

EUROPEAN  
PROGRAMME  
FOR  
SUSTAINABLE  
URBAN  
DEVELOPMENT



REDIS – restructuring districts into Science Quarters

Local Action Plan for Science and Technology Park  
City of Białystok

## **Part 1. Urban and policy context**

Białystok, with a population of almost 300,000 is a city located in north-eastern Poland. It is the administrative, economic, and academic centre of the Podlaskie region. The city is developing a science and technology park, in order to promote the local knowledge economy and create an environment for knowledge based firms. Funding for the park has been arranged, the location has been selected (south of the city centre), and infrastructures are being constructed.

### **Political/administrative context**

Poland is a parliamentary republic. Self-governmental authorities exist at the regional, county and local levels of public administration, but all legislative powers and a substantial proportion of the executive power comes from the central state institutions. National government institutions play a central role in physical planning and spatial development policy. Also in higher education and science policy, the role of the national government is dominant.

The regional self-government has full responsibility for strategic and spatial planning at this level, though the margins and conditions are set by national policy.

At the lowest level of public administration, local (municipal and rural) self-governing communes are responsible for preparing and approving a 'strategy for local development', that has to fit in the national and regional plans, and is to be funded by higher government levels.

In Poland, the distance between science and the business community is still very large. The educational system is centrally organised, and there are little if any incentives for scientific institutions to co-operate with companies. There are hardly any institutional possibilities to channel the rewards of contract research to academic institutes or individual researchers. Also, the careers of researchers depend on their publication record only, so they have few incentives to work with companies.

EU funding has become very important for Poland (and for the city of Białystok) since Poland's entrance to the EU. Many projects are funded with ERDF and ESF funding. Importantly, recently an operational programme (2007-2013) has been drawn up for the 5 provinces in east Poland (considered the poorest ones in the country), which can be seen as an important step in a decentralization process. The programme sets ambitions and targets for the integrative development of the region, and it provides substantial additional funding for projects in these provinces. The funding of Białystok's science park largely comes from this source, but this also implies that the science park should be developed in line with the programme's guidelines.

## **Economic base**

The beginning of Białystok's rapid development was marked in the mid 19th century by the construction and development of a railway line running across the city and the first textile manufacturing plants that appeared here. Currently, there are about 83,000 people employed in the city (2009). They work in trade and services (20%), production (19%), education (16%) public administration (10%), financial agencies, real estate and business services (9%), healthcare and social welfare (9%) transportation and warehousing (6%). The number of jobs has decreased substantially: between 2007 and 2009, more than 4,000 jobs got lost. The unemployment rate is 11.6 % (2009); (Source: Statistical Office in Białystok, 2010). There is no dominant industrial branch, and there are few large players in the region that conduct high-level research. Among the leading branches are:

- Food processing industry (PMB S.A. – meat processing plant, Agrovita Białystok Ltd. – fruit and vegetable preserves producer, Polmos Białystok S.A. – spirits producer, Kompania Piwowarska – the Brewery of Białystok, Chłodnia Białystok S.A. – frozen food producer)
- The electrotechnical and electrical machinery industries (Bison-Bial Factory of Equipment and Holders – manufacturer of machine equipment and devices, NIBE Biawar S.A. – electric water heaters producer, Altrad Spomasz S.A – producer of concrete mixers, Philips DAP Polska and Biazet S.A – production of household appliances)
- Timber industry (Biaform S.A. Plywood Plant, Forte – Białystok Furniture Factory S.A.)
- Plastics processing (Rosti Polska Ltd., Bianor Ltd. – producers of synthetic components for household appliances)
- Textile industry (Agnella S.A. Carpet Factory – producer of carpets, “Kostar” Clothing Industry Plant – producer of underwear)
- General and specialized construction industry

The main trading partners of the city are Germany, Russia and Belarus. A few years ago, Białystok benefited from its location as ‘switchboard’ between the EU and Eastern Europe. But recently, there is hardly any impact of the economic growth in nearby Russia and Belarus. New regulations on both sides on the border have made trade more difficult, and this especially hits smaller trade companies in the city.

