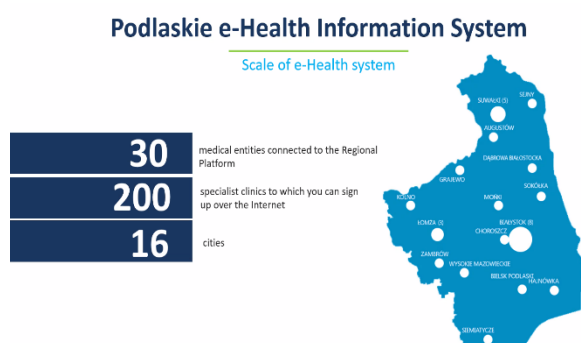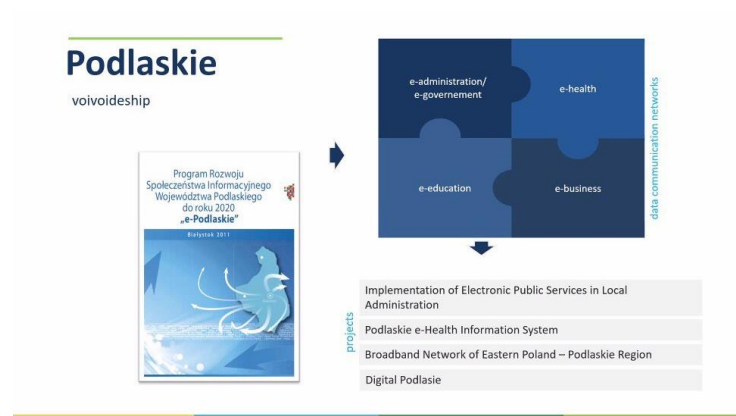# Next2Met Policy Learning Event #5
Hosted by Podlaskie Region

On **10 December 2021**, Next2Met partners and stakeholders came together for their **fifth Policy Learning Event** during an online meeting hosted by **Podlaskie Voivodeship**. This open event aimed to showcase digitalisation good practices from Podlaskie Region and foster interregional exchange.

Artur Kosicki, *Marshal of Podlaskie Voivodeship*, welcomed the session and encouraged all stakeholders to engage in a fruitful discussion on the topic of digitalization.

After the introduction by *Izabela Łokić, Deputy Director of the Department of Regional Development, Marshal Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship* and an overview of Next2Met presented by *Harri Kuusela, Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, Lead Partner of Next2Met*, the following initiatives and projects were presented:

1. **E-Health Podlaski Information System and "Digital Podlaskie",** presented by *Mariusz Feszler, Deputy Director of Department of Information Society, Marshal Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship***:** the main aims of these initiatives are to make access to the health system as easy as possible for citizens and improve digital skills by providing 4 types of free trainings.
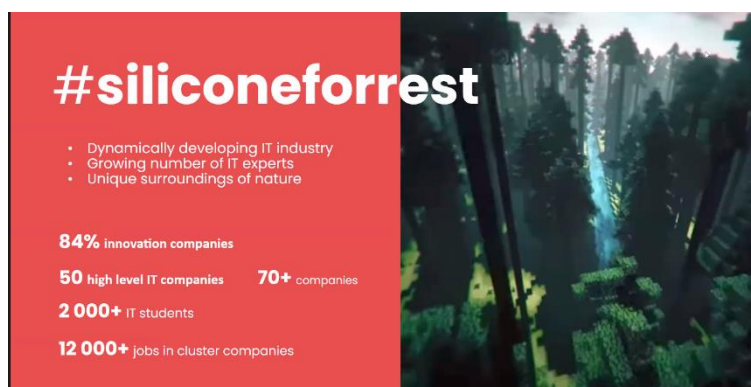
2. **Development of e-services in communes of the Association of Rural Communes of Podlaskie Voivodeship** presented by *Grzegorz Jakuć, Chairman of the Board of the Association:* the project aims at reducing geographical barriers in terms of digital communication, decrease the number of physical visits to institutions leading to less costs of public administration and more environmentally friendly practices (more digital, less paper, decreased energy consumption).

3. **InfoTech Technology Cluster from Podlaskie Region,** presented by *Adam Kamiński, Cluster Coordinator,* who described the growth of the IT industry in the region and stressed the great quality of life that Podlaskie can offer to remote workers. The cluster gathers more than 60 companies and institutions and connects local authorities, research units and businesses to develop initiatives based on modern ICT with the aim of making the region more attractive for people and investors.

4. **Holo4Med IT Innovations Platform Supporting Healthcare** presented by *Robert Król, Chief Executive Officer.* The Telemedicine Platform, an app integrating several medical devices aims at making interaction between doctors and patients easier. With more that 1M patients registered, the app helped monitor Covid-19 cases in Poland.
   ➔ [Find more info in this video]

These **good practices** demonstrated the great potential of technology and innovative services to improve people's lives, support businesses and enhance the attractiveness of the territory, which is the main objective of the Next2Met project.

Would you like to discover more about what makes **Podlaskie Region** unique and why it represents an attractive place to live, work, invest? **[Have a look at this video]**!