

MINISTRY FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CR

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the Operational Programme

## Technical Assistance

for 2011

March 2012

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# Introduction on Drawing up the Annual report

## Legal framework

The legal framework for the annual report on implementation of the operational programme is provided by the Article No 67 of Council Regulation No 1083/2006 (General Regulation). Article No 67 of General Regulation has so far been amended once, namely by Regulation (EU) No 539 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 June 2010. The responsibility for the elaboration of this annual report is born by the managing authority of the operational programme. Specific requirements concerning the content of the annual report are laid down in Annex XVIII to Regulation No 1828/2006 (Implementing Regulation). This Annex has been amended twice. For the first time, by Commission Regulation (EC) No 846/2009 of 1 September 2009 and for the second time by Commission Regulation (EU) No 832/ 2010 of 17 September 2010. Furthermore, the Annual report has been prepared in compliance with the Recommended procedures for drawing up the Annual report on implementation of the Operational Programme in the 2007-2013 period, issued by the National Co-ordination Authority (NCA) in December 2011.

The Annual report comprises a summary of activities associated with the use of EU funds in 2011 under the Operational Programme Technical Assistance. It also serves the European Commission (EC) as the essential source of information on the absorption of the European Union (EU) funds.

### Source of data:

All tables draw data from MSC2007. The generated data illustrates the values as of 4 January 2012. The data on the monitoring indicators was generated on 28. February 2012.

## Executive summary

The Operational Programme Technical Assistance (OPTA) is a multi-objective programme under the Convergence objective which is complemented by financial contributions under the Regional competitiveness and employment (RCE) objective and as such can finance activities across the Czech Republic (CR), i.e. in the territory of the City of Prague inclusive.

It is a programme implemented based on the underlying documents of the National Development Plan (NDP) and the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) for 2007 – 2013 programming period. These documents guarantee the compliance with the Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion (ESTC) policy and the Community Strategic Guidelines (CSGs).

The OPTA allocates the EU funds to 8 Cohesion regions, of which 7 fall under the Convergence objective and the Prague region falls under the RCE objective. The contribution from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) accounts for 85 % of eligible expenditure for operational programmes for both the objectives; with public budgets contributing by 15 %.

OPTA comprises 4 priority axes:

1. Management and Coordination Support
2. Monitoring
3. Administrative and Absorption Capacity
4. Publicity

Based on the distribution of funds among all the OPTA priority axes, the breakdown of the allocation after revision of the Operational Programme is as follows: 98.41 % for Convergence objective and 1.59 % for RCE objective, i.e. **EUR 191 767 501** (Community contribution) and **EUR 33 841 325** (national sources) for Convergence objective, and **EUR 3 106 811** (Community contribution) and **EUR 548 263** (national sources) for RCE objective.

On 14 May 2008 a continuous call was announced. Ever since its opening four updates have been made thereto (18 August 2008, 2 April 2009, 14 September 2009 and 1 December 2011). By the last update of the call, the planned allocations were adjusted in terms of priority axes, including the exchange rate used for calculation of the amounts, the transfer of a supported activity from the intervention area 1.2 to the intervention area 1.1, extension of supported activities in the intervention area 2.1, extension of eligible beneficiaries under the OPTA and change in the contact person. In addition, the call reflected certain additional modifications related to increasing the efficiency of the OPTA implementation.

In August 2009, the EC approved the design of management and control systems. In December 2011, the document called Description of Management and Control Systems of OPTA (MCS) was updated internally and approved by the Director of the OPTA Managing Authority (OPTA MA). Its update was done in order to harmonise the information included in the MCS document with the updated version of the OPTA Operational Manual (OPTA OM).

The Authorised Audit Entity of MRD (AAE MRD) conducted/ completed three audits in the monitored period:

- 1) Audit on OPTA operations with respect to expenditure submitted for certification as of September 2010 (No 21/10/AAE) – the subject of this audit was to verify the eligibility of expenditure incurred in the implementation of an operation and to verify compliance with the Conditions of the Decision on granting assistance on a sample of projects implemented within the OPTA Audit.
- 2) Audit on OPTA operations with respect to expenditure submitted for certification as of September 2010 (No 24/11/AAE) – the subject of this audit was to verify the eligibility of expenditure incurred in the implementation of an operation and to verify compliance with the Conditions of the Decision on granting assistance on a sample of projects implemented within the OPTA Audit.
- 3) Audit on OPTA implementation system (No 29/11/AAE) – the aim of this audit was to make sure that the management and control systems of OPTA implementation are in place and functional.

In the Annual Control Report for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 the Audit Authority (AA) issued an unqualified opinion, i.e. that the OPTA management and control systems function well, although certain improvements were necessary.

In the course of 2011, two regular meetings of the OPTA Monitoring Committee (OPTA MC) were held, namely in May and November 2011. The OPTA MA presented the progress achieved in programme implementation semi-annually through the Reports on Implementation of the OPTA.

At its 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting, the OPTA MC took note of the information about the process of approval of the Annual Report for 2010, that was subsequently approved through a per rollam procedure due to the fact that at the time of preparation of the Annual Report, complete source materials for evaluation the NSRF publicity were not available. In addition, the OPTA MC took note of the Report on implementation of OPTA for the period from November 2010 to March 2011. The OPTA MC also approved revision of the OPTA in the proposed scope.

At the 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the OPTA MC, a technical change in the OPTA was approved, i.e. the beneficiary the Autonomous Unit of Horizontal Activities was replaced in the intervention area 1.3 by the European affairs Department. In addition, the OPTA MC Statute was approved, that was amended in line with the changes in the organisation of the MRD. The OPTA MC also approved the OPTA Annual Evaluation Plan for 2012 and took note of the Report on Implementation of the programme in the period from April to September 2011, including the information of the OPTA MA concerning fulfilment of the impact indicator in the OPTA: Rate of shortening of the administrative process in the project administration.

At the OPTA MC meetings in 2011, also the outputs of evaluations carried out by the OPTA MA were presented, including the information on the way of reflecting the recommendations in the OPTA implementation. The summary of evaluations of the system of indicators, medium-term progress and evaluation of awareness within the OPTA was published on [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz) in the OPTA section.

During 2011, the OPTA MA published two updated versions of OPTA OM with the effect from 1 February and 1 December 2011, and the updated version of the Handbook for Applicants and Beneficiaries under the OPTA (OPTA HAB) with the effect from 1 July 2011. In connection with the updates of the OPTA documents and the need to improve the quality of the public procurement procedures, the OPTA MA organized three training courses for the OPTA beneficiaries, including secondary beneficiaries (the units implementing activities through the NCA projects) and one workshop focused on exchange of experience among the AAE auditors.

In 2011, several changes in the organisation and staffing of OPTA MA were made. In connection with transfer of activities from the CRD to the OPTA MA in December 2010, the control of public procurement procedures and tenders was transferred from 1 January 2011 to the OPTA MA, i.e. Department 252 – OPTA control, methodology and monitoring. As a follow-up to this change, two new positions of controllers of the public procurement procedures and tenders were established and subsequently filled.

# 1 Identification of the Operational programme

The table below presents a summary of basic identification features of OPTA:

**Table No 1: Identification of the operational programme**

OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME	Objective concerned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convergence</li> <li>• Regional competitiveness and employment objective</li> </ul>
	Eligible area concerned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NUTS 2 Prague CZ01</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Central Bohemia CZ02</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Southwest CZ03</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Northwest CZ04</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Northeast CZ05</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Southeast CZ06</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Central Moravia CZ07</li> <li>• NUTS 2 Moravia-Silesia CZ08</li> </ul>
	Programming period: 2007-2013
	CCI number of the Programme: 2007CZ16UPO001
	Programme title: Operational Programme Technical Assistance
ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT	Reporting year: 2011
	Date of approval of the Annual Report by the Monitoring Committee:

## 1.1 Brief Description of the OPTA

The Operational Programme Technical Assistance is a multi-objective programme, intended to support a single approach at the national level to the ensurance of activities of effective management, control, monitoring and evaluation of NSRF implementation, and to provide an umbrella for activities of the ESTC policy in the CR in 2007 – 2013 period.

### 1.1.1 OPTA objectives

The global objective of the OPTA is to strengthen and improve a uniform central management and coordination of programmes co-financed from the EU funds at the level of the CR. The global objective shall also contribute to the achievement of the set objectives of the NSRF in the 2007-2013 period and it shall improve the overall level of management and monitoring while respecting the principle of sound financial management pursuant to Article 14 of the General Regulation. Last but not least, it is necessary to strengthen the administrative and absorption capacity and awareness of EU funds.

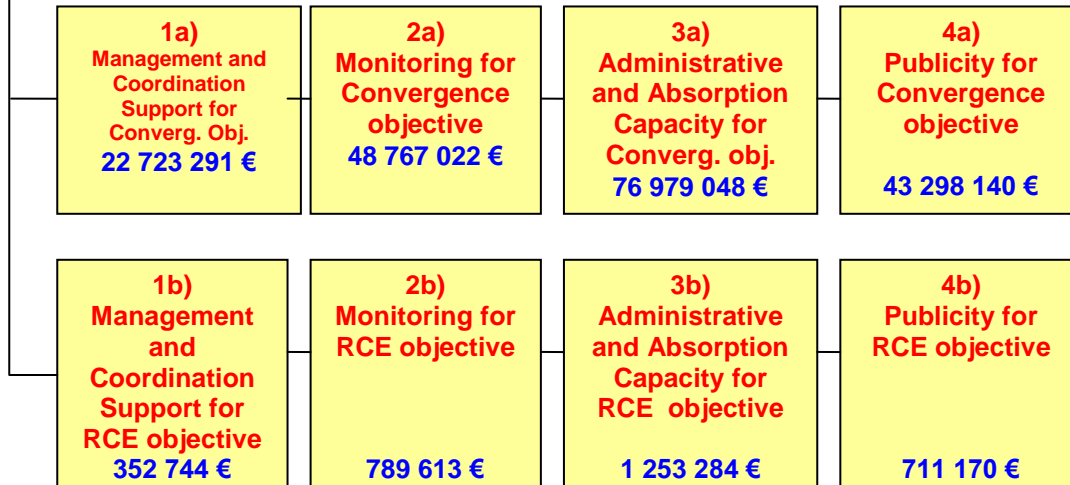
The strategic objectives further specify the focus and content of the global objective of OPTA. These objectives are the following:

- **Strategic objective 1** – to provide for the managing, methodological and coordination role at the highest horizontal level of management (NCA, Paying and Certifying Authority - PCA and the Audit Authority - AA) in the implementation of the NSRF in compliance with the ESTC and sound financial management principles. To ensure timely preparation of the new programming period 2014+;
- **Strategic objective 2** – to provide for a functioning single central monitoring and information system facilitating the management, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects (as well as adoption of corrective measures) to be used by the Managing Authority (MA) of all the OP, PCA, AA, thus ensuring the electronic exchange of data and documents between the individual levels of implementation;
- **Strategic objective 3** – to provide for the administrative capacity necessary for the achievement of NSRF objectives through the support of coordination authorities (NCA, PCA and AA) and to increase the absorption capacity for the use of the Structural Funds (SF);
- **Strategic objective 4** – to increase the general public awareness of the existence and use of the EU SF, of the implementation of the Cohesion policy and the NSRF objectives in the CR and of the achievement of the NSRF objectives. To establish a platform for the cooperation between the implementation structure entities: NCA, MA, Intermediate Bodies (IB) aimed at the awareness of the target group of beneficiaries of the SF assistance.

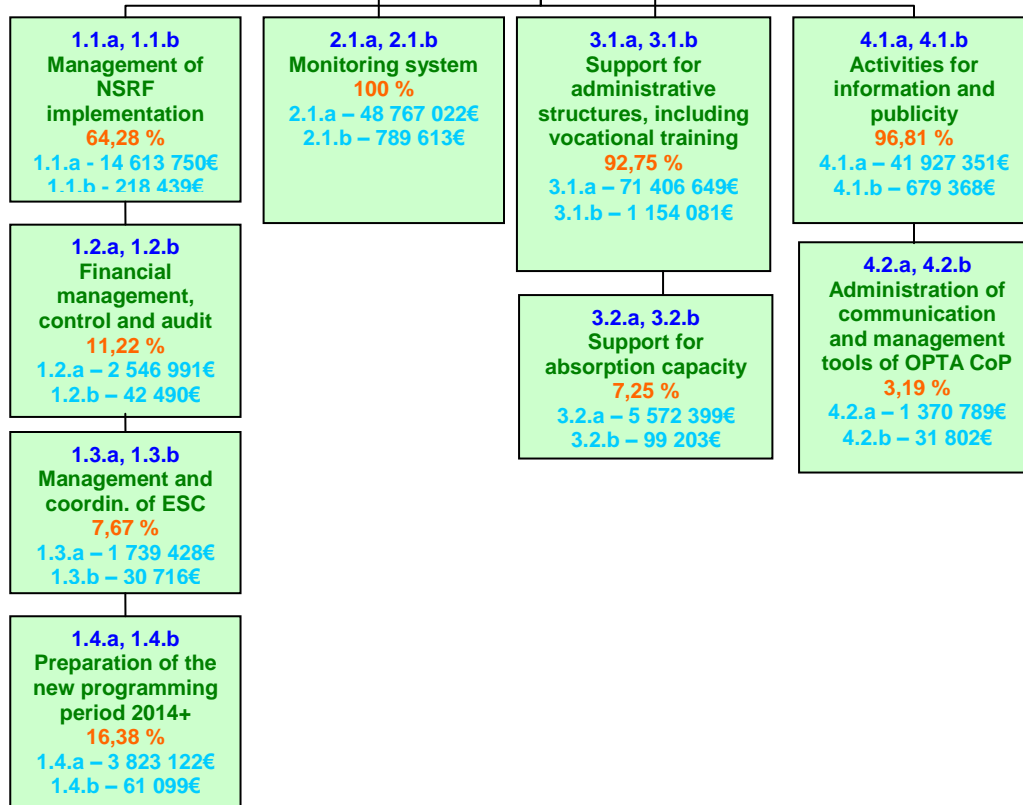


# OPTA

## Priority axes – Community contribution



## Intervention areas – Community contribution



### 1.1.2 OPTA financial allocation

Since 13 regions of the total number of 14 regions fall under the Convergence objective and only 1 region (City of Prague) is covered by the RCE objective, the prevailing part of OPTA funds is allocated to the Convergence objective which is illustrated by Table No 2.

**Table No 2: Overview of total funds allocated to Convergence objective and RCE objective**

<b>OPTA objectives</b>	<b>Sources</b>	<b>Total share in the allocated funds (%)</b>	<b>Total share in the allocated funds (EUR)</b>
<b>Convergence objective</b>	Community contribution	98,41	191 767 501
	National sources		33 841 325
	<b>Total</b>		<b>225 608 826</b>
<b>RCE objective</b>	Community contribution	1,59	3 106 811
	National sources		548 263
	<b>Total</b>		<b>3 655 074</b>

Source: OPTA Programming Document

The General Regulation stipulates the method of calculating the ERDF contribution for Cohesion regions. There are eight Cohesion regions. Seven Cohesion regions fall under the Convergence objective, while Prague is covered by the RCE objective. In general, for operational programmes under both the objectives the contribution from the ERDF shall not be higher than 85 % of the eligible expenditure (Article 53, para 3, 4 and Annex III to the General Regulation); the remaining part is covered from the public budgets of the CR.

