

## **POLISH OECD NATIONAL CONTACT POINT FOR RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT 2022 ACTIVITY REPORT**

The OECD National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct (OECD NCP) performs the following tasks:

- (1) promotes the *OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises* (OECD MNEs Guidelines) and other OECD standards in the scope of responsible business conduct;
- (2) conducts proceedings in cases arising from notifications received by the OECD NCP, pertaining to potential breaches of the OECD MNEs Guidelines.

The OECD MNEs Guidelines set the standard for responsible business conduct (RBC). The recommendations contained therein concern to employee relations, work safety, respect for human rights and to environmental issues, access to information, protection of consumer interests and tax settlements. They also indicate due diligence principles for the activities of multinational enterprises.

Where the activities of a multinational enterprise breach the OECD MNEs Guidelines, it is possible to submit a notification to the OECD NCP. After examining the case and accepting it for processing, the OECD NCP may offer the parties a mediation procedure or its good offices.

In 2022, the Polish OECD NCP was functioning in the Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy (MDFRP), within the structure of the Minister's Office responsible for direct support of the high-level Management of the Ministry, as well as disseminating trends and standards of responsible business among enterprises and other organisations.

The Polish OECD NCP consisted of two employees of the Minister's Office, MDFRP, including: the Head of the Unit and the Counsellor of the Unit for Coordination of the Government Legislative Process and CSR, and subsequently, since August 1, 2022, in connection with changes in the structure of the Minister's Office, in the Unit of Corporate Social Responsibility.

This report summarises the activities carried out by the Polish OECD NCP in 2022, including:

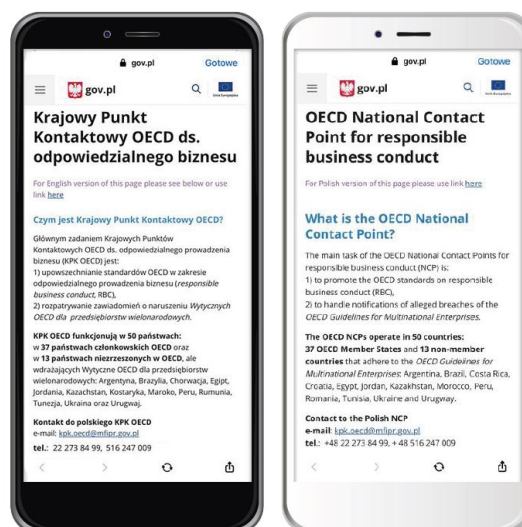
- 1) promotion of the *OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises*;
- 2) promotional activities of the Polish OECD NCP in 2022 addressing the due diligence issues;
- 3) participation of the Polish OECD NCP in the work on updating the OECD MNEs Guidelines;
- 4) participation of OECD NCP representatives in other events;
- 5) OECD NCP at meetings of the Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility Advisory Board;
- 6) conducting proceedings in connection with notifications on potential breaches of the OECD MNE's Guidelines.

## PROMOTION OF THE OECD GUIDELINES FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES

The main channel for disseminating the responsible business standards developed by the OECD is the [OECD NCP website](#), operated on the official website of the Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy.

The OECD NCP website is available in two language versions: [Polish](#) and [English](#).

Some of the OECD NCP documents are also available in [Ukrainian](#) and [Russian](#).



The tabs on the OECD NCP website:

### [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises](#)

Describes the OECD MNEs Guidelines and provides links to download the document.

### [Due diligence Guidance](#)

Describes the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct* and provides links to download the document.

### [Sectoral Guidelines](#)

Provides a description and links to download OECD documents for the following sectors:

- extractive sector,
- conflict minerals sector,
- textile, clothing and footwear sector,
- agriculture sector,
- financial sector.

### [Activities of the OECD NCP](#)

Contains a description of webinars, conferences, and meetings organised by the OECD NCP and international events in which the Polish OECD NCP participated. At the bottom of this page, a “Materiały” [Materials] section is available, allowing to download, among others, the annual reports on the activities of the Polish OECD NCP.

### [OECD NCP Network](#)

Contains a description of the OECD National Contact Points Network and a link to the OECD website, leading to individual OECD NCPs operating in 51 countries in 2022.

### [Conduct procedure before the OECD NCP](#)

Contains links to download the documents of the Polish OECD NCP:

#### [Conduct procedure before the OECD NCP](#)

#### [Flow chart of conduct procedure before the Polish OECD NCP](#)

#### [Template for notification concerning a potential breach of the OECD MNEs Guidelines](#)

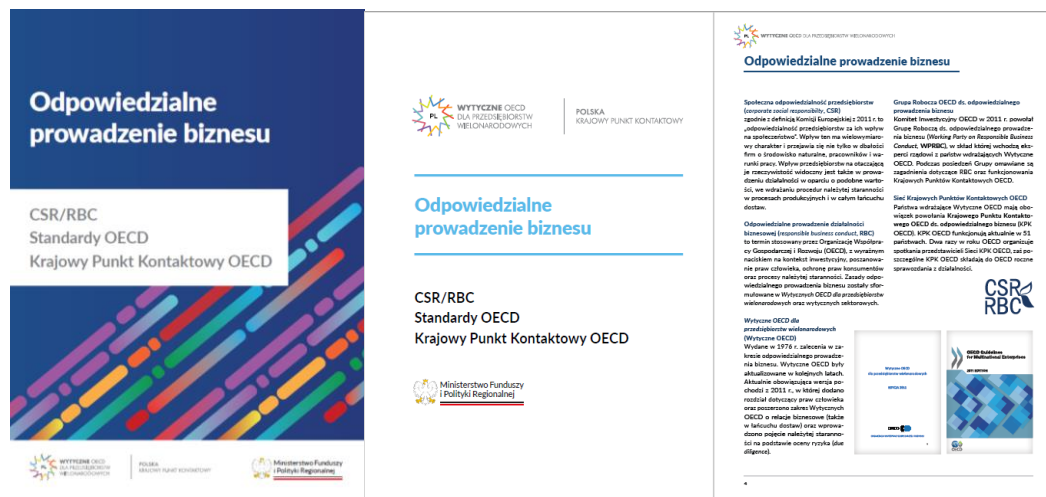
### [Notifications](#)

Contains links for downloading documents related to proceedings conducted by the Polish OECD NCP (Initial Assessments, Final Assessments, Monitoring Memos, etc.)

### [Archive 2001-2015](#)

Contains links for downloading the annual reports on the activities of the OECD NCP in the years 2001-2015.

The OECD NCP website also features a brochure describing the OECD standards for responsible business and the tasks of the OECD NCP – available in [Polish](#) and in [English](#).

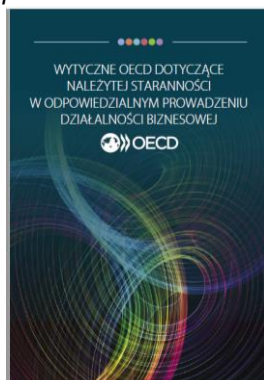


## PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE POLISH OECD NCP IN 2022 ADDRESSING THE DUE DILIGENCE ISSUES IN RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT

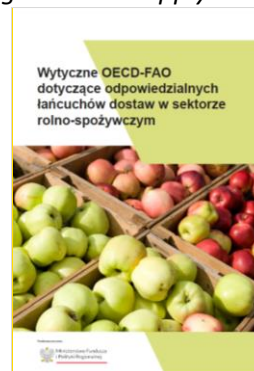
The priorities of the OECD NCP's activities in 2022 included disseminating the knowledge of the due diligence process in responsible business conduct, which was also associated with an important direction for legislative work within the EU. In fact, the issue of due diligence is also relevant in the CSR/RBC area in connection with the draft EU Directive *on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CSDD)*, which was under development in the Council of the EU in 2022 (CSDD), which was under development in the Council of the EU in 2022.

A specific activity of the Polish OECD NCP is the dissemination of RBC standards among Polish entrepreneurs, including by publishing Polish language versions of documents developed by the OECD. In 2022, the Polish OECD NCP published two documents in Polish:

### *The OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct*



### *The OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains*



In 2022, the Polish OECD NCP disseminated knowledge on due diligence and the current trends in the area of RBC as well as in connection with the work on updating the OECD MNEs Guidelines, including:

**May 12, 2022**

**Webinar on “Current trends in the development of responsible business standards”**

The topics discussed during the webinar included the following issues:

- how is the corporate social responsibility perceived today,
- what are the recent and planned regulatory changes, including those relating to corporate sustainability reporting,
- how the activity of the OECD NCP contributes to strengthening responsible practices of the Polish business.

**May 19, 2022**

**Webinar on “Due diligence in responsible supply chains from the perspective of responsible business conduct standards”**

The webinar was devoted to the following issues:

- what due diligence means according to the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#), [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises](#) and [OECD sectoral guidelines](#)
- what practical tips for managing corporate risks are available in the [OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct](#), which were presented during the event.

