developed. Education and vocational training providers need to be encouraged to establish “knowledge partnerships” in co-operation with innovative companies, project centres and higher education institutions.
- Co-operation between vocational schools and vocational education institutions, chambers of crafts, social partners and companies in the field of traineeships and placements in companies in order to improve employability and the raise of professional competences.

Both Parties are encouraged to cooperate and exchange expertise in the field of promoting vocational education and solutions related to practical training in the employers’ companies, workplace-based learning and co-operation between vocational schools and employers.

2.2. Partnership between schools, higher education institutions and adult education institutions

Both Parties shall encourage education and training institutions to make use of existing European and national mobility and co-operation schemes to enter into partnerships between Polish and Flemish education institutions at all levels.

Both Parties agree on creating synergies with European programmes in the field of education (current Erasmus+ programme and the outgoing Lifelong Learning Programme) and different forms of disseminating results of European projects financed under such programmes to Flemish and Polish institutions, especially in the field of vocational education, qualifications framework, transparency and comparability of qualifications).

2.2.1. Partnerships between schools

Both Parties shall encourage (e)twinning, Erasmus+ and other partnerships between schools involving co-operation and exchange of pupils; students and teachers.

2.2.2. Partnerships between higher education institutions (universities and university colleges)

Both parties shall encourage their higher education institutions to be involved in the development of joint curricula and programmes.

2.3. Vocational education and training

Both Parties express their interest in exchanging experience in the field of vocational education and training.

Examples of topics of common interest are creating and promoting flexible education systems to promote access to training in different circumstances and to adapt training to different needs (workplace-based learning) and co-operation and exchange of experiences and good practices related to the process of recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning.

2.4. Teacher training and exchanges of expertise between Polish and Flemish teachers

Both Parties support all kinds of initiatives aiming at the exchange of good practices in the field of initial teacher training and continuous professional development of teachers. In this respect both Parties will encourage co-operation, both at governmental as well as institutional level (universities, university colleges and teacher training centres).

Examples of common interest include co-operation and exchange of expertise in the field of joint identification of evolving competences and profiles of teachers, including teachers and trainers in vocational education and training.

The Flemish Party invites teachers from Poland to join the free bilingual (Dutch-English) internet portal "KlasCement" (www.klascement.be) with open courseware for school and adult education on a variety of subjects with a view to exchange best educational practices with Flemish teachers. In particular materials can be exchanged on the study of Polish or Dutch language, on Polish and Flemish history and culture and on mathematics, science and technology.

2.5. Dutch and Polish language courses

The Dutch Language Union is a Dutch-Flemish organisation set up in 1980 by treaty between the Netherlands and Belgium. The Dutch Language Union promotes and finances projects relating to the Dutch language, literature, education and culture, both in and outside the Dutch language area and supports Dutch language programmes at universities in Europe and worldwide.

For information on support schemes for Dutch studies at foreign universities:
<http://taalunieversum.org/inhoud/subsidiesystematiek-buitenlandse-neerlandistiek>.

Summer courses in the Dutch language, literature and culture are a good supplement to the Dutch courses being taken at an academic level by students abroad. Two summer courses are organised under the auspices of the Dutch Language Union. These courses are aimed at advanced students of Dutch wishing to spend a short period in Flanders or in the Netherlands during summer. A limited number of scholarships is available for these courses.

In the Netherlands the course is held in Zeist; in Flanders it is held in Ghent (University of Ghent).

More information about the summer courses can be found on the website of the Dutch Language Union (NTU, De Nederlandse Taalunie):
<http://taalunieversum.org/inhoud/cursussen-voor-studenten/zomercursussen-2014>

The Polish Party shall annually offer the Flemish Party at least six scholarships for Polish language and culture courses, organized by the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, the University of Warsaw, the University of Wrocław, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and the John Paul II Catholic University in Lublin.

The Polish Party may offer summer classes of Polish to the best students from faculties of Polish studies.

Persons from Flemish education institutions who do not participate in scholarship exchanges within the framework of this co-operation programme, may receive information about terms of recruitment and participation to Polish language and culture courses directly from the universities organizing these courses. Addresses and telephone numbers of Polish universities are available on the official website:
www.mnisw.gov.pl

2.6. Language lecturers

The cooperation regarding Polish language lecturers in Flanders will be subject of ongoing negotiations between the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education and the Flemish Department of Education and Training.

2.7. Promotion of language and culture

Both Parties will support learning of language and culture in schools and educational institutions at every level of education in order to promote the Polish language and culture in Flanders and the Dutch language and Flemish culture in the Republic of Poland.

The Polish Party will provide support for the teaching of the Polish language in schools and educational institutions at every level of education by providing, where possible, necessary textbooks.

The Polish Party will provide support for the teaching of the Polish language in schools and educational institutions at every level of education by training teachers responsible for teaching the Polish language and culture in Flanders.

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

A list of all universities and university colleges may be found on www.studyinlanders.be.

Contact persons at the Department of Education and Training:

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Noël Vercruysse (higher education)
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Division of Higher Education and Adult Education
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Liesbeth Hens (teacher policies)
Policy officer
Division of Educational Staff Policy
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Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of National Education
Department of Strategy and International Cooperation,
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Department of Structural Funds
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Foundation for the Development of the Education System (Fundacja Rozwoju Sytemu Edukacji)
kontakt@frse.org.pl

Ministry of Science and Higher education
Department of International Cooperation
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Bureau for academic Recognition and International Exchange
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Universities and other schools of higher education.

3. CULTURE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

3.1. Culture policy

Both Parties shall inform each other about important developments in cultural policies and crucial cultural projects. That means that both Parties will keep each other informed, on a regular basis, of policy matters and their international context.

When common subjects of considerable importance have been detected, both Parties may decide in consensus to organise new projects, such as artistic exchanges, training, on the job training, seminars, study visits etc.

When one of the Parties participates in an important international project, it will associate the other Party – as far as possible – as a privileged partner of the project.

