EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)
Almost €6.7 billion from the European Regional Development Fund has been dedicated to boost the competitiveness of Polish small and medium enterprises. By now, over 4,000 firms have benefitted from the available ERDF funding. This includes over 200 innovative start-ups.

COHESION FUND (CF)
Support from the Cohesion Fund has helped to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and reduce CO2 emissions – for example, one joint project concerns 187 artistic school buildings with a co-financing of €112 million. 20 wastewater treatment plans have been constructed or modernized in order to improve the quality of water in rivers and the Baltic Sea. In the transport sector, 153 kilometres of new expressways in the TEN-T network have already been opened.

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF)
Thanks to the ESF, almost 800,000 unemployed and inactive were supported with activation measures. Over 44,000 new places in childcare and preschools were created. More than 200,000 people at risk of poverty or social exclusion benefitted from social or health services. Over 600,000 students in general education received support to develop key competences and universal skills. Nearly 70,000 VET students participated in traineeships in a company. Almost 300,000 people participated in trainings in the framework of lifelong learning and adaptability measures.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)
By the end of 2018, support from the EAFRD was provided to over 18,000 holdings for investment and start up aid for young farmers, more than 17,000 holdings for participation in quality schemes and local markets and short supply circuits, 2.1 million hectares of land were under contracts supporting biodiversity and soil management, and around 2,100 operations were financed to improve basic services in rural areas. Over 20 million people benefitted from local development strategies supported by the LEADER programme.

EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)
By the end of 2018, €216 million or 40.6% of the EMFF budget had been committed to 4,600 operations. The Polish Programme has so far achieved good results on e.g. control and data collection measures or environmental measures in sea fisheries and aquaculture. Poland is also a frontrunner when it comes to EMFF absorption for Community Led Local Development.
OVERALL FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Budget by Fund

Implementation by Fund for Poland
(total cost % of planned)

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS

EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)
Developing R&D in the private sector
Mabion is a biotech company developing medicine for certain types of blood cancer and rheumatoid arthritis. They received €40 million support, including €14.8 million from the ERDF, for the construction of an R&D centre, quality control laboratories and purchase of research equipment.

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF)
Education loans
The project aims to test a demand-driven repayable assistance scheme for postgraduate studies, courses, training and other forms of adult education lasting no longer than 2 years. The loans, which can be requested online, are free of interest and any additional costs. In case of successful completion of the course, there is a 20-25% write-off of the loan amount (and special payback conditions for unemployed). Already 6,500 applications for a loan were received and 3,600 loans worth €8 million were granted. The total cost of the project was €6.1 million, including €5.8 million from the ESF.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)
Warmińsko-Mazurskie Innovation Forum
The main goal of the project was to create an open platform among a diverse group of recipients such as farmers, agricultural advisors, scientists or entrepreneurs in order to enable knowledge transfer and present good practices on innovative solutions in agriculture and in rural areas. The EAFRD contributed to the project with €12,880.

EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)
Investment in equipment and infrastructure at a fishing port to facilitate compliance with the landing obligation
The project supported infrastructure to facilitate compliance with the obligation to land all catches for the members of the Kolobrzeg Group of Fish Producers. The group purchased equipment for unloading, sorting, processing and storing fish. An extension to the port facilities allowed them to establish internal transport. The investment supported fishermen from 4 unloading areas. It helped them to achieve higher revenues from sorted landings through selecting and preparing undersized fish and by-catch for use in frozen form. The total cost of the project amounted to €1.1 million, including €784,000 EMFF contribution.