

Poland Water Security Outlook and Action Plan - DRAFT

Dr. Winston Yu, Water Practice Manager
May 2023



WORLD BANK GROUP

Water

Acknowledgments:

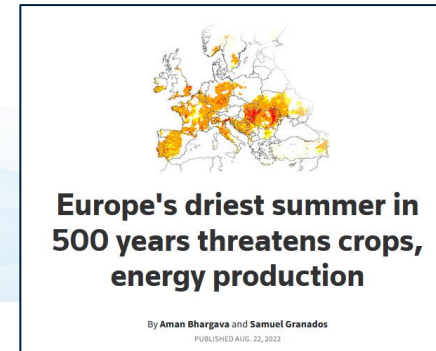
Berina Uwimbabazi, Svetlana Edmeades, Kenneth Strzepek,
Brent Boehlert, Diego Castillo, and Zbigniew Kundzewicz

Index

1. Overview
2. Analytical approach
3. Vulnerability analysis
4. Intervention stoplight assessment

Current water security context in Poland

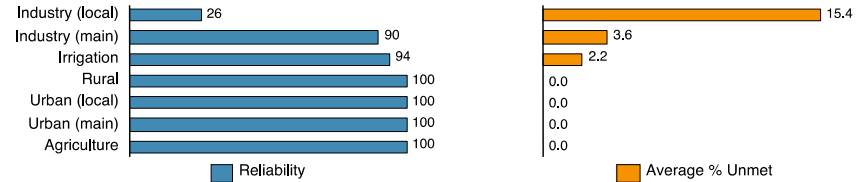
1. Severe drought across Western Europe
2. Oder fish kill caused by low water levels
3. Increased risks of floods
4. Water quality



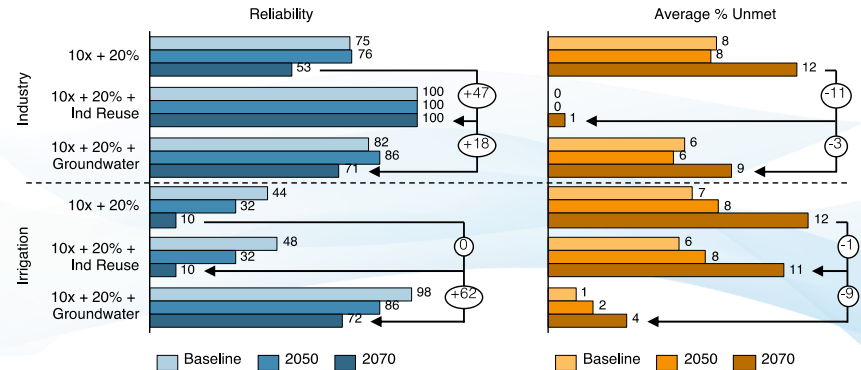
Current State of Water Security and Potential Risks

- Industry is the most vulnerable sector in terms of insufficient access to water
- Increased irrigation demand coupled with climate change could lead to water shortages
- By 2070, water reliability and unmet demand start to exhibit the negative impacts of climate change

Unmet Water Demand by Sector for Baseline Scenario

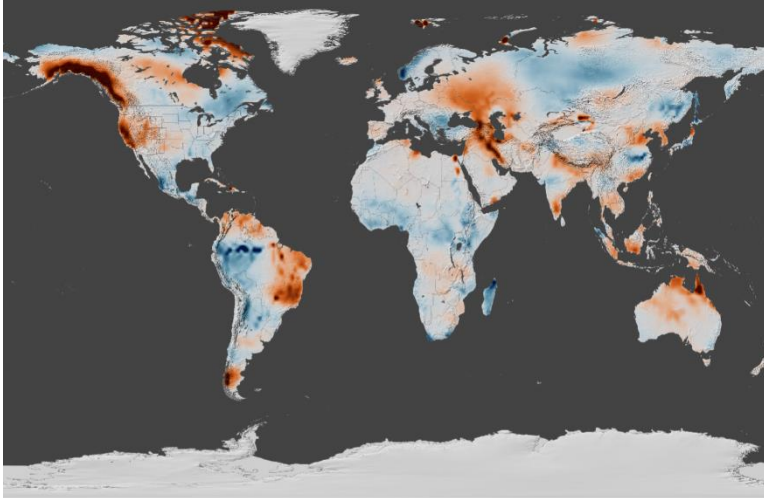


Unmet Water Demand Given a Tenfold Increase in Irrigated Area and Climate Change Impacts



Water storage is an important tool for resilience to climate change

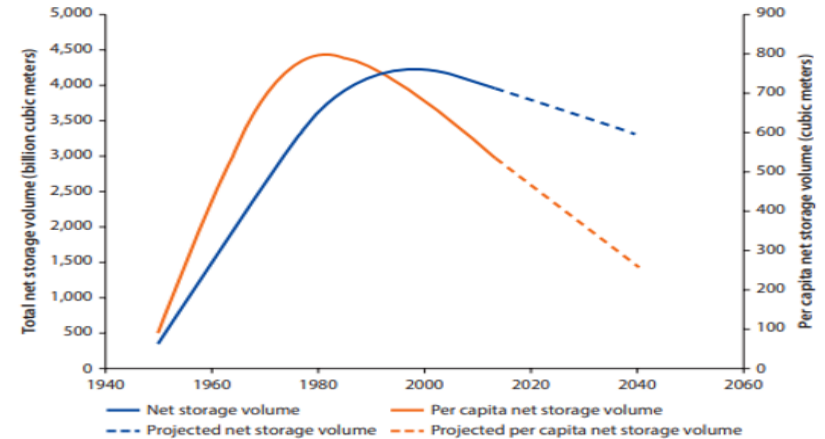
Reduction in Natural Water Storage



Source: Rodell, M et al. 2018.

Decline in Built Water Storage

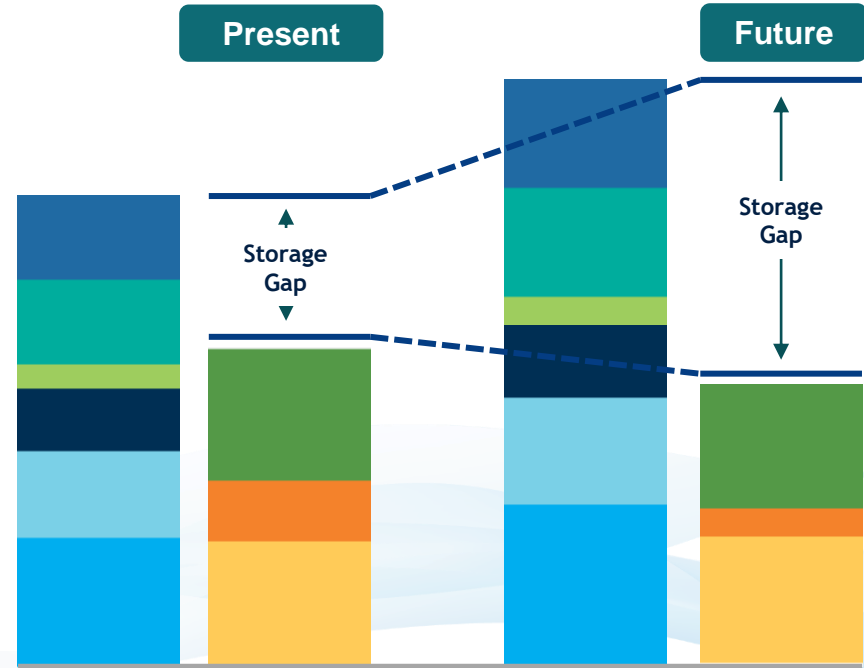
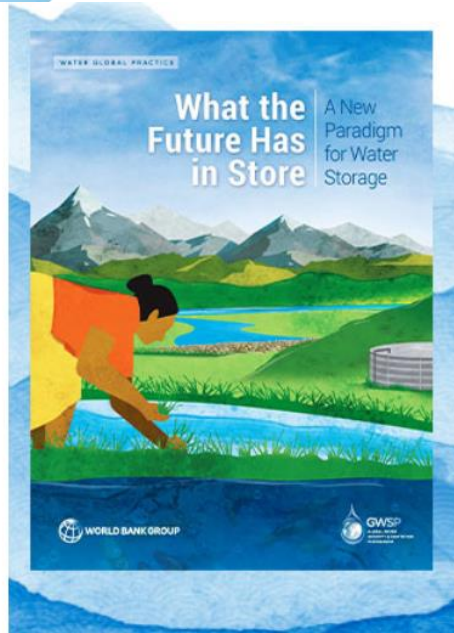
Figure 3.15 Net Global Reservoir Storage Volume, Accounting for Storage Loss from Reservoir Sedimentation



Source: Annandale 2013.

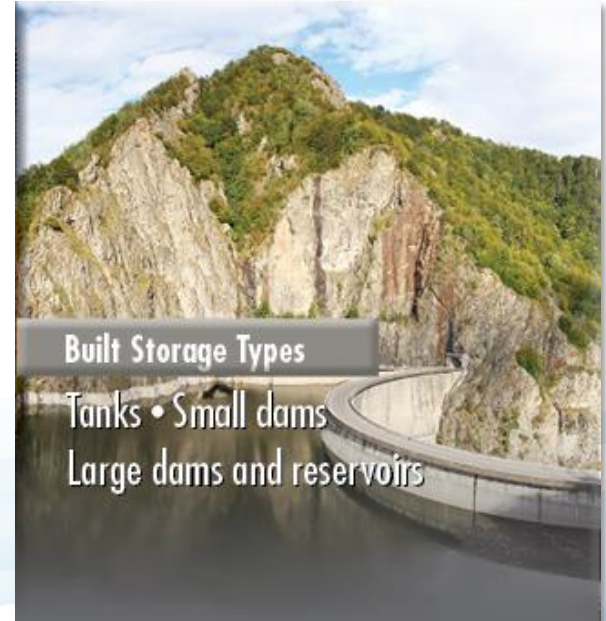
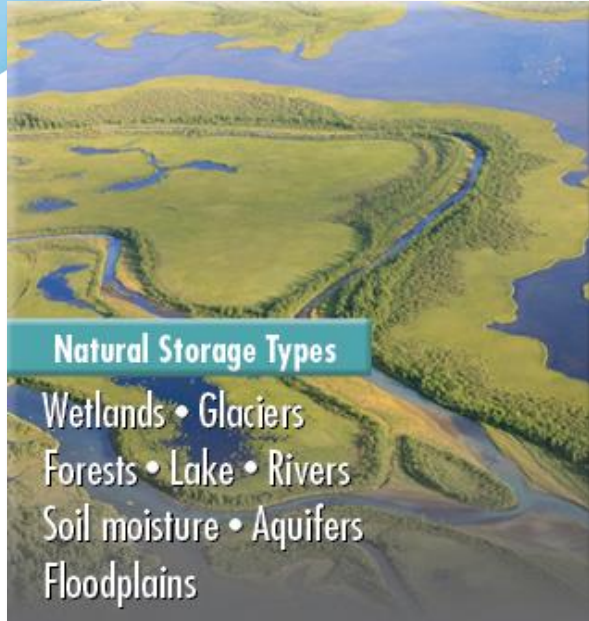
... but decreased overall water storage capacity

Altogether leading to an increased storage gap



<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/water/publication/what-the-future-has-in-store-a-new-paradigm-for-water-storage>

Interventions can tap into all types of storage



... while adopting a systemic approach



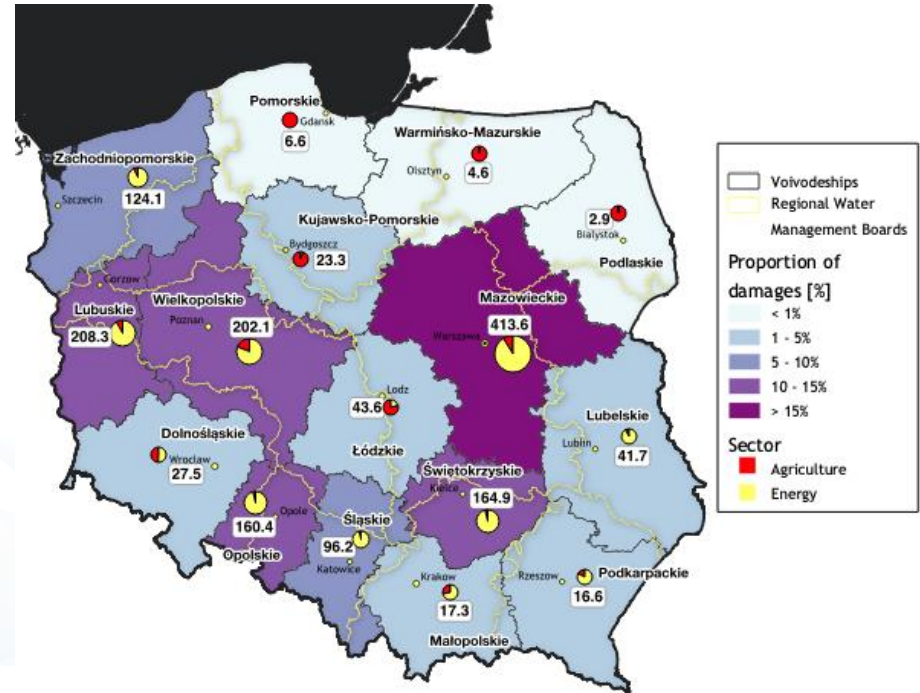
- ✓ Reoperate
- ✓ Rehabilitate
- ✓ Retrofit
- ✓ Raise new

... and using existing storage more strategically

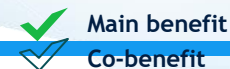
Cost of Inaction

- Recent floods in Poland have caused 4 billion EUR losses near the Odra River basin and 2.5 billion EUR in the Odra and Wisla basins
- Annual drought losses are estimated at 1.5 billion EUR for the country (3% of GDP)
- By voivodeship, Mazowieckie, Lubelskie, and Wielkopolskie are most vulnerable to energy and agricultural losses

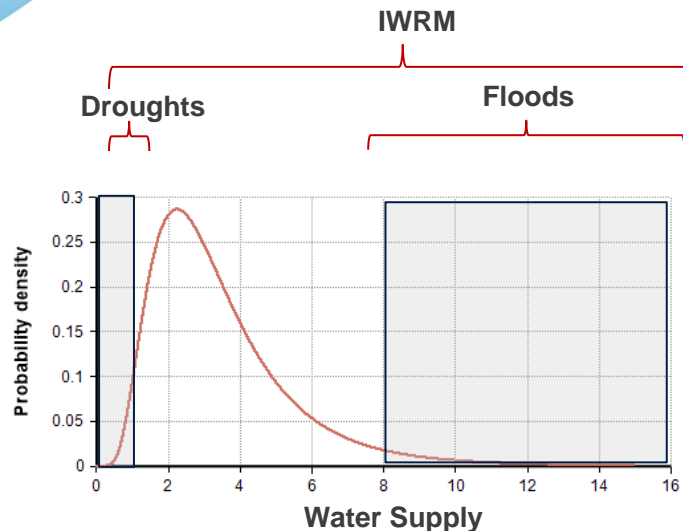
Average Annual Expected Damages from Drought



