



MINISTRY
OF THE ENVIRONMENT



Ecological Policy Planning in Poland Towards Integrated Approach





1989/1990 AT THE BEGINNING OF NEW DEMOCRATIC ERA

COLLAPSE OF COMMUNISTIC REGIME & COLLAPSE OF CENTRALLY DRIVEN ECONOMY

EXTREMELY URGENT CHALLENGES:

- ❖ New legal and institutional framework for democratic governance
- ❖ Transition to market-based economy (unprecedented)

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GREAT HOPES & EXPECTATIONS

➤ **TOP OF THE SOCIETY EXPECTATION:**

- ❖ **Strengthening of the democracy**
- ❖ **Economic security**
- ❖ **Ensuring rights for economic activity/business for all**

Neither the society nor majority of the decision makers recognized the environment as one of priorities despite of significant degradation of the environment in some regions of Poland mainly due to high concentration of heavy industry.



FIRST ECOLOGICAL POLICY

- **National Ecological Policy** was elaborated by Polish Government in 1990 on the eve of transformation period and approved by the Parliament in 1991.
- Document was very concise (few pages). It highlighted importance of addressing challenges in the field of environment: air pollution control, water quality upgrading , development of waste management system and effective nature conservation.
- This first Ecological Policy was a **milestone as it introduced environment into political debate** as the individual sector.



1991-1996 TOWARDS MEMBERSHIP TO THE OECD

- The transition to the market-based economy was unprecedented challenge , but international community offered their assistance. Also **OECD** invited Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia to the project „**Partners in transition**” (**PIT**), launched at 1991. Under this project ,the OECD provided countries with special assistance based on policy advice, consultation and analysis.
- Within the frame of PIT in 1994 the first EPR of Poland took place.
- **In 1996 Poland became the Member of the OECD**



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1997 THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

Article 5

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**The Republic of Poland
provides for the protection
of the environment, while
pursuing the principle of
sustainable development
(...)**





THE SECOND NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL POLICY

The second national ecological policy was adopted in 2000.

Assuring ecological safety for the Polish citizens was identified as a **basic objective**.

It recalled 12 guiding principles: principle of sustainable development; **precautionary principle**, **principle of integration of environmental policy into sectorial policies**, **principle of equal access to natural environment**, principle of regionalisation, principle of democratisation, principle of prevention, **principle of applying BAT**, principle of subsidiarity, **principle of security clauses**, principle of environmental effectiveness and economic efficiency



UPDATE OF THE SECOND NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL POLICY

- It also recognized the need to match the European Union requirements in relation to the environment, setting short-term and mid-term objectives in this respect.
- In 2001 The **new Environmental Protection Law** laid down obligation to prepare and analyze each 4 years the National Ecological Policy. Such document was to be approved by the Parliament. Environmental programmes and plans were to be drawn up on its basis on the all others levels of administration.
- In 2003 the Second National Ecological Policy was updated by document **The National Ecological Policy covering periods 2003-2006 and 2007-2010**. It was first of the ecological policies setting out also **climate policy objectives**.



