

THE CROSS BORDERER

2019 edition



PL-BY-UA
2014-2020





Dear Friends,

I am happy to present a 2019 edition of the *Cross-borderer* - the newsletter of the CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine.

The main theme of this issue is the topic of Security – one of the four main Programme Thematic Objectives. We described also the result of the 2nd Call for Proposals, which was the key focus of our activities last year. It does not however mean that the projects selected within the 1st Call and Large Infrastructure Projects became less important for us! Most of them came into an active phase of implementation and we are proud to share their achievements.

Furthermore, the Programme organized some interesting events for strengthening of cross-border cooperation and promotion of our activities. Some of them, like the Programme Annual Conference, Scientific Conference, CBC Academy of Development or the EC Day celebrations, were events that we hold annually. In addition to them however, PBU representatives were involved and communicated the Programme activities and achievements during many other events such as forums, fairs and conferences both at national and international level. Year 2018 was also exceptional because Center of European Projects, the institution hosting the Programme, celebrated its 10th anniversary.

This period was full of events, new discoveries and initiatives, hard work and impressive results. We invite you to learn more about last year Programme activities, our outstanding projects as well as about our cross-border area, which still has many secrets to discover.

PhD Leszek Buller
Director of the Center of European Projects

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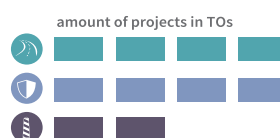
STATE OF PLAY

10 Large Infrastructure Projects, 65 regular projects and 5 micro-projects were contracted so far. All these projects are in the implementation phase, 2 of them have already submitted their interim reports.

The Programme bodies have taken several important steps to assist the beneficiaries in both contracting and reporting (for details on the activities supporting beneficiaries please see map on page 8-9). Belarusian and Ukrainian beneficiaries may now select auditors for the expenditures verifications as both lists of auditors are set up and published on the Programme website. Also, *General rules of procurement by beneficiaries within the PBU projects* have been introduced to set up clear rules for organizing procurements.

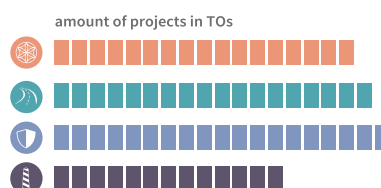
LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

10
signed



REGULAR PROJECTS

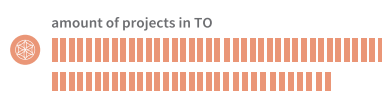
65
signed



The 2nd Call for Proposals was conducted in August-October 2018, and its results approved during the 5th Joint Monitoring Committee meeting. The first two micro-projects selected in the 2nd Call have been signed already. Two successful applicants resigned from signing the contract. It is expected that all remaining 70 micro-projects will be contracted by the end of October 2019.

MICRO-PROJECTS

72
under
contracting



Since not the whole allocation for the 2nd Call was consumed, it was decided to organize the 3rd Call for Proposals. It is to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2019, focusing on micro-projects within Thematic Objective HERITAGE. On 28 June the Managing Authority submitted Final Report for the 2007-2013 Programme to the European Commission. The Programme absorption rate equals almost 88%.

SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Although memories of busy summer 2018, when the 2nd Call for Proposals was launched, are still fresh, we are now able to share the results of the micro-projects' selection process. Let's recall what was happening during last months.

Getting ready with the applications

2nd Call for Proposals was dedicated to the Thematic Objective HERITAGE. The issue of heritage is highly relevant for the Polish-Ukrainian-Belarusian borderland, which is rich in cultural and historical landmarks, unique intangible culture and important natural sites. There is still much to be done for better preservation and promotion of local heritage in this area and joint efforts of cross-border partners can be the best solution. The 2nd Call for Proposals was open for projects with small budgets (grants ranging from **20 000 to 60 000 EUR**), focusing mainly on non-investment activities promoting cooperation, building of new cross-border citizens' contacts and relations, exchange of experiences and social initiatives in connection with culture and history.

The launch of the Call was preceded by months of hard work. The Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) team did its best to facilitate the processes of project preparation, submission and assessment. Several important changes and simplifications were introduced such as shorter and simpler Application Form (without concept note phase), lack of annexes at the application stage, more simplified costs options introduced. The Call was open also for institutions without previous experience in implementation of EU projects.

In total 36 events were organized to assist the applicants on project design stage. To start with, all potential beneficiaries had an opportunity to establish contacts with the institutions from across the border during two Partner Search Forums, which were held in Lublin and Brest. In addition, partner search was enabled through online facility on the Programme webpage. From 11th till 28th September, a series of trainings was held in all Programme regions. All those who joined those events had an opportunity to learn about main assumptions of the 2nd Call for Proposals, recommendations on how to develop a high-quality project proposal using the e-generator. In total, **1090 people** attended the trainings in 3 countries. The trainings were followed by individual consultations with JTS project managers, during which the applicants had an opportunity to discuss their project ideas.

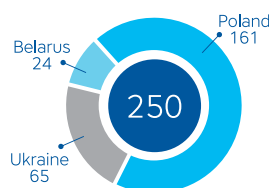
Evaluation – a hard choice to make

Before the deadline 31 October 2018, 250 applications were submitted to the JTS office, including 198 applications within *Promotion of local culture and history* and 52 within *Promotion and preservation of natural heritage*. The total value of submitted projects amounted to over 15.3 M EUR while the total value of requested EU co-financing was 13.5 M EUR. More than 460 organisations from all three countries demonstrated their willingness to implement their projects. Interestingly, 75% of them submitted their documents for the first time in our Programme.

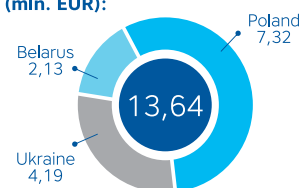
JTS experts were busy evaluating Application Forms from November 2018 till February 2019. In order to speed up the whole assessment process, all its phases: administrative, eligibility and quality checks were performed simultaneously. The results were discussed by the Project Selection Committee during its meeting held on 26th March in Warsaw. The list of selected projects was approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) on 17th April 2019 in Niasviž, Belarus. The JMC decided to co-finance 74 projects out of 250 submitted applications. The total amount of awarded EU co-financing equals to **4.14 M EUR**. 178 beneficiaries got the opportunity to implement their ideas one-third of them being NGOs.

APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Number of AFs:



Requested EU co-financing (mln. EUR):



Winners announced!

All Programme regions are represented on the list of selected projects and all 14 regions will benefit from our Programme through numerous interesting initiatives targeted, in particular, at preservation of historical buildings, wooden churches, research of the common history and prominent people, promotion of local crafts such as embroidery and pottery, traditional cuisine, folklore (songs, traditions) etc. Also, many vital projects in the area of natural heritage protection and promotion are on the winner's list including



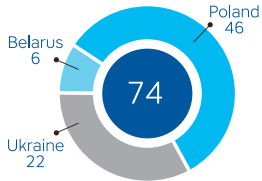
preservation of rivers and lakes, rare animal species, sustainable tourism development. All these projects will contribute to the development of our cross-border areas, making them more attractive both for their inhabitants and visitors. We congratulate the winners and wish them good luck in implementation of projects.

What's next?

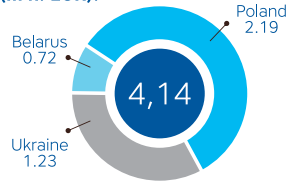
The eligibility of beneficiaries in all selected projects was already proved. The JTS expects to finish contracting of micro-projects till the end of **October 2019**. In the fourth quarter of 2019, the Programme will offer more opportunities for the applicants by announcing a the **3rd Call for Proposals** dedicated also to HERITAGE and micro-projects.