## 1.2 OPTA Underlying Documents

The OPTA is a programme implemented based on the underlying documents of the NDP and the NSRF for 2007 – 2013 programming period. These documents shall guarantee the compliance with the ESTC policy, CSGs and the national programmes of structural development. The referred to documents are reflected in the OPTA MA documentation (Operational Programme Technical Assistance, OPTA OM, MCS and OPTA Handbook for Applicants and Beneficiaries under OPTA).

## 1.3 Managing Authority and Intermediate Bodies

By Government Resolution No 198 of 22 February 2006 the duty was imposed upon the MRD to carry out the function of the managing authority, including the function of the NCA coordinator for the absorption of funds from the SF and the Cohesion Fund (CF) in 2007 – 2013 period.

By Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 169/2008 of 15 September 2008 the OPTA MA Department was entrusted with the function of the OPTA MA. As a follow up to the Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 187/2007 of 7 September 2007 concerning the provision

of activities of the NSRF National Co-ordination Authority, the Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 215/2010 of 19 October 2010 concerning the definition of NCA units at MRD was issued. This decision enabled the separation of the unit falling under the NCA, which had become an integral part of the OPTA MA Department as of 1 Oct 2010, from the OPTA MA.

The OPTA MA shall be responsible for correct and effective management of the programme and provision of assistance from OPTP in line with EU regulations and national legislation.

### **Specification of main functions and tasks performed by the Managing Authority**

#### **The Managing Authority shall be responsible for:**

- ensuring that operations are selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the OPTA and that they comply with the applicable Community and national rules for the whole of their implementation period,
- verifying that the co-financed products and services are delivered and that the expenditure declared by the beneficiaries for operations has actually been incurred and complies with Community and national rules. Verifications on-the-spot of individual operations may be carried out on a sample basis in accordance with the detailed rules to be adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 103 para 3 of the General Regulation,
- ensuring that there is a system for recording and storing in computerised form accounting records for each operation under the OPTA and that the data on implementation necessary for financial management, monitoring, verifications, audits and evaluation are collected,
- ensuring that beneficiaries and other bodies involved in the implementation of operations maintain either a separate accounting system or an adequate accounting code for all transactions relating to the operation without prejudice to national accounting rules,
- ensuring that the evaluations of the OPTA referred to in Article 48 para 3 of the General Regulation are carried out in accordance with Article 47 of this Regulation,
- setting up procedures to ensure that all documents regarding expenditure and audits required to ensure an adequate audit trail are held in accordance with the requirements of Article 90 of the General Regulation,
- ensuring that the PCA receives all necessary information on the procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure for the purpose of certification,
- guiding the work of the OPTA MC and providing it with the documents required to permit the quality of the implementation of the OP to be monitored in the light of its specific goals,
- drawing up and, after approval of the OPTA MC, submitting to the EC the annual and final reports on OPTA implementation,
- ensuring compliance with the information and publicity requirements laid down in Article 69 of the General Regulation,
- elaborating the financing plan of the programme (in its elaboration the OPTA MA builds on the OPTA financial framework approved by the EC; the financial framework of the programme determines the allocations of funds divided into EU funds and the state budget in a breakdown by year, priority axis and intervention area),
- verifying compliance with stipulations of Act no. 137/2006 Coll., as amended.

Pursuant to the Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 349/2006 of 20 November 2006, the OPTA Intermediate Body for all priority axes is the Centre for Regional Development of the CR (CRD) – a state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisation of the MRD. Based on transfer of the control of the public procurement procedures and tenders from the CRD to the OPTA MA, an amendment was made in January 2011 to Decision no. 171/2009 of the Minister for Regional Development of 1 October 2009 on authorization of CRD to perform tasks related to the function of the Intermediate Body for the OPTA. Currently, the delegated activities are regulated by Decision no. 10/2011 of the Minister for Regional Development of 21 January 2011.

In cases where the CRD is a beneficiary under the OPTA, it shall not act as the IB (in such a case all the administration shall be performed by the OPTA MA).

**Specification of main functions and tasks performed by the IB:**

- receipt and registration of applications for support,
- establishing contacts with applicants for support and provision of information,
- assessment of eligibility, formal requisites and evaluation of projects,
- ex-ante risk analysis of projects, ex-ante checks,
- interim and ex-post risk analysis of the project,
- interim (with/without an application for payment) and ex-post check of the project,
- evaluation of changes during the project implementation,
- monitoring of project implementation,
- administration of applications for payment,
- entering data on projects in OPTA information system,
- verification of the compliance with legal acts on granting assistance/guidance documents,
- sharing information and adequate cooperation with the OPTA MA in the verification and evaluation of the performance of delegated activities,
- involvement in the OPTA publicity in accordance with the OPTA Communication Plan,
- identification and definition of risks (conduct of partial risk analysis),
- keeping and storing of relevant documents regarding the OPTA,
- certification – elaboration of source materials for the OPTA MA,
- reporting a suspected irregularity to the OPTA MA,
- cooperation in the scheduling and conducting of controls.

## **1.4 Socioeconomic analysis**

The aim of the OPTA is to ensure the NCA activities and activities related to the use of EU funds requiring a uniform approach at the national level. In view of this aim, the Annual report does not include information about the impact of the Operational Programme on the economy or the socioeconomic analysis.

## 2 Overview of Implementation of the Operational Programme

### 2.1 Progress achieved and its analysis

The following table gives a brief overview of highlights in OPTA implementation:

**Table No 3: Overview of events**

Date	Event	Notes
01 Jan 2011	Transfer of the control of the public procurement procedures and tenders from CRD to OPTA MA	
15 Jan 2011 (published)	Controlled documentation: OPTA Operational Manual, version 5.0, effective from 1 Feb 2011	Published by OPTA MA
31 Jan 2011	Annual CoP for 2011 was distributed to OPTA MC members and EC for information	
03 Feb 2011	Meeting of OPTA Selection Committee	3 projects approved
15 Feb 2011	Two new cases of suspected irregularity reported in relation to violation of the budgetary discipline	
25 Feb 2011	Referring the two above mentioned suspected irregularities to the Tax Office for further investigation	
March 2011	Outputs of evaluation of mid-term progress under OPTA	For Executive Summary see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section
March 2011	Training courses for the OPTA beneficiaries (including the secondary ones) in the field of public procurement	
03 Mar 2011	Meeting of OPTA Selection Committee	11 projects approved
May 2011	Outputs of Evaluation of the system of indicators under OPTA	For Executive Summary see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section
May 2011	Outputs of evaluation of awareness under OPTA	For Executive Summary see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section

Date	Event	Notes
11 May 2011	7 <sup>th</sup> regular meeting of OPTA MC	OPTA MC took note of OPTA Annual Report for 2010  OPTA MC approved OPTA revision
June 2011	OPTA Annual Report for 2010 approved the per rollam procedure	
10 Jun 2011	Meeting of OPTA Selection Committee	2 projects approved
20 Jun 2011 (published)	Handbook for Applicants and Beneficiaries under OPTA, version 7.0, effective from 1 Jul 2011	Published by OPTA MA
08 Jul 2011	Receipt of the EC information about acceptance of the Annual Report for 2010	without comments
28 Jul Aug 2011	Training courses for beneficiaries (including the secondary ones) on HAB	
26 Aug 2011	Meeting of OPTA Selection Committee	3 projects approved
31 Aug 2011	A new reported case of suspected irregularity concerning violation of budgetary discipline referred to the Tax Office for further investigation	
13 Sep 2011	Decision of the Tax Office – budgetary discipline has been violated	
22 Sep 2011	Decision of the Tax Office – budgetary discipline has not been violated, it is not an irregularity	
November 2011	The N+3 rule fulfilled for 2008 allocation without inclusion of advance payment (assessed according to the state of certified expenditure submitted to the EC)	
5 Oct 2011	Training courses for beneficiaries (including the secondary ones) on MRD internal procedures of public procurement	
14 Oct 2011	A new reported case of suspected irregularity concerning violation of budgetary discipline referred to the Tax Office for further investigation	

Date	Event	Notes
03 Nov 2011	Approval of the revision of the OPTA Programming Document by EC	see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section
16 Nov 2011	8 <sup>th</sup> regular meeting of OPTA MC	OPTA MC approved the OPTA Evaluation Plan for 2012
18. Nov 2011 (published)	Controlled documentation: OPTA Operational Manual, version 6.0, effective from 1 Dec 2011	Published by OPTA MA
01 Dec 2011	Approval of Management and control systems of OPTA	Internally by OPTA MA
01 Dec 2011	Update of the call	see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section
02 Dec 2011	Meeting of OPTA Selection Committee	4 projects approved
12 Dec 2011	Change in and publication of the Statute of OPTA Selection Committee, reflecting organisational changes at MRD	Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 216/2011 j
16 Dec 2011	Approval of the OPTA MC Statute, reflecting organisational changes at MRD	Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 222/2011
Quarterly	Sending the conclusions of working groups to the EC and OP MA	
Quarterly	Report on irregularities	Published by OPTA MA
Quarterly	Quarterly summary report on the progress of absorption under OPTA	
Quarterly	Monitoring of needs of target groups	Based on the recommendations arising from the evaluation of absorption capacity (from 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010)
Biannually in line with the date of OPTA MC	Report on implementation of OPTA	

Date	Event	Notes
Biannually	Summary report on risk management	Published by OPTA MA
Biannually	Plans for the fulfilment of allocations in intervention areas	Based on the data from OPTA IS and scheduled activities of beneficiaries
Biannually	Evaluation of risks of projects	
Biannually	Update of successful projects on the website	see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section
Continuously	Publishing the latest news about OPTA on the website	see <a href="http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz">www.strukturalni-fondy.cz</a> , OPTA section



## 2.1.1 Information on physical progress of the Operational Programme Technical Assistance

In the OPTA the quality data and information on the progress of programme implementation is obtained based on the system of monitoring indicators defined in the Programming Document. They are fulfilled at the level of individual projects and measure the achievement of programme objectives and effects achieved.

The OPTA uses the output, result and impact indicators, as illustrated in the Table No 4 below.

**Table No 4: Map of OPTA indicators**

NCI code / Type of indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total
48.27.00 Impact indicator	Rate of shortening of the administrative process in the project administration	%	MA IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Baseline	100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	80	80
48.03.00 Output indicator	Number of meetings of the respective bodies (monitoring, advisory and managing)	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	12	14	15	54	90	N/A	90
				Baseline	12	12	14	15	54	N/A	12
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	92	92
48.05.00 Output indicator	Conducted studies and elaborated reports (including evaluation studies and reports)	number	A/B IS	Achieved	3	43	47	72	87	N/A	87
				Baseline	3	3	43	47	72	N/A	3
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	250	250
48.07.00 Output indicator	Number of created methodological and technical and information materials	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	16	22	32	82	99	N/A	99
				Baseline	16	16	22	32	82	N/A	16
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	124	124
48.09.00 Output indicator	Number of performed information and publicity activities	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	2	2	9	10	N/A	10
				Baseline	0	0	2	2	9	N/A	0

NCI code / Type of indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	15
48.10.00 Result indicator	Number of visits to the website	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	0	N/A	0
				Baseline	0	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	920 000	920 000
48.11.00 Output indicator	Number of held training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and similar activities	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	40	133	217	422	834	N/A	834
				Baseline	40	40	133	217	422	N/A	40
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 470	1 470
48.13.00 Result indicator	Number of downloads of electronic documents	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	0	N/A	1 977 000
				Baseline	0	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	N/A	1 977 000
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	231 000	231 000
48.19.00 Result indicator	Number of trained persons - total	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	320	1 501	2 061	3 230	4 518	N/A	4 518
				Baseline	320	320	1 501	2 061	3 230	N/A	320
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17 892	17 892
48.19.50 Result indicator	Number of trained persons (beneficiaries) - total	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	500
48.19.60 Output indicator	Number of consultations and visits – beneficiaries	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	500

NCI code / Type of indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total
------------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------	--------	-------	------	------	------	------	------	-------------------	-------

48.21.00 Output indicator	Increase in HW capacity	GB	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	N/A	50 500	N/A	50 500
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	97 100	97 100
48.23.00 Output indicator	Number of contracted programming hours	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	15 125,6	15 125,6	N/A	15 125,6
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	15 125,6	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15 125,6	15 125,6
48.24.00 Output indicator	Number of newly purchased ICT equipment	Number	MA IS	Achieved	0	0	0	7	85,4	N/A	85,4
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	7	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	340	340
48.24.20 Output indicator	Number of purchased technical equipment, except for ICT	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	50	50
48.24.30 Output indicator	Purchase of software	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	2	17	N/A	17
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	2	N/A	0
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	173	173
48.31.00 Output indicator	Number of staff employed in the implementation structure	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	132,50	293,58	370,99	316,48	316,48	N/A	316,48 <sup>1</sup>
				Baseline	132,50	132,50	293,58	370,99	316,48	N/A	132,50

<sup>1</sup> According to the Methodology of monitoring, the indicator 48.31.00 covers also the baseline value. The actual achieved value of the number of staff, however, equals 183.98 (not 316.48) since the baseline value of 132.5 is already included in the achieved value and by the application of the general rule of adding the baseline value to the value achieved (in line with the Methodology of monitoring) it is included twice in the sum total.

NCI code / Type of indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	345,00	350,00
48.31.01 Result indicator	Number of staff employed in the implementation structure for more than 3 years	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	13	13	37	37	N/A	37
				Baseline	0	0	13	13	37	N/A	0
				Target1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	170	170

Source: The baseline and target values are taken over from the OP, the achieved values are generated from MSC2007 information system report as of 1 Mar 2011

Note: Achieved value = projects from status P45 in IS MONIT7+ with the approved monitoring report.

<sup>1</sup>The target was set for the whole programming period.

The values in indicator 48.27.00 are for the time being classified as N/A in compliance with the system specified by NCA for the purpose of the Annual report. However, fulfilment of the indicator is continuously monitored by the OPTA MA on the basis of data obtained from the information systems and informs about it in the OPTA Implementation reports intended for the OPTA MC.

N/A is given in the "Target value" line for individual years since the target is set for the whole programming period.

The value given in "Target value 2015" column is relevant only for "Target value" line.

## **Comments on the system of indicators in OPTA**

In compliance with its evaluation plan, the OPTA MA evaluated the system of indicators within the OPTA in cooperation with individual responsible entities of priority axes and an external contractor. The evaluation was completed in March 2011. The main recommendations concerned extension of the system of indicators, increase of target values and performance of evaluation of the impact indicator. The recommendations were accepted by the OPTA MA. Description of the implemented changes is included in Chapter 3. At the same time, these changes were reflected in the revision of the OPTA Programming Document, that was approved by the EC in November 2011, as well as in other relevant OPTA documents.

### **2.1.1.1 OVERVIEW OF ANNOUNCED CALLS**

A general continuous call was announced on 14 May 2008. It is the 1<sup>st</sup> call for applications for granting assistance under the OPTA, originally covering only the 2007-2010 period, from 2009 until the end of the programming period (or 30 June 2015 when implementation of the OPTA projects terminates). It covers all the priority axes and was updated four times, once in 2008, twice in 2009 and once in 2011.

