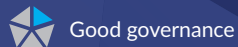


Geographical and thematic priorities

In the years 2016–2020 Polish aid will be implemented principally in the Eastern Partnership and in selected countries of Africa, Asia and the Middle East:



PRIORITIES IN SUPPORTED AREAS:



Good governance



Human capital



Entrepreneurship and private sector



Sustainable agriculture and rural development



Environment protection

Humanitarian aid

Poland is actively involved in providing assistance, care and protection for the people who were affected by armed conflicts, natural disasters or other humanitarian crises caused by nature or manmade. For this purpose, Poland provides support through contributions to international humanitarian organizations, through Polish NGOs, and via civil protection operations in the framework of the UN and EU coordination mechanisms.

Multilateral cooperation

Multilateral cooperation is implemented primarily through contributions to budgets of specialized international agencies and the EU, in particular to the European Development Fund (EDF). All development activities undertaken by Poland are in line with the commitments deriving from its membership in the UN, the EU and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); they also derive from Polish foreign policy priorities.

Global education and volunteering

Poland undertakes educational activities to raise awareness and understanding of global issues among Polish citizens. It also supports direct involvement of Polish citizens in supporting the people of developing countries in the framework of the «Polish Aid Volunteering» programme.

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Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme

2016–2020

The Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme

2016–2020 is a government document embracing the whole of Polish Official Development Assistance (ODA). The Programme defines objectives, thematic and geographical areas of the Polish development cooperation and defines basic principles and forms of providing assistance through the instruments of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

The *Development Cooperation Act of 16 September 2011*

laid down the legal basis of the Programme. The Act defines development cooperation as: all actions taken by government administration to provide developing countries with development and humanitarian aid and as the implementation of educational activities aimed at raising awareness and understanding of global issues and interdependencies.



Ministry
of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Poland



Polish aid

Thematic priorities of Polish development cooperation

For the years 2016–2020 six development priority areas have been selected:

GOOD GOVERNANCE

in particular: regional development, including strengthening of local government institutions, decentralisation, public security and civil protection sector, strengthening competences and capacities of public administration, strengthening the rule of law and combating corruption, bringing legislation and institutions closer to EU and international standards; access to reliable and objective information; media independence;

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

in particular: democratic election processes; human rights and civic freedoms; strengthening civil society organisations, civic dialogue;

HUMAN CAPITAL

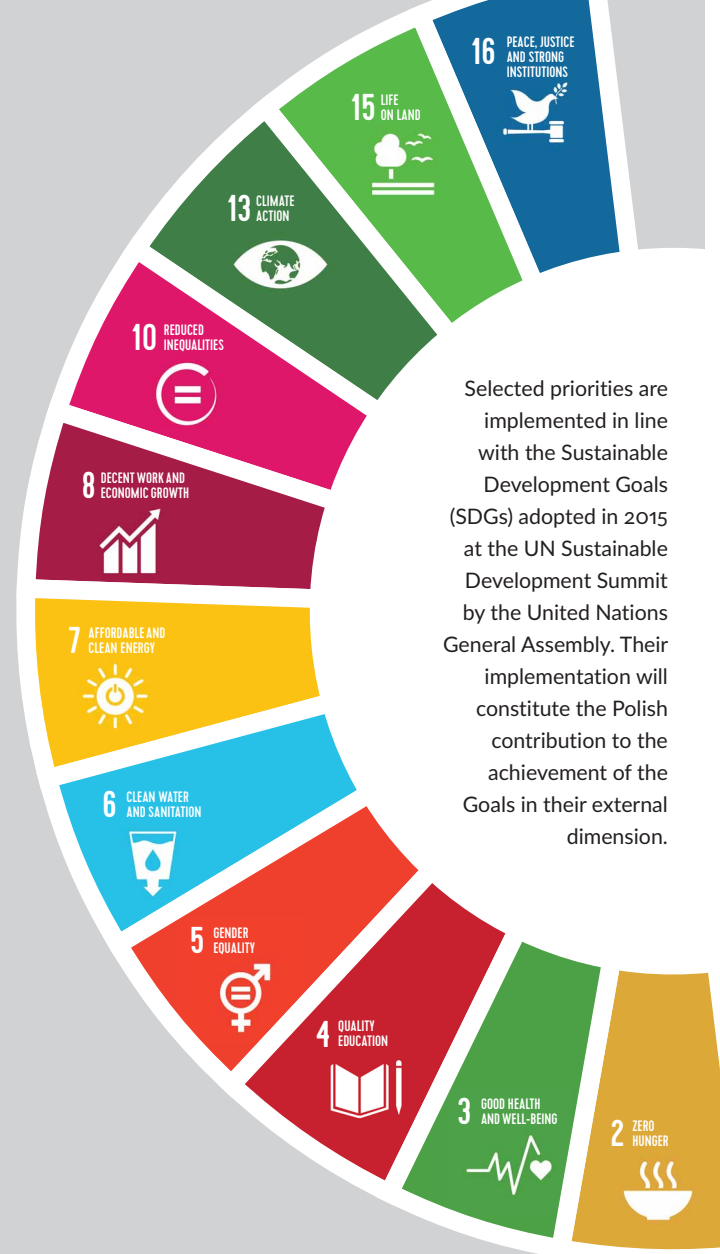
in particular: improving the quality of healthcare; inclusive education and common access to high quality education; civic education; social integration of persons belonging to groups at risk of exclusion;

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PRIVATE SECTOR

in particular: competitiveness and innovativeness of micro and small enterprises; social economy; entrepreneurship, in particular of women and youth; education and vocational training;

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

in particular: food safety; productivity and competitiveness of agricultural production; access to markets; use of modern technologies in agriculture, modernisation of local infrastructure;



Selected priorities are implemented in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 at the UN Sustainable Development Summit by the United Nations General Assembly. Their implementation will constitute the Polish contribution to the achievement of the Goals in their external dimension.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

in particular: renewable energy; energy efficiency; water management; waste management; building resilience to natural disasters and catastrophes caused by human activity; promoting sustainable development; counteracting climate change and its consequences; protecting natural resources;



The Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme defines also **Flagship initiatives** aiming primarily at good governance and human capital development. These are:

- Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration – established to strengthen public administration in the Eastern Partnership countries. The programme serves to shape professional civil service, in order to establish an expert base needed to implement the principles of a democratic state of law and of modern economy.
- Information Center for Local Authorities in Moldova – aims at supporting Moldovan local authorities, NGOs, and initiative groups in their actions to strengthen local democracy, in particular in applying for funds and establishing partnerships with institutions from Poland and other EU Member States.
- scholarship programmes – i.a. Stefan Banach and Ignacy Łukasiewicz scholarships, enable foreign students to gain education and skills that they may later use to improve the living conditions in their countries.

Development cooperation tools

Poland's development cooperation is implemented in the form of programmes and projects aimed at concrete groups of beneficiaries (bilateral aid) and contributions or voluntary payments to International institutions, funds and organizations (multilateral aid).

The main part of bilateral aid is carried out in cooperation with Polish NGOs, public finance sector entities, Polish Academy of Sciences and universities. Polish assistance is provided also in cooperation with Poland's missions abroad (small grants).

A special partner in the implementation of development cooperation is the solidarity Fund PL, which is entrusted with supporting democratic processes (including local democracy) in countries undergoing systemic transformation.



Solidarity Fund PL