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# Poland : Support to the implementation of the Water Framework Directive

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A PHARE Twinning on the implementation of the European Water Framework Directive (WFD) started in September 2004 for a two-year duration, involving the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development and its Polish counterpart.

The International Office for Water intervenes in the preparation and implementation of this twinning arrangement as operator of the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development. In Poland, the Ministry of the Environment (Department of Water Resources) is the project recipient.

The project is mobilising many Polish stakeholders in water management, especially the Water Agencies (RZGWs).

This twinning resumes the principles used in the previous arrangements (called "pre-accession"), with, in particular, the appointment of a French adviser, who will work at the Polish Ministry of the Environment during 24 months. This twinning also implies the participation of many French experts coming from institutions or organisations involved in the WFD implementation in France : Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, Water Agencies (Rhine-Meuse, Artois-Picardy, Seine-Normandy, Adour-Garonne and Loire-Brittany), Regional Directorates of the Environment (DIRENs), the Office of Geological and Mining Research (BRGM), the International Office for Water, etc.

The main objective of this twinning is to assist with the implementation of the European Framework Directive, especially focusing on economic tools.

The activities will aim at :

- formulating management plans for the river basin districts and programmes of measures,
- recovering costs and developing water pricing policies,
- public participation in the preparation of management plans,
- strengthening transboundary Cooperation in the international districts.