

Sustainable Development in Poland

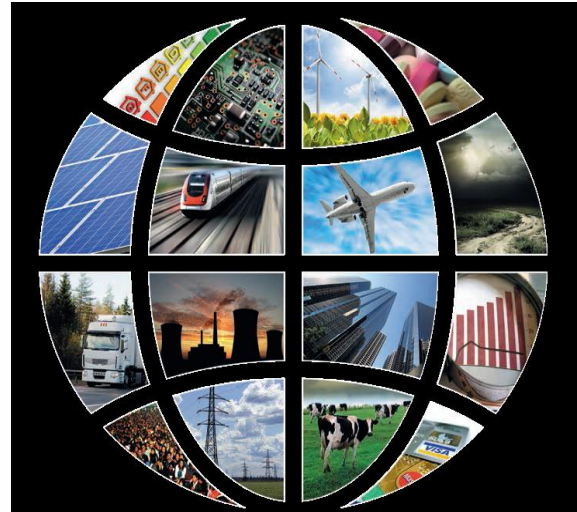
(selected issues)

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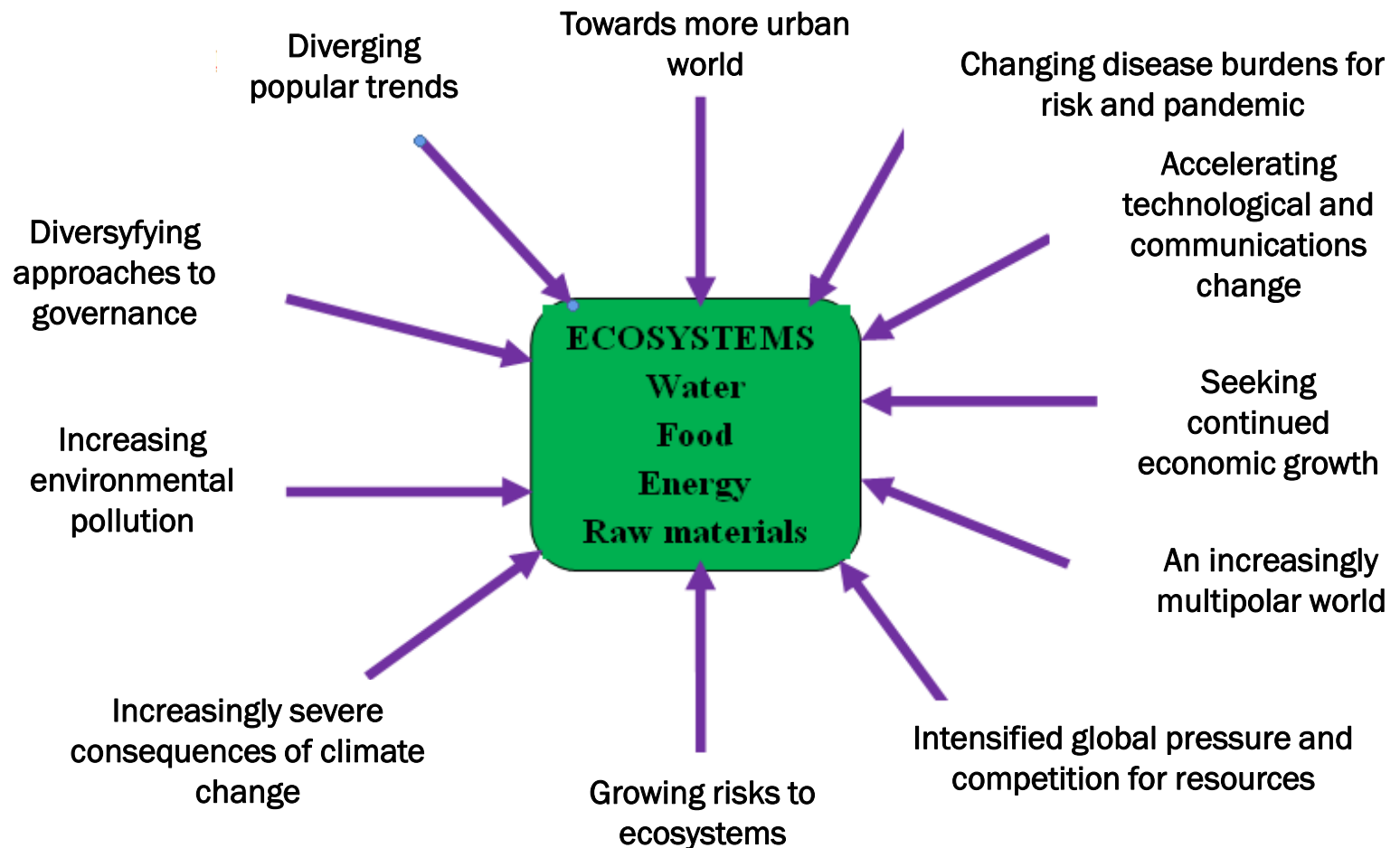
Seminar on Sustainable Development Goals „Sustainable Development Goals for Asia and Europe. Localising the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

