INVITATION FOR COOPERATION

The region's characteristics:	**Member State**: Poland **Region** - Lubuskie Voivodship. **Characteristics of area**: Lubuskie is located in the central-western part of the country with an area of 13.984 km ^{2}. The region has more than a million inhabitants and in this regard is the smallest in the country. One quarter of the residents live in the two largest cities (ie, Zielona Góra and Gorzów Wielkopolski).
About us:	We are developing a new ESF-supported project which will help unemployed people over 50 years of age into employment. The Voivodship Labour Office in Zielona Góra performs many tasks including: – management of the European Social Fund in the labour market in Lubuskie; – implementation of projects co-funded by the European Social Fund; – determination and coordination of regional labour market policies; – development of labour market analysis and research of work demand; implementation of tasks related to participation in the EURES network;

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Project overview	**Source of funding**: European Social Fund The structure of the European Social Fund in Poland: **Managing Authority** of European Social Fund – Ministry of Regional Development **Intermediate Body** for the European Social Fund of Lubuskie – Marshal Office of Lubuskie **2nd Level Intermediate Body** - Institution Implementing European Social Fund into Lubuskie labor market policies – Voivodship Labour Office in Zielona Góra
	The project starts **April 2011** and runs to **December 2013**
	Project objective: developing, adapting and mainstreaming solutions which help unemployed people aged over 50 in Lubuskie move into employment.
	Issue/theme: Measures encouraging active ageing and prolonging working lives among unemployed.
	Additional description of target group: Unemployed aged over 50 who are finding it difficult to obtain employment in the labour market.
	Outline of the planned activity: Adapting solutions to help activate unemployed people 50 + will be implemented by following these steps: **Stage I** Diagnosis and analysis of the problems an issues. Report together of findings with a presentation of the results and recommendations. Thematic conference on the results and action plan to achieve the

	final products. Development of a preliminary version of the final product. Development of project's implementation strategies. **Stage II** Development of final version of the final products (which means some new models/strategies/solutions to work with unemployed)and spread it by: . • Paper based toolkits • Guide to technical requirements • Training program for labour market institutions worker • Methodological guidelines for labour market employees, developed on the basis of innovative models/strategies/solutions. **Mainstreaming:** Spreading and Transferability Organization of the thematic conference addressed to representatives of labour market institutions. Transfer of developed solutions to each public and private institutions providing services to the unemployed aged over 50 years. Spread the information about the final product (by website, internet forum, newsletters, articles in local newspapers, TV programs). Seminars for advisors from public and private labour market institutions.
Transnational partnership	We plan to invite for cooperation one or two foreign partners, which haves solutions to activate the unemployed after 50 years of age and help us to adapt them. We are planning a project with the following models of transnational cooperation: – exchange of information and experiences; – adoption and adaptation of new methods to the relevant situation in the Lubuskie region; – exchange of key personnel on the project team or project participants.
	Minimum terms of tasks provided for the partner: – organization of study visits; – providing and developing solutions for the activation of unemployed people aged over 50; – self-selection of experts involved in the transfer of solution;

	– provide external expert consultancy/support in adapting solutions in Poland.
	We offer: – exchange of information and experience including: 1. Polish labour market policies, 2. functioning of the European Social Fund in Poland, 3. implementation of projects financed from EU funds in Lubuskie, 4. realisation of our institution and our beneficiaries Project co-funded from EU funds, - opportunity to exchange information and experience at every stage of the project, even after the completion of the transnational component (good practice to enrich the expert knowledge of transnational partner in the area of realisation of projects that transfer and adapt innovative solutions), - we are open and willing to cooperate. We would like to offer the possibility to participate in future projects which are co-funded from the ESF.
National partnership	We plan to invite two polish institutions to cooperate. One of them is District Labour Office, which is involved in: – assisting the unemployed and job-seekers in finding work through job placement, vocational guidance, professional information and assistance in active job searching; – registering the unemployed and job-seekers; – granting and payment of allowances and other unemployment benefits; – implementation of tasks related to participation in the EURES network.
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Working language	– English – Polish