Monitoring and Reporting on Sinks: Polish experience



Republic of Poland Ministry of the Environment

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Forests in Poland

Area

→ 9 million ha (30% of land area)

Growing stock

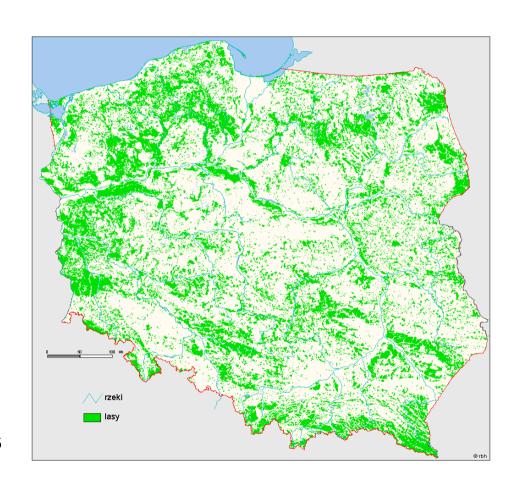
 \rightarrow 1,9 billion m³

Forests' contribution to the net emissions reductions 1990-2005

 \rightarrow ~ 330 mio tonnes

Kyoto target for the 1st CP

 \rightarrow app. 170 mio tonnes



KP implementation

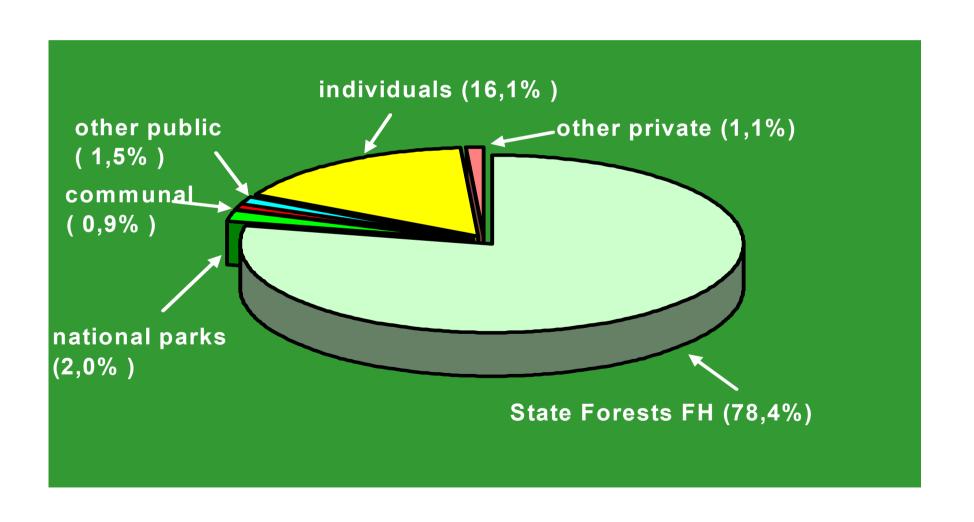
Poland, as a party to the Protocol:

- is obliged to report on Art. 3.3
- choose FM as the additional activity on Art. 3.4

National legislation has been developed in order to enable participation of forestry entities in KP mechanisms

KP implementation

Forest ownership structure



KP implementation

National legislation

Two types of participation in national mechanisms:

- mandatory (state forest holdings)
- voluntary (private holdings)
 - minimal area is 300 ha, associations allowed

Submission of a sequestration plan is a precondition of participation in national system

Sequestration plan should include:

- a list of activities envisaged to enhance CO₂ removal,
- their (activities) expected outcome

- Increase of forest area
- Stock utilisation planning
- Forest fire prevention and management
- Forest biodiversity and vitality enhancement

