1. **Basic Information**

1.1. **CRIS Number:** 2003/004-379/05.30

1.2. **Title:** Development of SME sector in Lomza area

1.3. **Sector:** Economic and Social Cohesion

1.4. **Location:** Poland, Podlaskie Voivodship, Lomza town

2. **Objective**

2.1. **Overall objective**
Support of the development of small and medium enterprises

2.2. **Immediate objectives**
Improvement of the conditions for small and medium enterprises’ development by provision of better quality water supply
Improvement of the investment and touristic competitiveness

2.3. **Accession Partnership and NPAA priorities**
The project is designed to address issues related to the AP priority in economic and social cohesion policy regarding the preparation for the implementation of regional programmes and Community Initiatives. The project in particular responds to the economic criterion identified in the AP concerning improving the competitiveness of the Polish economy. The project corresponds also to the NPAA priority "Regional policy and co-ordination of structural instruments”.

2.4. **Contribution to the Preliminary National Development Plan**
The project is in line with the sixth axis of the preliminary NDP, which is “Strengthening development potential of regions and counteracting marginalisation of certain areas”. The priorities of this axis will be implemented by means of several measures including development and modernisation of infrastructure serving to strengthen competitiveness of regions.

The project is compliant with the priorities of the Operational Programme of the Podlaskie Voivodship.

2.5. **Cross border impact:** N/A

3. **Description**

3.1. **Background and justification**
Lomza with its 65 000 inhabitants is the centre of the Western Area of Podlaskie Voivodship Development and the NUTS III subregion. For the adjoining counties (powiats) it fulfills many important functions in the fields of education, specialised health care, culture, trade, and commercial services. It is also a place of concentration of non-agricultural businesses and institutions that serve businesses. Since it stopped being a voivodship, Lomza has been experiencing structural problems of increasing unemployment rates and decreasing investment in the private sector. That is why the town authorities aim to boost the region’s economic development by developing the most competitive sectors of local economy such as food, furniture, construction materials as well as tourism, trade and services.

The town’s social and economic development is conditioned by well-developed technical infrastructure, including the supply of water compliant with EU norms.

The researches proved that over 70% of used water indicates iron, manganese and turbidity's concentration which exceeds the norms.

Food industry is characteristic and crucial for Lomza subregion. There are many highly specialised milk and healthy food farms in the region. Their products are successful on both national and foreign markets. For local firms the key factor in production process is the quality of water.

At present it is impossible to achieve the quality standards in food processing factories and catering companies, serving first of all the touristic movement. It is the main barrier in enterprises’ development, including those in the field of construction materials, furniture, and touristic services. It results in the growth of unemployment rate in Lomza town from the level of 21.3 % in the year 2000 to 22.1 % in 2001. Town authorities, perceiving that problem, take action to improve conditions for entrepreneurship development and increase of employment through investments which will improve the competitiveness.
of Lomza area, including the construction and modernization of water - sewage systems. One of the undertakings in that field is the modernization of existing infrastructure of water extraction and treatment in existing water treatment plant Rybaki and construction of process line for water treatment plant in Podgórze water intake, which will satisfy the town and surroundings' demand for water till the year 2015. Co - ordination of those activities with previous ones which also were to develop the technical infrastructure in the framework of the programmes: Phare ESC 2000 project title: “Open areas for SME development along Rybaki street in Lomza” and Phare ESC 2001 project title: “The Water Supply and Waste Water Collecting Systems in Lomza and the adjoining gminas”, will significantly improve the conditions for the development and growth of competitive position of small and medium enterprises from Lomza Agglomeration.

The modernization of water intakes and the improvement in water quality will result with the number of small and medium enterprises, increase of about 20 firms, what means about 0,3 % and will contribute to the creation of new, permanent job places in 2 years after project completion – 180 job places, what means about 1,2 % on the Lomza Agglomeration area. The deliveries of water of the quality which meets the modern standards will also make possible the location of new investments in the project area, especially in the field of food industry and wide range of recreation and tourism trade, such as for example catering companies, bathing places and the swimming pools, for which the water clarity is the key condition for the development. It will also assure the conditions for maintenance of existing enterprises (about 400 job places will be kept).

Town also destined in the spatial arrangement plan 22 ha for the development of small and medium enterprises for the following activities: production, services, trade, tourism and recreation in the spatial arrangement plan. Those areas, which are the communal property, are already equipped on the area of 5 ha with: water supply and sewage networks and about 5 ha will be equipped after completion of the projects within the framework of Phare ESC 2000 and Phare ESC 2001. The completion of the technical equipment already commenced as well for the areas previously equipped as planned to be equipped in the framework of Phare ESC programme will significantly contribute to the improvement of the water quality. There already exists the interest of potential investors in locating their investments in those areas (copies of letters enclosed). These are the enterprises of the following sectors: trade and service (it is expected that 8 new enterprises will be set up in comparison with the existing 4738 ones), tourism and recreation, small catering companies and hotels (it is expected that 3 new enterprises will be set up in comparison with the existing 130 ones), furniture (2 new companies for the existing 17) and construction materials (3 new companies for 553 existing ones).

The town authorities have already implemented and intend to maintain in future land taxes reduction mechanism for the small and medium enterprises maintaining current number of jobs and creating new ones in production and services sectors. The reductions concerning the taxes on land and are implemented, in progressive way, which means 100% of reduction in the first year of the activity and decreasing during following years.

The recreation and tourism are the spheres, in which there are expected the chances for stimulation of economic development of the area characterized by weak industrialization, high class food production and unique natural and historical values, especially because the project area co - creates the complex of Green Lungs of Poland, ranked among the last areas which have such unpolluted nature and unique landscape values in Europe. The beautiful location of Lomza on the high slope by Narew river, the local natural attractions and the landscape and historical values of the town and Narew Valley together with the rich cultural heritage of the area create the opportunity for the development of qualified tourism, what will cause the growth of the income of small and medium enterprises from touristic sector.

The project through its over – local character solves the structural development barriers, assuring the establishment of new enterprises and creation of job places, and through that the project strengthens the over local functions of Lomza town as a sub – regional centre on the level NUTS III. The realization of activities in the framework of Phare ESC 2000, 2001 and 2003 Programmes will cause the improvement of the competitiveness of the area through the development of technical infrastructure which determines the stable and sustainable social – economic development of Lomza and results in the increase of its investment and touristic attractiveness, which is very necessary for both the stimulation of the economic development of the area and the revitalization of the town itself.

The project implementation will mean the supply of good quality water to the whole town, considering its current as well as future development needs till 2015.

The project scope and size as well as its beneficiary groups comply with the aims and content of PHARE ESC programme and as such cannot be cofinanced by other EU aid programmes.

3.2. Linked activities
On the area of neighbouring Piatnica gmina in 1998 – 1999 in the framework of Phare Struder 2 Programme there is realized the investment of title “Construction of the water supply in villages Peza, Stary Drozecin, Nagórki with the pumping station in Czarnocin”

In the framework of Phare Struder 2 Programme there was granted the co – financing for the implementation of communal wastes management system in Lomza and neighbouring gminas

With the support of the means from National Fund for Environment Protection and Danish Agency for Environment Protection there was modernized the municipal waste water treatment plant in Lomza.

The extension of sewage system is being conducted at present in Lomza town with the support of the means from Provincial Fund for Environment Protection and Water Management support.

The project is the continuation and completion of the projects realized in the framework of the following programmes: Phare ESC 2000 project title: “Open areas for SME development along Rybaki street in Lomza” of the value 801,702 EUR (including the EU co – financing in the amount 465 thousand EUR) and Phare ESC 2001 “The Water Supply and Waste Water Collecting Systems in Lomza and the adjoining gminas” of the budget 4,05 million EUR (including 2 million EUR from the EU). The project “Open areas for SME development along Rybaki street in Lomza” is ready to the realization, has the complete technical and tender documentation, permission for the construction. The project has been accepted by the Delegation of European Commission. The tender dossier has been consulted with TEBODIN Ltd consulting company and the Polish Agency for the Entrepreneurship Development (PARP) and sent to the Delegation of the European Commission.

The project “The Water Supply and Waste Water Collecting Systems in Lomza and the adjoining gminas” is also prepared to the realization in the project field, has the permission for the construction, and the tender dossier has been approved by the Implementing Authority for Phare Cross Border Co-operation Programme and TEBODIN Ltd consulting company with the A grade. At the moment it is waiting for approval of the Delegation of the European Commission, which is supposed to be granted by the end of November 2002.

3.3. Results

Construction of a new water treatment plant of the capacity 800 m³/h in the water intake Podgórze will include:
- new deep wells
- retention reservoirs with the infrastructure
- technological building of filters’ station
- filters installation
- inter–objects networks with the installation of purifying facility
- electric installations, automatics and control

Modernisation of existing water treatment plant capacity increase up to 400 m³/h in the water intake Rybaki resulting in the increase of its capacity up 400 m³/h will include:
- replacement of: pressure aerators, compressors, filtration sets
- extension of aerating system, filtration system
- modernization of controls and signalling system.

Achievement of water clarity indicators according to the obligatory in European Union requirements will enable establishing app. 20 new SME with 180 jobs.

3.4. Activities

Employment of Project Manager to supervise the contract

Preparation of the tender dossier and selection of a contractor

Construction works and supply on water treatment in the water intake Podgórze

Modernisation of water treatment plant in the water intake Rybaki which will concern mainly the process and will take place in existing rooms

3.5. Lessons learned

Under the Final Assessment Report for Assistance funded under PL-9808 Special Preparatory Programme (SPP) and PL-9909 Regional Policy and Cohesion, prepared by OMAS, some recommendations have been made. They are also relevant to the above-mentioned project. Therefore the Ministry of Economy together with the IA and Office of the Committee for European Integration have established stronger institutional co-operation between those organizations (responsible for the programming and implementation of the Phare ESC - assistance).
LPM (Logical Planning Matrix) methodology is applied correctly and contains clear, quantifiable indicators of achievement of the project’s objectives.

The implementation of the Phare ESC 2003 Programme should be based on the experience gained during the implementation of previous Phare ESC programmes, especially 2000, 2001 and 2002 Programmes. Therefore documents concerning land acquisition and conformity with the local spatial development plans are required during the current programming exercise. For this purpose the Polish authorities (Ministry of Economy and Office of the Committee for European Integration) have established a scrutiny system (in form of a checklist) that should be used at the early stage of programming Phare ESC 2003 assistance, eliminating proposals which do not meet the above-mentioned criteria.

4. **INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

4.1. The Beneficiary of the project: will be Municipal Board of Lomza.

4.2. The Engineer/Manager of the project: will be selected through tender pursuant to the Polish Act on Public Procurement

4.3. The owner of the investment after the completion of the project: Total infrastructure constructed as a result of the project realization will be the communal property of self – governmental community of inhabitants of Lomza town, and the operator will be the Municipal Enterprise of Water Supply and Sewage Company Ltd. in Lomza.

4.4. The investment will be implemented pursuant to the regulations of the Decentralised Implementation System – "Practical Guide to Phare, Ispa and Sapard Contract Procedures"

4.5. The implementation of the project will not cause any changes to the institutional framework described above.

5. **DETAILED BUDGET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Support</th>
<th>Institution Building</th>
<th>Total Phare</th>
<th>National co-financing</th>
<th>International &amp; Financial Institutions</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>€ 2 100 000</td>
<td>€ 740 000</td>
<td>€ 2 840 000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall value of the investment including employment of the Project Manager will amount to 2 840 000 MEUR. The cost of the employment of the Project Manager will be borne by the beneficiary in the amount of 122 000 MEUR. Co-financing will be available.

6. **IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

6.1. **Implementing Agency**

- PAO: Ms. Krystyna Gurbieł, Undersecretary Of State In The Ministry Of Economy, Labour and Social Policy, Pl. Trzech Krzyży 3/5, 00-507 Warsaw, Poland, Phone: +48.22.693.56.28, 629.31.47, Fax: +48.22.693.40.05
- Implementing Authority for Phare Cross Border Co-operation Programme, Contact person: Ms. Grazyna Weclewska, Krucza 36 Street, 00-522 Warsaw, Poland, Phone +48.22.695.99.10-11, fax +48.22.695.99.12-13

6.2. **Twinning:** N/A

6.3. **Non-standard aspects:** N/A

6.4. **Contracts**

- Contract 1 (works): 2.718 MEUR Work contract joint co-financing is foreseen as follows: 2.10 MEUR from Phare 2003; 0.618 MEUR from Polish local funds
- Contract 2 (engineer): 0.122 MEUR (financed by Beneficiary’s funds)

7. **IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

- Start of tendering/Call for proposals: second quarter 2004
8. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Procedures related to the implementation of the project will be implemented according to the law and will respect equal opportunities for all interested institutions and natural persons in spite of their sex, race and nationality. The employment of men and women will be based on applicable EU standards with reference to EOE (Equal Opportunity of Employment), which will be announced in official press advertisements during the recruitment procedures.

9. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Environmental Impact Assessment was elaborated in July 2002. According to the assessment the project realization will not violate the existing water relations in Lomza area and will not violate the legally protected natural areas under the conservator’s protection. The assessment was made on the basis of Community Regulation in force – the directives:


EIA is available in Polish language at the Municipal Office of Lomza.

10. **RATES OF RETURN**

The Feasibility Study of the investment was elaborated in July 2002, and it includes calculated the project’s profitability rates:

- **ENPV= 1,475,502 EUR**
- **EIRR = 19.12%**

FS is available in Polish language at the Municipal Office of Lomza.

11. **INVESTMENT CRITERIA**

11.1. **Catalytic effect**

The Phare support will be conducive to achieving economic and social cohesion goals in Podlaskie voivodship, which otherwise could be attained only in a more distant future and on a more modest and less efficient scale.

11.2. **Co-financing**

The project is co-financed by the local government sources. The national contribution amounts to 26.06 % of the total project cost.

