Subject 5

10 year framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

Transport

Clean fuels and vehicles

A system of environmental fees is in force in Poland which promotes vehicles with lower emission levels or fuel consumption. Furthermore, a reporting system about fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions in the marketing of new passenger vehicles was introduced (along with the implementation of Directive 1999/94/EC).

Moreover, efforts made to implement Directive 2009/33 which provides for systemic promotion of the purchase of road transport vehicles with lower emissions and higher energy efficiency, both within public procurement procedures and acquisition of vehicles by public passenger transport operators.

The promotion of biofuels and other environmentally friendly fuels is part of the "2008-2014 long-term programme for the promotion of biofuels and other renewable fuels". ¹

Furthermore, the requirements of Directive 2005/35/EC which **restricts sulphur content in marine fuels** have been implemented. Moreover, the amended Annex VI to the MARPOL Convention comes into force in July 2010 which imposes further **reduction of atmospheric pollutant emissions from ships.**

With respect to air transport, a number of initiatives are under way aiming to reduce the environmental impact of this transport industry, such as: PLL "LOT" Polish Airlines takes measures in order to replace its fleet gradually with more economical aircraft with more efficient engines. The Warszawa Okęcie Airport obtained a Certificate of Approval of the Environmental Management System which complies with the requirements of standard ISO 14000 in July 2008. Due to the vital importance of the method of exploitation of aircraft for environmental protection, a number of new technologies for air traffic and operation management have been introduced, such as precise area navigation technology (P-RNAV), continuous descent approach (CDA), optimised approach trajectory (DCT) or the airspace management support database (CAT).

Public and alternative transport

The aims and measures related to the promotion of public and alternative transport are specified in the 2006 – 2025 National Transport Policy. At the city level, intense efforts are under way aiming to develop public transport. They relate in particular to fleet upgrades, introduction of new solutions (underground, fast tram routes, water tram routes) and development of new routes serviced by public transport. The inclusion of railway operators for the servicing of local public transport is a major factor for the development of public transport.

¹Approved by the Resolution of the Council of Ministers No. 134/2007 dated July 24, 2007.

With respect to the promotion of the alternative transport system, the Ministry of Infrastructure is working on the improvement of conditions of cyclists' participation in road traffic by changes in regulations, such as term definitions and principles of bicycle traffic and obligatory bicycle equipment. Furthermore, leaving vehicles at city outskirts is becoming increasingly more popular. In Warsaw, in order to reduce vehicle traffic in the city centre and reduce pollutant quantities emitted by vehicles five Park & Ride car parks have been constructed.

Within the *Infrastructure and Environment Operational Programme* funds are available for the promotion of the environmentally friendly public transport system, increase of the public transport share in serving metropolitan area residents and development of transport branches alternative to road transport, including the increase of the inland water and sea transport share and improvement of transport safety.

Urban planning and regional transport

Efforts are under way to prepare a bill concerning the operation of mass public transport, including a requirement of the preparation of the so-called **Sustainable development plans for mass public transport.** The requirement is to apply to cities, among others, with at least 50,000 residents.

Miscellaneous

Furthermore, legislative initiatives have been undertaken in order to improve road traffic safety, including measures to increase penalty strictness (fines, custodial sentences), measures responding to negative effects related to the process of acquiring licenses to drive motor vehicles and measures to develop an automatic speed surveillance system for road vehicles. Furthermore, measures have been initiated to introduce a requirement for every child to obtain a bicycle riding permit on the graduation from the primary school.

Moreover, information and educational initiatives are under way concerning the necessity for drivers to change their behaviour, such as with respect to defensive driving which promotes significant reduction of fuel consumption and exhaust gas emissions (so-called Eco-driving). A number of social actions are also undertaken (serial or periodic), such as "Change your ride for a bus", European Sustainable Transport Week and European Car-free Day. Public Transport Days are organised each September whose aim is to promote public transport.