Increase of forest area

1.2 million ha

- afforested from 1945 to 1995

780 thousand ha

- planned for afforestation in 1995-2020



Stock utilisation planning

1990-2005

increment

→ 832 million m3

fellings

 \rightarrow 429 million m3

 \rightarrow 52% of increment



Forest fire prevention and management

Average area of forest fires: $1991-1995 \rightarrow 1.6$ ha

 $2001-2005 \rightarrow 0.8 \text{ ha}$



Forest biodiversity and vitality enhancement

Share of broadleaved

1945 → **13%**

2005 → **24%**

Introduction of understorey vegetation

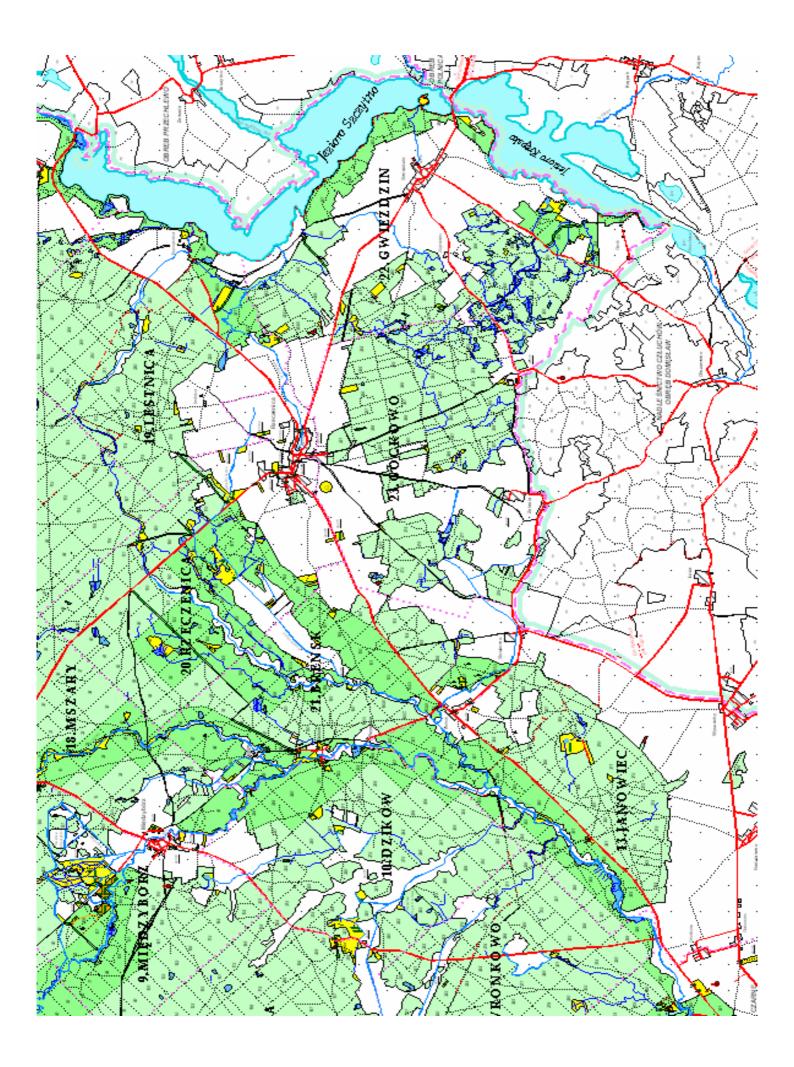
1990 - 2005

 \rightarrow 200 thou. ha



Monitoring

- stand and holding level inventory
- regional and national level inventories
- research plot networks



Stand and district level inventory

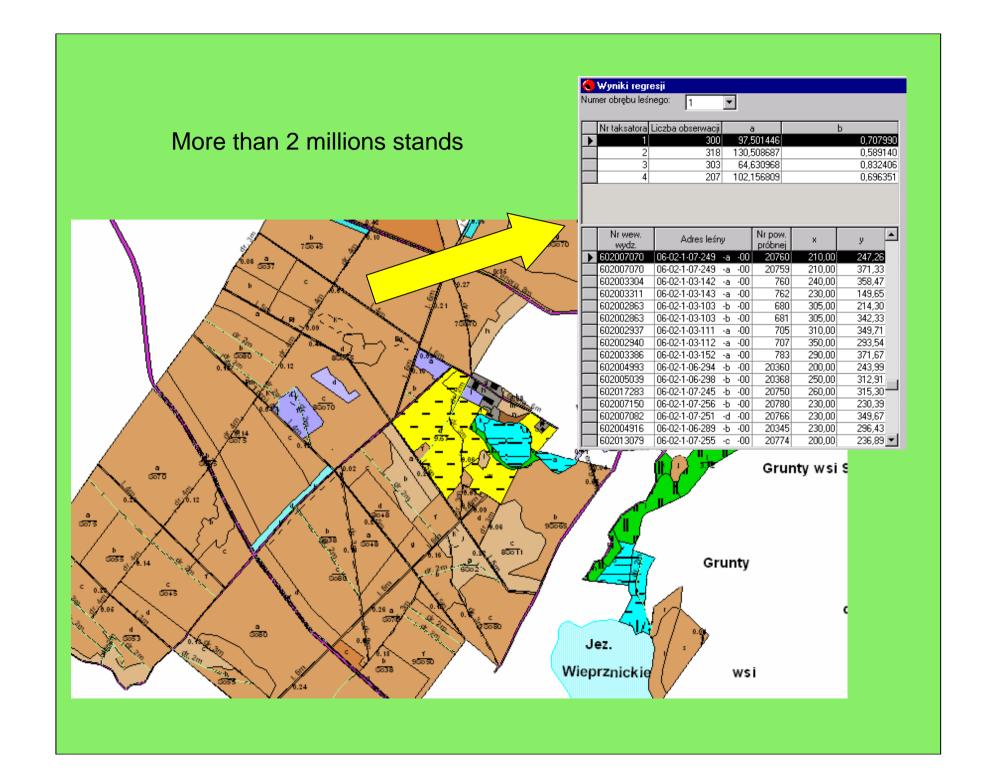
District level (~430) information system

