



15 years of Euroregion



Attempting to sum up the 15 years of cooperation within the Glacensis Euroregion, one cannot omit the objective external factors influencing the development of cross-border contacts. The Operational Programme of Cross-Border Cooperation between the Czech Republic and Poland in the years 2007-2013, which is currently being implemented, is the first programme to consider the objective criteria for the distribution of financial resources for the particular borders at the implementation stage. Due to this solution there has been a threefold increase in the number of contacts and initiatives in the cooperation area. As a result

of the local governments' activities as well as long-lasting relations between the partners, many joint projects implemented on the basis of the lead partner principle were accomplished; they make life in the areas located far away from large cities more pleasant to the borderland population and they contribute to the growth of competitiveness of these peripheral territories. The mountainous area constitutes a transportation barrier. In the past 15 years, mainly due to both countries' inclusion in the Schengen Area, it has become possible to cross the border by car in 14 places instead of the former 6.



Cooperation would not be effective, however, without people's involvement and commitment. An increase in the number of activities creates favourable conditions for establishing closer relations, understanding different approaches to task accomplishment, as well as for the disappearance of stereotypes and the linguistic barrier. Our attempts to identify the existing partnership agreements at the present stage of development end in a fiasco. We are not concerned about this, though. The long-lasting activities aimed exactly at the development of cooperation of an entirely grassroots character. Currently, cooperation between local governments, cultural and educational institutions, sport clubs, associations and villages has a very dynamic character, which pleases us very much.

The recent five years have been the best period in our mutual relations. Yet, there is still very much to be done. This is the consequence of the several dozen years of neglect that we will have to cope with for a long time to come. We do believe that the planned extension of cooperation in the nearest future as well as our opening to new partners in cooperation will allow us to exert even more influence on the development of the borderland.



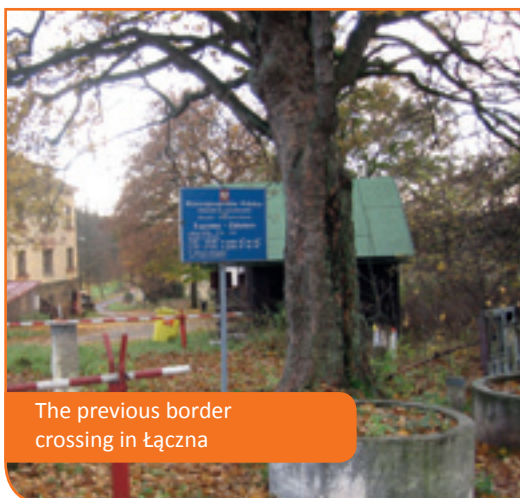
Bear Cave
in Kletno



The previous border crossing
Złoty Stok - Bílá Voda



The opening of the Bila
Voda - Złoty Stok road



The previous border
crossing in Łączna

A CHARACTERISATION OF THE GLACENSIS EUROREGION

Origins and area

The Glacensis Euroregion is one of the sixteen euroregions existing in the frontier territories of Poland and one of five such euroregions along the Polish-Czech border. Cross-border cooperation in the Central and Eastern Sudety Mountains region has had a long tradition. Important impetuses for this cooperation appeared at the turn of the 1980s and 1990s. They were related to the democratic transformation taking place in Poland and the Czech Republic at that time. This transformation was confirmed, among other things, by the establishment of a friendly cooperation between the local governments of the border towns and communes, and - in 1989 - an initiative of the Kłodzko Region Publishing House and the Polish - Czech - Slovak Solidarity to publish a cross-border monthly magazine "Ziemia Kłodzka - Od Kladského pomezí - Glatzer Bergland", and in 1990 - the organization of the annual Polish - Czech Christian Culture Days.

A conference initiating permanent cross-border cooperation was held on 17 and 18 May 1991 in Nachod; 150 representatives of the Czech and Polish border communities participated in it.

On 18 September 1992 in Wałbrzych, 21 representatives of the local communities from the Wałbrzyskie and Opolskie Provinces as well as those from the north-eastern part of the Czech Republic signed an agreement called "An agreement concerning cross-border cooperation and the formation of the Cross-Border Czech and Polish Towns and Communes Association". The document specified the chief objective of cooperation, i.e. the coordination of efforts aiming at the economic, cultural and social development, as well as joint ecological problem solving initiatives in the border area.

A similar approach and trend towards cooperation could be observed in the years 1993-1994 in the "indigenous" part of the Sudety region. Cooperation between the communes of the Polish - Czech borderland in the Kłodzko Region resulted in their joint activities organized within the framework of the **Permanent Polish - Czech Cooperation Region** established officially at a working conference in Nowa Ruda on 29 March 1994.

Before 1994, local governments' representatives had underlined their own approach that was different from the typical processes of cross-border "euro-regionalization", which, according to them, should consist in specifying the fields and forms of cross-border cooperation as well as appointing people responsible for their implementation and determining their deadlines, without any unnecessary institutionalisation, i.e. establishing euroregion structures.

After 1994 local governments both in Poland and in the Czech Republic changed their approach to the form of cooperation and took into consideration the need to establish a Euroregion called "Glacensis". The proposed name is of historical origin and comes from the medieval Latin name of the Kłodzko Valley. It was considered to be an appropriate name for the future cross-border association of local government units. On 9 February 1994 the Association of the Kłodzko Region Communes was established. It supported the local government's idea concerning cross-border cooperation and emphasised the convergent economic problems of the communes, endorsing the idea of protection of joint interests of the association's founders, i.e. the local governments.

On 30 May 1994 the Local Government Assembly of the Wałbrzyskie Province adopted a resolution concerning the commencement of the procedure of establishing the Glacensis Euroregion.