Income levels are low from a European perspective. The average gross monthly income per capita is 2929 Zloty (Euro 732).

## **Knowledge base**

Białystok is an major regional academic and scientific center in east Poland, with a number of university-level schools and a student population of around 50,000. The oldest institutions of higher education include: The Białystok Medical University (Akademia Medyczna), The Białystok Technical University (Politechnika Białostocka), and the University of Białystok. Nonstate universities comprise such schools as The Białystok Higher School of Public Administration, The Białystok University of Finance and Management, Higher School of Economics and Higher School of Mathematics and Applied Computer Sciences. Białystok's oldest university is the Archdiocese Seminary, established after World War II and continuing the academic tradition of the Theology Department of the Stefan Batory University in Vilnius ever since. Higher arts education offered in Białystok is provided here by local branches of Warsaw universities. Moreover, there is the Faculty of Puppet Theatre Art of the Aleksander Zelwerowicz Theatre Academy in Warsaw, and the Białystok Branch of the Frederic Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw.

The scientific potential of the city is there in terms of quantity, but from a quality perspective (in international comparison) the knowledge base is not that strong. Few professors have experience in business. Also, education in entrepreneurship is in its infancy, so students are not encouraged to start their own enterprise, let alone researchers.

## **Accessibility**

Białystok is located at 188 km from Warsaw, and 54 km from the border with Belarus. Nine road and railway tracks cross here. Its location in the neighborhood of Belarus, Lithuania and Russia, as well as the convenient transportation links, create excellent conditions for the development of economical and cultural contacts with countries of Eastern and Southern Europe.

The quality of the infrastructure is insufficient. Large parts of the main road track to Warsaw are no highway, and also the urban road infrastructure needs improvements. Moreover, for air transport, the city depends on Warsaw Airport, which is located 200 Km away. This seriously impacts the attractiveness of the city as a business location, especially for internationally active firms.

## **Quality of Life**

Białystok has for centuries been a multicultural, multinational and multireligious city where the Poles, Belarussians, Lithuanians, Jews, Tartars, Germans and Russians co-existed. This has shaped the city's built environment and contributed to the richness of its cultural life. The city enjoys a lively cultural scene: Białystok is the seat of many cultural institutions,

culture promotion associations and artist unions. The Municipal Art Gallery “Arsenał” promotes Polish modern art and its latest achievements. Białystok’s Concert Hall hosts artists from both Poland and abroad. The city counts many ‘buildings of cultural value’, the most outstanding one is the Branicki palace-garden complex, dubbed “the Polish Versailles”. Several dozens of kilometers away from Białystok lies the Białowieża Primeval Forest – the only Polish national park included on UNESCO’s World Heritage list as a World Biosphere Reserve. The last decade of the 20th century was epitomized by rapid development of tourist infrastructure of the city. Today, Białystok has an up-to-date accommodation, catering and entertainment infrastructure in terms of Poland’s highest standards.

## **Białystok Science and Technology Park**

### **Introduction**

Białystok Science and Technology Park is to be constructed at the southern edge of the city, on an accessible location. The Park will be adjacent to the Special Economic Zone, which already exists in this part of the city, and together with the zone it will create the business quarter in this part of the city. The city owns the land and undertakes initiatives to create a science park at that location. Currently, the city is preparing the infrastructure for the park. The first stage of implementing the “Białystok Science and Technology Park” project, planned for execution in 2008 – 2013, involves the preparation of the land, the development of an incubation area with the Technology Incubator base, the Technology Centre and the park administration offices.

It is an ambitious venture: creating the park will involve the EU funds, that in about 90% cover the investment costs. This European money will come from the Operational Programme 2007-2013. It is hoped that the infrastructure and buildings will create the basis for investments by companies. The city, albeit the main funder and initiator, does not want to unilaterally determine the exact set up of the park and its mix of occupants. Rather, it hopes that a fruitful co-operation between firms and university/research institutes will emerge and bring consensus about the park’s setup. One of the ideas is to focus on medical technology as ‘unique selling point’. The city has a strong medical school, and there are several companies in this sector as well (focusing on developing and producing surgery products, and biotech). The park could become attractive for firms from this industry, especially when it offers special support in the field of IT: facilities for CAD, prototyping, etc. That would create a unique environment in Poland, and may possibly attract investors from Poland and abroad. Moreover, the Science Park could become an instrument with a broader reach, namely as a platform to improve the links between business and academia in general. It should also host an incubator for start-ups.

