

# Natura 2000 under RDP 2014-2020 in Poland



Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Department for Direct Payments



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

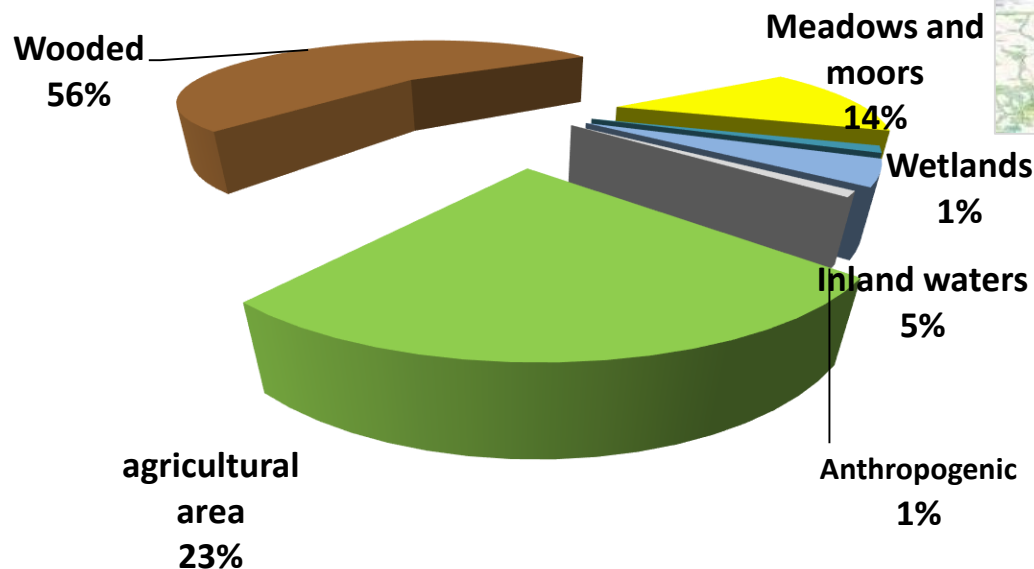
## Natura 2000 in Poland:

- 849 habitats areas
- 145 birds areas

**20% Poland's land area**



## Types of land use and ecosystems in Natura 2000 sites



Two basic documents for protection of Natura 2000:

- Protective action plans
- Protection plans

**Now - about 53%**  
**2022 – 100%**



# Natura 2000 areas within RDP 2014-2020

1. Investments in farms located in Natura 2000 areas

## 2. AECM - 7 packages (28 variants)

- **Package 4. Valuable habitats and endangered birds' species on Natura 2000 areas (11 v)**
- **Package 5. Valuable habitats outside Natura 2000 areas.**

**Habitats:** variable-humidity meadows, alluvial cnidium meadows and halophytes, grasslands, semi-natural wet meadows, semi-natural fresh meadows, peat bogs:

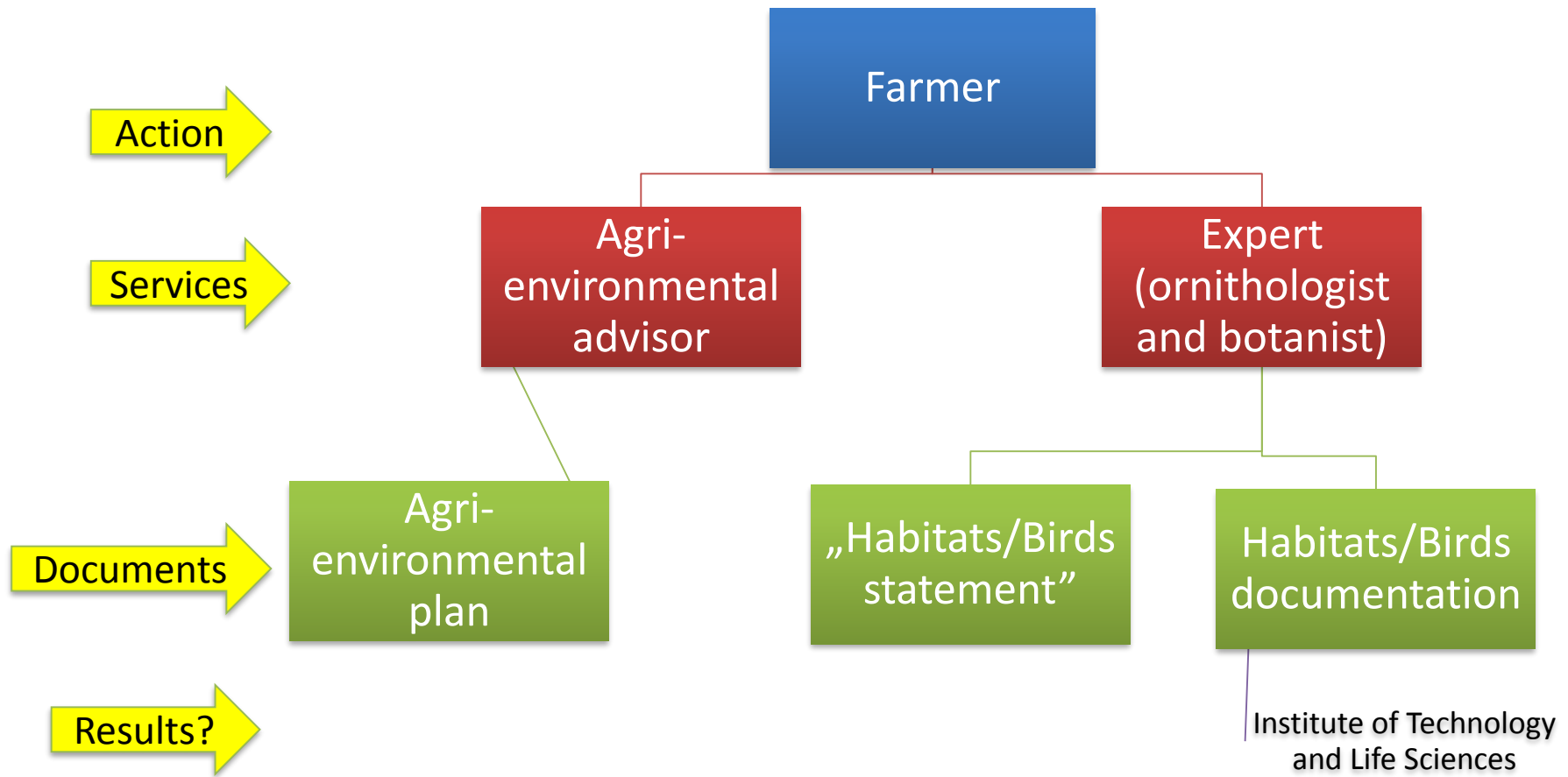
**Birds:** extensive farming on the SPAs, black-tailed godwit (as well as common snipe, common redshank, lapwing), aquatic warbler, great snipe (as well as Eurasian curlew), corncrake.



Although the support does not refer to all habitats and birds described in the **PAF**, the requirements envisaged in the framework of these variants under AECM contribute to preservation of the habitats of other species



# How does it work in practice? - the role of agri-environmental advisors and experts



# Natura 2000 areas within AECM

## MORE ABOUT

**Expert ....**

**Habitats/Birds documentation**

- confirms the presence and defines the status of valuable natural habitats or endangered birds' species
- determines the specific requirements on the use of agricultural land
- based on the specific methodology
- habitats / birds documentation form

➤ **reimbursement of the costs of preparing the habitats/birds documentation**

**When management plan exists** – simplified habitats/birds documentation and „lower” transaction costs

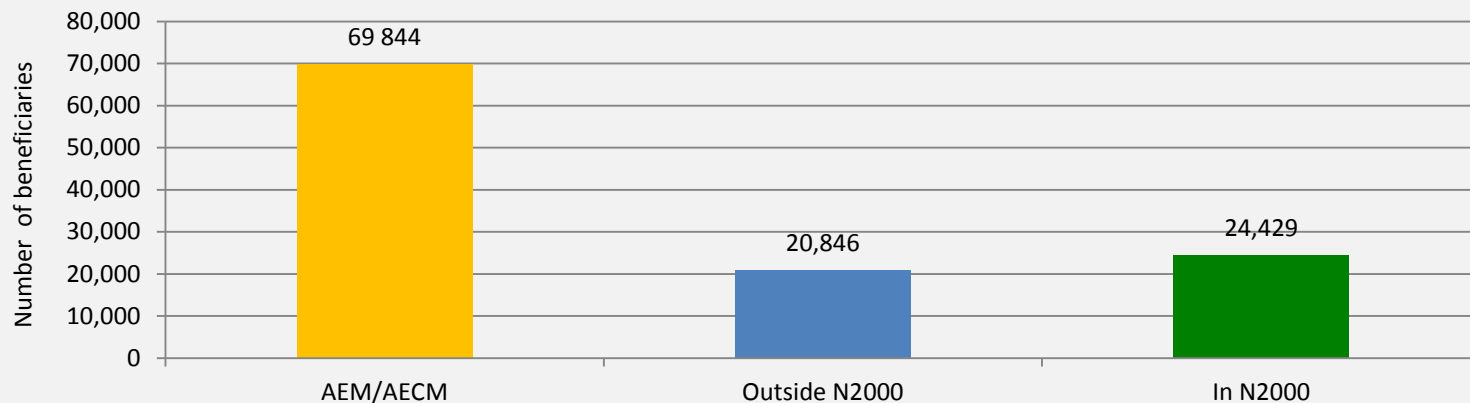
**When management plan does not exist** - more complex habitats / birds documentation and „higher” transaction costs