Forest site inventory

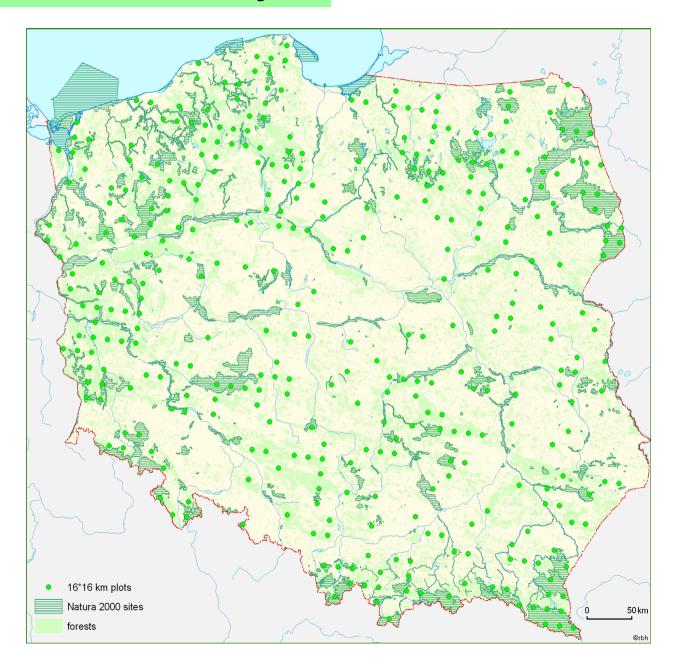
Periodic Forest Inventory

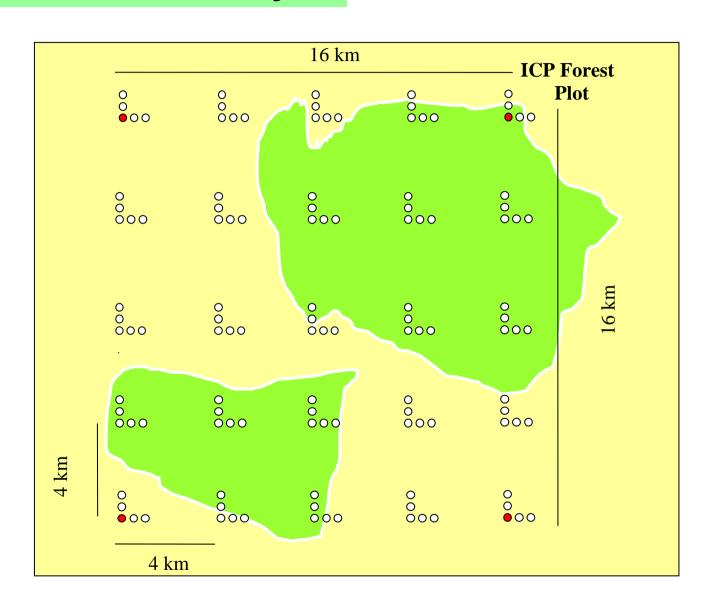
On-line registry on all activities at stand level

