

# **PLN 103 billion for the improvement of air quality in Poland**

“As far as improving air quality is concerned, we are acting in a comprehensive manner, which is why the Clean Air programme assumes financing both thermal modernisation and heat sources. We will allocate PLN 103 billion for such activities by 2029,” said Henryk Kowalczyk, Minister of Environment, during the ceremony of signing an agreement on the implementation of the Clean Air priority programme.

Poland’s poor air quality is caused mainly by waste incineration, as well as the use of poor quality fuel in domestic boilers, which are often outdated and obsolete. Financial support is therefore one of the key elements necessary for its improvement. It is envisaged by the agreement signed today (the 7th of June 2018) between the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management (NFOŚiGW) and 16 Voivodeship Funds for Environmental Protection (WFOŚiGW) and the Bank for Environmental Protection on the implementation of the “Clean Air” priority programme.

“We are aware that we need to catch up with many years of civilisation backwardness, which is why the Clean Air programme will consist of multi-million funds for thermal modernisation and increasing the energy efficiency of the entire housing stock,” said Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki.

The programme will run from 2018 to 2029. Its budget amounts to PLN 103 billion, including PLN 63.3 billion in financing in the form of grants and PLN 39.7 billion in the form of repayable loans. The money will be used, in particular, for the thermal modernisation and replacement of heat sources.

“The amount of financing in the case of grants will vary from 40 to 90% of the eligible investment costs, depending on the income per capita in the household,” said Minister Henryk Kowalczyk.

Thus, homeowners with the lowest income will receive up to 90% grants for the implementation of projects financed under the Programme. The maximum subsidised costs envisaged by the Programme are PLN 53 thousand.

It is assumed that over 3 million homes will be modernised under the programme.

During the meeting, Minister Henryk Kowalczyk informed that the Ministry of Environment had prepared training courses on the programme to be conducted in the municipalities.

“We want to explain precisely how the funds from the Clean Air Programme can be obtained to the residents,” he added.

## **Types of projects eligible for co-financing**

For existing single-family residential buildings, the programme will finance the replacement of old-generation coal-fired heat sources with heat distribution substations, solid fuel boilers (coal or biomass), electric heating systems, condensing gas boilers and heat pumps. Additionally, the scope of the project may include thermal insulation of buildings and using renewable heat and electricity

sources, for example solar thermal collectors and photovoltaic micro-installations.

In newly constructed residential buildings, co-financing will cover the purchase and installation of: heat distribution substations, solid fuel boilers, electric heating systems, condensing gas boilers and heat pumps.

## **Who can take advantage of the programme?**

Natural persons who own or co-own a building can take advantage of the programme.