17 March, 2016. Bucharest. Romania

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- A large polar bear and a smaller cub are walking across a piece of sea ice. The ice is surrounded by water and other ice floes, creating a fragmented landscape. The bears are walking from left to right. The water is dark blue, and the ice is white and blue. The scene is a natural habitat for polar bears.



Impact of megatrends on meeting the demand for basic resources in Europe



Source: *The European Environment. State and Outlook 2015. Assessment of Global Megatrends*, European Environment Agency, Copenhagen 2015.

Polish milestones

- **1989 - the beginning of building democracy and market economy**
- **2004 - accession to the European Union**



A detailed map of Poland and its surrounding regions, including parts of Russia, Lithuania, Belarus, Czech Republic, and Slovakia. The map shows major cities, rivers, and geographical features. A scale bar at the top left indicates distances up to 150 km. A legend at the bottom left shows population density ranges. The text is overlaid on the map, centered over Poland.

Poland, like other EU members from Central and Eastern Europe, we join a group of **rich countries**, an increasingly unfavorable characteristics for sustainable development.

Conclusions from the report „Securing Means of SDG Implementation in Poland (poverty, sustainable agriculture, energy & climate) I

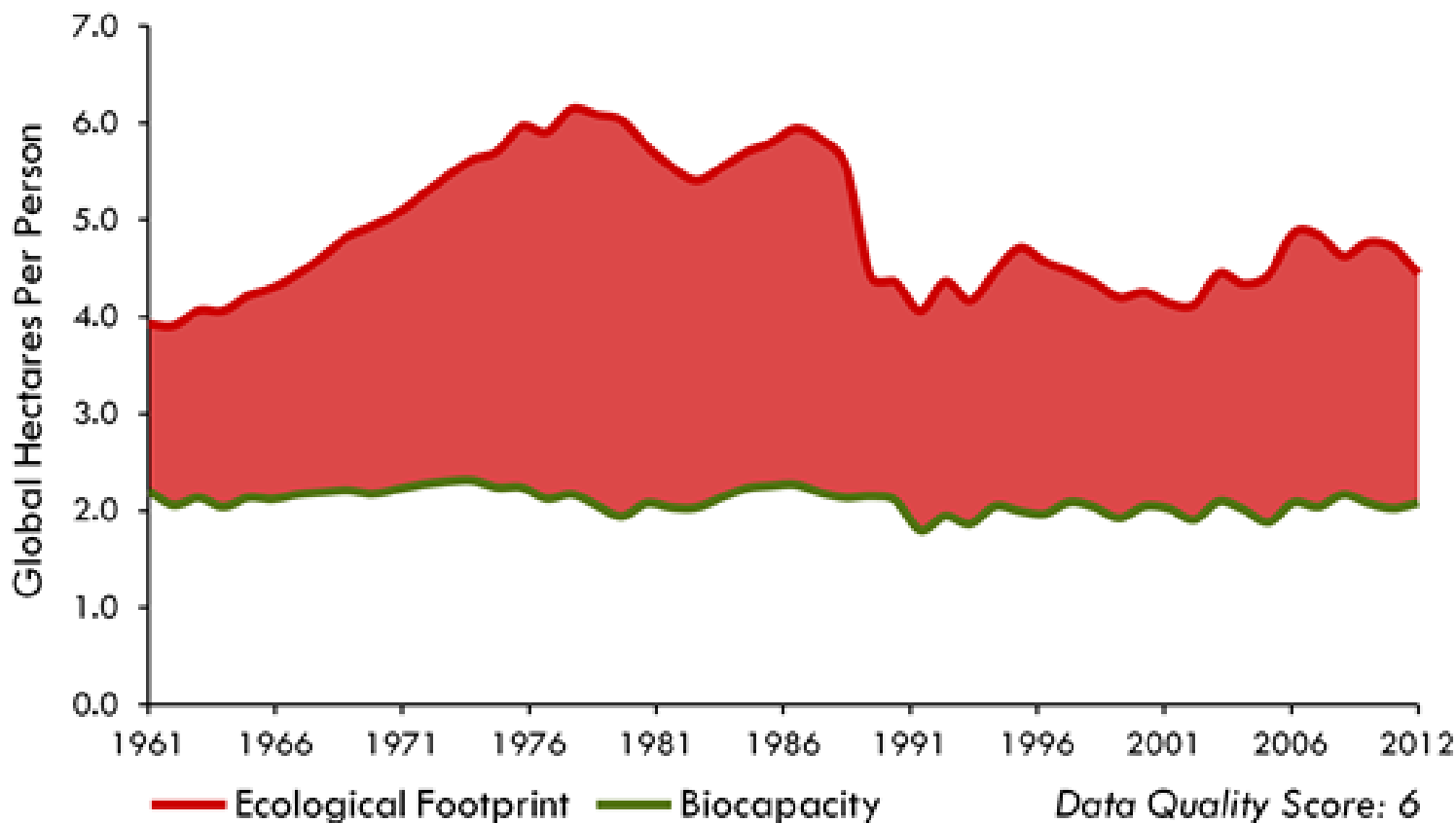
- The poverty and social exclusion indicator is still above the EU average and GDP per capita is one of the **lowest in the EU**.
- The issue of income inequalities is not explicitly the subject of **public policies**.
- In agriculture **improved** the economic situation and organic farming and food processing are in the process to **develop**.
- Tendencies to create unsustainable agriculture resulting from its industrialisation **is a growing** problem

