



**INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL
AND FOOD ECONOMICS**
NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Rural Technology Transfer in Poland after Accession to the EU

Based on report under CEEC AGRI POLICY project

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Outline

- **rural development and technology transfer**
- **rural areas in Poland in recent years**
- **national rural advisory services**
- **private sector rural advisory services**
- **prospective**



Rural development and technology transfer

- growing role of technology in rural -agricultural development in the context of accession and globalisation processes**
- non-agricultural activities as a new challenge for institution responsible for rural technology transfer**

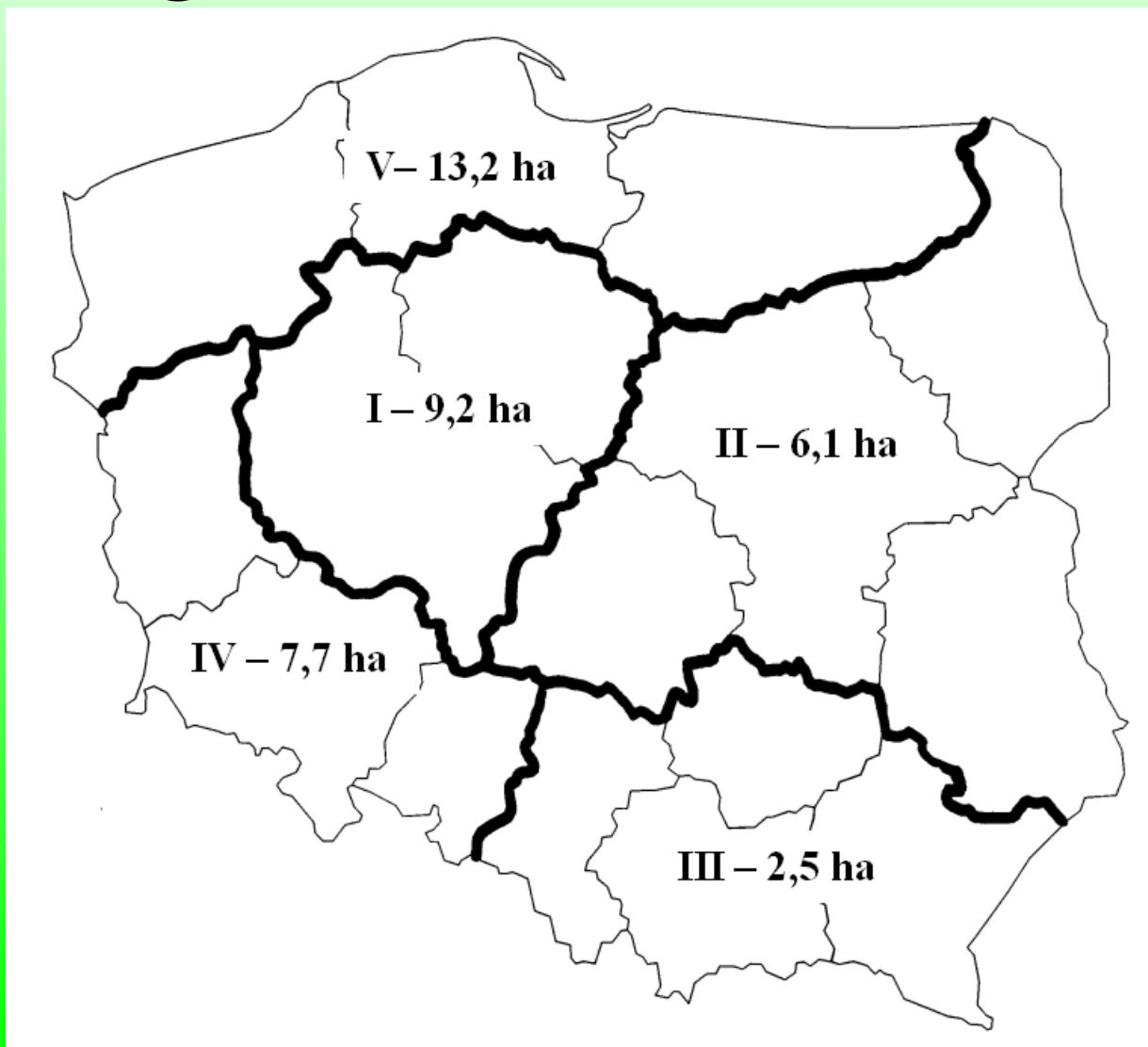


Rural areas in Poland in recent years – first effects of accession

- **increase of agricultural incomes**
- **increase of rural development funds**
- **lower unemployment rate**
- **growing modernisation needs**
- **toward multifunctional development**



Rural areas in Poland in recent years - regional differences of farm sizes





Rural areas in Poland in recent years

– educational aspects

- improvement in the educational level of rural population but still lower in comparison with urban population**
- increasing number of studying youths from the rural communities that seeking urban carrier opportunities**
- high self-confidence of farmers technical skill accompanied with low demand for training**



