



The Polish National Federation of Non-Governmental
Organizations'
stand on the Common Strategic Framework concerning
European funds in the years 2014-
2020 (Warsaw, April 2012)

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The National Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations (OFOP) in Poland familiarized itself with great interest with the European Commission's proposals included in Common Strategic Framework concerning European funds in the next programming period (2014-2020), published in march 2012. **That is why, participating in a debate on the future of common policies, especially cohesion policy, OFOP wants to show the civic perspective. It is based on several years of experience of the Federation, of its member organizations and of other non-governmental organizations implementing projects based on grants from the European funds 2004-2006 and 2007-2013 as well as monitoring and intervention activities, linked with active participation in Monitoring**

Thematic objectives

The Polish National Federation of NGOs makes the following proposals for amendments to presented by the European Commission thematic objectives:

Thematic objective nr. 9: More complex perception of the social issues is needed, the one that would take into account investments in the local development as an important factor strengthening not only economic growth of the region, but to a big extent also positively influencing social capital and social bonds. **Therefore Federation suggests widening the 9th thematic objective, so that it is as follows: “support of the social inclusion, fight against poverty and support for the development of the local community”.**

Thematic objective nr. 10: Key competences are closely connected with the labour market, but also with the social capital, that is why it is worth placing investments into education exactly in the context of key competences. Cultural-social competences are necessary for correct functioning of an individual in the society. **Therefore there is Federation’s proposal concerning widening the scope of the 10th thematic objective as follows: “investments in the education and culture, in key competences and cultural-social competences as well as life-long learning”.**

Thematic objective nr. 11: Strengthening institutional capacity and efficiency of administration Public requires an increase in the perspective of the process of creating and evaluating public policies. **Therefore OFOP postulates the extension of key actions under this theme, taking into account the role of social-economic partners for developing, consulting, implementing and evaluation of public policies along with the administration,** which according to the Federation would greatly increase its effectiveness.

Horizontal principles and policy objectives

Federation calls to take into account the *principle of partnership*(in the context of the management, implementation and monitoring of the quality and effectiveness of policies), **next to *non-discrimination, equality between men and women and sustainable growth* rules suited in the Common Strategic Framework for the future funding prospects for 2014-2020.** In OFOP opinion social-economic partners have the specialized knowledge (social perspective, the real knowledge of the needs of the beneficiaries), which can increase the efficiency of the system of funds in the new financial perspective.

Integrated approaches to the delivery of the CSF Funds

The Federation supports the deregulation mechanisms of management of the funds under the new cohesion policy, in the context of an integrated approach to territorial development. We believe that leading the development by partnership and bottom-up management will translate into a much larger percentage of its objectives written in the operational programs. We accept the indications from the Commission, published in the Common Strategic Framework for the following mechanisms :

- a)* Community-led local development,
- b)* Integrated territorial investments for the ERDF, ESF and Cohesion Fund,
- c)* Integrated Operations,
- d)* Joint Action Plans.

At the same time it seems to us to be reasonable at this stage to define additional mechanism for managing the funds, which is the global grant. On the one hand this instrument will provide more opportunities for social and economic partners in the implementation the operations and projects under the operational programs, on the other hand it will give the opportunity for small organizations, to be involved in major projects. In addition, sometimes a lot of small initiatives to the public policy makes larger and longer lasting change than a single great operation.

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