## **Management**

Currently, the city is the main actor. It owns the land, it prepares the investments in infrastructure, and organizes the funding from the operational programme for East Poland. But in the future, the ambition is to create a new management model. The main stakeholders in the development of the science park are: local government, universities, local entrepreneurs, and funding bodies (operational programme). Local government has been active in propelling the idea of a science park. It has the means to develop it, and also the planning capacity and support from the region.

The city as the main stakeholder tries to create the cooperation with the local universities to work out the common vision of further Park development and rules for infrastructure use.

Some local entrepreneurs are already interested in locating at a science park. Moreover, company representatives are involved in the planning and conceptualization of the area. A key issue in Białystok is how to create a common vision and implement it. There have been several meetings and consultations, involving stakeholders on several levels (strategic, operational) but the final decisions have not been taken yet.

## **Part 2. Actions for the future concerning the science quarter**

The mission and general aim of Białystok Science and Technology Park is sustainable economic development of the city of Białystok and of Podlasie Region by promoting the culture of modern technologies, innovation and competition among entrepreneurs and institutions which operate in knowledge-based conditions.

Preparation of the infrastructure for creation and development of new innovative companies and preparation of investment areas are to contribute to the increase of the city's attractiveness for new innovative investments. Services in the field of business support, including incubation services, are to increase the innovativeness of companies in the city and the region.

The main aim of the project shall be achieved due to the accomplishment of the following detailed objectives:

- strengthening the intellectual potential of the city and the region by way of stopping the outflow of well-educated personnel

Due to stopping the negative tendency of well-educated people with high qualifications migrating to major urban centres the problem of 'brain drain' shall be solved which is currently a serious economic and social problem of the City of Białystok.

- creation of new jobs in the territory of the Park and improvement of the local labour market situation

The Park's activity shall decrease the city's unemployment level, stimulate the development of local enterprises which shall provide their services to newly created companies, and shall result in a higher demand for local people (newly engaged employees). Creation of an economic activity zone in the south-eastern part of the city may be the beginning of a chain process aimed at sustainable economic development, improvement in the labour market, increase in the level of the city residents' income and, consequently, improvement of the quality of life in the city and the region.

- increasing the City of Białystok budget receipts due to taxes, both from legal persons (enterprises) and natural persons, and due to property tax

The development of the Park's activity and creation of new companies in its territory shall result in the development of the local SME sector (increased demand for goods and services due to higher numbers of the region residents employed, increase in household income, cooperation with the zone enterprises); moreover, it shall be necessary to develop the services provided to the enterprises operating in the Park (e.g. transportation services, warehouse management etc.).

- using the economic potential of the City of Białystok

Due to the positive effects of investments realization the City of Białystok shall more comprehensively use its economic potential resulting, among others, from its convenient international location, its status (capital of the voivodeship) and accessibility.

- creation of an organizational framework for cooperation between enterprises and the regional scientific and academic institutions

The Park's infrastructure shall be a place of cooperation of innovative companies, as well as transfer of knowledge and technologies between the companies operating in the Park and with research and scientific institutions and universities. The Park shall become an institution intermediating in research contracting in research and development entities and universities by commercial companies.

- supporting commercialization of results of scientific research and initiating and improving the transfer of technologies

Cooperation between innovative companies and cooperation of the companies operating in the territory of the Park with research and scientific institutions and universities shall facilitate the commercialization of research results and contribute to the initiation and improvement of the transfer of knowledge and technologies. The research and technological area made available as part of the Park's infrastructure shall provide conditions for applied or implementation research which shall form the grounds for commercialization of basic research results.

- creating new enterprises and supporting the SME activity by way of training, consultancy and facilitating the access to sources of financing

The domain of the Białystok Science and Technology Park shall be the support of technological companies at each level of their development, including stimulation of creation of such companies. Activities in the area of creating venturesome attitudes among students and researchers and pre-incubation shall be performed in partnership with universities and academic business incubators.

It is expected that in the territory of the Białystok Science and Technology Park several dozen small enterprises shall be located which shall take advantage of training, consulting and financial help, mainly in the form of preferential rent payments for the period of 3-5 years.

- stimulation of activities aimed at generating innovations

The Białystok Science and Technology Park shall be ultimately a significant element of the innovation development stimulation system, combining the function of the Technological Incubator (area rental), a consulting and training centre and the centre of technology transfer (services provided by the Incubator in the field of commercialization of technologies and entrepreneurship) and the Science and Technology Park (combining the above-mentioned functions with the management and sales of investment properties).

## **Activities needed to achieve the objectives**

- 1) construction of the facilities of the Białystok Science and Technology Park:



### Technological Incubator and Białystok Science and Technology Park Administration

The Building of Technological Incubator and Białystok Science and Technology Park Administration will perform logistic functions related to Park administration and development. It will also support the start-up businesses and development of high tech companies through offering to them office and warehouse area. Moreover, the building will perform representative function as a conference and exhibition centre.

The representative part will be located on the ground floor, it will include social space, a conference room, an exhibition room and service space. The first floor will comprise the administrative part and the office part with space for rent (possibility of division into offices 20 - 65 sq.m.). Remaining floors will offer office space for rent.

### Technological Centre

The building of the Technological Centre will support park residents in execution of their tasks related to service and production activities in the sector of high technologies and also tasks resulting from their participation in R&D programmes.

The Technological Centre will be a two-floor building. The ground floor will hold the administrative part, the technological part with production halls, the technical part, laboratories and the office part („open space offices ”) with space for rent. On the first floor the office space for rent will be offered.

Part of the laboratory space will be used for the biochemical laboratory and the laboratory for analyses of mechanical, electrical and physical characteristics of materials. Laboratory space located on the ground floor will have the total area of 160 sq.m. Laboratory area on the first floor will be used for expanding activity of the laboratories located on the ground floor of the building. Additionally the part of the laboratory area will be used for research in the field of nanotechnology.

On the ground floor there is also the space (of about 200 sq.m.) planned for Interdisciplinary Computer Centre (ICC). ICC will provide an appropriate conditions for operating data communications devices, e.g. servers, network devices, disk arrays, etc. It will also provide suitable connections between these devices.

The main task of the Centre is providing services in the constant and reliable way. The centre will be equipped with highly advanced data communications infrastructure with installed computer systems. It will provide companies and institutions with IT services for e.g. through offering server space or room for companies' own devices.



2) providing the facilities with furniture, ICT equipment and specialist laboratory equipment in accordance with the Park's preferred sectors defined based on the local market research.

The preferred sectors are as follows:

- biotechnology and pharmacology
- electronic engineering and electrical engineering
- nanotechnology
- materials technologies

- information and communication technologies

3) provision of utilities and making investment areas (of 23 ha) available for industrial, production and service development by way of construction and reconstruction of roads and technical infrastructure in the territory and around the Park and reconstruction of the Park's access roads

4) establishing the Park's managing body which shall define the Park's scope of activity and development directions and make it possible for all the stakeholders to take part in the project.

5) developing the methods and principles of selecting the Park's residents and innovative projects which shall be implemented in the Park. For this purpose the Programming Council shall be appointed, comprising the project stakeholders (more information on the Council is provided further in this document).

Moreover, the Park shall play an incubation role - it shall support the creation of new innovative enterprises. It shall also support the existing companies in the process of implementing new projects.

