

**COOPERATION BETWEEN LOCAL ACTION GROUPS.
COMPARISON OF NETWORKS CREATED
BY ORGANISATIONS FROM THE LUBUSKIE
AND MAŁOPOLSKIE VOIVODESHIPS**

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Abstract. Local action groups (LAGs) can realize so-called cooperation projects and create networks of cooperation within the framework of the projects with other organisations of the kind. The article includes comparison of networks created by LAGs from the Lubuskie and Małopolskie Voivodeships. The aim was to find out differences and similarities between them. A few questions were posed: 1. Are the ratios of the LAGs from the Małopolskie and Lubuskie Voivodeships which realise cooperation projects to the total numbers of LAGs in those regions similar? 2. What motivated LAGs to take up cooperation, was it only financial goals or other goals as well (such as exchange of experiences or mutual assistance), which might prove that the LAGs are ready to create non-instrumental social networks? 3. What determined the number of cooperating LAGs and composition of the networks? 4. What is the subject of cooperation between local action groups? The research was conducted in 2012 with the method of case study. Two study techniques were used in it: content analysis and free-form interview. It was proved that there are similarities but also significant differences between networks of cooperation of LAGs. Organisations from Małopolska were characterised with greater openness to social contacts with entities unknown to them and more often took up cooperation with organisations from other voivodeships and countries, which may indicate a higher level of social capital they have.

Key words: local action groups, cooperation projects, social networks, social capital

INTRODUCTION

Implementation of the LEADER approach in Poland is interesting for many researchers. Determinants of realisation of the Pilot Programme LEADER+ (implemented in the programming period 2004-2006) have been analysed, among others, with consideration of social capital resources of the people living in rural areas. Their deficits of social trust, relatively little involvement in the activity of non-governmental organisations and difficult relations between entrepreneurs and local authorities which might establish cooperation within the framework of local action groups (as representatives of the economic and public sectors) have been indicated by scholars [Furmankiewicz 2006, Hanke and Psyk-Piotrowska 2006,]. Studies have been conducted concerning the relation between the social activity of residents of rural areas and their involvement in the process of forming those territorial partnerships [Halamska 2009, Śpiewak 2009].

The completion of the Pilot Programme LEADER+ resulted in attempts of its assessment. Numerous problems of local action groups' functioning were emphasised, e.g. ones related with the phenomenon of their municipalisation or excessive toughening of their structure (resulting in exclusion of some of the members from active participation in it) [Furmankiewicz and Królikowska 2010, p. 86, Knieć 2010, p. 65, Halamska et al. 2010, Zajda 2011, p. 142-156]. Attention was also paid to differences in the number of local action groups depending on the region. The second part of the scheme (called scheme II¹) was carried out by 16 organisations of the kind from Małopolska region and 15 from Podkarpacie region. On the other hand, in Lubuskie Voivodeship, there were only 4 such structures and in the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship, only 6 [Borek 2007, p. 11]. It was argued that the variable underlying that situation might be not only the size of individual voivodeships but also social capital resources of their residents [Zajda 2011, p. 48]. As Działek [2008, p. 132] indicates, Małopolskie and Podkarpackie voivodeships belong to those whose residents display the highest social capital level², whereas residents of Lubuskie and Zachodniopomorskie have the lowest level of that variable³. However, the studies of Elżbieta Psyk-Piotrowska's team (conducted in the years 2011-2013) did not confirm the hypothesis that there is a relation between the social capital level of the members of local action groups and the social capital level of the residents of particular voivodeships. It is the members of local action groups from voivodeships with lower social capital (i.e. Lubuskie and Zachodniopomorskie) that were manifested a higher level of social trust and intersector cooperation (i.e. cooperation of representatives of the social, economic and public sectors) [Zajda et al. 2013].

The beginning of implementation of LEADER approach within the framework of Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 was a stimulus for including new issues in

¹ Many local action groups which did not receive subsidy for realisation of scheme II of the Pilot Programme LEADER+ abandoned their activity. Some of them declared their intention of joining the groups which had received the support, thus increasing partnership areas formed by them. Others only took up the activity in the subsequent programming period.

² That group also included Dolnośląskie and Mazowieckie voivodeships.

³ The other group also included Łódzkie, Śląskie and Kujawsko-pomorskie voivodeships. The author estimated the level of social capital of residents of all the voivodeships of Poland, taking into account 4 variables: their associational activity, level of social trust, the number of organisation members falling for 100 residents and the density of relations network [Działek 2008, p. 139-141].

analyses. In the current period, local action groups are obtaining funds for carrying out measures such as: "Implementation of local development strategies", "Operation of a local action group, development of skills and activation" and "Implementation of cooperation programmes" [Program... 2007, p. 294-314]. Literature of the subject mostly includes analyses devoted to the effects of implementation of the first two measures. For example, Furmankiewicz and Janc [2011, p. 119-120] discussed the impact of those organisations on popularizing the entrepreneurial spirit in rural areas, Michalska and Zajda [2010] – impact on the use of resources of local territorial partnerships and Zajda and Dzikowska [2012] – on implementation of innovative projects. However, obtaining funds from the measure "Implementing cooperation projects" enables local action groups to cooperate with other organisations of the kind (located within the area of the same or different voivodeships and in other countries). It is worth mentioning that although in the 2004-2006 programming period local action groups started to create social networks, they were so-called regional cooperation networks. Few groups declared their intention of joining international networks (e.g. the Association of Central and Eastern Europe LAGs CEE LEADER) [Kwatera 2011]. Cooperation projects give an opportunity to create international networks whose participants exchange experiences and know-how (various human capital resources). They also give the possibility of forming social capital resources (such as mutual trust of the partners or creating heterogeneous social relations on the basis of mutual norms and values). Hence, recognizing their features is a complementation of analyses devoted to the social capital potential of local action groups and can be a contribution to the evaluation of effectiveness of introducing one of the actions financed from the Rural Development Programme [Program... 2007].