Conclusions from the report „Securing Means of SDG Implementation in Poland (poverty, sustainable agriculture, energy & climate) II

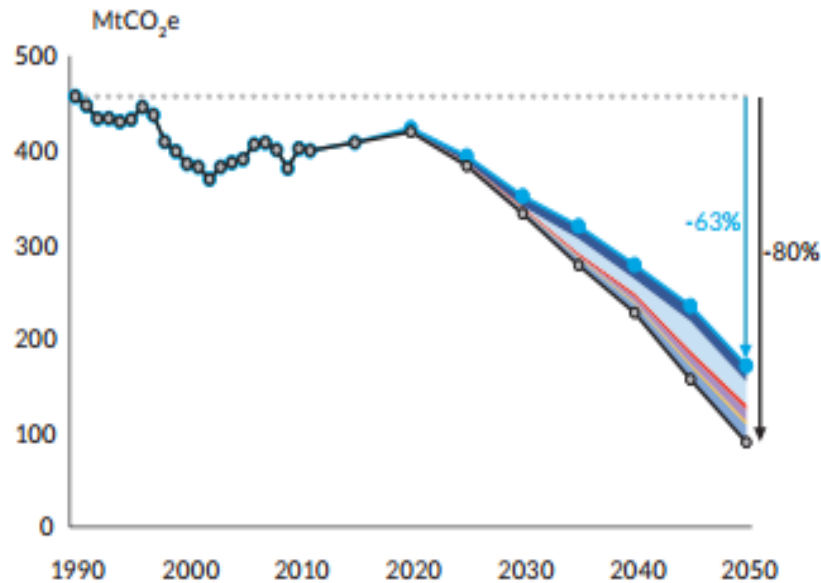
- Poland has been growing dramatically **without increasing its energy use**, energy efficiency has improved and the emissions of greenhouse gases have been significantly reduced.
- The energy sector is outdated and requires **fundamental modernisation** and the resource base in the form of coal and lignite is the source of serious economic, social and environmental **problems**.
- Energy efficiency and development of RES are **not priorities**.
- Old environmental problem almost solved but **new ones arrived** (waste, mass motorization, consumption and others)

Ecological footprint for Poland (in gha)

