

Dublin  [®]
CITY OF INSPIRATION

Background of the project

In 2015, Poland is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the introduction of local self-government. The jubilee has sparked the debate on the role of self-government in local community.

The post-1989 local policy's transformation has moved towards an increase of rights based on respect for freedom and justice, authorities cooperation, social dialogue and on the principle of subsidiarity which strengthens the powers of citizens and their communities.



The transition of Polish society into civil society was possible thanks to the change of local policy.

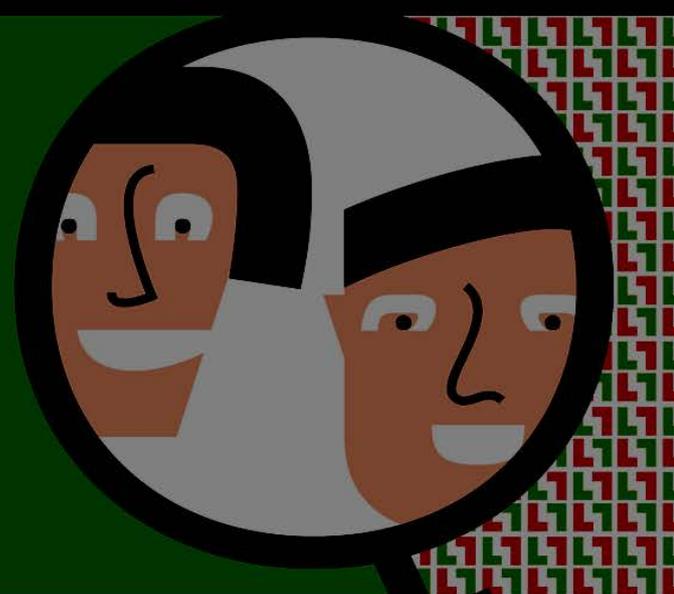


Engaging citizens in decision-making processes as well as inviting them to jointly design and introduce changes enabled the creation of society based on the idea of participation.

Your city. You decide.

www.obywatelski.lublin.pl

Twoje miasto.
Ty decydujesz.



Your city. You decide is a series of participatory activities undertaken by the municipal office to provide the citizens with opportunities to co-decide and actively influence their surrounding context.

Objectives and Implementation:



- meetings with the Mayor of the City

Around 60 meetings have been held so far aimed at the citizens, representatives of NGOs and informal groups, auxiliary units, local government units and its partners.

- public consultation

Approximately 20 public consultations have been carried out and addressed such issues as town planning, infrastructure and creation of social participation rules and procedures.



- trainings on social participation

Representatives of District Councils and Lublin citizens have undergone trainings in such areas as, among others, access to public information, local initiative, public consultation or workshops on how to write applications to Lublin Participatory Budgeting.

- Lublin Participatory Budgeting and local initiative

In 2014, Lublin citizens decided how to distribute PLN 10 million:

- 337 submitted applications,
- 47,000 people voted,
- 30 applications selected for implementation.

The 2015 Participatory Budget amounted to PLN 15 million:

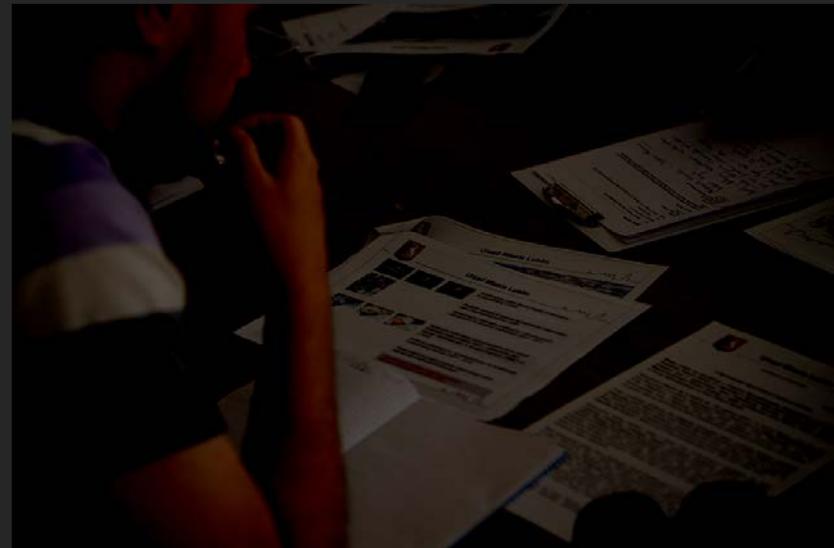
- 210 submitted applications,
- 65,000 people voted,
- 25 applications selected for implementation.

Another PLN 5 million is available for the citizens within local initiative. We have already received first applications.