3.2. Tangible and Intangible cultural heritage

Both Parties are willing to make further improvement and stimulate the networking of the heritage institutions of their countries for the purpose of exchange of practices, experts and competences related to protection and managing cultural heritage. The Polish coordinator is The National Heritage Board. The Flemish coordinator is FARO, Flemish Interface for Cultural heritage.

In the framework of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the 17th of October 2003, both Parties will study the possibility to develop joint projects regarding the methods of registration and preservation of the intangible heritage of Poland and Flanders.

Both parties can, according to the interest of the other Party, exchange information and documentation regarding tangible and intangible cultural heritage policy. They therefore can decide to organise study visits with a mixed delegation (responsible civil servants and cultural heritage experts) during the duration of the present working programme.

Eager to further develop bilateral co-operation in the field of national heritage, both Parties gladly welcome continuation of the project of establishing a scientific and educational programme on the triptych by Hans Memling "The Last Judgment". The project coordinator from the Polish side will be the National Museum in Gdańsk, on the part of Flanders it will be the "Groeningemuseum" in Bruges.

Contact: Anna Fortuna, Deputy Director, Gdańsk National Museum, a.fortuna@mng.gda.pl

3.3. Kazerne Dossin

Thanks to the support of the Representative of the Flemish Government in Poland, a presentation was given in the Museum of the History of Polish Jews about the databases created by Kazerne Dossin. In the near future the Museum of the History of Polish Jews plans will establish a co-operation with Kazerne Dossin in order to connect that database to the applications of the Information Centre and to link it with other databases available to us.

The documentation concerning the history of Polish Jews, especially the data coming from the archives of the Belgian immigration police, contains very rich and multifaceted information on the Polish Jews diaspora in Belgium which could be a starting point for a research project. It can also be used to develop an exhibition, e.g. on the emigration from Poland to the United States through Belgium. If possible this project could also be executed in co-operation with two museums from Antwerp: Red Star Line Museum and Eugeen van Mieghem Museum.

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Director
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Museum of the history of Polish Jews
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knowakowska@jewishmuseum.org.pl

3.4. Eugeen van Mieghem Museum and Red Star Line Museum (Antwerp)

In 2013 visits of the director of the Museum van Mieghem, Mr. Erwin Joos, to Warsaw and of the vice-director of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews for exhibitions and collections, Mrs. Katarzyna Nowakowska-Siton, to Antwerp, took place. These visits resulted in the decision to take steps towards organizing an exhibition in Warsaw during the summer of 2016, devoted to the works of van Mieghem (presentations of emigrants) and to the immigrants from Poland to the United States via Red Star Line (Antwerp-New York). Contacts with these institutions, as well as with Mr. Erwin Joos, aim at creating a concept for the exhibition on the Polish-Jewish emigration, with the co-operation of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the institutions mentioned above.

Contact person in Flanders:

Museum Eugene Van Mieghem
Erwin Joos
Director
van.mieghem.museum@skynet.be

3.5. Artistic activity

Both Parties are willing to support co-operation between The Music and Dance Institute together with the Flemish Theatre Institute.

The Flemish Party wants to draw attention to the possibilities for artists, writers and translators to enter the residence programmes of the following organisations (participants should meet the criteria and pass the selection).

- “Frans Masereel Centre” in Kasterlee offers residences in the field of graphic arts (www.fransmasereelcentrum.be).
- “Passa Porta” offers residences in Brussels and Vollezele for writers and translators (www.passaporta.be).
- “Flemish Literature Fund” offers residences for translators in the Translators’ House in Antwerp (www.fondsvoordeletteren.be).

The Polish Party kindly informs the Flemish Party about the Translation Programme © POLAND implemented by the Instytut Książki in Kraków. This Programme provides funding for translations and copy rights costs to publishers interested in translation of Polish literature as well as residences for translators of Polish literature. All information is available on the website of the Instytut Książki (www.instytutksiazki.pl).

3.6. Film and Audiovisual Media

Both Parties will encourage the participation of artists in Flemish and Polish film festivals, according to the rules and regulations of these events.

The Mazovia Warsaw Film Commission which operates within the structures of the Mazovia Institute of Culture can offer support to filmmakers. It is the first contact when shooting a film in Warsaw and Mazovia. This is a complimentary service by the Mazovia region and the City of Warsaw supporting national and international film and TV productions.

Both Polish and Flemish Regulators for the Media are willing to exchange their experience, know-how and best practices concerning the regulation of the audiovisual media services.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
Department of International Co-operation
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Culture Department
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Mazovia Institute of Culture
Mazovia Warsaw Film Commission
Anna Spisz
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National Broadcasting Council of Poland
Strategy Department
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Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

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4. MOBILITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS

For each topic, Flemish and Polish experts will be identified together.

General contact person in Flanders:

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General contact person in Poland:

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International Co-operation Department
Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development
katarzyna.prokop@mir.gov.pl

4.1 Maritime Transport, inland waterways and ports

Both Parties are willing to exchange information and experiences regarding one or more of the following topics:

- a) general policy on ports with emphasis on the co-operation between ports and the exchange of best practices in the field of sustainability and ICT
- b) design and construction of port infrastructure
- c) facilitating networking between the Polish and Flemish port sector (port authorities, ministries and knowledge institutions)
- d) supporting European initiatives concerning European Shortsea and motorways of the sea
- e) policy in terms of regulation, operation, commercialization and promotion of inland waterways; policy on sustainable inland navigation
- f) policy and measures to reach the goals of European Clean Air Policy Package
- g) mitigating climate change by reduction of greenhouse gasses, greening of maritime and inland waterway transport with regard to air pollution, the use of LNG as a fuel for maritime shipping (Poland and Flanders are both located in an Emission Control Area)
- h) combining recreational and professional use of the waterways
- i) multifunctional use of the waterways
- j) on-shore services for inland navigation
- k) promotion of inland shipping, short sea shipping, modal shift actions and intermodal connections
- l) implementation of relevant EU policy and EU regulation (e.g. Clean Power for Transport, Port Regulation, RIS directive, EU water framework directive and sea spatial planning directive)

- m) various aspects regarding the policy, infrastructure, management, new technologies and information of inland waterways and water protection
- n) integrated multimodal logistics based on efficient transport (inland navigation, rail, road) flows between sea ports and the hinterland through the exchange of information related to cargo and transport enabling multimodal services (ICT and ITS), as well as the optimal localisation and operation of hubs, terminals and (European and regional) distribution centres
- o) efficient and sustainable urban logistics: sharing best practices (e.g. innovative concepts, consolidation centres, sustainable transport, ...) and national, regional, local policy experience
- p) exchange of innovative logistics concepts related to new trends (e-m- and c-commerce, horizontal collaboration, 3-D-printing, autonomous vehicles, ...)

