

ACTION PLAN

for

Warmia and Mazury Region (Poland)

Project: InnovaSpa

Partner organisation concerned: Warmia and Mazury Regional Development Agency

Country: Poland

NUTS2 region: PL62

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The Action Plan aims to impact: Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme

Name of the policy instrument(s) addressed: **Regional Operational Programme of Warmia and Mazury 2014-2020, Warmińsko - Mazurskie 2030. Strategy for Socio-Economic Development**

1. Introduction

Project InnovaSpa

Partners of the project:

Thermauvergne Association - France (leader)

University of Debrecen - Hungary

University of Latvia – Latvia

Regional Development Agency Centru – Romania

Lithuanian Innovation Centre – Lithuanian

Faculty of Medicine of the University of Porto– Portugal

Development Agency of Savinjska Region- Slovenia

Warmia and Mazury Regional Development Agency - Poland

The use of natural resources for the development of the spa sector is an idea that brought the partners of the InnovaSpa project together. The project concerns the hydrotherapy, the use of thermal waters and natural resources for the development of new economic initiatives. The project leader is a Thermauvergne Association operating in Royat (Auvergne-Rhône-Alps), France, a place famous for its thermal waters. The other partners represent spa towns with different levels of infrastructure development and traditions, including centuries-old thermal spas in Hungary (Debrecen), the hottest thermal waters in Europe near Porto in Portugal, or those closer to the Polish specificity of a spa in Lithuania and Latvia. The aim of the project is to exchange experiences and good practices between partners. As part of the project Warmia and Masuria Regional Development Agency in Olsztyn, established a working group consisting of representatives of communes of our region with spa potential (Gołdap Commune, Lidzbark Warmiński Municipality, Górowo Iławeckie Commune, Miłomłyn Commune and Frombork Commune) and entrepreneurs from Gołdap and Lidzbark Warmiński operating in the thermal, spa and spa sectors SPA.

The development of medicine, the increase of public expenditure on treatment, an aging society are those factors which, combined with the natural health properties of the environment of Warmia and Mazury, may also become an opportunity for the regional economy. The Covid-19 pandemic, with all its negative spectrum, also creates new opportunities for the development of this industry in our region.

Spa treatment is an integral part of the health care system. It is carried out in health resorts, i.e. in areas with special geological and climatic values. There are 45 statutory health resorts in Poland, located in 13 provinces. In 2019, 7,000 people were treated in the region. patients, compared to 782.1 thous. across the country.¹

2. Policy context

Warmia and Mazury lie in the north-eastern part of Poland, at Vistula Lagoon, in the direct vicinity of the European Union's eastern border with the Kaliningrad Oblast. The Province certainly belongs to some of the most attractive tourist regions of Poland. Currently, the leading sectors of the economy of Warmia and Mazury include tourism, healthy food production, wood industry, machinery manufacture, where clean industrial technologies and renewable energy sources are used, pro-ecological forestry, yacht manufacture and eco-tourism. These sectors are also related to smart specialisations specified in the Socioeconomic Development Strategy for the Province of Warmia and Mazury to the year 2025. Smart specialisations mean the concentration on several selected areas of economy based upon the region's natural resources. In the case of the Province of Warmia and Mazury these are water economy providing for economic activity related to the abundance of waters on the area of Warmia and Mazury: lakes, rivers and the Vistula Lagoon; wood and furniture industry; and food industry aimed at the production of high quality food.

According to the Regional Innovation Scoreboard data from 2019, Polish regions, taking into account the level of innovation compared to other European regions, are in the categories of weak and medium innovators. The area of our country as a whole was included in the category of "medium innovators", while the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship was included in the category of "weak innovators". The development of innovation is a priority for the region's authorities. Innovation of products and services is also an important condition for using EU funds related to the development of entrepreneurship.

¹ Therapeutic activities of spa treatment facilities and stationary medical rehabilitation facilities in 2019, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2020.