#### **Overview of updates of the call**

The call was updated as of 1 December 2011 in connection with the approved OPTA revision in November 2011. The update consisted in adjustments of the planned allocations in terms of priority axes, including the exchange rate used for calculation of the amounts, the transfer of a supported activity from the intervention area 1.2 to the intervention area 1.1, extension of supported activities in the intervention area 2.1, extension of eligible beneficiaries under the OPTA and change in the contact person. In addition, the call reflected certain additional modifications related to increasing the efficiency of the OPTA implementation.

Table No 5: “Overview of announced and ongoing calls (EU + national sources)” presents the following information: altogether 139 applications in the total amount of EUR 297 669 833 were submitted under all the priority axes of OPTA, of which in 2011 a total of 26 applications in the amount of EUR 43 495 855 were submitted. In 110 projects amounting to EUR 161 425 364 the Decision was issued/Contract was signed, of which in 2011 it concerned altogether 24 projects totalling EUR 25 834 870.

**Table No 5: Overview of announced and ongoing calls (EU + national sources) – cumulatively**

Sequence number of the call	Submission of project applications – Opening date for the receipt of project applications	Submission of project applications – Closing date of the call	Type of the call	Number of the priority axis/ intervention area / sub-area	Allocation for the call	Submitted applications for support in 2010*		Projects with issued Decision / signed Contract*	
					In EUR	number	in EUR	number	in EUR
1.	14. 5. 2008	31. 12. 2013	Continuous	1a 1b	27 148 278	14	24 699 845,62	13	16 373 716,71
2.				2a 2b	58 301 925	62	122 745 088,77	40	43 562 620,65
3.				3a 3b	92 038 037	56	110 036 516,21	51	85 991 076,62
4.				4a 4b	51 775 660	7	40 188 382,87	6	15 497 950,60
<b>Total</b>	---	---	---	---	<b>229 263 900</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>297 669 833,47</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>161 425 364,57</b>

Note: The call was announced for the total amount of public funds.

The allocations for the call given in the table are expressed in EUR as specified in the update of the call published on 1 Dec 2011. The amounts were calculated using the exchange rate of 24 CZK/EUR.

Source:MSC209 and MSC261 with data generated as of 4 Jan 2012.The amounts are calculated cumulatively since the launch of the implementation, i.e. 2007-2011 period.

\* it is calculated at the exchange rate of 25.91 CZK/EUR

## 2.1.2 Information on financial data of the OPTA

The total public sources equal EUR 229 263 900 (EU + SB). The total certified eligible expenditure incurred by beneficiaries equals EUR 47 513 950.15 (EU + SB). The contribution from public sources amounted to EUR 47 513 950.15. The share of certified eligible expenditure in the total programme financing is 21 %.

**Table No 6: Information on financial data of the OPTA in EUR**

	<b>Total funds for the operational programme (EU + SB)</b>	<b>Basis for the calculation of EU contribution (from public funds or total)</b>	<b>Total certified eligible expenditure incurred by beneficiaries</b>	<b>Contribution from public sources</b>	<b>Share of certified eligible expenditure in total programme financing (%)</b>
<i>Priority axis 1a</i> ERDF type expenditure	26 733 285	Public	3 466 006,5	3 466 006,5	13%
<i>Priority axis 1b</i> ERDF type expenditure	414 993	Public	54 777,59	54 777,59	13%
<i>Priority axis 2a</i> ERDF type expenditure	57 372 968	Public	13 522 640,99	13 522 640,99	24%
<i>Priority axis 2b</i> ERDF type expenditure	928 957	Public	218 784,35	218 784,35	24%
<i>Priority axis 3a</i> ERDF type expenditure	90 563 584	Public	20 897 136,14	20 897 136,14	23%
<i>Priority axis 3b</i> ERDF type expenditure	1 474 453	Public	339 182,32	339 182,32	23%
<i>Priority axis 4a</i> ERDF type expenditure	50 938 989	Public	8 870 346,04	8 870 346,04	17%
<i>Priority axis 4b</i> ERDF type expenditure	836 671	Public	145 076,22	145 076,22	17%
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>229 263 900</b>	-----	<b>47 513 950,15</b>	<b>47 513 950,15</b>	<b>21%</b>

Note: Contribution from ERDF at the level of OPTA is calculated in relation to eligible public expenditure.

The cross financing option is not exploited in OPTA.

Exchange rate: 1 EUR = 25.91 CZK (monthly exchange rate taken over from MSC2007); the exchange rate for certified expenditure is different because it depends on the date of entry of the items in the PCA accounting system.

The values are rounded to whole numbers.

Source MSC2007 – data until 4 Jan 2012

### 2.1.2.1 INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN OF OPTA

A total of EUR 229 263 900 was allocated to the OPTA according to the financing plan. The following Table No 7 shows allocation by individual OPTA priority axes.

Table No 7: Financing plan of the OPTA by priority axis (EUR) - cumulatively

Priority axis/ Intervention area	Fund	Community contribution (EUR)	Public funds total (EUR)	Share in total allocation for the OP (%)
<b>1.</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>23 076 035</b>	<b>27 148 278</b>	<b>11,84</b>
1.1	ERDF	14 832 189	17 449 635	7,61
1.2	ERDF	2 589 481	3 046 448	1,33
1.3	ERDF	1 770 144	2 082 523	0,91
1.4	ERDF	3 884 221	4 569 672	1,99
<b>2.</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>49 556 635</b>	<b>58 301 925</b>	<b>25,43</b>
2.1	ERDF	49 556 635	58 301 925	25,43
<b>3.</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>78 232 332</b>	<b>92 038 037</b>	<b>40,15</b>
3.1	ERDF	72 560 730	85 365 564	37,24
3.2	ERDF	5 671 602	6 672 473	2,91
<b>4.</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>44 009 310</b>	<b>51 775 660</b>	<b>22,58</b>
4.1	ERDF	42 606 719	50 125 552	21,86
4.2	ERDF	1 402 591	1 650 108	0,72
<b>Total</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>194 874 312</b>	<b>229 263 900</b>	<b>100,00</b>

Note: Amounts in EUR are set as fixed amounts.  
Source: MSC 2007

### 2.1.2.2 ADVANCE AND INTERIM PAYMENTS

Table No 1: Advance and interim payments

Year	Advance payments in EUR	Interim payments in EUR
2008	12 389 158,60	
2009	9 911 326,88	2 367 227,14
2010		14 212 081,37
2011		23 807 548,60
<b>Total</b>	<b>22 300 485,48</b>	<b>40 386 857,11</b>



The OPTA MA received the advance payments in the amount of EUR 22.3 million. Interim payments will be received after each certification of expenditure, when the payment request is forwarded to the EC for the EU share in the certified amount. Currently, the interim payments sent to the OPTA MA amount to the total of EUR 40.4 million.

### **2.1.2.3 N+3/ N+2 RULE**

The OPTA MA monitors the fulfilment of N+3/N+2 rule by priority axis, further divided into individual intervention areas. The progress achieved in the absorption of SF funds is monitored in individual project applications and the rate of absorption is compared against the amount of allocation for the given year/allocation minus the advance payments received from the EC. The cut off point in terms of the achievement of N+3/N+2 targets is the status achieved at the time when the application for payment is sent to the EC. Included in the fulfilment of N+3/N+2 rule are the advance payments received from the EC. In 2011, interim applications for payment totalling EUR 23 807 548.60 (EU contribution) were submitted to the EC, in the amount of EUR 23 427 036.13 for the Convergence objective and in the amount of EUR 380 512.47 for the Regional competitiveness and employment objective. **The N+3 rule for 2011 was fulfilled at 108%, without using deduction of the advance payments from the EC.**

For 2012, the total volume of interim applications for payment addressed to the EC is estimated at EUR 76 633 030. The N+3/N+2 rule for the 2009 allocation should be met at 100% without using the advance payments from the EC.

There is a risk of delay in implementation of project activities when funds are transferred into the next stages and as a result, the planned timetables of funding of individual project stages are not observed due to protracted preparation and implementation of the public procurement procedures and tenders, which has a negative impact on implementation of the programme, particularly in relation to financially intensive projects.

**Table No 9: Allocated funds (applications/projects) – Convergence objective**

Financing plan - year	Total allocation of EU funds 2007 - 2013 - annual	N+3 / N+2 ceilings - aggregate *	EC advance payments - annual	Requests for interim/final payment submitted to the EC - annual	Advance payments from the EC + payment requests of the CR - annual	Advance payments from the EC + payment requests - aggregate	Difference between ceilings and payments - aggregate
		a	b	c	d=b+c	e	f=e-a
2007	30 253 392	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2008	31 741 516	-----	12 191 755,50	-----	12 191 755,50	12 191 755,5	-----
2009	33 236 144	-----	9 753 404,40	2 329 588,25	12 082 992,65	24 274 748,15	-----
2010	34 800 663	-----	-----	13 986 085,74	13 986 085,74	38 260 833,89	-----
2011	5 102 921	36 783 748	-----	23 427 036,13	23 427 036,13	61 687 870,02	24 904 122,02
2012	37 925 439	75 062 124	-----				
2013	18 707 426	125 050 172	-----				
2014	-----	168 017 843	-----				
2015	-----	191 767 501	-----				
<b>Total</b>	<b>191 767 501</b>	<b>191 767 501</b>	<b>21 945 159,9</b>	<b>39 742 710,12</b>	<b>61 687 870,02</b>	<b>61 687 870,02</b>	<b>-130 079 630,98</b>

Note: Exchange rate: 1 EUR = 25.91 CZK (monthly exchange rate taken over from MSC2007).

Total allocation of EU funds in 2007 – 2013 period was taken over from the OPTA Programming Document.

\* N+3 rule applies to 2008-2010, N+2 rule applies to 2011-2013

\* In monitoring the N+3/N+2 rule, 1/6 of the allocation for 2007 was added to the amounts allocated to 2008-2013, i.e. the N+3 rule does not apply to 2007 allocation. The actual amount of allocations for individual years does not change.

**Table No 10: Allocated funds (applications/projects) – RCE objective**

Financing plan - year	Total allocation of EU funds 2007 - 2013 - annual	N+3 / N+2 ceilings - aggregate *	EC advance payments - annual	Requests for interim/final payment submitted to the EC - annual	Advance payments from the EC + payment requests of the CR - annual	Advance payments from the EC + payment requests - aggregate	Difference between ceilings and payments - aggregate
		a	b	c	d=b+c	e	f=e-a
2007	531 062	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2008	541 683	-----	197 403,10	-----	197 403,10	197 403,10	-----
2009	552 516	-----	157 922,48	37 638,89	195 561,37	392 964,47	-----
2010	563 567	-----	-----	225 995,63	225 995,63	618 960,10	-----
2011	69 725	630 193,33	-----	380 512,47	380 512,47	999 472,57	369 279,24
2012	586 335	1 271 219,67	-----				
2013	261 923	2 081 532,33	-----				
2014	-----	2 756 377,67	-----				
2015	-----	3 106 811,00	-----				
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 106 811</b>	<b>3 106 811,00</b>	<b>355 325,58</b>	<b>644 146,99</b>	<b>999 472,57</b>	<b>999 472,57</b>	<b>- 2 107 338,43</b>

Note: Exchange rate: 1 EUR = 25.91 CZK (monthly exchange rate taken over from MSC2007).

Total allocation of EU funds in 2007 – 2013 period was taken over from the OPTA Programming Document.

\* N+3 rule applies to 2008-2010, N+2 rule applies to 2011-2013

\* In monitoring the N+3/N+2 rule, 1/6 of the allocation for 2007 was added to the amounts allocated to 2008-2013, i.e. the N+3 rule does not apply to 2007 allocation. The actual amount of allocations for individual years does not change.

**Table No 11: Allocated funds (applications/projects)– Convergence objective + RCE objective**

Financing plan - year	Total allocation of EU funds 2007 - 2013 - annual	N+3 / N+2 ceilings - aggregate *	EC advance payments - annual	Requests for interim/final payment submitted to the EC - annual	Advance payments from the EC + payment requests of the CR - annual	Advance payments from the EC + payment requests - aggregate	Difference between ceilings and payments - aggregate
		a	b	c	d=b+c	e	f=e-a
2007	30 784 454	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2008	32 283 199	-----	12 389 158,60	-----	12 389 158,60	12 389 158,60	-----
2009	33 788 660	-----	9 911 326,88	2 367 227,14	12 278 554,02	24 667 712,62	-----
2010	35 364 230	-----	-----	14 212 081,37	14 212 081,37	38 879 793,99	-----
2011	5 172 646	37 413 941,33	-----	23 807 548,60	23 807 548,60	62 687 342,59	25 273 401,26
2012	38 511 774	76 333 343,67	-----				
2013	18 969 349	127 131 704,33	-----				
2014	-----	170 774 220,67	-----				
2015	-----	194 874 312,00	-----				
<b>Total</b>	<b>194 874 312</b>	<b>194 874 312,00</b>	<b>22 300 485,48</b>	<b>40 386 857,11</b>	<b>62 687 342,59</b>	<b>62 687 342,59</b>	<b>- 132 186 969,41</b>

Note: Exchange rate: 1 EUR = 25.91 CZK (monthly exchange rate taken over from MSC2007).

Total allocation of EU funds in 2007 – 2013 period was taken over from the OPTA Programming Document.

\* N+3 rule applies to 2008-2010, N+2 rule applies to 2011-2013

\* In monitoring the N+3/N+2 rule, 1/6 of the allocation for 2007 was added to the amounts allocated to 2008-2013, i.e. the N+3 rule does not apply to 2007 allocation. The actual amount of allocations for individual years does not change.

#### 2.1.2.4 CROSS-FINANCING

The OPTA does not offer the option of cross-financing since it allows for financing of both the investment and non-investment expenditure and therefore it is unnecessary to draw down the funds from another programme. The option of cross-financing for the OPTA is not laid down in any OPTA methodology.

#### 2.1.3 Breakdown of use of the funds

The following table refers to Community contributions only.

Table No 12: Priority themes of OPTA

Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5	Continuous fulfilment <sup>2</sup> (EUR)	
<i>Priority theme</i>	<i>Form of financing</i>	<i>Type of territory</i>	<i>Economic activity</i>	<i>Geographical location</i>	Absorbed*	Allocation for the theme in the OP
<b>81</b> – Mechanisms of better creation, monitoring and evaluation of good policies and programmes at the national, regional and local level, building capacities for the implementation of policies and programmes	01	01	Public administration	CZ01 CZ02 CZ03 CZ04 CZ05 CZ06 CZ07 CZ08	78 508 935,76	111 078 357
<b>85</b> – Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control	01	01	Public administration	CZ01 CZ02 CZ03 CZ04 CZ05 CZ06 CZ07 CZ08	47 758 015,31	52 616 065

<sup>2</sup>

Status of the projects is P4 or further up in the process.

Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5	Continuous fulfilment <sup>2</sup> (EUR)	
<i>Priority theme</i>	<i>Form of financing</i>	<i>Type of territory</i>	<i>Economic activity</i>	<i>Geographical location</i>	Absorbed*	Allocation for the theme in the OP
<b>86</b> – Evaluation and studies; information and communication	01	01	Public administration	CZ01 CZ02 CZ03 CZ04 CZ05 CZ06 CZ07 CZ08	25 338 049,01	31 179 890
<b>Total</b>					<b>151 605 000,08</b>	<b>194 874 312</b>

Note: Code Theme 2 – Form of financing: 01 = Non-repayable aid; Code Theme 3 – Type of territory: 01 = Town; Code Theme 5 – Geographical location: CZ01 - CZ08 = NUTS II  
The amounts “Absorbed” in EUR are calculated using the exchange rate from MSC of 25.91 CZK/EUR as of 4 Jan 2012. The amount of allocation is taken over from the OPTA Programming Document.

\*It refers to project status from P4 further up in the process.  
The values are rounded to whole numbers.

## **2.1.4 Assistance by target group**

The target groups by priority axis are the following:

**Priority axis 1a: Management and Coordination Support – Convergence objective**  
**Priority axis 1b: Management and Coordination Support – Regional competitiveness and employment objective**

### **Target groups:**

Intervention area – Management of NSRF implementation

MRD and OP implementation structure

CRD – state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisation of MRD

Intervention area – Financial management, control and audit

MoF – Paying and Certifying Authority, Audit Authority and AAE

CRD – state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisation of MRD

Intervention area – Management and coordination of ESC

Institutions involved in management and coordination of ESC through their membership in the Management and Coordination Committee

CRD – state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisation of MRD

Intervention area – Preparation of new programming period 2014+

Institutions involved in management and coordination of ESC through their membership in Working Group on the cohesion policy of MCC.

**Priority axis 2a: Monitoring – Convergence objective**  
**Priority axis 2b: Monitoring – Regional competitiveness and employment objective**

### **Target groups:**

Intervention area – Monitoring system

MRD – NCA

Managing Authorities of OPs

MoF – Paying and Certifying Authority, Audit Authority

**Priority axis 3a: Administrative and Absorption Capacity – Convergence objective**  
**Priority axis 3b: Administrative and Absorption Capacity – Regional competitiveness and employment objective**

### **Target groups:**

Intervention area – Support for administrative structures, including vocational training

State administration authorities and organizations subordinate to them, involved in NSRF implementation

Managing Authorities of OPs

Regions and municipalities

Intervention area – Support for absorption capacity

MRD

CRD – state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisation

Central state administration authorities and organisations established by them

Regions, municipalities, unions of municipalities, public service companies

Natural and legal persons

**Priority axis 4a:           Publicity – Convergence objective**  
**Priority axis 4b:           Publicity – Regional competitiveness and employment objective**

**Target groups:**

Intervention area – Activities for information and publicity

MRD

CRD – state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisation

Managing Authorities of OPs

MoF

Regions and municipalities

Intervention area – Administration of communication and management tools of OPTA CoP

MRD

Managing Authorities of OPs

CRD – state semi-budgetary (contributory) organisations of MRD

Central state administration authorities and organisations established by them

List of aid beneficiaries under the OPTA focused namely on the above mentioned target groups is available on the Structural Funds website:

<http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/getdoc/7dbbbee9-9668-479f-9383-929c35fa04fb/aktualni-seznam-prijemcu>.

#### **2.1.4.1 INVESTMENTS IN REGIONS**

Projects submitted under the OPTA are of systemic nature and have an impact on the whole territory of the Czech Republic.

#### **2.1.5 Assistance repaid or re-used**

In the course of 2011 no funds were repaid.



## 2.1.6 Qualitative analysis

The “Financial progress” table presents a summary of contracted/paid/certified funds of beneficiaries in individual priority axes. By the end of 2011, the funds amounting to EUR 161.4 million were approved for the implementation of projects, i.e. 70% of the total allocation for the programme. The largest share of funds was approved under Priority axes 2 and 3. The beneficiaries were reimbursed a total of EUR 49.8 million, representing almost 22% of the total allocation. The largest share of reimbursed funds is reported by Priority axes 2 and 3. By the end of 2011, funds in the amount of EUR 47.5 million were certified (almost 21% of the allocation for the programme).

**Table No 2: Financial progress - cumulatively**

Priority axis	Allocation for 2007–2013	Funds covered by Decision / Contract (Addendum)		Funds paid to beneficiaries		Certified funds submitted to the EC	
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	%	EUR	%
	a	b	b/a	c	c/a	d	d/a
1.1	17 449 635	10 883 828,64	62,37	2 251 190,54	12,90	2 204 652,95	12,63
1.2	3 046 448	3 444 345,81	113,06	1 182 297,61	38,81	1 164 942,67	38,24
1.3	2 082 523	501 736,79	10,98	113 162,52	5,43	102 174,90	4,91
1.4	4 569 672	1 543 805,48	24,12	59 373,06	1,30	49 013,57	1,07
<b>PA 1</b>	<b>27 148 278</b>	<b>16 373 716,72</b>	<b>60,31</b>	<b>3 606 023,73</b>	<b>13,28</b>	<b>3 520 784,09</b>	<b>12,97</b>
2.1	58 301 924	43 562 620,65	74,72	13 511 023,39	23,17	13 741 425,34	23,57
<b>PA 2</b>	<b>58 301 924</b>	<b>43 562 620,65</b>	<b>74,72</b>	<b>13 511 023,39</b>	<b>23,17</b>	<b>13 741 425,34</b>	<b>23,57</b>
3.1	85 365 564	79 391 308,19	93,00	24 067 993,90	28,19	21 190 423,79	24,82
3.2	6 672 473	6 599 768,43	98,91	45 239,29	0,68	45 894,67	0,69
<b>PA 3</b>	<b>92 038 037</b>	<b>85 991 076,62</b>	<b>93,43</b>	<b>24 113 233,19</b>	<b>26,20</b>	<b>21 236 318,46</b>	<b>23,07</b>
4.1	50 125 552	11 827 553,06	23,60	8 511 747,43	16,98	8 943 266,90	17,84
4.2	1 650 108	3 670 397,53	223,43	67 109,23	4,07	72 155,36	4,37
<b>PA 4</b>	<b>51 775 660</b>	<b>15 497 950,59</b>	<b>29,93</b>	<b>8 578 856,66</b>	<b>16,57</b>	<b>9 015 422,26</b>	<b>17,41</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>229263 900</b>	<b>161 425 364,58</b>	<b>70,41</b>	<b>49 809 136,97</b>	<b>21,73</b>	<b>47 513 950,15</b>	<b>20,72</b>

Note: Exchange rate: 1 EUR = 25.91 CZK (monthly exchange rate taken from MSC2007 as of 4 Jan 2012).

Source: MSC2007 (MSC261 report); all the values given in the table cover the period until 4 Jan 2012

### 2.1.6.1 PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OPTA IN 2011

In view of initial problems associated with the launch of this operational programme, a considerable number of projects has been submitted and approved, despite the limited group of beneficiaries. In 2011:

- A total of 26 new project applications requiring **EUR 43 495 855** were received;
- 24 projects in the total amount of **EUR 25 834 870** were approved for financing;
- A total of 33 projects in the amount of **EUR 14 022 824** were financially completed;
- Based on the applications for payment, the beneficiaries were reimbursed a total of **EUR 14 838 220** (for 2011), i.e. **6.47%** of the total OPTA allocation for 2007 – 2013 period;
- Funds totalling **EUR 28 008 881** (for 2011), i.e. **12.22%** of the total OPTA allocation for 2007-2013 period were certified .

The progress in OPTA implementation in 2011 as against 2010 is obvious. There is a remarkable difference in the volume of funds paid to beneficiaries at the end of 2010 (EUR 34.9 million) and at the end of 2011 (EUR 49.8 million) and certified funds at the end of 2010 (EUR 19.5 million ) and at the end of 2011 (EUR 47.5 million).

In 2007 - 2011 period, of the total number of 139 submitted project applications, 110 projects were approved, i.e. 79.14% of approved projects of the total number of received project applications.

The projects approved in 2007 - 2011 period in the amount of EUR 161 425 365 represent the commitment of 70.41% of the total OPTA allocation for the whole 2007 – 2013 programming period.

In 2007-2011 period, based on the applications for payment, the beneficiaries were reimbursed a total of **EUR 49 809 137**, i.e. **21.73%** of the total OPTA allocation for 2007 – 2013 period. In addition, funds totalling **EUR 47 513 950**, i.e. **20.72%** of the total OPTA allocation for 2007- 2013 period, were certified during this period.

The above mentioned information on the achieved values corresponds also with the progress described in detail in Chapter 2.1.6.3 Results achieved by means of assistance from OPTA and also in Chapter 3 “Implementation by priority axis“ describing the progress by priority axis.

### 2.1.6.2 PROBLEMS AND RISKS ENCOUNTERED IN ABSORPTION

#### 1. *Delay in or non-implementation of major projects*

##### *Description of the risk:*

One of the main problems is particularly delay in implementation of project activities when funds are transferred between individual project stages on the basis of applications of beneficiaries in the form of the Notification of the beneficiary on changes in the project. Such a situation has a negative impact on the compliance of predictions included in the financial plans of the projects with reality.

##### *Adopted measures:*

The OPTA MA regularly informs the management on risky projects, primarily for the reason of potential impacts on the fulfilment of N+3 rule. The OPTA MA addresses these matters at regular meetings with beneficiaries and monitors the risky projects in terms of their compliance with the timetable of activities. The most important measure were NCA proposals and recommendations from evaluations to adjust the OPTA allocations in favour of OP with a higher absorption capacity, that were adopted at 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OPTA MC and subsequently by the EC, and address the problem of fulfilment of the N+3/N+2 rule under the OPTA in 2013.

## 2. Protracted preparation and implementation of the public procurement procedures and tenders

### *Description of the risk:*

The problem mentioned above under 1) is also associated with the fact that tenders carried out within the OPTA projects undergo a long process of preparation and implementation that is protracted mainly due to multi-round comment procedures of public contract approval. A higher number of entities involved in this process is useful from the viewpoint of control of public fund management and is stipulated by the internal regulation applied to beneficiaries at the MRD who constitute the most important group of eligible beneficiaries under the OPTA. The lengthy process of preparation and implementation of public procurement procedures causes delay in absorption of the allocation, failure to absorb the funds as planned or at all, and repayment of the unused EU funds.

### *Adopted measures:*

The OPTA MA addresses the current problems of public procurement within its regular meetings with beneficiaries, it continuously provides beneficiaries with consultations focused on preparation and implementation of the public procurement procedures and recommends them procedures that comply with the OPTA rules and the Act on Public Contracts ("APC"). In addition, training courses are organized for beneficiaries at MRD on internal procedures and for all OPTA beneficiaries on APC.

### **2.1.6.3 RESULTS ACHIEVED BY MEANS OF ASSISTANCE FROM OPTA**

#### 1. Enhancing the qualification of employees through specialised training courses and seminars

In the framework of the existing projects of NSRF Education and Training Unit focused on education and training of NSRF staff 676 employees were trained in 2011.

#### 2. Methodological guidance of managing authorities of individual operational programmes

There are regular meetings of WG, held under the responsibility of the NCA and the Monitoring System Administration Department (MSAD).

Under the auspices of the NCA the following WGs are convened:

- WG for Information and Publicity of EU funds
- WG Education for the NSRF
- WG Evaluation
- WG Control, audit, irregularities (CAI)
- WG NCA
- WG Absorption capacity (AbCap)

Under the auspices of the MSAD the following WG is convened:

- WG Single Monitoring System (SMS))

#### 3. Cross-cutting matters addressed at the central level

##### Priority axis 1:

- **Organisation of the NSRF II Project**

In 2011, a total of 16 meetings of monitoring, advisory and managing bodies were held under project CZ.1.08/1.1.00/11.00116. These were particularly the meetings of WG NCA and other working groups (CAI, AbCap, Evaluation, Single Monitoring System etc.) and Annual meeting with the EC representatives.

The NCA in collaboration with other entities organised 9 training courses, seminars, workshops and conferences, namely the following:

- Seminar on "Current issues of the cohesion policy"
- Seminar on "Current issues in the field of state aid"
- Seminar on "Simplified procedures for applicants/ beneficiaries"
- Seminar on "Revision of regional Ops"
- Conference on "JESSICA financial tool and the possibilities of its use"
- Workshop on tools for promotion of partnership

- **Management of NSRF II implementation Project**

In 2011, a total of 6 studies and reports were accomplished under the CZ.1.08/1.1.00/11.00119 project:

- Sources materials for preparation of materials as a follow-up to UV 694/2010
- Study of sensitivity of SF in CR to corruption
- Study on evaluation of impacts of the structural intervention on the local regional or national development in three selected projects implemented under SF/CF in the 2007-2013 programming period
- Ex-post evaluation of CSF and SPD in 2004-2006
- Analysis/study of simplifying administration intensity
- Analysis of the evaluation of the legal tools of SF implementation in the 2007-2013 period

Within this project, NCA organized also a workshop on Ex-post evaluation of the previous programming period.

Priority axis 2:

In 2011, comprehensive services were provided under the projects of the Monitoring System Administration Department (MSAD), associated with operation of the MONIT7+ and BENEFIT7 applications for 16 operational programmes. A total of 8 programme modifications were made to the MONIT7+ monitoring system and the BENEFIT7 electronic application on the basis of specific requirements of the OPTA MA. The services of the Design and analytical competence associated with the operation and development of the MONIT7+ monitoring system and the BENEFIT7 electronic application were continuously provided for 16 operational programmes of 2007 – 2013 programming period. Further on, 30 training courses for 434 employees of managing authorities of OPs and intermediate bodies were held with major focus on the monitoring systems of BENEFIT7 and MONIT7+.

Priority axis 3:

In 2011, the NCA organized training of the staff of the NSRF implementation structure (IS NSRF) through two projects:

- **System of training of the staff involved in the implementation of the NSRF in the 2007-2013 period**
- **In-service training of the NSRF staff at the MRD**

The system of training of the IS NSRF staff is ensured on the basis of cooperation with a contractor selected within a public contract. Since October 2011, training programmes have been organized for individual IS NSRF type positions throughout the whole CR. Information about individual events in the system of education is available on the specific website [www.vzdelavaninsrr.cz](http://www.vzdelavaninsrr.cz), that may be used for registration for individual educational events.

Ad hoc educational events are organized for the staff implementing the NSRF at the MRD both in CR and abroad, the content of which does not duplicate the training provided within the system of education.

NCA also prepares specific training courses for the NSRF control and audit entities in the form of a public contract under the project “Training of the IS NSRF staff in the field of EU fund control and audit“. The public contract was prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance CR – Department of control, and announced in 2011. However, no applicant was interested in its implementation. NCA prepared another call in 2012 in the spring 2012, again without any response. Currently, an alternative procedure is being considered.

Priority axis 4:

In the course of 2011 e.g. the following activities were performed:

- Interactive seminars “Non-governmental Non-profit Organisations and funds of the European Union” – the fourth and fifth series
- Conference - New Member States
- Conference – EU Funds in Half-time– new challenges
- Conference - Publicity Platform – Keeping EU Funds Attractive
- Leaflet EU Funds

#### **2.1.6.4 CONTRIBUTION OF OPTA TO EU HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES**

##### ***Equal opportunities:***

Equal opportunities are irrelevant in case of the OPTA with respect to the design of its priority axes.

##### ***Sustainable development:***

Sustainable development is divided into three parts – social, environmental and economic. Pursuant to Article 17 of the General Regulation the sustainable development focuses predominantly on the protection of environment and improvement of its quality. The OPTA, however, does not have any direct impact on the environment.

