

th CONFERENCE on the Evaluation of EU Cohesion Policy

16-17 September 2021 Porto, Portugal

Shaping Transitions with Evidence



Effects of Cohesion Policy in the Field of Culture

Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy



FUND COVERED

- ▶ ERDF

PROGRAMMING PERIOD

- ▶ 2007-2013, 2014-2020

PROGRAMME COVERED

- ▶ National and Regional Programmes under the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013 and the Partnership Agreement 2014

THEMATIC OBJECTIVE

- ▶ Horizontal

TYPE OF EVALUATION

- ▶ Impact



YEAR OF COMPLETION

- ▶ 2020

MAIN OBJECTIVES

The main objective was to summarize effects of intervention financed in the framework of cohesion policy in the years 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 in the field of culture and to identify and analyse good practices as regards mechanisms of socio-economic impact of projects implemented in the area of culture

METHODOLOGY USED

- ▶ The research methodology assumed a two-pronged approach - research and analysis conducted at the level of the entire intervention and research and analysis conducted the level of case studies (selected eight case studies from all over Poland)

DATA SOURCES

Desk research (including, inter alia, analysis of documents, data gathered in SL 2014-2020 system (Central ICT system) and KSI 2007-2013 (National Information System)), CAWI with beneficiaries and field work (interviews, participatory observation).

MAIN FINDINGS

- ▶ The intervention in the field of culture in 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 in Poland has brought several direct and indirect effects, which in longer term contribute to socio-economic development

Key direct effects:

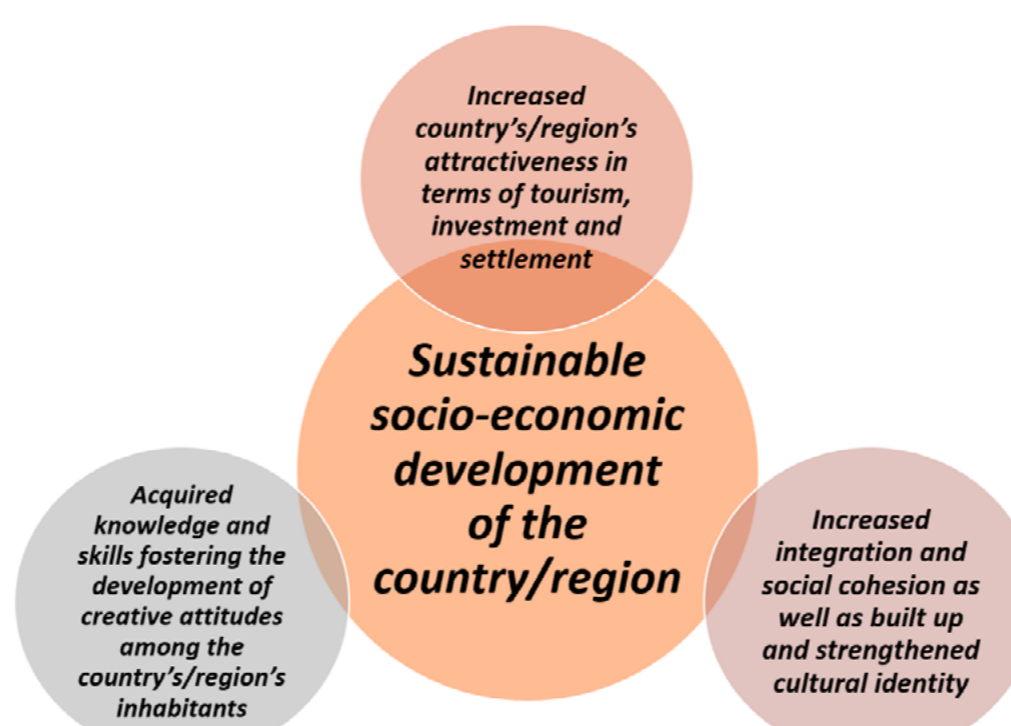
1. Increased accessibility to cultural resources and heritage (93% of respondents stated that this effect occurred in their projects)
2. Improvement of the conditions for protection, sharing and promotion of cultural resources and heritage
3. Increase in the potential of culture institutions
4. Development of cultural and educational offer and services
5. Unintended effect: environmental upgrades of the buildings and institution

Key indirect effects:

1. Increased tourist attendance in the country/region (clearly visible especially in the case of intervention implemented within the OPIE)
2. Participation in culture of country's /region's inhabitants
3. Economic benefits resulting from the projects' implementation
4. Social benefits resulting from the projects' implementation

Some of the long term effects of EU funding in culture according to the study:

1. Increased attractiveness in terms of tourism, investment and settlement
2. Increased integration and social cohesion as well as built up and strengthened cultural identity
3. Acquired knowledge and skills fostering the development of creative approaches



CONCLUSIONS

- Could it all be possible without the EU funding?
- ▶ 57% surveyed beneficiaries wouldn't implement the project without the EU support
- ▶ 34% would implement the project but in a limited scope or at a later time
- ▶ 2% would implement the project without the EU support

Recommendations (summary):

- ▶ Continuation of support for culture in the next programming period (under Objectives 4 and 5)
- ▶ Further adaptation of culture institutions to new educational and cultural functions as well as placing greater emphasis on digitalization (of cultural resources and offer) to widen the possibilities of culture institutions (to reach society with cultural offer and to meet the needs of young generations)
- ▶ Paying greater attention to intervention in the field of culture directed to local communities, particularly in disadvantaged areas
- ▶ Programming the interventions in a way that promotes multifunctionality and multidimensionality of projects as well as partnership
- ▶ Enabling and promoting the use of experiments and social innovations for testing new, simple and easily replicable infrastructural solutions which increase access to culture and provide several social benefits.

