

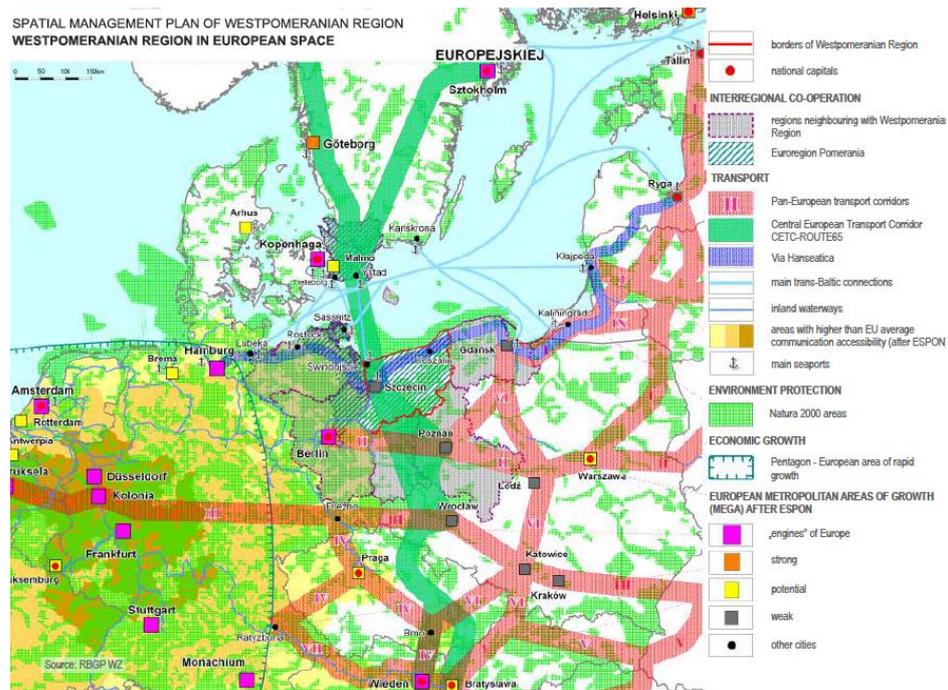
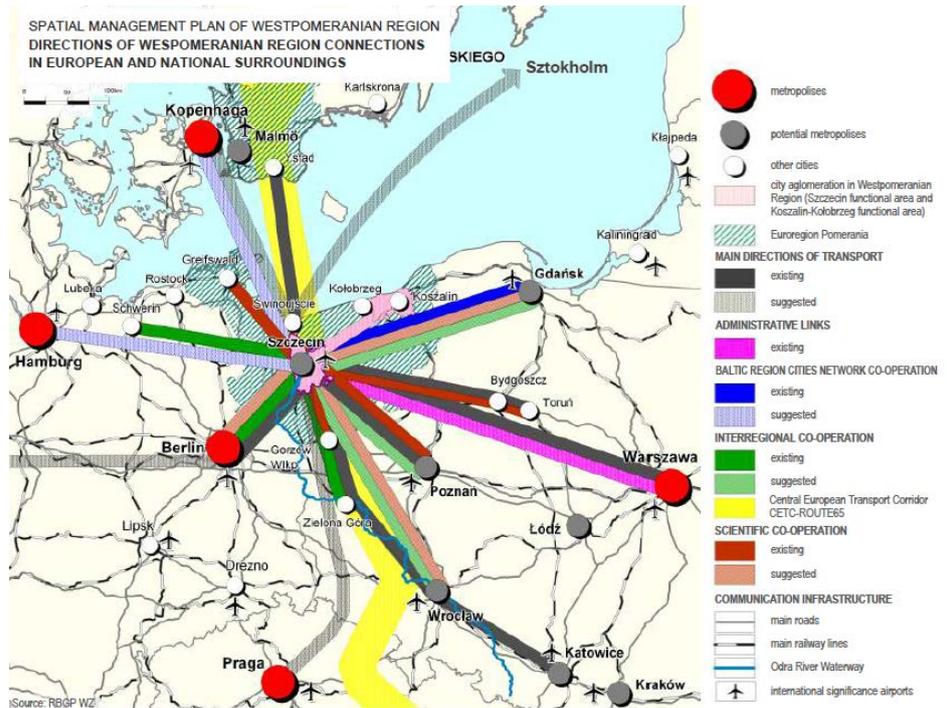
# West - pomerania

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## Spatial Management Plan of West Pomerania