Promising interventions for water-related risks in Poland



Interventions focus on 3 issues:



#	Theme	Intervention	Drought risk mitigation	Flood risk mitigation	IWRM
A	Improve groundwater management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase sustainable extraction Artificial recharge 	✓		✓
B	Enhance soil water management and irrigation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase irrigation Agronomic practices (i.e., drought-tolerant crops, soil management) 	✓		✓
C	Expand surface water storage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Large-scale storage Small-scale (engineered) storage Nature-based storage 	✓	✓	✓
D	Implement green urban flooding solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nature-based solutions & river channel systems 		✓	
E	Improve water demand management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Convert coal-fired powerplants to dry cooling Water conservation and reuse practices 	✓		✓
F	Water supply, sewage, and treatment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improve WSS infrastructure Enhance capacities of local utilities 	✓		✓

Index

1. Overview

2. Analytical approach

3. Vulnerability analysis

4. Intervention stoplight assessment

Action Investment Framework

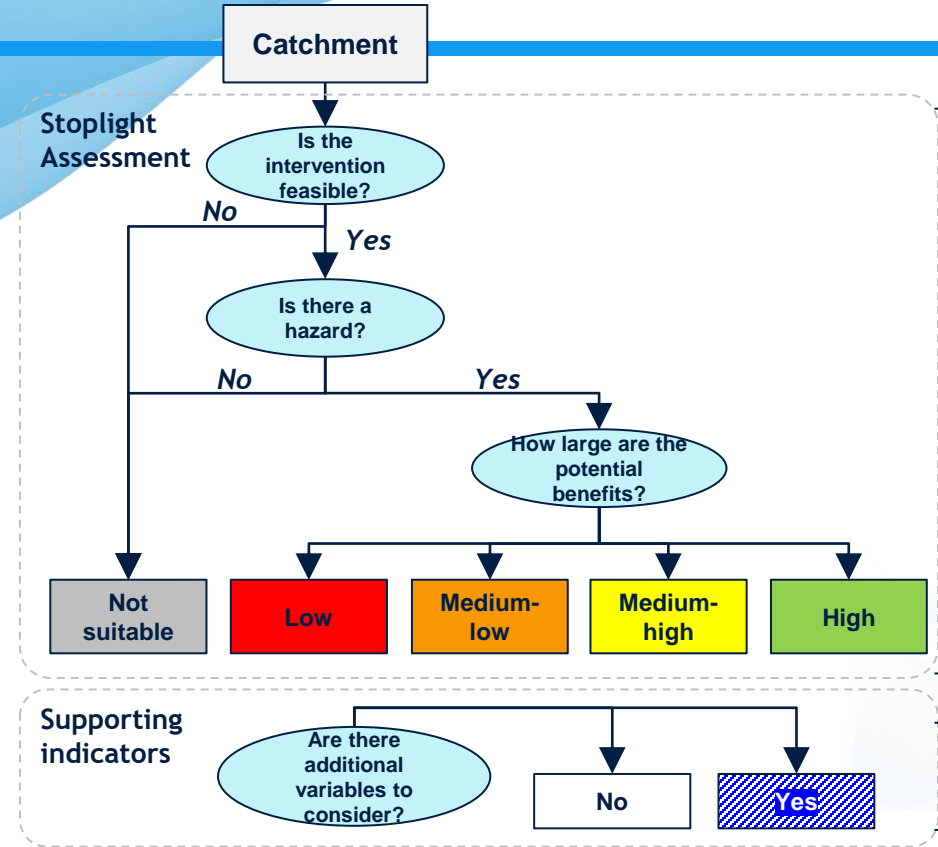
Objective:

Identify areas within Poland with the highest potential for implementing each intervention

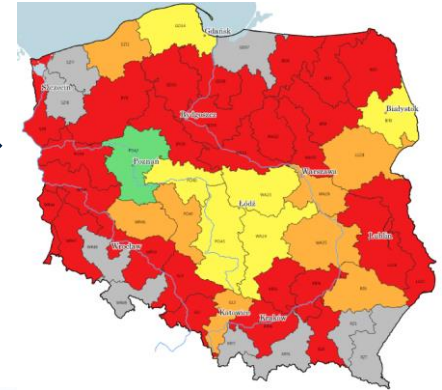
Spatial resolution: 50 catchment management boards



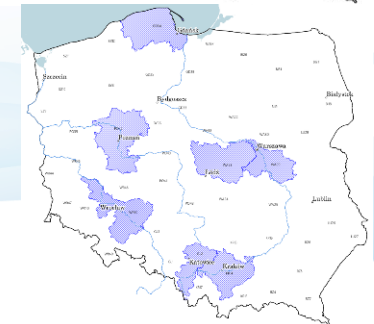
Action Investment Framework



Illustrative example



Relative quantification of potential benefits



Qualitative consideration

Sources of data for analysis

Polish sources

PGW Wody Polskie:

- Drought Effects Counteracting Plan
- Flood Risk Management Plan
- Flood Hazard Maps

GUS (Statistics Poland):

- Water supply & withdrawals
- Water supply network & utilities
- Wastewater discharge and supply losses
- Population, income, asset values

Poland-specific research / data

Tarka et al. (2017):

- GW recharge
- Soil infiltration

Rzętała (2021):

- Dams & reservoirs

Walczykiewicz (2022):

- Power plants cooling

WEAP:

- Water demand (irrigation)

EEA:

- Natura 2000 protected sites

CORINE:

- Land use and land cover

High-resolution global data

FAO:

- Gridded value of agriculture

CGIAR:

- Irrigated agriculture revenues
- Evapotranspiration

EarthENV:

- Topography

NASA-Landsat:

- Impervious surfaces

HydroAtlas & HydroRivers:

- Sub-catchments & river network
- Soil characteristics

MacKnick et al. (2012):

- Cooling water needs

Index

1. Overview

2. Analytical approach

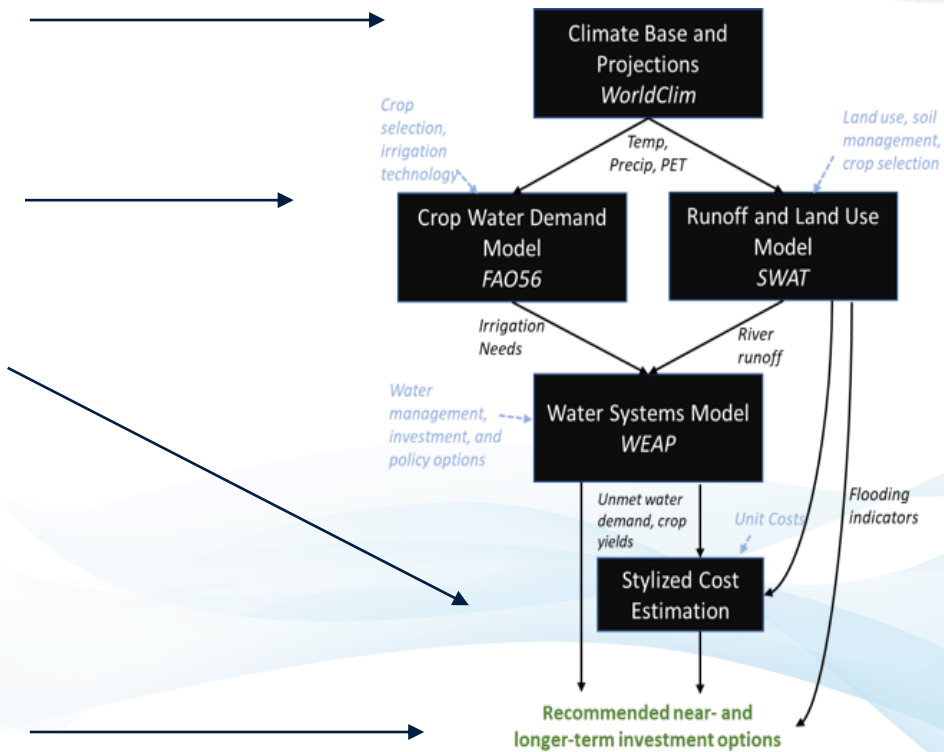
3. Vulnerability analysis

4. Intervention stoplight assessment

Water Security Assessment: Modeling Approach

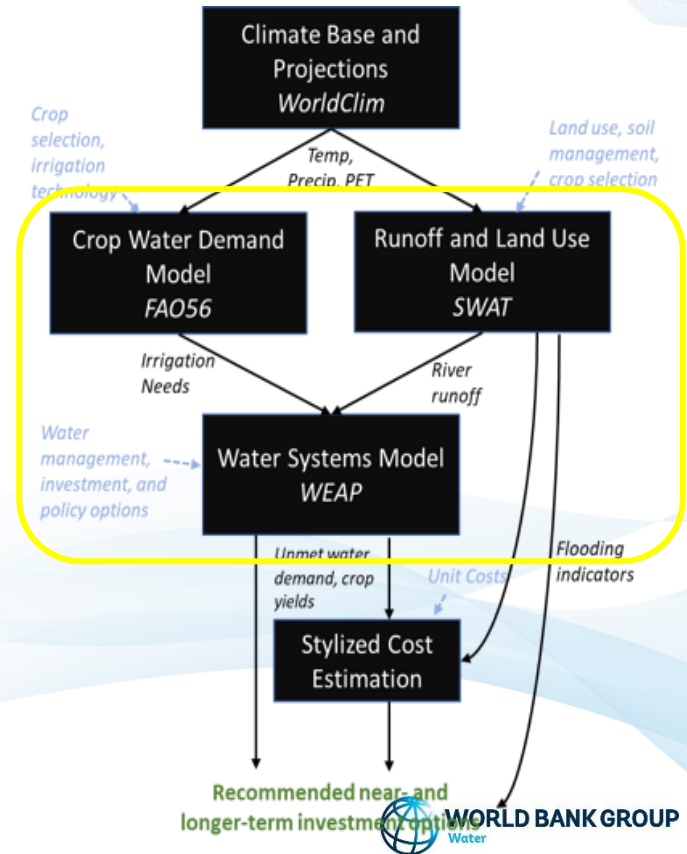
Biophysical modeling

- 1 Step 1: Establish a climate base and projections
- 2 Step 2: Model water resources vulnerability
- 3 Step 3: Evaluate the cost and benefits of interventions
- 4 Step 4: Perform a climate stress-test on potential interventions (repeat step 3 with selected scenarios)
- 5 Step 5: Develop a shortlist of promising water security options

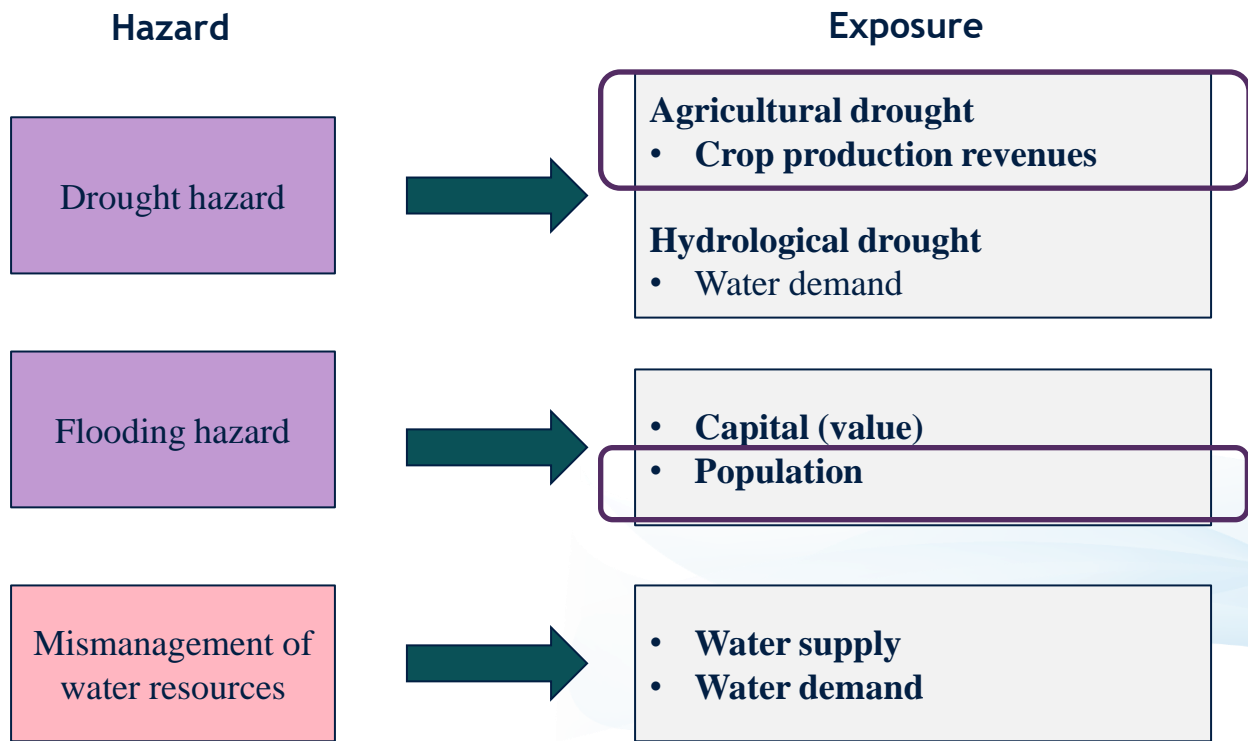


Water Security Assessment: Biophysical Models

- Biophysical models translate climate inputs from Step 1 into metrics describing the state of water resources
 - *Soil Water Assessment Tool (SWAT)*: A rainfall runoff model
 - *FAO 56*: An irrigation water demand model
 - *Water Evaluation and Planning (WEAP)*: A water balance model
- Using these three models we calculate two indicators of water availability to assess water vulnerability
 1. Reliability (proportion of years at least 95% of water demands were met)
 2. Average percentage of unmet water demand