Desirable - 1,8 gha



Relation between economic growth and low emission economy



- Lower production in petrochemical industry and mining
- Zero-emission energy sector
- Faster improvement in buildings energy efficiency
- Low-emission cars
- Mix change in light industry
- Reference scenario
- Emissions to be additionally reduced

Fast economic growth

Innovation

Efficient use of Labour and available resources

Institutions

Eco-innovation

Energy and resource efficiency
Green jobs, health improvement

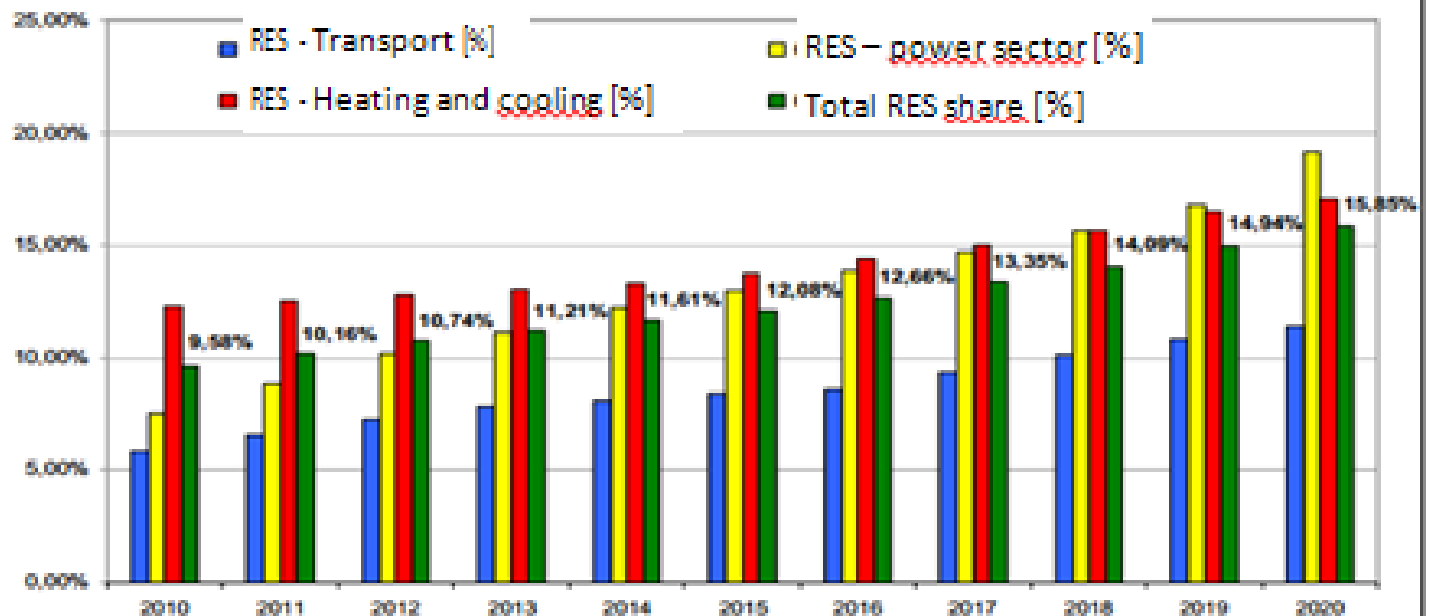
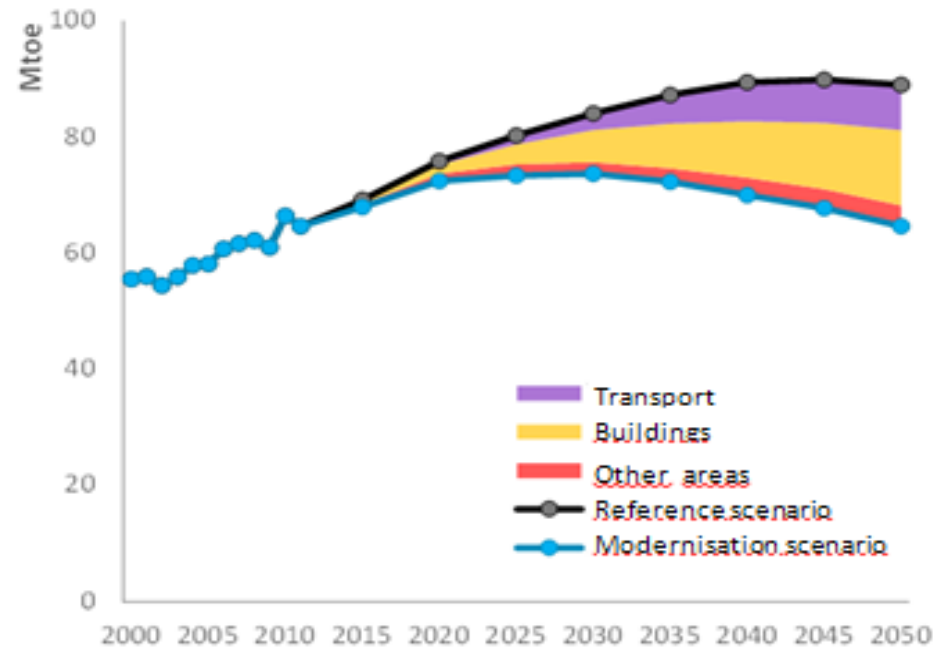
Predictable environment
For low-emission investment