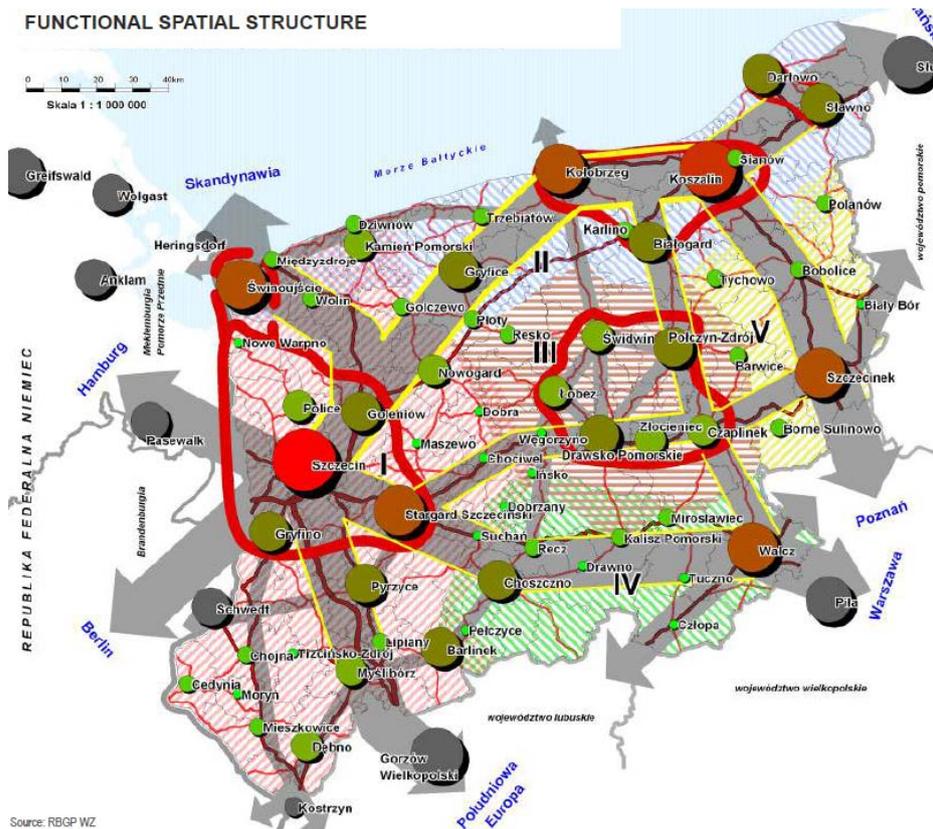
### The Westpomeranian Region in Poland and Europe

The settlement structure includes two major agglomerations: Szczecin and Koszalin. Szczecin is the region's capital and the largest city in the region. Together with neighbouring municipalities, it comprises a potential metropolitan region having its impact on German border area. It has all functions typical for a large city, including services, culture, education, and business. It is also the main transport node of the region, accessible for all modes of transport. Ports of Szczecin and Swinoujscie are considered to be crucial for the national economy and are main elements of the Central European Transport Corridor.



### Strategic connections

The economy of the region, with such major sectors services, industry, tourism and sea transport, generates 4% of the GNP. The level of socio-economic development varies in the region; it is the largest in the agglomeration of Szczecin and on the Baltic coast and the lowest in the central part of the region. Favourable geographic location in the Baltic Sea Region facilitates cooperation of Westpomerania with German and Swedish regions, and the potential cooperation with other regions on the Baltic.



Spatial structure

Spatial development of the Westpomeranian Region should be based on four categories of measures.

## Measures

- **Decisions** regarding measures and rules defined in spatial planning documents developed in the region, such as studies of conditions and directions for spatial development in municipalities and Local Zoning Plans required by the law to comply with the Spatial Management Plan of Westpomeranian Region and national and international documents pertaining to the space in the region;
- **Proposals** regarding measures and rules which are not binding but indicating ways of implementing goals and directions of spatial development. These should be taken into consideration while developing spatial planning documents as well as national and international documents pertaining to the space in the region;
- **Projects**, or proposed study papers, planning and strategic documents in the field of spatial development of the region applicable to new activities or activities that have not been sufficiently implemented;
- **Recommendations**, including proposed rules (e.g. legal norms) or measures concerning spatial development of the region addressed to relevant institutions outside and inside the region