Cleaner production

Efficiency of the consumption of resources

Pollution prevention

Poland participates in the implementation of the international project Sustainable Production through Innovation in Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the Baltic Sea Region, SPIN according to which SMEs will be supported in 2009-2012 in their efforts to optimise both manufacturing and management processes. The SPIN project aims to reduce the disproportion in the relation of demand to supply within the measures related to the increase of SME innovativeness in the Baltic Sea region by the combination of the involvement of respective institutions both on the public administration level and independent organisations active in this area. The project's website, http://www.spin-project.eu, will soon be expanded with the innovation database containing examples of novel environmental technologies.

Technology-related strategies

The aims and tasks related to the promotion of environmental technologies are included in the "Roadmap of the Implementation of the Action Plan for Environmental Technologies in

Poland" (ETAP) and the Executive Programme². In addition, in order to define and monitor the directions of the development of environmental technologies, a *Polish System for the Monitoring of Environmental Technologies* is being developed, as part of the European Environmental Technology Verification System (ETV). Furthermore, the Polish Environmental Technology Platform has been established which includes more than 100 organisations, representatives of businesses and other interested parties involved in the ecoinnovation development process in Poland. On the European level, the operation of the Platform aims to support Polish research and business institutions active in the area of environmental technologies in the implementation of European Union Programmes related to the environment and eco-innovativeness, such as EU FP7, CIP, LIFE+. For more information, please visit the website at: http://www.ppts.pl

What is more, technology loans are now available in Poland which can be used for the acquisition and implementation of new production technologies and start-up of the manufacture of new products or upgrades of products based on the technologies. Technological loans are provided by banks and paid off from public funds by Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego.

Energy efficiency

The aims and activities related to energy efficiency improvement have been specified in the draft "Polish Energy Policy until 2030". A bill on *energy efficiency* has also been prepared. The Act provides for objectives related to energy saving, including the leading role of the public sector, and establishes a white certificate system as a market mechanism which promotes the growth of energy efficiency in the energy generation, transmission and consumption chain. The mechanism will support enterprises which reduced energy consumption by investing in modern technologies.

Furthermore, initiatives are under way aiming to increase public awareness by education and information campaigns and the promotion of rational energy utilisation in industry and households. The scope of the campaign includes presentation of issues related to the principles and profitability of the use of energy-saving solutions and informing the public in Poland about matters related to increasing energy efficiency of Poland's economy and resulting from the sustainable development policy pursued by the EU.

A number of projects are implemented in order to promote energy efficiency, such as for example:

- "Energy Bus" national educational campaign operated by the Krajowa Agencja Poszanowania Energii S.A. (KAPE). The main objective of the project was to provide information and consulting related to issues concerning energy efficiency and environmental protection through a mobile information and education centre.
- Polish Programme for the Efficient Use of Energy in Electric Motors (PEMP) implemented by KAPE in cooperation with the Foundation for Efficient Energy Utilisation (EWE)³, within which external funding which covers most incremental costs related to the manufacture of energy-saving engines will be available to manufacturers who place energy-saving engines on the Polish market.

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² Executive Programme for the 2007-2009 National Action Plan for Environmental Technologies with the consideration of perspectives for 2010-2012.

³ Global Environment Facility, Foundation for Efficient Energy Utilisation.

The Polish and Japanese Centre for Energy Efficiency has operated since 2005 whose aim
is to support Poland's industry in the implementation of the principles of rational energy
consumption.

Co-generation

As of July 1, 2007 a support system for power and heat generation in co-generation processes has been in place, based on the requirement for enterprises involved in the generation or distribution of electric power and sale of energy to end customers of CHP certificates. The scope of the requirement has been specified in the *Regulation of the Minister of Economy of September 26, 2007*. According to the Regulation, the share of electricity from co-generation in total sales to end customers should increase from 17.3% in the second half of 2007 to 26.7% in 2012. According to initial data available to the Energy Regulatory Office for the second half of 2007, CHP certificates were issued which corresponded to more than 8.6 TWh of electricity, while the total for 2008 was more than 21.6 TWh.