STUDY QUESTIONS, METHOD AND STUDY TECHNIQUES APPLIED IN THE RESEARCH, DESCRIPTION OF THE RESPONDENTS

Beginning the sociological study in 2012, the researchers posed questions about similarities between cooperation networks created by LAGs from Małopolskie (as an example of voivodeship, which citizens might be characterised by high level of social capital) and the Lubuskie Voivodeships (characterised by the low level of this capital).

Networks formed in the period 2007-2012 (with the use of funds from the activity "Implementing cooperation projects") were analysed. A few specific questions were posed. Firstly, are the ratios of the LAGs from the Małopolskie and Lubuskie Voivodeships which realize cooperation projects to the total numbers of LAGs in those regions similar? In other words, it was an attempt to determine which of the local action groups are the most active in that regard. Secondly, what motivated LAGs to take up cooperation, was it only financial goals (i.e. the possibility of obtaining funds for realisation of projects) or other goals as well (such as exchange of experiences or mutual assistance), which might prove that the LAGs are ready to create non-instrumental social networks? Thirdly, what determined the number of cooperating LAGs and composition of the networks? Were these mostly: common goals of local development strategies⁴, very good interpersonal relations between LAG representatives, geographic proximity be-

⁴ Each LAG prepared a document called a local development strategy, which constitutes the basis for actions taken by the LAG in the period 2007-2013.

tween LAGs or the specificity of resources they have? Finally, what is the subject of cooperation between local action groups? What issues and socio-economic problems promote the creation of such networks?

The method of multiple case study was used in the study. Stake [1996, p. 123-124] writes about the method this way: "Selecting particular cases for study, a researcher does it with conviction that better understanding of those particular cases will allow them to better understand and perhaps describe theoretically a bigger set". Two study techniques were used. The first was content analysis. The materials included: documentation of Marshal's Offices concerning the cooperation projects realized by LAGs (thanks to the documentation, the number of projects was determined and some organisations which participated in them were identified), LAGs' websites and websites of cooperation projects (they allowed for identifying organisations participating in realisation of the projects and scopes of the projects).

The other technique used was free-form interview. The interviews were conducted with members and workers of LAGs. The respondents were: Presidents of Management Boards and office managers of LAGs, namely the people who were mostly involved in realization of cooperation projects. One free-form interview was conducted in each LAG. In Lubuskie, there were 7 interviews⁵ (the respondents including 4 males and 3 females, 5 office workers and 2 Management Board members). 20 interviews were conducted with representatives of LAGs from Małopolska⁶. The participants included 16 females and 4 males, 18 office workers coordinating cooperation projects and 2 Management Board members.

COOPERATION NETWORKS CREATED BY THE LAG FROM THE LUBUSKIE VOIVODESHIP AND FROM MAŁOPOLSKIE VOIVODESHIP

Analysis of the documentation obtained from the Marshal's Office of Lubuskie Voivodeship allowed to find out that 5 LAGs – half of such organisations in the region⁷ – took part in three cooperation projects, titled "Powstanie Wielkopolskie 1918/19 – Pamiętamy" ("*Wielkopolska Uprising 1918/19 – We Remember*"), "Szlaki konne orężem turystyki – SZKOT" ("*SZKOT – Horseback Riding Trails as a Weapon of Tourism*") and "Lubuskie – ukazujemy bogactwo turystyczne urozmaiconego regionu" ("*Lubuskie – Showing Tourist Treasures of the Varied Region*").

The basis for creating those networks was geographic proximity of LAGs (indicated by 5 out of 7 of the respondents). Less important for creation of the networks were common goals of local development strategies and the specificity of resources they had

⁵ In that case, the researchers decided that interviews should also be conducted with representatives of LAGs from other voivodeships which participate in creation of cooperation networks. It was so because, as it turned out, one of the projects was coordinated by a LAG from Wielkopolska region. The aim was to conduct 8 interviews but since one LAG refused to participate in the study, 7 interviews were finally realized.

⁶ Representatives of two LAGs did not take part in the study.

⁷ The number of LAGs in particular voivodeships of Poland is diverse. It varies from 10 in Lubuskie Voivodeship to 39 in the Małopolskie one [Oś 4 PROW... 2009, p. 5].

(those reasons were mentioned by a total of 4 respondents). Only one case of established partnership mostly resulted from very good interpersonal relations between LAG representatives⁸, described by the respondent this way: "I had a friend who worked for another LAG and when we were at a social gathering, the idea of cooperation crossed our minds".

All the partners in the network had already cooperated with others but the cooperation was informal. Their representatives had met at the same workshops, seminars and conferences. The Marshal's Office played an important role in creation of all the networks. One of the respondents thus commented on the office: "The Office sent us invitations to meetings. At one of the meetings, we met the partners. We met a few times and the project was initiated. They are the coordinators of the project". In three cases, a LAG was independently looking for a partner to cooperate, in two cases a LAG was invited to cooperation and in two other, the initiative was mutual⁹.