Modern, well-developed low-emission economy



Source: 2050.pl. The Journey to the Low-emission Future. Edited by M. Bukowski. Warsaw Institute for Economic Studies, Institute for Sustainable Development, European Climate Foundation. Warsaw 2013

Energy efficiency and renewable in Poland - possibilities



Economy of enough

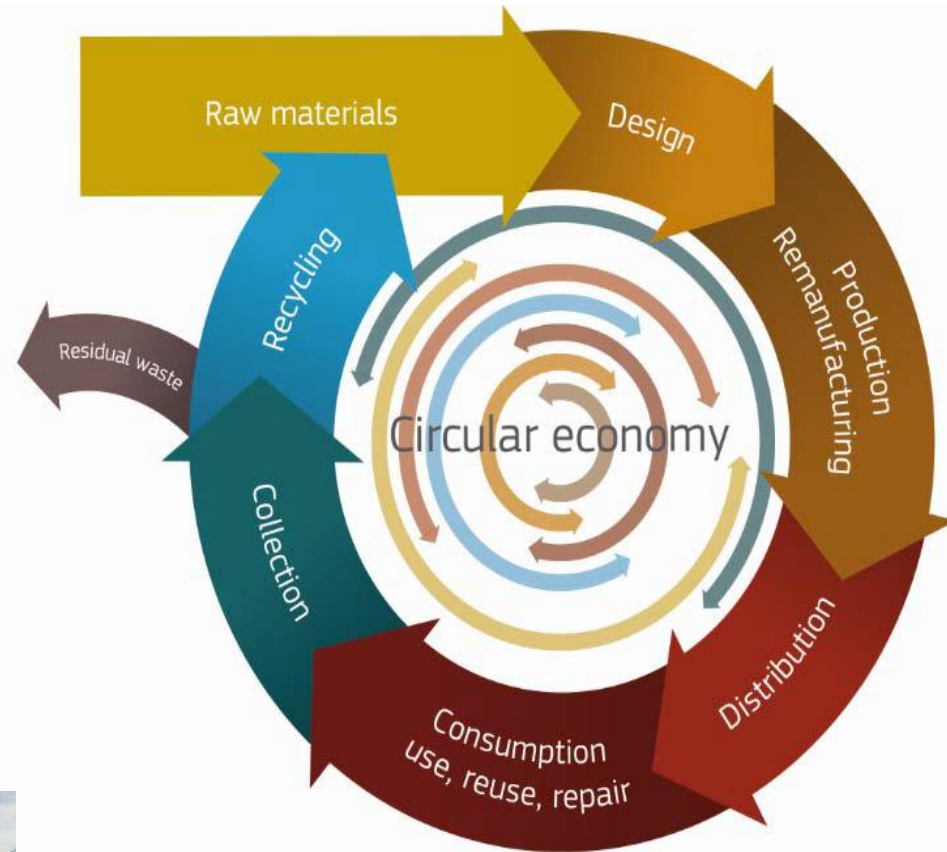


- **Sustainable approach**, that is, economy of a steady scale, within the **limits determined** by available resources and capacity to absorb pollution;
- **Fair distribution**, that is, people have equal opportunities to gain decent living conditions;
- **Efficient allocation of resources** to support various activities so as to use the market economy capabilities, bearing in mind its strengths and shortcomings (external costs);
- **High quality of life** as the main objective of economic development, which means giving priority to human needs and ensuring decent living conditions for all.