PROJECTS SELECTED FOR FINANCING

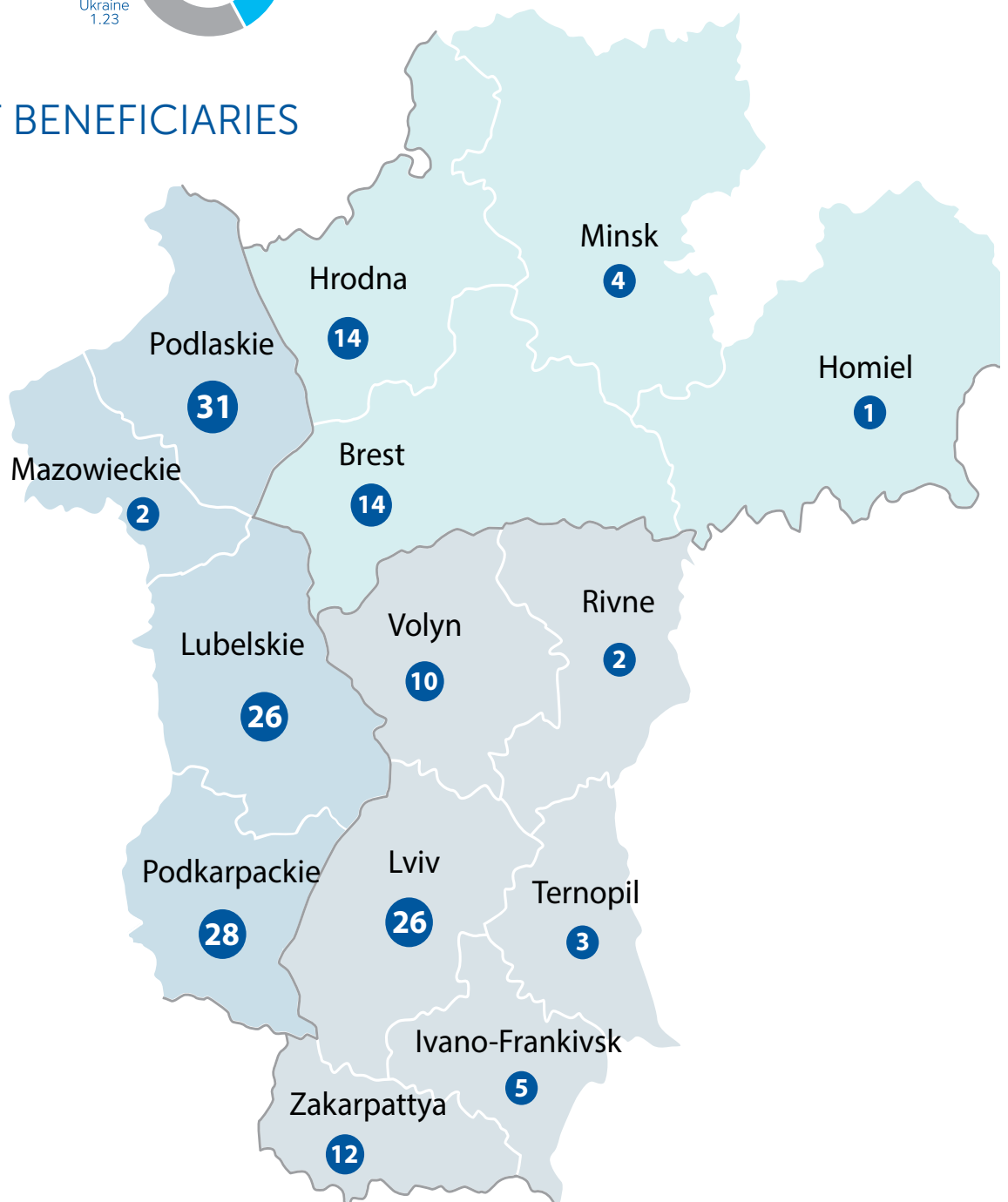
Number of projects:



Requested EU co-financing (mln. EUR):



NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES IN REGION



SUPPORT TO BENEFICIARIES

① 25-26 July 2018

I Partner Search Forum in Lublin
 (2nd Call for Proposals, potential applicants)
 Aim: to assist institutions in creating partnerships and to encourage partners to work on joint projects ideas, which finally could be submitted within the 2nd CfP.
More than 200 participants

⑤ 15 November 2018

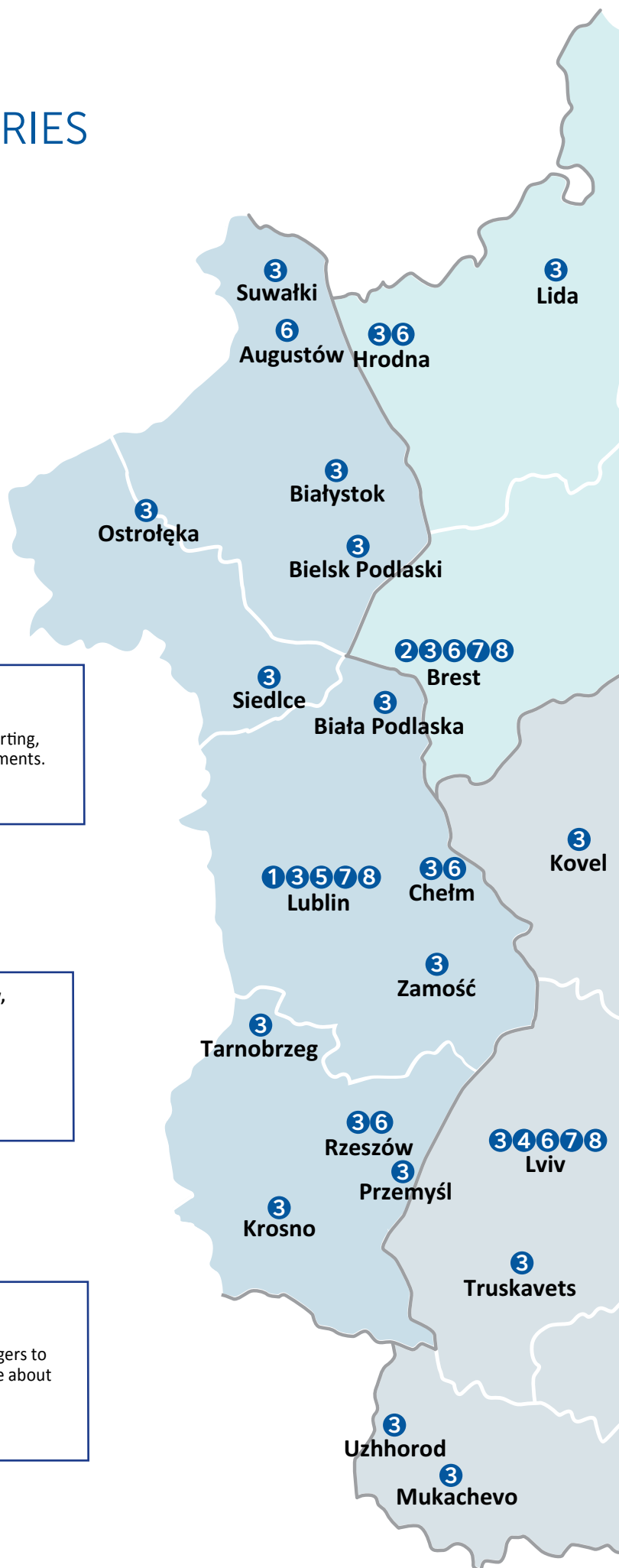
Training on the implementation in Lublin
 (1st Call for Proposals, beneficiaries)
 Aim: to train beneficiaries on implementation and reporting, financial flows and information and promotion requirements.
More than 60 participants

