



**INSTYTUT NA RZECZ EKOROZWOJU
INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

W interesie przyszłych pokoleń / In the interest of the future generations

ul. Nabelaka 15 lok. 1
00-743 Warszawa/Warsaw
POLAND

www.ine-isd.org.pl

Tel./Phone: (48-22) 851-04-02

Tel./Phone: (48-22) 851-04-03

Tel./Phone: (48-22) 851-04-04

Fax.: (48-22) 851-04-00

E-mail: ine@ine-isd.org.pl

REPORT

on the Activities

of the Institute for Sustainable Development

in 2009

Abridged

Warsaw, February 2010

Contents

- **INTRODUCTION**
- **CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICY**
- **BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY**
- **PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
- **ISD POSITIONS**
- **EVALUATIONS**
- **COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP**
- **ISD PARTNERS IN 2009**

INTRODUCTION

The Foundation Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) is a think-tank organization which was registered in September 1990 and started its activities in early 1991. ISD promotes the ideas of sustainable development, working in such areas as: energy generation, transport, rural areas, including tourism, cities, jobs, climate protection, Natura 2000, competitiveness, EU funds and strategic assessments. The mission of the Institute is to act in the interest of the future generations.

In 2009, in its activities ISD concentrated on:

- a. the climate and energy issues;
- b. the promotion of the correct use of the areas within the European network of protected sites Natura 2000;
- c. education for sustainable development within the framework of the UNESCO Decade 2005-2014 dedicated to this objective;
- d. monitoring of the implementation of sustainable development;
promotion of sustainable development among different social groups

CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICY

Eco-Hercules ‘Tackling Climate Change’

Alternative Energy Policy (AEP)

- a preliminary version of AEP was formulated and submitted for criticism to a selected group of experts
- the resulting document, as a draft, was submitted to public consultation in four cities: Kraków, Katowice, Wrocław and Gdańsk
- in June, a conference to sum up the work on AEP was held in Warsaw
- the project produced three publications: a technical and methodological report, a report for decision-makers and a leaflet for the general public, as well as an abstract of the AEP document in English.

Awareness-raising in civil society on the need to take measures to protect the global climate

- three leaflets were published: *A Good Climate for Agriculture?*, *Climate and Tourism* and *Climate and Water Management*
- a two-day workshop for journalists was held on *Strengthening of Local Journalists on Climate Change Issues*
- a quarterly electronic *Climate Bulletin* was published (four issues).

Poland's Climate Policy: a Challenge for the 21st Century

The project was part of a broader programme implemented by the Climate Coalition *S.O.S. Climate* and was designed to sum up, in the form of a publication, Poland's climate policy over the past twenty years as well as the challenges facing Poland's climate policy 2030.

Nuclear Energy: the course of the debate in Germany – Conference and a publication

On 14 September 2009, a discussion 'Nuclear Energy: the course of the Debate in Germany' was held in Warsaw . A publication was issued that was a record of the debate in order to present the experiences of European societies in building nuclear power awareness.

The project was sponsored by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, EuroNatur and the Polish-German Cooperation Foundation.

A Road Towards an Effective Implementation of the Climate and Energy Package: a Conference

On 18 November 2009, a meeting was held in Warsaw on the implementation of the climate and energy package in the EU ETS and non-ETS sectors¹.

The organizers of the meeting were ISD acting on behalf of the Climate Coalition and the National Administrator of the Emissions Trading Scheme (KASHUE).

The aim of the conference was to arouse interest in the implementation of the package and to inform the participants of the debate at which stage Poland was in preparing the formal and legal basis for its implementation, and what difficulties and opportunities were involved for our country.

White Certificates

At the commission of the Proceśy Inwestycyjne firm that developed materials for the Ministry of Economy, a follow-up work was done on a study in which the Institute was involved in 2007. The material prepared on this occasion was intended to answer two questions:

- What will be the impact of the white certificate scheme on the national income, economic growth and competitiveness?
- What are the benefits resulting from the introduction of the white certificate scheme as compared to other potential energy effectiveness measures following from Directive 2006/32/EC, with indicating environmental tax reform as a better alternative?

¹ EU ETS – a European greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme. Non-ETS – greenhouse gas emissions outside the European gas emissions trading scheme.

Climate with the Polish Green Network

As part of cooperation with the Polish Green Network, the Institute participated as a partner in the project: 'From Poznań to Copenhagen – Polish FOR CLIMATE Campaigners'.

