

Practical information

Each example includes **key data**, such as the reduction in costs and emissions achieved. We also provide **take-away messages** for other municipalities and indicate a **contact person** for further information.



The handbook will be available in English and Polish from May 2015 on:

www.low-emission-project.pl

The handbook is a key product of the project “Exploring new opportunities for the Polish-German cooperation on low-emission strategies” and was jointly produced by KAPE and adelphi.

adelphi is a Berlin-based leading think tank for policy analysis and strategy consulting.

Contact: Franziska Schreiber

Phone: +49 (30) 89 000 68 - 498

schreiber@adelphi.de, www.adelphi.de



The **Polish National Energy Conservation Agency (KAPE)** offers services in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources for optimal energy efficient solutions.

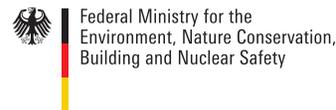
Contact: Karolina Loth-Babut

Phone: +48 22 626 09 10

kloth@kape.gov.pl, www.kape.gov.pl



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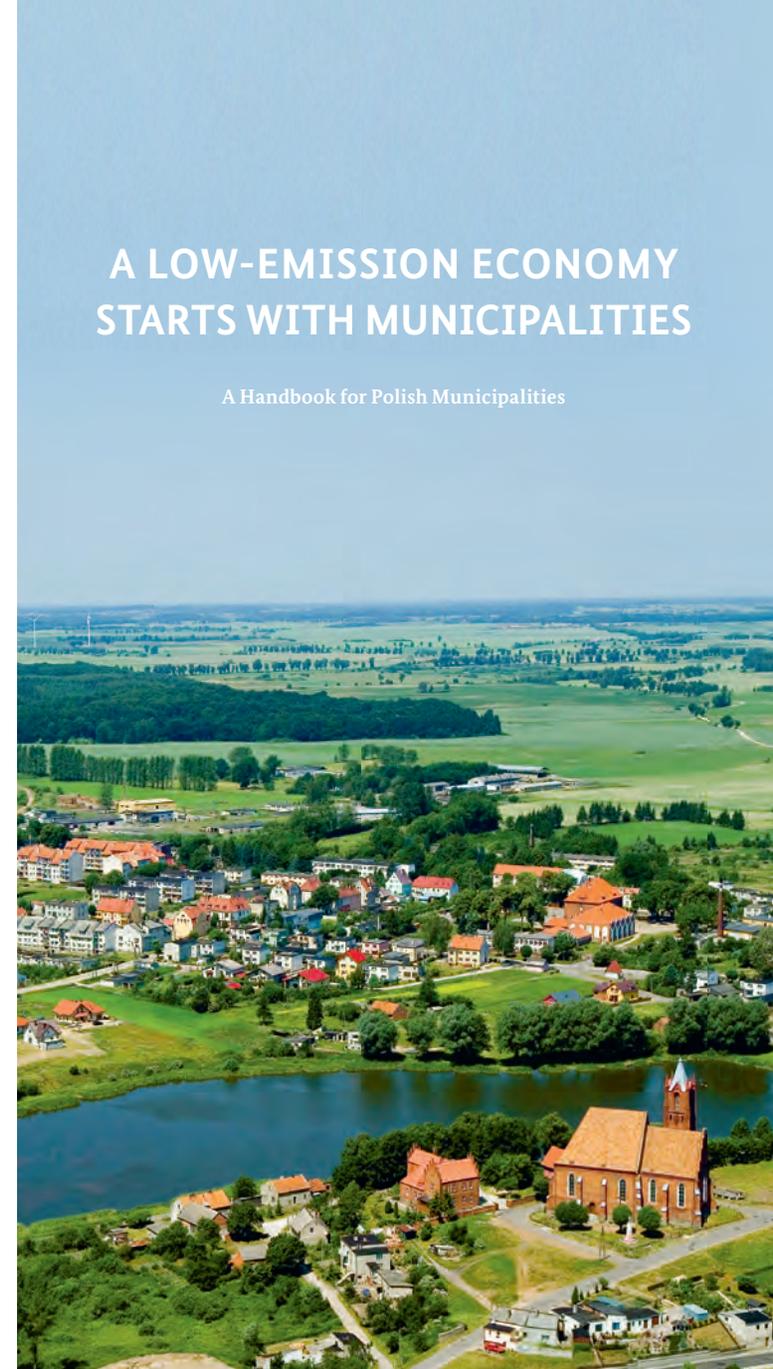


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Cover picture: Urząd Miejski Kisielice

A LOW-EMISSION ECONOMY STARTS WITH MUNICIPALITIES

A Handbook for Polish Municipalities



About the handbook

Achieving the transition to a low-emission economy means taking action in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, smart urban development, waste management and wastewater treatment. Municipalities are key players in all of these areas.

This handbook presents good-practice examples of how Polish and German municipalities are financing and implementing climate action and low-emission strategies at a local level today. It is the result of a Polish-German project developing tools to support local action in Poland. It builds on expert consultations and a good-practice exchange workshop attended by Polish and German municipalities in Berlin in 2014. Its aim is to kick-start further efforts in the field of local low-emission development.

The handbook has three core messages:

1. Local action to reduce emissions does not have to be expensive – and it can generate significant savings for municipalities.
2. Low-emission strategies benefit not only the environment but also the economy, for example creating new jobs in the local region.
3. Steps toward building a low-emission economy also help improve quality of life for citizens, for example by improving air quality.

Implementing climate action

The handbook presents a number of different approaches to financing and executing low-emission strategies at a local level in four chapters:

1. Accessing national and European Union funds
2. Using private funds
3. Involving local stakeholders
4. Planning a low-emission economy

Examples of good practice

Each chapter presents examples of Polish and German municipalities that are currently pursuing low-emission strategies at a local level. These examples of good practice can serve as a model for other municipalities. The actions showcased include modernizing street lighting, introducing municipal photovoltaic systems, carrying out energy-related modernization and refurbishing heating systems.