The Park's activity shall cover:

- Office, production, technological and laboratory space for rent to businesses and scientific and research institutions
- Incubation of new technological companies
- Investment areas for sell or rent
- Advanced data communication services
- Conference rooms and exhibition hall rental
- Training and consulting services
- Promotional activities designed for the Park's residents
- Other business support services
- e-Park service (virtual Park resident)

## **Funding**

The authorities of the City have successfully applied for the grant from European Regional Development Fund and the project has been launched.

In search of sources of financing, the City of Białystok, in cooperation with the Podlaska Regional Development Foundation, has submitted an application for co-financing of a projected creation of the Białystok Science and Technology Park with use of European Union funds. In December 2006 the application was accepted and listed on the indicative list of key projects belonging to “the Operational Programme: Development of Eastern Poland 2007-2013”.

On 31 March 2008, the City of Białystok signed a pre-contract with the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development relating to the preparation of an individual project “the Białystok Science and Technology Park”.

Final financing agreement between the City of Białystok and Polish Agency for Enterprise Development for the project of Science and Technology Park was signed on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010. The Project will be co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund within the Polish Operational Programme: Development of Eastern Poland 2007-2013

Total cost: PLN 168.5 M (~EUR 42 M)

Qualified costs PLN 144.5 (~EUR 36 M)

ERDF subsidy PLN 127 M (~EUR 31.8 M)

The rest of the costs will be covered from the city budget.

## **Business models and governance of the area**

Project implementation with the use of EU funds makes the beneficiary obliged to maintain the project results for at least 5 years. Therefore, the owner and entity responsible for the Park’s infrastructure use shall be the budgetary unit of the City of Białystok. The budgetary unit is an organizational unit without legal personality established by the city. Such an entity operates based on the principle that its expenditure is covered directly from the city budget where its revenue is simultaneously transferred. The city shall bear the costs related to the maintenance and use of the project results. These funds shall be obtained due to the Park-generated revenue. When the operation costs exceed the level of revenue, the financial deficit shall be covered from the budget of the City of Białystok.

The tasks entrusted to this unit pursuant to the ordinance of the Mayor shall include administration of the property developed as a result of the project implementation, area rental to companies, research institutions and business environment institutions. The entity shall also perform tasks aimed at providing favourable conditions for the conduct and development of enterprises operating in the field of research, development and innovativeness. The investment areas are assumed to be the property of the beneficiary and they shall be provided with utilities as part of the project implementation and managed by the City of Białystok. After the project is implemented, the said areas shall be partly leased and partly sold to investors with the aim of conducting innovative business activity.

For the purpose of appropriate functioning of the entity, establishing the rules of its functioning and development directions and for the purpose of making it possible for the stakeholders to take part in the Park's functioning the Programming Council shall be appointed, comprising the representatives of universities, the city authorities and experts necessary for the assessment of projects. The Council shall serve as a consultative and advisory body of the budgetary unit; it shall assess and select the projects implemented in the Park. The Council shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City of Białystok out of the candidates indicated by universities and the stakeholders. The Council shall function and select the Park projects based on the regulations accepted by it.

| <b>Activities table for creation of Science and Technology Park in Białystok</b> |                           |  |   |                  |   |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|------------------|---|
| <b>Activity title</b>  | <b>Lead partner</b>       | <b>Description of activity</b>   | <b>Intended outputs</b>                       | <b>Timescale</b> | <b>Financial Resources in PLN (EUR)</b> |
| 1. Documentation for investment  | Municipality of Białystok | Preparation of project documentation, feasibility study, environmental impact assessment, profile of the Park research | documentation for starting investment process | December 2010    | 2 365 575.97<br>(591 393.99)            |
| 2. Roads   | Municipality of Białystok | construction or reconstruction of roads in the Park area   | improvement of Park area accessibility        | December 2011    | 51 879 159.33<br>(12 969 789.83)        |

|                                     |                           |  |   |                |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|----------------|--|
| 3. Buildings of the Park            | Municipality of Bialystok | construction of Technological Incubator and Technological Centre | properties for creation of new companies and development of innovative projects | July 2012      | 90 739 293.08<br>(22 684 823.27)         |
| 4. Equipment                        | Municipality of Bialystok | purchase of furniture, labware, data communications equipment    | fitting of the buildings for residents' needs                                   | September 2012 | 21 873 235.56<br>(5 468 308.89)          |
| 5. Project Management               | Municipality of Bialystok | managing the project of Park creation                            | Science and Technology Park infrastructure                                      | December 2012  | 1 621 946.81<br>(405 486.70)             |
| 5. Management authority of the Park | Municipality of Bialystok | constitution of the management structure of the Park             | adminisering and magaging body, creating Park policy                            | September 2011 | 183 000<br>(45 750)<br>for the year 2011 |