There is only one health resort in Gołdap in the Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, as part of which there is a sanatorium providing about 500 places for patients. Since 2016, Miłomłyn, Frombork and Lidzbark Warmiński (city) have the status of a health resort protection area, and in 2019 it was also obtained by the commune of Górowo Iławieckie.

Despite that the sanatorium in Gołdap has been operating since 2001 and it is one of the largest sanatorium facilities in Poland, we are not perceived as a health region. Nevertheless, other towns want to take advantage of the opportunity offered by the sanatorium. EU funds allowed to partially implement public investments in the health resort infrastructure.

The project stakeholder group includes:

- Department of Tourism of the Warmia and Mazury Marshal's Office
- Department of Regional Policy of the Warmia and Mazury Marshal's Office
- Communes with potential of the health resort.

Miłomłyn (established health resort protection status)

Miłomłyn is an urban-rural commune, located in the Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, in the eastern part of the Iława Lake District, in the Ostróda powiat. The area of the Town and Commune of Miłomłyn is 160.9 km² and is inhabited by 4,894 people (1st half of 2020). Miłomłyn is a commune with extraordinary natural and landscape values, its area is mainly agricultural and forest areas. In 2016 Miłomłyn, together with the villages of Bagieńsko and Tarda, obtained the status of a health resort protection area (the first step in process of becoming health resort). The commune will be able to apply for the health resort status when the first medical entity start operate. Therefore, the construction of the health facilities infrastructure have started.

In the Health Resort Protection Area, the Health Resort Forest Park was established, which serves public (related to health) and educational purposes. As part of the works, green areas were developed and equipped with devices enabling recreational / therapeutic functions. A complex of treatment facilities and small architecture was built in order to adapt the forest complex to the function of a forest health park.

Picture 1. Health Resort Forest Park



<http://milomlyn.pl>

In addition, as part of the activities related to the health infrastructure, the beach was developed along with the walking treatment routes at Lake Ilińsk in Miłomłyn.

Picture 1. The beach at Lake Ilińsk



<http://milomlyn.pl>

Currently, the construction of brine towers with small architecture and technical infrastructure is underway. The central tower will be surrounded by wooden structures on the projection of a ring, which are the main element of the graduation tower producing an aerosol of brine suspension..

The total value of the investment is approximately EUR 1.4 million.

Picture 2. Visualization of brine towers



<http://www.ostrodanews.pl>

Frombork (established health resort protection status)

Frombork Commune is an urban-rural commune located in the north-western part of the Warmia-Masuria Province, in Braniewo County, on the Vistula Lagoon. Geographically, the commune is situated in the coastal zone, in the macroregion of the Gdańsk Coast. Frombork Commune has an area of 124 km², inhabited by 3,542 people (1st half of 2020). Frombork is distinguished by rich historical values, which ensure great tourist potential. The Polish astronomer, Nicolaus Copernicus, spent over 30 years of his life here and was buried in the Frombork cathedral. Many Frombork tourist attractions are connected with its activities. Frombork's tourist potential is also determined by the Vistula Lagoon - the Bay of the Baltic Sea, where in the summer season the navigation of tourist ships and hydrofoils takes place. There is also a seaport and a sea border crossing in Frombork. Frombork is located 20 km from the Russian border. The distance from the nearest airport is 110 km (Gdańsk Lech Wałęsa Airport).

In 2015, the city of Frombork and the villages of Bogdany and Ronin located in the Frombork commune were granted the status of a health resort protection area.

The commune has started works related to the construction of the health resort infrastructure. The aim of the project was to create a treatment offer and a place for active recreation in the Frombork Commune, leading to increasing the tourist attractiveness of the area for a health resort.

The project implementation included among others a recreational area with the reconstruction of the city beach, the construction of a promenade and creating a kinesitherapy place.

Project value: approximately EUR 700,000.