**In 2004 Poland was one of the group of 10 countries,
which became members of the European Union.**

THE LAST ECOLOGICAL POLICY

2009-2012

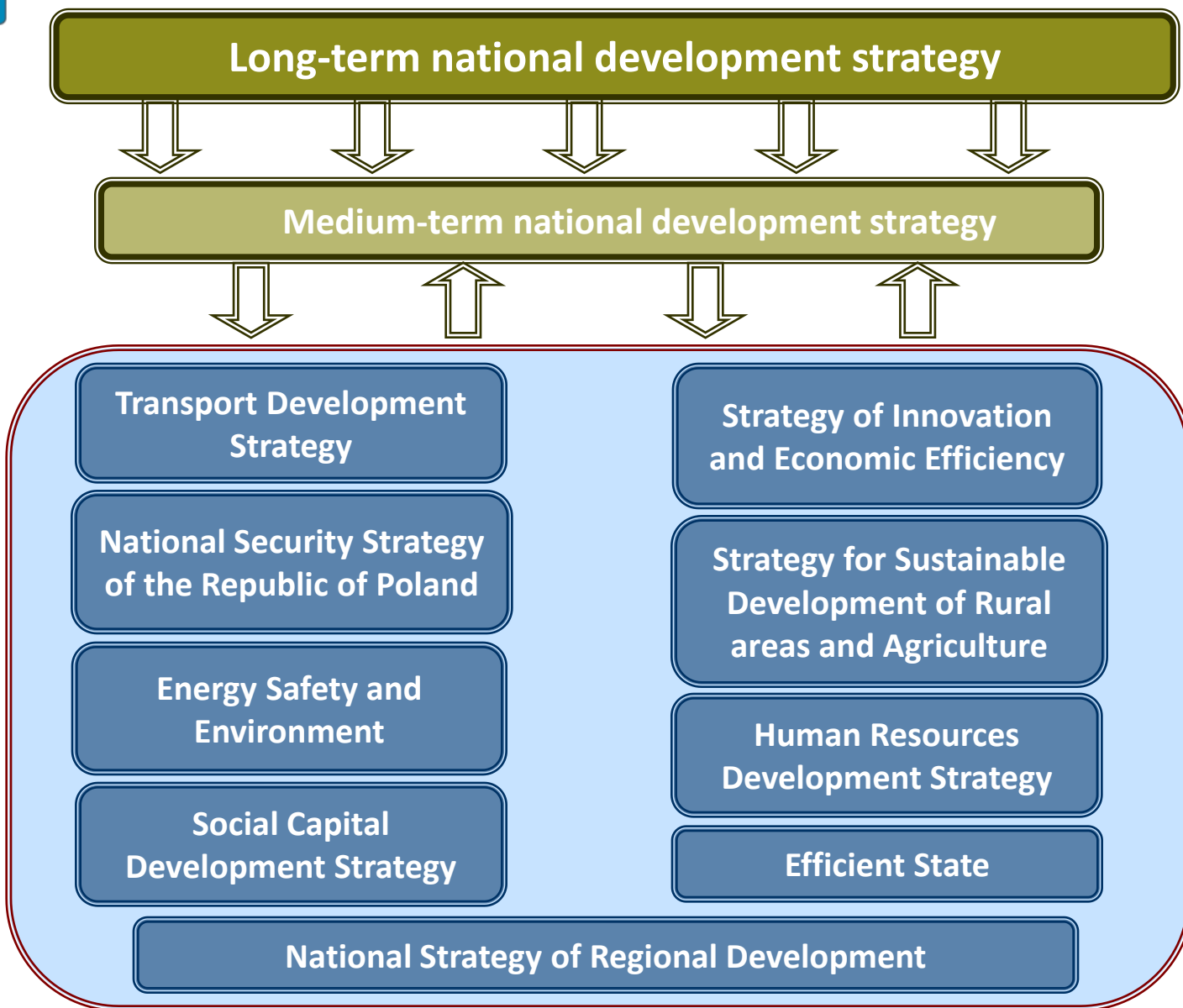
- The next **ecological policy** was adopted in 2008 covering **periods 2009-2012** with prospects 2016.
- The first after accession ecological policy occurred to be the last one.
- Document was prepared in close cooperation with scientific society and focused mainly on objectives related to meeting requirements of EU accession transitional periods within environmental field.
- The strategic aim defined in this document was **full compliance of all strategic documents for all sectors with sustainable development principle.**