### Part 3. Added value of the REDIS-project

The City of Białystok joined the network of cities cooperation as part of the REDIS project with the aim of gaining international experience in the field of creating and developing knowledge quarters in cities. Although it is becoming increasingly popular in Poland, the idea of science and technology parks is quite a new concept and currently there are few good practices in this area.

Currently, due to the availability of structural funds for activities supporting innovativeness and entrepreneurship, a number of cities are in the process of implementing projects aimed at establishing relationships between science and business, promoting innovative activities and supporting the creation of new companies. However, in this context it seems to be particularly significant to obtain knowledge and experience from other European cities whose activities are frequently more advanced and which can share their previous experience, as well as indicate the possibilities for the development of a project under implementation.

Implementation of projects as part of the URBACT II programme requires the creation of the Local Support Group whose aim is to give opinions on activities undertaken, provide consultancy services and cooperate during the implementation of projects under this programme. The Local Support Group is to ensure that all the stakeholders take part in the process of implementing a given project and disseminating its results. Due to the meetings of the Białystok Local Support Group it was possible to get the stakeholders together, inform them about the activities performed within the Park, promote the idea of the enterprise and receive opinions on the project implemented by the city. The Local Support Group has become one of the tools of initiating cooperation between the city and other entities.

The next requirement of the REDIS project was the participation of the Managing Authority, that is, an institution responsible for the formation of Operational Programmes, their management and distribution of structural funds. In the case of Białystok it was the Marshal's Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship which is responsible for the formation and implementation of the Regional Operational Programme for Podlaskie Voivodeship. The representatives of the Managing Authority took part in several implementation labs as part of the project, including the meeting organized in Białystok related to the Białystok Science and Technology Park. Participation in the said project of the institution responsible for the formation of EU funds distribution programmes, e.g. for support of innovative business, seems to be of significant importance. It makes it possible to look at the projects under implementation from the viewpoint of the funds' beneficiary and notice real problems and needs, which, in the future, may be reflected in a more suitable distribution of financial resources which shall be better adjusted to the local needs.

A particularly important element of the project from the city's point of view was the implementation lab held in Białystok. The meeting took place on September 29<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The participants included foreign guests, representatives of the REDIS project partner cities and local stakeholders, including the Local Support Group members.

During the implementation lab the partners were informed in more detail on the development of the urban economy, they learned about the key stakeholders in the area. A number of local stakeholders delivered presentations and presented their views to the audience. During the second day of the lab, the audience was split into two working groups, where each group was a mix of foreign and local participants/stakeholders. The groups elaborated their observations and produced a series of recommendations and ideas for Białystok Science and Technology Park and knowledge based economy development.

Basing on the information received from the local stakeholders the participants of the lab suggested the substantial role of the Park in Białystok economy and indicated two possible ways of Park development. According to the REDIS partners the science park can be a catalyst for regional co-operation between business and academia, and can help to build a knowledge-based economy. As a starting point, the science park should help to address the main challenge of Białystok: generating or promoting innovative business, where possible with a link to the strong knowledge base in the city (*business first*).

In this context two tracks of development were recommended:

1. Use the Science Park to develop highly innovative companies
2. Support local companies in their upgrading process

The participants elaborated also steps and tasks to be taken to achieve the set goals.

The two tracks of development suggested during the Implementation Lab will be used and developed further in the process of Park creation. The Park will perform both functions mentioned above. It will be a incubator for new highly innovative companies and it will support existing companies in the implementation process of high-tech projects. When the managing authority of the Park is created and the programming body is appointed the detailed ideas elaborated during the implementation lab will be presented to them to be discussed and possibly implemented.