11.3. **Additionality**

The financial means transferred to the Beneficiary for the project implementation, covering the investment costs as they are planned within the project do not displace other financing sources, especially from the private sector and the IFI system; it is solely the co-financing of identified priorities and does not replace national resources.

11.4. **Project readiness and size**

The project will be ready for implementation, contracting and disbursement in accordance with requirements of Phare ESC 2003 programme. The feasibility study and a report on environmental impact assessment have been prepared. The beneficiary is the owner of the land for the investment. The building permit will be obtained by the beneficiary. The Polish co-financing has been included in the budget of the beneficiary.

11.5. **Sustainability**

The project will contribute to the long-term sustainable development of the region, as described in the Operational Programme for Podlaskie Voivodship. It fulfils the requirements of the EU standards. After implementation, all maintenance costs related to the investment will be covered by the beneficiary.

11.6. **Conformity with state aid provisions**
All aspects of the project will be developed with respect to the state aids provisions of the European Agreement.

11.7. **Contribution to Draft National Development Plan**

The project is in line with the fifth axis of the draft NDP, which is “Strengthening development potential of regions and counteracting marginalisation of certain areas”. This axis will be implemented by means of several priorities including development and modernisation of infrastructure serving to strengthen competitiveness.

### 12. Conditionality and Sequencing

Successful implementation of the project depends on the following conditions:

- Keeping the schedule set in programme
- Fulfilling all requirements of the tender, contract, reports and monitoring
- Realization of other elements of the strategy of province development
- Active promotion of makroregion in the field of business competitiveness
- Decision of the Municipal Board of the town about taking the investment realization

**Deadlines:**

- Detailed Design preparation until IV quarter 2002
- Building permit until IV quarter 2002
- Preparation of tender documents until I quarter 2004
- Start of tendering II quarter 2004
- Start of project activity III quarter 2004
- Completion of the contract until II quarter 2006

**Annexes**

- Annex 1: Log-frame matrix
- Annex 2: Implementation schedule
- Annex 3: Contracting schedule
- Annex 4: Disbursement schedule
- Annex 5: EIA
- Annex 6: Habitats
## ANNEX 1 - PROJECT LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

### PROJECT TITLE: DEVELOPMENT OF SME SECTOR IN LOMZA AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Overall/strategic objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
<th>Sources of verification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Growth of the rate of the SME number per 1000 inhabitants in Lomza administrative district</td>
<td>How: Publications of Central Bureau for Statistics and Provincial Bureau for Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of SME’s turnover</td>
<td>When: 5 years after project completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Who: Marshall Office of Podlaskie Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Immediate Objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
<th>Sources of verification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase of the number of economic units /net/ establishment of 20 new enterprises</td>
<td>How: statistic data of Provincial Bureau for Statistics and of Town Office in Lomza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase the number of new jobs by 180 within 2 years after project realization completion</td>
<td>When: 2 years after project completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 job places maintained increased efficiency of new water intakes by 40%</td>
<td>By whom: Beneficiary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 new beds in tourism sector</td>
<td>Assumptions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Realisation of other elements of the development strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There is assumed the stability of the region’s economy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There exists the risk of the change of the regulations which could make impossible the economic investments in designed areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
<th>Sources of verification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constructed a new water treatment plant</td>
<td>How: Local authorities reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernised existing water treatment plant</td>
<td>When: immediately after project realization completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved the potable water clarity indicators according to the European Union requirements</td>
<td>Who: Beneficiary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Means/resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment of Project Manager to supervise the contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of the tender dossier and selection of a contractor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of the water treatment plant in the water intake Podgörze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernisation of water treatment plant in the water intake Rybaki</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assumptions:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assuring the on time co – financing from EU funds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Preconditions:

| Decision of the Municipal Board on taking the investment preparation – report No 181/02 of 4th June 2002 |
## ANNEXES 2-3-4: DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION CHART, CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE OF THE PROJECT

**PROJECT TITLE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Drafting</th>
<th>31.03.2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning period</td>
<td>2Q 2004–2Q 2006</td>
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</table>

### PLANNED IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE PER QUARTERS

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<td>Q3</td>
<td>Q4</td>
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<td>Q3</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Q4</th>
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</table>

Legend:  
- **D** = design of sub-projects;  
- **C** = tendering and contracting;  
- **I** = contract implementation and payment.
ANNEX 5 - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(Please complete this section for each project in case of grouped applications)

1. Development consent

Has development consent\(^1\) already been given to this project?

Yes [ ] No [X]

- If yes, on which date /___/___/___/

- If no, when was the formal request for the development consent introduced \\
  /16/08/2002/ \\
  and by which date is the final decision expected? /30/10/2002/

Specify the competent authority or authorities, which has given or will give the development consent \\
………… the administrator of the Lomza commune

According to article 39 item 2 of the act of 7 July 1994 on land development, the development consent is \\
not obligatory for the upgrading of the Rybaki intake, as this part of the project involves renovation and \\
assembling but does not entail change of the use of the intake area.

Is the above authority considered to be the competent authority responsible for performing the duties of 

Yes [X] No [ ]

- If no, please specify for this project who is designated as competent authority for the purposes of 
the EIA Directive: 
…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

2. Application of Directive on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) \(^2\)

2.1. Is the project a class of development covered by:

   - Annex I of Directive 85/337/EEC, as amended by Directive 91/11/EC [ ] (go to question 2.2)
   - Not covered by Directive 85/337/EEC, as amended by Directive 91/11/EC [ ] (only the section on nature 
     conservation needs to be completed)

2.2. Has an EIA already been carried out?

Yes [X] No [ ]

- If yes, has the EIA been carried out before development consent has been given?

Yes [X] No [ ]

---

\(^1\) i.e. decision of the competent authority or authorities which entitle the developer to proceed with the project

\(^2\) Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (OJ L 175 of 
5.7.1985) as amended by Directive 97/11/EC (OJ L 73 of 3.3.1997). Text of these directives as well as a consolidated version 
of both can be found on: [http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm)
On which date has it been finalised | 31 | 08 | 2002 |
- If no, provide an estimation of the date when the procedure will be finalised |___|___|___|

2.3. When covered by Annex I of the EIA Directive a similar procedure as the one described in the EIA directive will need to be applied and the following documents included.

Necessary documents are:
a) the **non-technical summary of the Environmental Impact Study** carried out for the project. A non-technical summary shall include at least:

- a description of the project comprising information on the site, design and size of the project,
- a description of the measures envisaged in order to avoid, reduce and, if possible, remedy significant adverse effects,
- the data required to identify and assess the main (direct and indirect effects) which the project is likely to have on the environment on the following factors:
  - human beings, fauna and flora (including those environmentally sensitive areas which might fall in future under the protection of the Birds (79/409/EEC) and Habitats (92/43/EEC) Directives);
  - soil, water, air, climate and the landscape;
  - material assets and the cultural heritage;
  - the interaction between the factors mentioned in the first, second and third indents
- and any further information which might derive from any of the obligations deriving from Annex IV of the EIA Directive.

b) the results of **consultations with the competent environmental authorities**; indicating in what way the concerns of the designated consultees have been taken into account.

c) the results of **consultations with the public** concerned. The information provided should cover the following:

- the concerned public which has been consulted,
- the places where the information has been consulted,
- the time which has been given to the public in order to express its opinion,
- the way in which the public has been informed (for example, by bill-posting within a certain radius, publication in local newspapers, organisations of exhibitions with plans, drawings, tables, graphs, models, etc.),
- the manner in which the public has been consulted (for example, by written submissions, by public enquiry, etc.)
- the way in which the concerns of the public have been taken into account.

d) in case a project is likely to have significant effects on the environment in another state the results of the **transboundary consultation** with those states effected by the project needs to be provided demonstrating that the procedure of article 7 of the EIA Directive. In addition, information indicating in what way the concerns of the designated consultees and concerned public have been taken into account will also need to be provided.

e) Evidence that the **decision to grant or refuse development consent** has been made available to the public by the competent authority, including the

- the content of the decision and conditions attached thereto,
- the main reasons and considerations on which the decision has been based,
- a description, where necessary, of the main measures to avoid, reduce and, if possible, offset the major adverse effects.

_Note: In relation to b), c) and d) these may be represented in the form of a statement, conclusion or certification by the competent environmental authorities describing and testifying that all obligation as described in the intends above have been followed._

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3 A guidance document describing the minimum criteria to ensure that a similar procedure has been applied can be found on [http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int](http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int)
2.4. When covered by Annex II of the EIA Directive has an Environmental Impact Assessment been carried out for this project?

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

– If yes include the necessary documents (see question 2.3.).

AN INCREASED COMPETITIVENESS OF THE CITY OF LOMZA DUE TO WATER MANAGEMENT UPGRADING

Description of physical characteristics of the project
The project provides for the upgrading of the water intakes for the city of Lomza including:
extension and upgrading of the Podgorze groundwater intake, including:
? a treatment plant with 800 m³/h capacity, new deep wells, storage reservoirs with the infrastructure, an operator’s building of the filter plant, water pipeline between the buildings with a washing facility, electricity, automation, and operation systems.
? extension and upgrading of the treatment plant at the Rybaki groundwater intake to the capacity of 400 m³/h, including: adaptation of the existing building for the filter room, the assembly of filters and electricity, automation, and operation systems.
? The raw water quality contradicts Polish and European standards.
? Facilities - These are the investment activities related to the project:
? storage reservoirs, water treatment plants, automation of water supply process, monitoring and data filing.
? The following process engineering methods will be applied:
? water extraction measurement, water table control in each well, faulty pump alarm. Treatment station:
? an open aerator, Dyna Sand filters, a storage reservoir, 2nd grade pumping stations, wash water treatment in Lamella separators, recirculation of treated wash water – 25 m³/h, polymer dosage of 125 g/h by Lamella settling tank, possible water chlorination by sodium hypochlorite.