##### ***Principle of partnership:***

The principle of partnership is irrelevant in case of the OPTA.

#### **2.1.6.5 CONTRIBUTION OF OP ASSISTANCE TO THE LISBON STRATEGY OBJECTIVES (= EARMARKING)**

The contribution of OP assistance to the Lisbon strategy objectives is irrelevant in case of the OPTA.

## **2.2 Information about the Compliance with Community Legislation**

In 2011, non-compliance with the rules of public procurement was identified in the OP implementation on the part of the beneficiaries. However, these problems were identified before approval of the simplified application for payment and thus they had no impact on the amount of certified expenditure.

The OPTA MA issues a system of controlled documentation, covering the whole system of OP implementation, which is in line with the CR and Community legislation. The system of controlled documentation as to its content and formal aspects puts an emphasis on the compliance with the rules of:

- Competition,
- Public procurement.

### ***2.2.1 Rules of competition***

The funds earmarked for the implementation of the OP are regarded to be public funds, the provision of which is subject to the relevant EU rules applicable to the state aid and national legislation. The provision of state aid, however, is irrelevant in case of the OPTA with respect to the structure of beneficiaries.

### ***2.2.2 Public procurement***

With respect to the award of public contracts, the OPTA programming documentation imposes upon all the beneficiaries an obligation to proceed in line with Act No 137/2006 Coll., on public contracts, as amended, which reflects the European directives governing the award of public contracts No 2004/17/EC and No 2004/18/EC, and simultaneously with the additional rules stipulated by the OPTA. The OPTA procedures for the award of public contracts included in Annex 8 to the OPTA HAB build on the NCA document called “Binding procedures for the award of contracts co-financed from the EU funds, outside the scope of Act No 137/2006 Coll., on public contracts in 2007 – 2013 programming period”. The award of public contracts is subject to controls by the OPTA MA.

## **2.3 Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them**

### **2.3.1 OPTA information systems**

#### **Backup office of the monitoring system of Structural Funds**

In the course of 2011, steps were taken to ensure full equipment of the backup office for the monitoring system of Structural Funds. In accordance with the accomplishment of tasks of the Action Plan for the Monitoring System adopted by Resolution of the Government of the CR No 751 of 8 June 2009, the data backups are arranged for by the IT Department of MRD in cooperation with the system supplier until the backup office is fully operational. The backup office is addressed by OPTA projects.

### **2.3.2 OPTA staffing**

In 2011, four employment contracts were terminated within the OPTA MA, namely in the position of Head of the OPTA control, methodology and monitoring department, controller and project managers for Priority axis 4. The employees left for other institutions also involved in implementation of the EU funds. In addition, a director was appointed within the OPTA MA. In 2011, six employees were recruited for the position of Head of Department of the OPTA management and evaluation, methodologist, auditor, guarantor of the system of indicators and two auditors of public contracts (in connection with transfer of this activity from CRD to the OPTA MA).

### **2.3.3 General audit findings**

The Authorised Audit Entity of MRD conducted/ completed three audits in 2011:

- 1) Audit on operations of OPTA with respect of expenditure submitted for certification as of September 2010 (No 21/10/AAE) – the subject of this audit was to verify the eligibility of expenditure incurred in the implementation of an operation and to verify the Conditions of the Decision on granting assistance on a sample of projects implemented within the OPTA.
- 2) Audit on operations of OPTA with respect of expenditure submitted for certification as of September 2010 (No 24/11/AAE) – the subject of this audit was to verify the eligibility of expenditure incurred in the implementation of an operation and to verify the Conditions of the Decision on granting assistance on a sample of projects implemented within the OPTA.
- 3) Audit on OPTA system of implementation (No 29/11/AAE) – the aim was to make sure that the management and control systems of OPTA implementation are in place and functional.

The Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic Audit Authority – Central Harmonisation Unit pursuant to Article 62 para1 letter d) point ii) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 and Article 18 para 2 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 reviewed the functioning of the management and control systems in the OPTA in the period from 1 Jul 2010 to 30 Jun 2011. Subsequently, an unqualified opinion was issued, meaning that in the above referred to period the management and control system established for the purpose of OPTA complied with the valid requirements and functioned effectively and that the statements of expenditure presented to the Commission are correct and the underlying transactions are legal and regular.

#### **Details on findings of audit No 21/10/AAE**

In audit No 21/10 AAE, a total of 10 projects were selected and included in the audited sample, and only in one case a finding of low materiality was identified.

### **Details on findings of audit No 24/11/AAE**

In audit No 24/11 AAE, a total of 6 projects were selected in the audited sample and 8 findings were identified for the OPTA, of which 6 findings of low materiality particularly in the field of first level verification and public contracts, and 2 findings of low materiality in the field of keeping separate accounts and maintenance of reliable accounting, monitoring and financial reporting systems in electronic form.

### **Details on findings of audit No 29/11/AAE**

The audit of the implementation system for the OPTA No 29/11 AAE served to verify functioning of the OPTA management and control system. In total 3 findings were identified within the audit at the OPTA MA, of which 1 finding with small materiality and 2 findings with low materiality. In the CRD, 2 findings of low materiality were identified. The OPTA MA sent its opinion on the findings to the AAE, that will be addressed within updating of the OPTA documentation.

### **2.3.4 Statistics of project exclusion**

In 2010 no projects were excluded from the OPTA. The beneficiaries largely use the consultations on their project applications offered by the OPTA MA/IB.

## **2.4 Changes in the Context of the OP Implementation (if relevant)**

In compliance with the provision of Article 33(d) of the Council Regulation (EC) no 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund, an application for approval of the OPTA revision was sent to the European Commission on 11 July 2011. All changes were at the same time submitted and approved at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OPTA MC. On 3 November 2011 the EC approved this revision in the full scope.

Changes aimed at modification of the planned allocations in terms of priority axes, including transfer of a supported activity from the intervention area 1.2 to the intervention area 1.1, extension of supported activities in the intervention area 2.1 by preparation of the monitoring system for the 2014-2020 programming period and extension of Objective 4.1 by the possibility to use the OPTA also for funding the activities associated with informing of both the general and specialised public about the preparation of the 2014–2020 programming period. In addition, modification of the OPTA system of indicators, including the target values in indicators that were significantly exceeded, and extension of eligible beneficiaries in the OPTA were made.

## **2.5 Substantial Modification under Article 57 of General Regulation (if relevant)**

In 2011 no case of substantial modification under Article 57 para 1 letters a), b) of General Regulation was detected.

## **2.6 Complementarity with Other Instruments**

The OPTA does not allow for any synergies.  
The OPTA does not use financial engineering tools.

## **2.7 Monitoring and ongoing evaluation arrangements**

The Working Group for Single Monitoring System for 2007 - 2013 programming period was set up on 11 August 2008 based on the Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 141/2008. This group is a MRD advisory body for coordination of the single monitoring system of the assistance from the EU funds in the CR. The Working Group discusses and approves proposals and requirements of the NCA as the central coordination body, NSRF Management and Coordination Department as the central coordination authority, OP MA, PCA and AA for the development of the single monitoring system. It also focuses on the setup, functionalities and optimisation of the single monitoring system as well as the requirements for all the levels of the single monitoring system with regard to the scope of data for central monitoring and the linked external information systems. In its activities the Working Group ensures the application of central methodology of monitoring at all the levels of the single monitoring system, its maintenance and development for the sake of provision of correct, updated and comparable data.

Principles of monitoring:

Monitoring is a set of interconnected activities. Monitoring focuses on collection, classification, aggregation and storage of data on projects, priority axes, the programme and on evaluation of the progress in their implementation as against the set out plan. Monitoring is conducted in line with the Methodology of monitoring of the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund for 2007 – 2013 programming period. The data from the single monitoring system represents the fundamental source of data for the OPTA MA that performs the monitoring of both the physical and financial progress achieved in programme implementation through quarterly, interim and annual reports. Moreover, it takes part in the specification of data for monthly monitoring reports, drawn up under the supervision of the NCA. Another source of data for monitoring are the supporting materials supplied by the OPTA MA to the OPTA MC members. In addition to that the OPTA MA communicates with beneficiaries on their project outlines, including changes/unclarities that arise in the course of project implementation. In such cases, too, the data from the single monitoring system may serve as an important basis for decision making.

### **2.7.1 Monitoring system**

Throughout the year 2011, the monitoring system was continuously developed in order to meet the requirements for the administration of project applications and projects in the OPTA (requirements ensuing from changes to the OPTA OM). It also reflected the requirements placed by the NCA (requirements ensuing from changes to the “Methodology of monitoring of programmes of EU Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund for 2007 – 2013 programming period“ and the “Methodology of financial flows and controls of programmes co-financed from the Structural Funds, Cohesion Fund and the European Fisheries Fund for 2007 – 2013 programming period“) for the modifications to the monitoring system for 2007 – 2013 programming period.

Modifications to the existing functionalities were made to IS MONIT7+, which resulted primarily in the simplification and automation of the administration of applications for payment and also in more effective administration of projects. Included in the MONIT7+ were reports of Status history and Administration of applications for payment, allowing to monitor the process of administration of projects and applications for payment. Changes were also made that aimed at increasing the efficiency of the monitoring of public contracts.

MRD is part of the pilot programme of the state treasury (ISSPT – Integrated information system of the state treasury), budget module, on the basis of which modification of the monitoring system was prepared in the course of 2011, consisting in introduction of the new and adjustment of the existing ARS ASOA code lists. In this connection modifications of BENEFIT7, IS MONIT7+ and the linked Aid Information System of MRD were tested from November 2011. These extensive modifications were made to the referred to systems in order for them to comply with all the changes required for connection with the state treasury mode. The mentioned changes were implemented and tested in the information system at the end of 2011. Their launching into full operation was scheduled for the beginning of 2012.

The development of MSC2007 is the responsibility of the MRD Monitoring System Administration Department and the OPTA MA is also involved in its development. The bulk of activities in 2011 consisted in the modifications to output reports, testing of data compliance and elimination of errors in data. The Monitoring System Administration Department of the MRD conducts regular monthly control of data completeness in physical monitoring. Its results are communicated to the Working Group for the Single Monitoring System. The Monitoring System Administration



Department concluded that in the course of 2011 hardly any errors had been detected in data transfer and data completeness of OPTA IS.

In the course of 2010, for the sake of better information awareness and effective work with information systems, the Guide to BENEFIT7 OPTA was updated, i.e. instructions to elaborate a project application and administer the project in BENEFIT7 application, and the Guide to work procedures in OPTA IS, i.e. instructions to use IS MONIT7+ OPTA (both guides are included in the OPTA HAB). A training course was held for the users of IS MONIT7+ OPTA with the aim to explain the functionalities and to contributed to the simplification of work of system users. A part of the training course on the updated OPTA HAB was devoted to the use of BENEFIT7 application.

## **2.7.2 OPTA Monitoring Committee**

**In the course of 2011 the following meetings were held:**

- 2 regular meetings of OPTA MC.

### **7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of OPTA MC**

The meeting was held on 11 May 2011 in the Ambassador hotel, Wenceslas Square 5 - 7, Prague 1.  
The agenda was as follows:

1. Recapitulation of main conclusions of the 6<sup>th</sup> OPTA MC
2. Annual report of OPTA for 2010
3. OPTA implementation
  - Report on implementation of the programme for the period from November 2010 to March 2011
  - Evaluation of mid-term progress and system of indicators
  - Proposal for OPTA revision
  - Information about activities under selected OPTA projects within individual priority axes

#### Main conclusions:

Following the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of OPTA MC all the tasks listed in the main conclusions of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were accomplished.

- OPTA MC took note of the OPTA Annual Report for 2010, subsequently approved by the per rollam procedure
- OPTA MC took note of the OPTA Report on implementation for the period from November 2010 to March 2011
- MC approved the OPTA revision in the proposed scope

After the meeting of OPTA MC, per rollam vote was taken concerning approval of the OPTA Annual report for 2010, supplemented with the outputs of the questionnaire survey, and based on the Government Resolution No 382/2011 also of the proposal for a subsequent reallocation from the OPTA to the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation. These proposals were approved by the written procedure.

### **8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of OPTA MC**

The meeting was held on 16 November 2011 in Adria hotel, Wenceslas Square 26, Prague 1.  
The agenda was as follows:

1. Recapitulation of main conclusions of the 7<sup>th</sup> OPTA MC
2. OPTA implementation
  - Report on implementation of the programme for the period from April 2011 to September 2011
  - Information about activities under selected OPTA projects within individual priority axes
  - Evaluation of administrative capacity and outputs of evaluations made
  - Monitoring of the impact indicator within the OPTA
  - The OPTA 2012 Evaluation plan

## Main conclusions:

Following the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of OPTA MC all the tasks listed in the main conclusions of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were accomplished

- OPTA MC approved the OPTA Evaluation plan for 2012
- OPTA MC took note of the Report on implementation of OPTA for the period from April 2011 to September 2011
- OPTA MC approved the technical change in the OPTA: the beneficiary Autonomous Unit of Horizontal Activities was replaced in the intervention area 1.3 by the European Affairs Department
- MC approved the change in the OPTA MC Statute: the Autonomous EU Publicity Unit, the representative of which is a member of the OPTA MC has changed into the EU Publicity Unit; the updated OPTA MC Statute was issued by Decision of the Minister No 222/2011 of 19 December 2011 and sent to the OPTA MC members on 22 December 2012
- At the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OPTA MC, a detailed information on major outputs of the MRD-NCA project within Priority axis 1 will be prepared
- The EC representatives will be provided with the conclusions of external analysis of the use of the components of the current monitoring system for the new programming period
- At the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OPTA MC, a detailed information will be prepared concerning evaluation of the quality of instructors within the system of training of the NSRF staff
- The EC representatives will be informed about the process and output of the analysis of administrative capacity focused on the use of outsourcing by the managing authorities of Operational Programmes in the CR. Subsequently, the NCA will issue a methodological guide on this issue, the draft of which will be consulted with the EC representatives
- The MRD-NCA and the EC representatives will discuss the issues of financing of the SF web portal

### **2.7.3 Evaluation of the programme**

The Framework evaluation plan of OPTA for the 2007 - 2013 period was approved at the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of OPTA MC on 16 June 2009. The Annual evaluation plan of OPTA for 2011 was approved by the OPTA MC members at its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting on 24 November 2010. In the first half of 2011, the OPTA MA worked on the Annual report of OPTA for 2010, that was submitted at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of OPTA MC on 11 May 2011 and subsequently approved through the per rollam procedure in mid-2011.

In the framework of the fulfilment of the Annual evaluation plan of OPTA for 2010, three evaluations were conducted in the first half of 2011.

#### **Evaluation of the system of indicators within the Technical Assistance Operational Programme.**

Evaluation was performed by an external entity as a small-scale public contract together with "Evaluation of mid-term progress within the Technical Assistance Operational Programme". The RegioPartner, s.r.o. company was selected as the supplier of this evaluation. The contract was implemented between January and March 2011. The aim of this evaluation was to assess the system of indicators used within the OPTA as a whole as well as individual monitoring indicators. The evaluation focused particularly on evaluation of mutual interconnection of individual types of indicators and their interconnection with the OPTA objectives, assessment of demands put by the system of indicators and its administration on the staff involved in the implementation system and applicants and beneficiaries as well as assessment of the informative value, clarity, relevance, validity, sensitivity and availability of data of individual indicators. In order to set the targets, the evaluator used a combination of several main evaluation methods, including first of all the analysis of data and documents, comparative analysis and semi-structured interviews with representatives of beneficiaries and entities involved in the implementation structure. The database included particularly data from MONIT7+ provided by the contracting authority. In the course of the implementation of the project the evaluator was in contact with the contracting authority in order to consult partial outputs of the evaluation.