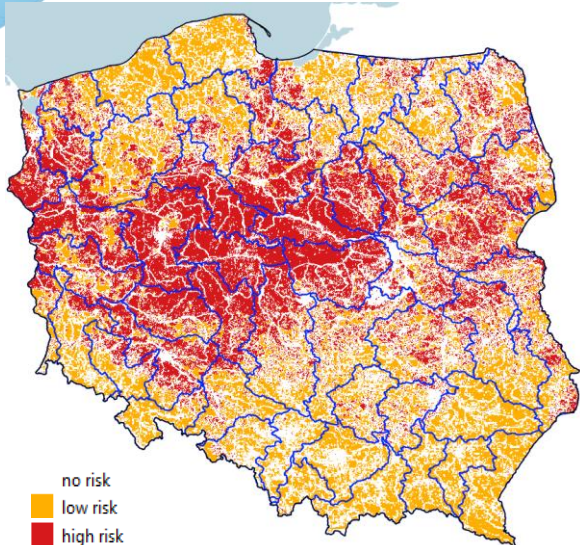
Vulnerability analysis



Agricultural drought vulnerability

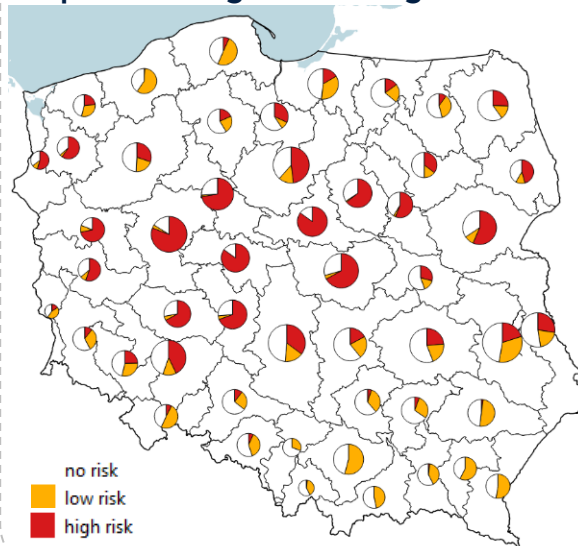
Hazard:

Agricultural drought risk

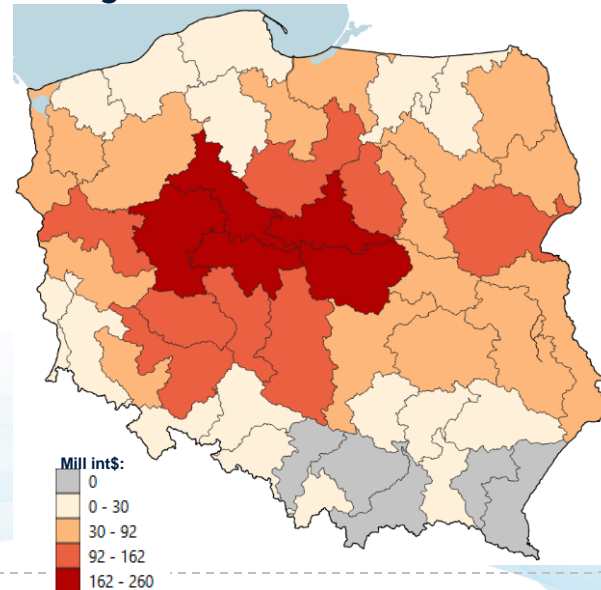


Vulnerability:

Share of agricultural revenues exposed to high/low drought risk



Production value (\$) exposed to high drought risk



Sources:

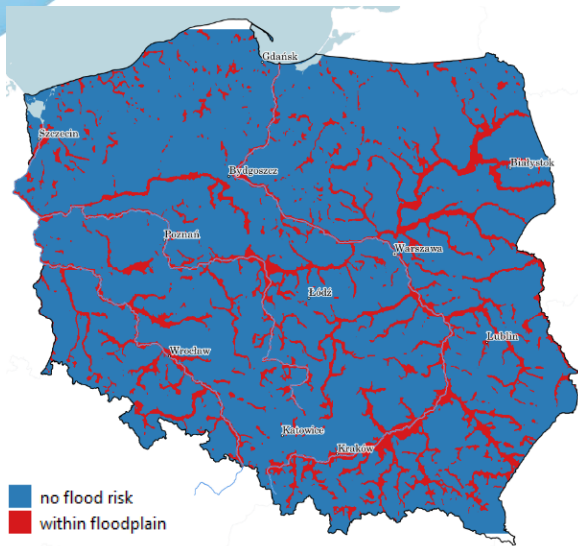
- Wody Polskie, Drought Effects Counteracting Plan (2020)
- FAO, Gridded Agricultural Revenues (2010)

\$int: international dollar, considering power purchasing parity adjustment

Flood vulnerability

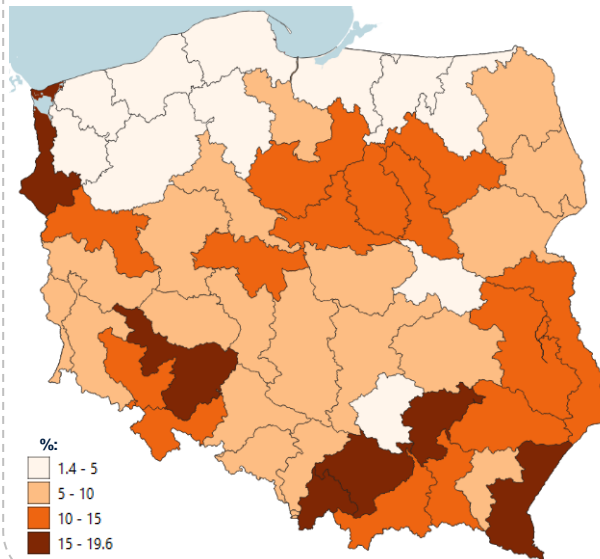
Hazard:

Riverine flooding

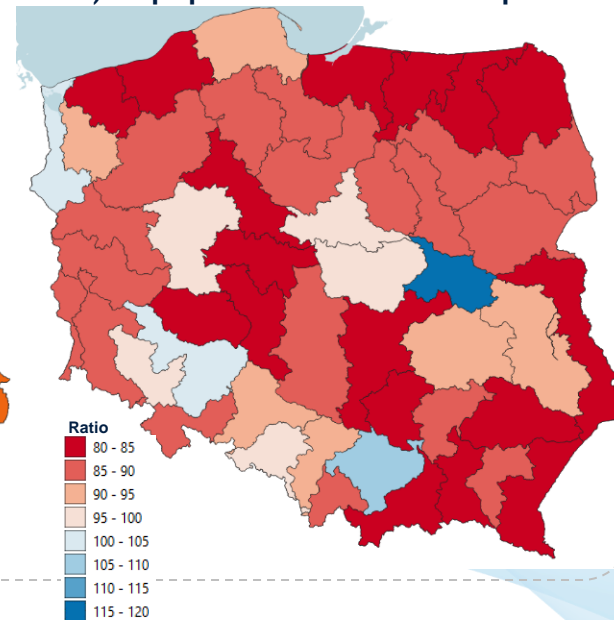


Vulnerability:

Share of population within floodplain



Mean wage (as ratio over median = 100) of population within floodplain



Sources:

- Wody Polskie, *Flood Hazard Maps (2019)*
- GUS, *Population & asset value by gmina (2021)*

Index

1. Overview

2. Analytical approach

3. Vulnerability analysis

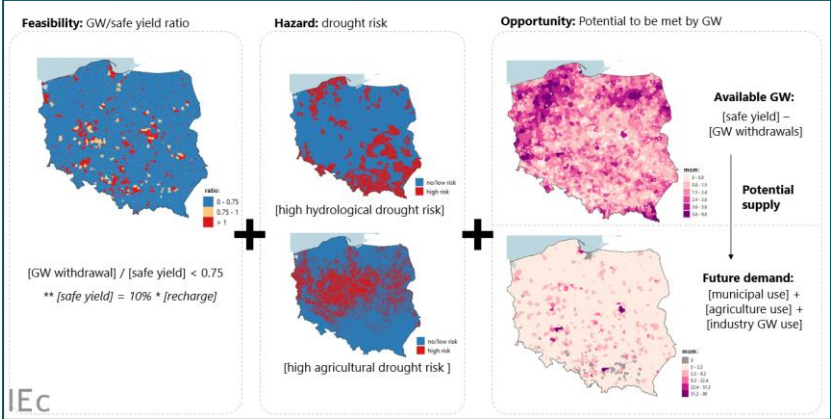
4. Intervention stoplight assessment

Water security interventions

#	Theme	Intervention
A	Improve groundwater management	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Increase sustainable extraction2. Artificial recharge
B	Enhance soil water management and irrigation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Increase irrigation2. Agronomic practices (i.e., drought-tolerant crops, soil management)
C	Expand surface water storage	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Large-scale storage2. Small-scale (engineered) storage3. Nature-based storage
D	Implement green urban flooding solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nature-based solutions & river channel systems
E	Improve water demand management	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Convert coal-fired powerplants to dry cooling (or other energy sources)2. Water conservation and reuse practices
F	Water supply, sewage, and treatment	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improve WSS infrastructure2. Enhance capacities of local utilities

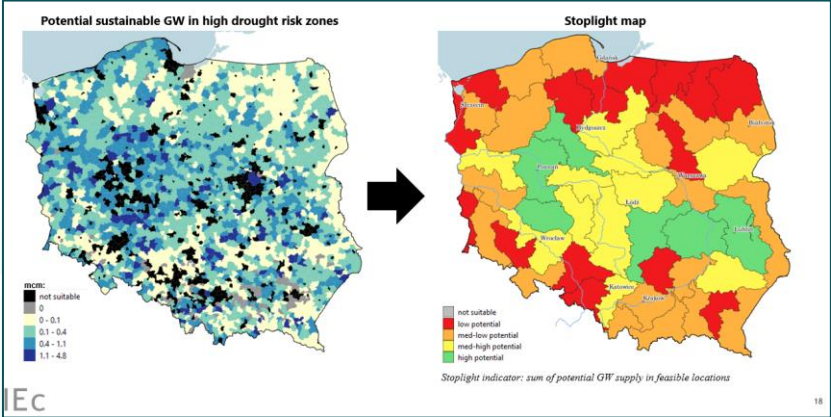
For each intervention, 2 slides

Slide 1: Variables and maps used for evaluating feasibility, hazard, and opportunity (as applicable)



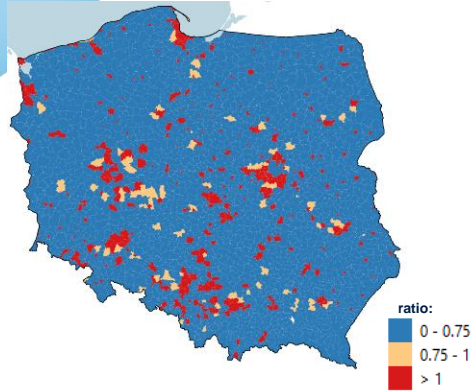
Slide 2: intermediate result at highest available resolution

resulting stoplight map aggregated at 50 catchments



a1. Increase sustainable groundwater withdrawals

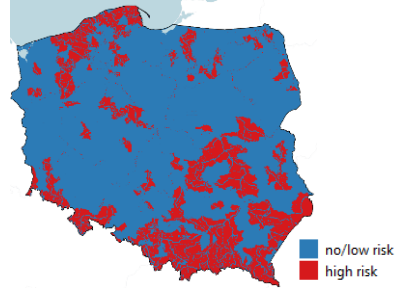
Feasibility: GW/safe yield ratio



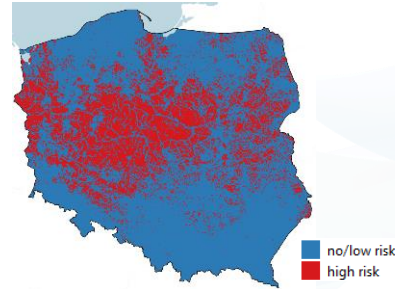
$[GW \text{ withdrawal}] / [safe \text{ yield}] < 0.75$

** $[safe \text{ yield}] = 10\% * [recharge]$

Hazard: drought risk

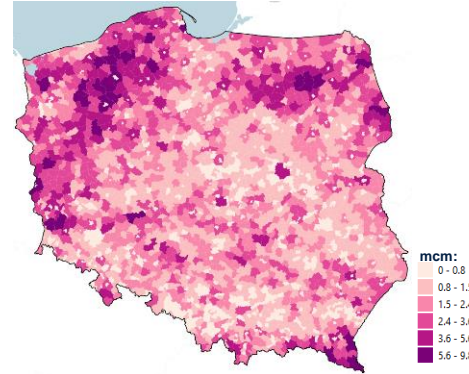


[high hydrological drought risk]



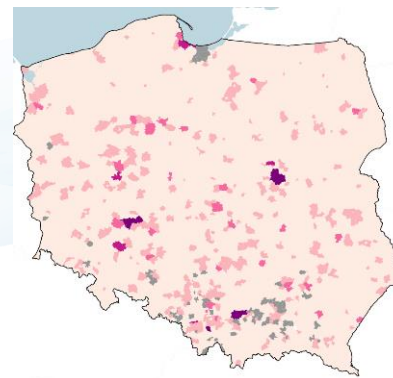
[high agricultural drought risk]

Opportunity: Potential to be met by GW



Available GW:
 [safe yield] –
 [GW withdrawals]

Potential
 supply



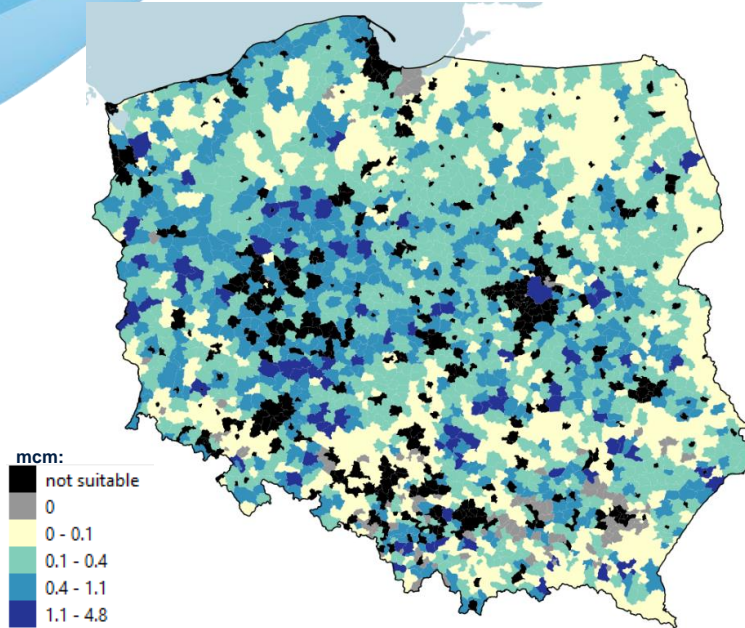
Future demand:
 [municipal use] +
 [agriculture use]
 +
 [industry GW
 use]