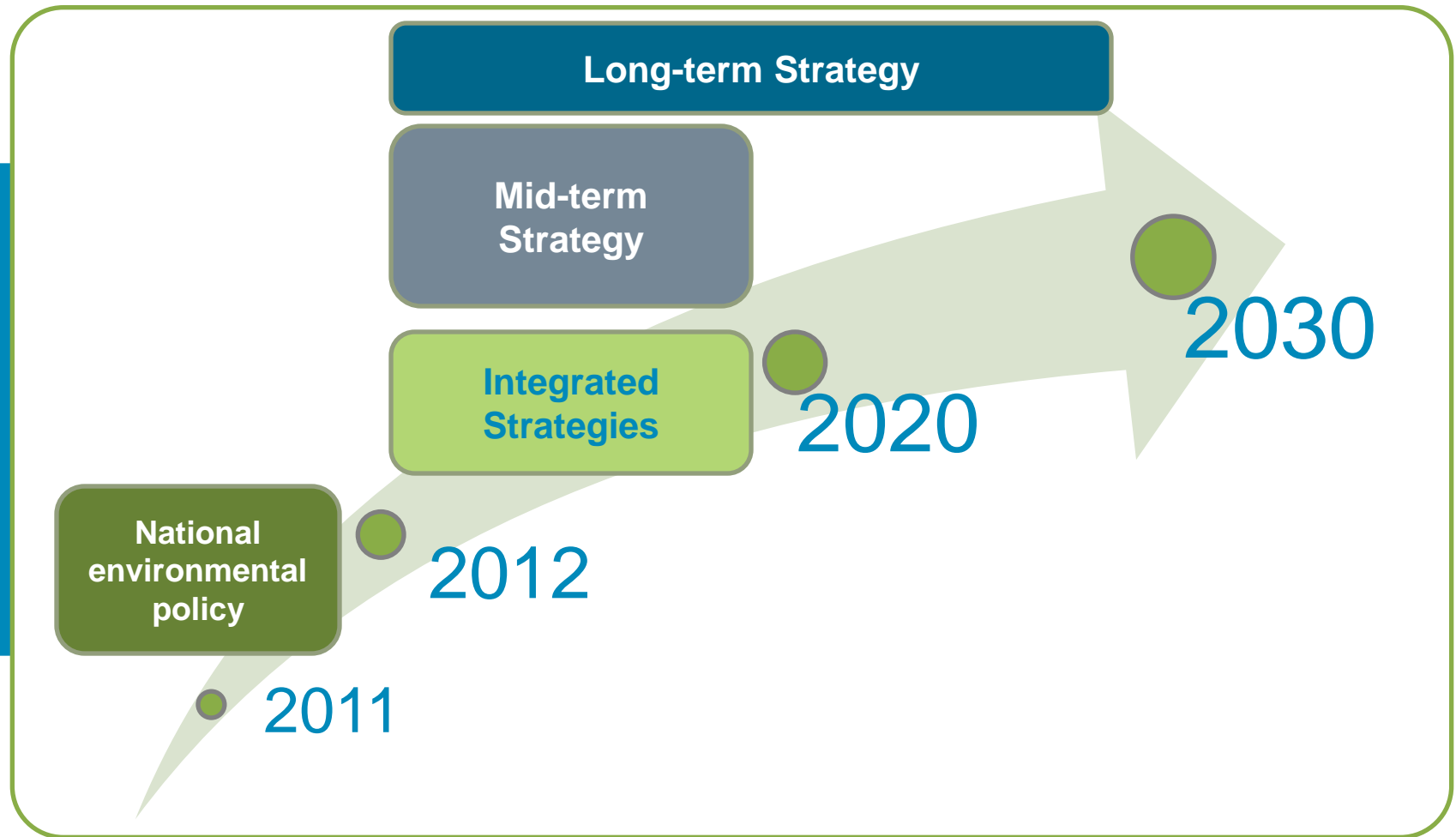


STARTING POINT FOR INTEGRATED APPROACH

- In 2008 the Ministry of Regional Development, being responsible for the coordination of sustainable development of the country, decided to **reform developmental planning** due to weakness and ineffectiveness of programming system.
- The new integrated system of development strategies were introduced, next year.









