

GOOD PRACTICE

PROJECT NAME: ACADEMIC GRANTS

PROJECT IMPLEMENTER: OPUS CENTER

WEBSITE: [Mikrogranty.org.pl](https://mikrogranty.org.pl)

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

CSR ACADEMIC GRANTS PROGRAM SUPPORTS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY STUDENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN LODZ AND STRENGTHENS COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS

PROJECT RECIPIENTS:

YOUNG MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY, INCLUDING STUDENTS AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS

PROJECT RESULTS:

THE PREMISE OF THE ACADEMIC GRANTS PROGRAM IS TO SUPPORT STUDENT GROUPS IN IMPLEMENTING SUCH INITIATIVES AS:

- ORGANIZATION OF VISITS OF SCIENTIFIC AUTHORITIES TO LODZ SCIENTIFIC AND RESEARCH CENTERS
- ORGANIZATION OF LECTURES BY OUTSTANDING SCIENTISTS/SPECIALISTS, REPRESENTING FOREIGN SCIENTIFIC CENTERS, DISTINGUISHED BY ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIGH INTERNATIONAL RANK
- PARTICIPATION OF LODZ STUDENTS IN FOREIGN SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA, CONFERENCES, COMPETITIONS, TRAINING COURSES, ETC.
- STRENGTHENING THE IMAGE OF LODZ AS AN ATTRACTIVE CITY FOR CITY RESIDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE INTERESTED IN SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT.

CALENDAR/ACTIVITIES

THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN 10 EDITIONS OF MICRO-GRANT COMPETITIONS, IN WHICH GROUPS HAVE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF PLN 1,275,500. THE STORIES OF THE SUPPORTED GROUPS, OF WHICH THERE WERE ABOUT 50, PROVE THAT EVEN SMALL GRANTS OF A FEW THOUSAND ZLOTYS RESULTED IN THE CREATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY. APPLICATION DEADLINES ARE SET ONCE OR TWICE A YEAR.

DETERMINE FACTORS

THE MICROGRANTS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE SOCIALLY ACTIVE IS A GRANT COMPETITION IN WHICH INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS OF RESIDENTS CAN WIN A FINANCIAL GRANT TO IMPLEMENT THEIR IDEAS AND INITIATIVES. THANKS TO THE GRANTS, PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COMMUNITY CAN MAKE SMALL CHANGES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. MICRO-GRANT PROJECTS FOR NON-FUNDED CIVIC GROUPS WISHING TO ENGAGE IN LOCAL ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY BUILDING AND MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICAL SPACE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED FOR 15 YEARS. OVER THIS PERIOD OF TIME, MORE THAN 2,000 MICRO-ACTIVITIES EMBEDDED IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND PROMOTED.



BUSINESS MODELS

THE GOAL OF THE MICRO-GRANTS PROGRAM IS TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY. GROUPS THAT APPLY FOR FUNDING FOR THEIR IDEAS RECEIVE SUPPORT IN ALL STAGES OF PROJECT WORK: IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE APPLICATION, IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES AND ACCOUNTING FOR EXPENSES AND REPORTING. THE SUPPORT OF EXPERTS AND THE EXCEPTIONALLY SIMPLIFIED FORM OF APPLICATION AND FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS IS AN EXCELLENT LAB OF EXPERIENCE IN UNDERTAKING FORMAL CIVIC ACTIVITIES.

BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE

FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT, IT IS NECESSARY TO POINT TO THE ACQUISITION OF PRACTICAL SKILLS IN PLANNING A PROJECT VENTURE AND RATIONAL SPENDING AND ACCOUNTING FOR FUNDS.

SUSTAINABILITY PERSPECTIVE

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF DEVELOPING SOCIAL AND CIVIC SKILLS, THE GOALS ARE WORTH NOTING:

- PUTTING SOME OF THE MONEY FROM THE PUBLIC BUDGET INTO DIRECT MANAGEMENT BY CITY RESIDENTS,
- STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY'S COMPETENCE TO IMPLEMENT FORMAL SOCIAL PROJECTS BY STRENGTHENING PRACTICAL SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE IN ITS ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY REACH FOR OTHER PUBLIC FUNDS.

CULTURAL VALUE

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MICRO-GRANTS IN LOCAL AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES MOSTLY FOCUSES ON IMPROVING FOLK AND ENTERTAINMENT INFRASTRUCTURE, CREATING COMMUNITY PUBLIC SPACES, STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES OR CREATING ALTERNATIVE CULTURAL FORMS.