On 16 January 1996, in the Czech town of Rychnov nad Kněžnou, seven heads of Czech local governments (from Náchod, Rychnov, Šumperk, Ústí nad Orlicí, Trutnov, Orlické Záhoří, Police nad Metují) and the Mayor of Hradec Králové signed an agreement concerning the establishment of the Regional Association for the Cooperation of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region, which since 9 March 1998 has been known as the association of towns and communes "the Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region - The Glacensis Euroregion". On 5 December 1996, in Hradec Králové, a framework agreement was signed between the Association of the Kłodzko Region Communes and the Regional Association for the Cooperation of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region; it concerned the establishment of the euroregion called **the Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region - "the Glacensis Euroregion"**. Chronologically, it was the eighth cross-border cooperation area



The Międzylesie
- Kraliki Project



Adventure racing



A meeting of the Euroregional
Steering Committee



A working meeting

in the Polish borderland and the second one along the Czech-Polish border. The previously established euroregions were the following: Nysa, Karpacki, Sprewa-Nysa-Bóbr, Pro Europa Viadrina, Tatry, Bug and Pomerania.

On 17 March 2000, in Długopole Dolne, on the initiative of the Association of the Kłodzko Region Communes, the Association of Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion was established and registered by the District Court in Świdnica as a new Polish partner in the Euroregion. The establishment of a new Association was necessitated by the need of mutual adjustment of the euro-regional structures on both sides of the border (the established organization was focused exclusively on border-area cooperation). Simultaneously, it was possible to open the Glacensis Euroregion for those communes which declared their wish to participate in Polish-Czech cooperation. Moreover, the change was also dictated by the necessity to form a clear structure for the Small Project Fund of the Phare CBC Programme in the Polish part of the Euroregion.

The Euroregion's official headquarters are located in Rychnov nad Kněžnou in the Czech Republic and Kłodzko in Poland. The Euroregion's area covers approximately 4900 km² and is inhabited by over 1 million people. The Central and Eastern Sudety Mountains and submontane territories cover most of the area. Almost in the entire territory of the Euroregion, there are areas of natural and landscape attractions, which foster the development of tourism.



A stone commemorating road investments in the Orlickie Mountains

Members and governing bodies of the Euroregion

According to the Statute of the Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region – the Glacensis Euroregion, the members of the Euroregion are the Polish communes belonging to the Association of Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion and the Czech towns and communes belonging to the Association of Towns and Communes “The Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region – the Glacensis Euroregion”. Each commune may become an ordinary member. A commune's wish to join the Association should be declared in a commune council resolution. A com-



Jaroslav Štefek, Miroslav Kocián and Radosław Pietuch

mune is accepted as an ordinary member by a resolution of the General Meeting of the Members of the Association of the Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion.

After prior acceptance of an appropriate council, which simultaneously has to accept the association's statute, towns and communes (in the Czech part) may join the association of towns and communes “The Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region – the Glacensis Euroregion”. Also other legal persons may join the association, provided that their membership is accepted by the relevant statutory body as well.

At present, 32 Polish communes from the kłodzki, ząbkowicki, dzierzoniowski, strzeliński and wałbrzyski districts, as well as the kłodzki and ząbkowicki districts are members of the Association of Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion. On the Czech side of the border, membership comprises 106 towns and communes as well as three regions: Kralovohradeckí, Pardubickí and Olomunieckí.

In order to perform the tasks of cross-border cooperation, a multi-level organizational structure was created, according to the Euroregion's statute (drawing 1). The Euroregion's governing bodies comprise the following:

- the Euroregion's Council,
- the Audit Committee,
- the Secretariat.

The supreme body of the Euroregion entitled to adopt resolutions is the Council consisting of 6 persons, i.e. 3 representatives of the Polish partners and 3 representatives of the Czech partners. The mode of delegating representatives to the Council is determined by the national structures in each country. §8 of the Statute of the Association of the Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion specifies that the appointment of the Association's representatives in the Glacensis Euroregion is the sole competence of the General Meeting of the members.

The Council's meetings are open, unless the Council has decided otherwise. The Council may invite to its meetings, in an advisory capacity, representatives of local administration offices, decision-making and controlling organs of local government units, central government administration, etc.



Czesław Kręcichwost and Jiří Čepelka



Stanisław Longawa and Helmut Dohnálek



Miroslav Vlasák



Helmut Dohnálek and Jiří Čepelka at the opening of a border crossing in Mostowice



Cz. Kręcichwost and R. Niebieszczański at a meeting in the EU Parliament



Tomasz Korczak

In the years 1996 - 2008 the following people were members of the Council:

- Ryszard Niebieszczański**
Kłodzko Commune leader (1996 - 1998)
- Edward Kondratiuk**
Mayor of Szczytna (1996 - 1998)
- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (since 1996)
- Jan Doskočil**
Vice-president of Hradec Králové (1996 - 1998)
- František Bartoš**
Vice-Mayor of Rychnov nad Kněžnou and senator of the Czech Republic (1996 - 1998)
- Marie Vaňková**
Mayor of Police nad Metují (1996 - 1998)
- Karel Škarka**
Mayor of Ústí nad Orlicí (1996 - 1998)
- Dorota Kawińska-Domurad**
Mayor of Kłodzko (1998 - 1999)
- Tomasz Korczak**
Mayor of Międzyzlesie (since 1998)
- Grzegorz Jung**
Mayor of Polanica Zdrój (1999 - 2002)
- Miloslav Chvátíl**
Mayor of Žamberk (1998 - 2002)
- Oldřich Vlášak**
President of Hradec Králové (1998 - 2002), member of the European Parliament
- Jiří Hanuš**
Mayor of Červený Kostelec (1998 - 2002), member of the Czech Parliament
- Ivan Adamec**
Mayor of Trutnov (2002), member of the Czech Parliament
- Józef Marcinków**
Mayor of Ząbkowice Śląskie (since 2003 - 2005)
- Miloslav Vlasák**
Mayor of Žacléř (2002 -2004, since 2010)
- Miloslav Kocián**
Mayor of Bílá Voda (since 2002)
- Jiří Čepelka**
Mayor of Ústí nad Orlicí, member of the Czech Parliament (since 2002)
- Zdeněk Filip**
Mayor of Opočno (since 2004 - 2007)
- Piotr Kruczkowski**
President of Wałbrzych (2005 - 2011)
- Oldřich Čtvrtečka**
Mayor of Náchod (2007 - 2010)

The Council elects its chairperson for one year. After this term, a person representing the other state

becomes chairperson (on a rotation basis). The following people were chairpersons, in chronological order:

- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (in 1997)
- Jan Doskočil**
Vice-President of Hradec Králové (in 1998)
- Dorota Kawińska-Domurad**
Mayor of Kłodzko (in 1999)
- Grzegorz Jung**
Mayor of Polanica Zdrój (in 1999)
- Miloslav Chvátíl**
Mayor of Žamberk (in 2000)
- Tomasz Korczak**
Mayor of Międzyzlesie (in 2001)
- Jiří Hanuš**
Mayor of Červený Kostelec (in 2002)
- Miloslav Vlasák**
Mayor of Žacléř (in 2002)
- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (in 2003)
- Jiří Čepelka**
Mayor of Ústí nad Orlicí (in 2004)
- Miloslav Kocián**
Mayor of Bílá Voda (in 2004)
- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (in 2005)
- Zdeněk Filip**
Mayor of Opočno (in 2006)
- Jiří Čepelka**
Member of the Czech Parliament (in 2006)
- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (in 2007)
- Miloslav Kocián**
Mayor of Bílá Voda (in 2008)
- Oldřich Čtvrtečka**
Mayor of Náchod (in 2008)
- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (in 2009)
- Miloslav Kocián**
Mayor of Bílá Voda (in 2010)
- Czesław Kręcichwost**
Mayor of Kudowa Zdrój (in 2011)

The Audit Committee is the Euroregion's auditing body. It consists of four people (two representatives of each state) delegated by the Council.

The coordinating, administrative and executive structure is the Euroregion's Secretariat functioning on both sides of the border. The Secretariat of the Polish part of the Euroregion is also the Secretariat



The Glacensis Euroregion Secretaries during a football match between the Czech Republic and Poland in Prague, on 10 October 2009, with the goal scorer, Jaroslav Plašil from Lično



A meeting on Śnieżka - B. Tambor, T. Korczak, A. Laszkiewicz, K. Baldy



A friendly match: the Czech Republic - Poland



A study visit in the Bile Carpathian Euroregion

of the Small Scale Projects Fund of the Phare CBC Programme and the Secretariat of the INTERREG IIIA Micro-projects Fund. The duties of secretaries were fulfilled, in chronological order, by the following people:

on the Polish side

- Julian Golak**
(in the years 1996-1998)
- Adam Kwas** (in 1999)
- Radosław Pietuch**
(since 2000)

on the Czech side

- Radomir Morawiec**
(in the years 1996 – July 2000)
- Helmut Dohnálek**
(in the years 2000 – January 2005)
- Jaroslav Štefek** (since 2005)



Euroregional Ski Race

■■■■■ **Committees and working groups** prepare materials in the form of conclusions and recommendations, and submit them to the Council, which adopts them and supervises their implementation. The groups are established and dissolved pursuant to the resolutions of the Euroregion's Council. They operate according to social principles, and they consist of people whose type of professional work is similar to the scope of a given working group's field of activity. The number of members, their professional structure and composition is the competence of each part of the Euroregion. Within the Euroregion structures there operates a Research and Regional Education Committee. ■■■■■

Legal and institutional basis

The Euroregion is a voluntary union of the Association of Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion and the association of the towns and communes "The Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region – The Glacensis Euroregion", that was established pursuant to the Agreement concerning the formation of the Czech - Polish Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region – the Glacensis Euroregion.

The Euroregion does not have a legal status; cooperation is directed at the coordination of the main tasks in accordance with the Euroregion's objectives. Its governing bodies function on the basis of the legal

regulations of the respective states.

The Euroregion operates in the territory of the borderland districts of the Czech Republic and the territory of Lower Silesia in the Republic of Poland.

The legal basis for the Euroregion's activity includes the following:

- the Framework Agreement concerning the formation of the Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region, signed on 5 December 1996 in Hradec Králové,
- the Statute of the Euroregion of the Borderland Areas of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region,
- the Statute of the Association of the Polish Communes of the Glacensis Euroregion, adopted on 17 March 2000 in Długopole Dolne,
- the Statute of the Association of Towns and Communes of the Euroregion of the Czech Republic, Moravia and the Kłodzko Region - the Glacensis Euroregion, adopted on 18 February 2000.