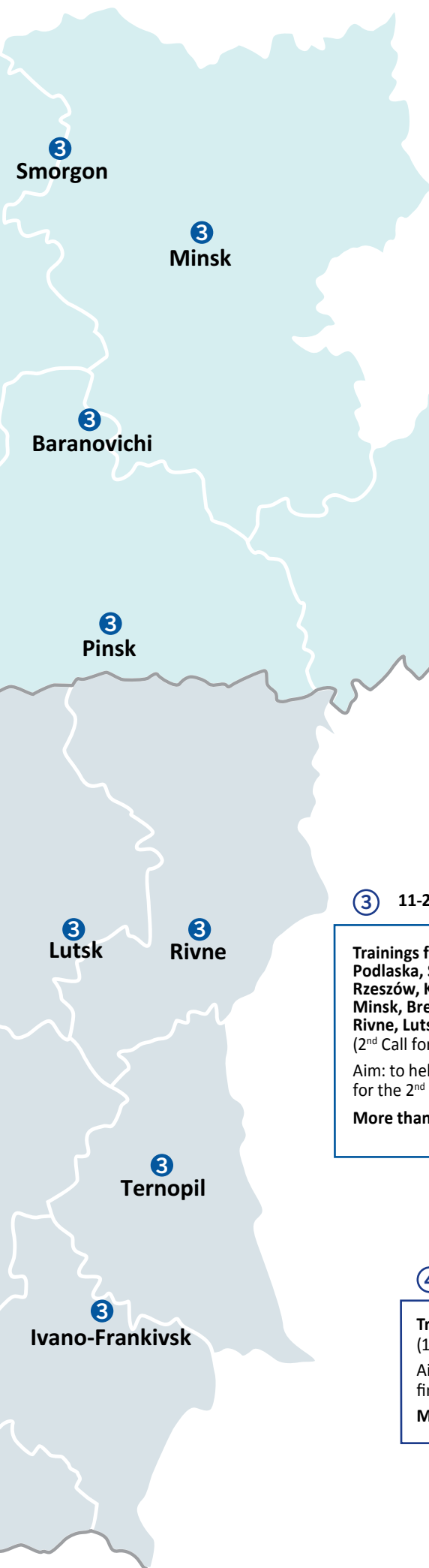
⑥ 15 May – 6 June 2019

Trainings on implementation in Rzeszów, Chełm, Augustów, Brest, Hrodna, Lviv
 (1st Call for Proposals, beneficiaries)
 Aim: to train beneficiaries on specific aspects of projects implementation.
More than 400 participants

⑧ 12-13 June 2019

Communication workshops in Lviv, Lublin, Brest
 (1st Call for Proposals, beneficiaries)
 Aim: to encourage projects' communication managers to enhance their communication skills and learn more about visibility requirements.
More than 140 participants





② 21-22 August 2018

II Partner Search Forum in Brest
(2nd Call for Proposals, potential applicants)

Aim: to assist institutions in creating partnerships and to encourage partners to work on joint projects ideas, which finally could be submitted within the 2nd CfP.

More than 200 participants

⑦ 4-6 June 2019

Trainings on contracting in Brest, Lublin, Lviv
(2nd Call for Proposals, beneficiaries)

Aim: to train successful applicants on contracting process, the structure of the Grant Contract, general rules of project implementation as well as registration of projects in Ukraine and Belarus and selection of auditors.

More than 150 participants

③ 11-28 September 2018

Trainings for applicants in Suwałki, Białystok, Bielsk Podlaski, Biała Podlaska, Siedlce, Ostrołęka, Chełm, Zamość, Lublin, Tarnobrzeg, Rzeszów, Krosno, Przemyśl; Smorgon, Lida, Hrodna, Homiel, Minsk, Brest, Pinsk, Baranovichi; Lviv, Mukachevo, Uzhhorod, Rivne, Lutsk, Kovel, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Truskavets
(2nd Call for Proposals, potential applicants)

Aim: to help applicants in preparation of the project applications for the 2nd CfP.

More than 1000 participants

④ 18 October 2018

Trainings on implementation in Lviv
(1st Call for Proposals, beneficiaries)

Aim: to train beneficiaries on implementation and reporting, financial flows and information and promotion requirements.

More than 100 participants



REGULAR PROJECTS - FOCUS ON SECURITY

It is a universal truth that human life and health are priceless. Ensuring people’s safety and improving their health and well-being are acknowledged as top priorities on a global level. Aren’t we all striving for a longer and healthier life free from dangers?

Our Programme is contributing to increased safety and security in the cross-border areas. Security was chosen as one of its Thematic Objectives considering the need for a common response to the threats, which have no borders, such as diseases, emergencies, crimes, social tension etc. The number of concept notes received within this priority (248) testifies to the fact, that local players recognize safety and security as serious problems

pertaining to the areas and, which is even more important, can offer solutions to them.

All the 23 projects implemented within the Programme under the objective of Security reflect the needs of the areas. They include actions in the field of healthcare, social services and emergency situations. There are 14 projects within the priority *3.1 Support to the development of health protection and social services* and 9 projects within the priority *3.2 Addressing common security challenges*.

What’s behind these figures? What’s happening in our projects and how the noble goal of increasing security on the borderland is achieved? We invite you to learn more about our selected projects.



Stay safe in the mountains!

The Eastern Carpathians, which cover the Southern part of our Programme area, is an exceptional area. Fresh mountain air, breathtaking views, unique natural values, living history and traditions are just a few reasons to spend a hiking holiday here. Although this part of the Carpathians called Bieszczady in Poland and Beskydy in Ukraine, is considered relatively tourist-friendly and safe unfortunately it is not free from different kinds of hazards.

The reason for the accidents among the hikers is that they are not prepared for adverse weather conditions; are not aware of difficulties, do not know the route, are not equipped or dressed appropriately. Ski accidents are frequent, too... We designed our project with the view to have a team of trained volunteer rescuers on both sides of the border which would be able to react to accidents in the most efficient way. – says Mykhaylo Yavorivskyy, the Ukrainian coordinator of the project SOS - rescue - the training center for organizing and operating cross-border rescuing actions (SOSRESCUE).

The project activities will help to reduce waiting time and provide an effective response to emergencies. To this end, the premises will be adapted to the needs of modern rescue centres in Rówńia (Podkarpackie Voivodeship, Poland) and Slavsko (Lviv Oblast, Ukraine) professional equipment will be purchased, training courses for rescuers and volunteer fire-fighters organized. Moreover, public events will be held to raise awareness about safety in the mountains. The project will contribute to the general safety of local citizens and tourists in the area.

Safety in the mountains is also the topic of another PBU project **“Adaptation of former observatory on**

the Pip Ivan Mountain to the needs of alpine rescue service training centre” (PIMReC). The location of this project is so unique that we prepared a story about its past and today (*White elephant of the Carpathians*), which you can find on pp.14-15.

Is response to emergencies in the mountain areas same to that in the lowlands? Does it take the same time to stop a fire in a big city and a mountain village? It’s definitely not the case in the Carpathians. Due to the mountainous landscape and poor condition of road infrastructure, especially on the Ukrainian side of the border, the disaster scene can be quite difficult to reach. Moreover, obsolete fire equipment may not be very helpful in saving people’s lives and property.

