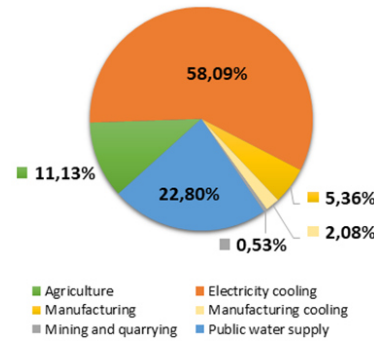
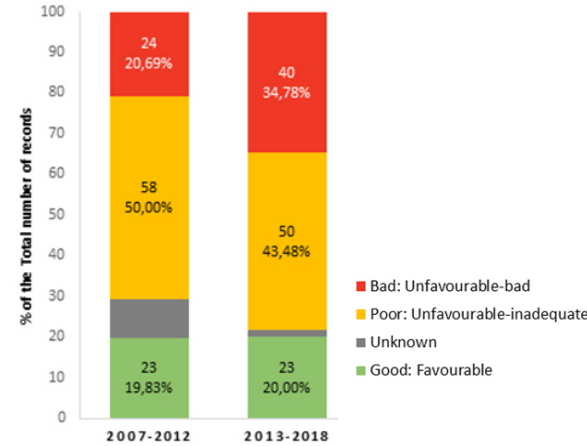




of inhabitants 37.7 million
Surface area 307 236 km²
GDP per capita 79 pps [1]
Significant bodies of water (RBDs) Oder; Vistula
Polity unitary state with local government (samorząd terytorialny) organised at three tiers
Layers of government central government; 16 regions ; 314 counties; 2 478 municipalities
Legislative powers at the sub-national level No
Decentralisation index Water Exploitation Index plus (WEI+) 1.9 (8 out of 27) [2]
6.87% (2017) [3]



Water abstraction per sector in Poland - Source: EEA (2022)



Conservation status for habitats in 2007-2012 and 2013-2018 in Poland - Source: EEA (2021)



Water bodies with less than good ecological status in Poland - Source: EEA (2021)

Main actors responsible for WEFE nexus relevant governance

NEXUS PILLARS

POLICY MAKING

POLICY EXECUTION

Water Ministry of Environment

State Water Holding Polish Waters; National Water Management Authority; National Water Agency; Regional Water Management Boards; local authorities

Energy Ministry of Climate; Ministry of Development; Ministry of State Assets; Ministry of Finance

Polish National Energy Conservation Agency; Energy Regulatory Office; National Atomic Energy Agency; regional and local authorities

Food Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

National Center for Support to Agriculture; Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture and its regional and local offices

Ecosystems Ministry of Environment

Chief Inspectorate of Environmental Protection; Institute of Environmental Protection; regional, county and local authorities

[1] EU purchasing power standard
 [2] <https://portal.cor.europa.eu/divisionpowers/Pages/Decentralization-Index.aspx>
 [3] The threshold for water scarcity is set at > 20%
 [4] <https://www.kampinoskiebagna.pl/en/home-kampinos-wetlands-1/> & <https://www.kampinoskiebagna.pl/en/home-kampinos-wetlands-2/>

WEFE NEXUS PERSPECTIVE

CHALLENGES

- Invest in wastewater treatment infrastructure
- Address eutrophication issues caused by agriculture for both inland and marine waters
- Improve the implementation of the Natura 2000 legislation
- Improve knowledge about the Natura 2000 network to promote societal acceptance
- Address threats to the Natura 2000 network, such as urban sprawl, road infrastructure, and intensive forestry and agriculture

OPPORTUNITIES

- Poland focuses especially on **SDG 6** (increasing available water resources)
- Poland has drafted a **list of solutions to overcome water shortages and to cope with drought**, both in cities and in rural areas
- The **Kampinos Wetlands (2013-2019)** and the **Kampinos WetLIFE (2020-2026)** projects aim to protect and restore wetlands at the 'Puszcza Kampinoska' Natura 2000 site[4]
- Poland will receive **major contributions from the cohesion policy funds in 2021-2027** to close implementation gaps of EU legislation
- Poland's **Recovery and Resilience Plan** focuses inter alia on measures to improve water management in rural areas



More information on WEFE nexus governance in the EU

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