Contact persons in Flanders:

Joke Lievens, Policy Advisor, Head of Ports and Logistics Unit

Marleen Coenen, Policy Advisor, Head of Integrated Water Management Unit

Pim Bonne, Policy Advisor, International Unit

Tijl Dendal, Policy Officer, Ports and Logistics Unit (Urban logistics)

Sarina Motmans, Policy Officer, Ports and Logistics Unit (European port policy and Flanders Port Area)

Ann-Sofie Pauwelyn, Policy Officer, Waterwegen en Zeekanaal (inland waterways operator)

General contact person in Poland:

Monika Niemiec-Butryn

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Contact persons in Poland:

Paweł Banaś – Acting Head of Unit of Maritime Environment Protection, Department for Maritime Transport and Shipping Safety, Ministry of Infrastructure and Development

Przemysław Dąca – Acting Head of Unit of Inland Navigation, Department for Maritime Transport and Shipping Safety, Ministry of Infrastructure and Development

Maciej Styczyński – Head of Unit of Maritime Policy, Department for Maritime Transport and Shipping Safety, Ministry of Infrastructure and Development

Paweł Krężel – Acting Head of Unit of Maritime Navigation and Harbours/Ports, Department for Maritime Transport and Shipping Safety, Ministry of Infrastructure and Development

4.2 Road Transport and traffic safety

Both Parties are willing to exchange information and experiences regarding one or more of the following topics:

- a) the financial aspects and benefits of PPP
- b) control methods and equipment for measuring the condition of the roads: pavement (PMS) and road surroundings (Flemish Inventory Inspection Reporting system)
- c) guidebooks road design, management and maintenance
- d) outsourcing of maintenance contracts
- e) trajectory control and the use of ANPR
- f) development and implementation of a national traffic safety strategy
- g) implementation of relevant EU policy and EU regulation (e.g. Clean Power for Transport)
- h) methods of using the data from Weight in Motion (WIM) system

Contact persons in Flanders:

Nils van Brussel, Policy Officer, Roads and Traffic Agency

Helmut Paris, Policy Advisor, Policy Division of Mobility and Traffic Safety

Contact persons in Poland:

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Łukasz Majchrzak, Head of Unit of Analysis, Center of Automatic Supervision/Surveillance of the Road Transport/Flow, General Inspectorate of Road Transport

Piotr Zych, specialist on analysis, Center of Automatic Supervision/Surveillance of the Road Transport/Flow, General Inspectorate of Road Transport

Katarzyna Dargiel, chief specialist, Department for Coordination of Development Strategies and Policies, Ministry of Infrastructure and Development

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Konrad Romik, chief specialist, Secretariat of the National Council on the Road Safety

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Krzysztof Łaptaszynski, Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship in Warsaw, Deputy Director of the Department of the Organization in the field of Public Safety

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5. YOUTH WELFARE

Following themes could be of interest for an exchange of experience:

- foster care
- alternative ways of implementation of punishment for juvenile offenders (focused on rehabilitation/reintegration)
- integrated assistance programmes for juveniles
- specific assistance programmes, in Flanders the YAR programme is extremely well perceived. YAR is a programme specifically focusing on juveniles between 15 & 21 years, with regular problems in many fields (criminality; education & employment; building of relations; attitude; sense of responsibility...).

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

During the course of this programme the Polish side will supplement the list of the interested units involved in this cooperation.

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Youth Welfare Agency
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6. YOUTH POLICY

During the duration of the present programme both Parties shall, according to the interest of the other Party, exchange information and documentation regarding youth policy, youth work strategy, experiences and practical solutions in the field of non-formal and informal education and youth work.

During the duration of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange four experts (mixed delegation: responsible civil servants and youth workers/experts) for a study visit up to five days, to elaborate a youth (work)policy at all levels (local, regional and national).

During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange delegations up to four members (mixed delegation: responsible civil servants and youth workers/experts) for a period up to five days with the aim of deepening and enlarging the ideas, themes and instruments of the new framework of the EU youth policy (resolution 27th of November 2009) and the framework of co-operation on youth policy of the Council of Europe (based on resolution CM/Res(2008)23).

Both Parties agree to send or receive youth workers/experts for participation in selected international (youth) events.

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports and Media
Agency for social-cultural work for youth and adults - Division youth

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Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

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Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
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(exchange of experience in the field of youth activation and establishing of youth councils)

7. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Both parties will cooperate and exchange information, knowledge and experience in the field of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, further the CRC, guided by its core principles, i.e. non-discrimination (art. 2 CRC), the child's best interests (art. 3 CRC), the right to development (art. 6) and participation (art. 12).

Both parties will use the Council of Europe Network of Children's Rights Coordinators and the European Commission informal expert group on the rights of the child to exchange information, knowledge and experience on children and their rights by using in particular the EU-agenda on the Rights of the Child and the Monaco strategy 2012-2015 and next strategies of the Council of Europe. On the UN level the 2015+-process can be mentioned.

Both parties will exchange information on the way of reporting to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (art. 44) and on implementing the concluding observations of the Committee.

Both parties intend to exchange four experts (mixed delegation) for a study visit with the aim of deepening and enlarging following possible issues such as mechanisms for the follow-up of the CRC and the implementation of the concluding observations of the above mentioned UN Committee.

Specific attention will be paid to children in vulnerable situations, amongst others to:

- children living in poverty
- children with disabilities
- children of foreign origin
- children as victims of violence and abuse
- children in foster care (both home based and residential)

Parties engage themselves to work together in the framework of thematic conferences with a European dimension as far as possible and when it has an added value for both of the parties. A concrete example can be the follow-up of the 25th anniversary of the CRC and the attention that will be paid to child's best interests principle during the Belgian presidency of the Council of Europe (November 2014 – May 2015).

Units involved from the Flemish side:

Ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports and Media

Joost Van Haelst

Children's rights coordinator

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Units involved from the Polish side:

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

Agata Zych

Specialist

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8. WELFARE, HEALTH CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Parties will cooperate and exchange information, knowledge, experience and tools in the field of preventive healthcare and wellbeing of children, particularly on issues of care for young children and the promotion of breastfeeding.

The Flemish agency Child and Family (Kind en Gezin) is willing to exchange information, knowledge, experience, documentation and tools in the broad domain of the preventive healthcare and wellbeing of young children, Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC), target groups and social vulnerable families.

More especially, The Flemish agency Child and Family (Kind en Gezin) can provide information about selection procedures, training and evaluation instruments for childcare workers.

The Flemish agency Child and Family (Kind en Gezin) can also provide information about the organization of integrated early childhood preventive care (family/child centres).

The Flemish agency Child and Family (Kind en Gezin) can provide tools in the domain of unsafe children's articles, web courses (for instance breastfeeding), pictographic material, material about child development, family supporters, vaccination, experience in early eye or hearing screening, etc.

The exchange on the above mentioned items can be realized through different channels of communication. Mutual exchange visits can be organized within the limits of the available financial resources.

Flanders' Care is a programme of the Flemish Government to stimulate innovation in care. Key themes of this programme are the emphasis on eHealth and assistive technologies.

The Flemish Agency for Care and Health would be happy to share expertise on topics of common interest. We propose to use the European agenda and trends that may have an impact on regional policy development. Flanders would welcome regional and local co-operation in the context of the European Network of Regional and Local health Authorities – EUREGHA, which is a Brussels based network. EUREGHA is an open network with membership fees.

Flanders is working in EUREGHA on cancer screening programmes, on suicide prevention, on integrated care and on Ehealth.

Flanders is looking for Ehealth applications and good practices in other countries: on registration, experiences in managing a central dataset for practitioners and of course the interoperability issues of the applications.

The exchange of information and knowledge on the effects of preventive actions to counter violence against the child and family.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Health
Department of Mother and Child
dep-md@mz.gov.pl

Regional Social Policy Centre in Poznan (Regionalny Ośrodek Pomocy Społecznej w Poznaniu)

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Health Department
Jolanta Sobierańska-Grenda
Director
j.sobieranska@pomorskie.eu

Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director
International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Co-operation in activities such as prevention (especially addressed to people of working age, and vocational rehabilitation), childcare and youth, medical staff-resources records, eHealth.

Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodship in Warsaw
Department of Social Policy and Health
Dagmara Piwońska – Kuc
dagmara.piwonska@mazovia.pl
Tel.: +48 22 59 79 923

Mazovian Social Policy Center
Barbara Kucharska
Vice Director
barbara.kucharska@mcps.com.pl
Tel.: +48 22 62 24 432

Only in the field of preventive actions to counter violence against the child and family.

Voivodship Polyclinical Hospital for Children in Kraków
Aleksandra Rumińska
Coordinator for Health Promotion
+48 12 61 98 627
aruminsk@dziecieczszpital.pl

(The hospital is interested in cooperation on issues of care for young children and the promotion of breastfeeding).

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

The Flemish Agency Child and Family (Kind en Gezin)

Anneliese Hendrix

anneliese.hendrix@kindengezin.be

Tel.: +32 2 542 56 45

Flemish Agency for Care & Health

Solvejg Wallyn

Tel.: +32 2 553 33 74

internationaal.azg@wvg.vlaanderen.be

Care for persons with disabilities

The Flemish Agency for 'Disabled People' remains ready to contribute to the organization of short visits of experts to Flanders in order to exchange information and experience in the fields of employment of disabled people and more in general the organization of the care for disabled people in Flanders.

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Agency for Disabled People (Vlaams Agentschap voor Personen met een Handicap)

Rudi Kennes

rudi.kennes@vaph.be

Tel.: +32 2 225 84 68

9. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

The Flemish Party proposes possibilities for co-operation between Flanders and Poland in the scope of agriculture and fisheries.

Both parties are interested in developing the cross-regional market wholesale trade of fruit, vegetables and pig meat, as well as in exchanging experience in the field of inter-sector agreements, agricultural market information systems and issues concerning internal audits performed by an EU Paying Agency.

Both parties are interested in conducting research projects and cooperation in the field of advisory on agriculture issues and agricultural education regarding developments on the fruit and vegetable market. Such a system would include graduates of agricultural high schools who are winners of the Contest in Rural Skills and Knowledge (Olimpiada Wiedzy i Umiejętności Rolniczych OWiUR), students of relevant faculties, advisers and active farmers.

Both Parties shall support the exchange of experience and opinions between agricultural organisations about the functioning of agriculture and the development of rural areas in the context of Common Agricultural Policy evolution.

The Flemish Party is willing to put at the disposal of the Polish Party, within the budgetary limits, its knowledge and experience in the field of production, transformation and marketing of fruits, vegetables and fish, in compliance with European legislation. Within this framework the Flemish Party is also willing to exchange its expertise in the foundation and functioning of producers groups.

The following Polish research institutes are interested in establishing cooperation:

- **Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation – State Research Institute in Puławy** sustain its willingness to start scientific cooperation with entities in Flanders. The cooperation in the agricultural sector could concern the following areas: organic farming, increasing production and the quality of leguminous crops for the needs of animal production, effects of climate change on agricultural production, production technologies for cereals, fodder and hops production, agriculture's impact on the natural environment;
- **Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics – National Research Institute in Warsaw** wishes to establish cooperation with the Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (Instituut voor Landbouw- en Visserijonderzoek) in the area of research projects devoted to changes on fruit and vegetable market and economic aspects of sustainable agriculture. The Institute is especially interested in exchanging research experience in monitoring and analysing the current situation on the fruit and vegetable market and of the competitiveness of sustainable agriculture;
- **Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute – National Research Institute in Radzików** sustain its interest in scientific cooperation in research with the University of Gent in the area of work related to research in and cultivation of cereals, with focus on the cultivation of rye and wheat.
Contact details:
IHAR-PIB: Dr Karolina Mitura, Dział Promocji i Współpracy z Zagranicą IHAR-PIB
k.mitura@ihar.edu.pl, tel. +48 22 73 34 611
University Ghent: Prof. dr. Geert Haesaert, Head of Department Applied Biosciences, faculty Bioscience Engineering
geert.haesaert@hogent.be, tel. +32 9 242 42 70
- **Research Institute of Horticulture in Skierniewice** is willing to establish cooperation with research institutes and companies from Belgium/Flanders in the area of research and organisation of the fruit and vegetable market, organic horticultural production, fruit and vegetable processing and storage, devising and implementing methods for conventional, organic and GMO crops cultivation and control, climate change impact on crop production and on food security, rural area development and promotion of regional horticultural products.
- **Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants in Poznań** declares its readiness to cooperate with scientific centres in Flanders. The cooperation would extend to areas which fall into the scope of research activities carried out by the Institute. The areas are: cultivation of fibre crops and herbal plants for purposes other than consumption; conducting joint research on the possibility of adapting Polish species of fibre crops and medicinal plants to be cultivated in climate and soil conditions typical for the Flemish region as well as importing local species of

plants that can be cultivated in Poland; cooperation in the area of breeding and agricultural engineering of fibre crops and herbal plants; exchanging genetic resources and supporting the protection of genetic resources of local useful plants; harvesting, processing and refining flax fibres and hemp fibres, especially by employing green technologies; including the use of current and potential lignocellulose materials into sustainable development; manufacturing biodegradable multi-purpose nonwoven fabrics from fibre components (nonwoven fabrics with special characteristics, e.g. protection against UV radiation, bacteria, moulds and flame exposure); extending the usability of by-products from the processing of fibre from plants; acquiring, processing and using plant oils, plant proteins and other valuable plant nutrients in foodstuffs, phytopharmaceutical products, animal feed, technological products as well as for energy uses, reclaiming brownfield land by cultivating fibre plants. The Institute wishes to highlight that prospective partners who are interested in the above-mentioned fields of research will be cooperating with a centre with extensive agricultural, botanical and breeding facilities as well as with phytochemical and biotechnological laboratories. The Institute would be also interested in mutual exchange of specialists and creating internship posts in research institutes in Flanders. The above-listed proposals form the basis for a discussion on the possible cooperation between the interested research centres in Flanders and the Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants in Poznań.

Unit involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Department Agriculture and Fisheries
Agriculture and Fisheries Policy Division
Pieter Lietaer
Policy advisor
pieter.lietaer@lv.vlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 2 553 62 14

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Department for international Cooperation
sekretariatwm@minrol.gov.pl

Agricultural Market Agency

Local Fishing Groups

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Co-operation in the field of agricultural advisory, producer groups (institutions: Pomorskie Hurtowe Centrum Rolno-Spożywcze Renk, PODR, School of Agriculture in Bolesław).

Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodship in Warsaw
Department of Agriculture and Rural Areas Development
Marzena Rogozińska
Head of Agriculture and Food Unit
marzena.rogozinska@mazovia.pl
Tel.: +48 22 59 79 363

10. ENVIRONMENT

10.1. The Nature and Environmental Education Unit

(EE) is prepared to invite a delegation to introduce them within the (N)EE-working, the educative environmental care projects and the structure on the Flemish level in a profound and participative way.

Taking into account the wishes and needs, the (N)EE-unit can organise 3 or 4 days with the following interests, possibly in a follow-up project (MOS, Ecocampus, ...):

- introduction of and making acquaintance with the working of the (N)EE-unit service within Flanders, with Education for Sustainable Development as the frame of reference, and with the networking on (N)EE (diverse target groups) and on ESD
- making acquaintance in a profound way with the MOS-project (Environmental Care at School), an educational and environmental care project from kindergarten to secondary education and, if preferred, linked with one or more school visits; getting acquainted with the educational means
- introduction of and making acquaintance with the Ecocampus-project, a new project to introduce environmental care in higher education and universities (curricula, internal management, student life), and, if preferred, linked with a visit to a university or an institution of higher education
- introduction of the procedure in Flanders on the phasing and implementation of the Strategy on ESD in the formal education and informal or/and non-formal education; making acquaintance with examples of good practices how ESD can be introduced in (N)EE
- site visit to one or more (N)EE-centres, linked with a Flemish nature reserve (coast, heath, ...) and to a provincial EE-service, getting acquainted with the common educational means.

10.2. Waste Management

Both parties are willing to exchange knowledge of support of awareness raising of municipalities and inhabitants in the area of waste management, particularly in separate collection of waste streams with emphasis on bio-waste, energy recovery from waste and support for use of secondary materials from wastes.

Taking into account the wishes and needs, the follow-up projects can be prepared:

- awareness raising campaigns on support of separate collection of municipal waste, with emphasis on bio-waste
- support of education activities of municipalities in waste management
- site visit to one or more Flemish areas with best practices

10.3. NATURA 2000

Both parties are willing to cooperate in the field of the nature and landscape protection, namely through sharing experience in implementing the NATURA 2000 (exchanging information on the strategy, setting the conservation objectives, involving owners and users of the land, identifying the best economic tools).

10.4. Expert exchange

Both parties are prepared to invite, during the duration of the present program, a team of maximum five experts for a period up to five working days within the framework of the following topics in order to exchange knowledge and establish contacts.

1. waste management
2. policy development, management planning and implementation of Natura 2000
3. the policy domain of the department for environment, nature and energy (LNE)

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Environment
Department of Sustainable Development
Ewa Siddique-Olesiejuk
Counsellor
ewa.olesiejuk@mos.gov.pl
Tel.: +48 22 57 92 369
Fax: +48 22 57 92 263

Department of Waste Management
departament.Gospodarki.Odpadami@mos.gov.pl
Department of Strategy and Communication
magdalena.cheda@mos.gov.pl

General Directorate for Environmental Protection
Regional Directorates for Environmental Protection
Biebrzański National Park

Office of the Marshal of the Malopolskie Voivodship
Ecology Policy Unit
Agnieszka Nowak
agnieszka.Nowak@umwm.pl
Tel.: +48 12 63 03 246
Kinga Dulemba
kinga.Dulemba@umwm.pl

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodship in Warsaw
Department of the Environment
Ewa Warywoda
Tel.: +48 22 59 79 056
ewa.warywoda@mazovia.pl

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Land Agency – FLA
Nature and Forest Agency – NFA
Public Waste Agency of Flanders – OVAM
Department Environment, Nature and Energy
Quirina Huet
Policy advisor
quirina.huet@lne.vlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 2 553 75 52

Matthias De Moor
Policy Advisor
matthias.demoor@lne.vlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 2 553 78 60

11. BILATERAL TRADE

The Flemish Party is committed to enhancing and promoting the trade relations between Flanders and Poland. For that purpose, they will exchange information regarding business and investment opportunities. Ad hoc, and at the request of the other Party, the Flemish Party will also exchange information regarding its market and sectors, useful contacts, experiences and knowledge concerning the promotion of international entrepreneurship.

For Flanders, the above will be realized by Flanders Investment & Trade, the official Flemish institution supporting Flemish companies in various kinds of international entrepreneurship, as well as helping foreign companies in setting up or expanding in Flanders.

Within its export promotion strategy 2011-2015, Flanders Investment & Trade focuses on the following promising target sectors in Poland:

- Construction
- Food & beverages
- Cleantech (environment & renewable energy)
- Chemicals & plastics

Flanders realized/planned the following actions:

2011

- Group stand on the construction fair Budma in Poznan
- Catalog stand on the food fair Polagra in Poznan
- Construction trade mission to Warsaw
- Invitation of Polish buyers to the European Wind Energy Association in Brussels

2012

- Group stand on the construction fair Budma in Poznan
- Catalog stand on the food fair Polagra in Poznan
- Food & beverages trade mission to Poznan
- Seminar 'Cleantech in Central & Eastern Europe' (Grimbergen)
- Invest seminar in Warsaw (on investment opportunities in Flanders)

2013

- Group stand on the construction fair Budma in Poznan
- Catalog stand on the food fair Polagra in Poznan
- Waste management & remediation trade mission to Warsaw
- Catalog stand on the fair Ekowaste in Sosnowiec
- Invitation of Polish buyers of the medical sector to Brussels

2014

- Group stand on the construction fair Budma in Poznan
- Health trade mission to Warsaw
- Catalogue/ Information stand on the fair WIHE - Warsaw International Healthcare Exhibition
- Catalog stand on the food fair Polagra in Poznan
- Catalog stand on the fair Greenpower in Poznan
- Invitation of Polish buyers to the food fair SIAL in Paris
- Invitation of Polish buyers to the food fair ISM in Cologne

2015

- Group stand on the construction fair Budma in Poznan
- Cleantech trade mission to Poznan
- Catalog stand on the fair Greenpower in Poznan
- Invitation of Polish buyers to the food fair ANUGA in Cologne
- Invitation of Polish buyers to the fair Fruit Logistica in Berlin

In addition to these actions, the economic representatives return once a year to Flanders for individual meetings with Flemish companies in order to give them tailor made advice concerning business opportunities in Poland and how to approach the Polish market.

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT)
Bart Van den Bossche
Area Manager Central & Eastern Europe
bart.vandenbossche@fitagency.be
Tel.: +32 2 504 87 09

12. TOURISM

Both Parties encourage the exchange of information concerning tourist markets and they promote tourism events in Poland and in Flanders.

Both Parties encourage the organisation of study visits for journalists, radio and television reporters, researchers and specialists in the field of tourism.

Both Parties encourage the organisation of seminars, colloquiums and workshop on tourism themes that are proposed by one of the Parties, to exchange experience and ideas.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Office of the Marshal of the Malopolskie Voivodship
Anna Nawrot
anna.Nawrot@umwm.pl
Head of the Tourism Development Unit
Tel.: +48 12 37 96 026

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Marta Chełkowska
Director Department of Tourism and Promotion
m.chelkowska@pomorskie.eu

Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Regional Tourism Organisation of Pomorskie Voivodship
Krystyna Hartenberger-Pater
dyrektor@prot.gda.pl

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Tourism Flanders
Jan Van Praet
Policy advisor
jan.vanpraet@toerismevlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 2 504 03 50

13. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND DIVERSITY POLICY

The Government of Flanders has had an equal opportunities and diversity policy since 1995. This policy aims to map out discriminatory mechanisms and combat them. Certain groups receive particular attention: men and women (gender balance), people with disabilities or chronic illnesses, people with a migratory background, elderly, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transsexual people (LGBTs). Flanders has specific equal opportunities and anti-discrimination legislation, conducts awareness-raising activities and commissions scientific research on the theme of equal opportunities and diversity.

Equal Opportunities in Flanders pursues its own equal opportunities policy on the themes of gender, age, sexual identity, accessibility and disability, and additionally coordinates the mainstreaming policy (transversal equal opportunities policy) within other policy domains in the Government of Flanders, including in Education, Sport, Culture, Employment, Wellbeing and Health. The Local and Provincial Government administration coordinates a policy aimed at integration for immigrants and for citizens of other ethno-cultural backgrounds. The Government of Flanders also implements a specific internal equal opportunities policy, via the *Diversity and Equal Opportunities Unit Flanders* under the guidance of the Flemish Emancipation office. The Government of Flanders wants its workforce (44,000 members of staff) to reflect the diversity of the population. The service develops Human Resources projects and aims its policy at quotas for specific groups.