Picture 3. Promenade and the beach



<http://www.tvbraniewo24.pl>

Lidzbark Warmiński (established health resort protection status)

Lidzbark Warmiński is located in the northern part of the Warmia-Masuria Province, in the Lidzbark County. The city is situated on the border of the Sępopolska Lowland and the Olsztyn Lakeland, in the valleys of the Łyna and Symsarna rivers. The area of Lidzbark Warmiński is 14.4 km² and is inhabited by 15,628 people (1st half of 2020). Lidzbark Warmiński is one of the most interesting places on the tourist map of Poland. It has many monuments, the most important of which are: the gothic Castle of Warmia Bishops, the Collegiate Church of St. Peter and Paul, High Gate, Krasicki Orangery, defensive walls with a bastion and a tower. The Castle of Warmia Bishops is one of the most magnificent Gothic buildings in Poland. Scholars and their guests resided in the Castle, including Nicolaus Copernicus and Napoleon Bonaparte. The southern ward of the castle was adapted to the Krasicki Hotel. On the other hand, the Castle itself is now home to the Warmia Museum. The mentioned Krasicki Hotel was the first Polish facility to receive the prestigious World Luxury Hotel Award 2013. In addition to the accommodation base, the hotel offers a wide SPA & WELLNESS offer.

In Lidzbark Warmiński there is the only thermal center in the northern part of Poland. Warmia Thermal Baths combine a high standard of hotel services with a rich SPA offer. The facility consists of a sports and recreational part, where you can take advantage of a number of water attractions. These are i.a. swimming pools, a multimedia slide with light and acoustic effects, hydro massage, water jets, and a sauna area. The hotel SPA is a 100 percent natural SPA center. All treatments are based on natural ingredients, including thermal water, healing mud, cranberries, herbs and spices.

the city is located on the national road No. 51, which allows direct connections to the road border crossing in Bezledy. The distance from the nearest airport is 94 km (Olsztyn - Mazury Airport).

In the city of Lidzbark Warmiński and the neighboring villages (Łabno and Medyny) belonging to the Lidzbark Warmiński Commune in accordance with the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of May 17, 2016, the Health Resort Protection Area was created.

Therefore, Lidzbark Warmiński has started intensive works related to the construction of the health resort infrastructure. The construction of the health resort was divided into stages.

The first stage of the emerging health resort was the implementation of the project " Symsarna Valley forest health resort park ". The park is located in the picturesque gorge of the river that has shaped this valley for hundreds of years. The park is a recreational area with various forms of active leisure. To make the stay in the park more pleasant, shelters, benches, tables and bicycle stands were installed. Active people can use the exercise equipment in the Kinesiotherapy Team. Residents and tourists can stimulate the senses of smell, hearing and touch by walking along the Sensory Path. The Symsarna Valley Health Resort Park is an ideal place for walking, jogging, Nordic walking or cycling.

Picture 4. The Symsarna Valley Health Resort Park



Development plan of the Health Resort Protection Area "Lidzbark Warmiński"

The next stage of creating the health resort is the creation of public tourist and health infrastructure: land development and construction, among others graduation towers with a technical building with an

observation deck, roads, promenades with a parking lot, a recreational shelter and a large playground. This stage was completed in June 2021.

Picture 5. Visualization of brine graduation towers



<https://gazetaolsztynska.pl>

The next investment is the construction of a health pavilion together with other spa infrastructure. The implementation of this project was possible thanks to the increased amount of funds for the development of health resorts in 2019 as part of the Regional Operational Program. The project is underway.

Gołdap (health resort)

Gołdap is an urban-rural commune located in the north-eastern part of the Warmia-Masuria Province, in the central part of the Gołdap County. Gołdap is located in the valley of the Goldapa River, about 2.5 km from Lake Gołdap. From the north, the commune borders the Kaliningrad Oblast of the Russian Federation (approx. 4 km). The area of Gołdap is also located in the Masurian Lake District and Lithuanian Lake District. The area of the Gołdap Commune is 362 km² and is inhabited by 20 120 people (1st half of 2020). The city of Gołdap has had the status of a spa with a mud and climate profile since 2000.