A leaflet: *A Brief ABC of Climate Protection* was published.

2° C – A Limit Not To Be Exceeded

In order to raise awareness on the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a translated leaflet was published before the 15th Conference of Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen, devoted to an analysis of how, as the entire international community, we can prevent exceeding a 2°C increase in average global Earth temperature above the pre-industrial period.

Climate Change is a Fact

ISD was responsible for the factual side in editing a material published by the Center for International Relations as part of the project *Climate Change in Citizens' Awareness*.

PEPESEC - Partnership Energy Planning as a tool for realizing European Sustainable Energy Communities

The aim of the project is to support communities which develop the concept of sustainable energy. The Institute for Sustainable Development, together with the Polish Foundation for Energy Efficiency (FEWE), took part in the work on documents developed for Katowice. The principal role of the Institute for Sustainable Development is to assess, in cooperation with the city of Murcia, the work (done by the project partners) that we embarked upon in November 2009.

EEB – Working on Energy Efficiency in Buildings from 2009

The principal aim of the project is to ensure that provisions on improving energy efficiency in buildings are included in the planned amendment of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), and to ensure their correct implementation in the EU Member States.

In 2009, the Institute examined the position of the Polish government on energy efficiency in buildings.

In cooperation with WWF Poland, the Institute analysed the situation in the construction market concerning energy efficiency and other studies that may have impact on the activities of the Polish government on this issue.

BEAM 21 - Blended capacity-building on sustainable energy measures and action plans for European municipalities

The project is designed to develop and implement a training cycle for local-level decision-makers and local administration on energy saving, renewable energy generation, mobility

management tools and on developing sustainable energy management plans at the municipality level.

The main task of the partners, including ISD, was to find at least 50 municipalities willing to participate in implementing specific training programmes. The Institute successfully encouraged the municipalities of Krzeszowice and Małkinia Górna to participate in the project.

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

Eco-Hercules Bloc D ‘Observatory of progress in the implementation of sustainable development’

Task D.1 Environmental awareness of Poles in the 21st century

In 2009, a survey was carried out to examine the environmental awareness of Poles. The survey was conducted on a national representative sample (N=1000) of adult residents of Poland. The author of the final report entitled ‘The Environmental Awareness of Poles: Sustainable Development. 2009 Survey Report’² was Dr A. Bołtromiuk. The 2009 survey and a comparison of its results with the 2008 results allowed to assess the attitude of the Polish people towards the key contemporary sustainable development issues.

Task D.2 Sustainable Development Observatory

In 2009, progress in sustainable development in four subject areas was monitored:

- **Transport** – plans for public transport development and their popularisation, investment, transport management;
- **Rural areas** – Natura 2000 network of sites, creating environmentally friendly jobs;
- **Urbanization** – housing estates planned and built in the suburbs, public space (including green areas);
- **Power industry** – renewable energy sources, energy efficiency.

The monitoring results were recorded in (regional and national) quarterly reports published at the ISD website.

In 2009, reports for the 1st and 2nd quarters were prepared – they were published at the ISD website. Some of the monitoring materials were published in the *Sustainable Development Barometer. 2008/2009*.

ChronmyKlimat (Let’s Protect the Climate) Vortal

The aim of ISD in launching and running the vortal is to provide reliable information and expert studies so as to show the extensiveness and interrelated nature of the climate change impact on economic, social and environmental issues.

In 2009, the vortal extended patronage to 10 projects, directly or indirectly related to climate protection.

² The report is available at the ISD website.

The activities enjoying ChronmyKlimat.pl patronage include:

The Earth Day; international conference: ‘Education for Sustainable Development’; Contest: Energy Security and Environmental Security, one of Aeris Futuro campaigns as part of the Offset with Tauron project; campaign by the Mazovian Branch of the Polish Ecological Club (PKE): ‘Change Yourself, Not the Climate!’ (Zmieniaj siebie, a nie klimat!); conference ‘A Road Towards an Effective Implementation of the Climate and Energy Package’; a contest for journalists: ‘Media with the Climate’ – 2nd edition; conference ‘Energy Efficiency and Energy Planning in Municipalities as Climate Policy Tools’, a meeting with the ‘Climate Change Witnesses’; the ‘Run for Copenhagen’ campaign.

European Economic and Social Committee

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC or EcoSoc) is an EU body and its principal task is to examine the opinion of various circles on the instruments and legislation that are being developed by the European Commission or the European Parliament and the European Council.

In 2009, Krzysztof Kamieniecki, who is an EESC member, participated in 19 working groups dealing with the following issues:

- Transport (urbanised areas, transport development in Western Balkans, maritime transport development until 2018);
- Maritime economy (development strategy for the Baltic region, sustainable development of seaside areas),
- Nuclear power industry (trained personnel for the nuclear power industry, safety)
- Environmental protection policy (an assessment of 2008 activities)
- Changes in flight coordination (transatlantic cooperation);
- Climate change;
- Community energy policy;
- Eastern Partnership;
- Urbanised areas.

Blossom-2.0 Support to analysis for long-term governance and institutional arrangements

Starting from May 2009, ISD participated in an international project commissioned by the European Environmental Agency (EEA) and coordinated by Milieu Ltd and Collingwood Environmental Planning (CEP).

The BLOSSOM project was designed to ensure a better understanding of the nature and extent of futures thinking in governance and long-term planning by government bodies and of how this style of thinking is or can be introduced into the policy development process, most importantly in the environmental policy development.

For the purposes of the Polish report, three examples were discussed: the Foresight Polska 2020 National Programme, the *Poland 2030 – Development Challenges* report, and Poland's energy policy up to 2030.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Eco-Hercules - Bloc C 'Innovativeness in Managing Natural Resources' (a debate on open areas, publication of three educational booklets)

In 2009, the last public debate in the cycle: 'How to Ensure Sustainable Development of Open Areas?' was held, organized in cooperation with the Integrated Geography and Cartography Section, Faculty of Geographical and Geological Sciences, Adam Mickiewicz University.

As a follow-up to each of the debates held as part of Bloc C, an educational booklet on the subject appeared in print, based on a record of the debate, papers delivered and additional materials collected by ISD experts. In 2009, booklets featuring three debates were published: 'What Kind of Transport in Sustainable Development?', 'How to Ensure Sustainable Development of Urbanized Areas? Metropolises', and 'How to Ensure Sustainable Development of Open Areas?'.

Natura 2000 as an engine for sustainable development (Portal, Educational Programme, Contest, Leaflet, Training)

The educational programme entitled 'Natura 2000 as an Engine for Sustainable Development' is being implemented by the Institute for Sustainable Development in 2009-2010 thanks the funding provided by the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management.

The project was divided by subject into six educational or information tasks as a way to raise awareness:

Task 1 – Portal 'Natura 2000 and Tourism' (<http://natura2000.org.pl>) – verification, updating and extending the contents of the portal which include: a catalogue of some 1000 areas with descriptions of their tourist attractions, a list of 30 examples of good practices, 7 e-training programmes complete with tests to check elements such as: 'Changes in the Creation of the Natura 2000 Network in 2007-2008', news updates, useful links etc.

Task 2 – A proposal of an educational programme together with methodological support tools 'NATURA 2000 as a Form of Protection of Europe's Natural Heritage', designed as a teaching aid for junior high school (gimnazjum) teachers on how to use the subject of the Natura 2000 network in school teaching.

Task 3 – A contest for junior high school pupils entitled: 'A Natura 2000 Site: a Treasure for the Region' – 3rd edition, for a work promoting the tourist attractions of a selected site.

Task 4 – Publication: 'Natura 2000 – ABC for Tourism',

Task 5 – 4 regional training sessions entitled 'The Determinants of Tourism Development in the European Natura 2000 Network of Sites',

Task 6 – Final conference.

Task 1:

In 2009, the work included an expansion of the Natura2000 portal, including:

- Preparation of new texts for e-training programmes, including those concerning the Natura 2000 sites situated within city limits, and addition of a new e-training programme entitled 'Threats to Natura 2000 Sites' to the Portal
- Listing 30 new examples of environmentally friendly activities in the field of tourism, both domestic and foreign, to the module 'To Benefit From Natura 2000'.
- A catalogue, for which environmental and tourist descriptions of some 1000 Polish Natura 2000 sites were completed.

Task 2:

A proposal of an educational programme entitled 'NATURA 2000 as a Form of Protection of Europe's Natural Heritage', authored by experts on teaching methodology in the sciences and ISD experts on sustainable development, environmental protection and eco-tourism, is designed for junior high school education, but may also be used by broadly defined ecological education provided outside the school education system.

Task 3:

In 2009, the 3rd edition of the contest entitled: 'Natura 2000 Sites: a Treasure of the Region' started, targeting junior high school pupils and teachers across Poland. After a period of preparations, the 1st stage of the contest began (9 September 2009).

Eventually, schools entered 560 pupils for the 2nd stage of the contest.

Task 5:

In November 2009, three nation-wide training programmes entitled 'The Determinants of Tourism Development in the European Natura 2000 Network of Sites' were held for tourist sector representatives, regional environmental organizations and local authorities.

The training programmes were designed to provide basic information on the Natura 2000 network of sites to tourism industry representatives, as well as to indicate the legal rules of the use of those areas for tourist purposes.

Strengthening the Institute for Sustainable Development – so as to make education for sustainable development innovative

The aim of the project is to ensure the continuity of the organization's functioning.

ISD POSITIONS

ISD position on the defence of natural landscape parks

In 2009, the Institute continued to monitor the legislative process concerning the situation of natural landscape parks.

On 16 February 2009, the Institute sent its position to the Presidential Chancellery in the form of an appeal to leave these parks in the government administration structures and to take into consideration the Institute's arguments in deciding the question whether the Polish President should or should not sign the bill under discussion, or, possibly, refer it to the Constitutional

Court. Indeed, the Presidential Chancellery gave regard to the ISD position in a petition that the Polish President sent to the Constitutional Court. Unfortunately, the Constitutional Court while examining the petition of the President of the Republic of Poland concerning environmental protection and the competence of regional self-government authorities on natural landscape parks on 13 May 2009 did not agree with the President's standpoint and dismissed the petition in question.

On 18 November 2009, ISD representative B. Wójcik attended a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry on the management of natural landscape parks and protected natural landscape areas, in the course of which she reiterated the Institute's position on the matter and pointed to the already visible negative impact of the change that had regrettably been made.

EVALUATIONS

Evaluation of the Debt-for-Environment-Swap Programme

Towards the end of 2009, the Institute, acting as partner of the Ernst&Young company and at the commission of the EcoFund Foundation, embarked upon a comprehensive evaluation of the implementation of the debt-for-environment-swap programme in Poland and the institution in charge of that programme, i.e. the EcoFund.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP

1. Climate Coalition
2. NGO Coalition for Structural Funds
3. State Council for Environmental Protection
4. Green Leaf Award Committee
5. Wojciech Dutka Organic Work for Environmental Protection Award Committee
6. Council of the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe
7. Environmental and Social Advisory Council to the President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
8. Climate Protection Team headed by Ms Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Mayor of the Capital City of Warsaw.

PARTNERS IN ISD ACTIVITIES IN 2009

1. American Chamber of Commerce in Poland
2. Bank Ochrony Środowiska S.A.
3. Boeing Central and Eastern Europe
4. Center for International Relations
5. European Economic and Social Committee
6. The Polish Rural Forum (Forum for the Animation of Rural Areas - FAOW)
7. Polish Foundation for Energy Efficiency
8. Institute for Renewable Energy
9. Jeppesen Poland
10. EKOS Ecological Journalists Club
11. Manchester Digital Development Agency
12. The city of Poznań
13. Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Economy
14. Polish Ecological Club (PKE), Mazovian Branch
15. Warsaw University of Technology
16. Polish Confederation of Private Employers Lewiatan (PKPP Lewiatan)
17. Polish Air Navigation Services Agency
18. Procesy Inwestycyjne Sp. o. o.
19. PARADA Radio of Łódź
20. TOK FM Radio
21. 'Obywatel' magazine
22. Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry, Sejm of the Republic of Poland
23. Warsaw University of Life Sciences (WULS-SGGW)
24. TVP Łódź
25. Union of Polish Metropolises
26. University of Warsaw
27. Warsaw City Office
28. WWF Poland
29. Faculty of Environmental Engineering, Lublin University of Technology
30. Faculty of Management, University of Łódź

31. Team of Advisors to the President of the Republic of Poland
32. Biology Institute, Academy of Podlasie in Siedlce
33. Regional Environmental Education Centre in Płock
34. Societas Scientiarum Plocensis (Towarzystwo Naukowe Płockie)
35. University Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Warsaw
36. Ciechanów-based Tourism, Hotel Management and Environmental Promotion Faculty,
Pułtusk Academy of Humanities