The project **“Joint protection of people and environment through the creation of Ukrainian-Polish system of disasters prevention and response in the Carpathians” (SECINCARP)**, is addressing this issue. It is unique because it joins the efforts of State Emergency Services of all three mountainous regions of Ukraine and Poland. To prevent and give an immediate response to the disasters four regional fire service units from Poland and Ukraine will cooperate. Vehicles (fire trucks and mini-buses), as well as refractory equipment sets, will be purchased. Also, a modern smoke chamber will be constructed in Przemyśl to conduct training sessions with the simulation of real emergencies. They will complement their joint actions and join efforts in practical trainings and tactical exercises in the ‘close-to-real’ conditions. The activities implemented under the project will contribute to shortening the response time to emergencies, which will affect the overall improvement of security in the region.



Photos courtesy of the projects



Polesie fire-fighters – training for the brave

As we move northwards, we discover more projects dealing with security issues. In picturesque Polesie, Polish and Ukrainian rescuers and fire-fighters are striving for a safer environment. Here, the quality of human capital – highly efficient rescues - is seen as a priority.

For instance, in Lublin Voivodeship and Volyn Oblast, where the cross-border area is characterised by high traffic and the poor road infrastructure, road safety is a key issue. Most accidents occur far from the cities where the emergency services and professional fire departments are located. The project **“Strengthening the potential of the Volunteer Fire Department in rescuing victims of accidents on the roads of Lublin Voivodeship and Volyn Province” (PUFL)** will improve road safety in the cross-border area by building the capacities of Volunteer Fire Departments in Poland and the newly created structures of local fire departments in Ukraine. These structures will not only receive first aid facilities and lifesaving equipment but also the rescuers will be trained to provide first aid to the injured in traffic accidents. This will help to shorten the waiting time for assistance and save people’s lives. A “Safe pedestrian” campaign, targeted at children and adolescents, will bring added value to the project.

I am certain that our project will have a multiplying effect in Ukraine, where voluntary crews are only starting to emerge. Also, among additional effects of the project, which we didn't expect, the partnerships established between the local communities of Poland and Ukraine and they plan a joint projects. - comments Iryna Itani, the Director of Development Agency of Euroregion Bug.

Preparation of highly efficient fire-fighters and rescuers is a subject of another Polish-Ukrainian project, **“Effective coordination of rescue operation in the**



Ostroleka-Siedlce subregion and Volyn oblast” (Coordination) which will create modern training complexes in Lutsk and Siedlce.

I started working as an emergency officer after having five years of University but most people have no profile education and need to be trained. Today, even experienced fire-fighters need to enhance their skills as we are moving towards EU standards. Moreover, we have more and more volunteer fire-fighting units in the villages, where people don't have relevant skills. The training base with a smoke chamber fitted with simulators will be able to fill this gap and give a chance to train in close to real-life conditions and even test their physical abilities. Their health condition will be tested with the use of medical equipment. – said Dmytro Dubyna, who works in the Department of Emergency Service in Volyn Oblast.

Also, the creation of an equipment preparation base, a regional base of extinguishing agents, modernization of control station in Poland, purchase of 7 fire trucks and equipment will improve technical capacities of firefighting units on both sides of the border. It will ultimately lead to saving more lives and making Polesie a safer place to live.



Fast response to disasters on Poland-Belarus border

The emergency situations in border regions of Poland and Belarus requires emergency services to deal with specific risks and vulnerabilities such as ecological and chemical disasters.

It is the issue, tackled by the project **“Shared initiatives for increasing security of the cross-border area in the event of ecological and chemical disasters” (EcoChem)**, and within its boundaries the landscape protection sites listed by UNESCO can be found. Industrial plants on both sides of the border, such as PERN Oil Base in Adamowo and many nitrogen production facilities in Hrodna region, are potential sources of danger. Within the EcoChem project, 9 rescue and fire-fighting vehicles for Volunteer Fire Departments in Siemiatycze District and 4 rescue vehicles for the Belarusian partner will be purchased.

The project “EcoChem” is of strategic importance. Only by working in close partnership we will be able to cope and prevent possible cross-border environmental and chemical disasters. We have one common border and common population, which we should protect in case of emergencies. We are always ready to help our neighbours.
- says Sergey Khmara, the chief specialist of Hrodna Regional Department of the Ministry for emergencies of the Republic of Belarus.

Another project, strengthening the security of Hrodna Oblast and Podlaskie Voivodeship is **“The new approach**

to the cross-border emergency management system” (CrossEMS). The project is a significant example of solving common cross-border challenges in the field of security. Many infrastructure investment and soft activities will be carried out. The construction works will be carried out on the fire station of Dobrzyniewo Duże (Podlaskie Voivodeship, Poland) and the newly-created fire station in the town of Sapockin (Hrodna Oblast, Belarus). The fire-fighting units will be provided with specialised equipment, such as heavy fire-fighting vehicles, rescue boat, a trailer for boat delivery, etc. The new equipment will improve the time of response to the emergencies. A key element of the project is an elaboration of the cross-border emergency management plan and network aiming at further strengthening of cooperation between the fire-fighting units of Poland and Belarus. Security is an important part of the prosperous and harmonic life of societies.

We are proud that thanks to our Programme local security initiatives had a chance of being implemented. We believe in hard-working and brave people, committed to their work, which helps to make our cross-border areas a safer place to live. And we are convinced that joint projects are the best way to address common security challenges in our regions. By today, many activities have already taken place in these projects. You can follow their progress on our Programme website and Facebook account and even participate in their public events in your region.



Photos courtesy of the projects



WHITE ELEPHANT OF THE CARPATHIANS

There is always a story behind each PBU project. Sometimes these are the stories of people whose lives had been strongly influenced by the projects. There are also the stories of people who brought these changes into their regions. In some cases, the places are the true heroes of our stories. Places, which can tell much about the turbulent history of cross-border land, connected with the destinies of people, who lived here. We have a pleasure to present the story about a very special place, which is now the venue of our security-related project.

When travelling in Ukrainian Carpathians, across Chornohora range, you will be surprised to see a large interestingly shaped building on the top of the mountain. This local landmark is the observatory of Pip Ivan Mountain, built in the 30th of the past century and neglected for more than 70 years. Its genius loci is continuously attracting travellers. It inspires artists and writers. A deserted observatory in the mountains is a key location of the novel "Twelve hoops" by Yuriy Andrukhovych. "Top down" a book of fears by Tanya Malarchuk and "White Elephant" by Mariya Rymar. "White Elephant" is a local name for the observatory because its building, covered with ice and snow resembles a giant animal. "White elephant" also means a valuable but useless thing.



Photo from archives

In the first half of the 20th century, Pip Ivan was chosen as a location of an ambitious project of the Polish government (at that time it was the territory of the Second Polish Republic) – the astronomic observatory. The construction started in 1936 being a large and complex undertaking. In total, nearly 800 tons of construction materials had to be delivered from the railway station Vorokhta to the site on Pip Ivan (about 70 km). In two years, a building shaped as a mirror image of letter L, was erected on the top of the mountain. It was described as "monumental". The walls made from limestone blocks were 1.5 meters thick. The building had five floors, 43 rooms and 57 windows and was equipped with the use of most advanced technologies of these days. Astronomical and Meteorological Observatory named after Marshal Jozef Piłsudski was opened on July 29th, 1938. Władysław Midowicz, geographer and meteorologist, a native of Mykulychyn Village was appointed a director of the Observatory. He moved to the Observatory together with his wife and five-year-old son.