RLD BANK GROUP

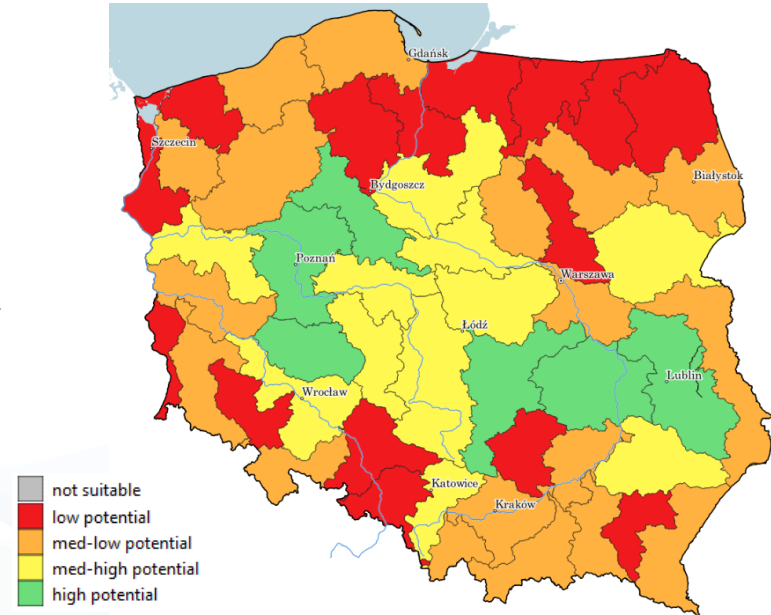


a1. Increase sustainable groundwater withdrawals

Potential sustainable GW in high drought risk zones



Stoplight indicator: sum of potential GW supply in feasible locations

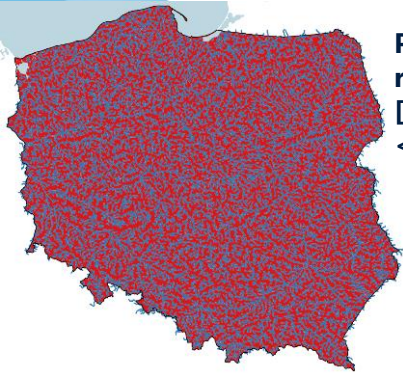


Takeaways / discussion points:

- At a catchment scale, there is some suitability everywhere, even considering a conservative safe yield. However, there is high heterogeneity at gmina level.
- Highest potential in central catchments along the Warta and Wisla
- Limited potential in the Odra and coastal catchments

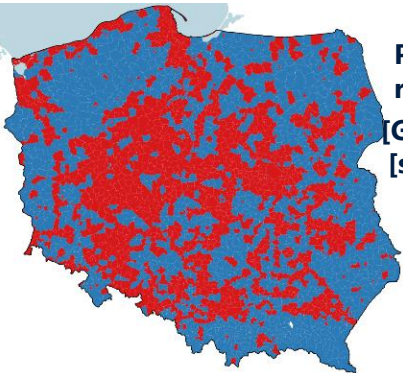
b1. Increase irrigation

Feasibility:



Potential SW resources
[distance to stream] < 1km

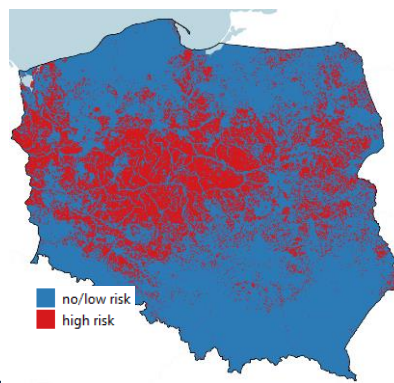
Distance to stream:
■ > 1km
■ < 1km



Potential GW resources
[GW withdrawal] / [safe yield] < 0.25

%:
■ < 0.25
■ > 0.25

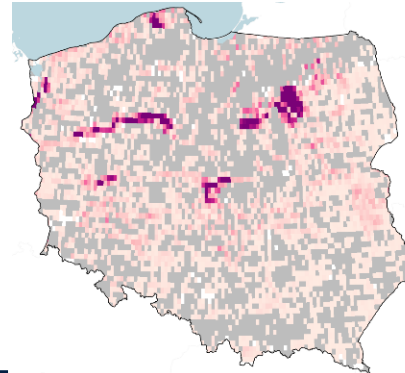
Hazard: drought risk



[high agricultural drought risk]

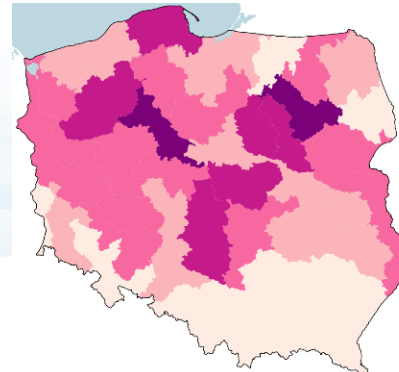
■ no/low risk
■ high risk

Opportunity: \$ return per drop of water



Value within feasible/risk areas:
[value of irrigated production]

Int\$:
■ 0
■ 1
■ 186595
■ 373189
■ 559784
■ 746378



Potential irrigation demand:
[irrigation water demand]

mcm:
■ 4 - 95
■ 95 - 241
■ 241 - 485
■ 485 - 1472
■ 1472 - 2265

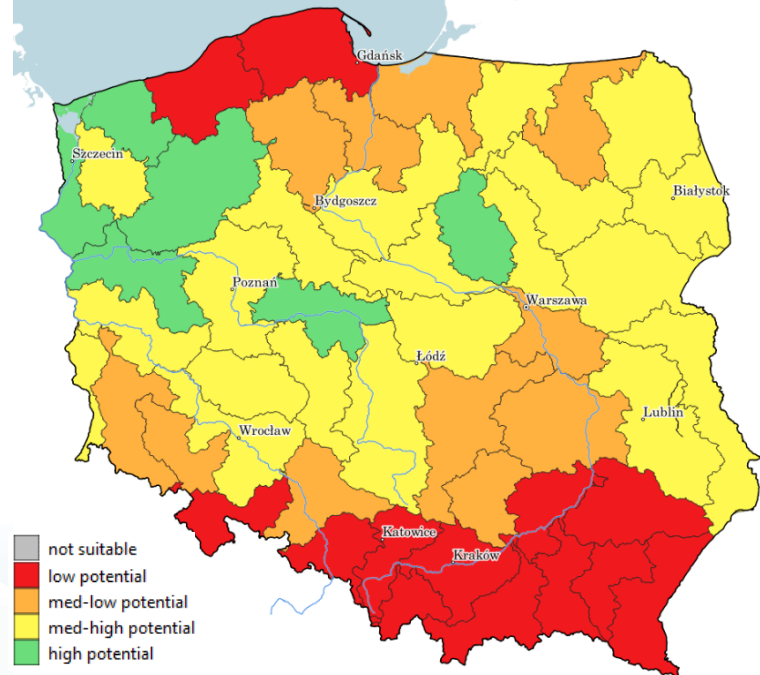
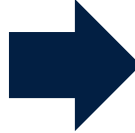
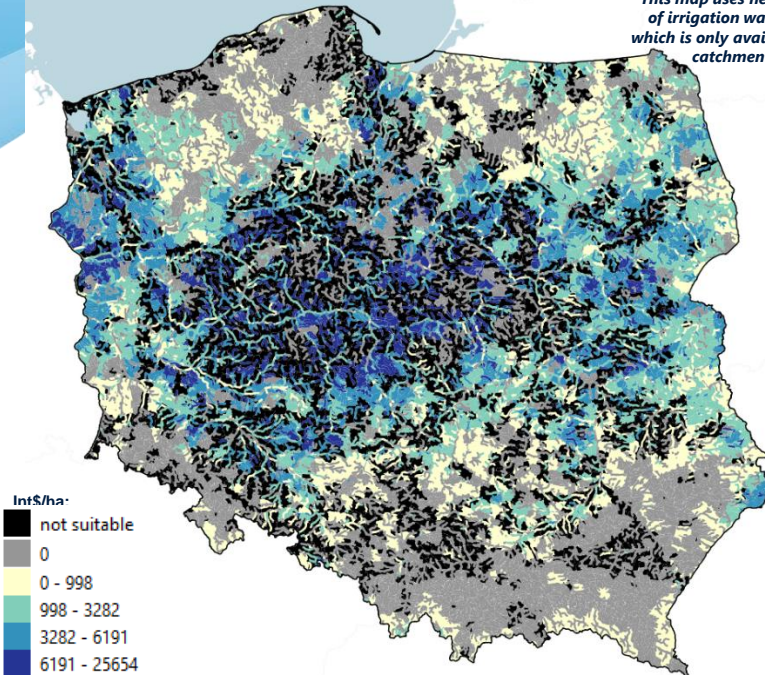
b1. Increase irrigation

Stoplight indicator: sum of value (\$) per sum of m³ of water for irrigated crops

Value per hectare of irrigated crops within feasible areas*

*This map uses hectares instead of irrigation water demand, which is only available at the 50 catchment scale

Stoplight map



Sint:
international
dollar,
considering
power
purchasing
parity
adjustment

Takeaways / discussion points:

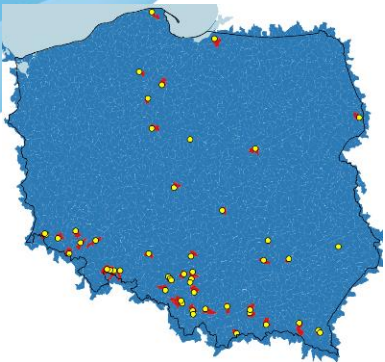
- Highest potential along the lower Odra and Warta catchments, where agriculture is concentrated.
- Low potential in southern Poland due to lack of

agricultural drought hazard and lower agricultural value.

- Analysis does not consider how increased irrigation could impact other uses.

c1. Large-scale storage

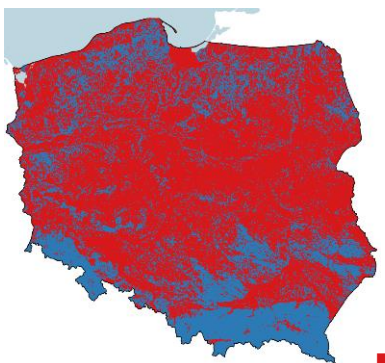
Feasibility:



No existing dam in catchment

[level 12 catchment]

● Existing dams
■ no dam
■ existing dam

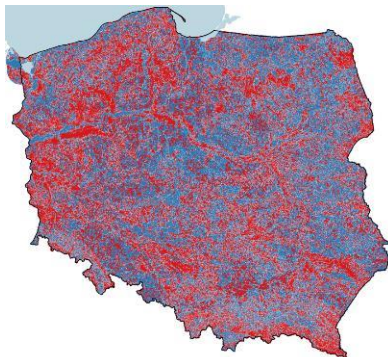


Slope

[max slope] > 1

%:
■ ≤ 1
■ > 1

Available land uses

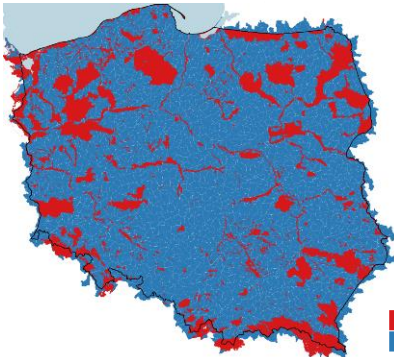


[no urban / forest OR dense agriculture]

■ cropland
■ other
■ forest
■ urban

% cultivate
■ ≤ 95
■ > 95

No Natura2000 protected land



[no protected area]

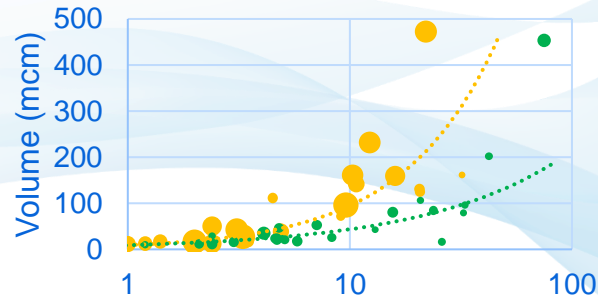
■ Natura 2000 site
■ other

Opportunity: maximum storage potential

Potential volume per surface area:

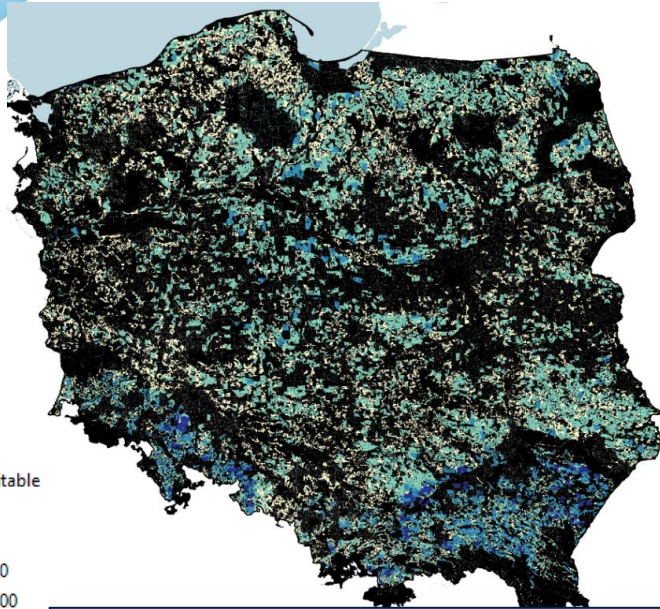


■ Carpathians & Sudetes
■ Uplands & lowlands

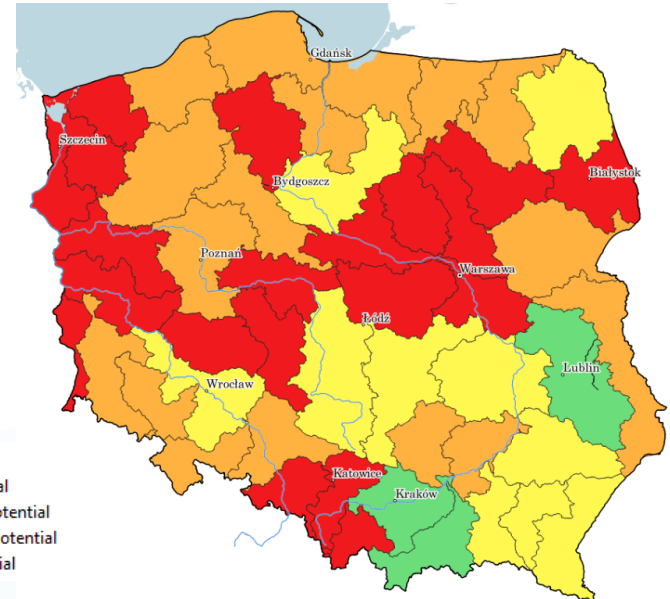


c1. Large-scale storage

Potential storage volume from large-scale reservoirs in available land



Stoplight indicator: sum potential volume from available land



Takeaways / discussion points:

- High storage potential in the upper Wisla catchments, which could contribute to flood control / improved water supply downstream.

