

REGIONAL REPORT – POLAND – DECEMBER 2009



Project Management Update from Kraków

By **Artur Bialy**

International Correspondent for PMForum & PM World Today

Kraków, Poland

Introduction

As the financial crisis is weakening around the world, Poland sees more and more foreign investments coming in. The main advantages that attract companies to initiate projects in Poland are young and highly educated workforce, relatively lower costs, distance from the main European technology hubs and hospitality.

Krakow as a leading center for technology in the region

Poland is expected to be a leading centre for research and development in Europe especially in IT field. The number of scientists holding master degrees in computer science is constantly growing. There is also observable employment growth in this sector, in each type of research and development unit.

Foreign investors are keenly interested in Poland especially because of the large highly educated and competitive workforce as well as conditions favorable for establishing businesses. Companies perceive great possibilities for their own development in the R&D sector. They are looking especially for financial benefits. Development of the R&D sector is also very advantageous for Poland's economy, because it stimulates the implementation of high technology in Poland as well as gives direct access to the scientific methodology applied in the most developed countries.



According to the “Investment Attractiveness in Poland” report – published by the Institute of Economic Research - Krakow and the Region of Małopolska are considered to be highly attractive development locations in Poland. While there are other competitors, Krakow is the leader amongst other cities in the Region, attracting the majority of businesses willing to invest in commercial development activity. Krakow is the globally recognized academic and scientific centre hosting 32 higher education schools and 30 scientific institutes.

Many international projects are being kicked off in Krakow by international companies in the recent months. Global players that have facilities in Krakow and are running multinational projects out of here are among others: Google, IBM, Sabre Holdings, International Papers, Motorola, Philip Morris.

The Public Private Partnership bill passed in Poland

Poland has passed a public-private partnership bill that allows companies to work hand in hand with public organization and deliver exciting and needed projects.

List of potential projects include:

- Metropolitan Railway in Tricity,
- Revitalization of the railway station area in Sopot
- Maritime Recreation Center and Leisure in Gdansk
- Multi-level underground parking, Gdańsk-Downtown,
- Expansion of Sports and Recreation Center, City of Malbork.
- 10 projects in infrastructure, sports and recreation - sports and recreation centers, stadiums, halls and entertainment-sports in Krakow
- Headquarters University Hospital of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow CM-Prokocim.
- Advanced technology center in Kalisz
- Oceanarium in the initial phase of the Warsaw zoo, Port Czerniakowski and rebuilding public transportation.

PM Profession News

International Project Management Association (IPMA) Poland celebrated its 10 years anniversary this year. The organization had been started in November 1999 in Gdansk. Since then it is an important body shaping the world of project management in Poland.

International Project Management Association (IPMA) held its annual conference in September this year.

Conference participants included people from the country and abroad. Kadra zarządzająca wysokiego szczebla, prezesi, osoby decyzyjne, menadżerowie projektów, finansiści, przedstawiciele świata nauki i biznesu. High-level managerial staff, governors, decision-makers, project managers, financiers, representatives of science and business. W imprezie wzięli udział przedstawiciele takich branż i sektorów gospodarczych jak: consulting, edukacja, IT i telekomunikacja, finanse, marketing, przemysł i energetyka, budownictwo, motoryzacja i inne. The event was attended by representatives of such industries and economic sectors as consulting, education, IT and telecommunications, finance, marketing, industry and energy, construction, automotive and other.

Project Updates

UEFA EURO 2012 project are moving forward despite the complex financial situation around the world.

The Baltic Arena is going to be one of the biggest stadiums in the northern Poland with the capacity of 44 000 seats.



About the Author:**Artur Bialy****Author**

Artur Bialy is an experienced project manager, program manager and technical manager/leader, with over ten years of experience managing IT projects on various levels. He has managed the implementation of complex internet applications, data warehouse and real-time systems for international companies in France, Ireland, Poland and Spain. He is an expert in IT project management, business intelligence and real-time applications. Mr. Bialy graduated from the University of Technology and Science, the Department of Computer Science, with a Masters Degree in Applied Computer Science. He also holds the Project Management Professional (PMP ®) certification from the Project Management Institute (PMI ®) and is an active member of PMI; he was a founding member of the PMI Poland Chapter. He is involved in new agile project management practices, works as an active Scrum Master and helps in implementations of lean/agile practices. He is certified Scrum Master and as one of few in Poland - Certified Scrum Practitioner (CSP) by Scrum Alliance. Artur Bialy is a member of PMI® and the Scrum Alliance, and is also an International Correspondent for PMForum and *PM World Today*. He lives in Kraków, Poland, and can be contacted at artur@bialy.eu. Artur's project management blog can be found at <http://www.bialy.eu>.