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## Public Procurement to boost solar energy in south-east Poland

**Niepolomice, Poland – 22 000 inhabitants**

**Solar energy – Heat Pumps - Green procurement**

Six Polish municipalities - Niepołomice, Wieliczka, Skawina, Miechów, Myślenice and Zabierzów - decided to boost solar energy production in their area.

### Project in a Nutshell

The overall objective of the project was to improve air quality and state of the environment within their municipal boundaries, as well as to improve health conditions and the quality of life of their citizens. The municipalities involved decided to jointly purchase and install renewable energy systems on public and residential buildings.

The total value of the project amounted to PLN 82 704 876 (approximately € 19 233 690). 64.51% of the cost was covered by the Polish-Swiss Cooperation Fund and the remaining 35.49% was provided by the municipalities and other beneficiaries' contributions.

### Impact & Next steps

Solar thermal collectors were installed on 3 900 buildings (with the total surface of 25 000 m<sup>2</sup>) and PV modules were placed on 29 buildings (total surface of 5 000 m<sup>2</sup> with capacities varying from 10 kWp to nearly 160 kWp). Additionally, the project financed the installation of 9 heat pumps, including air-source heat pumps with the capacity of 8 kW used for the preparation of warm usable water and heat pumps with the capacity of 204 kW satisfying the energy demand of the indoor swimming pool).

The combined efforts of Niepolomice, Miechów, Skawina and Wieliczka led to the participation of more than 1 400 citizens in RES installation training programs.

### Replicability: Challenges & Success Factors

Citizen awareness activities normally contribute to the success of a renewable energy project and lead to wider technology uptake. The price factor – the reduction of energy bills – surely was linked to citizens supporting the initiative. Additionally, a considerable number of RES installations can increase touristic attractiveness of the municipalities.





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