In Poland the Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment, who is responsible for coordinating the government policy on equal treatment, prepared, in co-operation with all ministries and relevant offices, the National Programme for Equal Treatment for the years 2013-2016. The programme was adopted by the Council of Ministers in December of 2013. Within its goals and priorities regarding

equal treatment in all spheres of social life it indicates measures for counteracting discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic origin, nationality, religion, world view, disability, age and sexual orientation. The Programme anticipates activities in all areas including (but not limiting them to) the further general implementation of antidiscrimination policies, increasing activation and participation of women, elderly, persons with disabilities, Roma and foreigners in the labor market, combating gender based violence, preventing and combating hate crimes as well as ensuring equal treatment in education (including measures aimed at elimination of stereotypes and intolerance), healthcare system and access to goods and services (including media).

Both parties agree to share experiences and knowledge on areas such as the following: how to create a legislative framework for supporting equal opportunities and anti-discrimination policy; how to implement a diversity policy on the shop floor (regulations, quotas, awareness-raising, projects, etc.); and what initiatives to set up around equal opportunities and diversity in areas such as Education, Culture and Sport; Employment how to embark, as a government, upon a good dialogue with civil society and the disadvantaged groups in society (stakeholder management).

During the course of this programme both sides will supplement the list of the interested units involved in this cooperation.

14. EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL ECONOMY

Both Parties shall continue the co-operation in the field of employment policy, social economy, vocational and entrepreneurial training, and encourage the contacts between the competent bodies and the social partners in this field.

Both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange information about the labour market, the legislation, the statistical data and any other information concerning employment policy, social economy, vocational and entrepreneurial training.

Both Parties encourage the co-operation in the field of the European Social Fund and shall exchange information and know-how concerning the management and the monitoring of the ESF.

The Flemish Party (Flemish Department of Work and Social Economy) shall act as mediator for possible co-operation with any actor or network active in the field of vocational and entrepreneurial training, labour market, social economy and employment policy.

The Polish Party encourages vocational education and training institutions and companies to cooperate in the field of organizing learning and training mobility of vocational teachers, practical vocational learning instructors, job advisors and directors of vocational schools (job shadowing, traineeships in companies, observations, study visits and thematic/industry courses).

The Flemish party is ready to:

- investigate if in the country of the other party workers can be found for Flemish bottleneck vacancies,
- exchange information in this respect and
- make bilateral agreements with the competent employment services of the other party regarding the exchange and fulfilment of job vacancies.

The impact of the subject of this co-operation can in no way have a negative impact on the labour market situation of one or of both of the parties.

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Department of Work and Social Economy
Farah Nolens
farah.nolens@wse.vlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 2 553 39 55

VDAB
Gert De Buck
gert.debuck@vdab.be
Tel.: +32 2 506 04 71

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Employment and Social Policy
Department for International Cooperation
info@mpips.gov.pl

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Regional Social Policy Centre in Poznan (Regionalny Ośrodek Pomocy Społecznej w Poznaniu)

Ministry of National Education
Department of Structural Funds,
sekretariat@dfs.men.gov.pl

Foundation for the Development of the Education System (Fundacja Rozwoju Sytemu Edukacji)
kontakt@frse.org.pl

15. CAPACITY BUILDING

15.1. Port management

The Flemish Party (Department of Foreign Affairs) offers the Polish Party the possibility to send experts to the port training and port management seminars that are organised by APEC (Antwerpen/Flanders Port Training Center).

The Polish Party will present its candidates for those seminars. Participants are selected by APEC. The Flemish Party covers the expenses for participation in the seminars. The international travel expenses are covered by the participant or by the organisation on which he/she depends.

15.2. College of Europe Natolin

The Flemish Party (Department of Foreign Affairs) continues to support the College of Europe in Natolin by providing scholarships for students from its non-EU partner countries.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development

College of Europe Natolin

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs

Sam Vandenabeele

sam.vandenabeele@iv.vlaanderen.be

Tel.: +32 2 553 48 20

16. SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

Both Parties shall examine ways in which they can optimize further co-operation within the framework of the European Research Area, both in the field of research groups and science and innovation policies.

Co-operation in the field of science, research and experimental development can be agreed upon through a special agreement if both Parties decide to sign one.

As far as bilateral co-operation is concerned, both Parties shall stimulate to their mutual benefit exchanges and co-operation in the fields of science and technological innovation. They will provide possibilities for contacts among scientific institutions, research centres, companies, universities and administrations that are responsible for policies concerning science and technological innovation.

As for multilateral co-operation, both Parties shall encourage joint participation of Flemish and Polish researchers in the European Framework Programmes for Research and Development.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Science and Higher Education
Department of International Co-operation
sekretariat.dwm@nauka.gov.pl

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodship in Warsaw
Department of Regional Development and EU Funds
Krzysztof Frankowicz - Chief expert
krzysztof.frankowicz@mazovia.pl
Tel.: +48 22 59 79 992

Department of Public Education and Sport
Team of Mazovian Doktorates
Przemysław Szymański - Chief expert
przemyslaw.szymanski@mazovia.pl

Office of the Marshal of the Malopolskie Voivodship
Elżbieta Sztorc
Head of the Economic Co-operation Unit
elzbieta.sztorc@umwm.pl
Tel.: +48 12 63 03 150
(strengthening cooperation between science, business and public administration)

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

Department of Science and Innovation
Pierre Verdoodt
Head of unit Strategy & Coordination
pierre.verdoodt@ewi.vlaanderen.be

17. SPORTS

Both Parties shall support co-operation in the field of sports and sports education and between the organisations interested from both countries, for example in terms of initiating exchanges of experts, coaches, athletes and good practices. The arrangement of specific activities of co-operation and their financial coverage fall within the terms of reference of the respective organisations involved.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodship
Department of Economic Development
Krystyna Wróblewska
Deputy Director International Co-operation
k.wroblewska@pomorskie.eu

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

BLOSO
Kris De Coorde
kris.de_coorde@bloso.be
Tel.: +32 2 209 45 35

Department of Culture, Youth, Sport and Media
Dieter Braekeveld
Policy advisor sport
dieter.braekeveld@cism.vlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 2 553 46 71

18. PUBLIC GOVERNANCE

Both Parties will cooperate by exchanging information, experience, know-how and best practices.