**November 22, 2022**

**Webinar on “Due diligence in the agricultural and food sector”**

The webinar was attended by experts from the OECD and FAO, who presented the issues of responsible business in the agricultural and food sector from the perspective of these organisations.

They discussed how the *OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains* can help Polish agricultural and food enterprises in preparing for their upcoming obligations under the new EU regulations with representatives of Polish civil society organisations, industry organisations and a representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

During the webinar, the Polish language version of the *OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains* was presented.

The recordings of the aforementioned webinars are available on the MDFRP website addressing the [CSR events](#).

**PARTICIPATION OF THE POLISH OECD NCP IN THE WORK ON  
TARGETED UPDATE THE OECD MNES GUIDELINES**

In 2022, the OECD took the stocktaking exercise on the *OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises* in terms of their compliance with the current trends and other regulations in the scope of responsible business conduct. In December 2022, the OECD proposed the final draft of the targeted updates to the OECD MNEs Guidelines for public consultation (from January 15 to February 10, 2023).

The Polish OECD National Contact Point took active part in the work on targeted update of the OECD MNEs Guidelines, by submitting comments of the Polish public administration to the OECD. It also disseminated information on the ongoing work through the OECD NCP website and meetings with stakeholders, including during the meeting of the Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility Advisory Board on October 12, 2022 and the coordination meeting of the MDFRP and OECD NCP with ministries concerning the submission of comments on the draft of targeted updates to the OECD MNEs Guidelines held on November 4, 2022.

The OECD NCP also prepared a stakeholder meeting held in January 2023 to disseminate information about the targeted update of the OECD MNEs Guidelines and the public consultation planned by the OECD between January 15 and February 10, 2023 on the final draft update of the content of the OECD MNEs Guidelines.

### PARTICIPATION OF THE POLISH OECD NCP IN OTHER EVENTS

Representatives of the OECD NCP participated in meetings of the OECD NCP Network organised by the OECD, both in an online and in person format on: January 31, 2022, June 29–July 1, 2022, October 11, 2022 and November 17-18, 2022.

In October 2022, a representative of the Polish OECD NCP took part in the peer review of the OECD NCP in Morocco. Peer reviews of OECD NCPs provide insight into the activities and achievements of individual OECD NCPs and can provide support for improving the effectiveness of their operation.

Moreover, on November 28-30, 2022 representatives of the OECD NCP participated in the [11. UN Forum on Business and Human Rights](#), held in an online format. In connection with the keynote theme of the Forum, *“Rights Holders at the Centre: Strengthening Accountability to Advance Business Respect for People and Planet in the Next Decade”*, many sessions focused on business corporate responsibility, the remedies for persons affected and the situation of human rights defenders, which is also strongly related to the activities of the OECD NCP.

### POLISH OECD NCP AT THE MEETINGS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ADVISORY BOARD

The main task of the Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility Advisory Board, which is an auxiliary body to the Minister of Development Funds and Regional Policy, is to create a space for dialogue and exchange of experiences in the field of developing corporate responsibility practices (CSR/RBC) on the Polish market.

The tasks of the Advisory Board include forming recommendations for the implementation of CSR/RBC standards in public policies in accordance with the priorities of socio-economic development, specified in the medium-term national development strategy – the Strategy for Responsible Development.

In 2022, one meeting of the Advisory Board was held on October 12, 2022 during which information on the current activities of the Polish OECD NCP was presented, including the work on updating the OECD MNEs Guidelines. Members of the Advisory Board were also encouraged to follow OECD work in this scope actively, submit comments and take part in public consultation planned in 2023.

Between the meetings, members of the Advisory Board were informed about the activities of the Polish OECD NCP and encouraged to actively participate in events organised by the OECD and the Polish OECD NCP.

### **NOTIFICATIONS ON POTENTIAL BREACHES OF THE OECD MNEs GUIDELINES**

Conducting cases resulting from notifications of a potential breach of the OECD MNEs Guidelines by multinational enterprises is an important area of the OECD NCP activities.

- 1) In 2022, did not receive any new notifications of a potential breach by any enterprises of the OECD MNEs Guidelines;
- 2) In 2022, the Polish OECD NCP continued proceedings in two cases received in 2020. In these cases good offices were held (talks between the parties to the proceedings with the active support of the OECD NCP in order to find a solution satisfactory to both parties to the proceedings). In 2022, no information related to proceedings in the cases conducted by the OECD NCP was published on the OECD NCP website.