➤ **transfer of the habitats/birds documentation to the Institute in order to monitor AECM**

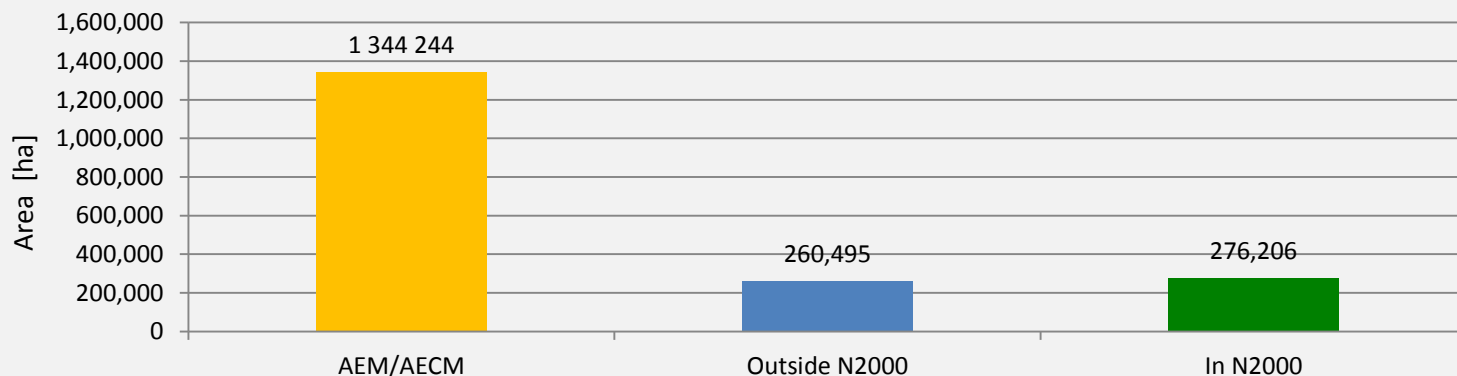
**Individual approach at the farm level - a guarantee of achievement of the objectives**



## Beneficiaries under AEM and AECM "valuable habitats"



## Area declared under AEM and AECM "valuable habitats"





## Monitoring of valuable habitats and endangered birds' species (from 2012 – onwards)

### Positive aspect of implementation AECM

Preserve valuable habitats of marginal importance for agriculture i.e. Biebrza Swamp



### Recommendations for changes in package requirements: AEM 2007-2013 → AECM 2014-2020

- ❖ the catalog of bird variants has been expanded - requirements more adapted to individual habitat preferences
- ❖ Earlier mowing dates (instead of late mowing) due to the spread of invasive species on valuable habitat
- ❖ Increasing the role of the expert – formulating more detailed requirements such as period for mowing and recommendations for land use at the level of a particular habitat



## Why do we not implement *Natura 2000* payments?

- Most of Natura 2000 areas without management plans
- Requirements defined at different levels of detail

## Why do we implement Natura 2000 under AECM?

- Individual approach at the farm level - precise requirements
- Support for valuable habitats in all Natura 2000 areas in the country despite the lack of management plans
- Long-term commitments - reinforced impact on the environment
- Close cooperation between farmer and expert - environmental awareness
- Verifiability of requirements

BUT...higher implementation costs

- at the administrative level
- at farmer level (requirement: nature documentation)





# Thank you for your attention!

