

## Public Purpose Investments in Voivodeship Spatial Development Plans as an Expression of Regional Spatial Policy

Małgorzata Błaszke<sup>1</sup>, Izabela Rącka<sup>2</sup>, Maciej Nowak<sup>3</sup>, Olga Buzu<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> West Pomeranian University of Technology Szczecin, Poland, ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7806-6710>, [malgorzata.blaszke@zut.edu.pl](mailto:malgorzata.blaszke@zut.edu.pl)

<sup>2</sup> The President Stanislaw Wojciechowski State University of Applied Sciences in Kalisz, Poland, ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2344-0901>, [i.racka@pwsz.kalisz.pl](mailto:i.racka@pwsz.kalisz.pl)

<sup>3</sup> West Pomeranian University of Technology Szczecin, Poland, ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8149-8995>, [maciej.nowak@zut.edu.pl](mailto:maciej.nowak@zut.edu.pl)

<sup>4</sup> Technical University of Moldova, Moldova, ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7909-1061>, [olga.buzu@emi.utm.md](mailto:olga.buzu@emi.utm.md)

### ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** Defining possible ways to verify and evaluate voivodeship spatial development plans as key spatial policy tools at the voivodeship level.

**Methods:** The content of all voivodeship spatial development plans was analysed, with a detailed classification of public purpose investments contained therein.

**Findings:** Based on the conducted research, it can be indicated that data on public purpose investments included in voivodeship spatial development plans can also be used for other analyses. First of all, they are a key manifestation of voivodeship spatial policy. And in this context, an important measure of verifying the activity of a given voivodeship (taking into account all other circumstances) is information about the percentage share of public purpose investments of regional scope in all investments included in the plan.

**Research implications:** Based on the conducted research, it can be indicated that data on public purpose investments included in voivodeship spatial development plans can also be used for other analyses. First of all, they are a key manifestation of voivodeship spatial policy. And in this context, an important measure of verifying the activity of a given voivodeship (taking into account all other circumstances) will be information on the percentage share of public purpose investments of the regional scope in all investments included in the plan.

**Keywords:** spatial policy; regional development; public purpose investments

**JEL codes:** R58

**Article type:** research article

**DOI:** 10.14659/WOREJ.2019.110.04

## INTRODUCTION

There is no doubt about the enormous role of spatial policy in shaping the real estate market. Its basic entities are municipal authorities, but they are not the only ones. Other entities include voivodeship local governments. However, they have slightly different tasks related to shaping the space. There is also a clear specificity of the spatial policy tool at the regional level - the voivodeship spatial development plan. Through this plan, a key part of the voivodeship local government's tasks in the field of space shaping is implemented. In this context, the fundamental element of the plan is to identify the public purpose investments that determine not only the optimal development of individual areas, but also the correct basis for regional development.

The purpose of the paper is to determine the possible ways of verifying and assessing voivodeship spatial development plans as key tools for spatial policy at the voivodeship level. The focus was primarily on this aspect of plans, which is directly reflected in local spatial policies, i.e. distribution of public purpose investments. The issue was associated with the concept of inefficiency of public authorities in the spatial management system.

The main subject of spatial policy is the commune authorities, but the voivodeship authorities also play an important role in the spatial management system. The voivodeship spatial development plan adopted by them should specify the key planning conditions on a regional scale. However, the widest effects of this plan are related to the distribution of public purpose investments in it, which is binding for communes (and is also important because of the rank and importance of these investments, also determining the real estate market).

This paper deals with spatial policy at the voivodeship level. In this approach, it refers to the entire country and all voivodeship direct spatial policy tools, i.e. voivodeship spatial development plans. The data analysis method was used (data contained in voivodeship spatial development plans was processed and systematized).

It should be emphasized that although the implemented investments are often the subject of various researches, the way of including the public purpose investments from the perspective of spatial policy in voivodeship spatial development plans in the whole country was studied to a limited extent. And this is an important issue that determines not only local spatial policy, but also all activities related to, e.g. the socio-economic policy of the region (which is not a research topic in this paper).

---