Functioning and financing principles

The set of basic principles on which the activity of the Glacensis Euroregion as well as all its bodies' and supporting structures' work is based has a universal character. It forms the framework of cross-border cooperation not just in the Polish euroregions. The following principles make up this set:

- partnership (equal rights and status) of all parties
- subsidiarity
- solidarity
- formation of a concept or strategy of cross-border development
- good neighbourhood of the borderland population,
- maintaining identity (national, state, regional and local identity)
- a voluntary character of cooperation
- parity and rotation
- pragmatism
- friendship and trust
- consensus
- a non-political character of the Euroregion's internal structures



A partner exchange for the disabled Dzierżoniów - Lanškroun



Ski competitions - Jamrozowa Polana



The MTB Kłodzko competition



The Cavemen Summer in Kletno

The following principles are especially important in cross-border cooperation:

- **partnership**, especially horizontal partnership, i.e. between partners on both sides of the border; this type of partnership is based on the states' parity, regardless of the spatial, economic and demographic importance of a given state. In order to develop this type of partnership, many obstacles resulting from differences in administration, competences and financing sources have to be overcome;
- **subsidiarity**, understood broadly as the assistance of international as well as central and national institutions and organizations in the accomplishment of cross-border cooperation objectives of the regional and local communities;
- **solidarity** of the cross-border areas, introduced in the latest version of the European Charter of Border and Cross-Border Regions by the Polish representative in the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR); parity in voting and pursuit of symmetry; this principle states that in all bodies, each state has the same number of seats (votes) and the same right of representing the Euroregion's interests,
- **rotation**, i.e. interchanging the places of various initiatives, meetings, etc.

The basis of financing the Glacensis Euroregion's activity is similar as in other cross-border areas. The partners in euroregional cooperation amass funds in their national accounts. The sources of funds for the Euroregion's activity are the following:

- members' premiums
- payments made from the particular Euroregions' own financial means
- subsidies
- assistance funds
- donations
- other sources of financing.

Both parties have access to information concerning the administration of the Euroregion's funds.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ In the first 1996 budget of the Polish part of the Euroregion, the income was PLN 21033.16. The record income in the 2010 budget of the Polish part of the Euroregion was PLN 6 082 593.56.

The total income of the Polish part of the Euroregion in the years 1996 – 2011 (as in August 2011) was PLN 15621591.22, of which 81.2 % was external income. ■ ■ ■ ■ ■



Cyklo Glacensis



A partner meeting of the children in Jugów

Partnerships of commune and institutions

There are 49 partnership agreements and contracts concluded between the local governments inside the Euroregion, within which grassroots initiatives - the most valuable of all - are being implemented. Establishing partnerships is a priority in the activities of both associations. Partnership sometimes refers to local governments, and sometimes to institutions, such as associations, sport clubs, schools and volunteer fire brigades. The dissimilarity of the local government structures has created new types of partnership. Microregions established as a result of reforms in the Czech Republic, which group together several local governments, are very good partners for Polish rural communes, which have experienced problems with acquiring partners for cooperation.

On the basis of partnership contracts, joint applications for assistance programmes are prepared, cross-border projects are implemented, cultural, sport and tourist events are held, and investment projects are accomplished.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Periodical cross-border events:

- Since 1990, the **Polish-Czech Christian Culture Days "Let's be a family"** have been held every year at the turn of September and October; it is the largest cultural event in the Polish-Czech borderland.
- **The Orlice- Kłodzko Organ Music Festival** – 11 editions of the autumn event for classical music lovers have been held.

In 2011 the 10th editions of two cross-border events take place:

- **Cyklo Glacensis** - a bicycle rally of the Euroregion members,
- **The Kłodzko – Orlice Conference** - an initiative dedicated to spatial planning. ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Support from the European Union programmes

In the Glacensis Euroregion the most significant programmes were four EU assistance programmes:

- **Phare CREDO**
- **Border Cooperation Programme Phare CBC**



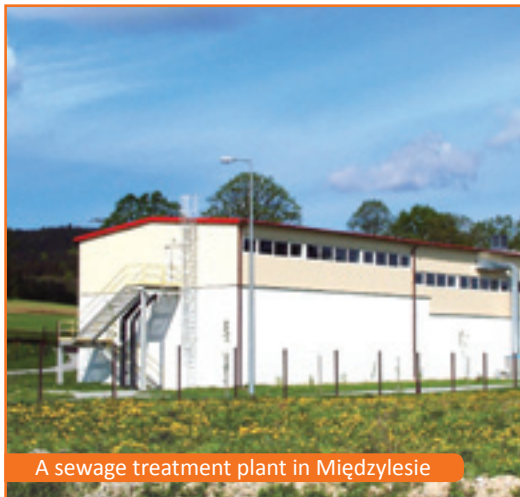
The Božanov - Radków road



The Zemská brána new bridge



A swimming pool complex in Meziměstí



A sewage treatment plant in Międzylesie

- The Community Initiative **INTERREG III a**
- **Operational Programme of Cross-Border Cooperation** between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Poland 2007-2013

The Euroregion's adventure with EU funds started with the PHARE CREDO Programme. In the pre-accession strategy, this programme was a contribution to the decentralisation process and the transfer (strengthening) of power at the local level in CECs through the promotion of local level activities confirmed by the local community's commitment and implemented within the local strategies. The Phare CREDO Programme was an element of so-called experience-gaining before the implementation of further initiatives. It indicated the directions of cooperation and the beneficiaries' requirements for support of specific enterprises.

With the approval of the European Commission, state authorities entrusted the Glacensis Euroregion Agencies with the organisation and operation of the EU Phare CREDO Programme for the Polish-Czech borderland. The Czech partners participated in the programme implementation starting from the pilot round, while the Polish partners joined the process in the main round of the programme. Effective promotion of the programme resulted in the Polish-Czech borderland being the most active participant in the entire Programme involving 36 Central and Eastern European cross-border regions.

The next stage was the launching of the Phare Cross-Border Cooperation Programme (CBC). The Small Project Fund managed by the Euroregion in its territory was used for the accomplishment of small projects (so-called "soft" projects) concerning various social aspects (e.g. cultural, sport and scholarly initiatives). The Implementing Authority for the Phare Cross-Border Cooperation Programme of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration and the Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic had assisted the Euroregion in this process from the very beginning. The Phare CBC Programme was launched in the Polish-Czech borderland in 1999 and it was completed in 2006. Due to several instalments of the programme and 181 projects, together with its beneficiaries we have gained the necessary experience with respect to new initiatives. Our institutional structure has also been strengthened. Although on the one hand, the financial instrument for the support of cross-border initiatives was guaranteed, on the other hand, the burden of maintaining current contacts was put on the local governments; offering them financial support

and implementing its own initiatives in the entire area, the association placed particular emphasis on and became involved in the implementation of EU assistance programmes aimed at cross-border cooperation.