During the REDIS project implementation the labs took place in all the partner cities. The subject matter of each of them was the science quarter project implemented in a given city. Implementation labs are a great method of developing a fresh and objective outside view of the project under implementation, as well as of obtaining interesting solutions for the projects implemented. Working in groups facilitates direct exchange of experience and mutual learning. As each project is specific in its own way and is implemented in particular legal and economic conditions, it is not always possible to apply the developed solutions in other cities. However, exchange of experience is an invaluable method of learning and looking for ways of project implementation.

The next tool of the REDIS project were study visits in the cities in which the process of creating knowledge-based economy is advanced and which may share their good practices in this field. During the project the partners were able to visit Tampere in Finland and Aachen in Germany. Study visits made it possible to become acquainted with the operation methods of the cities which are leaders in the process of creating innovations and establishing business-to-science cooperation.

This local action plan has been prepared in cooperation with the Local Support Group which expressed its opinions on the activities undertaken as part of the 'Białystok Science and Technology Park' project. During the meetings of the Local Support Group their participants were able to be systematically acquainted with the activities undertaken as part of the project implementation and express their own opinions and suggestions. Discussions during the meetings concerned the issue of the Park project implementation and issues brought up during implementation labs organized in individual partner cities and study visits. During the project term five meetings of the Local Support Group were held. Moreover, the Park project implementation was presented and consulted during numerous other meetings with the stakeholders in which representatives of local authorities, universities, local companies and business environment institutions took part.

The following persons participated in the meetings of the Local Support Group:

1. Andruszkiewicz Ewa – Medical University of Białystok
2. Bajdałów Ewa – Municipal Office in Białystok
3. Buczek Tomasz - Municipal Office in Białystok
4. Ciborowski Robert – University of Białystok
5. Czarnecki Bartosz – Białystok University of Technology
6. Firsowicz Piotr – Municipal Office in Białystok
7. Kamiński Adam – Powiat Starosty (County Authority Office) in Białystok
8. Karpieszuk Krzysztof – Municipal Office in Białystok
9. Kaźmierowski Janusz – University of Białystok
10. Klimowicz Tadeusz – entrepreneur, the Podlasie Business Club
11. Kondratiuk-Nierodzińska Monika – Medical University of Białystok
12. Kulikowski Bartosz – Podlaska Regional Development Foundation
13. Laudańska Małgorzata – Medical University of Białystok
14. Lipiński Sławomir – entrepreneur, the Podlasie Business Club
15. Miczejko Jolanta – Marshal's Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship
16. Nawrocki Marcin – Marshal's Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship
17. Parafiniuk Andrzej – Podlaska Regional Development Foundation
18. Piekarska Małgorzata – Municipal Office in Białystok
19. Plawgo Bogusław – University of Białystok
20. Putko Aneta – Municipal Office in Białystok
21. Sakowicz Marek – entrepreneur, the Podlasie Business Club
22. Sokół Bartosz – Podlaska Regional Development Foundation

23. Sołowiej Justyna – Municipal Office in Białystok
24. Tomanek Adam – University of Białystok
25. Winogrodzki Wojciech – entrepreneur, Podlasie Employers Association
26. Zinówko Maria – Municipal Office in Białystok
27. Żegunia Krzysztof – Marshal's Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship
28. Żylnel Małgorzata – Marshal's Office of Podlaskie Voivodeship

Appendix 1 includes the meeting schedules.

## Appendix 1



The 'REDIS—Restructuring districts into Science Quarters' project is co-financed from the European Regional Development Fund as part of the URBACT II Programme.