The upgrading activities at the Rybaki intake will not take up additional land or change land use. The construction of a new well at the Podgorze intake the use of a 0.02-0.04 ha plot of farmland may be prevented. Alternatively, the new well could be built on the intake plot. In the operation stage the new well will need the indirect protection zone. The Rybaki intake is located in the north-east of the city, in Rybaki street, which run along the river Narew scarp that divides the river valley and the upland plain. The intake comprises eight wells organized in three groups that work in turns. Some of them are located on the plot where there is an operator’s building with a treatment plant, workshops, a transformer station, and water reservoirs. Some of the wells are 300 m north-west on the plot with the operator’s building and a transformer station.

The Podgorze intake is located approx. 5 km south of Lomza, to the west of the road to Zambrow. It comprises six wells situated in the farming area.

The Rybaki intake uses eight deep wells extracting groundwater. The licence allows for the extraction of water from 400 m³ hourly to 9,600 m³ daily. The actual average daily water production at the intake fluctuates around 2,500 m³. The Rybaki water treatment plant uses two-stage lifting. The water is lifted from the wells to the filtration system which comprises eight pressure filters 1,800 mm in diameter with aerators. The treated water is stored in four reservoirs with the total capacity of 5,180 m³, i.e. 2 x 750 m³ and 2 x 1,840 m³. 2nd grade pumps lift water from the reservoirs to the municipal network. Water at this stage is under the steady pressure of 5.6 bar. 2nd grade pumping station comprises five pumps with the total capacity of approx. 500 m³/h.

Maximum daily water demand in the city of Lomza and the village of Stara Lomza in 2015 will be at 27,247.3 m³. While calculating water demand it was assumed that 100% of residents will use the water supply system and services and industry will develop, as it is envisaged in the general land development plan. Environmental protection measures for the project area are not specified in international, national, regional, or local documents. Vegetation in the water supply zones is not valuable, although it is spontaneous and diversified. The major aim of environmental protection in the city of Lomza is preserving the purity and biodiversity of the river Narew valley.

Description of the possible environmental impacts
The tests revealed that water is supplied to the Rybaki intake from the river Narew valley and from the south-west of the upland plain. In Lomza the channel is 3 km in width and 200 m in depth, mostly filled...
with sands and gravels. It serves as an important collecting channel of groundwater for the area that spreads up to twenty kilometres to the south and south-east to the Lomza Interriver Area. It carries groundwater northwards to the river Narew valley and west of Lomza. The Podgorze intake is located in the farming areas 5 kms to the south-east of the city. Water is supplied to the functional aquifers in Podgorze from infiltration of rain water in the intake’s inflow area.

The construction activities related to the new treatment plant at the Podgorze intake and the upgrading of the treatment plant at the Rybaki intake do not infringe on the safety and health of people. The Podgorze construction site is a municipal property. The site will be a fenced and ‘no tresspassing’ zone. The operation of the project elements do not infringe on human health or safety, even in the case of leaking water pipes.

The project does not cause disagreement. It was consulted with the local residents. The local governments notified the residents on the project design during several meetings. The construction activities will take place on a small plot of the Podgorze intake, which will not endanger flora or fauna. The intakes do not affect flora or fauna. Excavation activities lead to soil destruction: the upper soil level, i.e. humus, mixes with the deeper part, i.e. dead sinter. Humus diversity depends on subsoil type, i.e. the kind of dead organic residue.

The treatment plant as a cubic investment will take up a limited space. Soil surface and the displacement of deposits may occur to the depth of 50-90 m². The possible soil impact during the construction stage includes: soil surface disturbance in the construction zone with possible extension to the surrounding areas, mixing of soil and subsoil, erosion of exposed ground in the scarp area, disturbance of wetness levels, dependent on the depth of excavations, change in soil structure from heavy equipment usage, transport, and storage of materials. The waste from the project activities is not hazardous and can be transported to the local waste dump.

