

POLAND

Submission of information on examples/good practices of strategies, policies and measures employed to implement obligations under the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution based on **the principles and implementation of the countrywide CLEAN AIR Programme in Poland**, in line with the format of the Background Template updated on 9 March 2021 for the 59th session of WGSR

<p>Country:</p> <p>POLAND</p>	<p>Pollutant(s): <i>Please indicate the pollutant(s), emissions of which are being controlled</i></p> <p>Particulate matter (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}) and partly certain HMs and POPs (e.g. dioxins/furans, benzo[a]pyrene), as well as GHG</p>
<p>Protocol(s): <i>Please indicate the name of the protocol(s) to the Convention, obligations under which are being fulfilled</i></p> <p>The Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and partly the Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone</p>	<p>Sector: <i>Please indicate the sector (e.g. agriculture, industry, urban planning, environment, etc.), or sectors (if several) for which the strategy, policy or measure has been mainly designed</i></p> <p>Residential heating, energy sector, individual heating systems, energy saving, renewable energy sources</p>
<p>Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: <i>Please identify the type of strategy, policy or measure – economic e.g. incentive or disincentive (taxes, funds, subsidies, prices or caps/ceilings, payments, rebates, etc); voluntary (agreements, programmes, contracts), regulatory (legislation), or other measures (educational, informational, other)</i> <i>Please state at which level (municipal, regional, sub-national, national) the policy, strategy or measure is targeted or implemented</i></p> <p>The CLEAN AIR Programme is a countrywide governmental voluntary programme addressed to individual households in communes (<i>gminas</i>) to facilitate and to provide support for the use of proper solutions for heating systems and renewable energy sources, as well as energy saving to improve air quality, especially in zones with exceeded permissible concentrations of air pollutants. The measures included in that programme are implemented at the national level, involving numerous communes throughout the country.</p>	<p>Method used for the current analysis: <i>Please identify the method used for collecting information and the analysis made</i></p> <p>In-depth research, verification of collected information</p>

What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented?

Please describe briefly what the measure attempts to achieve or what has been the result of its implementation. Please also describe since when it is being employed or for when its implementation is foreseen. Please explain whether implementation is/was immediate or gradual. [150 words max]

The governmental **CLEAN AIR Programme** with a budget of over **103 billion PLN** (approx. 26 billion USD) was initiated in 2018. Its duration is planned for the period of **2018-2029**.

The **major goal** of the Programme is to improve the quality of air and to reduce emissions from existing single-family buildings by replacing inefficient solid fuel heating sources with new and efficient ones and to improve energy effectiveness of the buildings. That goal is to be achieved by co-financing above mentioned measures undertaken by home owners. i.e. beneficiaries eligible to receive basic or advanced levels of financing.

Applications for funding are collected and evaluated by the provincial Voivodeship Funds for Environmental Protection and Water Management. The following are among the main elements expected to be co-financed under the Programme:

- replacement of old out-dated heating sources/appliances (solid fuel-fired boilers, furnaces) and installation of new heating sources,
- thermo-modernisation/thermal insulation of buildings,
- assembly or modernisation of heating systems, incl. hot water heating systems,
- installation of renewable energy sources (solar collectors, hot water heaters, heat pumps),
- assembly of ventilation systems with heat recovery.

Background and driving forces:

Please explain briefly why this strategy, policy or measure was implemented; mention the driving forces for its introduction e.g. policy development, legislation (EU, national), action plans, voluntary, incentive, or other [150 words max]

Air quality in many regions of Poland, especially in large agglomerations, is unsatisfactory, in some places even disastrous, particularly with regard to exceeded PM concentrations. **Emissions from the residential sector** have a significant effect on air quality. There are many initiatives undertaken to improve air quality based on the fundamental **Act on Environmental Protection Law** with its many executive regulations, including those related to air protection, such as mandatory Air Protection Programmes. The CLEAN AIR Programme with its current broad informative and educational campaign (« **Clean Air – healthy choice. Your choice !** ») is the largest and planned to be longest governmental voluntary programme implemented to support different undertakings to improve air quality in Poland.

The Polish Prime Minister designated a dedicated **Plenipotentiary for the CLEAN AIR Programme**.

Description of the strategy, policy or measure:

Please explain briefly how the strategy, policy or measure works and why it has been chosen compared to other policies/measures. Please also explain how its implementation is being monitored. [200 words max]

Based on almost 2-year implementation experiences an improved version of the Programme was launched on 15 May 2020 (**CLEAN AIR Programme 2.0**). The most important changes or amendments were presented in a special campaign of the « **Clean Air Academy** » under the auspices of the Ministry of Climate and Environment and the non-governmental organisation

« **Polish Smog Alarm** » supporting the implementation of the Programme. To enhance the number of submitted individual applications for funding the changes include :

- simplification of procedures and conditions for awarding grants,
- shorter periods for applications processing,
- simplification of application forms,
- additional pathways for submitting applications (e.g. online),
- involvement of banks,
- strengthening cooperation with communes,
- integration with the MY ELECTRICITY Programme (mojprad.gov.pl),
- grant levels linked with environmental effects,
- grants for thermo-modernisation for those who have already replaced their heating sources,
- possibility of financing the on-going as well as completed undertakings.