- Potential is highly localized, with a high degree of spatial heterogeneity

Summary and Conclusions

Our analysis has highlighted four areas where urgent action is needed:

- 1. Infrastructure:** Increasing the availability and reliability of water resources will require a combination of storage and conveyance infrastructure investments
- 2. Innovation:** Nature-based solutions for flood control should be piloted in areas where high economic gains could be obtained; New data-science techniques (particularly on drought management); Circular economy approaches to be more efficient.
- 3. Information:** The enhancing and refinement of all data sources (including water quality) across all government agencies is an easy win.
- 4. Institutions:** To achieve potential increases in irrigation, further coordination between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Polish Waters, and other water-related ministries will be necessary.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



www.worldbank.org/water | www.blogs.worldbank.org/water |  [@WorldBankWater](https://twitter.com/WorldBankWater)

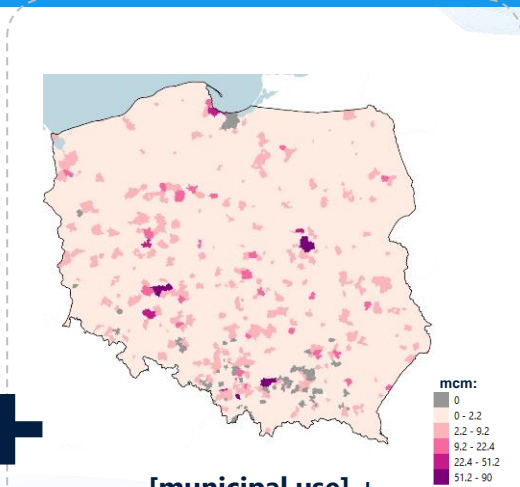
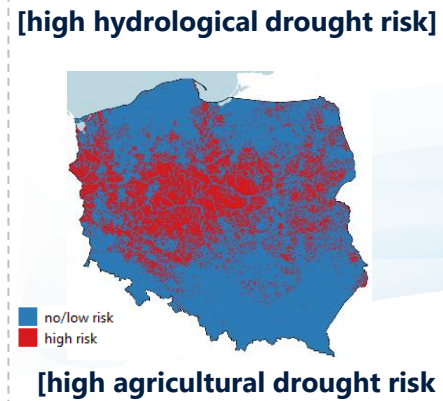
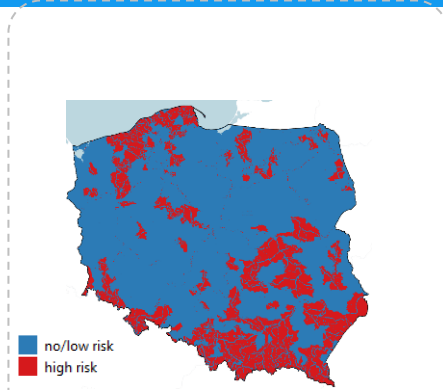
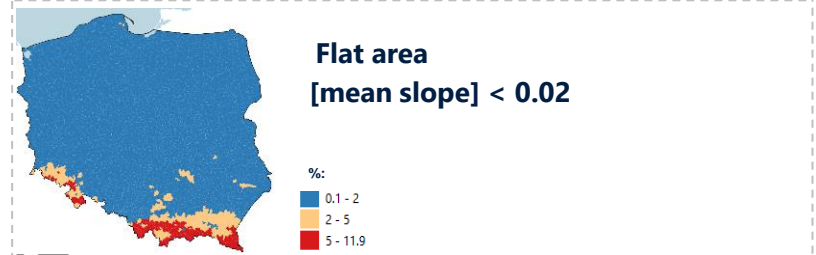
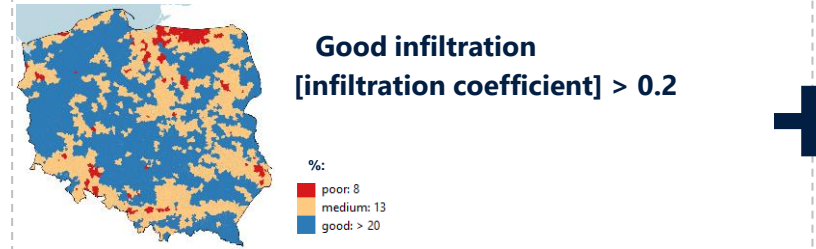
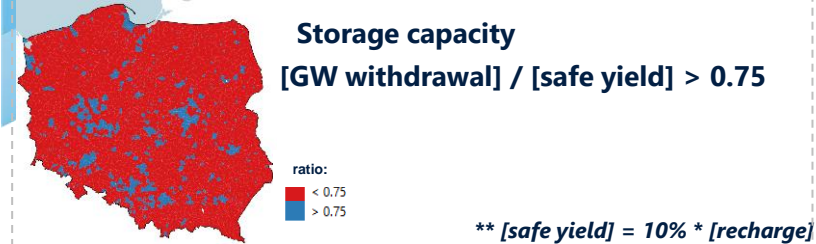
ANNEX

a2. Artificial groundwater recharge

Feasibility:

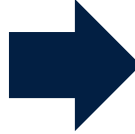
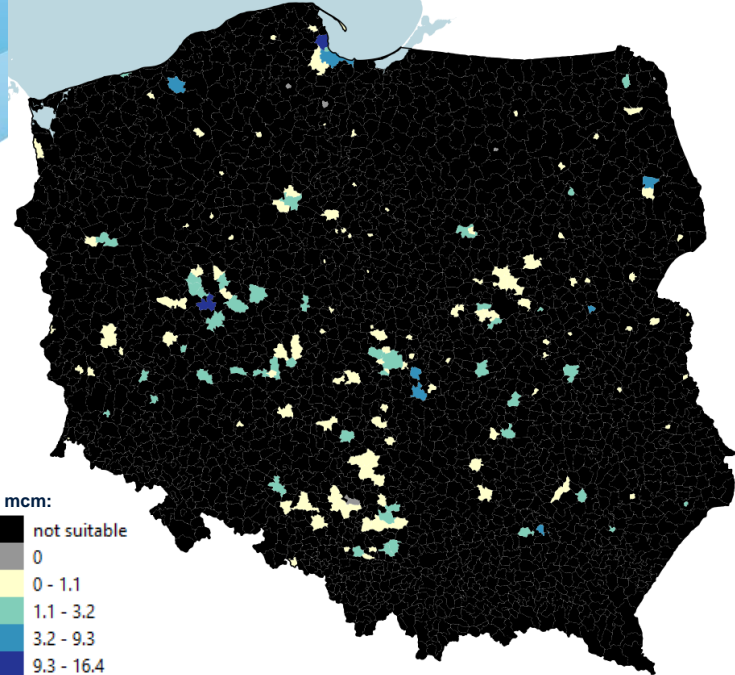
Hazard: drought risk

Opportunity: Potential GW demand

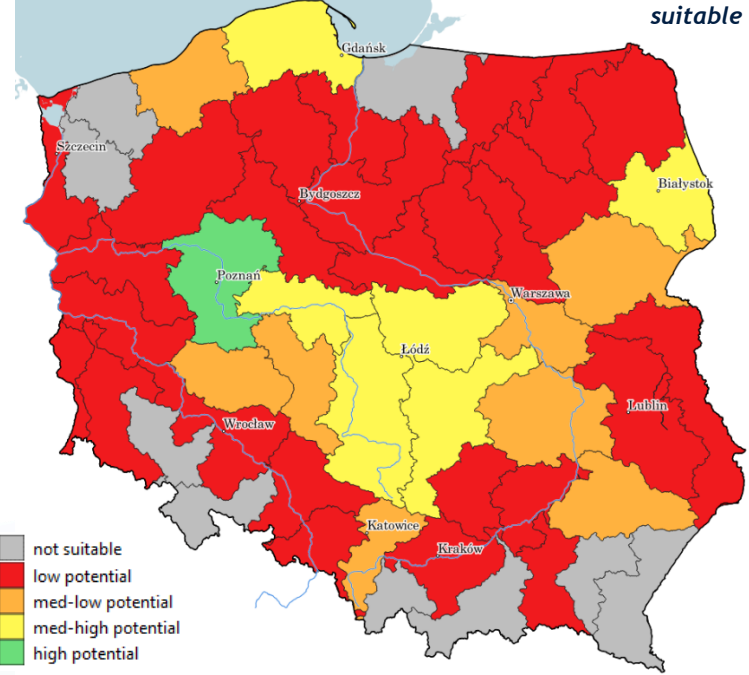


a2. Artificial groundwater recharge

Potential GW demand in areas suitable for artificial recharge



Stoplight map



Stoplight indicator: sum of potential GW demand in suitable areas

Takeaways / discussion points:

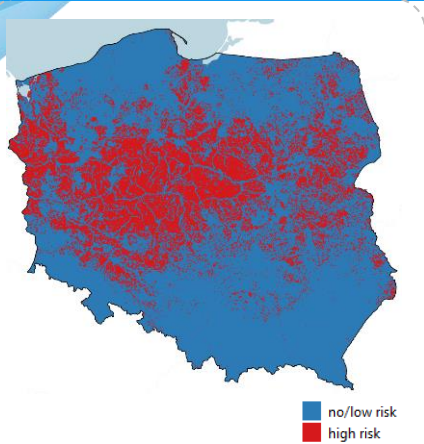
- Limited suitability across the country primarily due to limited storage volume (from low withdrawals from
- Solution more appropriate for targeted locations with

high withdrawals.

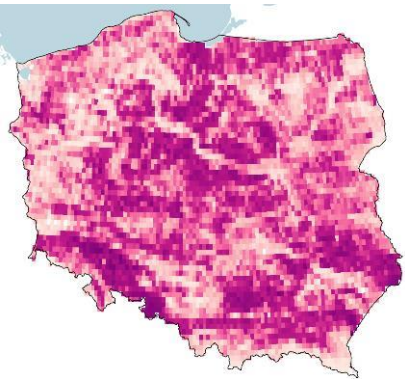
b2. Drought-tolerant crops & land management practices

Hazard: drought risk

Opportunity: \$ return per drop of water

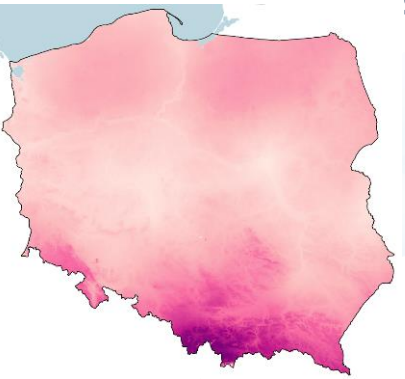


[high agricultural drought risk]



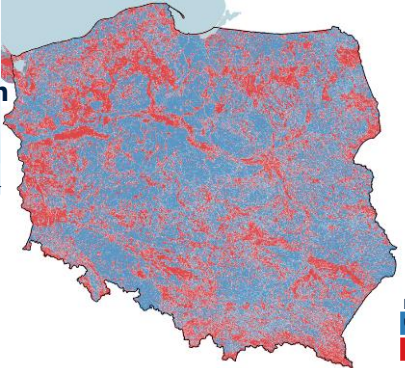
Value within risk areas:
[value of production]

1000 Int\$:
1060
1638
2201
3774



Summer crop water need:
[actual evapotranspiration during J-J-A]

mm:
200
237
273
310
346

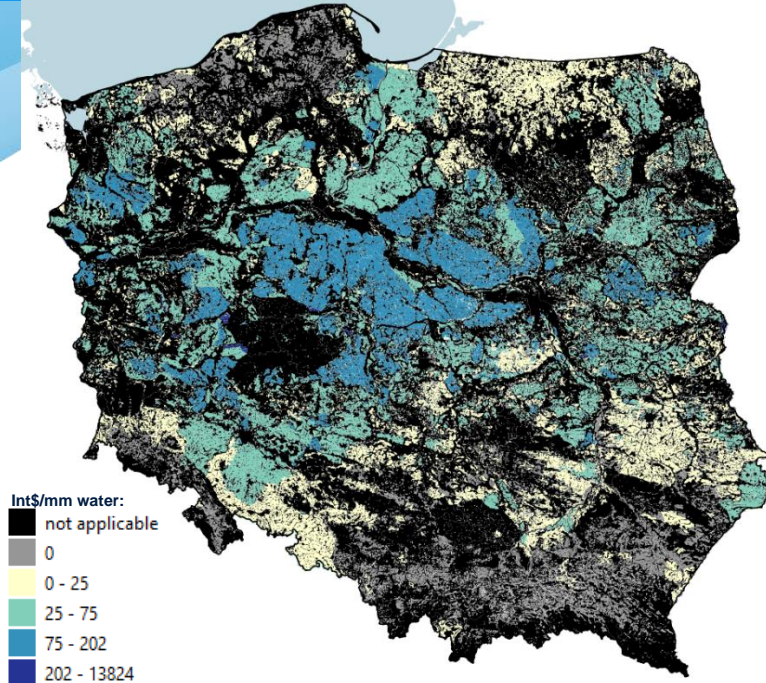


[within cropland]

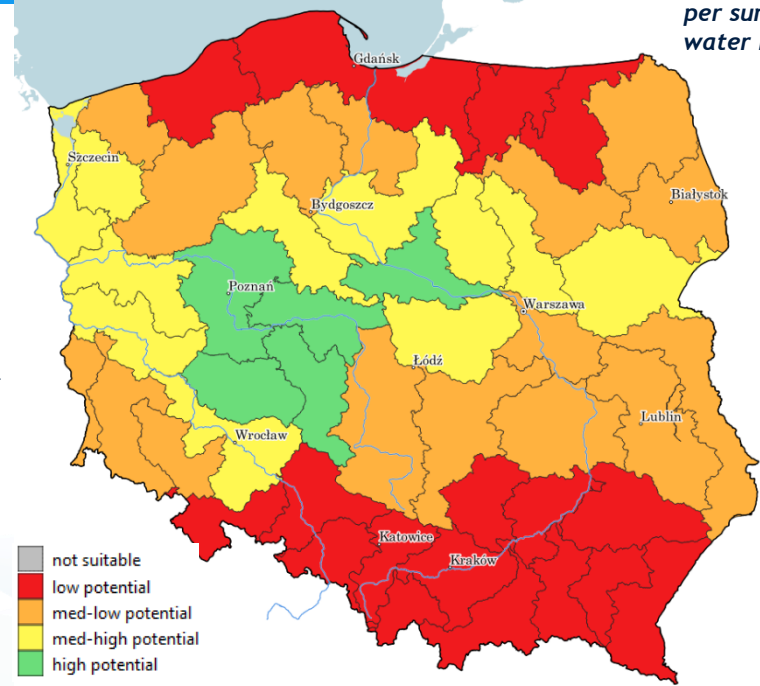
Land
blue: cropland
red: other

b2. Drought-tolerant crops & land management practices

Value per summer crop water need in drought zones



Stoplight map



Stoplight indicator:
sum of value (\$) per sum of summer water need (mm)

Takeaways / discussion points:

- Maps indicate where reducing crop water requirements (period of high water requirement and prone to drought) could save the highest \$ value of crop

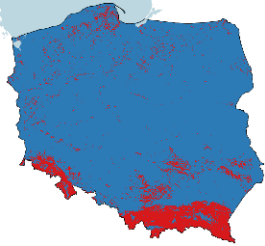
production.