Unfortunately, the Observatory functioned for one year only. On 1st of September 1939 World War II broke out. On the 18th of September, all the staff had to leave the building. All valuable equipment and documents were removed or destroyed. Władysław Midowicz immigrated to Hungary, then he lived in Indonesia and Australia but he always had Observatory keys with him. On his death bed, he gave them to prof. Kreinery with the instructions to transfer them to the University of Warsaw. This is where they are kept, waiting for opening new doors to the rebuilt Observatory.

It was only in the 2000-s that the issue of Observatory revitalization was raised for discussion again. Center for the East European Studies at the University of Warsaw and Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University



Mountain Volunteer Search and Rescue Bieszczady Group. The project will help to create a highly efficient 24/7 alpine rescue point and a training centre.

Along with being an important research facility, it will be one of the best alpine rescue schools, where the rescuers will be trained and the crews created to work in the observatory. – explains Igor Tsenda, the rector of Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University.

generated a common vision of its future. Their idea was not only to reconstruct the building but to give it a new meaning – to serve for education and research purposes and contribute to people’s safety in the mountains.

The idea found support in Ukrainian and Polish governments. Step by step the funds were secured and renovation works started. In particular, replacement of floors and roof framing. The roof was covered with brass plate. The stone fencing and gate appeared. Several rooms were adapted for temporary accommodation. Since 2017 a rescue station has been functioning here. Rescue workers of the 4th specialized search-and-rescue team of State Emergency Service in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast permanently live here, working in shifts. In this way, Pip Ivan Observatory is now considered to be the highest inhabited place in Ukraine.

The project “Adaptation of former observatory on the Pip Ivan Mountain to the needs of alpine rescue service training centre” (PIMReC), funded within CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2014-2020, is the next significant step in the revitalization of this unique place. The project was designed by Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, the University of Warsaw, the Emergency Service in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast and

This aim will be achieved through the renovation of premises and their adaptation to the purposes of rescue point and a training facility. Also, Polish and Ukrainian mountain rescuers will participate in joint trainings with a focus on up-to-date rescue techniques in various weather conditions. The project team also plans to create a sustainable system of emergency response. To this end, the electronic services platform will be created to serve for the exchange of information and know-how between Polish and Ukrainian rescue teams at the same time helping tourists to ensure safe hiking in the mountains. The above mentioned activities will improve the professional level of high mountain rescuers and increase the awareness of safety issues in the cross-border community.

Jan Malicki, the Director of Center for Eastern European Studies, observes: When I visited the Observatory for the first time in 2007, only the most optimistic people could believe it would be renovated one day.

The Observatory means a lot to him, as well as to Igor Tsenda, as well as to many other people – scientists, researchers, rescuers and volunteers. They are proud to contribute to its revival. They hope that their joint efforts will help to make this remarkable tourist attraction more accessible and safe, and that more people will be able to discover it.



Photos by Serhiy Neupokoyev

A number of events have been organized by our Programme for its beneficiaries, stakeholders and local communities.

During these months, we had a whole range of events including meetings, conferences, sporting events, school contest and even a plain-air painting session!



PROGRAMME EVENTS





17.04
2019

JOINT MONITORING COMMITTEE

The 5th meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) took place in Niasviž Castle in Belarus. This castle has a symbolic meaning being an object of common historic heritage of Belarus and Poland.

The most important mission of the meeting was to decide on the results of the 2nd Call for Proposals. After a discussion, the JMC approved a list of 74 projects, selected for the co-financing (out of 250 submitted applications). Since the allocation foreseen for the 2nd Call was not used in full, the Joint Monitoring Committee decided to organize

the 3rd Call for Proposals open for micro-projects within Thematic Objective HERITAGE.

In addition to this, JMC members discussed other issues in particular, implementation of large infrastructure projects and regular projects, the plans for the information and promotion activities in the Programme. Furthermore, it was decided to reallocate the funds from the Programme technical assistance budget to the Thematic Objective SECURITY to enable financing of the projects on the reserve list. Another important subject was a new Programme period 2021-2027.



Photos: JTS



25.06
2019

CHECKPOINT: HEALTH – THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME CONFERENCE IN HRODNA

This year, a beautiful historical city of Hrodna was a venue for the Annual Programme Conference, which was organized under the slogan Checkpoint: HEALTH - In pursuit of cross-border well-being. The Programme event gathered beneficiaries, representatives of the Programme institutions from Poland, Belarus and Ukraine and all those who support cross-border cooperation.

The Conference was focused on health issues and well-being, aiming not only to showcase health-related PBU projects, but to promote a healthy lifestyle in the cross-border area and discuss future actions in this field.

The representatives of the Managing Authority and Joint Technical Secretariat presented the Programme state of play and its implementation progress. Also, the first Grant Contract within the 2nd Call for Proposals was officially signed for implementation of the project “Cross-border heritage of the Białowieża Forest”.

During the panel discussions, representatives of PBU healthcare-related projects shared their experience, best practices and spoke about the on-going and planned project activities. Besides, the ideas for future cooperation in the field of healthcare were discussed.



For us, the project is a window on the world; we come together and exchange experiences. We learn a lot from our friends from Ukraine, we learn from each other and that is the greatest value - summarized common Polish-Ukrainian project one of the panelists - Paweł Natkowski, the Director of the dr Józef Psarski Mazovian Specialist Hospital in Ostrołęka.



Checkpoint:
Health
IN PURSUIT OF CROSS-BORDER WELL-BEING

To better promote not only our Programme, but also healthy attitudes among Hrodna citizens, the Conference was accompanied by the “Medical Town” where everyone had an opportunity to undergo free medical examinations or get consultations from doctors of the Hrodna City Clinical Hospital, one of our Programme beneficiaries. In total, almost 600 medical consultations were carried out, 300 blood tests, 67 fluorographic examinations and 62 electrocardiograms.

Representatives of the medical projects and institutions were eager to discuss their ideas for the new Programme period 2021-2027 during the “Medical Round Table”. Their opinions and recommendations will be taken into consideration while preparing the new Programme edition.

Networking activities during the Conference were consistent with the general theme of the event. The participants engaged in sport activities - cycling and kayaking. The Conference ended up with open to the public concert of popular Belarusian band Uzari.



Photos: JTS



07-08
2019

SUMMER YOUTH ACADEMIES

More than 80 children from Ukraine and Belarus had a great opportunity to discover the cross-border regions of Poland during two editions of the Summer Youth Academies. Children participated in various thematic workshops challenged themselves in

open-air activities, and had fun at thematic parties and discos. They also visited local landmarks in Białowieża and Drohiczyn towns admired the beauty of the Bieszczady Mountains, Lake Solina and town of Sanok.





EUROPEAN COOPERATION DAY

Sharing borders, growing closer

On **21 September European Cooperation Day** is celebrated in EU regions and neighbouring countries. In the previous years, people cycled, sang, ate and did many other things together, having a wonderful time in hundreds of events organized by EU cooperation programmes in over 30 countries. The EC Day is an exceptional time on the map of European Union events. In 2018, our Programme joined the celebration by holding three special events, each in one of the three countries.

UKRAINE

«HERITAGE AND ME!» – THE FINAL EVENT OF EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR SCHOOLS IN LVIV

On 20-23th September 2018, 24 school teams from Poland, Belarus and Ukraine came to Lviv to attend the final event within Educational Campaign for Schools. 96 children from the cross-border areas were looking forward to this meeting. This year's Campaign was devoted to the cultural heritage of the borderland.