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Protection of environment

key strategic documents

**National
environmental
policy**

2009-2012



**Strategy
- Energy
safety
and
environment**

2020



Protection of environment *priorities*



- » **Management and implementation;**
- » **Behavioral changes in the society;**
- » **Protection of natural resources;**
- » **Improving quality of the environment and quality of life.**



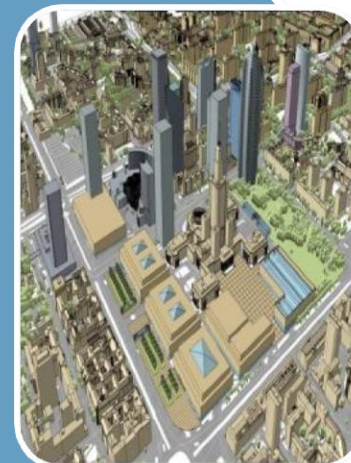


Management and implementation

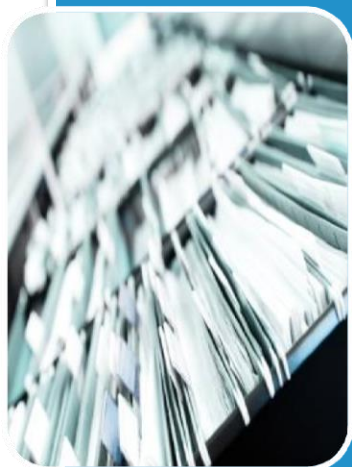


Environmental
Management

Ecological
aspect
in spatial
planning



management



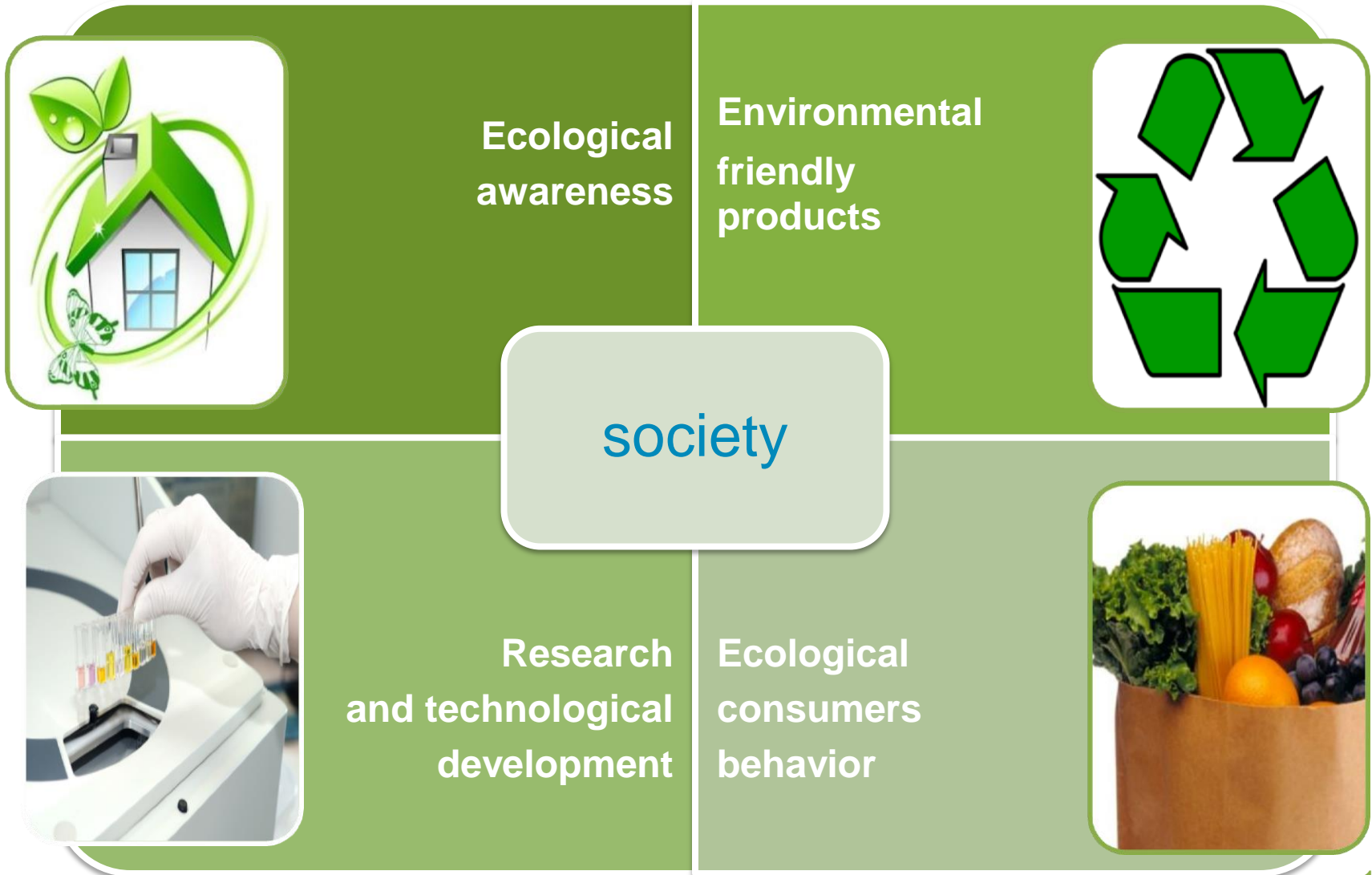
Environmental
Protection Policy
in Development
Strategies