Energy efficiency of households

Since 2007, the Ministry of Economy has been involved in an information campaign for the rational energy use. The aim of the campaign is to present issues related to the principles and profitability of the use of energy-saving solutions. Materials have been prepared which promote knowledge about energy-saving technologies and aim to create social attitudes and behaviours for the rational and economical use of energy in daily life. According to the EU regulation, traditional 100 and 200 watt light bulbs have been withdrawn from the market in Poland since September 2009; it is planned that also lower-power light bulbs will be withdrawn to be replaced by modern energy-saving compact fluorescent lamps.

RES market

The expression of the priority for issues related to renewable energy industry was the prepared draft of "Poland's energy Policy until 2030" in which the development of the use of RES is one of the six major principles of Poland's energy policy. The main objectives in the field include: increase of the share of renewable energy sources in final energy to 15% by 2020 and achievement of the 10% share of biofuels in the transport fuel market by 2020. increase of the use of second-generation biofuels, protection of forests against excessive exploitation and sustainable use of agricultural areas for RES purposes, so as to prevent competition between renewable energy industry and agriculture. The most important part of the initiatives aiming to increase the renewable energy share in Poland for the upcoming years will be to implement Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 23, 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC which is part of the 3x20 Climate and Energy Package. Currently, efforts have started to prepare a document titled National action plan with respect to energy from renewable sources which provides a pathway for the achievement of the 15% RES share in final energy divided into electricity, heat and cold and renewable energy in transport by 2020. This will be the fundamental priority document for the RES development directions in Poland. Furthermore, support mechanisms for the generation of electricity from RES will be sustained, additional support mechanisms for heat and cold will be provided, a programme of the construction of agricultural biogas works will be implemented and the growth of RES equipment manufacturing industry will be stimulated.

Construction industry and household policy

Thermal efficiency improvement

The Act on the support of thermal efficiency improvement and redecoration of November 21, 2008 has been in force since March 19, 2009. The objective of the Act is to support energy-saving solutions in residential and public buildings. Furthermore, a requirement has been introduced to have statements of energy performance of buildings⁴ which will lead to more rational energy use in buildings and, in consequence, will impose relevant measures and technology improvement aimed to reduce energy consumption and funds devoted to such measures.

Food and clothing

Within the 2007-2012 Rural Area Development Programme initiatives are implemented to develop the market for products manufactured within food quality systems and to promote systems in which food is manufactured using methods whose impact on the environment is positive.

Voluntary initiatives are available in Poland whose aim is to encourage manufacturers to use food production methods favourable for environmental protection:

- Awarding products with Protected Designation of Origin, Protected Geographical Indication and Traditional Speciality Guaranteed signs⁵.
- Implementation of the Know Good Food Programme whose main objective is to provide information about the high quality of foodstuffs.
- Keeping the List of Traditional Products, a guide on traditional and regional products and Polish cuisine dishes.

Since 2006, the Chief Sanitary Inspectorate has been involved in health promotion programmes and public campaigns whose aim is to model long-lasting health habits of young people by the promotion of active lifestyle and balanced diet. The programme is operated in cooperation with local government authorities and non-governmental organisations. Furthermore, the Institute of Food and Nutrition, which is responsible for the implementation of the WHO Global strategy on diet, physical activity and health in Poland, promotes adequate attitudes among consumers by training schemes, publications and the provision of the "Food, Nutrition and Health" Information Site. In 2007, the Institute initiated the long-term "National Programme for the Prevention of Overweight and Obesity and Chronic Non-Infectious Diseases by the Improvement of Nutrition and Physical Activity", an instrument for the implementation of the WHO Strategy which also includes the guidelines of the European Charter on Counteracting Obesity.

Polish Humanitarian Organisation operates a project "In fashion and ethically" which promotes responsible consumption. The main objectives of the project include increasing public awareness of poverty and the issue of rights of employees from developing countries and in particular increasing the awareness of the impact of enterprise policy (within the supply chain) on life and work conditions of workers in clothing factories. Within the project, conferences, training schemes, photo exhibitions and meetings with people who advocate

⁴ According to the provisions of the Act of September 19, 2007 on the amendment of the Construction Law Act (Journal of Laws of 2007, No. 191, Item 1373).