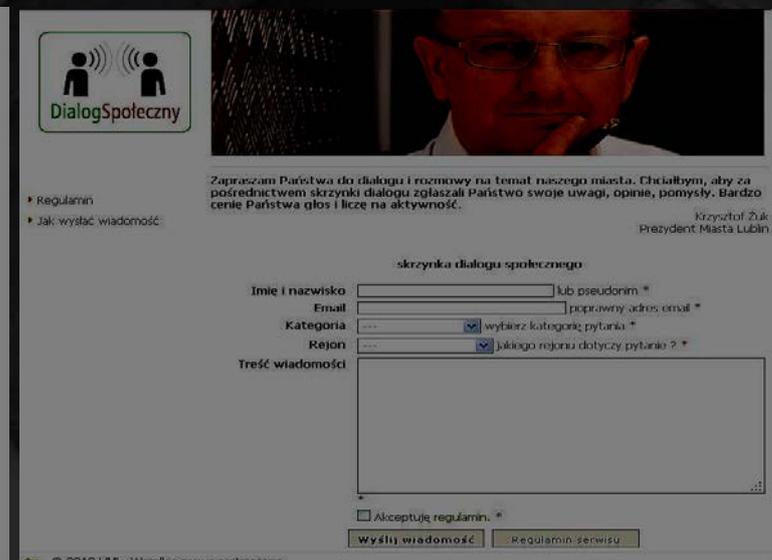
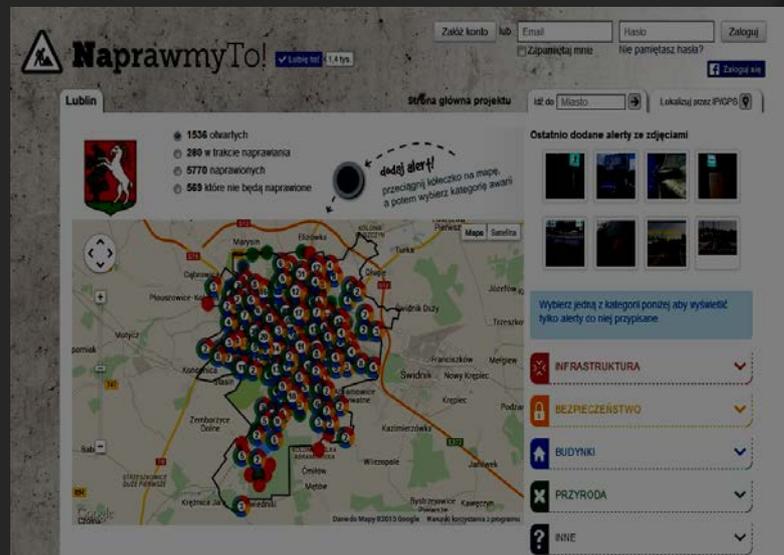


- co-creation of participatory policy regulations

(public consultation rules, PB procedure, local initiative regulations),



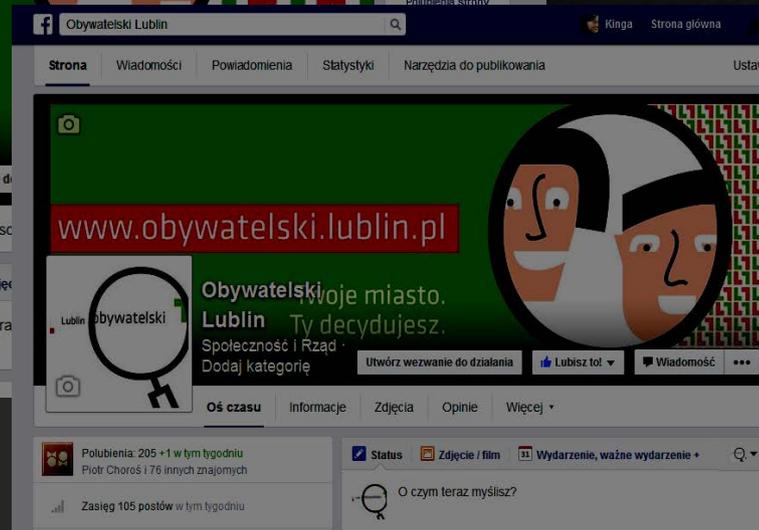
- maintaining contact with the Municipal Office through Skrzynka Dialogu (Dialogue Mailbox) and FixMyStreet platform.



- modern tools for communication with the City:

1) ObywatelskiLublin app

2) „Obywatelski Lublin” and „Budżet Obywatelski w Lublinie” pages on Facebook



- cooperation with NGOs

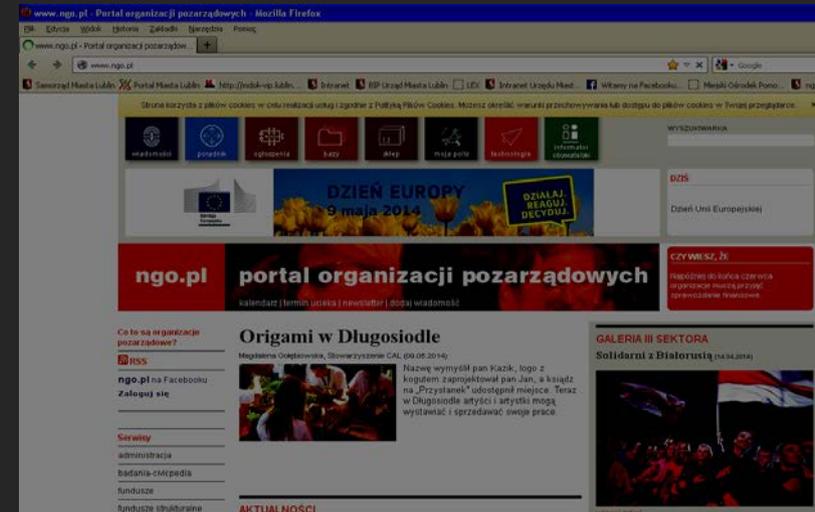
In the City of Lublin, there are **around 2,000 registered NGOs**.

Lublin Municipality supports its NGOs financially (through contests), jointly implements projects, consults organisations' draft documents, organises trainings and information meetings.



- www.lublin.ngo.pl

There is a “Lublin” tab on a nationwide portal www.ngo.pl which is a platform for communication with NGOs.



- Mayor of the City of Lublin Award

Mayor of the City of Lublin rewards the most active NGOs. In 2014, awards for the most interesting initiative were given for the first time.



- participation for integration

Thanks to the cooperation with NGOs and institutions involved in the process of refugees' integration in Lublin, it was possible to, among others, invite the refugees from Lublin to participate in the first edition of participatory budgeting. Lublin citizens took part in media workshops aimed at the promotion of diversity and in other activities.

In **September 2014**, the City of Lublin received four awards in the „**Open Cities**” nationwide contest.



Partnership (with whom?)

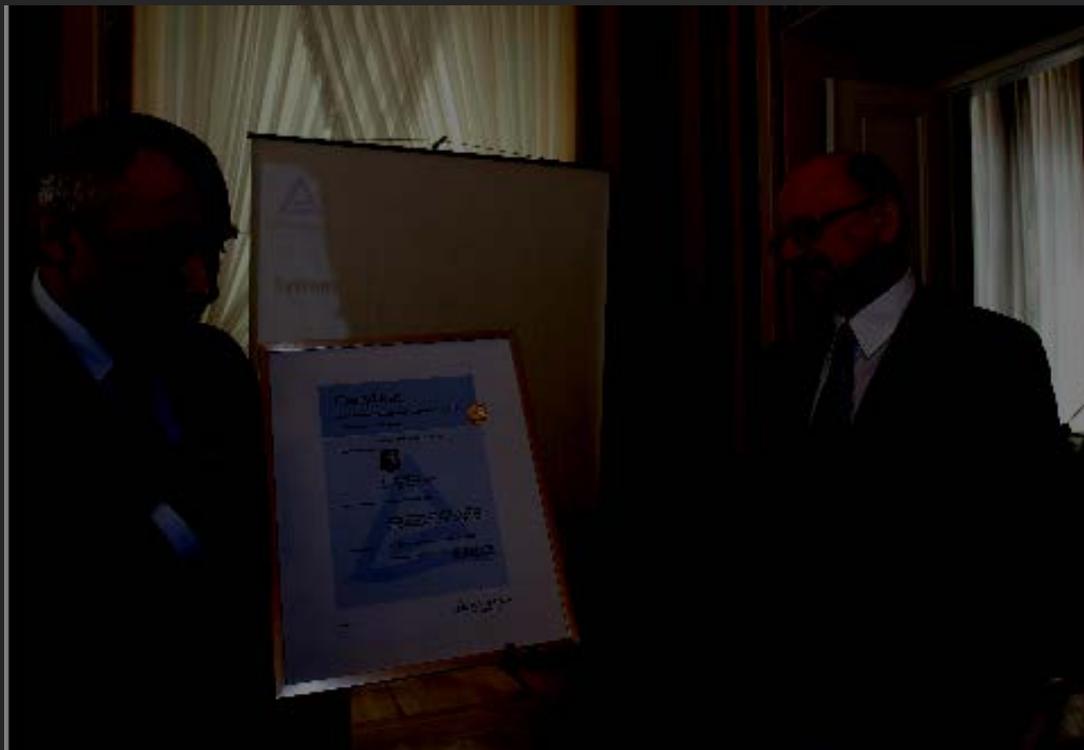
- NGOs
- districts councils
- local authorities

Results

- creation of civil society and instilling the need to co-decide and create independent forms of cooperation into citizens. At present, both district councils and citizens undertake participatory processes without the assistance of the City.



The process effectiveness was confirmed by the **social participation certificate** which was conferred to Lublin, as the first Polish city, on **March 25, 2014** by TÜV Rheinland Poland, a leader of certification and research services' market in Poland.



Key success criteria:

- openness of the City for the citizens' needs and willingness to engage the society in decision-making processes
- social need for participatory policy
- social trust towards local authorities
- transparency of processes
- involvement of many actors.



Transferability

- readiness to change and accept criticism
- openness and trust
- perseverance
- courage



Thank you for your attention