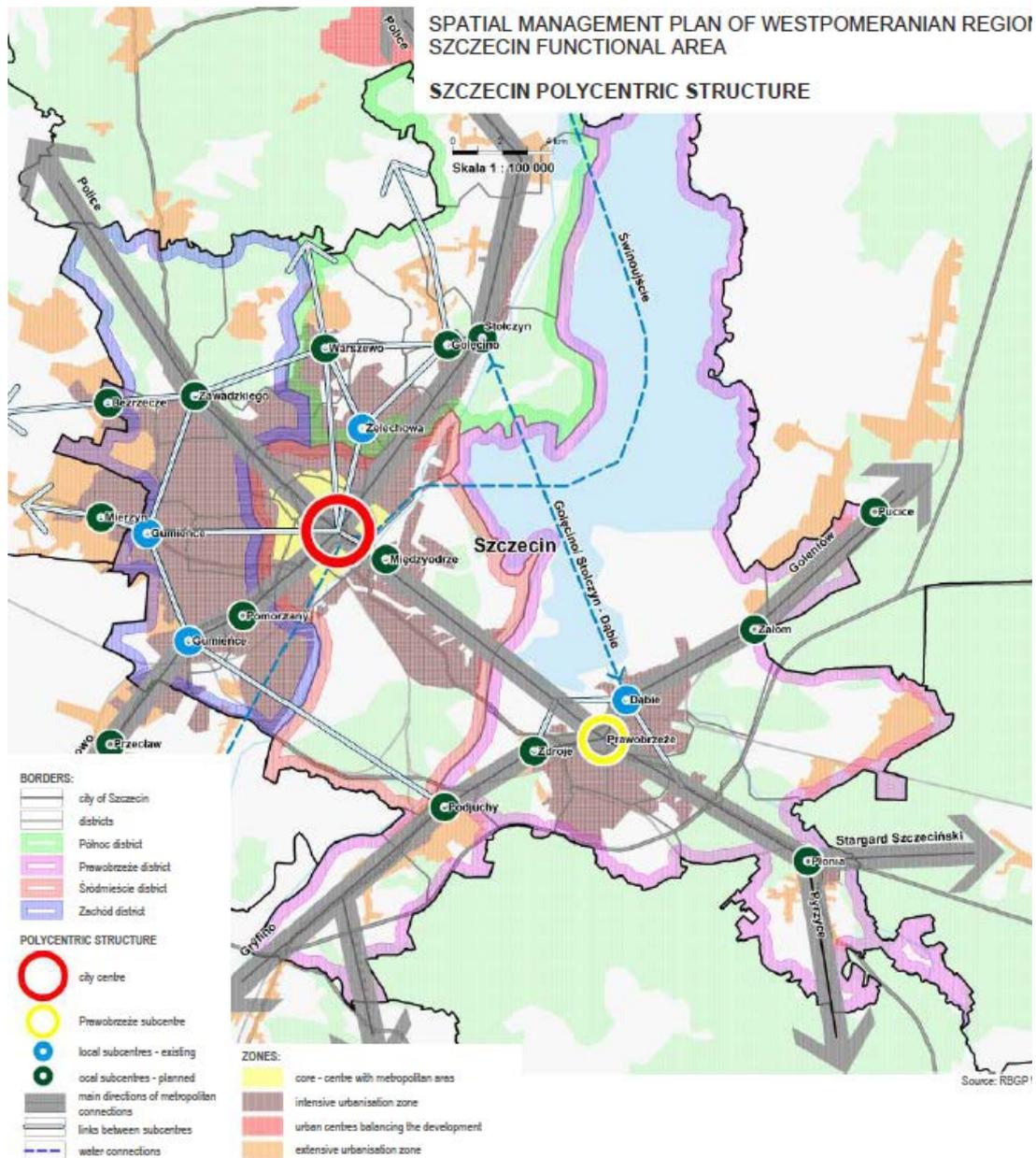
## Strategic Objective

A strategic objective for spatial development of the Westpomeranian Region is to promote sustainable spatial development contributing to regional spatial integration with European and national space, internal cohesion of the region, improvement of competitiveness and level and quality of living up to the average level of the European Union.