Due to the advanced stage of implementation of the OPTA, it was not reasonable to make marked changes in the system of indicators that might endanger the continuity of monitoring of indicators. Therefore the evaluator focused its recommendations on the issues of optimisation of administration of the system of indicators and monitoring of individual indicators and understanding of indicators by the staff involved in the implementation structure and

applicants/ beneficiaries. The summary of conclusions of the evaluation is available at <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/Programy-2007-2013/Tematicke-operacni-programy/Operacni-program-Technicka-pomoc/Dokumenty/Dalsi-dokumenty>.

#### **Evaluation of mid-term progress within the Technical Assistance Operational Programme.**

Evaluation was performed by an external entity as a small-scale public contract together with “Evaluation of the system of indicators within the Technical Assistance Operational Programme”. The EUFC CZ, s.r.o. company was selected as the supplier of this evaluation. The contract was implemented between January and March 2011. The aim of this evaluation was assessment of the progress achieved in the implementation of the OPTA and evaluation of fulfilment of the programme objectives both in terms of financial management and the physical contribution of the supported activities. On the basis of evaluation of the physical and financial progress within the OPTA, another objective of the project was providing the contracting authority with a set of recommendations for increasing the efficiency of implementation of the OPTA and, where appropriate, for its revision.

Within this evaluation report the evaluator prepared the relevant summary on the basis of the results of analyses of individual areas and provided recommendation for increasing the efficiency of implementation of the OPTA and, where necessary, for its revision, as well as recommendations for the 2014-2020 programming period. The summary of conclusions of the evaluation is available at <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/Programy-2007-2013/Tematicke-operacni-programy/Operacni-program-Technicka-pomoc/Dokumenty/Dalsi-dokumenty>.

#### **Evaluation of the OPTA publicity: Awareness of the OPTA among the entities involved in the implementation structure and beneficiaries.**

In compliance with Article 69 of the General Regulation, the OPTA MA performed in February 2011 on the internal basis and with the NCA support evaluation of the OPTA publicity. The aim of this evaluation was to assess satisfaction of beneficiaries and the implementation structure of the OPTA. Two types of questionnaires were prepared for the purpose of the OPTA evaluation, one for the entities of the implementation structure and the other for beneficiaries. The response rate was 70 percent.

The summary of conclusions of the evaluation is available at <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/Files/7e/7ecfc764-dc48-4239-a1b9-fe136ff99bda.pdf>.

At the end of 2011, implementation was launched of a small-scale public contract called **Evaluation of administrative capacity of the OPTA MA/IB including evaluation of the system of education and training**, with the planned date of completion in April 2012. This contract was awarded to the EUFC CZ, s.r.o. company. The aim of the evaluation of the administrative capacity of the OPTA MA/IB including evaluation of the system of education and training, is mainly to verify whether the setup of the current staff capacity of the entities involved in implementation of the OPTA is adequate and efficient and to assess the influence of financial and non-financial motivation of employees on the stability of the staff capacity of the implementation structure in the OPTA. Based on evaluation of functioning of the administrative capacity within the OPTA, another aim is to get a set of recommendations for increasing the efficiency of human resources within the structure of entities involved in the implementation of the OPTA.

In compliance with the OPTA Evaluation plan for 2011, evaluation was planned with a focus on assessment of the impact of the so far performed evaluations on implementation of the OPTA under the title **Assessment of the performed evaluations and their impact on implementation of the OPTA**. Due to administrative delay, this external evaluation was implemented in March and April 2012. Recommendations of this evaluation will be used for targeting of future OPTA evaluations and improvement of the process of preparation itself and selection of external evaluators and development of the internal capacity of the OPTA MA required for implementation of evaluations.

In 2011 the OPTA MA continued to build the administrative capacity required for ensuring evaluations. The relevant OPTA MA staff participate in educational activities oriented at acquisition of knowledge and skills in the field of evaluation and also in the field of public procurement, closely related to evaluation activities. Moreover, in the course of 2011 the OPTA MA arranged for a regular participation of the responsible employee in the Working Groups Evaluation and Evaluation of ROPs.

## **2.8 National Performance Reserve (where applicable)**

National performance reserve is irrelevant for OPTA.

## **3 Implementation by priority axis**

### **3.1 Priority axis 1**

Priority axis 1a – Management and Coordination Support – Convergence objective

Priority axis 1b – Management and Coordination Support – Regional competitiveness and employment objective

#### ***3.1.1 Achieved progress and its analysis***

##### **3.1.1.1 INFORMATION ON THE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRESS OF PRIORITY AXIS 1**

###### **Fulfilment of indicators under priority axis 1**

Based on the outputs of the evaluation of the OPTA system of indicators in the Priority axis 1, two output indicators were added, namely Number of newly purchased ICT equipment and 48.24.20 Number of purchased technical equipment, except for ICT. At the same time, target values were corrected in the output indicator 48.05.00 Conducted studies and elaborated reports (including evaluation studies and reports) from the original value of 27 to 250 and in the output indicator 48.11.00 Number of held training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and similar activities from the original value of 10 to 130.

This increase was made due to the fact that during the original setup of values of indicators within the OPTA, these values were underrated and during the implementation of the 2007-2013 programming period the values of these indicators were significantly exceeded. As a result, the priority axis has currently 6 output indicators set up.

All indicators of Priority axis 1, except for the newly added ones, were fulfilled during 2011 and no problem was encountered in this respect. The OPTA MA anticipates fulfilment in case of the newly added indicators in 2012 in connection with implementation of projects.

**Table No 14: Achieved progress and its analysis under Priority axis 1**

NCI code/type of the indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total <sup>3</sup>
48.03.00 Output indicator	Number of committee meetings (monitoring, advisory and management)	number	A/B IS	Achieved	12	14	15	54	90	N/A	90
				Baseline	12	12	14	15	54	N/A	12
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	92	92
48.05.00 Output indicator	Conducted studies and elaborated reports (including evaluation studies and reports)	number	A/B IS	Achieved	3	43	47	72	87	N/A	87
				Baseline	3	3	43	47	72	N/A	3
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	250	250
48.07.00 Output indicator	Number of created methodological and technical and information materials	number	A/B IS	Achieved	14	14	17	42	45	N/A	45
				Baseline	14	14	14	17	42	N/A	14
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	36	36
48.11.00 Output indicator	Number of held training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and similar activities	number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	1	7	27	104	N/A	104
				Baseline	0	0	1	7	27	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	130	130
48.24.00 Output indicator	Number of newly purchased ICT equipment	number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	300	300
48.24.20 Output indicator	Number of purchased technical equipment, except for ICT	number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	50	50

Note: Achieved value = projects from status P45 in IS Monit7+ with the approved monitoring report.

Sources: The baseline and target values are taken over from the OP, the achieved values are generated from MSC2007 information system report as of 28 Feb 2012.

N/A is given in the "Target value" line for individual years since the target is set for the whole programming period.

The value given in "Target value 2015" column is relevant only for "Target value" line.

### 3.1.1.2 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 1

Table No 15: Financial progress in Priority axis 1 (EU and national sources) - cumulatively

Priority axis	Allocation 2007–2013	Funds covered by Decision/Contract (Addendum)		Funds paid to beneficiaries		Certified funds submitted to the EC	
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	%	EUR	%
	a	b	b/a	c	c/a	d	d/a
1.1	17 449 635	10 883 828,64	62,37	2 251 190,54	12,90	2 204 652,95	12,63
1.2	3 046 448	3 444 345,81	113,06	1 182 297,61	38,81	1 164 942,67	38,24
1.3	2 082 523	501 736,79	10,98	113 162,52	5,43	102 174,90	4,91
1.4	4 569 672	1 543 805,48	24,12	59 373,06	1,30	49 013,57	1,07
<b>PA 1</b>	<b>27 148 278</b>	<b>16 373 716,72</b>	<b>60,31</b>	<b>3 606 023,73</b>	<b>13,28</b>	<b>3 520 784,09</b>	<b>12,97</b>

Note: Exchange rate: 1 EUR = 25.4 CZK (monthly exchange rate from MSC2007 as of 4 Jan 2012).  
Source MSC2007 (MSC261 report); all the values in the table are given for the period until 4 Jan 2012

In the Priority axis 1, the allocated funds were reduced within the OPTA revision from EUR 30 464 481 to EUR 27 148 278. Despite reduction of the funds, all the Intervention areas in Priority axis 1 reported an increase in the number of projects with issued Decision as compared to 2010, as well as in the volume of funds paid to beneficiaries and the certified funds submitted to the EC.

#### Example of a project under Priority axis 1

*Project name and registration number:*

CZ.1.08/1.3.00/09.00051, Support of management and coordination of the policy of the economic and social cohesion.

The beneficiary is the NSRF Management and Coordination Department

*Brief description of project content:*

The aim is to ensure through the Management and Control Committee a uniform management and coordination of institutions at all levels involved in the field of economic, social and regional cohesion in the CR and at the same time create conditions for preparation of documents that will support all the processes leading to a diversified incremental development of regions. The aim is to develop a common analytical and data base providing information about regions in the CR, that will be used for evaluation and preparation of strategic documents in the CR in the field of cohesion policy, regional policy and planning at the national and regional levels.

*Project timetable*

- project commencement date: 1 January 2009
- project completion date: 31 December 2012

*Project budget*

- total project budget: CZK 13 000 000.00
- of which Community contribution: CZK 11 050 000.00

The OPTA Selection Committee recommended the project for financing from OPTA funds on 27 February 2009. So far six Simplified applications for payment have been submitted, including the Stage monitoring reports.

*The project is divided into 8 stages:*

- Stage 1: 1 January 2009 – 30 June 2009
- Stage 2: 1 July 2009 – 31 December 2009
- Stage 3: 1 January 2010 – 30 June 2010
- Stage 4: 1 July 2010 – 31 December 2010
- Stage 5: 1 January 2011 – 30 June 2011
- Stage 6: 1 July 2011 – 31 December 2011
- Stage 7: 1 January 2012 – 30 June 2012
- Stage 8: 1 July 2012 – 31 December 2012

Activities of the project are focused primarily on organization of the meeting of the Management and Control Committee and its working bodies and on the activities of the Management and Control Committee. The activities are necessary for ensuring of uniform management and coordination of the cohesion policy in the CR, including coordination with regional policies.

Another important activity of this project is a pilot verification of interconnection of the Priority axis 4 of the NSRF and the strategic documents with the regional and local administration. The activities are necessary for creation of a common analytical, data and information base for evaluation of the existing and preparation of the new strategic documents under the responsibility of the MRD in the field of cohesion policy in the CR.

### **Significant problems encountered in Priority axis 1**

Ranking among the most significant problems encountered in the framework of projects in Priority axis 1 are the reallocation of funds from the stage to be completed to the next stage, caused by delays in the implementation of scheduled activities.

## **3.2 Priority axis 2**

Priority axis 2a – Monitoring – Convergence objective

Priority axis 2b – Monitoring – Regional competitiveness and employment objective

### **3.2.1 Achieved progress and its analysis**

#### **3.2.1.1 INFORMATION ON THE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRESS OF PRIORITY AXIS 2**

#### **Fulfilment of indicators under Priority axis 2**

Based on the recommendation from the evaluation of the system of indicators, it was proposed to cancel the output indicator 48.24.20 Number of purchased technical equipment, except for ICT in the Priority axis 2. The OPTA MA accepted this proposal as this indicator was of no use in the Priority axis 2 and was not fulfilled in the long run.

In addition, based on the outputs of evaluation of the OPTA system of indicators in the Priority axis 2, target values were modified in the following indicators: output indicator 48.07.00 Number of created methodological and technical and information materials from the value of 4 to the value of 63; result indicator 48.19.00 Number of trained persons - total from the value of 1 480 to 2 500; output indicator 48.21.00 Increase in HW capacity from the value of 30 000 to 97 100; output indicator 48.23.00 Number of contracted programming hours from the value of 1 000 to 15 125.6; output indicator 48.24.00 Number of newly purchased ICT equipment from the value of 1 000 to 40 and output indicator 48.24.30 Purchase of software from the value of 1 000 to 173.

This modification were made due to the fact that during the original setup of values of indicators within the OPTA, these values were in most cases underrated and during the implementation of the 2007-2013 programming period the values of these indicators were significantly exceeded. In two cases the target values were decreased in view of infeasibility of their fulfilment.

The Priority axis 2 has now in total 7 indicators (6 output indicators and 1 result indicator) as compared to 2008, when only 3 indicators were set (48.07.00, 48.11.00, 48.19.00). All the given indicators were fulfilled in 2011 and no problems were encountered in achieving of the set target values of indicators in projects.

**Table No 16: Achieved progress and its analysis under Priority axis 2**

NCI code/type of the indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total4
48.07.00 Output indicator	Number of created methodological and technical and information materials	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	2	8	15	36	46	N/A	46
				Baseline	2	2	8	15	36	N/A	2
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	63	63
48.11.00 Output indicator	Number of held training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and similar activities	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	40	121	151	186	206	N/A	206
				Baseline	40	40	121	151	186	N/A	40
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	185	185
48.19.00 Result indicator	Number of trained persons - total	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	320	1 481	1 932	2 302	2 604	N/A	2 604
				Baseline	320	320	1 481	1 932	2 302	N/A	320
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2 500	2 500
48.21.00 Output indicator	Increase in HW capacity	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	0	50 500	N/A	50 500
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	97 100	97 100
48.23.00 Output indicator	Number of contracted programming hours	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	15 125,6	15 125,6	N/A	15 125,6
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	15 125,6	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15 125,6	15 125,6
48.24.00 Output indicator	Number of newly purchased ICT equipment	Number	MA IS	Achieved	0	0	0	7	85,4	N/A	85,4
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	7	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	40
48.24.30 Output indicator	Purchase of software	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	2	17	N/A	17
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	2	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	173	173

Note: Achieved value = projects from status P45 in IS Monit7+ with approved monitoring report.

Sources: The baseline and target values are taken over from the OP, the achieved values are generated from MSC2007 information system report as of 28 Feb 2012.

N/A is given in the "Target value" line for individual years since the target is set for the whole programming period.

The value given in "Target value 2015" column is relevant only for "Target value" line.



### 3.2.1.2 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 2

**Table No 17: Financial progress in Priority axis 2 (EU and national sources) - cumulatively**

Priority axis	Allocation 2007–2013	Funds covered by Decision/Contract (Addendum)		Funds paid to beneficiaries		Certified funds submitted to the EC	
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	%	EUR	%
	a	b	b/a	c	c/a	d	d/a
2.1	58 301 924	43 562 620,65	74,72	13 511 023,39	23,17	13 741 425,34	23,57
<b>PA 2</b>	<b>58 301 924</b>	<b>43 562 620,65</b>	<b>74,72</b>	<b>13 511 023,39</b>	<b>23,17</b>	<b>13 741 425,34</b>	<b>23,57</b>

Compared to 2010, the Intervention area 2.1 in Priority axis 2 reported an increase in the number of projects with issued Decision, namely from 43% to almost 75%. The volume of funds paid to beneficiaries under Priority axis 2 grew from 16% to more than 23%. The percentage of the certified funds submitted to the EC increased from 11 % in 2010 to 24 % in 2011. In 2011 the absorption under Priority axis 2 went up as against the year 2010.