LAGs from Lubuskie cooperated with organisations from the same voivodeship and from Wielkopolska (LGD KOLD and Stowarzyszenie Ziemi Grodziskiej LEADER) and Dolny Śląsk (LGD Partnerstwo Izerskie) regions. They did not initiate international cooperation, although (due to the voivodeship being located at the border of the country) it could also be based on geographic proximity of LAGs (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Cooperation network of LAGs from Lubuskie

Source: own study.

Rys. 1. Sieć współpracy lubuskich LGD

Źródło: opracowanie własne.

All the cooperation projects realised by LAGs from Lubuskie Voivodeship concentrated on the development of tourism. The first of them concerned the development of

⁸ The respondents could indicate more than one reason for establishing the partnership to which their LAGs belong.

⁹ LAGs also tried to include other organisations and institutions (such as self-government authorities and owners of agritourism farms) in the projects. In three cases cooperation was indeed established but only informally. In one case, another LAG was also invited to the network, but due to barriers in communication with its representatives, finally the cooperation was not established.

so-called historical tourism: the use of cultural resources (the history of Wielkopolska Uprising). The second one included setting, marking and promoting a horseback riding trail. The aim of the third project was to promote the resources of LAGs (Table 1).

Table 1. Scope of cooperation projects realised by LAGs from the Lubuskie Voivodeship
Tabela 1. Zakres tematyczny projektów współpracy, w którym uczestniczyły LGD z województwa lubuskiego

Title of the project Tytuł projektu	Scope of the project Zakres tematyczny projektu
“Powstanie Wielkopolskie 1918/19 – Pamiętamy” (“Wielkopolska Uprising 1918/19 – We Remember”) ¹⁰	creating an Internet database of insurgents, battle sites, an interactive map of battles, development of a trail along the front line, marking graves of insurgents with medals, organizing theme events in different LAGs each year, collecting and making available all the information concerning the uprising, creating a photo gallery, preparing souvenirs and folders stworzenie internetowej bazy danych dotyczącej powstańców, miejsc walk, interaktywnej mapy walk; opracowanie szlaku frontu; oznakowanie medalami mogił powstańców; organizowanie imprez tematycznych co roku u innej LGD; zbieranie i publikowanie wszystkich informacji o powstaniu; utworzenie galerii zdjęć; wydanie pamiątek i folderów
“Szlaki Konne Orężem Turystyki – SZKOT” (“SZKOT – Horseback Riding Trails as a Weapon of Tourism”) ¹¹	setting horseback riding trails within a large area (600 km), improvement of tourist infrastructure (construction of 15 hostels and 17 shelters), publishing a map and a guide of the routes, creating a website, training sessions giving qualifications of horseback riding tour guides, organizing sports tournaments and races, organising theme events wytyczenie szlaków turystyki konnej o dużym zasięgu geograficznym (600 km); rozbudowa infrastruktury turystycznej (wybudowanie 15 stanic oraz 17 wiat wypoczynkowych); wydanie mapy oraz przewodnika po trasach; utworzenie strony internetowej; szkolenia na przewodnika turystyki jeździeckiej; organizacja zawodów sportowych i rajdów; organizacja imprez tematycznych
“Lubuskie – ukazujemy bogactwo turystyczne urozmaiconego regionu” (“Lubuskie – Showing Tourist Treasures of the Varied Region”) ¹²	creating a website with tourist information on the area, setting at least 4 tourist trails, preparation and publishing of 2,000 copies of tourist albums, 4,000 maps, organising fairs, promotion of the project stworzenie strony internetowej zawierającej bazę informacji turystycznych o obszarze; wyznaczenie co najmniej czterech szlaków turystycznych; opracowanie i wydanie 2000 egzemplarzy albumów turystycznych, 4000 egzemplarzy map; organizowanie imprez targowych; promocja projektu

Source: own study.
Źródło: opracowanie własne.

Most of the respondents (6 out of 7) were of the opinion that the cooperation had not been established because of financial benefits but because of added value related to it. The added value included a few issues. Firstly, accumulation of human and social capital resources: “The LAG would take up the cooperation because the project is a combination of three energies and three ideas, and we can do more working together.” Sec-

¹⁰ http://www.kold.pl/portal/Projekty_wspolpracy/.

¹¹ http://www.bory.org.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111&catid=9&Itemid=35.

¹² <http://www.kst-lgd.pl/index.php?strona=aktualnosci&art=35>.

only, accumulation of resources which could be used for the economic development of the area covered by the LAG's support: "Thanks to combination of resources, our horseback riding trail is more attractive", "The cooperation enabled us to see new uses for the resources we have and helped us to use them to promote the region". The respondents believed the LAGs they represented would have decided to take up cooperation with their partners even if they could have independently obtained the funds to realize tasks similar to those which are implemented in the project. Only one respondent admitted the cooperation would not have been established in that case, because: "It is connected with too many formal problems and too much bureaucracy." He thinks the only premise for the present cooperation is the requirements of the LEADER approach – in accordance with the networking principle, LAGs should cooperate with other organisations of the same kind¹³.

