

Regional Outlook 2019 POLAND

Regional Development Policy in Poland



General policy approach

The Strategy for Responsible Development for the period up to 2020 is the key document in the field of the medium- and long-term economic policy. It creates the basis for other strategic policy documents and programmes.

The National Strategy of Regional Development 2010-20: Regions, Cities, Rural Areas – one of the nine development strategies – sets out the objectives of regional policy, covering urban and rural areas. Objectives of the National Strategy of Regional Development include: support for the competitive growth of the regions; support for territorial cohesion and prevention of the marginalisation of problem areas (including Eastern Poland, revitalisation areas and border areas); and ensuring conditions for efficient, effective and partnership implementation of development measures targeted at territories. These objectives of the National Strategy of Regional Development are specified in more detail in 16 regional strategies.

The Strategy for the Sustainable Development of Rural Areas, Agriculture and Fisheries for 2012-20 has the objective to improve quality of life in rural areas and to effectively use their resources and potential for the sustainable development of the country.

The National Urban Policy 2023 was launched in 2015 and is a territorially oriented policy for the sustainable development of cities and their functional urban areas. The policy is addressed (directly) to the ministries and other government institutions and (indirectly) to regions, cities, citizens, non-governmental organisations and experts. Actions will be funded by different levels of government, including through European Structural and Investment Funds.

Recent policy changes

- The Government Policy for the Development of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP Policy) was developed in 2017. It aims at increasing private sector involvement in large and complex investments with the objective of tapping new sources of funding as well as outside expertise.
- The new Act on Supporting New Investments was implemented in June 2018 and replaced the former system of support offered by special economic zones. The most fundamental change introduced is the possibility to grant support for investments in any location instead of only those located in special economic zones. The aim is to make the support system more attractive to investors, while allowing for the elimination of the complicated and lengthy procedure of extending the borders of special economic zones.
- Work on updating nine development strategies on key policy issues (regional policy, rural areas, productivity, transport, energy and environment, human capital, social capital, efficient state, national security) is underway. These strategies will serve the implementation of the set objectives and making the Strategy for Responsible Development stipulations more precise. The recommendations from the *OECD Rural Policy Review of Poland 2018* have a significant impact on the revisions related to the Strategy for Rural Areas.

Institutional arrangements to prepare for global megatrends

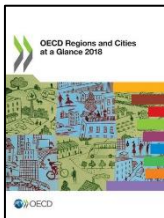
The Strategic Analysis Center has been established in the Chancellery of the Prime Minister to support the Prime Minister in legislative, media and political activities. The centre also plays the role of a research unit, helping to determine the directions which the government should follow and preparing long-term policy proposals. The centre consists of four departments: Analyses, Regulatory Impact Assessments, Defence Analyses and Strategic Studies.

The Ministry of Investment and Economic Development has started to reform the development management system. The initiated reforms include the introduction of foresight and scenario planning elements into development planning, the integration of socio-economic and spatial planning issues into strategic documents at all levels of government, and increased monitoring of the implementation of policies.

All of the strategic plans mentioned above contain long-term and forward-looking elements that take into account expected future developments. Similarly, subnational governments have the possibility to prepare forward-looking sectoral strategies. In this respect, the Voivodship Development Strategy is particularly important for determining the main direction of a region's development.

Looking for statistical information to complement this?

Take a look at our publication Regions and Cities at a Glance:



<https://oe.cd/pub/2n9>

OECD Regional Outlook 2019: Leveraging Megatrends for Cities and Rural Areas

The 2019 edition of the *OECD Regional Outlook* examines the regional dimensions of global megatrends and their implications for the well-being of people living in different places. It discusses how place-based policies, public investment and multi-level governance reforms can respond to these megatrends to revive productivity growth, reduce inequalities, improve quality of life and increase sustainability.

Consult the full publication and the other country profiles on line: <https://oe.cd/pub/2vq>.

