

**POLAND**EcoFund foundation

EcoFund administers the money derived from the conversion of a part of Poland's foreign debt into an environmental protection fund. Among the types of projects supported are renewable energy projects, utilization of waste energy generated through industrial processes, and landfill gas operations. Support is usually in the form of grants, including up to 45% of the cost of project investments for businesses.

Effective date: 1992-2010

Funding: \$571 million

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National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management

The Fund mainly supports projects, including renewable energy projects, which have been recommended by regional authorities. The main renewable projects supported include small hydro plants (up to 5 MW), solar collectors, connection to a heat network based on geothermal energy, and biomass boilers and production of biofuels.

Typically support is provided through soft loans at the interest rate indexed to the National Bank's rediscount rate. Crediting time is for up to 5 years. Under certain conditions, up to 25% of the loan may be written off. The Fund also offers grants, but mainly for pilot projects of high-risk technologies. The maximum credit provided is 3 million PLN (€ 680,000), not to exceed 70% of the investment cost.

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Thermo-modernization Act

Buildings which switch from fossil fuels to renewables, and additionally implement energy efficiency measures, can qualify for state support. Only investments which can prove that their long-term savings outweigh the credit can receive the premium, i.e. only investments with strong financial feasibility are supported. The premium paid is 25% of the investment credit.

Effective date: June 2001

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