- Solutions could consider reducing sensitivity to shortages (e.g., drought-tolerant crop, reducing demand) or improving soil moisture (i.e., supply).

c2. Small-scale (engineered) storage

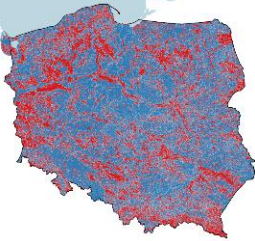
Feasibility:

Flat slope
[slope] < 2



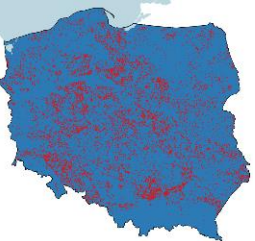
%.
■ ≤ 2
■ > 2

Available land to inundate
[no urban or forest land]



■ cropland
■ other
■ forest
■ urban

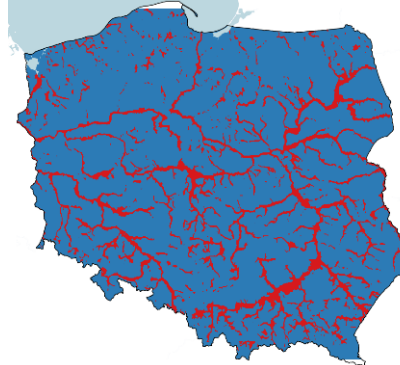
[no dense agricultural land]



% cultivated:
■ ≤ 95
■ > 95

Hazard: flood risk

Floodplain

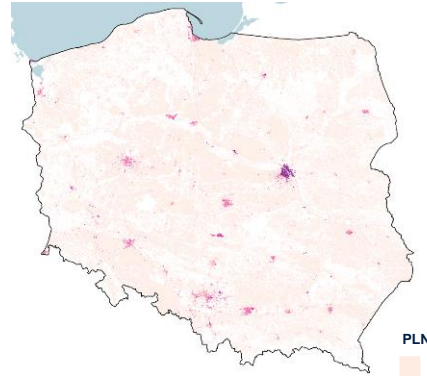


■ no flood risk
■ within floodplain

[within floodplain boundary]

Opportunity: capital within floodplain

Total value of capital per area



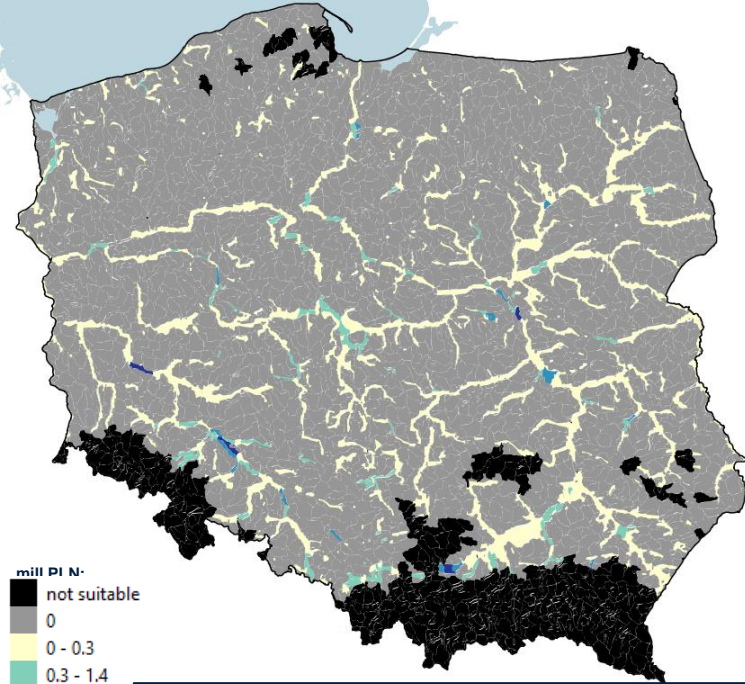
PLN mil/ km²
■ 0 - 0.05
■ 0.05 - 0.1
■ 0.1 - 0.5
■ 0.5 - 1
■ 1 - 100

[industry capital] +
[services capital] +
[agriculture capital]



c2. Small-scale (engineered) storage

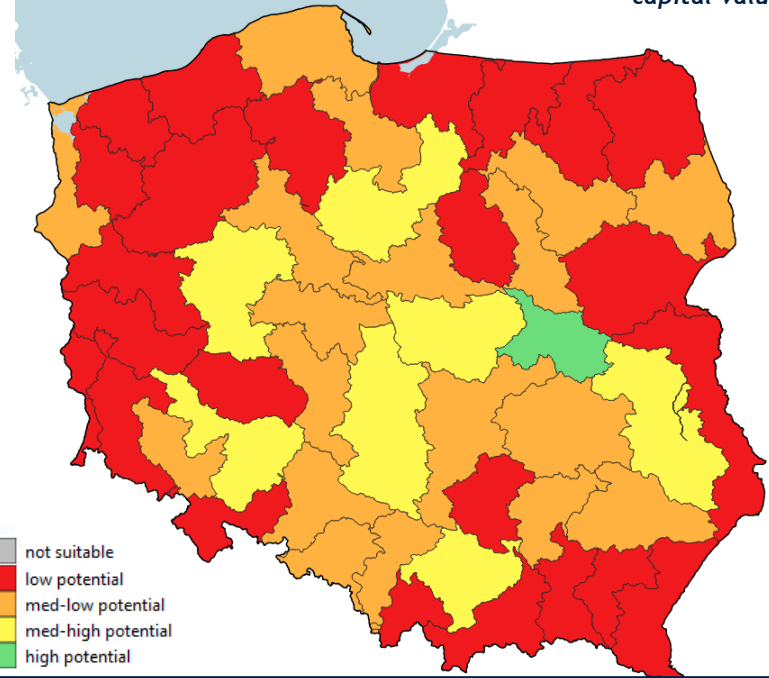
Value of capital within floodplain of feasible catchments



mill PI N

- not suitable
- 0
- 0 - 0.3
- 0.3 - 1.4
- 1.4 - 3.8
- 3.8 - 5.9

Stoplight map



not suitable
low potential
med-low potential
med-high potential
high potential

Stoplight indicator:
sum of exposed
capital value

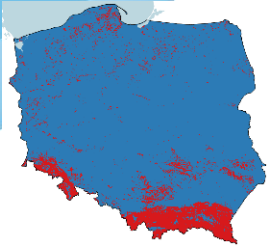
Takeaways / discussion points:

- Highest value of capital exposed concentrated in large cities, particularly Warsaw.
- Intervention is feasible in most catchments except for

southern mountains. However, local availability of land to inundate should be considered.

c3. Nature-based storage

Feasibility:

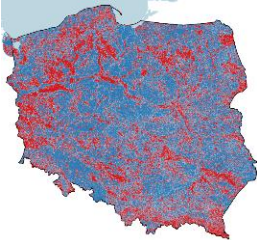


Flat slope
[slope] < 2

%.
■ <= 2
■ > 2



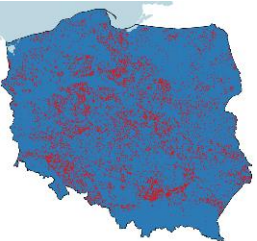
Clay soils
[share of clay] > 15%



Available land to inundate

[no urban or forest land] + [wetlands]

■ forest
■ urban
■ wetlands
■ cropland
■ other

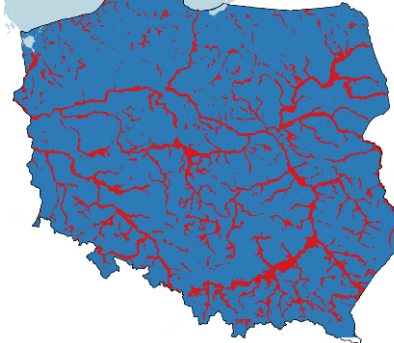


[no dense agricultural land]

% cultivated:
■ <= 95
■ > 95

Hazard: flood risk

Floodplain

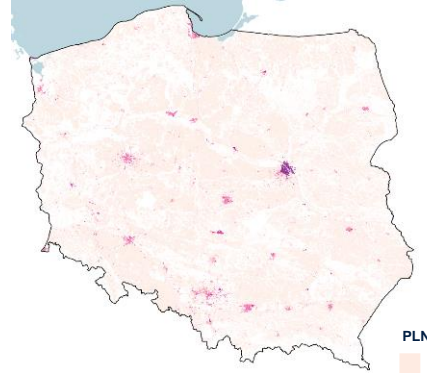


■ no flood risk
■ within floodplain

[within floodplain boundary]

Opportunity: capital within floodplain

Total value of capital per area



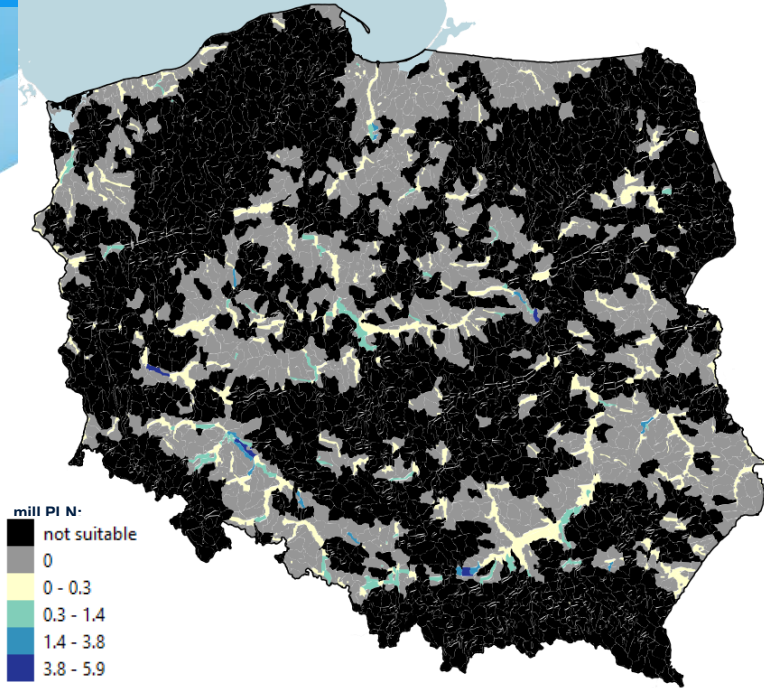
PLN mil/ km²
 0 - 0.05
 0.05 - 0.1
 0.1 - 0.5
 0.5 - 1
 1 - 100

**[industry capital] +
[services capital] +
[agriculture capital]**

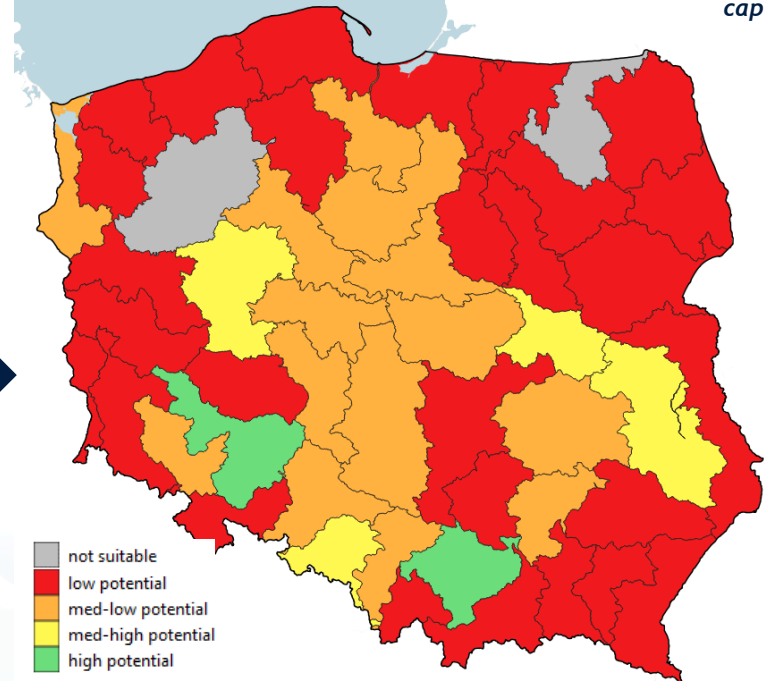


c3. Nature-based storage

Value of capital within floodplain of feasible catchments



Stoplight map



Stoplight indicator: sum of exposed capital value

Takeaways / discussion points:

- Green storage options more limited than artificial, to areas with enough clay content.
- Due to high value of exposed capital, highest potential

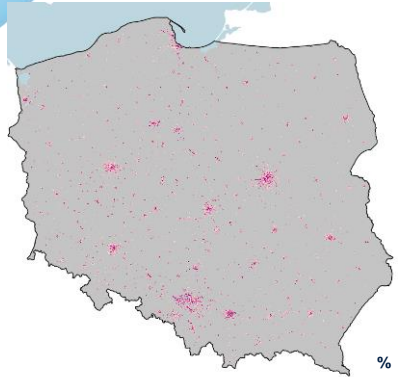
located around Wroclaw and Krakow.