The possible impact to groundwater: The treatment plant and water pipeline construction at the Podgorze intake entails the excavation of trenches. The removal of water from the trenches will temporarily lower the water table. However, the impact will be limited in time and to the intake immediate zone. At present, at the tender stage, the depth of the trenches is still unknown, so it is hard to estimate the range of water table lowering, if it occurs at all. Boring of wells may lead to groundwater pollution. This could be prevented by professional supervision. Soil excavation will cause temporary lowering of groundwater level in sections where foundation level is below the water table. Temporary lowering of groundwater level will not alter the quality or quantity of water extracted from existing intakes of water intended for homesteads and human consumption. Water withdrawal and discharge will lower groundwater level in the surrounding area. Excessive extraction of groundwater may cause lowering of the primary water table. If water is extracted from low depth, it may lead to ground subsidence. Excessive extraction may result in a decreased capacity of other intakes in the area. The capacity of the intakes amounts to: the Rybaki intake – 550 m³/h with up to 20 m of depressed ground, the Podgorze intake – 800 m³/h with up to 20 m of depressed ground. During the intake operation as well as in the groundwater drainage areas, water run-off direction may change. As for the subsurface aquifer, there is no impact from the intake.

**Ecological impact**

The intakes use only small part of the whole groundwater resources in the area. In the complex geology of the area there are extensive areas of inflow of water to the intakes. In Podgorze area there is no pollution from the surface. The catchment area is a farmland with farm production of low intensity. In the land development plan for the former Lomza province, the Podgorze intake catchment area is protected and only conventional farming is allowed. The extracted water needs treatment in order to comply with the standards for water for human consumption, households, and industry that requires water of drinking water quality. To achieve these standards and the EU standards, considering the raw water quality, it is enough to introduce the removal of iron, manganese, and turbidity particles. The upgraded Podgorze intake will extract water with continuous level of maximum capacity. In periods of low consumption water will be stored in reservoirs and in peak consumption periods it will be transported to the pipeline in the amount that exceeds the capacity. Steady operation will prevent the colmatation of the well and the drawing in of fine sand. The storage reservoirs will enable steady operation of the treatment plant. It is advisable to increase the amount of water extracted at the Podgorze intake and decrease that from the Rybaki intake, where water is of poor quality. The project activities will not disturb water relations in the area.

Noise pollution will be due to: heavy equipment during the construction of the building and facilities foundation, increased traffic of such vehicles as concrete mixers that will transport materials and equipment to the site, excavators, cranes, concrete mixers, drills, etc., which will produce unsettled
Noise. Noise levels in the surrounding area will be slightly elevated. The industrial noise in the intake areas can be caused by many sources, including: new elements of the infrastructure, e.g. ventilation facilities in pumping stations, compressor chambers, workshops, or a blower room, a pumping station, filter washing in the new treatment plant; the 2nd grade pumping station and compressor chambers;

Significant air impact will occur during the construction activities at the Podgorze intake: excavation of foundations for the treatment plant and facilities with the use of heavy equipment, low-range emission of suspended and falling dusts from heavy equipment, elevated vehicle exhaust emission from the increased traffic of transport vehicles, secondary dusting in dry and hot weather due to dusty construction materials. Process engineering applied at the intakes excludes the possibility of gas or dust emission. The only, minor though, pollutant will be vehicle exhaust from transport of chemicals necessary for treatment. Air pollution may result from water chlorination, i.e. from the removal of residual chlorine compounds or hypochlorite NaOCl injections, which is commonly used for chlorination and water disinfection. There will be no immediate chlorination with gaseous chlorine. Instead chlorine compounds dissolved in water with the use of sodium hypochlorite will be used.

Impact to material goods and land development

Meanwhile the hitherto land use is not altered, however it is important to prevent any possible dangers to groundwater purity. Local land development plans specify conditions for any activities in the protection zones. Protection zones and limitations in land use are inevitable to enable operating of intakes and protect their water. The ground subsidence or lowering of the water table will not pose danger to places of historical interest as the project area is devoid of such places. The project will not affect water bodies or water sources located in places of conservation. Limitations in the accessibility of the project area for recreation could occur at the Rybaki intake, as it is situated near the river Narew. However, the project activities will not cause this kind of limitations. There are no archeological sites in or in the vicinity of the project area, which is located on the outskirts of Lomza. In ancient times Lomza was the first settlement in the region but its remnants are in today’s city centre.

- If no explain the reasons and give the thresholds, criteria or case by case examination carried out to reach the conclusion that the project has no significant environmental effects:

Use more space if necessary

Have the results of the determination whether a project listed in Annex II of the Directive requires a formal EIA or not (made by the competent authority) made available to the public?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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- If yes, on which date ______/____/_____

As provided by the Regulation of the Minister of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry of 14 July 1998 on investment projects considered detrimental to environment and human health ( Dziennik Ustaw – Journal of Laws no 93, item 589), the environmental impact assessment is obligatory for the Podgorze part of the project. This is why the public was not notified of this part of the project and the EIA was carried out, as being obligatory.