During the event, the participants worked in the mixed cross-border teams, completing challenges related to the history and culture of the three countries, traditional arts and crafts.



The children also had an opportunity to work on joint projects, in the field of visual art, singing, dancing, fashion and museum work. They worked hard, guided by the professionals. The results were impressive!



A fashion collection getting ready under the guidance of Olga Potsiurko, a fashion designer. Scissors, needles, threads and red stencils to reproduce traditional embroidery patterns. The combination of white and red is inherent to the traditions of all three countries.



Singing workshop held by Ulyana Horbachevska – a singer and actress. She revealed the secrets of traditional singing - singing as a spiritual act, communication with nature and cosmos, not just the exercise of vocal cords.



Let's dance! Rehearsing for the dancing flash-mob with energetic Maryana Sakhno, a dancer of Zhyttya ballet. Dancing is not so easy to do as it may seem!



A song performance – children singing Ukrainian folk songs originating from Ukrainian-Polish and Ukrainian-Belorussian borderland areas.



Young artists absorbed in their work at the art and architecture workshop conducted by Svitlana Kykharyuk.



The art group painted a mural in the Park of Culture and Recreation, featuring the most prominent buildings in the three countries.



Fashion show on the balcony of the Italian Courtyard.



Dancing Flash-mob.

In the evening of 22nd September, a beautiful Italian Courtyard in the Lviv Museum of History became a scene of project presentations. We almost forgot about our Museum group, who designed and organized a quest around the Royal Halls! It was first tested by a group of our volunteers and in future will be used for other young visitors.

CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine has been organizing Educational Campaign for Schools since 2013. It is extremely popular among the school youth of the three countries. The Final event takes place in different cities in the cross-border area. About 300 children took part in the event in previous years. Every time the participants bring back home presents, souvenirs, good memories and unique experience of cross-border communication. The unique practices of our campaign were presented in the European Week of Regions and Cities in Brussels.



POLAND

PAINTING OUR HERITAGE TOGETHER

Zamość, Poland, we organized the international open-air painting and vernissage. 15 priority selected artists from three countries took part in the event.

The theme was the architecture of Zamość, called the “Pearl of the Renaissance”, which a part of the cultural heritage of the borderland included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The artists created their works in dry pastel technique. They had a chance to admire the town and to exchange experiences and establish contacts for future joint cultural projects.

It was a wonderful time: creating, networking, singing songs to the guitar, enjoying the hospitality and international company. Huge thanks to the organizers - Poland-Belarus-Ukraine Programme! - summed up Olga Daniluk, the participant of the open-air event.

The paintings reproductions were used in the Programme calendar for 2019. The artists’ works were also presented in several places in the Programme area.



Photos: JTS



BELARUS

A THREEFOLD CHALLENGE – TRIATHLON RUN

As a part of the EC Day event, we combined a tour around PBU projects with a sport challenge. The group of 50 participants rafted 8 km along Lesnaya River and cycled from Uglyany village to Kamianiec simultaneously. It was quite a challenge, especially for beginners. Nevertheless, everyone successfully reached the final destination!

Next, participants paid a visit to the projects implemented under the Programme Poland-Belar-

us-Ukraine 2007-2013. In particular, the Centre of Correctional-Developmental Science and Rehabilitation in Kamianiec and Kamianiec waste treatment facilities were in the area of our interest.

Finally, a race in the park of Vysokaje (Kamianiec district) was organized and the participants get acquainted with the results of another project, which supported tourism development in Polish-Belarusian borderland.





15-16.11
2018

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

“Cross-border heritage as a basis of Polish-Belarusian-Ukrainian cooperation” was the topic of the second edition of the PBU International Scientific Conference. We organized this Conference under the honorary patronage of the Prime Minister of Poland Mateusz Morawiecki, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University acted as a co-organizer of the event.

During the plenary session and thematic discussions scientists from the three countries discussed issues re-

lated to the Programme Thematic Objective - Heritage. They presented their views on topics like prevention of natural heritage across borders, promotion of intangible cultural heritage and heritage as an opportunity for mutual development. After the official part, we took the Conference’ participants to the open-air museum in Halych and the renovated monastery of Franciscans in Bilshivtsi, which was a valuable experience of touching the past of the area and a chance to learn about the ways heritage objects are treated.



12.12
2018

10th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER OF EUROPEAN PROJECTS

The Joint Technical Secretariat of the Programme is part of the Center of European Projects (CEP) – the institution responsible for the day-to-day management of 6 EU funded programmes.

The CEP was established in 2008 by the Minister of Regional Development and during the last 10 years, it has achieved impressive results. CEP units organized 75 calls for proposals, with over 1.3 billion euros to be distributed. The applicants’ interest was usually three times higher considering the total amount of funding they sought for. The CEP has already contracted 900 projects, and 3000 partners have taken up cross-border and transnational cooperation.

On the 12th December 2018 the Conference “Cross-border and transnational cooperation in the framework of EU Funds”, devoted to the 10th anniversary of CEP, was held in Warsaw. It was a summary of CEP activities, sharing of its programmes’ results and a discussion of future prospects.

The Center of European Projects is very much needed by the government to implement the strategy of responsible development and implementation of projects financed from European funds - assured Jerzy Kwieciński, Minister of Investment and Development speaking at the opening of the Conference.

7-11.04
2019

STUDY VISIT OF UKRAINIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES



30 representatives of Ukrainian local self-governments from cross-border regions took part in the study visit to Poland organized by our Programme in cooperation with the Carpathian Euroregion – Ukraine. The visit aimed at increasing capacities of Ukrainian officials, in particular, in the area of local development and implementation of EU-funded projects.

Kraków was the starting point of the visit, where the participants attended the 5th European Congress of Local Governments. In the next days they visited Podkarpackie Voivodeship, met Polish local authorities, discussed best practices in specific areas such as road infrastructure, protection of the environment, municipal management, culture, sports etc. They also had an opportunity to stopover at the locations where successful projects had been implemented, including Glass Heritage Center, Krosno Airport, Special Economic Zones “EURO - PARK” Mielec and Zagórz-Zasław, Waste Utilization Plant, Carmelites monastery ruins and the center of Polish-Ukrainian cooperation in Sanok District. For Ukrainian self-government officials, the tour was not only the way to learn more about the achievements and best practices of their Polish colleagues, but also a chance to establish contacts and discuss the ideas for future projects.



21-24.06
2019

THE RISE OF EASTERN CULTURE 2019 – PBU MOVIE SPOT CONTEST



The East of Culture is the cycle of festivals held in Rzeszów, Lublin and Białystok in cooperation with the artists from Eastern Partnership countries. This large-scale event gathers about 300 000 people each year. This year, our Programme was a part of the agenda – the animated film, which won our movie spot contest, was presented at the festival. During the inaugural concert at the stadium in Rzeszów, the spot was shown between the performance of two Eurovision participants: Tulia folk group from Poland and Navi Band from Belarus. It was also promoted through the festival and Programme websites, fan pages and was even shown on Rzeszów city buses.



The movie contest was organized by PBU Rzeszow Branch Office to promote richness and diversity of the cultural heritage of the borderland. Mrs Natallia Paulava from Belarus received the main prize, due to her original interpretation of the competition subject. She created an animation from the paper cut elements prepared in traditional vycinanka style.