In Małopolska, 22 local action groups out of 39 (slightly more than a half) participated in cooperation projects. 15 such projects were realized there¹⁴.

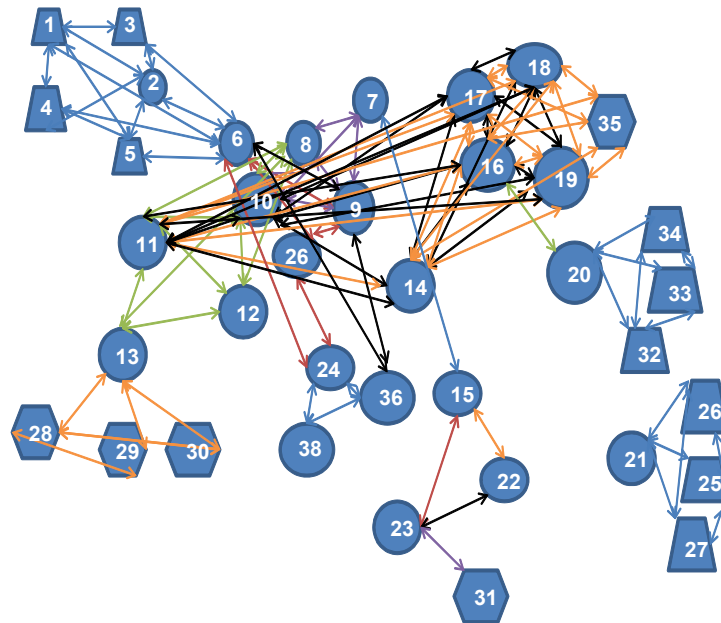
Decisive for establishing cooperation was mostly the goals of local development strategies (indicated by 13 respondents) and very good interpersonal relations between representatives of particular LAGs (according to 9 of the studied people). What was slightly less important was geographic proximity between LAGs (mentioned 7 times) and resources of particular LAGs (also mentioned 7 times).

The same organisations established cooperation not only with LAGs from the same voivodeships but also from others, as well as with organisations from other countries: LAGs from the same region participated in 8 projects, groups from different regions of Poland (Mazowsze, Podlasie, Dolny Śląsk, Śląsk, Świętokrzyskie and Łódzkie regions) participated in 3 projects and foreign partners (from Slovakia, Austria, Sweden and Hungary), in 4 of them.

LAGs from Małopolska created many thick cooperation networks (the biggest of them associated 8 partners).

¹³ There are a few principles underlying the realization of the LEADER approach, e.g. the principle of local financing and management, innovativeness, cooperation and networking, as well as the principle of partnership [Zajda 2011, p. 60-61, Budzich-Szukała 2008, p. 119].

¹⁴ The projects were titled: "Smaki łączą regiony. Festiwal smaków" ("*Tastes Connect Regions. Festival of Tastes*"), "Bursztynowy Szlak Rowerowy" ("*Amber Bicycle Trail*"), "Rozwój Turystyki Rowerowej w Oparciu o Szlak Żeleńskich" ("*Development of Bicycle Touring Based on the Żeleński Trail*"), "Wschodnia Małopolska na Rowerze" ("*Cycling in Eastern Małopolska*"), "Odkrywanie wartości produktów lokalnych od Wisły po Spisz jako zasobów rozwoju dziedzictwa kulturowego" ("*Discovering the Value of Local Products between the Vistula and the Spisz Region as Resources of the Development of Cultural Heritage*"), "Smak na produkt" ("*Taste for a Product*"), "Produkt lokalny szansą rozwoju regionu" ("*Local Products as an Opportunity for the Region Development*"), "Tradycje kucharskie od Wieliczki do Tatr" ("*Cooking Traditions between Wieliczka and the Tatra Mountains*"), "P.A.T. - Śliwkowy Obszar Turystyczny" ("*P.A.T. - a Plum Tourist Area*"), "Beskid Wyspowy i Gorce - miejsca szczególnie inspirujące" ("*Beskid Wyspowy and Gorce - Special, Inspiring Places*"), "KRAM - krzewimy rękodzieło artystyczne mistrzów" ("*KRAM - Propagating Handicraft of Masters*"), "Lokalni Twórcy Ostoją Dziedzictwa Kulturowego" ("*Local Artists as the Backbone of Cultural Heritage*"), "Kraina Niezapomnianych Chwil" ("*Land of Unforgettable Moments*"), "Polski i Szwedzki Smak Produktu Lokalnego" ("*Polish and Swedish Trails of Local Products*"), "Festiwal folklorystyczny. Co kraj, to obyczaj" ("*Folk Festival: So Many Countries, So Many Customs*").