Possible items for future exchange activities include subjects in the fields of human resources management, recruitment policy, integrity and corruption prevention policy, finance systems of local government units, ICT and E-government, integration and diversity policies, urban policy and relationships with local authorities, regulatory management and policy evaluation, as well as research activities.

Both Parties agree to focus future contacts and co-operation on public sector modernization. More specific and detailed topics will be outlined and agreed upon by the institutions, administrations and units at central and local levels.

The Flemish Agency for the Interior and the Polish Party (Offices of the Marshal) will cooperate and exchange information about the following subjects: the organization of local elections; local finances and local statistics; autonomous local enterprises; co-operation between local authorities; internal multi-level governance including scale and competencies; the relationship between central and local authorities: policy support and administrative control.

The Flemish Agency for the Interior will coordinate future requests for co-operation initiatives between Flemish and Polish local authorities in co-operation with other involved stakeholders or umbrella organizations.

Both Parties agree to continue the initiative of bilateral public governance conferences with the participation of Polish and Flemish representatives of local and regional authorities. The Flemish Public Governance department proposes a public governance seminar within the framework of the Flemish Week in Gdańsk (March 2015).

Upon request from the Polish Party the Flemish Public Governance department will provide relevant information (including partners competent in the projects area) in order to elaborate specific co-operation projects.

Units involved in co-operation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Administration and Digitalization
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development

Office of the Marshal of the Małopolskie Voivodship
Integrated Management Unit
Maciej Kilijanski
maciej.Kilijanski@umwm.pl
Tel.: +48 12 63 03 362

Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodship in Warsaw
Rafał Zięba
Deputy director of the Chancellery of the Marshal
rafal.zieba@mazovia.pl

Units involved in co-operation from the Flemish side:

The Coordination Unit of the Public Governance Department and the Agency for the Interior
Jan De Mulder
Policy advisor
jan.demulder@bz.vlaanderen.be
Tel.: +32 474 99 94 32

19. CO-OPERATION TOWARDS THE EASTERN EU-BORDERS

The Flemish co-operation programme with Central and Eastern Europe, that was successfully implemented also with Polish partners since 1992 has been abolished in 2010. Indeed in 2004 most of the focus countries of the programme became EU-member states and the programme therefore lost its goal. Taking in consideration the Polish efforts in fostering enhanced co-operation between the EU and the countries at the Eastern border of the EU and more specifically the Eastern Partnership Programme (EaP), Flanders is ready to consider new ways of co-operation with Polish partners in these countries.

20. FLEMISH WEEK IN GDAŃSK (14-22 March 2015)

The opening of a brand new Shakespeare Theatre in Gdańsk in September 2014 offers an excellent opportunity to strengthen the historic ties with this important port city. To celebrate this, a Flemish week will be organised in Gdańsk from the 14th until the 22nd of March 2015. The project is led by the Flemish Representation in Warsaw. On the Flemish side, the main partners are the cities of Ghent, which has maintained close ties with the city of Gdańsk over the years, and Mechelen, as the native city of Van den Blocke, whose grandson was the architect of the original 17th century theatre. The partners on the Polish side are the city of Gdańsk and the Shakespeare Theatre. Other Flemish partners in the project, each in relation to their specific domain, include the Agency for Nature and Forests, Locus Artis, NTGent, NUCLEO, the Flanders Heritage Agency, the Public Governance Policy Area, OVAM, Flanders Investment and Trade, the Department of Mobility and Public Works, KASK, VOMO, Artevelde Hogeschool, Thomas More Hogeschool, the Groeninghe Museum, VOKA, and the Agency for Industrial Archeology.

The National Maritime Museum in Gdańsk, in co-operation with institutions from Flanders, is planning to organize, on the 16th and the 17th of March 2015, an international scientific seminar entitled "Ships and Cargo" devoted to the past maritime contacts between our two countries. This project is to take place within the framework of the planned "Flemish Cultural Week" in Gdańsk. The partner co-organizing the seminar is the Flanders Heritage Agency in Brussels. The meeting will be accompanied by a poster exhibition presenting the latest discoveries of medieval ships in Belgium.

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21. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

21.1

The provisions for the organisation of exhibitions and the respective responsibilities of the Parties will be determined in the protocols concerning the organisation of exhibitions, signed by their organisers.

21.2

The provisions of the present Co-operation Programme do not preclude the possibility of implementing other activities, exchanges or projects that will be agreed upon by the Parties through diplomatic channels.

21.3

Both Parties will agree on the provisions for each specific event through diplomatic channels. Any disputes concerning the interpretation or implementation of the present Co-operation Programme shall be solved by negotiations between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

21.4

Both parties agree that each party is responsible for its own costs related to the exchange of experts.

21.5

For exchanges and visits in the field of, Youth, Sports and Media, financial and material stipulations shall be decided upon by the specific parties involved and shall be communicated through diplomatic channels. All activities and exchanges mentioned shall be carried out within the limits of the financial resources at the disposal of the two Parties.

The next meeting of the Joint Commission will be held in Brussels in the fourth quarter of the year 2017.

Done in Warsaw on the 11th December 2014 in two original copies English and Polish, the two texts being equally valid. Should any differences in the interpretation of the Co-operation Programme occur, the English version shall prevail. The Flemish Party will provide a Dutch translation.

For the Government
of Flanders



Koen VERLAECKT
Secretary-general
Co-chairman of the
Flemish-Polish Joint Commission

For the Government
of the Republic of Poland



Piotr STACHAŃCZYK
Secretary of State in the Ministry
of the Interior
Co-chairman of the Polish-Flemish
Joint Commission