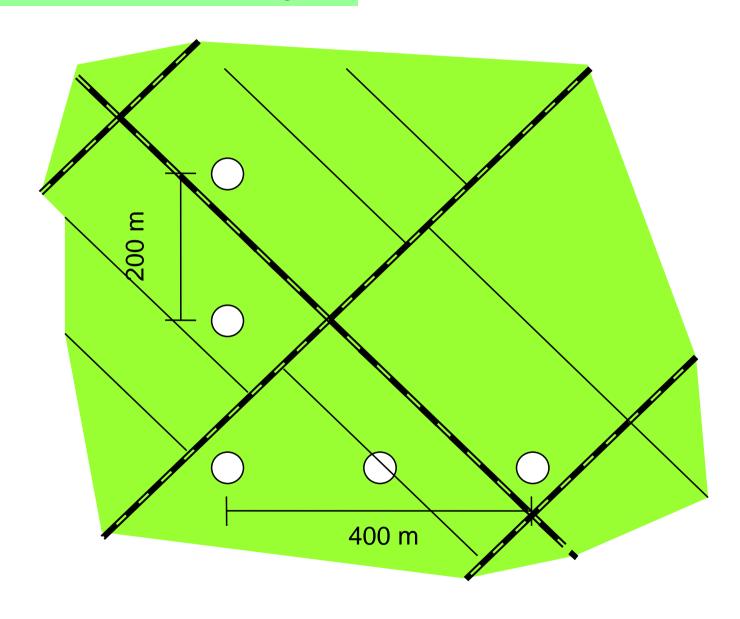
Comprehensive information system based on numeric maps

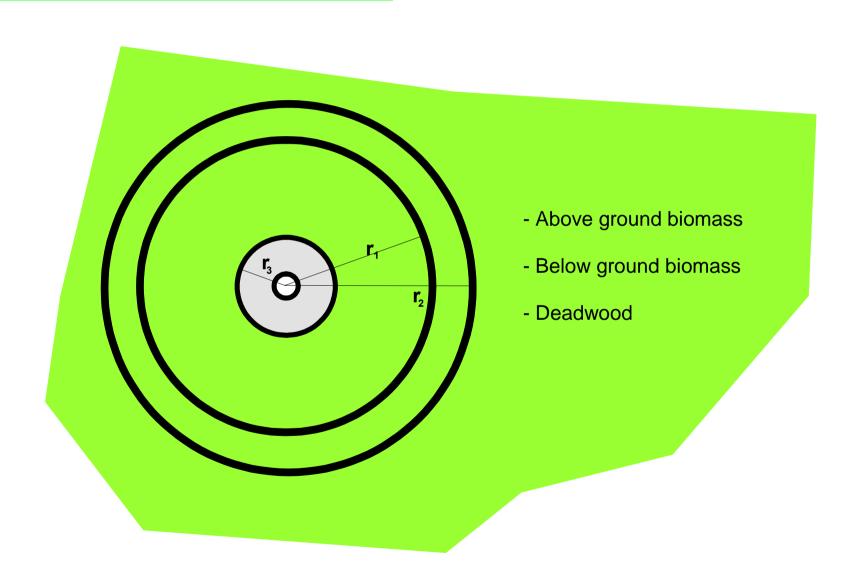


- √ <u>forests</u> of all properties, all types and age classes,
- ✓ about 28 thousands of permanent sample plots,
- √ tracts located systematically in entire country, 5 plots in tract,
- ✓ one cycle five years,
- ✓ annually 20% of total sample in the entire country