⁵ Community marks established in 1992 by way of Regulations EC 2081/92 and 2082/92 (amended by way of Regulations no. 509/2006 and no. 510/2006).

employee rights are organised. For more information, please visit the website at: http://modnieietycznie.pl/

Management of chemicals

Hazardous waste

General policy instruments, activities and future priorities

Taxes and subsidies

Analytical work has been under way in the Ministry of Economy since 2007 on environmentally harmful subsidies. Potentially environmentally harmful forms of support have been identified and a proposal has been prepared for the methodology of environmentally harmful subsidies identification.

Trade policy

Since 2004, Poland, being an EU Member State, has been implementing the EU trade policy instruments based on uniform principles throughout the Community. The directions of the common trade policy are the product of trade interests of all the 27 EU Member States. Poland's accession to the EU also resulted in our inclusion in the Common EU Internal Market. This means that custom duties for the intra-Community exchange and all other trade policy measures which restrict mutual trade exchange between Poland and the other EU Member States have been lifted.

Tax reform

The **so-called green tax reform** to be prepared and implemented by 2011 is provided for in the 2008-2009 National Reform Programme Implementation Document. Within the execution of the action in 2008 training schemes were organised for ministry representatives related to the economic framework of environmental protection policy.

Changes in consumer behaviour

Education and information

In order to honour organisations which undertake initiatives for environmental protection and sustainable development and to exchange good practice and increase awareness of corporate social responsibility (CSR), the following contests are organised:

- Environmentally Friendly National Environmental Contest established in 2001 under the Honorary Patronage of the President of the Republic of Poland and the Minister of Economy, among others, whose aim is to promote environmentally friendly civic attitudes and to implement environmentally friendly technologies.
- Clean Business Awards granted since 1998 by the Foundation for Environmental Partnership for the promotion of enterprises which undertake innovative environmental protection initiatives.
- Polish Product of the Future Contest organised since 1998 by the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development under the honorary patronage of the President of the Council of Ministers.
- Poland without Asbestos announced by the Minister of Economy in 2006 whose aim was
 to award the communes most active in the protection against and removal of asbestos.

A campaign titled "My Consumer ABC" was under way in 2005-2006 and its aim was to increase the knowledge of rights of the youngest consumers, education in the adequate use of advertising as a source of information about products and services and to enhance assertive attitudes of young people with respect to advertising information and marketing practices.

The Office of Competition and Consumer Protection and the European Commission provided financial support for the development and operation of the Consumer Hotline and the Infoteka Consumer Information System. The Consumer Hotline is a nationwide consulting service provided by phone⁷ which delivers information and legal advice to consumers free of charge. Due to the wide acceptance of the Hotline by market users, the project was extended and it currently goes on owing to the financial support from the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection according to the provisions of the Act on public benefit activities and voluntary service. Furthermore, the Federation of Consumers has prepared a web-based system of information supply on market offer which includes information about household, electronic and computer equipment.

The Polish Council for Road Traffic Safety and the Ministry of Infrastructure are involved in a number of education and information actions aimed to change the behaviour of road traffic participants and increase the awareness of accident consequences. **Campaigns and preventive actions** were undertaken in 2008-2009, such as; "Drunk? Don't drive! Switch on your brain", "Holiday without BAC", "I'm driving sober", "European night without accident", "Use your imagination", "Speed limits save your life", "Speed limits save pedestrians", "By bike – safely to destination", "Safe driving", "Bicycle driving permit – my first driving licence", "Safety on the road", "Remember, you have only one life", "Transport Education" and "Safe Car Academy – Don't wait for breakdown – have your car controlled just for safety".

Furthermore a programme titled **Taxi with a child car seat** is under way in Warsaw and Kraków. The campaign is planned to include all major cities in Poland. Within the programme, its organiser bought 144 car seats for children aged 0.5 to 12 years. The seats were donated to selected taxi corporations. Before the start of the programme, the car seat manufacturer organised training for drivers in the safety of transporting children in vehicles and car seat setup.