The INTERREG IIIa Micro-projects Fund the Czech Republic - Poland launched in the middle of 2005 in the Glacensis Euroregion had similar objectives and management structures. As early as in the first recruitment, beneficiaries from the Euroregion proved their experience and presented their contacts established with the Czech partners during the implementation of small projects within the Phare CREDO and Phare CBC programmes by submitting the largest number of applications in the entire borderland area. Both Euroregion secretariats received 279 proposed projects, of which 128 projects for the total amount of €1.5 million gained approval of the Euroregional Steering Committee. The program was completed in 2008.

In the following stage, the Euroregion became active in the works on the preparation of support for the borderland within the so-called Objective 3 of the Community Policy - the European Territorial Cooperation for the years 2007-2013. Consequently, the new instrument increased the availability of funds for the beneficiaries of micro-projects more than threefold and enabled the partners to implement factually joint projects on both sides of the border. The areas of support and the priority axes accepted in the programme documents and valid in the entire Operational Programme of Cross-Border Cooperation between the Czech Republic and Poland in the years 2007-2013 comprise also the Micro-project Funds, including the possibility of implementing micro-investment projects, an example of which may be observation towers or the modernisation of access roads to the border. The previous experience indicates that the fund approach is an effective mechanism of support of small-scale enterprises, allowing for the flexible use of funds to support small budget projects, which are very advantageous for the establishment and extension of contacts between partners on both sides of the border.

Whereas in the case of small projects we can mention the direct involvement of the Euroregion structures in their implementation, in the case of large projects the Euroregion's role consists in initiating their implementation or lobbying for regional initiatives in the intergovernmental forum.

140 projects have either been implemented or are



Road no. 311 in the Orlickie Mountains



Road no. 389 - repair works on the Lasówka bridge



The modernised road no.8 - Duszniki - Lewin



Road no. 8 - slow traffic lanes



The old image of the Kotle border crossing



The opening of the last road border crossing on the Płaszczyna Pass



The first traveler crossing the border without customs clearance

currently being implemented within the scope of pre-accession instruments directed at cross-border cooperation and programmes implemented after accession - so-called large projects - in the Euroregion. Most of the projects concern the tourist infrastructure (e.g. observation towers, bicycle routes, ski runs), promotion and cultural aspects (e.g. the promotion of historical strongholds in the borderland) or cooperation between fire brigades or the police (safety programmes, the purchase of specialised and all-terrain vehicles). However, the most noticeable projects are certainly environment protection investment projects (flood protection programmes, sewage systems or sewage treatment plants in Mieroszów, Ścinawka Średnia, Międzyzlesie, Bystrzyca Kłodzka), and above all, the modernisation projects of the transportation system. In this context we can mention the construction of slow traffic lanes in the Lewin Kł. – Duszniki Zdrój part of the national road no. 8, modernisation of the provincial road no. 389 in the part between Przeł. Polskie Wrota – Mostowice, modernisation of the Lewin Kł. – Deštné v Orlických horách road, Pastviny - Mladkov road or the Deštné v Orlických horách – Mladkov road along the state border.

Support for the Euroregion from the cross-border cooperation programmes

Name of programme	Number of projects	Amount of support in EUR
Phare CREDO	11	538 676*
Phare national 1997 - border crossing in Międzyzlesie	1	3 000 000
Phare CBC - large projects	11	18 944 264
Phare CBC - small projects	181	1 180 393
PIW INTEREG IIIA - small projects	190	1 571 592
PIW INTEREG IIIA - large projects	55	9 475 515
POWT 2007-2013 - small projects**	425	11 950 000
POWT 2007-2013 - large projects***	62	41 681 685
razem	936	88 342 125
w tym liczba zarządzanych przez euroregion	798	14 701 985

* ECU was used then
 **the programme is being implemented - data concerning the number of micro-projects in August 2011
 *** the programme is being implemented - data in 18 projects refer to a part of project budgets in which partners from the Euroregion and partners from the other parts of the borderland participate

SELECTED INITIATIVES OF THE RECENT YEARS

Border crossings - a relic of the past?

On 4 June 2007 the road border crossing Nowa Morawa – Staré Město pod Sněžníkem was opened ceremonially and with the participation of many important persons; in October, after more than 10 years of efforts, two border crossings on tourist trails in the Bialskie Mountains: Bielice – Papršek, Bielice – Nýžnerov were opened. They are the last two border crossings opened in the Euroregion's history.

Accession to the Schengen Area.

The opening of the borders - one of the most important moments in the Euroregion's history - was celebrated at the majority of the former border crossings. The central celebration, with the participation of the members of Parliaments, government administration, local administration, the Border Guard units and the Border Police for Foreigners of the Czech Republic, as well as the Glacensis Euroregion, took place at night, on 20 December 2007 at the Kudowa Zdrój / Beloves border crossing. On 21 December, without any problems, new places where the border could be crossed by car were opened: Lutynia – Travna, Kocioł – Olešnice v Orlických horách and Niemojów – Bartošovice v Orlických horách, where a repaired bridge was also opened on that day.

Study visits.

Members of the Polish part of the Euroregion had an opportunity to see how the Bile Karpaty Euroregion on the Czech - Slovak border functions; it was during a three-day study visit organised by the Czech partner in 2009, and in 2010 - by the Nysa Euroregion. In September 2010 the Association's management board had an opportunity to visit the European Parliament and 3 existing EGTCs on the French - Belgian border. Its members participated in meetings with the representatives of the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions. The visit was organised by the Dolnośląskie Province. Together with all euroregions of the Polish-Czech borderland, during many partnership meetings and visits, we have decided to strengthen the euroregional cooperation in the borderland and to commence activities aiming at the promotion of our borderland and the effects of the development of Polish-Czech contacts.

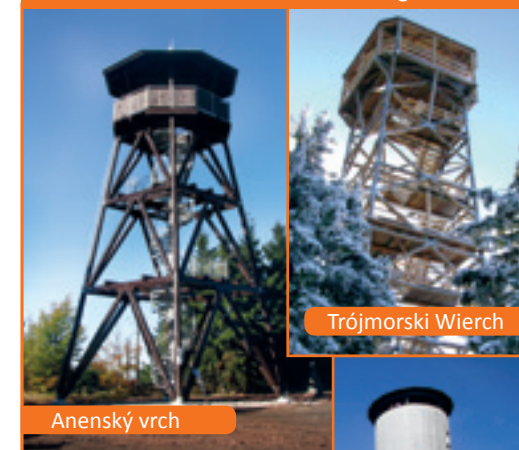
The Glacensis Euroregion Bulletin.

In the years 2006 – 2010 we jointly edited the Euroregion bulletin providing information about events taking place in the area - the Czech partner was



The repaired roads - no passage - Lutynia

Observation Towers in euroregion



Trójmorski Wierch

Anenský vrch



Borówkowa

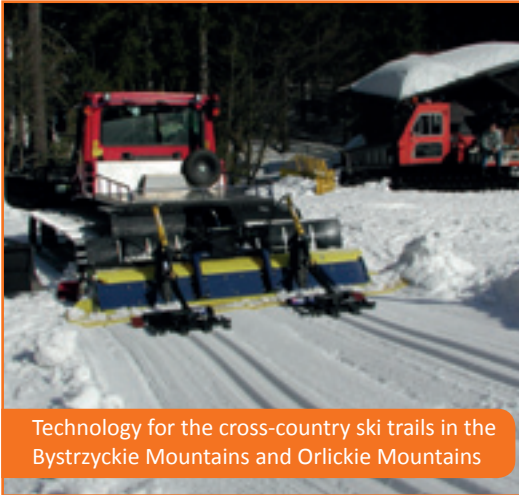


Around Strzelin



Jawornik Wielki

Křížová Hora near Červená Voda



Technology for the cross-country ski trails in the Bystrzyckie Mountains and Orlickie Mountains

responsible for this project. By the end of 2010, the first issue edited by the Polish partner was published in a changed formula, within a project co-financed from the Micro-projects Fund.

Support for tourism development.

Taking into account the funds and the number of implemented projects, tourism has turned out to be the most important area of cooperation during the time of the Euroregion's existence. Within the scope of many promotional projects, mini-drafts of Czech and Polish history were prepared, web pages were updated, two publications about the borderland were published: "Observation Towers and Beauty Spots in the Glacensis Euroregion" and "Historic and Sacral Monuments in the Glacensis Euroregion", 7 bicycle route maps and a map of attractions of the Euroregion were also published.



A canoe haven on the Nysa River near Bard - an investment in the Nysa River route

The marking of tourist trails was being continued. The flagship project of the marking of tourist attractions in the Polish part of the Glacensis Euroregion was being continued. The marking system in the communes of Kłodzko, Mieroszów and Bielawa was supplemented, and after the construction of a roundabout the location of information boards in Nowa Ruda was changed. Currently the system comprises 65 information boards and approximately 190 signposts. The marking of bicycle routes in the Wałbrzyskie, Kamienne and Sowie Mountains was completed and the marking of the Strzelińskie Hills was finalised. 16 information boards were added to the system. The bicycle route system was also further developed on the Czech side. The fashion for cross-country skiing, which came from the Czech Republic, generated new projects related not only to the marking but also the maintenance of ski runs. Following the example of the Czech partners and in cooperation with them, the product is also being developed on the Polish side, and consequently, a network of attractive ski runs is being created.



Nordic Walking trails in Złoty Stok

The EUROPEAN GROUPING OF TERRITORIAL CO-OPERATION Project. Due to the forthcoming new programming period of 2014 -2020 as well as the new instrument in the institution market, i.e. the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation, since 2008 the idea of establishing a grouping has been taken into consideration. From negotiations within the Glacensis and Nysa Euroregions in March 2009 to the first meeting of the potential founders of a EGTC - the Glacensis and Nysa Euroregions, the Dolnośląskie Province, the Kralovohradecki, Liberecki, Olomuniecki and Pardubicki Regions - held on 26 August 2010 in Wrocław, through many various meetings, workshops and conferences,

we determined the EGTC objectives and started the development of a cooperation strategy in the borderland. We wish to develop this new cross-border mechanism in such a way as to be able to accomplish the objectives of the development of the borderland on the basis of the experience of local governments and institutions as well as the potential inherent in the European regions.

The barriers of cooperation hindering the development of Polish-Czech cooperation in the Euroregion include the following:

- the absence of modern transportation routes in the Euroregion area enabling their users to connect quickly and safely with the European express road and motorway system and enabling visitors to reach the Euroregion's tourist destinations, which are deprived of any perspectives for the growth of their competitiveness because of the absence of administrative decisions concerning the construction of express roads and motorways, which at present lead only to large urban centres,
- the absence of ring roads around the following towns of the Euroregion: Náchod, Wałbrzych, Kłodzko, Dzierżoniów, Jaroměř,
- a low level of knowledge of the neighbours' language,
- small budgets of the local governments and the ever growing number of tasks encumbering the communes, which restricts the scope of their activities,
- decapitalisation of the existing transportation infrastructure, the growing deterioration of railway transportation, a very dense and neglected network of local roads, which on the Polish side of the border surpasses the present technical potential of its administrators.