1. LGD Ziemia Chełmońskiego (Mazowsze), 2. Gościńiec 4 Żywiołów (Małopolska), 3. Echo Puszczy Boli-mowskiej (Mazowsze), 4. Światowid (Wielkopolska), 5. Puszcza Białowieska (Podlasie), 6. Stowarzyszenie Lokalna Grupa Działania Dolina Raby (Małopolska), 7. Nadwiślańska Grupa Działania E.O. CENOMA (Małopolska), 8. Stowarzyszenie Kwartet na Przedgórzu (Małopolska), 9. LGD Stowarzyszenie Wspólnota Królewskiej Puszczy (Małopolska), 10. Zielony Pierścień Tarnowa (Małopolska), 11. Lokalna Grupa Działania Dunajec-Biała (Małopolska), 12. Podgórze Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju (Małopolska), 13. Stowarzyszenie na Śliwkowym Szlaku (Małopolska), 14. Stowarzyszenie Lokalna Grupa Działania Nad Białą Przemszą (Małopolska), 15. Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju Spisza i Okolicy (Małopolska), 16. Podhalańska Lokalna Grupa Działania (Małopolska), 17. Stowarzyszenie Dolina Karpia (Małopolska), 18. Stowarzyszenie Białych Górali i Lachów Sądeckich (Małopolska), 19. Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju Orawy (Małopolska), 20. Stowarzyszenie Lokalna Grupa Działania Wielicka Wieś (Małopolska), 21. Stowarzyszenie LGD Dolina Soły (Małopolska), 22. Stowarzyszenie LGD Gorce-Pieniny (Małopolska), 23. Stowarzyszenie Lokalna Grupa Działania Podbabiogórze (Małopolska), 24. Piękna Ziemia Gorczańska (Małopolska), 25. LGD Dobra Widawa (Dolny Śląsk), 26. Ziemia Bielska (Śląsk), 27. Spichlerz Górnego Śląska (Śląsk), 28. LGD Bachuren (Słowacja), 29. Białe Ługi (Świętokrzyskie), 30. CSERNATALJA LEADER (Węgry), 31. LEADER Granlander (Szwecja), 32. Kraina Wielkiego Łuku Warty (Łódzkie), 33. LGD Razem na Rzecz Rozwoju (Świętokrzyskie), 34. LGD U Źródeł (Świętokrzyskie), 35. LAG Karnische (Austria), 36. LGD Wspólnota na Rzecz Rozwoju Regionu Villach-Hermagor (Austria), 37. Stowarzyszenie LGD Przyjazna Ziemia Limanowska (Małopolska), 38. Stowarzyszenie Przyjazna Dolina Raby (Małopolska),

Fig. 2. Cooperation network of LAGs from Małopolska
Source: own study.

Rys. 2. Sieć współpracy małopolskich LGD
Źródło: opracowanie własne.

Organisations which implemented a few projects at the same (or similar) time were included here. Only five of them limited to cooperation within one network (Gościńiec 4 Żywiołów, Podgórze Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju, Stowarzyszenie LGD Dolina Soły, LGD Piękna Ziemia Gorczańska, Stowarzyszenie Przyjazna Dolina Raby).

Based on the respondents' answers, it is hard to determine explicitly whether the LAGs they represent were invited to cooperation by another LAG or initiated the cooperation themselves, even more so because the same organisations sometimes participated

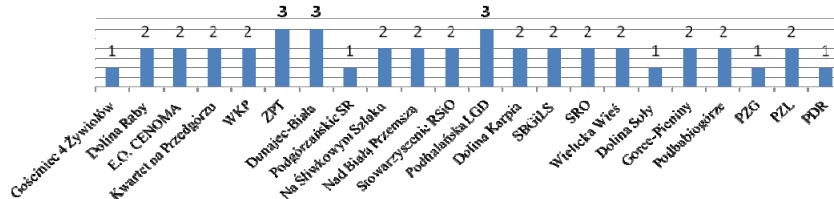


Fig. 3. The number of cooperation projects realised by LAGs from Małopolska¹⁵
Source: own study.

Rys. 3. Liczba projektów współpracy, w których uczestniczyły LGD z Małopolski
Źródło: opracowanie własne.

in creation of a few cooperation networks. 11 respondents said that the LAG had been independently looking for partners for cooperation, and 13 admitted that their LAG had been invited¹⁶. Most of the respondents (13 out of 20) declared that the LAGs they represented had not cooperated before with the organisations they created networks with. The others observed that in the past they had met their partners at various meetings (among others, meetings of the Network of LAGs from Małopolska), they had also taken informal cooperation.

The scope of projects covered different investments aimed at the development of tourism. They are concentrated around: 1) local products, their promotion and popularization of folk artists' works (12 projects), 2) bicycle routes and tourist trails (3 projects).

Most of the respondents (17 out of 20) were of the opinion that the cooperation had not been established because of financial benefits but because of added value related to it They hoped for: 1) accumulation of human and social capital resources: "It's important to draw on the experience of other LAGs. That's how we learn", "Thanks to exchange of experience and brainstorming, new, interesting ideas appear. Cooperation is inspiring. The synergy effect is noticeable", "Thanks to cooperation, we can realise more tasks and have more ideas"; 2) accumulation of resources which could be used for economic development of the area covered by LAG's support: "It's pointless to make such projects independently. The project would then be uninteresting and unattractive for tourists", "Thanks to cooperation, the project has a greater scale of influence. You can reach tourists with your offer", "Cooperation with other LAGs is very beneficial. It enriches the project offer. The project is then more attractive and offers more products and activities". All the respondents were of the opinion that LAGs they represented would have decided to establish cooperation even if they had been able to obtain funds for realisation of their goals from other sources.