National rural advisory services - organisational aspects

- **national level**

*Central Agricultural Advisory –
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development*

- **regional level**

*Agricultural Advisory Centres –
Voivodeship authorities*

- **role of rural representative in (planning) national advisory work**



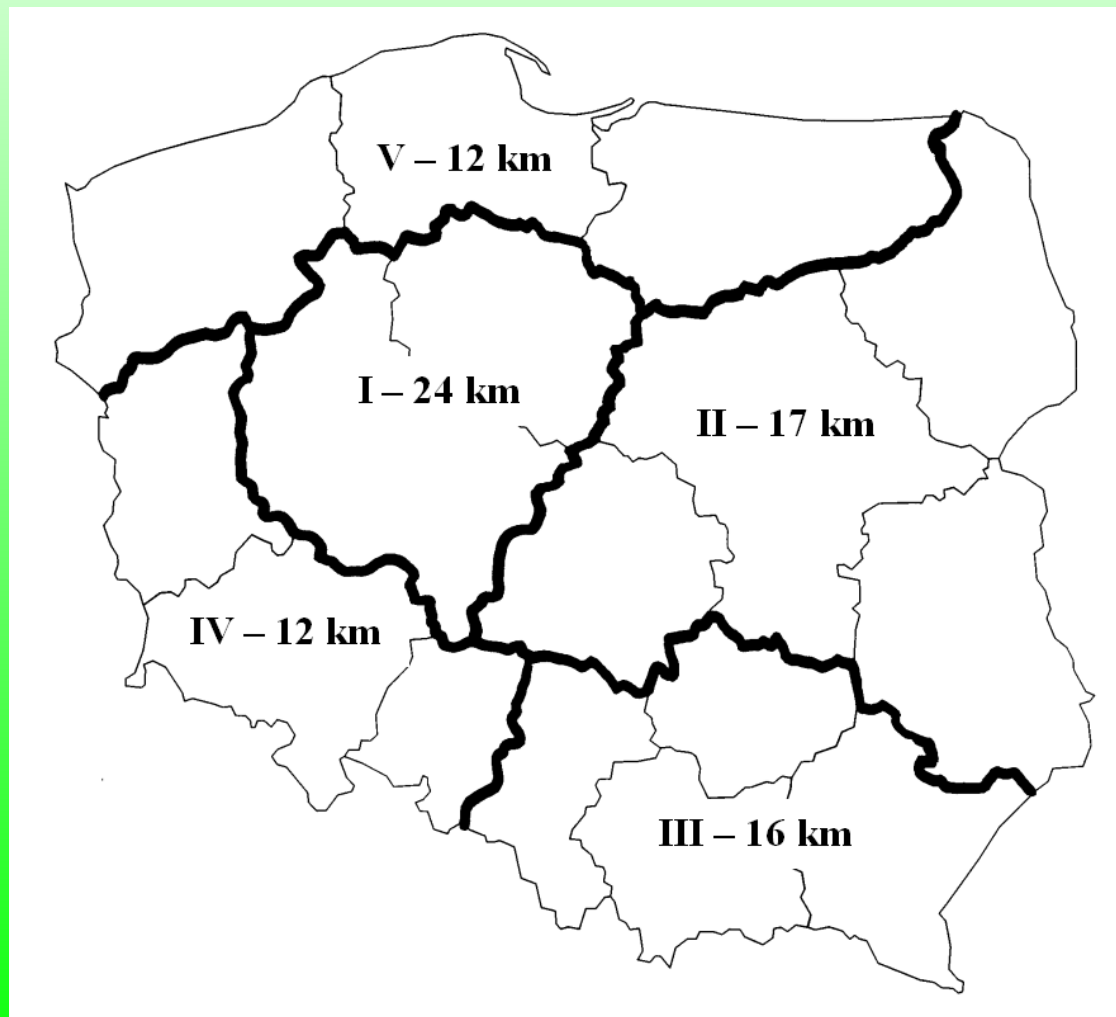
National rural advisory services

- main activities of Central Agricultural Advisory

- preparations of informational materials for rural advisers**
- training management for rural advisers**
- analyses rural extension development system**
- dissemination of research outcomes**
- improvement of technical knowledge of rural school's teachers**



National rural advisory services - average distance to rural advisory services offices





Private sector rural advisory services – new phenomena

- dynamic increase of private institutions numbers**
- advisory activity concerned with preparation public co-funded farm development plans**
- training activity based on public funds**
- so far limited activities „outside” of public funds**



National versus private rural advisory services

- **national**
 - *developed structures*
 - *generally good reputiation*
 - *low cost (for farmers) services*
- **private**
 - *flexible*
 - *market orientated*
 - *highest quality*



Prospects for development

- **improvement of R&D institutes linkage with beneficiaries**
- **reorientation of national services toward non-agricultural activities**
- **increase of local authorities power in shaping national services**
- **growing demand for up to date technology and for private sector advisory services**