Consultations with the public concerned are currently being conducted by the administrator of the Lomza commune in the form of administrative proceedings.
- the starting date: 30 August 2002,
- the form: a note in the data base accessible for the public, bill-posting on notice boards in the project area, on the investor’s premises, and in the Lomza Commune Office,
- the public can submit comments within 21 days, i.e. till 20 September 2002, in the Lomza Commune Office

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4 The decision needs to be based on the procedure described in article 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 and the screening criteria of Annex III of Council Directive 97/11/EC amending Directive 85/337/EEC.
1. Assessment of effects on sites of nature conservation importance

1.1. Is the project likely to affect sites of nature conservation importance (i.e. potential Natura 2000 sites)?

[ ] Yes  [X] No

- If yes - please go to question 1.2.
- If no - please fill out Annex I (Declaration by the authority responsible for sites of nature conservation importance = potential future Natura 2000 sites)

1.2 In this case an appropriate assessment according to art. 6(3) of the directive 92/43/EEC ("Habitats Directive") is obligatory.

1.2.1 Have this appropriate assessment been carried out?

[ ] Yes  [X] No

This appropriate assessment can take the form of an EIA according to Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by 97/11/EC. If this is not the case, please describe briefly the procedure carried out and include a non-technical summary of the impact study.

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Based on the results of the above appropriate assessment, will the project have a significant negative impact on a site of nature conservation importance?

[ ] Yes  [X] No

- If yes, please fill out Annex II (Information to the Commission according to Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive. This Annex has to be signed by the authority responsible for sites of nature conservation importance = potential future Natura 2000 sites)

- If no, please fill out Annex I (Declaration by the authority responsible for sites of nature conservation importance = potential future Natura 2000 sites)

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5 For the purpose of the Pre-Accession instruments a site of nature conservation importance (= potential future Natura 2000 site) in candidate countries is a site falling under one or more of the following categories:
(a) sites, which have been identified by the competent national authorities as sites to be proposed for the Natura 2000 network as laid down in the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) and Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)
(b) sites listed in the latest inventory of Important Bird Areas (IBA 2000) for candidate countries or (if available) equivalent more detailed scientific inventories endorsed by national authorities
(c) wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention or qualifying for such protection
(d) areas to which the Bern convention on the conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Art. 4) applies, in particular sites meeting the criteria of the Emerald network
(e) areas protected under national nature conservation legislation
ANNEX I - Declaration by the authority responsible for sites of nature conservation importance
(= potential future Natura 2000 sites)
(EQUIVALENT TO Annex I(a) of the Cohesion Fund form)

Responsible authority........ The Province Nature Conservator .................................................................
Having examined6 the project application ..
(title)..THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES IN LOMZA
which is to be located at ..... .. The city of Lomza and the Lomza commune .................................
we declare that (tick the appropriate box):
✓ The project is not likely to have significant effects on a site of nature conservation importance on
the following grounds:
The project area is not extensive and it is outside the site of nature conservation importance.

Therefore an appropriate assessment required by Article 6 (3) was not deemed necessary.
☐ Following an appropriate assessment, according to Art. 6(3) of Directive 92/43/EEC, the project
will not have significant negative effects on a site of nature conservation importance.
Signed: ........................................
(Authority responsible for monitoring sites of nature conservation importance)
Official Seal:

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6 taking into account the requirements of Art. 6(3) of Directive 92/43/EEC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate Country:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Competent national authority:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
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<td>Contact person:</td>
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## 1. PROJECT

Name of the site affected:

This site is (please tick):
- □ a site identified by the national competent authority as qualifying under Art. 4(1) and (2) of the Birds directive (79/409/EEC)
- □ a site identified by the national competent authority as qualifying under Art. 4 (1) of the Habitats directive (92/43/EEC)
- □ a site listed in the latest inventory on Important Bird Areas (IBA 2000) or (if available) in an equivalent more detailed scientific inventories endorsed by national authorities
- □ a wetland of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention or qualifying for such protection
- □ a site to which the Bern convention on the conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Art. 4) applies, in particular a site meeting the criteria of the Emerald network
- □ areas protected under national nature conservation legislation

Summary of the project having an effect on the site:

## 2. NEGATIVE EFFECTS

Summary of the assessment of the negative effects on the site:

N.B.: this summary should focus on the adverse effect expected on the conservation value of the site, include the appropriate maps and describe the already decided mitigation measures.

## 3. ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Summary of alternative solutions studied by the candidate country:

Reasons why the competent national authorities have concluded that there is absence of alternative solutions:

## 4. IMPERATIVE REASONS

Reason to nevertheless carry out this plan or project:
- □ Imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature (in the absence of priority habitat/species)
- □ Human health
- □ Public safety
- □ Beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment
- □ Other imperative reasons of overriding public interest

Short description of the reason:

## 5. COMPENSATION MEASURES

Foreseen compensatory measures and timetable: