

Transforming cities towards resilience and neutrality

Wojciech Augustowski Ministry of Climate and Environment



National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management



Global distribution of urban population



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Poland: Population in cities, including forecast to 2050



Population in cities in 2012-2021



Population in towns and villages in the years 1946-2020



Population dynamics in 2014-2050 in cities by voivodship (2013=100)



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Cities in Poland



As of January 1, 2021, there are **954 cities** in Poland.

The largest city in Poland is **Warsaw** (population: 1,794,166), and the smallest city in Poland is **Opatowiec** (population: 336).

| The size of the cities | Number of cities | The number of residents | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
| < 50 tys. residents | 871 (91%) | 9.243.077 (40%) | |
| > 50 tys. residents | 83 (9%) | 13.685.527 (60%) | |
| sum | 954 | 22.928.604 | |



Modern city – approaches





Challenges of urban policy in terms of climate and environment





air quality



increasing the biologically active surface; nature-based solutions



urban retention (green and blue infrastructure)



spatial planning



urban transport (zero and low-emission)



heating



renewable energy sources



energy-efficient construction (including natural, renewable resources)



Activities of the Ministry of Climate and Environment for the transformation of cities





Data on green areas in Polish cities [GUS,2020]





<u>Leaders:</u> Łęknica - 28,2 Chorzów - 20,8 Człuchów - 19,8

371 cities < 1%

849 cities < 5%



<u>Leaders:</u> Piwniczna-Zdrój - 45,37 Łęknica - 29,76 Głuchołazy - 29,49

> 183 cities < 1% 709 cities < 5%



| Leaders: | Planting | Cutting |
|------------|----------|---------|
| Siechnice | 400 | 0 |
| Kolbuszowa | 200 | 0 |
| Kowal | 176 | 0 |
| Buk | 340 | 2 |

306 cities with negative balance



No more concrete in city centers – an initiative of the Polish Deal



The Ministry of Climate and Environment is coordinating the "End with Concrete initiative in city centers" indicated in the document Polish Deal

The goals of the initiative:

- limiting the so-called "Concreteosis" and urban heat island phenomena,
- increasing the level of micro and small retention and green areas in cities
- creating financial and legal solutions supporting the achievement of the assumed goals
- establishing a minimum percentage of biologically active space in cities





No more concrete in city centers – an initiative of the Polish Deal



Strengthening coordination in climate change adaptation policy between local, regional and national authorities Handbook and training courses supporting decision-making resulting in spatial development with greater use of blue-green infrastructure

Cooperation with cities regarding the implementation of tasks aimed at removing concrete from urban spaces Assessment of the greening of selected Polish cities with an indication of its effects on their climatic and hydrological situation and the quality of life of their inhabitants. Recommendations: towards green compact cities





LEGISLATION

bill on amending certain acts to strengthen the climate dimension of urban policy [MCE UD246]

ANALYSIS OF CITY PROGRESS

analysis of climate and environmental indicators, selection of leaders and promotion of good practices

FINANCING

for cities and residents

SUPPORT FOR CITY TRANSFORMATION

strategic consulting consultation and a permanent platform for cooperation with cities





- Urban Adaptation Plans
- Greening plans

Legislation

• Green civic budget







Analysis of city progress



Analysis of climate and environmental indicators, selection of leaders and promotion of good practices

5 categories:

• air quality,

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- urban greenery,
- energy transformation,
- zero-emission transport,
- urban retention.





Strategic consulting

Roadmaps for the climate transformation of cities





Financing for cities and residents



- FENIKS 2021-2027
- Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment 2014–2020
- Priority Programmes NFOŚiGW
- EEA and Norway grants





Support for city transformation Strategic consulting.



Research on natural and climate indicators and preparation of a guidebook for cities







Strengthening coordination in climate change adaptation policy between local, regional and national authorities under the Technical Support Instrument of the European Commission





Study of The Supreme Audit Office (NIK)





The Supreme Audit Office (NIK) conducted a study on, inter alia, including the issue of green areas development in municipal spatial development plans.

The Supreme Audit Office's research shows:

- the activities of city authorities in the field of management of green areas generally contributed to their preservation and increase.
- most cities did not have a comprehensive diagnosis of green areas, taking into account their distribution and the degree of accessibility to residents, which, according to the Supreme Audit Office, would facilitate adequate planning of activities related to green areas to be implemented in a specific time perspective.





Development of **Urban Adaptation Plans** for cities of more than 100,000 inhabitants in Poland (44MPA Project)

Together with the cities, the plans were prepared by:

- Institute for Environmental Protection National Research Institute
- Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas
- Institute of Meteorology and Water Management – National Research Institute
- ARCADIS Poland

The project is financed by the European Union from the Cohesion Fund under the Operational Program Infrastructure and Environment and from the state budget





Let's feel the climate!



www.44mpa.pl



Thank you for your attention





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