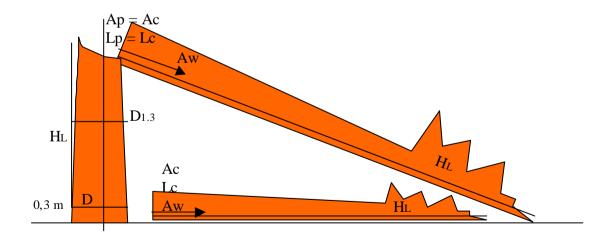




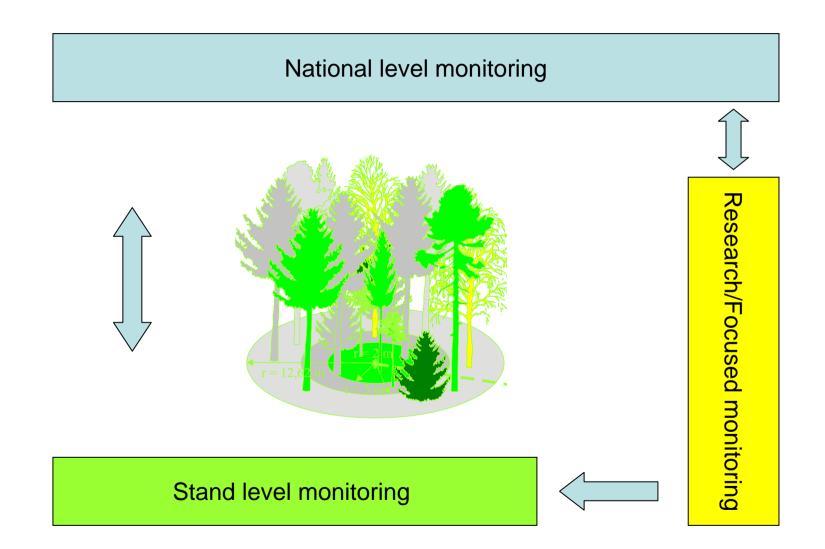
Research plot networks

Various networks focused at inter alia:

- expansion factors refinement,
- forest condition monitoring
- forest endangerment monitoring



Forest monitoring system



Forests' contribution to the net emissions reductions (1)

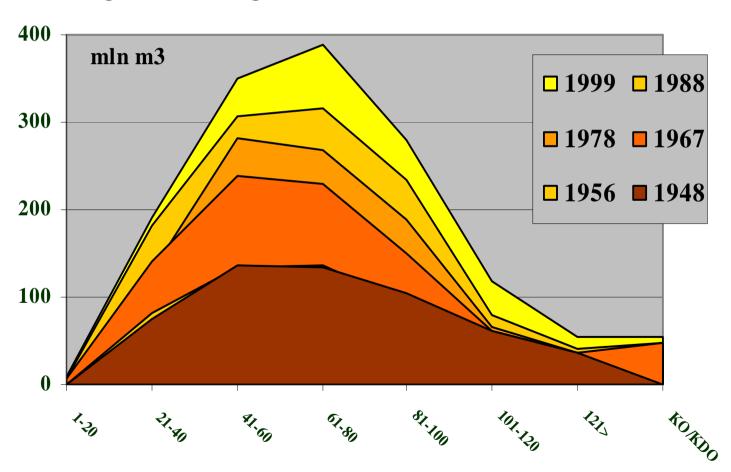
 Forestry activities can play an important role in reducing net GHG emissions

 Responsible forest management will contribute to the achievement of EU reduction goals



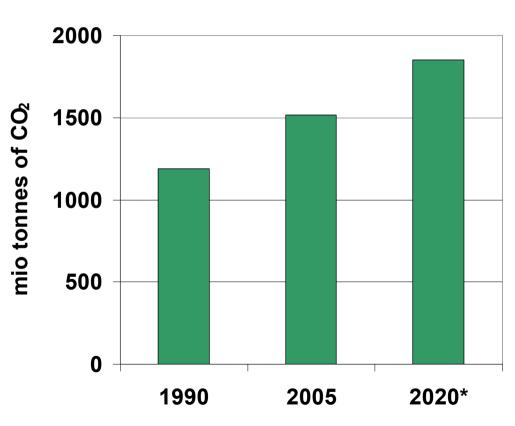
Forests' contribution to the net emissions reductions (2)

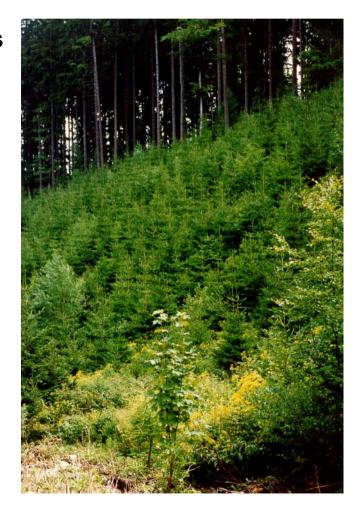
Growing stock change



Forests' contribution to the net emissions reductions (3)

Carbon stock in the above ground wood biomass





*UNECE/FAO 2003: EFSOS

Main challenge

- conserving and increasing carbon pools through afforestation and reforestation & sustainable mgt

vs.?

- substitution of non-renewable energy by use of biomass