So far over **1000 communes** all over country signed agreements on the implementation of the Programme in cooperation with the Voivodeship Funds for Environmental Protection and Water Management. Already around **220 thousand** applications have been submitted for over **4 billion PLN** (1 billion USD) under the CLEAN AIR Programme.

Monitoring of the programme is currently carried out in simple manner – by weekly reports sent by the Voivodeship Funds and collected and put together in the National Fund.

See « **Additional Comments** » (below) for supplementary information on the implementation of the Programme.

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

Please state how much the implementation of the measure costs including its monitoring and how it is funded (national budget, industry, taxes, etc.) If the measure is creating revenue, please also explain how this revenue is being allocated and collected. [200 words max]

The Programme budget includes over **103 billion PLN** (26 billion USD) and it will be used for grants, loans for communes as well as tax discounts for thermo-modernisation amounting to **63.3 billion PLN** (16 billion USD) and credits granted by banks - **40 billion PLN** (10 billion USD).

Applications for funding to Voivodeship Funds are received on a current basis. The funding conditions include, inter alia :

Basic financing level

- **Annual income of the applicant**
up to 100 000 PLN

Increased financing level

- Multi-person household: net monthly income **up to 1400 PLN/person**
- Single-person household: net monthly income **up to 1960 PLN**

Maximum grant levels for the entire project

Basic level of funding

Replacement of an existing heat source with a heat pump (air / water or ground type), mechanical ventilation, thermo-modernization, documentation

PLN 25,000 + PLN 5,000 for PV-panels

Replacement of heat source with a source other than heat pump (air / water or ground type), mechanical ventilation, thermo-modernization, documentation

PLN 20,000 + PLN 5,000 for PV-panels

No heat source replacement, mechanical ventilation, thermomodernization, documentation

PLN 10,000

Increased level of funding

Heat source replacement, mechanical ventilation, thermo-modernization, documentation

PLN 32,000 + PLN 5,000 for PV-panels

No heat source replacement, mechanical ventilation, thermomodernization, documentation

PLN 15,000

The list of qualified costs for installations, materials and services is presented in two annexes to the Programme. They also include the maximum levels of grants and the minimum technical requirements for different items. Additional information on the levels of individual grants is provided below (see « **Additional comments** »).

Detailed information on updated financing rules for investments under the CLEAN AIR Programme is presented on the Programme's website <https://czystepowietrze.gov.pl> together with other documents (16 items) – see **References below**.

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Please explain briefly the effect of the policy, strategy or measure and how it has impacted the abatement of air pollution. If impacts are known, please quantify, if possible. Please highlight also other effects of the implementation of the measure e.g. with regard to compliance, the acceptance of the measure or its transposition (e.g. from a voluntary to a regulatory or another type of measure). [150 words max]

It is expected that by 2029 around **3 million** outdated stoves, boilers and furnaces will be replaced with environmentally friendly modern and energy-effective facilities and appliances in single family buildings.

Indices reflecting the expected Programme effects include :

- Number of households with improved energy effectiveness : 3 030 000 ;
- Number of replaced ineffective heating sources with low-emission solutions in houses : 3 000 000 ;
- Additional capacity for electricity generation from installed photovoltaic micro-installations : 50 MWe ;
- Reduction of final energy consumption : 37 500 000 MWh/year ;
- Reduction of PM10 emissions : 210 000 Mg/year ;
- Reduction of emissions of benzo[a]pyrene : 140 Mg/year ;
- Reduction of CO₂ emissions : 14 000 000 Mg/year.

The CLEAN AIR Programme is associated with other programmes, such as : **MY ELECTRICITY** (« Mój Prąd ») and **STOP SMOG**, as well as **Anti-Smog Resolutions** adopted regionally throughout the country.

References/Further information: Please provide most relevant sources for information such as references for web links, books, other resources.