**1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Local Support Group**  
**'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters'**  
**Białystok, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

### **Meeting schedule**

11:00 – 11:10 The greeting

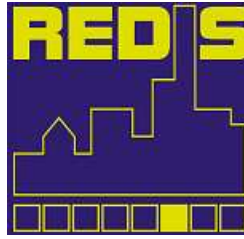
11:10 – 11:40 Presentation of the work progress and the major assumptions related to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project

11:40 – 12:10 Discussion of the mode of project implementation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase (implementation phase)

12:10 – 12:30 Local Action Plan

12:30 - 12:55 Discussion

12:55 – 1:00 pm Summary and ending of the meeting



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**Meeting of the Local Support Group**  
**'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters'**  
**Białystok, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

**Meeting schedule**

1:00 – 1:10 pm The greeting

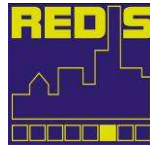
1:10 – 1:40 pm Presentation of the work progress as part of the REDIS project

1:40 – 2:10 pm The Białystok Science and Technology Park – level of project implementation progress, schedule, profiling-related assumptions

2:10 – 2:50 pm Workshop work, discussion, suggestions for the Local Action Plan

2:50 – 3:00 pm Summary and ending of the meeting

Connecting cities  
Building successes



The 'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters' project is co-financed from the European Regional Development Fund as part of the URBACT II Programme.

**Meeting of the Local Support Group**  
**'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters'**  
**Białystok, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Meeting schedule**

- 1:00 – 1:10 pm The greeting – Krzysztof Karpieszuk – Secretary of the City of Białystok
- 1:10 – 1:30 pm Work progress as part of the REDIS project and case study, science quarter in Newcastle - Justyna Sołowiej - the REDIS project coordinator
- 1:30 – 1:50 pm Innovativeness in the Podlaskie Voivodeship and the City of Białystok, including the Białystok Science and Technology Park – Małgorzata Piekarska – Mayor's representative for Białystok Science and Technology Park project
- 1:50 – 2:10 pm Medical Cluster of Eastern Poland – Wojciech Winogrodzki – T-MATIC Grupa Computer-Plus Sp. z o.o.
- 2:10 – 2:50 pm Discussion, suggestions for the Local Action Plan
- 2:50 – 3:00 pm Summary and ending of the meeting – Krzysztof Karpieszuk – Secretary of the City of Białystok

Connecting cities  
Building successes



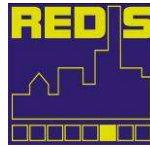
The 'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters' project is co-financed from the European Regional Development Fund as part of the URBACT II Programme.

**Meeting of the Local Support Group  
'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters'**

**Białystok, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

**Meeting schedule**

- 1:00 – 1:10 pm The greeting – Krzysztof Karpieszuk – Secretary of the City of Białystok
- 1:10 – 1:30 pm Work progress as part of the REDIS project and case study, science quarter in Halle - Justyna Sołowiej - the REDIS project coordinator
- 1:30 – 1:50 pm Science and Technology Park, work progress – Małgorzata Piekarska – Mayor's representative for Białystok Science and Technology Park project
- 1:50 – 2:10 pm Information on the workshops concerning the Białystok Science and Technology Park planned for September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 in Białystok – Justyna Sołowiej – the REDIS project coordinator
- 2:10 – 2:50 pm Discussion, suggestions concerning the workshop schedule and organization
- 2:50 – 3:00 pm Summary and ending of the meeting – Krzysztof Karpieszuk – Secretary of the City of Białystok



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**Meeting of the Local Support Group**  
**'REDIS - Restructuring districts into Science Quarters'**  
**Białystok, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011**

**Meeting schedule**

- 1:00 – 1:10 pm The greeting – Krzysztof Karpieszuk – Secretary of the City of Białystok
- 1:10 – 1:40 pm REDIS project summary and Local Action Plan presentation – Justyna Sołowiej - the REDIS project coordinator
- 1:40 – 2:10 pm Discussion, final suggestions concerning the Local Action Plan
- 2:10 – 2:30 pm Work progress of the project Białystok Science and Technology Park Małgorzata Piekarska – Mayor's representative for Białystok Science and Technology Park project
- 2:30 – 2:50 pm Discussion
- 2:50 – 3:00 pm Summary and ending of the meeting – Krzysztof Karpieszuk – Secretary of the City of Białystok