A meeting of the working team of the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation in Liberec



The study for the construction of the S5-R43 express road



The Kamieńczyk - Mladkov border crossing - a meeting concerning modernisation plans



One of the meetings of the borderland Euroregions



Křížová Hora near Červená Voda

Directions and objectives of cooperation

- The extension of the group of Polish-Czech cooperation partners.
- The preparation of joint investment projects with respect to funds within the scope of cross-border programmes in the new EU budget for the years 2014 - 2020, taking into account in particular the reconstruction of the old transportation routes, flood prevention, the improvement of safety and the development of the tourist infrastructure.
- The acquisition of external financing for cross-border initiatives is definitely the greatest success. However, after a detailed analysis of the particular programmes supporting cross-border cooperation, we could reach the conclusion that the simplest and the best implemented programme was the Phare CREDO Programme, in which the applied procedures had been developed outside the states benefiting from the assistance, and the entire programme was managed by an international team with its headquarters located in Prague. With each new programme, we can observe an increase in the number of required documents, the level of complicated procedures and the number of institutions participating in the implementation. In order to restore the logical principles of granting EU assistance we should attempt to limit the number of institutions, stop the process of complicating the procedures of cross-border cooperation programme implementation and the system of payment transfers within the programmes. Hence, it will be appropriate to prepare documents and develop detailed principles of assistance fund implementation for the years 2014 - 2020 before the commencement of the programme, to avoid the mistakes made during the implementation of IW INTERREG IIIA and POWT [the Operational Programme of Cross-Border Cooperation] as well as to attempt not to introduce any changes during the course of the implementation process.
- The institutional strengthening of the associations representing the Euroregion in the form of the integration of institutions working for the development of international contacts in one formula, with respect to the professionalisation of activities in the new EU budget for 2014-2020, as well as with respect to a new form of cooperation, i.e. EGTC.
- Searching for new external sources of financing connected with the EGTC formula.

Tabela członków polskiej części Euroregionu Glacensis					
Přehled členů polské části Euroregionu Glacensis					
Members of the Polish part of the Glacensis Euroregion					
Lp P.č. No	Gmina Obec Commune	Powiat Okres District	Data wstąpienia Datum přistoupení Accession date	Ludność Obyvatelstvo Population	Powierzchnia w km ² Rozloha v km ² Area in square meters
1	Bardo	Ząbkowicki	1996	5515	73,41
2	Bielawa	Dzierżoniowski	2002	31 988	36,2
3	Borów	Strzeliński	2010	5 241	99
4	Bystrzyca Kłodzka	Kłodzki	1996	19 636	338,6
5	Ciepłowody	Ząbkowicki	2000	3147	77,5
6	Czarny Bór	Wałbrzyski	2003	4844	66,31
7	Duszniki Zdrój	Kłodzki	1996	4972	22,3
8	Dzierżoniów	Dzierżoniowski	2002	34346	20
9	Głuszycza	Wałbrzyski	2003	9250	61,9
10	Jedlina Zdrój	Wałbrzyski	2003	4940	17,5
11	Kamieniec Ząbkowicki	Ząbkowicki	2000	8645	95,96
12	Kłodzko	Kłodzki	1996	4602	25
13	Kłodzko - gmina	Kłodzki	1996	27 808	252
14	Kondratowice	Strzeliński	2007	17 270	98,14
15	Kudowa Zdrój	Kłodzki	1996	10 293	34
16	Lądek Zdrój	Kłodzki	1996	8973	117
17	Lewin Kłodzki	Kłodzki	1996	1953	52,2
18	Mieroszów	Wałbrzyski	2003	7132	76,2
19	Międzylesie	Kłodzki	1996	7642	189,3
20	Nowa Ruda	Kłodzki	1996	24 281	37
21	Nowa Ruda - gmina	Kłodzki	1996	12 363	140
22	Polanica Zdrój	Kłodzki	1996	6617	17,2
23	Przeworno	Strzeliński	2005	5199	111,96
24	Radków	Kłodzki	1996	9417	139,9
25	Stoszowice	Ząbkowicki	1996	5597	109
26	Stronie Śląskie	Kłodzki	1996	7682	145
27	Strzelin	Strzeliński	2006	21 849	171,64
28	Szczytna	Kłodzki	1996	7402	133,2
29	Walim	Wałbrzyski	2003	5777	78,8
30	Wałbrzych	Wałbrzyski	2003	120 197	84,8
31	Ziębice	Ząbkowicki	1996	9236	222,4
32	Złoty Stok	Ząbkowicki	2002	4824	75,6
33	Powiat Kłodzki		2006	174 689	1643,5
34	Powiat Ząbkowicki			71 414	800,77
Razem samorządy gminne				458 638	3219,02