## Implementation

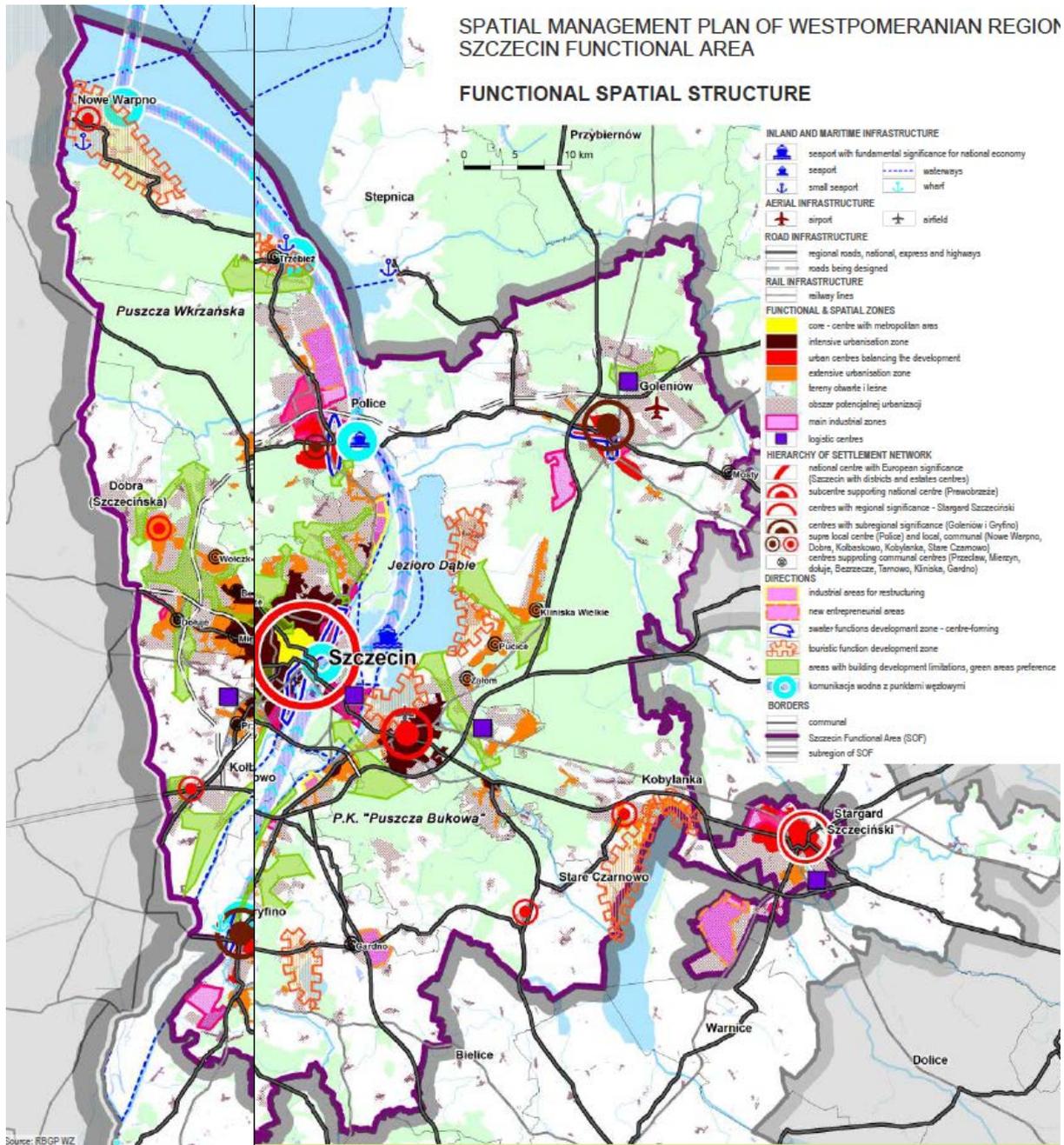
The implementation of the strategic objective requires,

- Deepen integration of the Westpomeranian Region with the national, European and BSR space, contributing to improved competitiveness of the region,
- Protect the environment and its values, implement rational management of natural resources, fossil fuels, waters, soil and forests,
- Protect cultural heritage, historical monuments, and contemporary culture and landscape,
- Influence the region's polycentric settlement network with growth poles in Szczecin and Koszalin, strengthen links between those cities,
- Develop and strengthen metropolitan functions of Szczecin while aiming to reach supra-regional and cross border significance,
- Develop social infrastructure that meets needs pertaining especially to housing, healthcare, and education,
- Strengthen academic and scientific potential of the region,
- Stimulate economic development based on existing economic potential, staff and natural resources and support knowledge based and innovative sectors,
- Develop a transport system integrated with the national and European system of transport to ensure internal cohesion of the region,
- Develop systems of technical infrastructure ensuring relevant standard of living and protection of the environment,
- Support transformation of rural areas to promote non-agricultural activity among inhabitants and transform the former settlement system based on state owned agricultural enterprises, and
- Eliminate development problems in stagnation areas and create new areas of growth.



### Szczecin polycentric structure

The Plan emphasises the development of polycentric structure of the Szczecin Functional Area by creating local service centres in specific districts of Szczecin and neighbouring towns. Spatial effects resulting from the development of suburbs should be eliminated by preventing excessive sprawl and mergers of settlement units and reducing the density of residential development to areas within the agglomerations.



**Szczecin Functional Area**

The Szczecin Functional Area (potential metropolitan area) is presented in the Spatial Management Plan of Westpomeranian Region as a basic spatial structure providing growth impulses to the entire region. It is predisposed to play this role due to its human, economic, and scientific potential, transport links and directions of interregional and cross border cooperation. There are two spatial structures that are larger than the Szczecin Functional Area, namely the metropolitan sub-region, and the cross border metropolitan region of Szczecin which also encompasses border area of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.