

# **System for prevention and elimination of disasters and catastrophes in Poland**

## **Introduction of a national system for the prevention and elimination of disasters and catastrophes: role of national governments and international organizations.**

**In Poland the issues are regulated by the following legal acts:**

- **Act of 18 April 2002 on the state of natural disasters**
- **Act of 26 April 2007 on crisis management.**

# Territorial division of Poland:

- **voivodships**
- **poviats**
- **communes**

# **Comprehensive crisis management covers all management levels**

## **- connected with authority levels**

- **local**
- **voivodship**
- **central**

# Structure - central level

- **Minister of Home Affairs and Administration**
- **Government Crisis Management Teams**
- **Government Safety Centre**

# Structure - voivodship level

- **Voivod**
- **Voivod Crisis Management Teams**
- **Voivod Crisis Management Centre**

# Structure - powiat level

- **Powiat Starost**
- **Powiat Crisis Management Teams**
- **Powiat Crisis Management Centre**

## **Structure - commune level**

- **Commune Mayor (Town Mayor, City Mayor)**
- **Commune Crisis Management Teams**
- **Commune Crisis Management Centre**



## **The authorities obliged to participate in preventing and removing the impact of natural disasters are:**

- **State Fire Service**
- **Police**
- **State Medical Rescue Services**
- **State Sanitary Inspectorate**
- **Institute of Meteorology and Water Management**
- **Armed Forces divisions**
- **Other competent services**

# **Crisis response teams consist of the following working groups:**

- **permanent**
- **temporary**

# **The main tasks of crisis management teams include:**

- **evaluation of the existing and potential hazards,**
- **formulating activity proposals,**
- **publishing information on hazards,**
- **evaluating critical infrastructure protection plans.**

## **The role of international organisations:**

- **The UN acquired action plan for 2005-2015 during the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Hyogo in 2005,**
- **After the Hyogo Conference the European Union agreed to provide help to the casualties of disasters resulting from natural degradation of the environment,**
- **The Government Safety Centre works with the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and European Union structures.**