Członkowie czeskiej części Euroregionu Glacensis

Seznam českých členských obcí Euroregionu Glacensis

Members of the Czech part of the Glacensis Euroregion

Lp P.č. No	Gmina Obec Commune	Powiat Okres District	Data wstąpienia Datum přistoupení Accession date	Ludność Obyvatelstvo Population	Powierzchnia w km ² Rozloha v km ² Area in square meters
1	Červený Kostelec	Náchod	1996	8441	24,09
2	Dobruška	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	7085	34,49
3	Jablonec nad Orlicí	Ústí nad Orlicí	1996	3147	4,38
4	Letohrad	Ústí nad Orlicí	1996	6195	24,09
5	Náchod	Náchod	1996	21 263	33,26
6	Opočno	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	3177	14,01
7	Police nad Metují	Náchod	1996	4316	24,35
8	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	11 695	34,96
9	Trutnov	Trutnov	1996	31 398	103,33
10	Ústí nad Orlicí	Ústí nad Orlicí	1996	15 031	36,34
11	Žamberk	Ústí nad Orlicí	1996	6082	23,55
12	Osečnice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	286	7,85
13	Liberk	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	702	54,08
14	Javornice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1997	882	18,41
15	Slatina nad Zdobnicí	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1997	816	16,31
16	Žacléř	Trutnov	1997	3613	21,83
17	Lanškroun	Ústí nad Orlicí	1998	9847	23,55
18	Bílá Voda u Javorníka	Jeseník	1998	302	14,98
19	Bohuslavice nad Metují	Náchod	1999	972	14,12
20	Broumov	Náchod	1999	8254	22,27
21	České Mezíříčí	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1999	1603	21,91
22	Hostinné	Trutnov	1999	4795	8,06
23	Jaroměř	Náchod	1999	12 831	23,95
24	Městys Machov	Náchod	1999	1109	20,45
25	Nové Město nad Metují	Náchod	1999	10126	23,12
26	Skuhrov nad Bělou	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1999	1060	16,63
27	Špindlerův Mlýn	Trutnov	1999	1302	76,92
28	Vamberk	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1999	4768	21,03
29	Velké Poříčí	Náchod	1999	2275	7,46
30	Solnice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2000	2099	12,72
31	Třebechovice pod Orebem	Hradec Králové	2000	5611	21,03
32	Lukavice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2000	521	10,90
33	Pěčín	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2000	497	14,76
34	Synkov – Slemeno	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2001	361	7,25
35	Kvasiny	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2001	1349	6,66
36	Králíky	Ústí nad Orlicí	2001	4723	23,55
37	Pardubický kraj		2002	505000	4519
38	Kuks	Trutnov	2002	241	4,83
39	Česká Skalice	Náchod	2002	5402	25,33
40	Lánov	Trutnov	2002	1504	16,96
41	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2002	6184	26,19
42	Lampertice	Trutnov	2002	454	5,84
43	Bernartice	Trutnov	2002	902	17,93
44	Královec	Trutnov	2002	169	9,95
45	Zlatá Olešnice	Trutnov	2002	154	9,43
46	Benecko	Semily	2003	1142	16,52
47	Šonov u Broumova	Náchod	2003	308	20,72
48	Křínice	Náchod	2003	353	16,45
49	Adršpach	Náchod	2003	527	19,72
50	Bělá nad Svitavou	Svitavy	2005	481	11,56
51	Lavičné	Svitavy	2005	133	4,69

52	Batňovice	Trutnov	2005	680	4,47
53	Olomoucký kraj		2005	642093	5267
54	Královéhradecký kraj		2005	552212	4758
55	Záměl	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2006	600	5,50
56	Proseč	Chrudim	2006	2165	34,03
57	Častolovice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2007	1656	5,62
58	Meziměstí	Náchod	2007	2780	25,72
59	Potštejn	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2007	913	9,04
60	Velichovky	Náchod	2007	742	7,97
61	Vítězná	Náchod	2007	1259	24,75
62	Vysoká Srbská	Náchod	2007	243	7,41
63	Vrbice	Jičín	2008	95	6,65
64	Suchý Důl	Náchod	2008	407	13,27
65	Chotěvice	Trutnov	2008	1010	20,13
66	Pilníkov	Trutnov	2008	1185	16,99
67	Černý Důl	Trutnov	2008	758	22,18
68	Borohrádek	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2008	2108	14,00
69	Božanov	Broumovsko	2009	343	19,20
70	Hronov	Trutnov	2009	6387	22,04
71	Žďár nad Metují	Náchod	2010	631	8,17
72	Sopotnice	Ústí nad Orlicí	2010	911	13,57
73	Libchavy	Ústí nad Orlicí	2010	1691	22,12
74	Vrchlabí	Trutnov	2010	13058	27,66
75	Svoboda nad Úpou	Trutnov	2011	2067	7,75
76	Janské Lázně	Trutnov	2011	828	13,73
77	Lično	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2011	564	6,29
78	Staré Město	Šumperk	2011	1925	86,30
79	Pohoří	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2011	669	6,29
80	Libel	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2011	120	3,62
Sdružení Region Orlické hory					
1	Bartošovice v Orlických horách	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	213	35,61
2	Bohdašín	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	236	5,38
3	Bystré	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	234	3,28
4	Deštné v Orlických horách	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	608	32,08
5	Dobřany	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	116	4,05
6	Janov	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	110	3,39
7	Kounov	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	244	11,35
8	Olešnice v Orlických horách	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	451	14,29
9	Orlické Záhoří	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	212	29,12
10	Sedloňov	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	251	19,01
11	Sněžné	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	125	6,07
12	Zdobnice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	151	33,05
13	Ohnišov	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1996	479	10,51
14	Dobré	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1997	846	17,35
15	Rokytnice v OH	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	1999	2463	40,21
16	Bačetín	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2000	364	8,13
17	Říčky v OH	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2000	93	14,81
18	Podbřezí	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2001	484	7,86
19	Chlístov	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2003	91	1,38
20	Nový Hrádek	Náchod	2003	697	11,38
21	Val u Dobrušky	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2003	291	6,04
22	Česká Čermná	Náchod	2004	455	8,91
23	Borová	Náchod	2005	180	3,07
DSO Mikroregion Brodec					
1	Svídnice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2005	162	4,62
2	Krchleby	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2005	81	1,69
3	Vrbice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2005	124	2,43
4	Borovnice	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2005	384	8,19
5	Chleny	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2005	266	4,10
6	Lhoty u Potštejna	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	2005	275	5,72