¹⁵ In the case of LAGs whose names were long, abbreviations were used: WKP – Wspólnota Królewskiej Puszczy, ZPT – Zielony Pierścień Tarnowa, Stowarzyszenie RSiO – Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju Spisza i Okolicy, SBGiLS – Stowarzyszenie Białych Górali i Lachów Sądeckich, SRO – Stowarzyszenie Rozwoju Orawy, PZG – Piękna Ziemia Gorczańska, PZL – Przyjazna Ziemia Limanowska, PDR – Przyjazna Dolina Raby

¹⁶ Only in 7 situations, other organisations and institutions were invited to cooperation as well. That group included entrepreneurs (5 answers), self-government authorities (1 answer) and 1 LAG. In 5 cases, cooperation was established but the potential partners did not become beneficiaries of the projects.

Table 2. The scope of cooperation projects realized by LAGs from the Małopolskie Voivodeship
Tabela 2. Zakres tematyczny projektów współpracy, w których uczestniczyły LGD z województwa małopolskiego

Title of the project Tytuł projektu	Scope of the project Zakres tematyczny projektu
1	2
<p>“Smaki łączą regiony. Festiwal smaków” (“Tastes Connect Regions. Festival of Tastes”)¹⁷</p>	<p>promotion of regional products, including dishes from the area of each LAG’s, development of a common brand for regional products, organizing cooking events and publishing a booklet with recipes</p> <p>promocja produktów regionalnych, w tym potraw z obszaru działania każdej LGD; wypracowanie wspólnej marki dla produktów regionalnych; organizowanie imprez kulinarnych, wydanie broszury z przepisami</p>
<p>“Bursztynowy Szlak Rowerowy” (“Amber Bicycle Trail”)¹⁸</p>	<p>improvement of tourism infrastructure (setting and marking of cycling trails), construction of places of rest, publishing a folder / map / tourist guide describing tourist attractions, promoting active leisure forms</p> <p>poprawa infrastruktury turystycznej (wytyczenie i oznakowanie szlaków rowerowych); budowa miejsc wypoczynku; wydanie folderu/mapki/informatora turystycznego opisującego atrakcje turystyczne; propagowanie aktywnych form spędzania czasu</p>
<p>“Rozwój Turystyki Rowerowej w Oparciu o Szlak Żeleńskich” (“Development of Bicycle Touring Based on the Żeleński Trail”)¹⁹</p>	<p>promotion of cycling, other active leisure forms and healthy lifestyle, renewal and arrangement of cycling trails network, creating a trail connecting international cycling trails</p> <p>popularyzacja jazdy rowerem i innych form aktywnego spędzenia czasu i zdrowego stylu życia; rewitalizacja i uporządkowanie sieci szlaków rowerowych; stworzenie szlaku, który łączy szlaki rowerowe międzynarodowe</p>
<p>“Wschodnia Małopolska na Rowerze” (“Cycling in Eastern Małopolska”)²⁰</p>	<p>setting cycling trails within the area of 5 LAGs around tourist attractions, agritourism and ecological farms and places of work of handicraftsmen and folk artists, publishing maps including the attractions of the region</p> <p>wyznaczenie szlaków rowerowych w obrębie 5 LGD wokół atrakcji turystycznych, gospodarstw agroturystycznych, ekologicznych, rękodzielników i twórców ludowych; wydanie map z atrakcjami regionu</p>
<p>“Odkrywanie wartości produktów lokalnych od Wisły po Spisz jako zasobów rozwoju dziedzictwa kulturowego” (“Discovering the Value of Local Products between the</p>	<p>realisation of socio-cultural events promoting the project and local tourist products, preparation and printing of publications, books, calendars, folders, booklets etc., creating websites informing of the project and promoting local products, workshops, consulting, courses in promotion, marketing of tourist products, marking the trail of local products and contests for residents of areas of LAGs</p> <p>realizacja wydarzeń społeczno-kulturalnych promujących projekt oraz lokalne produkty turystyczne; opracowanie i wydawanie publikacji, książek, kalendarzy,</p>

¹⁷ [http://www.puszcza-bialowieska.home.pl/lgdpb/content/view/175/30/;](http://www.puszcza-bialowieska.home.pl/lgdpb/content/view/175/30/)
http://www.dolinaraby.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=169:smaki-cz-regiony-festiwal-smakow-relacja&catid=12:album-lgd&Itemid=44.

¹⁸ http://www.borzecin.pl/stary_portal/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4691&Itemid=210.

¹⁹ http://www.dolinaraby.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=139:umowa-wspolpracy&catid=12:album-lgd&Itemid=44;<http://www.lgd-krolewska-puszcza.pl/index.php?id=chrostowa;>
<http://lgdlimanowa.eu/Portal/ru/News/171/OTWARCIE+SZLAKU+ROWEROWEGO+16.10.2011r.>

²⁰ [http://www.narowerze.pl/;](http://www.narowerze.pl/) http://dunajecbiala.pl/komunikat_rowery2010.php.

Table 2 – cont. / Tabela 2 – cd.

