



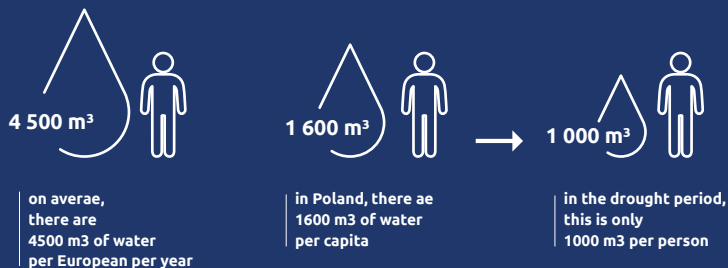
Poland is drying up

In Poland, there is too little water. I also couldn't believe it. And yet it is true. The data is inexorable – for every one of us, there is three times less water than on average for European citizen! What will we do, when there is even less water? The costs of such worst case scenario may be enormous both for us and future generations. Let's say STOP to the drought!

Łukasz Nowicki, ambassador of the project

Stop Drought!

How much water do we have?



As regards the abundance of water, Poland is in the second to last place in Europe.

Understand and act!

The drought is a natural climatic event. It cannot be prevented. Even the rich Western economies have difficulties in dealing with this problem. The only thing we can do is to minimise its effects. To this end, the State Water Holding Polish Waters developed the plan for counteracting the effects of drought. This document analyzes the area of the whole country for the first time. In the document, we indicate what needs to be done and where and how to accomplish this. The data obtained from the survey of 3.5 thousand stakeholders will be used to develop the catalogue of necessary measures.

The drought has many forms

The climate gets warmer. The droughts occur also in our part of the world more and more frequently. We have already recognised particular types of this phenomenon present in Poland. In order to take effective action against the drought, we have to examine carefully the extent to which particular regions of our country are exposed to this phenomenon.

1 Atmospheric drought - rainfall below multi-annual average



2 Agricultural drought - rainfall below water requirements of arable crops at the given time



3 Hydrogeological drought so-called hydrogeological low-water period - flood tide in the rivers below multi-annual average



4 Hydrogeological drought, so-called hydrogeological low-water period - long term lowering of groundwater compared to multi-annual average



This is the first such document in Poland!

The plan for counteracting the effects of drought will be adopted by Ordinance. Implementation of measures identified in this plan is to contribute to the reduction of economic, social and environmental losses. The document will provide reliable, spatial and quantitative analysis of the possibility to increase water resources that can be used. It will also consider the proposal for investments related to construction and reconstruction of water devices. The plan is also to revise and provide recommendations related to necessary changes in the use of water resources and their formation by natural and artificial retention.

Benefits for all of us



society



economy



environment

Water is indispensable in many areas of our life – starting from food and everyday goods production, through energy production, to various forms of recreation. Therefore, the development of the plan for counteracting the effects of draught will bring benefits to all society, economy and environment.

We should make a good use of new opportunities

The plan for counteracting the effects of drought will indicate what actions aimed at reducing the drought effects will work best in a given region. The plan will facilitate development of the programmes financing investments and actions related to the water management. It will improve the evaluation of applications submitted to the institutions financing this project, both at central and local level.

Four steps to success



1 | Designation of areas at risk of particular types of drought



2 | Assessment of the exposure to losses in these areas (risk of drought)



3 | Analysis of needs and possibilities of the implementation of actions preventing drought effects



4 | Determination of the catalogue of measures