d1. Green urban flooding solutions

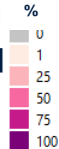
Hazard: pluvial flood risk

Opportunity: capital value in urban areas

Drainage capacity in urban areas



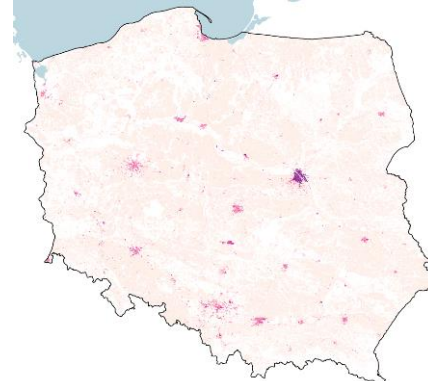
[% of impervious land]



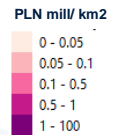
Land use



Total value of capital per area

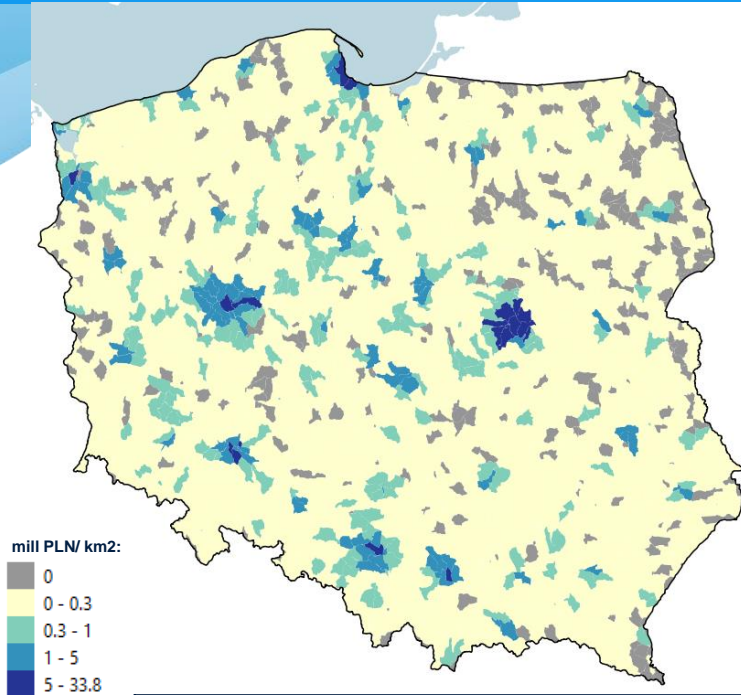


[\$ per area]

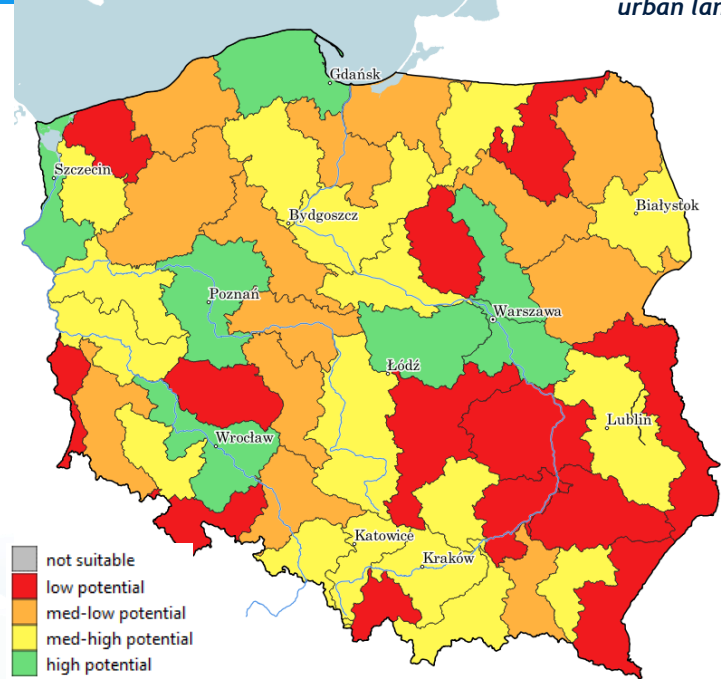


d1. Green urban flooding solutions

Value of capital per impervious urban land area



Stoplight map



Stoplight indicator:
average capital value
per km² of impervious
urban land

Takeaways / discussion points:

- All urbanized areas of Poland are considered exposed to urban (pluvial) flooding.
- Green solutions are feasible in any location, but at a local

scale, land uses and values may pose trade-offs. This is not captured in this analysis. Highest potential is in largest, where there is a high concentration of capital.

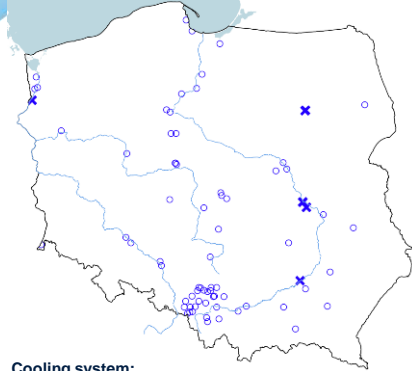
e1. Convert coal-fired power plants to dry cooling

Feasibility: water cooling plants

Hazard: drought

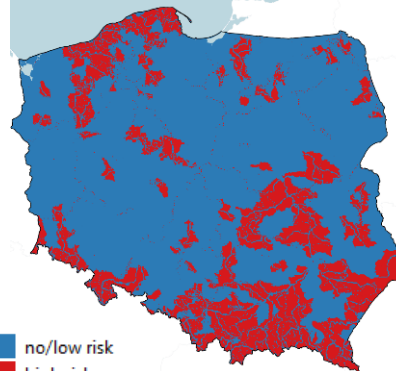
Opportunity: generation (MWh) cooling water requirement

Location of coal-fired power plants



Cooling system:
○ closed
✕ open

High hydrological drought hazard



■ no/low risk
■ high risk

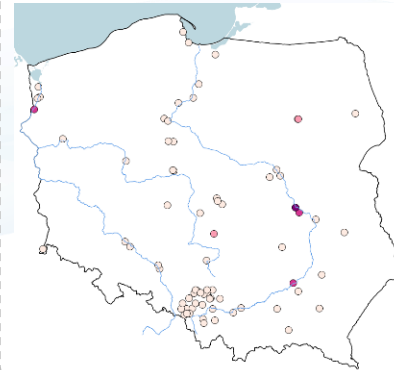
[drought hazard level]

Energy generation per plant [MWh]



MWh/year:
○ 0 - 1.1
○ 1.1 - 2.9
○ 2.9 - 11.1
○ 11.1 - 22.7

Cooling water consumption per plant [mcm]



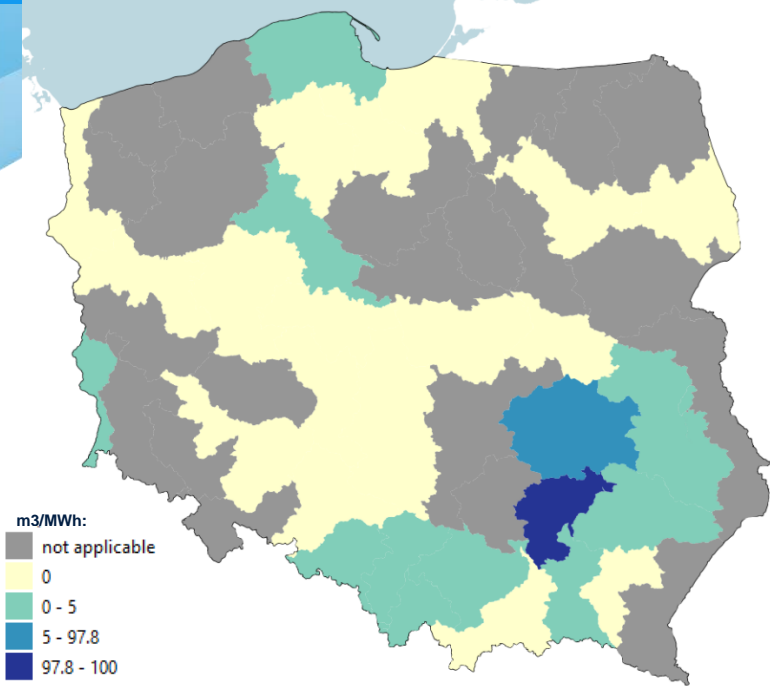
mcm:
○ 0 - 37
○ 37 - 283
○ 283 - 674
○ 674 - 1110

LD BANK GROUP

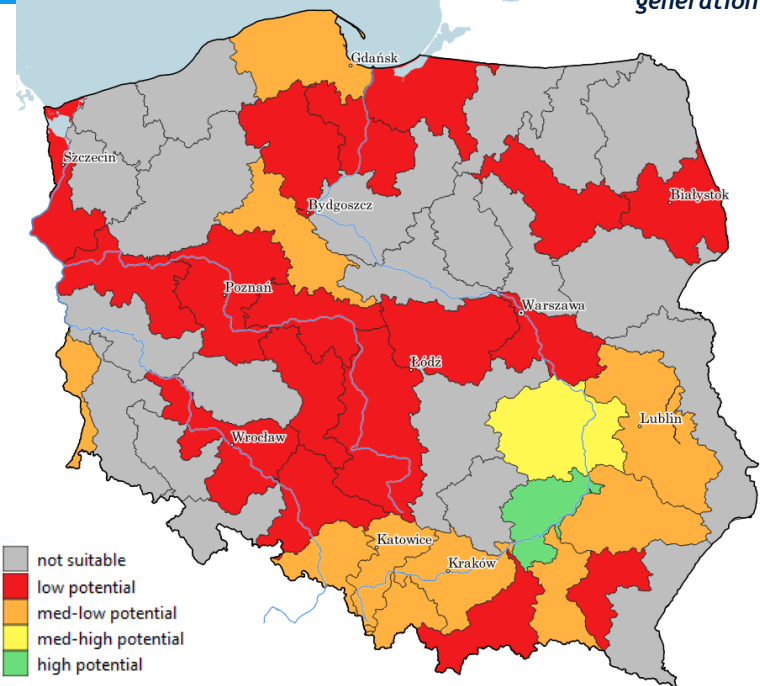
e1. Convert coal-fired power plants to dry cooling

*Stoplight indicator:
sum of m³ of cooling
water per MWh of
generation*

Cubic meter of cooling water per MWh generated



Stoplight map



Takeaways / discussion points:

- Conversion of thermal cooling could consider more water-efficient system, as well as development of other source that do not require (as much) water cooling.

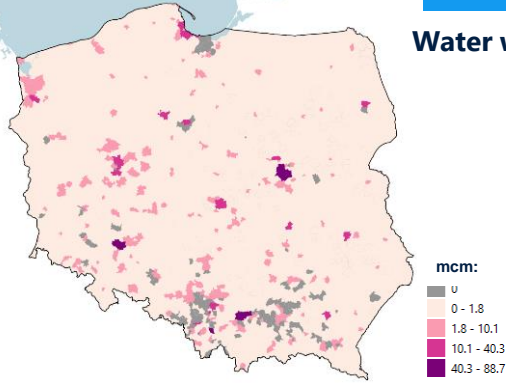
- Potential is limited to the specific location of power plants with open cooling, in the middle-upper Wisła

e2. Water conservation & reuse practices

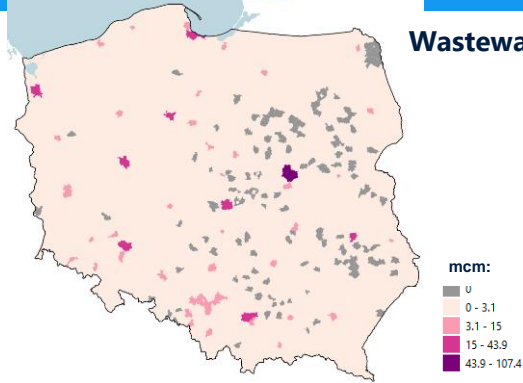
Opportunity: share of withdrawals discharged, by sector

Municipal

Water withdrawals

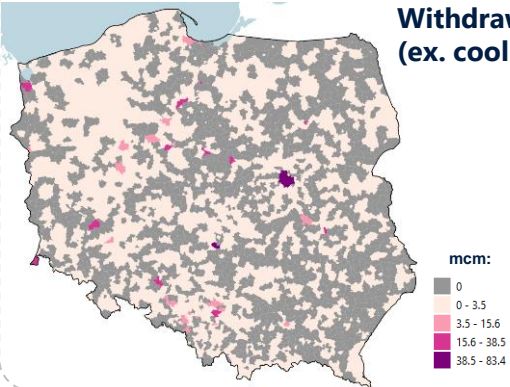


Wastewater discharge

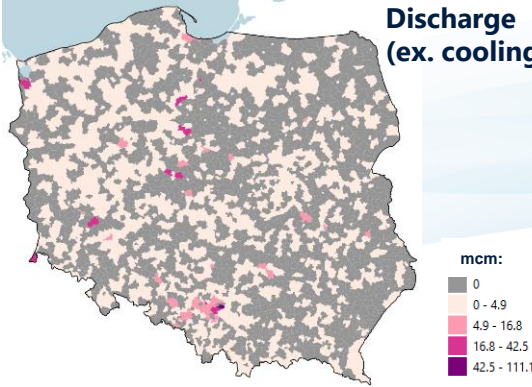


Industry

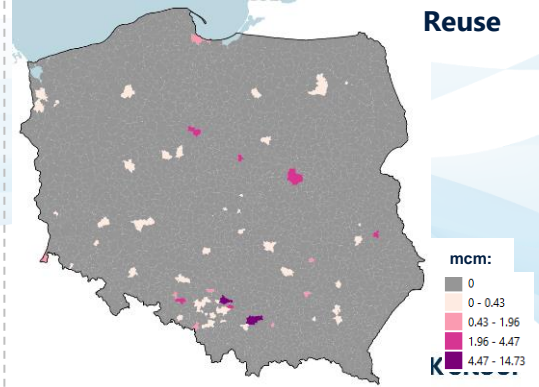
Withdrawals
(ex. cooling)



Discharge
(ex. cooling)

