

MORAVIA-SILESIA – CZECH REPUBLIC

Basic regional socio economic data

Total population: 1,253,257 (2005); population density: 231 inhabitants/km²
area: 5,427 km² (of which is 13,2 % covered by settlement, urban and industrial areas; 35,4 % by forests and 51,4 % by agricultural areas).

Institutional and administrative system:

- one of 14 Czech NUTS III level regions (kraj) and
- one of 8 Czech NUTS II regions (NUTS II level regions are established only for structural funds administration)
- capital Ostrava, 313,000 inhabitants, (3rd in the Czech Republic),
- 22 counties, 299 municipalities



The region is surrounded by the Hruby Jesenik Mountain the west, which gradually passes to the lower Nizky Jesenik and Oderske vrchy hills. In the east this territory is bordered by the Moravskoslezske Beskydy mountain range. The relief is rather articulated as its top peak Praded is 1492 above the sea level and the lowest point is the Odra River passing the Polish border on 195 m above the sea level. Almost all area of the region belongs to the Odra River basin.

Moravian-Silesian region is border region on the North-east of the Czech Republic. On the North region borders with Poland and on the East with Slovakia.

Regional Economy :

GDP: total 8,113 Mio. Euro (2003);
GDP per capita: 6,416 Euro (2003)
GDP per capita 58.5% (PPS EU 25, 2002)

Main industrial sectors (according to annual sales 2004):

Metallurgy and machinery, car equipment, coal mining, electricity, gas and water supply, food products, chemical products, pulp and plastics.



Structure of economy according employment :

Employed total	524,000,	
out of which :		
Manufacturing	157,800	30.1%
Wholesales, retail	62,100	11.8%
Construction	44,700	8.5%
Health and social care	37,900	7.2%
Transport, telecommunications	36,900	7.0%
Public administration, defence	35,800	6.8%
Education	32,400	6.2%
Coal mining	22,000	4.6%
Agriculture	11,200	2.1%
etc		

Infrastructure:

There are international transport routes passing through the region, namely the international roads E 75 and E 462 from the south to the north and E 11 from the west to the east and then the International Railway Corridor II. The VI. Transeuropean multimodal transport corridor crosses the region in the North - South direction from Gdansk on Baltic Sea to ports on the Adriatic and Black Sea. The highway connecting the region to the highway network of the Czech Republic and Poland is expected to be finished in 2008.



International Ostrava Airport is under substantial reconstruction to satisfy increasing passenger demand.

Description of the framework of Structural Funds and programmes operating in the region.

The Moravia-Silesia region is benefiting support from the structural funds in the period 2004-2006. Region, and the whole area of the Czech Republic except Prague is classified as Objective 1 area. Development strategy of the Czech Republic is presented in the National Development Plan. Specific objectives of the National Development Plan (NDP) of the Czech Republic are the following:

- a) generation of conditions for economic growth by strengthening internal factors,
- b) support entrepreneurial qualification, competitiveness and labour force mobility and, at the same time, compensation of economic growth impacts on disadvantaged population groups,
- c) approximation to EU standards in the field of the environment, balanced development of regions.



Negotiations of the NDP with EC resulted in approval of the Community Support Framework (CSF), which specifies areas of structural funds support to 7 Objective 1 NUTS II regions in five priorities:

- [Increasing Competitiveness of Industry and Business Services](#)
- [Development of Transport Infrastructure](#)
- [Human resources development](#)
- [Protection and Improvement of the Environment](#)
- [Rural Development and Multi-Functional Agriculture](#)
- [Development of Tourism](#)

Based on CSF the Czech Republic has prepared five operational programmes for the period 2004 – 2006 :

The global objective of the **OP Industry and Enterprise** is to contribute to a competitive Czech business sector on the European common market with a high labour productivity and efficient production.

The **OP Infrastructure** contributes to the development of the second priority - Development of Transport infrastructure – and the fourth priority - Protection and improvement of the environment - of the CSF.

The **OP Rural Development and Multi-Functional Agriculture** is in line with the fifth priority of the CSF "Rural development and Agriculture" and will contribute to a part of the specific objectives "creating conditions of the business environment" and "improvement of the infrastructure quality", while at the same time supporting the horizontal objectives of "sustainable development" and "balanced development of regions".

The **OP Human Resources Development** is directly linked to the third CSF priority "Human Resources Development" and moreover for two of the three specific objectives that have been identified for the shortened programming period 2004 - 2006.

The **Joint Regional Operational Programme (JROP)** contains the development priorities of seven cohesion regions eligible for support under Objective 1. The JROP is based on a joint

development strategy with the regional differences being reflected by different financial weights to priorities and measures in the individual regions.

All these OPs are managed centrally by relevant ministries.

The main tool for development of regions in the programming period 2004-6 is the JROP, common for all obj.1 NUTS II in the Czech Republic. JROP MA is Ministry of Regional Development (MRD), but JROP implementation is partly decentralised.

JROP is made up of 4 priorities:

- Regional support of business activities (only support for new job creation in SMEs),
- Development of infrastructure in regions,
- Development of human resources in regions,
- Development of tourism.

JROP is complementary with sectoral OPs and is supporting operations on local and regional level.

On the NUTS II level there are established following bodies for the JROP implementation:

- Regional Council (constituted by regional – NUTS III governments) on which are delegated some responsibilities of JROP Managing Authority (call for projects, projects selection, proposals for Programme Complement amendments, promotion and communication
- Regional Development Committee (based on partnership principle), which has responsibility as “sub-monitoring committees” – they fulfil role of monitoring committee on the regional level.
- Secretariats of the Regional Council, belonging to the regional administration and responsible for promotion, publicity, collection and evaluation of project applications

Project implementation, collection of data for monitoring is role of regional office of Centre for Regional Development – intermediary body established by MRD



Approx. total amount of the JROP is 599 M€, origin of the funds: ERDF 407 M€, ESF 47 M€, National 145 M€. Share of the Moravia-Silesia region on JROP finances is about 17% of total, i.e. 102 M€