Circulate economy

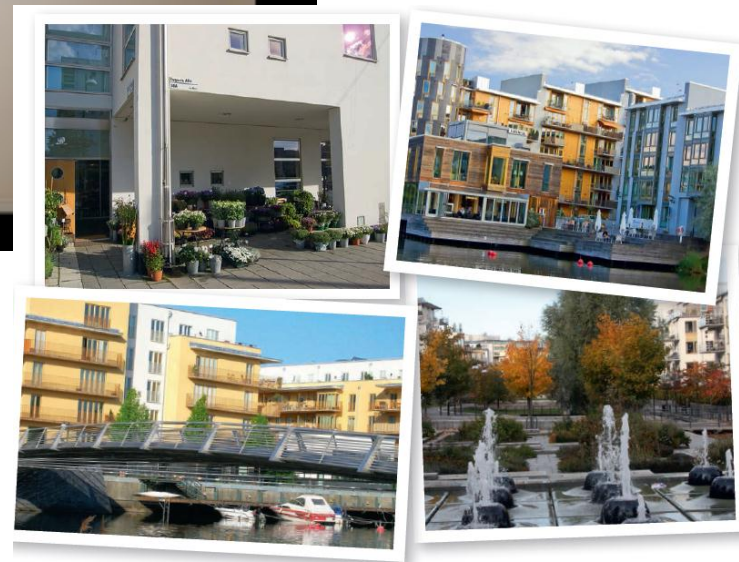
The idea of the circulate economy is an alternative to the linear economy:

- ✓ we do not waste resources - raw materials but using it better;
- ✓ second life products;
- ✓ we do not need to have everything, but share with others.