Sanatorium Wital offers treatment of diseases of the musculoskeletal system, upper and lower respiratory tract, cardiovascular system and psychosomatic diseases, obesity and skin problems, balneotherapy and cryotherapy and many others. In addition, there is a mineral water pump room and brine graduation towers and promenade, a playground, mini-golf holes, walking and cycling paths and outdoor exercise equipment at the lake and in the center. The developing health resort district has become a stimulus for private investors. There is one high standard hotel (4 stars) in Gołdap. Hotel

Ventus Natural & Medical SPA offers not only accommodation, but also beauty treatments in the Wellness zone, spine rehabilitation and general help in the treatment of orthopedic and post-traumatic diseases. Institute of Natural Medicine will be placed in a newly built, three-story building (at the end of 2021). It will be divided into three rehabilitation zones. The first zone will include massage rooms, rooms using low and high temperatures in therapy, and inhalation rooms. The second zone will be rehabilitation pools enabling hydrotherapy. Stress reduction will be supported by a floating chamber that allows you to float freely on the water. This innovative therapy is also used in the treatment of phobias, depression and addictions. The third zone will include a modern SPA with dry and wet saunas, an ice grotto and an infrared chamber. Another advantage will be the tepidarium, i.e. a room with reduced air humidity. It allows you to increase the body's immunity and warm up the body before taking a bath in the sauna. All zones and their rooms will of course be equipped with the most modern rehabilitation equipment. Just outside of Goldap, in Niedzwica, there is the "Dreams" Rehabilitation Center for Children and Youth, specializing in the rehabilitation of children with cerebral palsy. The Center is visited by children from the farthest corners of the world.

Picture 6. Brine Graduation towers in the Goldap Health Resort



<https://uzdrowiskogoldap.pl>

The value of the investment is EUR 6.4 million.

Picture 7. Visualization of the Institute of Natural Medicine in Gołdap



<https://goldap.org.pl>

Recently, Kinesiotherapy and Health Resort Park has been established. The parks were established in order to take full advantage of the natural values of the commune's environment, to ensure the development of the health resort function in Gołdap, as well as to increase the equipment of the spa space enabling it to perform recreational and therapeutic functions.

Picture 7. Kinesiotherapy and Spa Park in Gołdap



<https://mapadotacji.gov.pl>

The next investment is the expansion of kinesiotherapeutic lines and enrichment of greenery in the Gołdap health resort. The implementation of this project was possible thanks to the increased amount of funds for the development of health resorts in 2019 as part of the Regional Operational Program. The project is underway.

Gmina Górowo Iławeckie (established health resort protection status)

The commune of Górowo Iławeckie is a rural commune, situated in the northern part of the Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, on the border with the Kaliningrad District of the Russian Federation. The area of the Górowo Iławeckie commune is 416.3 km² and is inhabited by 6,791 people (1st half of 2020). One of the greatest tourist attractions of the commune is the European White Stork Center in Żywkowo, often called a stork village. Every year, over 40 pairs of these beautiful birds nest in this small town located near the border with Russia. From Żywkowo to the nearby Toprzyn there is a stork educational path, the so-called stork trail. Due to the outstanding environmental values, more than 75% of the commune's area is covered by the Natura 2000 protected area. The international GreenVelo cycle route runs through the commune, leading through northern and eastern Poland. In 2019, the villages of Gałajny, Czyprki and Woryny located in the area of the Górowo Iławeckie commune were granted the status of a health resort protection area under the Regulation of the Council of Ministers ("Health Resort Protection Area Górowo Iławeckie"). The Provincial Rehabilitation Hospital with an excellent reputation operates in the city.

The distance from the nearest airport is 116 km (Olsztyn - Mazury Airport).

In 2016, a health resort protection area was established in the Górowo Iławeckie Commune by the decision of the Minister of Health. The above-mentioned decision defines the directions of treatment and confirms the therapeutic resources in the spa protection area. In the village of Nowa Wieś Iławecka, works related to the construction of spa treatment facilities have started. Currently, projects are being implemented under which the following will be created:

Institute of Natural Medicine with a swimming pool and technical infrastructure.

The building area is 2031.0 m². A facility with a rehabilitation spa pool, doctor's offices and treatment rooms, a kinesiotherapy room, individual therapy rooms with equipment, and a therapeutic massage room. The plant is equipped with: devices used in balneotherapy (swimming pools and bathtubs for therapeutic baths - 5 mud bathtubs, inhalation plants for inhalation of medicinal mineral waters, a hyperbaric chamber), devices used in peloid therapy, hydrotherapy (showers, floatation cabin, vacu activ), thermotherapy (set for cryostimulation with nitrogen or CO₂ vapors, low-temperature cryogenic chamber with a temperature range from -120 ° C to -180 ° C with the possibility of observing the patient during the treatment, infrared sauna, dry sauna, steam sauna, Japanese ganbanyoku sauna, tepidarium , halodarium), phototherapy devices (lamp for irradiation with infrared or ultraviolet radiation,

laser biostimulation set, devices used in physical therapy (electrotherapy set with accessories, magnetotherapy set, ultrasound set.

Picture 8. Visualization of the Natural Medicine Institute in the commune of Górowo Iławeckie



<https://uzdrowiskogorowoilaweckie.pl>

Spa Facility B: built-up area of approx. 670.00 m², with a pump room, hydrotherapy rooms (mineral baths, centrifuges, underwater massage), salt cave, 7 massage rooms.

Brine graduation towers - building area - 430 m², cubature of 3300 m³. The use of the natural graduation tower inhaler is recommended for the treatment of, among others, diseases of the upper and sometimes lower respiratory tract, hypertension, allergies, skin and thyroid diseases, and in healthy people prophylactically to increase the body's resistance.

The total value of the implemented investments is over PLN 30,000,000.00.

Picture 9. Visualization of the graduation towers in the commune of Górowo Iławeckie



<https://uzdrowiskogorowoilaweckie.pl>

The description of the development of spa communes shows the scale of undertakings and regional conditions for the development of health resorts in Warmia and Mazury. Compared to the other partners of the project, we are still at the beginning of the path to become a healing region.

3. Improvement needs:

Considering the stage of potential spas in the region and one currently functioning sanatorium, it is difficult to assume in the action plan that innovative projects will be implemented as good practices. The good practices in this area of innovation obtained during the project may be applied only when the spas are actually created. Today, the stakeholders of the project focus on obtaining funds for the creation of the initial spa infrastructure, on the basis of which future investment projects will be implemented.

The ambition of these actions is to improve the conditions for the development of the health resorts the region:

- building cooperation between spa municipalities in the region for the development of health resorts;
- defining a vision for the development of a town with health resort potential in the region
- creating conditions for the development of the medical and medical-related sectors in the region;

Nevertheless, the experience we have learned from the project is significant.

1. Implementations of the InnovaSpa good practices

ACTION 1 Association of Health Resorts of Warmia and Mazury

Relevance to the project:

Similar organizations associating entities operating for spas operate at the project partners: in Lithuania, Slovenia and in the French region of Auvergne - Rhône - Alps. **Establishing an association in Warmia and Mazury is the result of the InnovaSpa project and is the implementation of good practice based on the experience of the Lead Partner: Thermauvergne & SPA towns in Auvergne.** The main purposes of Thermauvergne are :

- to help spa towns of Auvergne in their development projects (building of new wellness and thermal centres for example)
- to promote collectively the activities of thermal establishments in Auvergne (edition of brochure, public and press relations, communication)
- to classify apartments in thermal towns to guarantee a good quality of accommodation ("Action Quality furnished apartments") in these towns
- to observe and to make statistics about economic activity of spa towns
- to participate in national events of promotion of the thermal activities with national associations.