#### Example of a project under Priority axis 2

*Project name and registration number:*

CZ.1.08/2.1.00/11.00124, Training of users of IS Monit7+ from the MA and IB for Operational programmes - III. Beneficiary is MSAD, MRD.

*Brief description of project content:*

The project is focused on training of the staff operating the MONIT7+ a BENEFIT7 applications and the users of these applications for all operational programmes implemented in the system infrastructure of the CRD CR and the use of the BENEFIT7 electronic application. Training is focused on the staff of Regional Operational Programmes, Thematic Operational Programmes, Integrated Operational Programme, OPTA and Operational Programmes Objective 3, and on the use of the BENEFIT7 electronic application for the staff of MA and IB of operational programmes. In total it covers sixteen OPs.

*Project timetable*

- project commencement date: 1 January 2011
- project completion date: 30 June 2015

*Project budget:*

- total project budget: CZK 5 217 000.00
- of which Community contribution: CZK 4 434 450.00

The OPTA Selection Committee recommended the project for financing from OPTA funds on 3 March 2011. Subsequently, the Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 54/2011 of 11 March 2011 was issued, by which the project was approved.

*The project is divided into nine stages, of which two have already been implemented.*

In the course of these two stages implemented so far, training courses were organized according to the current needs of individual MAs and IBs. During the first stage, 20 training courses were organized and 302 persons trained. During the second stage, 10 training courses were organized and 132 participants trained.

Of the forecast project budget totalling CZK 5 217 000.00, altogether CZK 941 910.00 of eligible expenditure, i.e. 18.05%, was absorbed.

The project ensures qualified users for implementation of comprehensive records and monitoring of implementation, including absorption of funds in individual projects under sixteen OP structural EU funds and thus it has an indirect impact on implementation of all other projects.

### **Significant problems encountered in Priority axis 2**

More significant problems were encountered in early termination of three projects of the beneficiary CRD with registration numbers CZ.1.08/2.1.00/10.00075, CZ.1.08/2.1.00/10.00083, CZ.1.08/2.1.00/10.00084. Based on the Decision of the Minister No 275/2010 of 21 December 2010 and subsequently Decision of the Minister No 281/2010 of 28 December 2010, selected activities were transferred from the CRD to the MSAD. The above mentioned projects did no longer fall under the activities that the CRD performs after the transfer, and therefore the original beneficiary requested their early termination as of 31 December 2010.

The first stage of the project CZ.1.08/2.1.00/10.00075 "Administrator of coordination of the system integrity of MS for the CRD CR" included preparation of a selection procedure for the administrator of coordination of the system integrity, whose services were then no longer needed. Expenditure related to this selection procedure amounting to CZK 1 050 000.00 were applied in the application for payment, subsequently paid and included in certification. Expenditure related to this activity is not eligible and this irregularity is currently addressed by the tax office.

## **3.3 Priority axis 3**

Priority axis 3a – Administrative and absorption capacity – Convergence objective

Priority axis 3b – Administrative and absorption capacity – Regional competitiveness and employment objective

### **3.3.1 Achieved progress and its analysis**

#### **3.3.1.1 INFORMATION ON THE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRESS OF PRIORITY AXIS 3**

##### **Fulfilment of indicators under Priority axis 3**

On the basis of outputs of evaluation of the OPTA system of indicators in the Priority axis 3, two indicators were added– output indicator 48.19.60 Number of consultations and visits – beneficiaries and result indicator 48.16.50 Number of trained persons (beneficiaries) – total.

At the same time, target values were corrected in the output indicator 48.11.00 Number of held training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and similar activities from the value of 200 to 1 550; the result indicator 48.19.00 Number of trained persons – total from the value of 3 000 to 15 392 and the output indicator 48.31.00 Number of staff employed in the implementation structure from the value of 345 to 350.

This increase was made due to the fact that during the original setup of values of indicators within the OPTA, these values were underrated and during the implementation of the 2007-2013 programming period the values of these indicators were exceeded.

The Priority axis 3 has now 6 indicators, of which 3 output indicators and 3 result indicators.

All the original indicators were gradually fulfilled during 2011 without greater problems.

The indicator 48.31.01 Number of staff employed in the implementation structure, which reported lower rate of fulfilment in the 2007-2010 period, is expected to be fulfilled in the upcoming years, namely for reasons of the definition of the indicator. The value of the indicator includes the number of full time staff employed in the implementation structure, i.e. all those who have worked in the implementation structure for more than 3 years. Those working on an Agreement on work activities and Agreement on work performance are not included in the indicator.

The newly added indicators are expected to be fulfilled during 2012, namely due to adding of these indicators in mid-2011. The projects that will fulfil these new indicators are only at the beginning of implementation.

**Table No 18: Achieved progress and its analysis under Priority axis 3**

NCI code/type of the indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total5
48.11.00 Output indicator	Number of held training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and similar activities	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	11	59	209	524	N/A	524
				Baseline	0	0	11	59	209	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 155	1 155
48.19.00 Result indicator	Number of trained persons – total	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	20	129	928	1 914	N/A	1 914
				Baseline	0	0	20	129	928	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15 392	15 392
48.19.50 Result indicator	Number of trained persons (beneficiaries) – total	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	500
48.19.60 Output indicator	Number of consultations and visits – beneficiaries	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Baseline	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	500
48.31.00 Output indicator	Number of staff employed in the implementation structure	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	132,5	293,58	370,99	316,48	316,48	N/A	316,48 <sup>6</sup>
				Baseline	132,5	132,50	293,58	370,99	316,48	N/A	132,50
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	350	350
48.31.01 Result indicator	Number of full time staff employed in the implementation structure	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	13	13	37	37	N/A	37
				Baseline	0	0	13	13	37	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	170	170

Note: Achieved value = projects from status P45 in IS Monit7+ with approved monitoring report.

Sources: The baseline and target values are taken over from the OP, the achieved values are generated from MSC2007 information system report as of 1 Feb 2012.

N/A is given in the "Target value" line for individual years since the target is set for the whole programming period.

The value given in "Target value 2015" column is relevant only for "Target value" line.

<sup>5</sup> Data is given cumulatively.

<sup>6</sup> According to the Methodology of monitoring, the indicator 48.31.00 covers also the baseline value. The actual achieved value of the number of staff, however, equals 183.98 (not 316.48) since the baseline value of 132.5 is already included in the achieved value and by the application of the general rule of adding the baseline value to the value achieved (in line with the Methodology of monitoring) it is included twice in the sum total.

### 3.3.1.2 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 3

Table No 19: Financial progress in Priority axis 3 (EU and national sources) - cumulatively

Priority axis	Allocation 2007–2013	Funds covered by Decision/Contract (Addendum)		Funds paid to beneficiaries		Certified funds submitted to the EC	
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	%	EUR	%
	a	b	b/a	c	c/a	d	d/a
3.1	85 365 564	79 391 308,19	93,00	24 067 993,90	28,19	21 190 423,79	24,82
3.2	6 672 473	6 599 768,43	98,91	45 239,29	0,68	45 894,67	0,69
<b>PA 3</b>	<b>92 038 037</b>	<b>85 991 076,62</b>	<b>93,43</b>	<b>24 113 233,19</b>	<b>26,20</b>	<b>21 236 318,46</b>	<b>23,07</b>

In the Priority axis 3, the allocated funds were due to the OP revision reduced from EUR 121 950 804 EUR to EUR 92 038 037 EUR. Despite reduction of the funds, Priority axis 3 reported an increase in the number of projects with issued Decision as compared to 2010, as well as in the volume of funds paid to beneficiaries and the certified funds submitted to the EC.

#### Example of a project under Priority axis 3

*Project name and registration number:*

CZ.1.08/3.1.00/10.00112

A framework project for seminars, training courses, business trips and conferences for the period from October 2010 to June 2015

The beneficiary is the Ministry of Finance of the CR – National Fund (Paying and Certifying Authority).

*Brief description of project content*

The project focuses on continuous training and education of the PCA staff in areas closely related with their activities. To a large degree it consists in financing educational events abroad on financial management topics, principles of control activities, accounting, IT, Community legislation, certification of expenditure and related activities essential for effective financial management. The purpose of this activity is to enhance the expertise and qualification of employees, and thus also the quality and comprehensive nature of outputs of the Paying and Certifying Authority.

*Project timetable:*

- project commencement date: 1 October 2010
- project completion date: 31 December 2011

*Project budget*

- total project budget: CZK 2 625 000.00
- of which Community contribution: CZK 2 231 250.00

*The project is divided into 2 stages*

Stage 1: 1 October 2010 – 30 June 2011

Stage 2: 1 July 2011 – 31 December 2011

The OPTA Selection Committee recommended the project for financing from OPTA funds on 1 December 2010. Subsequently, the project was approved by Decision of the Minister for Regional Development No 261/2010 of 14 December 2010.

The framework project for educational events provided an umbrella for a total of 51 educational events, training courses or business trips for a total of 167 employees of the PCA. Of these 3 were mass events including e.g. one

meeting of the Czech and Slovak PCA that was attended by 102 persons. Included were also two purchases of specialised literature for the needs of the legal department.

The implementation of the project was smooth. In spite of this there was one requirement to terminate the project before schedule, i.e. as of 31 December 2011 (originally the date of completion was scheduled for 30 June 2015) due to the increase in prices of educational events and their frequency. PCA subsequently asked for a new project with the same focus, but with a higher allocation. This new project was approved by the OPTA Selection Committee in December 2011 and it is now in process.

### Significant problems encountered in Priority axis 3

Problems reported in PA3 are similar to those in the majority of other priority axes. They include especially the reallocations of funds from the stage that is being completed to the next stage, brought about by delays in the implementation of scheduled activities.

## 3.4 Priority axis 4

Priority axis 4a – Publicity – Convergence objective

Priority axis 4b – Publicity – Regional competitiveness and employment objective

### 3.4.1 Achieved progress and its analysis

#### 3.4.1.1 INFORMATION ON THE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRESS OF PRIORITY AXIS 4

##### Fulfilment of indicators under Priority axis 4

According to the outputs of evaluation of the OPTA system of indicators in the Priority axis 4, it was not necessary to add new indicators, but it was recommended to adjust the target and baseline values of individual indicators.

The OPTA MA adjusted the baseline and target values in these indicators: result indicator 48.10.00 Number of visits to website, the baseline value was adjusted from 3 080 000 to 0 and the target value from 6 000 000 to 920 000 and in the result indicator 48.13.00 Number of downloads of electronic documents, the baseline value was adjusted from 1 977 000 to 0 and the target value from 3 500 000 to 231 000.

There are 4 indicators set out under Priority axis 4. In 2011, progress was achieved in the fulfilment of output indicators, while no progress has so far been achieved in result indicators since the costs of activities associated with the management of www.strukturalni-fondy.cz web portal are covered from the state budget and not from OPTA.

EUPD as the main responsible entity for the portal is in charge of its structure, content and design. Since 1 January 2011, a project called “Development and management of the Structural Funds portal” has been implemented, providing a new web application www.strukturalni-fondy.cz which is eligible for funding from the OPTA. Thanks to this project the indicators 48.10.00 Number of visits to website and 48.13.00 Number of downloads of electronic documents will subsequently be fulfilled. The values of these indicators, however, shall be decreased due to the advance stage of the programming period.

**Table No 20: Achieved progress and its analysis under Priority axis 4**

NCI code/ type of the indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total <sup>7</sup>
48.07.00 Output indicator	Number of created methodological and technical and information materials	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	0	0	4	8	N/A	8
				Baseline	0	0	0	0	4	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25	25

<sup>7</sup> Data is given cumulatively.

NCI code/ type of the indicator	Name of the indicator	Unit of measure	Source	Value	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Target value 2015	Total7
48.09.00 Output indicator	Number of conducted information and publicity activities	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	0	2	2	9	10	N/A	9
				Baseline	0	0	2	2	9	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	15
48.10.00 Result indicator	Number of visits to website	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	0	N/A	0
				Baseline	0	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	3 080 000	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	920 000	920 000
48.13.00 Result indicator	Number of downloads of electronic documents	Number	A/B IS	Achieved	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	0	N/A	0
				Baseline	0	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	1 977 000	N/A	0
				Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	231 000	231 000

Note: Achieved value = projects from status P45 in IS Monit7+ with approved monitoring report.

Sources: The baseline and target values are taken over from the OP, the achieved values are generated from MSC2007 information system report as of 28 Feb 2012.

Values in indicators 480700 and 480900 will be increased following the approval of the monitoring reports for Stage 2 and Stage 3 of project CZ.1.08/4.1.00/08.00030.

The values in indicators 48.10.00 and 48.13.00 are related to project CZ.1.08/4.2.00/08.00031 that was prematurely terminated by the beneficiary. For that reason there is no increase in the given values for individual years.

N/A value is given in the "Target value" line for individual years since the target is set for the whole programming period.

The value given in "Target value 2015" column is relevant only for "Target value" line.

### 3.4.1.2 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 4

**Table No 21: Financial progress in Priority axis 4 (EU and national sources) - cumulatively**

Priority axis	Allocation 2007–2013	Funds covered by Decision/Contract (Addendum)		Funds paid to beneficiaries		Certified funds submitted to the EC	
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	%	EUR	%
	a	b	b/a	c	c/a	d	d/a
4.1	50 125 552	11 827 553,06	23,60	8 511 747,43	16,98	8 943 266,90	17,84
4.2	1 650 108	3 670 397,53	223,43	67 109,23	4,07	72 155,36	4,37
<b>PA 4</b>	<b>51 775 660</b>	<b>15 497 950,59</b>	<b>29,93</b>	<b>8 578 856,66</b>	<b>16,57</b>	<b>9 015 422,26</b>	<b>17,41</b>

In the Priority axis 4, the allocated funds were due to the OP revision reduced from EUR 80 792 408 to EUR 51 775 660. Despite reduction of the funds, all the Intervention areas in Priority axis 4 reported an increase in the number of projects with issued Decision as compared to 2010, as well as in the volume of funds paid to beneficiaries and the certified funds submitted to the EC.

#### Example of a project under Priority axis 4

*Project name and registration number:*

CZ.1.08/4.1.00/08.00030, Ensuring general awareness of EU funds. The beneficiary is the Ministry for Regional Development of the CR – EU Publicity Department (EUPD)<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>8</sup> Former Autonomous EU Publicity Unit or NSRF Administrative Capacity and Publicity Department.

*Brief description of project content:*

The project focuses on the implementation of communication activities in the framework of implementation of EU funds at the level of NSRF and OPTA, on the support for the implementation of communication plans at the level of operational programmes, on the ensurance of coordination and methodological support for the implementation of communication activities, and on the implementation of OPTA Communication Plan. The main activities are information and publicity activities, activities focusing on mass media, activities associated with building a single platform for communication with the general public (publishing periodicals, creation of audiovisual products), partnerships in the field of communication.