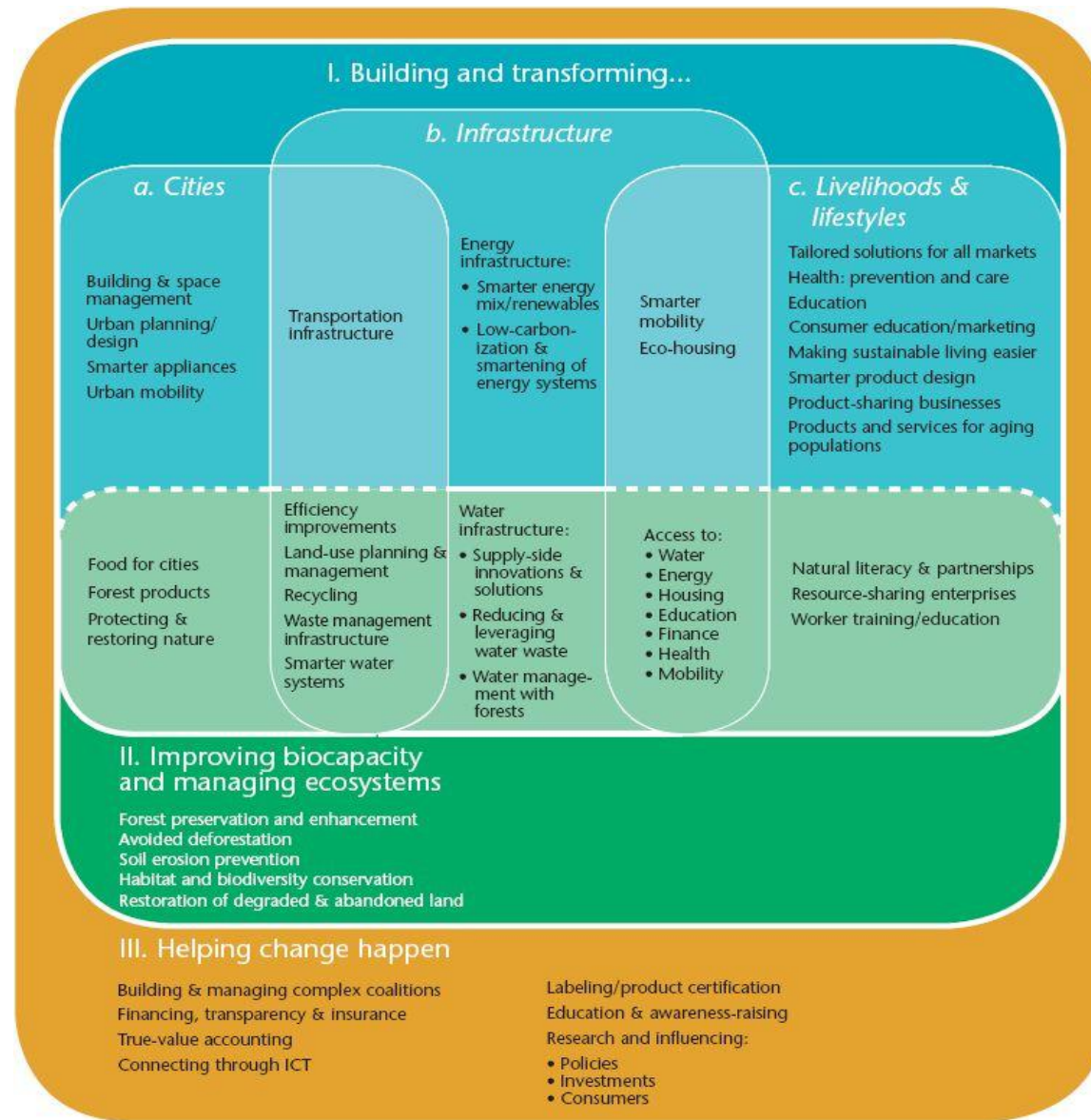


Seven key elements of a symbio-city



Business domains for the next decades – Opportunities and overlaps

Vision 2050.
The new agenda for business.
World Business Council for Sustainable Development.



Polish low-emission future

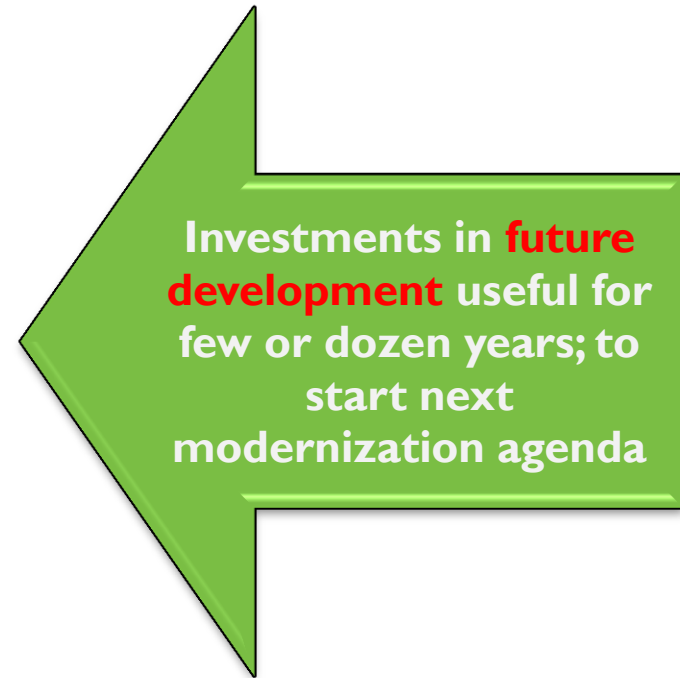
- ✓ Poland faces the **challenge** of maintaining the pace of economic and societal development. New factors - **climate policy** and **eco-innovations**
- ✓ **30%** emission reduction by 2050 will bring the net benefit to individual investors.
- ✓ Further more than **30%** emission reduction is inexpensive and have a positive impact on the broad economy and environment
- ✓ **80%** reduction possible if the innovative low-emission solutions are further developed
- ✓ Staying on the path of deep emission cuts viable **until 2030** even under the conservative assumptions – high potential of the **energy efficiency** and the **phase-out of coal power plants**
- ✓ Numerous **additional benefits** of low-emission transformation – health, innovation, energy security, civil society (prosumers).

Polish dilemmas – 2016/2050

Regressive attitude



Progressive attitude



Thank you for your attention

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