



MINISTERSTWO
ŚRODOWISKA

Structure and competence of the environmental administration

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Structure of the environmental administration in Poland

- Ministry of the Environment
- Units supervised by the Minister of the Environment
 - General Directorate for Environmental Protection
 - Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection
 - National Water Management Authority
 - National Atomic Energy Agency
 - State Mining Authority

Structure of the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Poland

Minister of Environment
Andrzej Kraszewski

Minister's Political Office, Chief
K. Skapski

Undersecretary of State
J. Zaleski

Undersecretary of State
H.J. Jezierski

Secretary of State
S. Gawłowski

Undersecretary of State
B. Błaszczyk

General Director's Office

Minister's Office

Department of International Cooperation

Press Bureau

Department of Nature Conservation

Department of Forestry

Department of Environmental Education

Department of Geology and Geological Concessions

Department of Law

Department of Economy

Department of the "Infrastructure and Environmental Operational Programme"

Department of Financial Instruments

Bureau of Emergency Management and Protection of Confidential Information

Department of Waste Management

Department of Climate Change and Atmosphere Protection

Department of Environmental Instruments

General Director's Office

Minister of the Environment



Prof. Andrzej Kraszewski

The Minister of the Environment heads the government administration areas of water management and the environment.

Minister of the Environment

The area of the **environment** includes the issues of:

- the protection and development of the environment and the rational use of natural resources,
- nature protection,
- forestry,
- hunting,
- geology,
- research on the state of the environment,
- genetically modified organisms with exceptions,
- allotment gardens,

Minister of the Environment

The area of **water management** includes the issues of:

- the development, protection and rational use of water resources,
- surface waters, along with technical infrastructure, which are the property of the State Treasury,
- waterways,
- flood protection,
- the State Hydrological and Meteorological Service and the Hydrogeological Service,
- international cooperation on transboundary waters.

International cooperation of the Minister of the Environment



MINISTRY
OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Department of International
Cooperation

- Bilateral cooperation
- Regional cooperation, including participation in regional EU initiatives
- Multilateral cooperation
- Development aid
- Activities ensuing from Poland's membership in the EU

International cooperation of the Minister of the Environment

Bilateral cooperation



Objectives:

- implementation of the national foreign policy,
- keeping good relations with the neighbour countries,
- strengthening relations with individual countries,
- drawing on good practices followed in more advanced countries in the field of environmental protection,
- support for Polish green technologies.

Bilateral agreements / memorandums of understanding (governmental or sectoral) with 30 countries

International cooperation of the Minister of the Environment

Multilateral cooperation



Multilateral
Cooperation

Multilateral cooperation includes:

- implementation of tasks ensuing from the ratification of, or accession to, more than 40 Multilateral Environmental Agreements – MEAs;
- membership in the international organisations of the United Nations System, economic organisations, as well as processes and programmes related to the broadly conceived protection of the environment and natural resources, and sustainable development;
- implementation of the principles set out in declarations or legally non-binding acts, such as the Rio Declaration.

International cooperation of the Minister of the Environment

Regional initiatives



- Visegrad Group
- Central European Initiative

EU initiatives for regional cooperation:

- Eastern Partnership
- Union for the Mediterranean
- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

International cooperation of the Minister of the Environment

Development aid



- Joining the process of development aid planning – the preparation of a contribution to the national development aid strategy,
- Participation in projects carried out by the Office of the Committee for European Integration in 2008 and 2009,
- A project carried out in cooperation with the Belarussian environmental administration within the Polish Aid 2010 Programme.

Poland's membership in the European Union



The ability to shape the policies and legislation of the European Union is one of the basic benefits arising from the membership in the European Union.

The ability to ensure that Poland's interests are taken into account at the stage of developing solutions in specific areas of environmental protection.

Tasks related to the participation of the Minister of the Environment in the decision-making process under EU policies

The Ministry of the Environment is directly responsible for the Working Parties:

- on the Environment (WPE),
- on International Environmental Issues (WPIEI),
- on Forestry (WPF)

and the EU Environmental Council (ENVI)

Moreover, the State Atomic Energy Agency is responsible for planning, organising and chairing meetings of two working groups:

- the Council Working Party on Nuclear Issues
- the combined Council Working Parties on Research and Nuclear Issues

Tasks related to the participation of the Minister of the Environment in the decision-making process under EU policies 2

Basic tasks of the Polish Presidency of the EU Council :

- Chairing the work of the EU Council, its working groups and committees,
- Representing the Council to the other EU institutions, particularly the European Parliament and the European Commission *,
- Developing the Position of the European Union for the purposes of its cooperation with third countries and international organisations.

*Talks are underway to divide the competence between the Presidency and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Policy and Security Policy.

Units supervised by the Ministry of the Environment

General Directorate for Environmental Protection

Headed by the General Director for Environmental Protection.
The General Directorate for Environmental Protection employs about 140 persons

- cooperation in the implementation of environmental policy in the scope of nature conservation and control of investment processes,
- control of the liability for environmental damage,
- coordination of procedures and collection of data related to environmental impact assessments,
- participation in strategic environmental assessments (including transboundary ones),
- performance of tasks related to the Natura 2000 Network,
- cooperation with environmental organisations.

Units supervised by the Ministry of the Environment

Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection

Headed by the Chief Inspector for Environmental Protection. The Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection employs about 150 persons.

The basic tasks of the Inspectorate for Environmental Protection include:

- control of compliance with environmental law,
- surveys on the state of the environment within the State Environmental Monitoring Programme,
- prevention of major accidents.

Units supervised by the Ministry of the Environment

Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection 2

- control of compliance with regulations on environmental protection and rational use of natural resources,
- participation in proceedings concerning investment projects, sites likely to cause deterioration of the state of the environment and environment-protecting facilities and the approval of the decisions on site development and use,
- taking decisions to stop activities on the grounds of environmental protection,
- organisation and coordination of the State Environmental Monitoring System,
- development and implementation of methods for analysis and research and those for control and measurements,
- launch of measures to prevent major accidents and response to their effects.

Units supervised by the Ministry of the Environment

National Water Management Authority

Headed by the President of the National Water Management Authority. The National Water Management Authority employs about 90 persons.

The Authority is a national government administration authority competent for water management issues, particularly water management planning and water uses.

The National Water Management Authority started to operate on 1 July 2006.

Units supervised by the Ministry of the Environment **National Water Management Authority 2**

Tasks of the National Water Management Authority:

- development of the national programme for the water environment,
- development of river basin management plans,
- development of a draft plan for flood protection and prevention of drought effects in the country,
- approval of draft conditions for the use of waters in a water region,
- management of a water cadaster for the territory of the country, considering the division into river basin districts.

Units supervised by the Ministry of the Environment **National Water Management Authority 3**

- supervision over the activities of the Directors of Regional Water Management Boards,
- supervision over the operations of the State Hydrological and Meteorological Service and the State Hydrogeological Service,
- representation of the State Treasury in respect of the water management-related property as defined by statute,
- programming, planning and supervision over tasks related to the maintenance of waters or water facilities and to investments in water management.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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