Nature of the action:

One of the first effects of the project was the establishment by the stakeholder communes of the "Uzdrowiska Warmii i Mazur" association. The president of the association was Ms Head of Górowa Iławeckiego, Bożena Olszewska Świtaj. The aim of the association is:

- representing, defending and promoting the common interests of its members towards central and local government administration, European bodies and institutions as well as legal and natural persons;
- comprehensive development of health resorts and towns with spa values in the Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship;

- providing health resort communes with priority conditions for obtaining financing for investments aimed at the development of health resorts;
- constant contact with related institutions and associations in the country and abroad,
- support for all actions aimed at the development of health resorts in the Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship;
- promotion of regional spas;
- undertaking activities for the protection of health, physical culture and sport, recreation, environmental protection, health prophylaxis, spa treatment, tourism, spa tourism, spa, wellness and beauty;
- initiating cooperation between the local community in spa towns.

The association promotes the theme of spas through the participation of the association's authorities in regional events; participates in social consultations and monitoring of the Regional Operational Program, lobbying for favorable conditions for the development of health resorts. The association cooperates with other entities for the development of the spa movement in the region:

- Healthy life cluster as a founding member (established in 2021)
- Research and Development Consortium for the development of the medical sector in Warmia and Mazury as a founding partner (established in 2021)
- the Proturmed foundation working for the development of medical tourism in north-eastern Poland;
- Regional Tourist Organization.

Because the spas in the region of Warmia and Masuria (apart from one) are in the phase of organization and investment - they do not have a joint offer. At this stage, the association works to build a joint investment offer and attract investors. The association encourages other municipalities of the region to create a health resort. WMRDA supports communication with regional entities (eg Regional Tourist Organization, media). WMRDA provides space for meetings, and jointly participates in regional and local events related to the development of the medical sector.

The stakeholders acting in the frame of the InnovaSpa project, focused on increasing the allocation for the development of health resorts in the Regional Operational Programme of Warmia and Mazury 2014-2020. Warmia and Mazury is the peripheral, relatively poor region with poor infrastructure. It is

impossible to implement good practices of health resorts without external funds. Thanks to the cooperation of spa communes within the association, the financial resources allocated to the development of health resorts increased. In 2019, an additional EUR 3,1 million was allocated to the development of health resorts under the Regional Operational Programme of Warmia and Mazury 2014-2020.

This is a significant result of InnovaSpa project. Thanks to the increased allocation, two projects were financed:

- Construction of a health pavilion with the remaining spa infrastructure in Lidzbark Warmiński
 - Extension of kinesiotherapeutic lines and enrichment of greenery in the Goldap health resort.
- Both projects are currently underway.

The impact on the policy instrument indicated in the application, was achieved before the end of the project.

Stakeholders involved:

Communes with potential of the health resort: Lidzbark Warmiński, Górowo Iławeckie, Frombork, Miłomłyn, Goldap.

Timeframe: 2020 - 2022

Indicative costs: The Municipal Commune of Lidzbark Warmiński approx. 2,425,342 Euro

The commune of Goldap about EUR 650 691

Indicative funding sources: Regional Operational Programme of Warmia and Mazury 2014-2020

ACTION 2 Warmińsko - Mazurskie 2030. Strategy for Socio-Economic Development

Relevance to the project:

Including the development of the spa function in the region in the Strategy is the implementation of good practice based on the experiences of the Lead Partner: The development of the spa is included in the strategic documents of the region as The Full Health Thermal Spa Resort (STPS).

Nature of the action:

In 2019 the stakeholders (5 communes with potential of the health resort) took a part in consultations on the Voivodeship Strategy for the next 10 years. They managed to obtain records favorable to health resorts in this document, which is crucial for the region.

Establishing a joint initiative of spa communes was noticed by the region's authorities, which was noted in the Region's Social and Economic Development Strategy. The strategic goals and directions of activities of this strategy take into account both the developing health resort function in the region and the cooperation of municipalities in this respect. The strategy sets out the directions of the voivodeship's activities, to which other regional documents, including the Regional Operational Program, refer. The strategy for the new perspective does not refer to the selected policy instrument (Regional Operational Program 2014-2020) but may have an impact on the next operational program for 2021-2027. The draft of this document provides for dedicated funds for the development of the medical sector - funds for health. Their exact amount is not known yet, work on the operational program is still ongoing.

Stakeholders involved:

Communes with potential of the health resort: Lidzbark Warmiński, Górowo Iławeckie, Frombork, Miłomłyn, Gołdap.

Timeframe: The strategy was approved by the voivodship parliament in February 2020

Indicative costs: The costs of participation in the regional consultations were covered from the communes' own resources and they were not significant.

ACTION 3 Development plans of health resorts / health resort protection area

Relevance to the project:

The creation of the plans is the implementation of good practice based on the experience of the Lead Partner: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Thermal Plan (2016 - 2021). The main objective of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes thermal plan is to support the development of new generation spa resorts by investments and collective actions (communication, innovation and training).

Nature of the action:

The need for strategic planning of the development of spas translates into communal documents. The spa area development plan was completed in all SPA communes by the end of 2021. The documents were developed with the participation of external entities and the WMRDA. The documents are a tool for planning the development of the health resort, local entrepreneurs and medical entities participated in their preparation, the documents were subject to public consultations. The costs of preparing the documents were covered by 5 municipalities - project stakeholders (approx. EUR 2,500 per item).

WMRDA will create a joint strategy for the development of health resorts, which will allow to generate joint projects and an offer in the future. The document will be prepared by an employee of WMRDA until November 30, 2022. These activities are part of the regional strategy of social and economic development, contributing to the gradual creation of health resorts in Warmia and Mazury.

Stakeholders involved:

Communes with potential of the health resort: Lidzbark Warmiński, Górowo Iławeckie, Frombork, Miłomłyn, Goldap and local entrepreneurs of this sector.

Timeframe: establishing of the plans - 2020-2021; According to the project, WMRDA will support the implementation of plans until November 30, 2022 (the most important activity is searching for sources of financing new investments, consulting in this area, monitoring of supra-regional, sectoral and international operational programs) .

Indicative costs: The costs of preparing the documents were covered by 5 municipalities - project stakeholders (approx. EUR 2,500 per item).

ACTION 4 Healthy life - smart specialization of the region 2021-2022

Relevance to the project:

Establishing a medical smart specialization in the region will be the implementation of good practice based on the experiences of the Lead Partner: Smart Specialization of the Auvergne, Preventive healthcare and quality of life of patients.

Nature of the action:

Stakeholder meetings and their participation in study visits also resulted in a discussion on smart specializations in the region. Stakeholders expressed the need to extend the catalog of smart specializations to the medical and spa sectors, similar to the spa regions of the project partners, in addition to the three existing smart specializations. Therefore, the Warmia and Mazury Regional Development Agency has made efforts to obtain funds for the implementation of this goal. In cooperation with stakeholders analyzes are prepared, which, together with the necessary application for the establishment of another smart specialization of the region under the name of "healthy living", were submitted the region's authorities (October 2021). Stakeholders (the health resort communes, entrepreneurs from the medical sector, scientific institutions and business environment institutions - about 40 entities in total) acted as consultants in the process of creating documents, participated in the research, and provided the necessary information). The documents will be assessed by external experts and then they will be presented to the Regional Steering Committee for the Regional Innovation Strategy of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodship, which is responsible, inter alia, for regional intelligent specializations. In this way, the development of the medical and peri-medical sector will gain special importance in the economy of the region. In this way, the implementation of the InnovaSpa project in the region will bring a measurable effect not only to project stakeholders but also to other entities operating in the medical and peri-medical industry.

Stakeholders involved: Communes with potential of the health resort: Lidzbark Warmiński, Górowo Iławeckie, Frombork, Miłomłyn, Gołdap and entrepreneurs from the medical sector, scientific institutions and business environment institutions

Timeframe: The process of establishing a "healthy life" smart specialization of the region is underway and will be completed by November 30, 2022.

Indicative costs: the value of the project is about EUR 36,000; own contribution of 15%, i.e. about EUR 5,500 was covered from WMRDA's own funds

Indicative funding sources: Regional Operational Programme of Warmia and Mazury 2014-2020