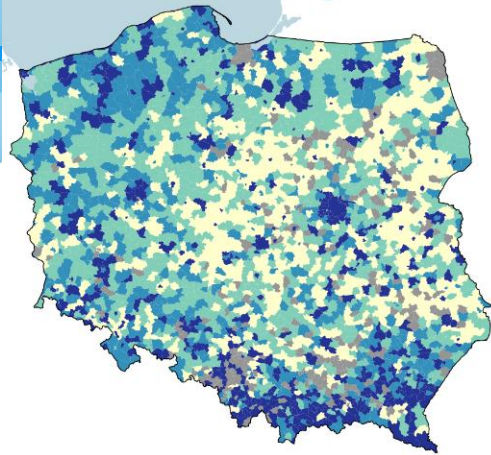


Reuse

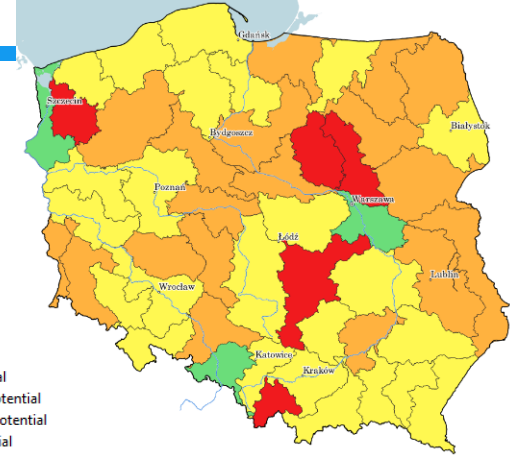
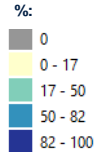


e2. Water conservation & reuse practices

Municipal

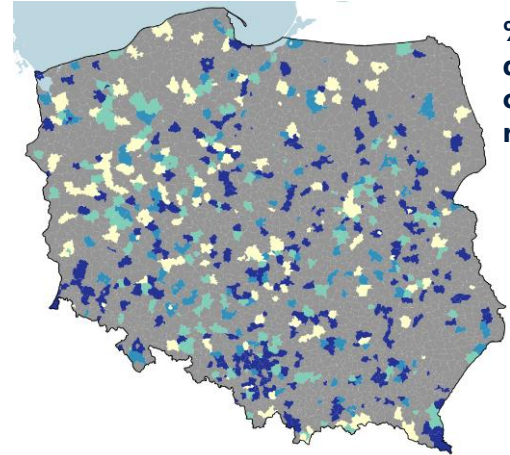


% of withdrawals discharged

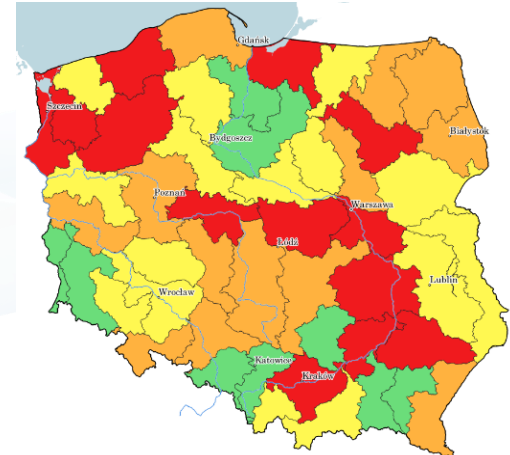
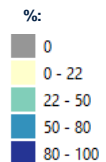


Stoplight indicator: mean % of withdrawals discharged

Industry



% of withdrawals discharged, excluding cooling water and reuse



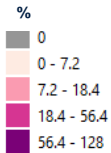
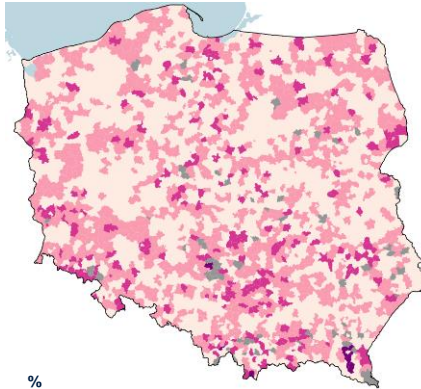
Takeaways / discussion points:

- Indicator represents where there is higher non-consumptive use of water, which could be conserved.
- In addition, it also indicates where there is more wastewater that could be reused.

f1. Improve quality of WSS infrastructure

Hazard: % of water supply lost

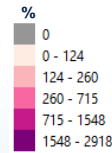
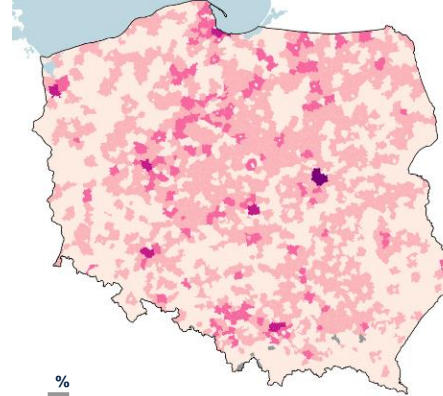
Proportion of water losses



[water losses] /
[water supplied]

Opportunity: losses per km

Water supply network length

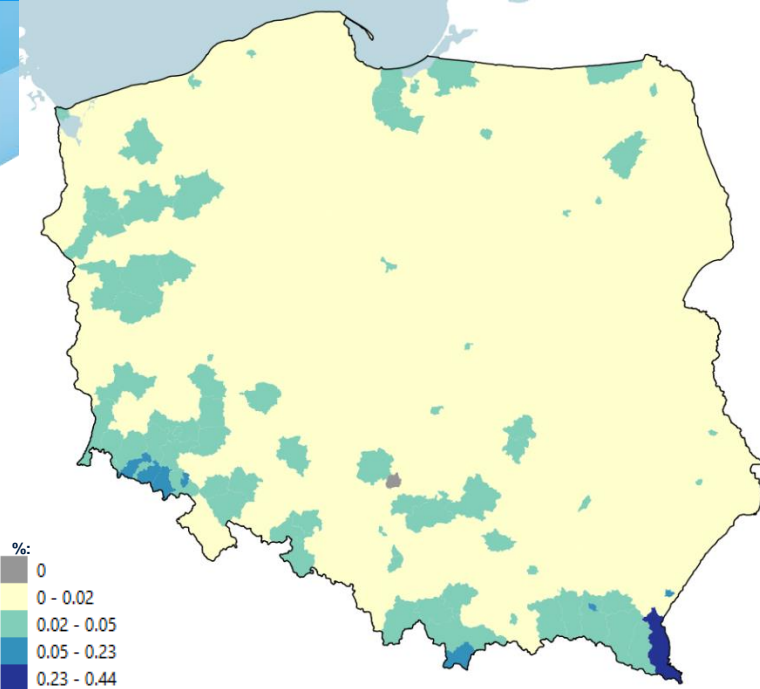


[kms]

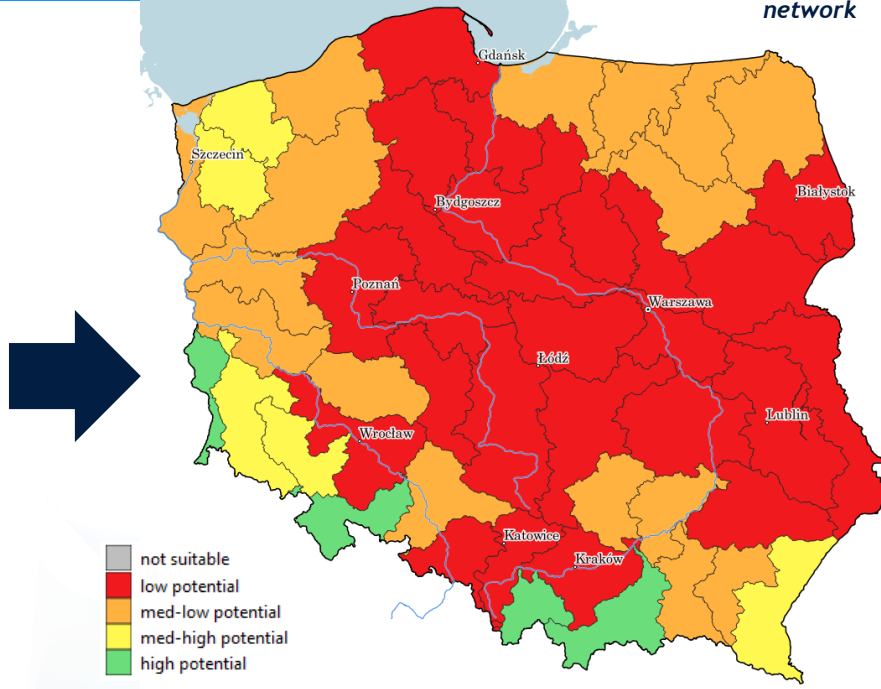


f1. Improve quality of WSS infrastructure

% of water lost per km of water supply network



Stoplight map



Stoplight indicator:
mean % of water lost
per km of supply
network

Takeaways / discussion points:

- Highest percent of leakage in the southern and western areas of Poland.
- Low potential does not indicate lack of need to improve

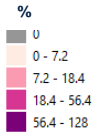
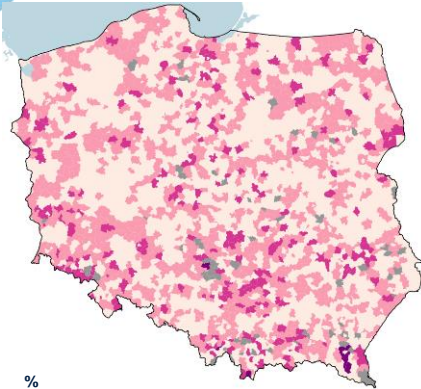
infrastructure, but rather a lower priority in terms of reducing water losses.

f2. Enhance capacities of utilities

Hazard: % of water supply lost

Opportunity: average per capita losses by utility

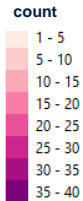
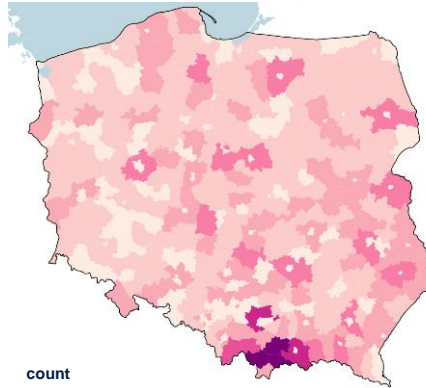
Proportion of water losses



[water losses] /
[water supplied]

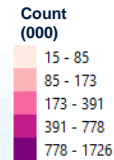
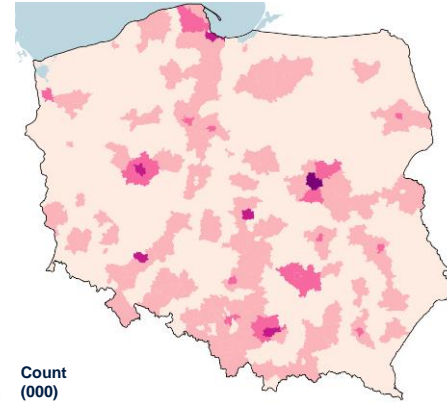


Utilities per powiat



[# of utilities]

Population served by public water supply



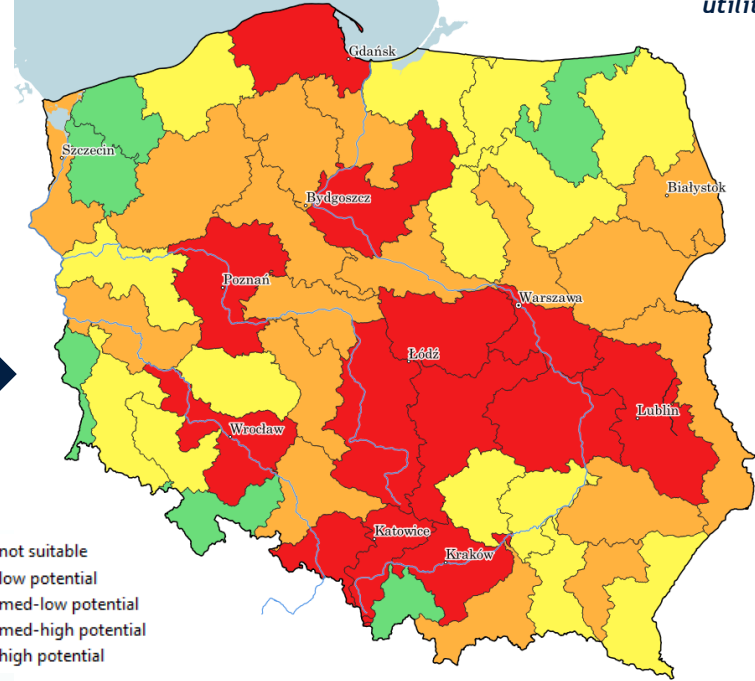
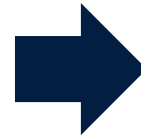
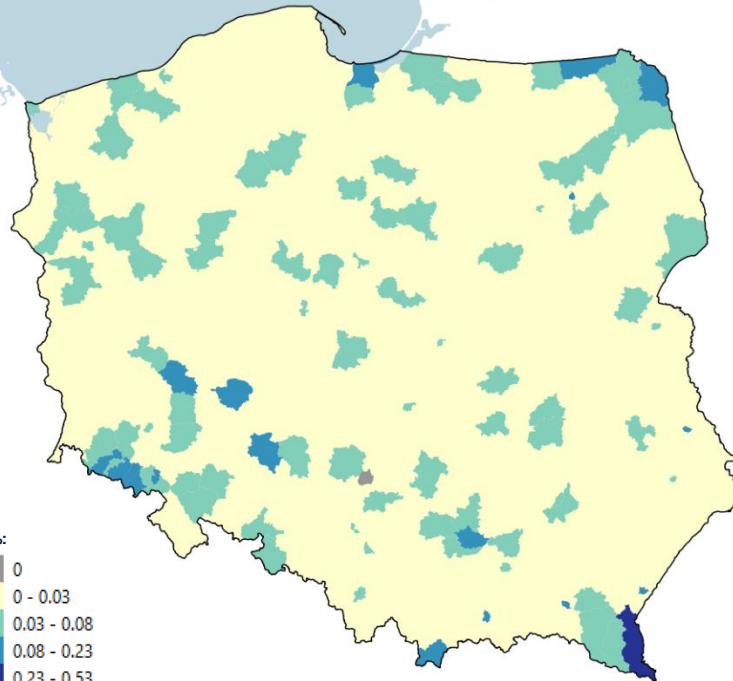
[# of people]

f2. Enhance capacities of utilities

Stoplight indicator: % of water lost per person served by utility

% of water that a utility loses per every 1,000 people served

Stoplight map



Takeaways / discussion points:

- Indicator represents where the improvement of the management capacity of a single utility could result in a higher amount of water savings.
- Highest water lost by utility per customer is generally located outside large cities.