Instead of the second and third place prize, the jury awarded distinctions. They were received by Mr Viktor Zaslavskyy from Ukraine and Mrs Yekaterina Pozharko from Belarus.

You can watch the movie on our Youtube channel **CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2014-2020**



Programme representatives regularly attend important public events in the Programme area. We are proud to promote our Programme and share the achievements of our projects.

PROGRAMME AS A PARTNER



② 4-6 September 2018

Economic Forum in Krynica

For the second time, we took part in the Economic Forum in Krynica. We organised the panel discussion on the Programme contribution to the protection of cultural heritage in Polish-Belarusian-Ukrainian borderland, and possible future activities in this field.

⑦ 24-25 January 2019

12th Europe-Ukraine Forum in Jasionka

We organised “Program meetings zone” where we talk about current and future challenges facing the Programme. Also, we participated in the panels regarding the role of regions and the cultural heritage as a factor for the borderland development.

⑤ 24-25 September 2018

7th Eastern Europe Initiatives Congress in Lublin

During the event we promoted the Programme at the Donor’s Fair by sharing the good practices and experience in the implementation of the projects.

⑧ 16 February 2019

“Europe of the Carpathians” Conference in Krasiczyn

This year, the 22nd edition was devoted to topics related to tourism, history and development of the Carpathians. We presented the Programme contribution in this regard, showing projects examples and good practices on tourism development.

⑨ 23 February 2019

3rd National Forum of Local Governments in Jasionka

The new financial perspective of the European Union was the main theme of this year Forum. We informed about the Programme and the opportunities it offers to beneficiaries.

⑩ 8-9 April 2019

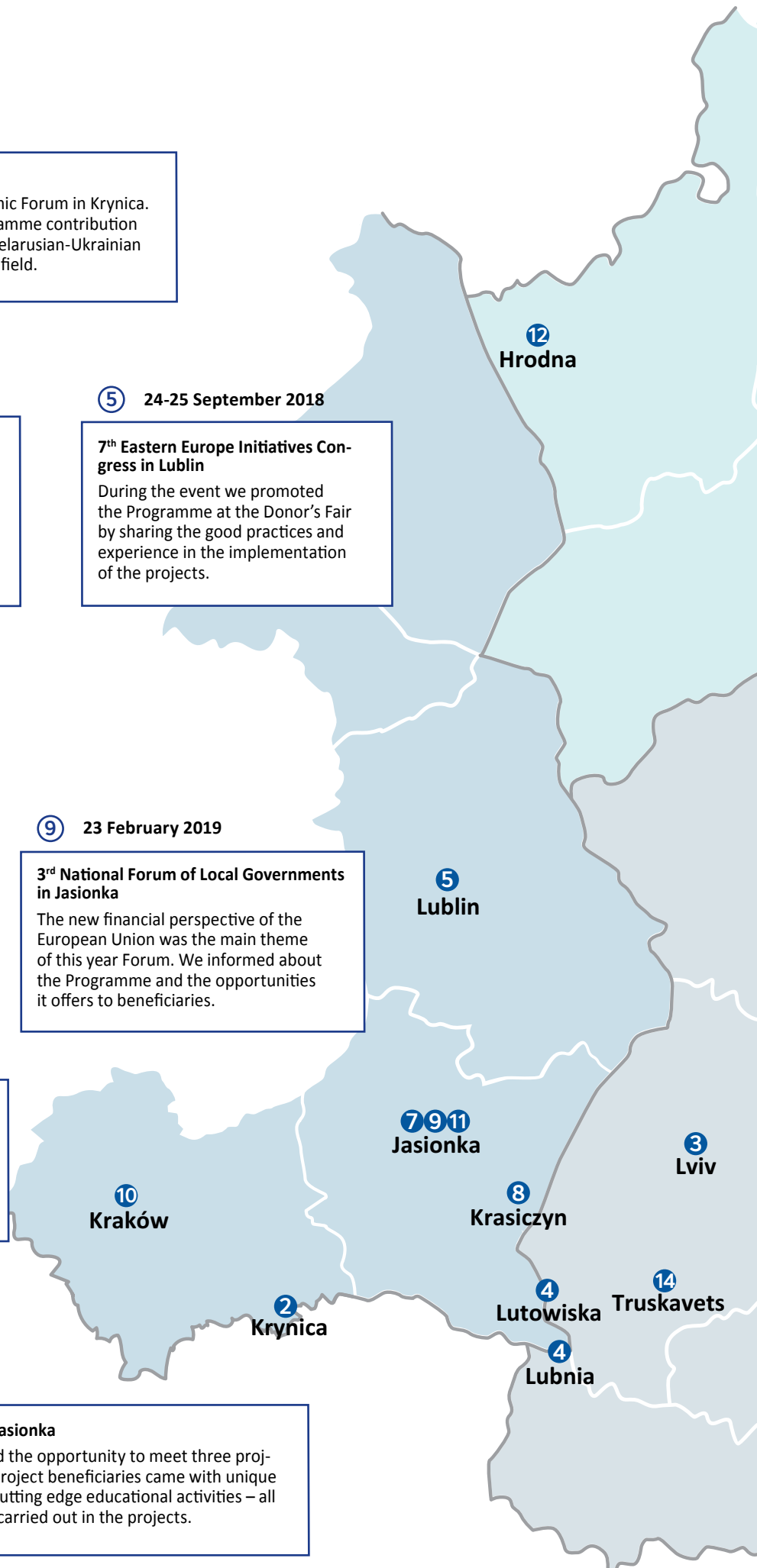
5th European Congress of Local Governments in Kraków

