Decentralization and multi-level governance in Poland. Ensuring coherence between national and subnational development strategies/policies

Kyiv, 27st of January 2017
1. Process of decentralisation – main actors in the regional development policy
2. New model of managing strategic development in Poland
3. How to ensure coherence between national and subnational development strategies?
Major stages of transformations of the public administration system in Poland

1990
• restoration of local government at the level of communes

1999
• change in the territorial division (reduction in the number of voivodeships)
• establishment of districts and of voivodeship local government
• introduction of the concept of combined and non-combined administration
Changes in the map of the voivodeships, introduced in 1999

Division of the voivodeships prior to the reform
(49 voivodeships till the end of 1998)

Division of the voivodeships after the reform
(16 voivodeships since January 1999)
Local government in Poland

commune
- provision of basic public services – "first contact government"
- 2,478 gminas (66 of them cities with powiat rights)

county
- providing public services, the scale of which exceeds the capacity of the community, eg.: health, secondary schools, public safety
- 314 poviats

region
- planning and supporting long-term development, among others, through the use of European funds
- 16 voivodeship local governments
The main tasks of public administration at the regional level

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<th>voivode</th>
<th>voivodeship local government</th>
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<td>• is responsible for pursuing the policy of the Council of Ministers in the voivodeship;</td>
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<td>• ensures cooperation among all bodies of public administration in emergency situations and may give orders in this regard (e.g. natural disasters, disasters);</td>
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<td>• is responsible for the flood security system in the voivodeship;</td>
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<td>• has the right to demand, from the bodies of government administration functioning in the voivodeship, current information and explanations and has the right to have an insight into cases they conduct;</td>
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<td>• has the right to suspend the enforcement of an administrative decision</td>
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<td>• creating conditions for economic development, including the creation of the labor market</td>
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<td>• maintenance and development of social and technical infrastructure of regional significance</td>
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<td>• supporting and carrying out activities to raise the level of education of citizens</td>
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<td>• supporting the development of science and cooperation between science and economy,</td>
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<td>• promoting technological progress and innovation</td>
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<td>• promotion of values and development opportunities in the region</td>
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Poland introduced 16 regions

- From 2007 regions became fully responsible for big share of European funds under cohesion policy:
  - 2007-2013 (6.8 mld Eur/ESF, 16 mld Eur /ERDF)
  - 2014-2020 (10.4 mld Eur/EFS, 22.5 mld Eur/ERDF)
- Experience, capacity to manage EU funds, development
- Reorienting the development policy:
  - System of strategic development management
  - Multi-level and inter-sectoral mechanisms of coordination
  - Further decentralization of the EU fund management
  - Bigger emphasize on effectiveness.
Drafting a regional development strategy, in order to:
• maintain and enhance the national, cultural and civic consciousness of the population and regional identity
• stimulate economic activity,
• raise the competitiveness and innovativeness of the economy of the region,
• maintain the cultural and natural heritage (sustainable development),
• develop and keep the spatial order

Implementing a policy of regional development through:
• developing labour market,
• creating and keeping technical and social infrastructure,
• finding and attracting external financial resources, especially from the EU and state budget,
• improving the level of general education and higher education,
• stimulating culture, recreation, research.

Strategy coherent with: mid-term dev. strategy, regional dev. strategy, National Spatial Dev. Concept, macro-regional strategy
Implementation documents: development programmes, ROP, territorial contract

Through:
• co-operation with territorial self-government units of its area,
• co-operation with the state administration in the region,
• co-operation with economic chambers, employers’ and employees organisations, churches, NGO’s, research institutions and universities, neighbouring regions, foreign regions and international organisations
Role of the Ministry for Economic Development

The main governmental institution competent for coordination of:

- development policy
- regional policy
- spatial policy
- cohesion policy in Poland

Main tasks:

- ordering the system for the strategic management of development
- preparation and implementation of the socio-economic development strategy
- coordination of actions of relevant ministers, self-governments and socio-economic partners in the area of development policy
- efficient management of the EU funds
- monitoring, evaluation, reporting
Co-ordination of the development policy in Poland

**Strategic planning – documents**

National level - the number of sectoral strategy papers was reduced in 2009 from 42 to 9 (the shift from the sectoral programming to problem programming)

- long-term national development strategy (2030),
- medium-term national development strategy (2020)
- and 9 integrated strategies; one of them is National Strategy of Regional Development
- macroregional strategies (e.i. Strategy for Eastern Poland)
- In the background; Europe 2020 Strategy and the National Spatial Development Concept

**Regulatory basis:** the Act of 6 December 2006 on the rules of development policy implementation

Regional level

- Regional development strategies

**Regulatory basis:** law on voivodship self-government

Local level

- Local strategies

**Regulatory basis:** law on gmina self-government, law on poviat self-government
SUPPORTING THE INCREASE IN COMPETITIVENESS OF REGIONS

- The objective covers the whole area of Poland.
- Focus on:
  - making use of development potentials of growth poles [voivodships centers];
  - creating conditions for supporting the diffusion and absorption mechanisms on European, national and regional level.

BUILDING TERRITORIAL COHESION

- Objective only covers selected areas, which are endangered with exclusion;
- These areas are too distant from main urban centres or the scale of problem is too big to be tackled by the assumed diffusion from other areas;
- These areas are so called problematic areas.
Main objective of new Strategy

**creation of conditions for the increase in income of Polish citizens while improving cohesion in social, economic and territorial terms**

### Objective I
Sustainable economic growth based on the current and the new advantages
- Reindustrialisation based on Polish resources
- Innovative business development
- Small and medium-sized enterprises
- Capital for growth
- Foreign expansion

### Objective II
Social and territorial sensitive development
- **Social cohesion**
- **Territorially sustainable development**

### Objective III
Effective state and economic institutions contributing to growth as well as social and economic inclusion
- The state in the service of citizens and economy
- Pro-development institutions and strategic development management
- E-state
- Public finance
- Effective use of EU funds

**Areas having impact on the achievement of Strategy objectives:**

**human and social capital, transport, energy, natural environment, national security**
Objective I - Sustainable development of the country with the use of endogenous potential of individual territories

**Eastern Poland**
- Package of activities for Eastern Poland – strengthening the coordinating instruments; Supraregional programme for the weakest regions - after 2020

**Silesia**
- Programme for Silesia - Supporting the enhanced investment attractiveness of Silesia and promoting structural changes
- Programme for medium towns losing their social and economic functions

**Areas threatened by permanent marginalization**
- Programme for areas threatened by permanent marginalization

**Rural areas**
- Rural Areas Pact, Supporting the implementation of the instrument Community-Led Local Development

**Capitals of regions (agglomerations)**
- Programme to support self-governments in the programming of revitalization, Urban Initiative, Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI) PLUS, Return to city centres
Co-ordination of the development policy in Poland

Implementation documents

- Operational programmes (national and regional) co-financed from the EU structural and investment funds
- Development programmes implementing the strategies

Institutions involved:

- Council of Ministers
- the Coordinating Committee for Development Policy - consultative and advisory body of the Prime Minister, chaired by the Minister for Economic Development
- Minister of Economic Development
- Other ministers
- Marshal Offices (voivodship self-government)
- Monitoring Committees
- Socio-economic partners
- Local governments
- Business
- academia
the introduction of a new instrument – „territorial contract”;

(which is an agreement concluded between the government and the region, which defines the objectives and the most important investment for both parties, their financing and implementation; concentration of the investment)

Performance reserve

National and regional territorial forum – the discussion platform on the effectiveness of regional policy; data based discussion involving National Office for Statistics; analysis, standards, recommendations for change;
Territorial contract: Instrument for the arrangement of common undertakings within a partnership,

A civil law contract between main actors of regional policy working towards achieving the set objectives,

Covers undertakings which are the most significant for the achievement of objectives set for a given territory,

The aims of the contract are set in detail for different territories, constituting the base for setting tasks and responsibilities of the parties and the responsibility for the achievement of these objectives

The contract sets out the value of development indicators which allow to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of its implementation,

Increases the institutional capability of entities engaged in the implementation of regional policy.
The mechanisms for coordination and cooperation of public administration

**Joint Commission of Central Government and Local Government**

- **considers** issues related to the functioning of local government and to the state policy with respect to local government, as well as matters related to local government within the scope of operation of the European Union and international organisations to which the Republic of Poland belongs;

- **develops** the common position of the Government and local government on establishing economic and social priorities in matters concerning:
  - municipal services management and the functioning of communal and district government;
  - regional development and the functioning of voivodeship local government.

- **gives an opinion** on draft normative acts, programmes and other government documents related to local government;

- **composition**: representatives of government and local government in equal numbers.
In conclusion - new model of integrated development policy

✓ Cooperation - Multi-level governance system, cross-sectoral co-op

✓ Coordination of the management of processes – MRD leadership

✓ Territory-oriented (place-based) approach - stress on investment mix

✓ Integrated territorial approach - focus on pro-development measures

✓ Strengthening territorial potentials

✓ Competitiveness - result-oriented policies, performance budget

✓ Participatory approach and co-responsibility
Thank you for your attention

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