Responsibility
for damages in
environment





Behavioral changes





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Protection of natural resources





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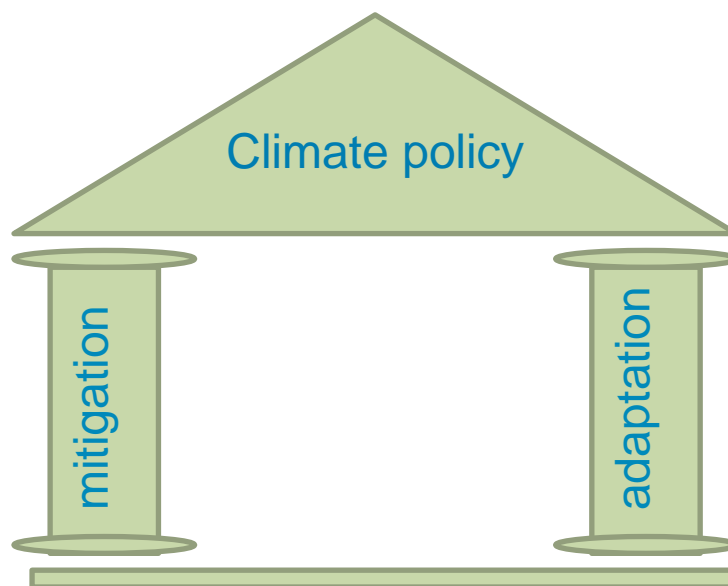
Improving quality of the environment and quality of life





Polish National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (SPA 2020)

- **Response to the European Commission's White Paper**
- **Strengthening the pillar of ADAPTATION within climate policy in Poland**



- **Reducing vulnerability to climate change**
- **Ensuring sustainable socio-economic development**
- **Stimulating innovation**

Polish National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (SPA 2020)



- Adaptation activities in SPA are complementary to those included in development strategies.
- SPA is important for new EU financial perspective 2014-2020 as a part of *ex-ante* conditionality and provides a framework for the implementation of adaptation projects in different sectors.



- Since 2015, after parliamentary election Poland has **the new Government** with **new vision** of development of the country.
- This vision was at first presented in form of a plan. Currently works are going on transforming this vision into strategic document **STRATEGY OF RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT** which is going to replace medium-term development strategy.



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Thank you for your attention