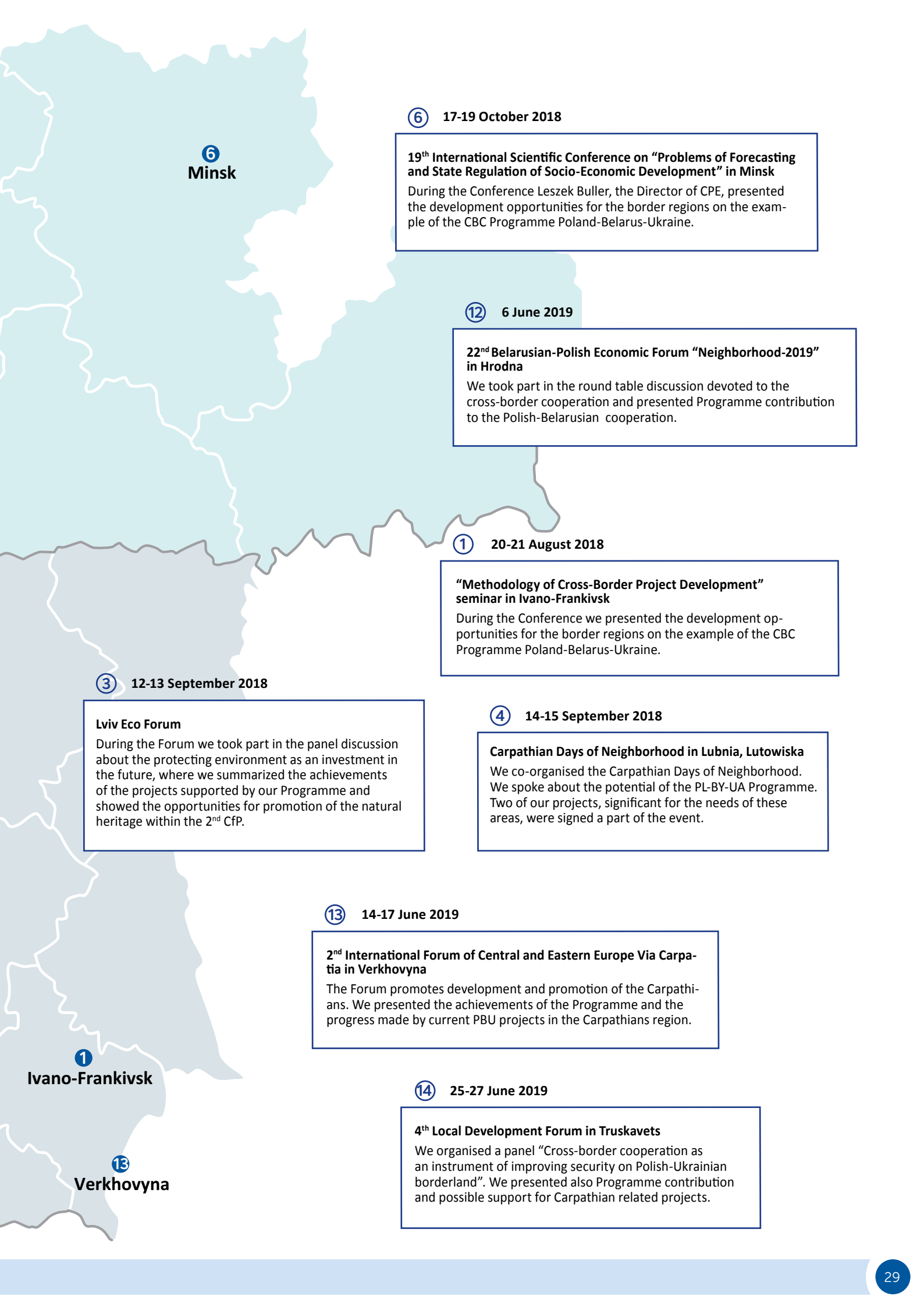
Within this year Congress, we took part in the panel discussions about the tourist development and the role of identity in building the region’s image.

⑪ 4-6 June 2019

Forum of Cities and Regions in Jasionka

The participants of the event had the opportunity to meet three projects from our Programme. Our project beneficiaries came with unique exhibitions, thrilling shows and cutting edge educational activities – all of them related to the activities carried out in the projects.





⑥ 17-19 October 2018

19th International Scientific Conference on “Problems of Forecasting and State Regulation of Socio-Economic Development” in Minsk

During the Conference Leszek Buller, the Director of CPE, presented the development opportunities for the border regions on the example of the CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine.

⑫ 6 June 2019

22nd Belarusian-Polish Economic Forum “Neighborhood-2019” in Hrodna

We took part in the round table discussion devoted to the cross-border cooperation and presented Programme contribution to the Polish-Belarusian cooperation.

① 20-21 August 2018

“Methodology of Cross-Border Project Development” seminar in Ivano-Frankivsk

During the Conference we presented the development opportunities for the border regions on the example of the CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine.

③ 12-13 September 2018

Lviv Eco Forum

During the Forum we took part in the panel discussion about the protecting environment as an investment in the future, where we summarized the achievements of the projects supported by our Programme and showed the opportunities for promotion of the natural heritage within the 2nd CfP.

④ 14-15 September 2018

Carpathian Days of Neighborhood in Lubnia, Lutowiska

We co-organised the Carpathian Days of Neighborhood. We spoke about the potential of the PL-BY-UA Programme. Two of our projects, significant for the needs of these areas, were signed a part of the event.

⑬ 14-17 June 2019

2nd International Forum of Central and Eastern Europe Via Carpathia in Verkhovyna

The Forum promotes development and promotion of the Carpathians. We presented the achievements of the Programme and the progress made by current PBU projects in the Carpathians region.

①
Ivano-Frankivsk

⑭ 25-27 June 2019

4th Local Development Forum in Truskavets

We organised a panel “Cross-border cooperation as an instrument of improving security on Polish-Ukrainian borderland”. We presented also Programme contribution and possible support for Carpathian related projects.

⑬
Verkhovyna



DERUNY, DRANIKI, PLACKI ZIEMNIACZANE...

What do you call potato pancakes at home? We found so many names for them!

In Ukraine they are known as деруні (deruny), терти плячки (terti plyatsky) or тертюхи (tertyukhy) in Lviv Oblast, кремзлики (kremzlyky) in Zakarpattia but also терченики (terchenyky), тарчаники (tarchanyky), беці (betsi), картофляники (kartoflyanyky) - the list can be endless. And don't forget about latkes, prepared in Jewish families of Galicia! In Belarus, дранікі (draniki) and калдуны (kalduny) are national dishes. In Poland, placki ziemniaczane (placki kartoflane, bambrzaki, plendze, plindze or plyndze) are popular in all regions.

It is believed that the dish came from German cuisine at the end of the 19th century. According to another version, the spread of potato pancakes and some other potato dishes began even earlier - in the second half of the 18th century. For the first time, the written recipe of potato pancakes is given in the cookbook of Jan Schittler in 1830.

Although basic ingredients such as grated raw potato, flour and eggs remain the same, we can find a great variety of ways to prepare potato pancakes. For instant, grated onion, which is usually added to potato mixture, can be combined with carrots, celery root, parsnip and



Photos from stocks



Photos above and top left: Culinary workshop in St. Miklyosh Castle within ROSETTES project (photographs courtesy of the project)

garlic. The grater with big or small holes is used, and sometimes even two types are combined to get a desirable crispy effect. In some cases, milk is added to the potatoes. Salt is an essential ingredient while spices and herbs are optional. Still, black pepper, cumin, marjoram, sage can be found in many recipes and will definitely enrich the taste. Grated potatoes are mixed with binders, like egg and flour (wheat or corn), although just potato alone can be used. When it comes to frying, any fat or oil will work. Lard, butter or sunflower oil are typical for these areas. Pancakes are cooked over medium-low heat until the bottom is golden brown and crispy. For Belarussian kalduny, a layer of meat farce is

put on each pancake at the time of frying. Interestingly, there is a tradition of baking pancakes in the oven in Beskidy, Poland. When the pancakes are ready you need to answer another big question – how to serve them? Most people agree that potato pancakes go well with sour cream, mushroom sauce, meat goulash, cottage cheese or bryndza. In Poland, many would go for the sweet option with sugar, cream or marmalade.

Potato pancakes are loved in all three countries. They are often prepared and served during the festivals. Actually, there is even a Festival of potato pancakes, held annually in Korosten, Ukraine.



THE CROSS BORDERER

2019 edition

Cross-border Cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2014-2020

Joint Technical Secretariat

Center of European Projects
39a Domaniewska St., 02-672 Warsaw, Poland
tel.: +48 22 378 31 00
e-mail: pbu@pbu2020.eu

Branch Office in Brest

Brest Transboundary Infocentre
46 Sovetskaya St., 224005 Brest, Belarus
tel.: +375 162 53 15 83
e-mail: brest@pbu2020.eu

Branch Office in Lviv

Information and Cross-border Cooperation
Support Centre DOBROSUSIDSTVO
5 Tyktora St., 79007 Lviv, Ukraine
tel.: +380 322 61 02 59
e-mail: lviv@pbu2020.eu

Branch Office in Rzeszów

Marshal's Office of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship
6 Poniatowskiego St., 35-026 Rzeszów, Poland
tel.: +48 17 853 41 88
e-mail: rzeszow@pbu2020.eu

PL-BY-UA
2014-2020



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