Eco-signs

The Regulation of the Ministry of Economy and Labour of May 20, 2005 concerning the requirements related to technical documentation, use of labels and technical characteristics and label templates for appliances⁸ provides for **energy labelling** which contains information about energy consumption. Thus, consumers can choose products with higher energy efficiency. The provisions of relevant directives have been implemented in the Polish legislation.

A **Green Signs** campaign was initiated in 2004 and its aim includes the promotion of the socalled care labels, or brands whose owners decided to organise employment, manufacturing and distribution so as to reduce negative impact on the environment and contribute to the improvement of the life standard of communities living in the neighbourhood of the company.

⁸ Journal of Laws 2005 No. 98, Item 825.

⁶ The Office of Competition and Consumer Protection and public partners organised the action.

⁷ Phone number: 0 800 800 008.

Consumer advocacy organisations

A number of consumer advocacy organisations operate in Poland, such as Federation of Consumers, Association of Polish Consumers, Polish Society for Household Economy. Pursuant to the Act of February 16, 2007 on the protection of competition and consumers (Journal of Laws No. 50, Item 331 dated March 21, 2007) consumer organisations may:

- express their opinions on draft legal regulations and other documents related to the rights and interests of consumers,
- prepare and distribute consumer education programmes,
- perform tests of products and services and publish their results,
- publish magazines, study reports, brochures and leaflets,
- conduct consumer advisory services free of charge and provide support to consumers in the satisfaction of their claims free of charge,
- participate in the preparation of standards,
- perform the tasks of the state related to consumer protection, commissioned by the government and local administration authorities.

Public procurement policy

The measures aiming to promote green public procurement, tools for their implementation and indicators to monitor changes have been specified in the 2007-2009 National Action Plan for Green Public Procurement. The main objectives of the Plan include increase of the level of consideration of environmental aspects in public procurement, development of the market for environmentally friendly products and expansion of the market for technologies for environmental protection industry and the environment-related sector and promotion of sustainable manufacturing and consumption models.

The development of a modern system to ensure that public funds are spent so as to contribute to the stimulation of the development of innovative economy focused on the growth of entrepreneurship and sustainable development is proposed in the *New Approach to Public Procurement. Procurement versus small and medium size enterprises, innovation and sustainable development*⁹.

Change of manufacturing models

Voluntary initiatives

The Minister of Economy chairs the **Chapter of the Polish Register of Cleaner Production** and **Responsible Entrepreneurship** operated by the Polish Movement for Cleaner Production. The Register is a Poland-wide, publicly available list of organisational units with outstanding performance related to the implementation of the preventive Cleaner Production strategy. The Register includes all organisational units, both production and service enterprises and local government institutions.

Organisational units may apply to be included in the Register if they:

 have implemented and have in place the Cleaner Production strategy in their operation,

⁹ Approved by the Council of Ministers on April 8, 2008.

- prove consistent reduction of environmentally unfavourable impacts resulting from their activities and/or products manufactured and provide plans for further environmental activities,
- conduct their activity according to the Polish Environmental Protection Law Act,
- submitted required environmental reports in a timely manner,
- signed the International CP UNEP Declaration,
- submitted a declaration on the support of the "Global Compact" programme.

A company is entered into the Register following positive evaluation by the Chapter of the Register, chaired by the Minister of Economy. The other members of the Chapter include for example: the Chief Inspector for Environmental Protection and President of the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management. The Chapter of the Register publishes a document updated annually with Environmental Reports of the organisational units included in the Register. Environmental Report Sheets prepared for respective enterprises which include general information on environmental achievements of an organisational unit are the main part of the Register.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Economy signed a cooperation agreement with the Responsible Business Forum within the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), an organisation established in the early 1990s with about 200 members from 35 countries representing 20 industry sectors.

Cleaner Production Programmes

The **Polish Movement for Cleaner Production** develops and promotes initiatives aimed at the implementation of sustainable development principles, in particular by the application of CP principles. The society implements an annual programme whose aim is to promote EMS's and the best available technique (BAT) which limit the generation of pollutants in the production process and to promote the introduction of CP certificates.

The **National Centre for Cleaner Production Implementation** has been in operation within the Main Mining Institute since 1996; it executes annual "Cleaner Production in Poland Programmes" co-financed by the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management. Since 2007, the Centre also organises "Cleaner Production and environmental protection management" postgraduate studies partially financed by Polish Agency for Enterprise Development¹⁰.

The **Partnership for the Environment Foundation** operates a project titled "Promotion of Clean Business in Poland", a part of the "Clean Business in Poland" programme. Its objective is to promote and implement the principles of sustainable development among Polish entrepreneurs and to show enterprises how to better use and manage natural resources and, thus, reduce negative environmental impacts.

The "Responsible Care" Programme has been under way, being a voluntary commitment of chemical industry entrepreneurs to improve their activity related to environmental protection, process safety and employee health protection.

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¹⁰ Within the funds of the European Social Fund (ESF).

Sustainable production programmes in agriculture

An Agricultural Environmental Programme is being implemented in Poland and its aim is, among others, to promote sustainable farming among farmers by encouraging agricultural production based on methods consistent with the environmental and nature protection requirements. The activities have been under way in Poland since 2004 within the 2004-206 Rural Area Development Programme and the 2007-2013 Rural Area Development Programme (PROW 2007-2013). Together with the promotion of sustainable farming in rural areas, the Programme also contains a package for the support of organic farming.

One of the major acts in the area of agriculture whose aim is to change the heretofore environmentally unfavourable agricultural production models is the Act of July 10, 2007 on fertilisers and fertilisation (Journal of Laws No. 147, Item 1033). By considering the requirements imposed on agriculture related to environmental protection in agricultural production and regulations related to water protection, the Act contributes to improving environmental conditions.

Furthermore, the number of farms operated in line with the requirements for organic farming has been increasing steadily in Poland. The number of organic farming producers was 15,206 in 2008, of which 236 organic processing plants.

REACH

A REACH Consultation Point funded by the Ministry of Economy has been available since June 2007, and a separate website is available within the Ministry of Economy portal dedicated to the REACH system¹¹. The Consultation Point is involved in advisory activity, provides consultation by phone or e-mail, organises training schemes and workshops and conducts information activity. In December 2008, the Ministry of Economy published a book version of Regulation (EC) no. 1907/2006 (REACH). The publication is available free of charge.

Initial registration was conducted in 2008 within REACH in which more than 2,500 companies in Poland participated and registered more than 173,000 substances in a period of less than six months (June 1 to December 1, 2008). The Programme was accompanied by a press and information campaign (including the "REACH Overture – initial registration started" conference) which led to the ultimate 10-fold increase in the number of companies performing initial registration of manufactured or imported substances.

Furthermore, a conference titled "Dear Entrepreneur, December 1 is the last day of registration of chemicals within REACH" was held in November 2008 and its aim was to draw entrepreneurs' attention to the possible consequences of failure to comply with the requirement of initial registration by entrepreneurs who already manufacture or import chemicals into the Community.

As a result of the REACH programme, manufacturers or importers of chemicals and products containing chemicals who placed them on the market before June 1, 2008 and failed to perform initial registration cannot continue their activity. Furthermore, due to the fact that, among others, the *Act of January 9, 2009 on the amendment of the act on chemical substances and preparations* came into force, companies which failed to complete registration according to REACH can be controlled. The Act also provides for a system of penalties and sanctions for incompliance with REACH.

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¹¹ http://www.mg.gov.pl/REACH/

Corporate Social Responsibility

The President of the Council of Ministers signed a Regulation on the establishment of the Corporate Social Responsibility Team on May 8, 2009.

The tasks of the Team include, among others:

- proposing solutions related to the coordination of activities of respective public administration authorities with respect to the promotion and implementation of CSR principles,
- analysing and using other countries' experience and promoting their good practice related to CSR, in particular the tools developed within the European Alliance for the Development and Implementation of CSR Policy,
- creating conditions for better communication and dialogue between administration, business, public partners and non-governmental organisations in matters related to CSR.

Environmental management, quality and occupational health and safety systems

The Polish Quality Forum Club operates in Poland and its members members include product and service providers interested in the implementation and development of management systems consistent with ISO 9000, ISO 14000 and PN-N-18000. The Club promotes and supports the implementation of quality and environmental management systems by educational and publishing activity and organisation of conferences and seminars.

Polish enterprises implement environmental management systems in line with the requirements of the ISO 14001 standard or registered in the Community Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or non-formalised, such as within cleaner production and quality management systems in line with the requirements of the ISO 9001 standard. 9184 quality management system certificates for the compliance with ISO 9001¹², 1089 environmental management system certificates for the compliance with ISO 14000¹³ and 16 EMAS certificates were issued by 2007 (as of March 31, 2009)¹⁴.

Integrated management systems have been implemented more and more frequently, such as the Environmental, Health and Safety Management System, EHS. The EHS extends the entrepreneur's obligations by ensuring strategic planning process management and combining environmental protection and occupational health and safety issues with corporate business plans.

Registering and reporting pollutants

Analytical tools

When preparing draft legislative acts, the Evaluation of Regulation Impacts¹⁵ is conducted with the following factors taken into consideration: impact of the regulation on the public finance sector, regional situation and development, competitiveness of the economy and entrepreneurship, including enterprise operation, and human health and the environment.

Indicators of sustainability

¹² http://www.iso.org/iso/survey2007.pdf

¹³ http://www.iso.org/iso/survey2007.pdf

¹⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/pdf/5 5articles en.pdf, http://www.emas.mos.gov.pl/

¹⁵ Regulation reform. Guidelines for the Evaluation of Regulation Impacts, a document approved by the Council of Ministers on October 10, 2006.

In cooperation with Forbes Monthly and Kulczyk Investments, the Warsaw Stock Exchange initiated the *Respect Index* whose aim is to select companies which follow the principles of social responsibility in their activity. Economic, social and environmental issues of corporate activity will be evaluated. Much attention will also be paid to the general aspects of corporate management, including corporate governance and investor relations. The assessment criteria and questions were prepared based on international reporting standards (Global Reporting Initiative, GRI), and adapted to Polish reality and extended with matters particularly important in the context of the economic slowdown. Companies listed in the Warsaw Stock Exchange have been included in the analysis, except for the NewConnect market, overseas and dual-listed companies.

Investment incentives

Compliance of a project with horizontal policies specified in Art. 16 and Art. 17 of the Regulation of the Council (EC) no. 1083/2006, that is, with the sustainable development policy, among others, is one of the conditions of material assessment of applications for subsidising projects submitted by entrepreneurs (also within the SME sector) within the activities of the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (Innovative Economy Operational Programme, IEOP).

In order to promote entrepreneurs who take into consideration sustainable development principles in their operation, additional points can be awarded to applicants for the compliance with optional criteria within the evaluation of projects co-funded within the IEOP¹⁶.

Within project evaluation¹⁷, an applicant may obtain additional points if the project submitted has a neutral or positive impact on environmental protection by the implementation of technological solutions leading to the elimination of negative environmental impacts in the following areas:

- protection of atmosphere and climate,
- sewage management,
- waste management.

Furthermore, additional points are awarded to applicants holding accredited quality certificates for the compliance with the ISO 9001 standard or another industry certificate which includes such requirements or accredited environmental management system certificates for the compliance with ISO 14001 or EMAS regulation requirements.

Within the optional material criteria for the evaluation of IEOP Action 4.4, a project submitted may receive additional points if the applicant's activity contributes to changing production and consumption models to those favourable for the implementation of sustainable development principles.

¹⁶ Guidebook of the criteria of the selection of funded operations within the Innovative Economy Operational Programme, 2007-2013, Ministry of Regional Development, Warsaw, July 30, 2008.

¹⁷ Projects submitted for actions: 1.4, 4.1, 4.2, 6.1.