*Project timetable:*

- project commencement date: 1 January 2007
- project completion date: 30 June 2011

The OPTA Selection Committee recommended the project for financing from OPTA funds on 5 November 2008. All Simplified applications for payment and Stage monitoring reports, including the Final monitoring report (Stage 1 – 6) have been approved.

*Project budget:*

Original total project budget: CZK 470 291 000.00  
- of which Community contribution: CZK 399 747 350.00

New total project budget: CZK 237 131 900.00  
- of which Community contribution: CZK 201 562 115.00

*The project is divided into 6 stages:*

Stage 1: 1 January 2007 – 31 December 2008  
Stage 2: 1 January 2009 – 31 August 2009  
Stage 3: 1 September 2009 – 31 December 2009  
Stage 4: 1 January 2010 – 31 August 2010  
Stage 5: 1 September 2010 – 31 December 2010  
Stage 6: 1 January 2011 – 30 June 2011

In the course of its implementation, the project was extended by one stage (Stage 6), i.e. until 30 Jun 2011, due to delay in implementation of the planned activities of the project. In addition two activities of the project Eurocentres, Eurofon, Euroskop and Questionnaire survey that are or will be implemented through individual projects, were excluded from the project. In this connection the values of the relevant indicators were reduced, which corresponded also to the cut of the project budget.

#### **Significant problems encountered in Priority axis 4**

Considered an issue under Priority axis 4 Publicity is particularly the preparation of public procurement and related administration and time intensive procedures. As a consequence, the implementation of scheduled activities is protracted, the unabsorbed funds are subsequently reallocated to next stages of the project or ineligible expenditure is incurred within the OPTA.

## **4 ESF programmes: Cohesion and Concentration**

The European Social Fund (ESF) programmes are irrelevant for the OPTA since the OPTA is financed from the ERDF.

## 5 ERDF/Cohesion Fund projects (major projects) (if applicable)

It is irrelevant for the OPTA since there are no major projects as defined in Article 39 of the General Regulation implemented under the OPTA.

## 6 Technical Assistance

Operational Programme Technical Assistance is a specific programme in which the cross-cutting themes of technical assistance are included in all the programme priority axes. A separate priority axis intended for the implementation of its own operational programme has not been established. The implementation by priority axis of OPTA is described in Chapter 3. Activities aimed at ensuring the management and coordination role of the OPTA MA are financed under the Priority axis 1.

## 7 Information and Publicity

The EC requirements for OPTA<sup>9</sup> publicity are met by the implementation of the OPTA Communication Plan (OPTA CoP) for the NSRF level of management for 2007 – 2013 period which was presented for information at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of OPTA MC on 28 November 2008.

**The OPTA CoP comprises:**

- OPTA publicity,
- Framework Communication Strategy of the CR for NSRF Level for 2007 – 2013 Period.

Involved in the elaboration of the framework communication strategy were the EUPD (former NSRF Administrative Capacity and Publicity Department) and OPTA MA. The OPTA CoP activities are financed from Priority axis 4. The OPTA MC is entrusted with the monitoring of OPTA CoP. The OPTA MC continuously receives information on the implementation of CoP and the annual communication plans, via the information presented by the OPTA MA/EUPD at every OPTA MC meeting.

Due implementation of OPTA CoP is the responsibility of OPTA MA and EUPD which, according to the NSRF, is also responsible for safeguarding a single and clear information campaign for the absorption of SF and CF funds.

Through information and publicity tools, the OPTA MA and EUPD aim at building suitable information channels – the goal is to improve the communication with the general public, other national, regional and local authorities and NSRF implementation entities.

The OPTA MA sees to the publishing of a list of beneficiaries, names of projects and amounts of public funds allocated to the projects. The list of beneficiaries is available on [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz).

In connection with extension of the objective under the Priority axis 4 by the possibility to fund also activities related to promotion of awareness of the preparation of the 2014 period, EUPD prepared in cooperation with the OPTA MA revision of the OPTA CoP for the 2007-2013 period. The revised CoP is available at <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/getdoc/ba2f0608-f505-44aa-b3d9-58b6002f0efc/Komunikacni-plan>, similarly as the OPTA CoP for 2012.

### 7.1 Implemented and Planned Activities and Used Tools

**Timetable of publicity activities:**

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<sup>9</sup> See the General Regulation, Article 69 Information and publicity and Commission Regulation No 1828/2006, Section 1 Information and publicity.



## ***Events organised:***

### **1. Interactive seminar “NGOs and European Union Funds” – fourth and fifth series**

EUPD cooperated in the preparation of the fourth and fifth series of seminars with the association Neziskovsky.cz and the Association of Non-governmental Non-profit Organisations. The seminars were mainly focused on the preparation of applications and the course of implementation of the project. Within the fourth series, five seminars were organized, namely in Prague (2), in Brno, Ostrava and Liberec. The first seminar took place already in December 2010 in Prague and others followed in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2011. The fourth series at the end of 2011 was followed by another series of six workshops organized by EUPD in cooperation with the Association of Non-governmental Non-profit Organisations. The first three seminars took place in November 2011, the remaining ones will be held in 2012.

### **2. Conference “New Member States”**

The conference was held in April 18-20, 2011. It is a regular workshop of representatives of the coordination and management authorities of the new member states on the issues of the cohesion policy. The conference focused mainly on the experience of new member states in absorption of allocations from the EU funds in the previous and current programming periods.

### **3. Conference “EU Funds in Half-time – new challenges”**

The conference was held in Prague on 23 June 2011. The main topics were reflection of the current programming period, impact of absorption of allocations from SF on the development of CR, as well as a broader context and new challenges for preparation of the future period after 2013. The conference was attended by the EC representatives, MRD top representatives, representatives of all OPs, the state administration and local governments, scientific institutions, professional unions and journalists.

### **4. Conference “Publicity Platform – Keeping EU Funds Attractive”**

An international meeting of the staff involved in the publicity of the EU funds from the new member states was held in September 8-9, 2011 in Prague. The participants discussed the core issues of the EU funds in terms of their publicity and communication in the second half of the current programming period, the way how to keep attracting the public interest in the results, the specific features of communication in the post-socialist states and the prospects in the field of EU fund communication in the programming period after 2013.

## ***PR activities and advertising:***

### **1. Leaflet “European Funds – Current Status”**

Once a month a leaflet summarising the progress in the implementation of EU funds was published also in 2011. The last page always presents an example of a successfully implemented project under the OP. The leaflet is distributed e.g. to Eurocentres. The e-version of the leaflet is regularly posted on [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz) portal.

### **2. Summer photo contest “Take a picture of a project”**

The aim of the contest that took place in the summer was to illustrate a particular and beneficial assistance financed by the EU funds. The focus was:

- Presentation of the implemented projects;
- Clarification of the NSRF implementation structure in an easy to understand way;
- Presentation of MRD, NCA and OP MA;
- Publicity of the list of beneficiaries;
- Effective targeting of the relevant group (active involvement of the target group);
- Addressing the population in the age group of 15–25 years, using modern communication tools (contest community website and social networks);

- Promotion of tourism in the CR (side effect).

The aim of the contest was to take a picture of an activity financed under the EU funds and enter the pictures in the contest by their loading to the contest website ([www.vyfotprojekt.cz](http://www.vyfotprojekt.cz)).

The contest had two categories. The main category was the Most talented photographer and another category was the Most attractive photographer. The registered photo albums were automatically entered into the prize draw which went on throughout the contest.

Prizes: digital reflex and compact cameras, photography courses according to the personal choice, weekend stays for two persons in the hotels whose reconstruction was financed from the EU funds etc. Prizes were donated by the partners and media partners in the contest.

A highly positive result. In total, 10 432 photo albums – 20 520 photographs were registered.

The winners were awarded prizes on 14 November 2011 at the MRD. The event included a press conference where 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy of the Minister for Regional Development thanked the participants in the contest and awarded the prizes.

### **3. An advertising mini-campaign**

In the summer 2011, was conducted in the Euro and Týden weeklies. The campaign focused on the progress achieved so far in using the EU funds and presented several successful projects financed under these funds. In total, 3 advertisements were published in each of the mentioned weeklies.

### **4. List of open calls**

Since October 2011, EUPD has been preparing an overview of open calls for submission of projects in the operational programmes of the 2007–2013 programming period. The primary goal of the document is to provide a summary information about announced calls to beneficiaries. The overview is published at [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz).

#### ***Other activities:***

##### **1. Working Group for Information and Publicity (WG)**

In 2011, the Working Group held three meetings. The main issues on the agenda included preparation of a campaign “Have a look at it...” and preparation of a project of a joint campaign presenting the results of the regional operational programmes and OP Prague (Competitiveness, Adaptability) “This is a good place to live in”. Another main topic was preparation of legal regulations for the new programming period. A working group was set up for this purpose that met several times. The first result of the cooperation is a set of practical recommendations related to the duties of beneficiaries as well as of the MA, and a draft proposal of a set of common indicators for measuring the results of communication and publicity measures. Particularly useful was a direct cooperation with the colleagues from Hungary, France and Poland in the framework of networking and partnership within the European working group INFORM.

##### **2. Evaluation of publicity**

In 2011, a nation-wide questionnaire survey was completed, the aim of which was to identify the level of awareness of the EU funds in the general public target group. The results of this survey were included in the OPTA Annual report for 2010 and are available at [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz), same as other similar surveys from the previous years. In addition, a qualitative analysis of the OPTA communication activities was completed, including a survey in the general public target group. The results were used as a source material for preparation of future communication campaigns.

### **3. Cooperation with the European Commission**

EUPD in cooperation with the European Commission Representation in the CR have agreed on a memorandum of partnership and cooperation in preparation and implementation of joint communication activities and EU publicity. Within the mentioned memorandum, cooperation will be developed between Eurocentres and the EC network Europe Direct in communication activities focused on the EU funds. Partial projects that will be implemented jointly are aimed at a better mutual coordination, closer cooperation and the use of synergies. One of them is preparation of an on-line Map of projects.

At the turn of October 2011, EUPD cooperated with the EC Representation also within the Fair of European Information Networks (an event for the general public where EUPD provided information about the EU funds). The fair took place in selected regional cities of Brno, České Budějovice, Pardubice and Plzeň.

### **4. Eurofon and Eurocentres**

In 2011, cooperation continued with the Office of the Government of the CR, namely in the field of dissemination of information about the EU funds through selected tools of the Integrated Information System. This cooperation included operation of a free telephone line Eurofon 800 200 200 providing information on EU (answering queries of the general public concerning the EU funds, providing assistance to potential applicants and beneficiaries etc.) and regional information centres, so called Eurocentres (distribution of information materials etc.). In March 2011, the CR Government approved the material "Eurocentres and Eurofon – information sources about the European Union an implementation of the EU funds" on cooperation between the MRD and the Office of the Government of the CR.

### **5. Website**

Ranking among the priority activities of NSRF communication strategy is the website [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz) which serves as a basic signpost for everyone who wishes to learn about the ESC policy pursued in the Czech Republic. The EUPD is the main entity responsible for the portal and is in charge of its structure, content as well as design. An integral part of the portal is also the Extranet interface which caters for the communication needs within the working groups. In 2011, the activities associated with the management of SF portal were again financed from the state budget – thus the indicators within the OPTA were not fulfilled. In 2011, a public contract was announced for a new provider of services for the SF portal, namely within a public procurement procedure "Development of a website presentation of the activities of the Ministry for Regional Development CR, including the activities of the National Coordination Authority".

### **6. Bilingual regulations**

The NCA published an English-Czech version of two basic documents, namely the consolidated version of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 and the Implementing Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 of 25 June 2010 in the English original and the Czech authorized translation. Together with the main documents, also Annexes to Regulation No 1828/2006 were converted to separate electronic forms with individual fields accessible for direct filling in.

### **7. EUROANGLIČTINA electronic dictionary**

The publication was awarded the prize "Dictionary of the year 2012" in the category of electronic dictionaries. This prize is annually awarded by the Union of Interpreters and Translators CR.

### **8. OPTA MA activities**

- Training courses for beneficiaries: OPTA MA held three training courses for beneficiaries on the updated version of OPTA HAB and on implementation of public contracts. OPTA publicity rules were observed during these training courses.
- Regular meetings with beneficiaries: At regular meetings the OPTA MA informs the beneficiaries among other things also on anticipated modifications to OPTA documentation and procedures and relevant OPTA MA activities and explains the current design of programme implementation.

- OPTA MC: In 2011, the OPTA MA organised two OPTA MC meetings that serve for the presentation of financial and physical progress achieved in the programme. In the organisation of OPTA MC meetings the OPTA publicity rules were observed. It also applies to promotional merchandise distributed to OPTA MC members (3E principles are observed in their selection).

- Logos: The documents elaborated by OPTA MA bear the logos applied in line with the OPTA Logo Manual (it concerns e.g. minutes of the meetings, routine written communication, supporting materials for OPTA Selection Committee meetings, OPTA MC etc.).

- OPTA documentation: OPTA MA opinions and updated versions of OPTA OM, OPTA HAB etc. comprise the compulsory OPTA publicity and their distribution is done via the computerised forms of communication: data boxes, extranet, links in e-mails.

- Website [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz): OPTA MA takes care of the OPTA tab, where all relevant documents are publicised, including the information on the OPTA implementation (summary of evaluations, successful projects, updated versions of documentation, press releases etc.).

- Control of project publicity: Within its function of the managing authority the OPTA MA controls the observance of publicity rules in projects of beneficiaries. The OPTA beneficiaries do not show any shortcomings in the observation of publicity rules. Where necessary, they consult the specific cases with the IB/OPTA MA.

## List of Abbreviations

A/B IS	Applicant/ Beneficiary Information System
AA	Audit Authority
AAE	Authorised Audit Entity
AbCap	Absorption capacity
ACoP	Annual Communication Plan
AIS	Aid information system of MRD
APC	Act No 137/2006 Coll., on public contracts, as amended
CF	Cohesion Fund
CoP	Communication Plan
CR	Czech Republic
CRD	Centre for Regional Development of the CR
CSGs	Community Strategic Guidelines
EC	European Commission
EC	European Community
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESC	Economic and Social Cohesion
ESF	European Social Fund
EU	European Union
EUPD	European Publicity Department
GA	Government agencies
HAB	Handbook for Applicants and Beneficiaries
IB	Intermediate body
IOP	Integrated Operational Programme
IS	Information System
MA	Managing Authority
MC (OPTA)	Monitoring Committee (Operational Programme Technical Assistance)
MCC	Management and Co-ordination Committee
MONIT7+	Monitoring Information System of MRD
MRD	Ministry for Regional Development
MS	Monitoring system
MSAD	Monitoring System Administration Department
MSC2007	Monitoring system of Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund
N/A	Not available
NCA	National Co-ordination Authority
NCI	National Code List of Indicators
NDP	National Development Plan
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework
NUTS	La Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales Statistiques
OM	Operational Manual
OP	Operational Programme
OPEI	Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation
OPTA	Operational Programme Technical Assistance
P4	Project approved for financing

P6	Project financing completed
PA	Priority axis
PCA	Paying and Certifying Authority
RCE	Regional competitiveness and employment objective
ROP	Regional Operational Programme
SF	Structural Funds
SFC2007	Information system of the European Commission
WG SMS	Working Group Single Monitoring System

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