

Lower Silesia

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The Province of Lower Silesia is one of the most innovative Polish regions in the fields of human resources, the standard of scientific research, innovative businesses, and in the quality of institutions supporting the development of the economy based on knowledge and attractiveness of investment.

Higher education in Lower Silesia is ranked high within Poland. Wrocław University of Technology and Wrocław University are among the best educational institutions in the nation. The region also leads in terms of the number academic staff and graduates.

The special economic zones are the base for economic development. Wałbrzyska Special Economic Zone, Wrocław Technological Transfer Centre and Wrocław Technological Park are among the leaders in the country.

The academic areas in Lower Silesia Province with excellent future prospects include study of low temperatures and structural studies, bioelectronics, biochemistry, biophysics, biotechnology and medical technologies, chemistry, energy, medical physics, advanced materials and nanotechnology, medicine, mathematical modelling, earth studies, optical electronics, information and communication technologies, and telecommunications.

The Lower Silesian educational institutions are successful in obtaining EU funds for the development of research infrastructure and the conduct of research from the Innovative Economy Operational Programme and the Seventh European Union Framework Programme. The Lower Silesian academic circles aim to be important partners of the European Technological Institute.

Companies, in particular those with emphasis on innovation, will soon be able to

take advantage of the funds from the Regional Operational Programme for 2007-2013 to support the competitiveness of Lower Silesian enterprises. The funds will go directly to companies as subsidies, through funding by Business Support Institutions, the region's research and development infrastructure, and through strengthening the loan sector by establishing the Lower Silesian Trust Fund within the JEREMIE initiative.

The region's activities in supporting innovation have received various awards, including the French Territoria Europa 2007 award and at the "Leaders in introduction of regional innovation strategies" competition organised by the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP).