



OECD

**2016** Poland's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
in the OECD



**20 YEARS OF  
PARTNERSHIP AND  
COOPERATION  
BETWEEN POLAND  
AND THE OECD**

# Poland and the OECD – A mutually beneficial partnership

*"The OECD is proud to be working with Poland and for Poland. Together, we can prepare better policies for better lives, here and in the whole world."*



**Angel Gurría**, OECD Secretary-General



**Mateusz Morawiecki**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development of Poland

*"Membership in the OECD confirms that Poland belongs to the club of most advanced economies and like-minded countries. The OECD's reports and expertise provide the Polish government with a valuable source of information in the process of shaping and implementing social and economic policy reforms, which aim to increase the quality of life in our country."*

## Benefits for Poland

- Belonging to a group of like-minded countries, committed to promoting economic strength and prosperity, preserving individual liberty and increasing general well-being
- Having access to tailor-made policy advice, especially in structural policy issues
- Tracking economic and social progress in comparison to other OECD members
- Learning best practices in policy making through a recognised peer review system
- Integrating with a rich network of over 100 countries through OECD work with non-members and partner economies

## Benefits for the OECD

- Learning from the successful example of Poland's rapid economic development
- Getting advice from Poland on how to best help transition economies by showing them how to successfully implement reforms, withstand international shocks and sustain progress
- Drawing on Polish knowledge of the specific challenges related to post-communist economic transition to build effective programmes for South-East Europe and Eurasia, notably Ukraine

Poland signs the **Partnership Agreement** with the OECD on 4 June 1991

1991



Signature of the OECD Partnership Agreements "Partners in Transition" with the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Hungary and Poland, Paris, 4 June 1991

Poland signs the **Accession Agreement** to the OECD, 11 July 1996

1996



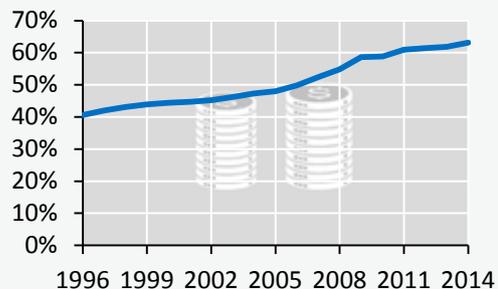
**Donald J. Johnston**, OECD Secretary-General and **Grzegorz Kolodko**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Poland (1994-1997) at the ceremony of the signature of the Accession Agreement, Paris, 11 July 1996

Poland becomes the 28th **OECD Member Country**, 22 November 1996

# 20 years of economic transformation – together

## Poland has achieved a high level of prosperity and wellbeing

### GDP per capita relative to OECD average, purchasing power parities



Remarkably resilient to the 2009 world economic and financial crisis, Poland has continued to grow strongly and catch up with other OECD countries in GDP per capita.



## The OECD has supported Poland throughout its transition with analysis and policy advice

- Economic Surveys every two years since 1992
- OECD Partners in Transition programme
- Direct dialogue with the key actors of Poland's transformation
- Policy advice focused on reconstructing the economy, building the structural framework for growth, restructuring the enterprise sector and strengthening integration into the world economy

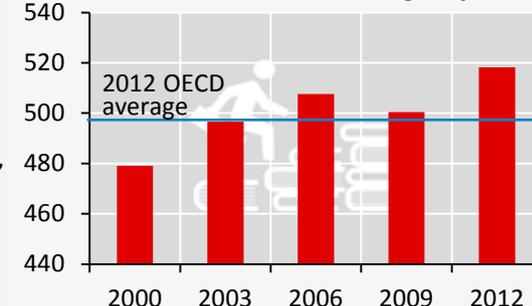
## How is life in Poland today?

- Poland scores above the OECD average on personal security, social connections and education, according to the OECD Better Life Index.
- Strong sense of community: 91% of Poles believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 88%.
- 90% of adults completed upper secondary education, surpassing the OECD average of 75%, and among the highest rates in the OECD.
- The average Polish student scored 521 points in reading, mathematics and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), compared to 497 points for the average student in the OECD.

## Did you know that?

- In 2000 Poland's PISA results were below the OECD average. Three years later, Polish students' outcomes improved significantly and they now surpass the OECD average.
- Poland acceded to the OECD Schemes for Varietal Certification of Grass and Legume Seed and Crucifer Seed and Other Oil and Fibre Species in 1964, 32 years before its accession to the OECD.

### Mean PISA score in reading, in points



Poland signs the **OECD Anti-Bribery Convention** on 17 December 1997

1997



**Hanna Suchocka**, Minister of Justice of Poland (1997-2000) signs the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, Paris, 17 December 1997

Donald J. Johnston, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland for the first time

1998

1999

Leszek Balcerowicz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Poland (1997-2000), serves as Vice-chair of the Ministerial Council Meeting

Aleksander Kwasniewski, President of Poland (1995-2005), pays his first visit to the OECD



**Donald J. Johnston**, OECD Secretary-General, and **Aleksander Kwasniewski**, President of Poland, Paris, 3 November 1999

# Highlights of our co-operation

## Fostering competition

- Poland's Office of Competition and Consumer Protection regularly shares its experience on antitrust issues with OECD member countries.
- Its antitrust watchdog applies the OECD's Competition Assessment Toolkit and other recommendations.



## Acting against bribery

- Poland's commitment to tackling bribery has been unwavering since it signed the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.
- By active cooperation with the OECD, Poland contributes to implementing the OECD anti - foreign bribery policies. Poland provides an effective system for information exchange on bribery cases with other jurisdictions.
- The Polish government's 2014 anti-corruption programme includes measures for stronger prevention and detection of foreign bribery in international business transactions.

## Going green: protecting the environment

- Poland follows the OECD approach to effectively achieve environmental objectives in an economically efficient way.
- Poland took into consideration OECD advice on how to improve its environmental protection system.
- The last environmental performance review, focused on forestry and biodiversity, inspired Poland to share its achievements with OECD members and to present an exhibition "Polskie Parki Narodowe" (Polish National Parks) at the OECD Headquarters, in June 2015.



The exhibition „Polish National Parks” in Paris, June 2015. Conservation of nature has a long-lasting tradition in Poland. The first two Polish national parks - Bialowieski and Pieninski – were created in 1932. 23 national parks have been established in Poland since, covering about 1% of the country's territory.

Aleksander Kwasniewski, President of Poland, visits the OECD for the second time

Donald J. Johnston, OECD Secretary-General, meets Wieslaw Kaczmarek, Minister of the Treasury of Poland (2001-2003)

Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland (2001-2005), visits the OECD

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

Donald J. Johnston, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland for the second time

Donald J. Johnston, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland and meets Grzegorz Kolodko, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Poland (2002-2003)



Donald J. Johnston, OECD Secretary-General and Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Paris, 22 April 2004

# Highlights of our co-operation

## Finding solutions to social challenges: ageing and inequalities

- Poland has intensively collaborated with the OECD members in order to adopt recommendations and other instruments to secure strong and stable economic growth, ensure high rates of employment, foster social integration and to reduce poverty.
- Inequalities and ageing are some of the key challenges that the OECD helps tackling.



## Addressing global questions at the local level

- The OECD and Poland work together to mitigate the implications of ageing and other demographic changes for the development of the local labour market.



## Adopting responsible business conduct

- The OECD provides a platform for dialogue and fosters exchange of views and experiences on effective implementation of the principles for responsible business conduct.
- The Polish government encourages companies to apply the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises in their daily activities.
- The Guidelines National Contact Point, which was established in Poland in 1998, promotes this instrument among companies, social partners, NGOs and business associations through its website and seminars offered to NGOs and trade unions.



- The “Climate Change, Employment and Local Development” project, carried out within the framework of the OECD’s LEED Programme, examines the impact of climate change on Polish local development, including its labour market. Through its recommendations, the OECD strives to facilitate the transition to a “green economy” at the local level.

Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Poland’s OECD membership

2006



Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, with Leszek Balcerowicz, President of the Polish National Bank (2001-2007), and Vincent Koen, Head of Division in the OECD Economics Department, Warsaw, 22-24 November 2006



Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General with Jaroslaw Kaczynski, Prime Minister of Poland (2006-2007), Warsaw, 22-24 November 2006

Piotr Wozniak, Minister of Economy of Poland (2005-2007), serves as Vice-chair of the Ministerial Council Meeting

2007

2008

Poland joins the **OECD Development Centre**, 1 January 2008

Waldemar Pawlak, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland (2007-2012), visits the OECD



Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, and Waldemar Pawlak, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland, Paris, 7 March 2008

# Highlights of our co-operation

## Better policies for transition economies: Eurasia, Ukraine and South East Europe

- Poland actively supports key OECD initiatives designed to help transition economies, particularly Ukraine.
- The launch of the Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable in Warsaw in 2013 highlights Poland's efforts to foster co-operation with the European neighbourhood.
- As co-chair of the OECD Eastern Europe and South Caucasus Initiative, Poland shapes best practices for promoting the development of small and medium-sized firms, improving the business climate and promoting investment in the region.



Artur Nowak-Far, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland (2013-2015), at the Ukraine Day, Paris, 16 June 2015

*“Poland and other Central and Eastern European countries underwent economic transformation in the 1990s with the contribution and support of the OECD. Let’s help Ukraine to carry out reforms now, when it is ready to accept our help and implement necessary solutions.”*

## Towards a robust and effective development co-operation

- Poland was instrumental in the implementation of the OECD Strategy on Development launched in 2012 and contributed to innovative tools such as the Multi-Dimensional Country Reviews, the Policy Dialogue Initiative on Global Value Chains and the Policy Dialogue on Natural- Resource Based Development.
- Pawel Wojciechowski, Ambassador of Poland to the OECD, chaired the OECD Development Centre from 2011 until 2013.
- In 2013 Poland has become the 28th member of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC)- the leading international forum for bilateral providers of development cooperation. 2016 will mark a milestone of Poland’s membership in the DAC, with the first peer review of the country’s development cooperation programme.

*“Poland’s membership is another landmark for the Development Assistance Committee. Poland is a country with impressive development achievements and important experience in many areas that are central to our work.”*



Erik Solheim, Chair of the Development Assistance Committee

Poland becomes the 28th member of the **International Energy Agency**, 25 September 2008

Poland joins the **Nuclear Energy Agency**, 18 November 2010

Waldemar Pawlak, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland, serves as Vice-chair of the Ministerial Council Meeting

2010

2012

Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland to attend the Second High Level meeting of Ministers of Finance on Climate Change, organised in Warsaw as a COP14 Conference side-event, 8 December 2008

Elzbieta Bienkowska, Minister of Regional Development of Poland (2007-2013), participates in the high-level meeting of the Governing Board of the OECD Development Centre, 1 March 2012

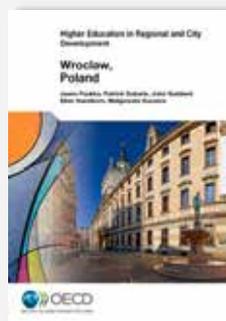


Waldemar Pawlak (right), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland, at the MCM Opening Session, Paris, 23 May 2012

# Highlights of our co-operation

## Education: towards a skills-based economy

- If Europe would raise its learning outcomes by the same level of improvement Poland experienced over the last decade, Europe's economy would be richer by some EUR 50 trillion over the lifetime of today's students.
- Poland is a key participant in all OECD flagship studies on education such as TALIS, PIAAC and Starting Strong. PISA highlights Poland's continuous improvement in competencies of 15-year olds in reading, mathematics and science.
- The OECD recommendations have been taken into account by the Polish government while reforming the national educational system over the last twenty years, also in the context of regional level development.



## Urban and rural: fostering regional development

- Poland has used the OECD recommendations resulting from the studies – Territorial Review of Poland and Urban Policy Review of Poland - in the preparation of important strategic documents such as the “National Strategy of Regional Development 2010-2020: Regions, Cities, Rural Areas” and “National Urban Policy in 2023”.
- The OECD also helps to tackle specific challenges of rural areas. The forthcoming review of rural policy in Poland will allow the Polish government to evaluate the current action against these areas and recommendations for the future, including after 2020.
- The expertise of the OECD's Local Economic and Employment Development Programme helped Poland strengthen the EU's cohesion policies, especially during its Presidency of the Council of the European Union.



## Improving agriculture and fisheries policies

- Senior policy officials from Poland regularly participate in the Committee for Agriculture to improve understanding of agriculture, trade and agri-environmental policies and in the Committee on Fisheries, which provides information on fishing and aquaculture.

## Harnessing the fruits of open trade

- Senior trade policy officials from Poland participate in the Trade Committee – a unique forum to build mutual understanding of important policy issues in trade relations.

Poland becomes a member of the **Development Assistance Committee**, 22 October 2013

Michał Boni, Minister of Administration and Digitization of Poland (2011-2013), participates as a key speaker in the meeting of the OECD Public Governance Committee



**Michał Boni**, Minister of Administration and Digitization of Poland (2011-2013), Paris, 12 November 2013

Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland to launch the 13th Economic Survey of Poland



**Janusz Piechociński**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland (2012-2015), and **Angel Gurría**, OECD Secretary-General, at the press conference, Warsaw, 10 March 2014

**Bronisław Komorowski**, President of Poland (2010-2015), receives **Angel Gurría**, OECD Secretary-General, Warsaw, 10 March 2014



2013

Paweł Wojciechowski, Ambassador of Poland to the OECD, serves as the Ambassadors' Dean from July 2013 to July 2014

2014

# Highlights of our co-operation

## Getting public governance right



- Government innovations for open and transparent governance are underway, based on OECD best practice.
- Poland observes the OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises.
- Poland adopted an administrative simplification programme, based on methods successfully used in other OECD countries.



- Poland took advantage of the OECD's expertise for improving governance capacity to achieve long-term quality-of-life and competitiveness outcomes for its citizens and businesses and to deliver services effectively and efficiently.



## Making regulatory reforms happen



- Like other central and eastern European countries Poland underwent fundamental change as it made the transition from a planned to a market economy.
- The liberalisation of economic activity and the democratisation of government institutions were successful reforms that benefited from the OECD's expertise.

## Designing policies to foster innovation

- Poland helped shape the OECD Innovation Strategy and transposed many of its elements into the national setting.
- OECD experts provided relevant and substantive guidance to Polish policymakers through policy reviews of entrepreneurship and innovation policy.



Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, visits Poland and meets Janusz Piechocinski, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, and Grzegorz Schetyna, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland (2014-2015)

2015



Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General and Grzegorz Schetyna, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Warsaw, 7 April 2015



Janusz Piechocinski, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland, and Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, Warsaw, 7 April 2015

2016



Catherine L. Mann, OECD Chief Economist, visits Poland to launch the XIV Economic Survey of Poland

Catherine L. Mann, OECD Chief Economist, and Mateusz Morawiecki, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development of Poland, Warsaw, 22 March 2016



Krzysztof Jurgiel, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Poland, takes part in the meeting of the Agriculture Committee at the Ministerial Level

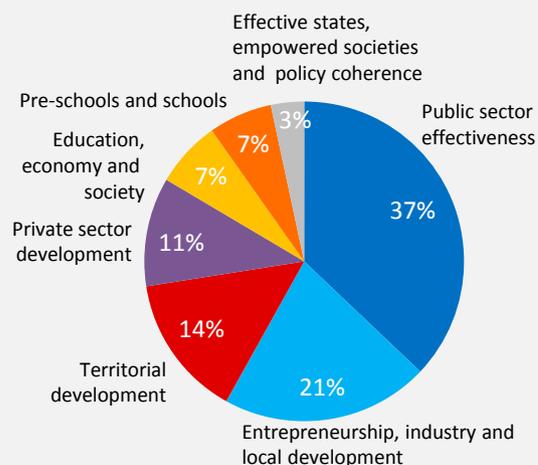
Krzysztof Jurgiel, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Poland, Paris, 7-8 April 2016

# Poland's contribution to the OECD

## Financial support

Poland supports the OECD through membership and voluntary contributions. Between 2006 and 2015, Poland transferred to the OECD total voluntary payments of EUR 5,47 million. The funding supported the Eurasia Competitiveness Programme and the Local Economic and Employment Development Programme. Poland also financed the Economic Review and the Education Policy Review of Ukraine.

## Voluntary financial contributions, 2010-2015

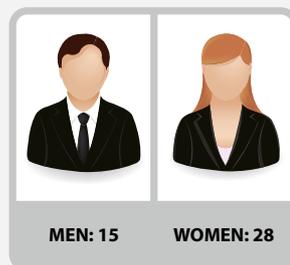


Polish staff members at the OECD, March 2016

## Providing talent

Polish staff members contribute to the OECD work in its various directorates and agencies. In early 2016 a total of 43 Polish nationals worked for the OECD.

## Number of Polish OECD officials



## Contributing to OECD bodies (by 2016)

### At the vice-chair level

- Ministerial Council Meetings in 1999, 2007 and 2012
- Advisory Board of the Eurasia Competitiveness Programme
- Working Party of Measurement and Analysis of Digital Economy
- Working Group on the Regulation of New Reactors
- Committee for Technical and Economic Studies on Nuclear Energy Development and the Fuel Cycle

### At the bureau member level

- Corporate Governance Committee
- Steering Committee of Local Economic and Employment Development Programme
- Working Group on International Investment Statistics
- Working Party on Migration
- Working Party on Measurement and Analysis of Digital Economy
- Governing Board of the Centre for Educational Research and Innovation

## Hosting events and promoting OECD work



Warsaw, 27-28 June 2013: First Ministerial Conference of the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme



Warsaw, 1 October 2014: At the unique venue of the National Stadium in Warsaw, Andrzej Biernat, the Polish Minister of Sport and Tourism (2013-2015), opens the 94th session of the OECD Tourism Committee



Warsaw, 22 March 2016: Launch of the latest Economic Survey Poland 2016

Poland hosted in Warsaw on 13-14 September 2000 the third "outside Paris" Council session in the OECD history. It also hosted the Environmental Policy Committee's meeting in Krakow (25-27 October 2006).

# Actors behind the partnership

## Diplomats based in Paris

The permanent representation of Poland to the OECD, which was established in January 1997, is a vital link between the Polish government and the OECD. It represents the country in OECD bodies and committees. Polish diplomats ensure that there is a good match between OECD work and the issues of interest to Poland.



## Delegates

In addition to the diplomats based in Paris, national senior officials and experts regularly participate in OECD meetings. In 2015, over 350 of them came to Paris to take part in OECD meetings.



## Council

The OECD Council gives oversight and strategic direction. It is made up of one representative from each member country, plus a representative of the European Commission. It is chaired by the OECD Secretary-General. The Council mandates the OECD's work and has final decision-making power.

## OECD Committees

Over 250 committees, working groups and expert groups made up of more than 40,000 international experts from around the world exchange information and ideas, and monitor progress in their policy areas.

## Business and trade union representatives

Employers of Poland and the Lewiatan Confederation are members of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD while NSZZ Solidarność is an affiliate of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD.



## OECD Secretariat

The OECD Secretariat, headed by the Secretary-General, carries out work in response to the Council's mandates. It measures global performance, analyses data, compares policies and formulates recommendations.

# Looking for more information...



**OECD360: Polska 2015** gives you the latest overview of policies and data about Poland from the OECD's flagship publications in an accessible and user-friendly format.



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