1	2
Vistula and the Spisz Region as Resources of the Development of Cultural Heritage ²¹	folderów, broszur itp.; tworzenie stron internetowych informujących o projekcie i promujących lokalne produkty, szkolenia, doradztwo, kursy z zakresu promocji, marketingu produktów turystycznych; oznaczenie szlaku produktu lokalnego; konkursy dla mieszkańców obszarów LGD
“Smak na produkt” (“Taste for a Product”) ²²	organisation of promotional meetings concerning local products and workshops, creating a website with the topic, publishing an album including descriptions of local products organizowanie spotkań promocyjnych o produktach lokalnych, szkoleń; stworzenie strony internetowej na ten temat; wydanie albumu zawierającego opisy produktów lokalnych
“Produkt lokalny szansą rozwoju regionu” (“Local Products as an Opportunity for the Region Development”) ²³	creating a website concerning local products, preparation and publishing of information and promotional materials: a guide concerning direct sales of products in farms, a study visit in Austria stworzenie strony internetowej o produktach lokalnych; opracowanie i wydanie materiałów informacyjno-promocyjnych – przewodnika o sprzedaży bezpośrednio produktów w gospodarstwach rolnych; wyjazd studyjny do Austrii
“Tradycje kucharskie od Wieliczki aż do Tatr” (“Cooking Traditions between Wieliczka and the Tatra Mountains”) ²⁴	organizing contests for regional dishes in Podhale and Wieliczka, cultivating culinary traditions by promotional events organizacja konkursów potraw regionalnych na Podhalu i w Wieliczce; kultywowanie tradycji kulinarnych poprzez wydarzenia promocyjne
“P.A.T. – Śliwkowy Obszar Turystyczny” (“P.A.T. – a Plum Tourist Area”) ²⁵	creating a base containing descriptions of events and products related to plums, developing a website, publishing promotional folders, granting international certificates for plum-related events and products, creating a brand guaranteeing high quality of products, organizing study visits stworzenie bazy zawierającej omówienia wydarzeń i produktów związanych ze śliwką; opracowanie strony internetowej; publikacja folderów promocyjnych, przyznawanie międzynarodowych certyfikatów wydarzeniom i produktom śliwkowym; stworzenie marki gwarantującej dobrą jakość produktów; organizowanie wizyt studyjnych
“Beskid Wyspowy i Gorce – miejsca szczególnie inspirujące” (“Beskid Wyspowy and	organising cultural and culinary events as part of LAG cooperation, e.g. “Smaki Beskidu Wyspowego” (“Tastes of Beskid Wyspowy”), publishing a tourist map and a professional guide of the area of LAGs’ operation organizacja imprez kulturalnych, kulinarnych w ramach współpracy LGD, np.

²¹ http://www.gmina.bukowinatatrzańska.pl/index.php?strona,doc,pol,głowna,1538,0,1129,1,1538,konkurs_%E2%80%9Epomysl_na_produkt_lokalny%E2%80%9D_w_ramach_projektu_ws_polpracy_pn_%E2%80%9Eodkrywanie_wartosci_produkow_lokalnych_od_wisly_po_spisz_jak_o_zasobow_rozwoju_dziedzictwa_kulturowego%E2%80%9D.ant.html; http://www.kazimierzawielka.pl/asp/pl_start.asp?typ=13&menu=163&artykul=789&akcja=artykul.

²² http://www.smaknaprodukt.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=56.

²³ http://dunajecbiała.pl/kom_wspolpraca_austria.php.

²⁴ http://www.wieliczka.eu/pl/1951/59770/Kulinarne_zmagania_Kol_Gospodyn_Wiejskich.html.

²⁵ http://bialelugi.pl/pl/realizowane_projekty/sliwkowy_obszar_turystyczny_-_pat/.

Table 2 – cont. / Tabela 2 – cd.

1	2
Gorce – Special, Inspiring Places ²⁶	„Smaki Beskidu Wyspowego”; wydanie mapki turystycznej, profesjonalnego przewodnika po obszarach działania LGD
“KRAM – krzewimy rękodzieło artystyczne mistrzów” (“KRAM – Propagating Handicraft of Masters”) ²⁷	organising occasional fairs and markets presenting the works of local folk artists, craftsmen and handicraftsmen, promotion of the region and local handicraft by participation in events and activities organized as part of the cooperation project by partner LAGs, organising free workshops of handicraft and folk culture for the residents of the Granary of Upper Silesia organizacja jarmarków i kiermaszy okolicznościowych prezentujących dorobek lokalnych twórców ludowych, rzemieślników i rękodzielników; promocja regionu i lokalnego rękodzieła poprzez uczestnictwo w imprezach i działaniach organizowanych w ramach projektu współpracy przez partnerskie LGD; organizacja ogólnodostępnych warsztatów rękodzieła i kultury ludowej dla mieszkańców Spichlerza Górnego Śląska
“Lokalni Twórcy Ostoja Dziedzictwa Kulturowego” (“Local Artists as the Backbone of Cultural Heritage”) ²⁸	development of methods of cooperation between folk artists as part of the “Folk Art Fair”; study visits for folk artists; publishing a catalogue titled “Podbabiogórcy i Pienińsko-Gorczańscy twórcy ludowi bogactwem Lokalnych Grup Działania” (“Podbabiogórze, Pieniny and Gorce Folk Artists as a Treasure of Local Action Groups”) wypracowanie metod współpracy twórców ludowych w ramach „Kiermaszu twórczości ludowej”, wyjazdy studyjne dla twórców ludowych, wydanie katalogu pt.: „Podbabiogórcy i Pienińsko-Gorczańscy twórcy ludowi bogactwem Lokalnych Grup Działania”
“Kraina Niezapomnianych Chwil” (“Land of Unforgettable Moments”) ²⁹	preparation of two information and promotion videos and a tourist guide presenting natural and cultural values of the area opracowanie dwóch filmów informacyjno-promocyjnych oraz przewodnika turystycznego prezentującego walory przyrodnicze i kulturowe obszaru
“Polski i Szwedzki Szlak Produktu Lokalnego” (“Polish and Swedish Trails of Local Products”) ³⁰	development of methods of cooperation; setting the trail of local products in the area of Sweden; study visits wypracowanie metod współpracy; wytyczenie szlaku produktu lokalnego na terenie Szwecji; wizyty studyjne
“Festiwal Folklorystyczny: Co kraj, to obyczaj” (“Folk Festival: So Many Countries, So Many Customs”) ³¹	organising two editions of a folk festival presenting rituals, customs and traditions of all the partners to the project zorganizowanie dwóch edycji festiwalu folklorystycznego ukazującego obrzędy, zwyczaje i tradycje wszystkich partnerów projektu

Source: own study.

Źródło: opracowanie własne.

²⁶ http://www.lgd.mszana.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=260:projekt-beskid-wyspowy-i-gorce-miejsca-szczegolnie-inspirujce-rozpoczety-nienica-24062012r&catid=34:aktualnoci&Itemid=79.

²⁷ http://www.spichlerz.org.pl/images/opis_kram.pdf.

²⁸ http://www.leadergorce-pieniny.pl/files/ulotka_wspolpracy.pdf.

²⁹ <http://www.leadergorce-pieniny.pl/uroczyste-podpisanie-umowy-o-wspolnej-realizacji-projektu-wspolpracy,285.html>.

³⁰ http://www.lgd-podbabiogorze.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=332:realizacja-projektu-polski-i-szwedzki-szlak-lokalnego-produktu-rozpoczta.

³¹ http://www.umkonskie.sisco.pl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=687&Itemid=1.

SUMMARY

Comparison of cooperation networks created by organisations from the Lubuskie and Małopolskie Voivodeships proved that there were similarities but also significant differences between them.

Relations of the respondents indicated that in each voivodeship those projects were realised not for financial reasons but first of all with consideration of added value related to them (such as accumulation of human, social or economic capital resources). They were devoted to the development of rural tourism. This topic was what LAGs were mostly interested in and what motivated them to cooperate with other organisations of the kind. Not all local action groups from the analysed voivodeships were interested in carrying out cooperation projects. Taking into consideration the fact that a vast majority of Polish local action groups are interested in the development of tourism, it is possible to make a hypothesis of intraregional diversification of social capital resources of local action groups.

Although more LAGs operate in Małopolska, the ratio of organisations from both regions that participate in cooperation projects to the total number of LAGs was similar. Still, there were big differences between the created networks.

In the Lubuskie voivodeship, the factor which determined the compositions of LAGs was mostly geographic proximity between them (limited to the territory of Poland). In that region, cooperation was established with organisations whose representatives had already been known and networks comprising few partners (two or three) were created. In Małopolska, the premise for establishing cooperation was similarities of goals selected by LAGs for realization (included in local development strategies) and good social relations with their representatives. There, cooperation was also established with entities not known before. As a reminder, even 13 out of 20 respondents from that region admitted that participants of the network not only had not worked together before but even had not known each other. The created structures were thick (associating even as many as 8 partners). Partners from many regions of Poland and from abroad (not only from countries bordering Poland) participated in them. Therefore, it can be said that representatives of LAGs from Małopolska are more open to social relations with entities unknown to them, which may give evidence to a higher level of social capital. Even more so because cooperation in such complex networks is more difficult to coordinate and requires frequent contacts with a relatively high number of people and more trust in partners.

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WSPÓLPRACA LOKALNYCH GRUP DZIAŁANIA. PORÓWNANIE SIECI TWORZONYCH PRZEZ ORGANIZACJE Z WOJEWÓDZTW LUBUSKIEGO I MAŁOPOLSKIEGO

Streszczenie. Lokalne grupy działania mogą realizować tzw. projekty współpracy i za ich pomocą tworzyć sieci kooperacji z innymi organizacjami tego typu. W artykule poddano analizie sieci tworzone przez LGD z województw lubuskiego oraz małopolskiego. Dążono do ustalenia różnic i podobieństw między nimi. Zadano kilka pytań: 1. Czy stosunek tych LGD z Małopolski i województwa lubuskiego, które realizują projekty współpracy do ich ogółu, jest zbliżony? 2. Jakie przesłanki przyświecały podejmowaniu współpracy, czy tylko finansowe (tj. możliwość pozyskania środków na realizację projektów), czy też inne (np. wymiana doświadczeń, wzajemna pomoc), które mogą świadczyć o gotowości LGD do budowania nieinstrumentalnych sieci społecznych? 3. Co zdecydowało o liczbie współpracujących LGD, składzie sieci? 4. Co stanowi przedmiot współpracy lokalnych grup działania? Badania (metodą *case study*) przeprowadzono w 2012 roku. Wykorzystano w nich dwie techniki badawcze: analizę danych zastanych oraz wywiad swobodny. Wykazano, iż między sieciami współpracy LGD zachodzą podobieństwa, ale i istotne różnice. Organizacje z Małopolski charakteryzowały się większą otwartością na kontakty społeczne z nieznanymi sobie podmiotami, częściej podejmowały współpracę z organizacjami z innych województw oraz krajów, co może wskazywać na wyższy poziom kapitału społecznego, jakim dysponują.

Słowa kluczowe: lokalne grupy działania, projekty współpracy, sieci społeczne, kapitał społeczny

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