1. Official documentation from the website of the **CLEAN AIR Programme** (Program « Czyste Powietrze ») : <https://czystepowietrze.gov.pl/> (in Polish):
 - [Program Priorytetowy Czyste Powietrze](#) (Clean Air Priority Programme)
Program_Priorytetowy_Czyste_Powietrze.pdf_0.25MB
 - [Załącznik 1 do Programu Priorytetowego Czyste Powietrze](#) (Annex 1 to the Programme - Linking grants with thermomodernisation tax relief)
Załącznik_1_do_Programu_Priorytetowego_Czyste_Powietrze.pdf_0.09MB
 - [Załącznik 2 do Programu Priorytetowego Czyste Powietrze - koszty kwalifikowane](#) (Annex 2 Qualified costs and maximum grant level for Part I of the Programme : for beneficiaries of standard grant level)
Załącznik_2_do_Programu_Priorytetowego_Czyste_Powietrze_-_koszty_kwalifikowane.pdf_0.15MB
 - [Załącznik 2a do Programu Priorytetowego Czyste Powietrze - koszty kwalifikowane](#) (Annex 2a - (Qualified costs and maximum grant level for Part II of the Programme : for beneficiaries entitled to the increased grant level))
Załącznik_2a_do_Programu_Priorytetowego_Czyste_Powietrze_-_koszty_kwalifikowane.pdf_0.15MB
 - [Regulamin naboru wniosków](#) (Rules for Application submission)
Regulamin_naboru_wnioskow.pdf_0.17MB
 - [Instrukcja wypełniania wniosku o dofinansowanie](#) (Guidelines – filling in the application)
Instrukcja_wypełniania_wniosku_o_dofinansowanie-dodany_konkurs.pdf_0.52MB
 - [Załącznik 1 do instrukcji wypełniania wniosku o dofinansowanie - wykaz dochodów nieopodatkowanych](#) (Annex 1 to the Guidelines above)
Załącznik_1_do_instrukcji_wypełniania_wniosku_o_dofinansowanie_-_wykaz_dochodow_nieopodatkowanych.pdf_0.09MB
 - [Załącznik 2 do instrukcji wypełniania wniosku o dofinansowanie - klauzula art 14 – współmałżonek](#) (Annex 2 to the Guidelines above)
Załącznik_2_do_instrukcji_wypełniania_wniosku_o_dofinansowanie_-_klauzula_art_14_-_współmałżonek.pdf_0.44MB
 - [Załącznik 3 do instrukcji wypełniania wniosku o dofinansowanie - klauzula art 14 – współwłaściciel](#) (Annex 3 to the Guidelines above)
Załącznik_3_do_instrukcji_wypełniania_wniosku_o_dofinansowanie_-_klauzula_art_14_-_współwłaściciel.pdf_0.43MB
 - [Wzór wniosku o dofinansowanie Czyste Powietrze](#) (Template for funding application)
Wzór_wniosku_o_dofinansowanie_Czyste_Powietrze.pdf_0.33MB
 - [Wzór pisma informującego o zawarciu umowy](#) (Template for a letter informing about the signing of an agreement)
Wzór_pisma_informujacego_o_zawarciu_umowy.pdf_0.07MB
 - [Załącznik 1 do Pisma informującego - zestawienie rzeczowo-finansowe](#) (Annex 1 to the letter above)
Załącznik_1_do_Pisma_informujacego_-_zestawienie_rzeczowo-finansowe.xlsx_0.01MB
 - [Instrukcja wypełnienia wniosku o płatność](#) (Guidelines – filling in the application for payment)
Instrukcja_wypełnienia_wniosku_o_platnosc.pdf_0.13MB
 - [Wzór wniosku o płatność](#) (Application for payment - Template)
wniosek_o_platnosc_v51.pdf_1.22MB
 - [Wzór protokołu odbioru prac wykonawcy](#) (Final Protocol ending the work - Template)
Wzór_protokolu_odbioru_prac_wykonawcy.docx_0.14MB
 - [Wzór zaświadczenia OSD](#) (Submission of OSD confirmation - Template)
Wzór_zaswiadczenia_OSD.pdf_0.32MB
2. Regulation no. 131 of the President of the Council of Ministers of 21 August 2020 amending the regulation on the designation of the Plenipotentiary of the Prime Minister for the Clean Air Programme (MP 2020, item 753) (in Polish)
3. Materials from the website of « Clean Air Academy » under the Ministry of Climate, the Polish Smog Alarm (Polski Alarm Smogowy), including the following presentations (in Polish):

- „Nowe zasady dofinansowania inwestycji w ramach programu „Czyste Powietrze” . (New funding principles of investments under the Clean Air Programme), Katarzyna Siwkowska
 - „Pompy ciepła w programie Czyste Powietrze” (Heat pumps in the Clean Air Programme, Paweł Lachman,
 - „Uchwały antysmogowe w Polsce” (Anti-smog resolutions in Poland) , Paweł Lachman,
 - „Ulga termomodernizacyjna i jej łączenie z programem „Czyste Powietrze” (Thermo-modernisation tax discount and its link with the Clean Air Programme), Mariusz Makowski
4. Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection website: describing air quality in zones <http://powietrze.gios.gov.pl/pjp/current> (Polish version) and Air Pollution <http://powietrze.gios.gov.pl/pjp/home?lang=en> (English version)
 5. Act of 27 April 2001 - Environmental Protection Law (Polish Official Journal of Laws 2020, item 1219, as amended) (in Polish)
 6. Regulation of the Minister of the Environment of 11 September 2012 on air protection programmes and short term action plans (Polish Official Journal of Laws, 2012, item 1028) (in Polish)
 7. Official website of the Voivodship Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Warsaw - CLEAN AIR Programme http://www.wfosigw.pl/strona-glowna/program_czyste_powietrze (in Polish)

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Additional comments: *Please include any additional information you may wish to provide here.*

Current conditions for awarding grants (CLEAN AIR Programmes)

They are obligatory since May 2020. The level of funding depends on the overall household income :

- Basic level – for **annual income** of an applicant up to 100 000 PLN (25 000 USD),
- Increased level – for **monthly income** up to 1400 PLN/person (350 USD) when there is more than one person in a household and up to 1960 PLN (490 USD) for single person households.

Maximum funding levels :

- **25 000 PLN** (6250 USD) (for replacing the existing heating source with heat pump ; thermo-modernisation ; preparation of documentation) + **5000 PLN** (1250 USD) (for photovoltaics) – for basic level ;
- **32 000 PLN** (8000 USD) + **5 000 PLN** (1250 USD)– for increased level of funding.

Both groups of beneficiaries are entitled to take advantage of tax discounts for thermo-modernisation up to **53 000 PLN** (13250 USD).

Below are some examples of donation levels for different undertakings.

Table 1. Maximum grants for selected elements foreseen under the CLEAN AIR

Element subject to grant	Funding level	
	Basic level	Increased level
Gas boiler (condensation)	30% - up to 4 500 PLN	60% - up to 9 000 PLN
Heat pump (air/water)	30% - up to 9 000 PLN	60% - up to 18 000 PLN
Connection to district heating and hot water supply systems	30% - up to 4 500 PLN	60% - up to 9 000 PLN
Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery	30% - up to 5 000 PLN	60% - up to 10 000 PLN
Energy audit	100% - up to 1 000 PLN	100% - up to 1 000 PLN
Thermo-modernisation – thermal insulation of construction barriers	30% - up to 45 PLN/m ²	60% - up to 90 PLN/m ²

Note : 1 PLN = around 0.25 USD (as of 30 March 2021)

Selected e-mail links used for communication on up-dated information on the CLEAN AIR Programme along with associated initiatives

- fundusz@nfosigw.gov.pl – general matters;
- czystepowietrze@nfosigw.gov.pl – questions on CLEAN AIR Programme;
- mojprad@nfosigw.gov.pl – questions on MY ELECTRICITY Programme;
- wnioskimojprad@nfosigw.gov.pl – questions on applications for MY ELECTRICITY Programme;
- porozumieniamojprad@nfosigw.gov.pl – for companies and services connected with photovoltaic systems applying for contracts under the MY ELECTRICITY Programme with the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management.

Supplementary information on the implementation of the CLEAN AIR Programme

Implementation of the Programme will be support by dedicate local **Programme stations/points** where inhabitants can obtain information and help in filling in their applications.

A special countrywide infoline (**helpline : +48 22 340 40 80**) is in operation providing information on the Programme along with mobile Programme offices. Information can also be obtained by sending questions to the following e-mails :

- CzystePowietrze@nfosigw.gov.pl

To strengthen the implementation of the Programme a special database on heating appliances and insulation materials (« **A list of green appliances and materials** », ZUM) is maintained and managed by the Institute of Environmental Protection – National Research Institute (<https://lista-zum.ios.edu.pl>) in cooperation with the producers whose products comply with the strict environmental standards defined in the Programme

Dissemination of information and training on the CLEAN AIR Programme is provided, inter alia, by the **Clean Air Academy** which conducts a series of webinars for interested companies and advisors involved in the Programme. It is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Climate and Environment, National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management and the Polish Smog Alarm.

Special **incentives** have been introduced lately to strengthen the cooperation with communes (*gminas*) involved in the implementation of the CLEAN AIR Programme – a total budget of 100

million PLN (25 million USD) is provided for communes with the highest number of applications for funding. Each commune can obtain up to 30 thousand PLN (7500 USD) to support the Programme.

Further revisions of the Programme are expected in future based on experiences gained.

Note :

The exchange rate used in the whole text presents the official National Bank of Poland exchange rate (as of 30 March 2021) : 1 USD = 3.96 PLN (1 PLN = 0.25 USD)