



Millennium Development Goals Campaign: time to help others!



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Poland
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland
www.onz.org.pl/rozwoj

Results of a Poll on Public Support for Development Assistance

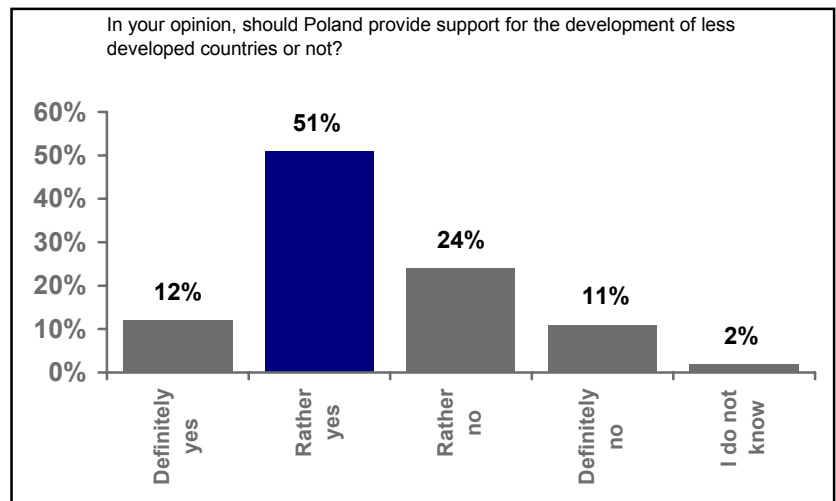
In the opinion of 63% of population, Poland should support the development of poorer countries

TNS OBOP, commissioned by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), conducted an opinion poll on public support for the development assistance for underdeveloped countries. The poll was carried out on September 2 ÷ 5, 2004 within the “Omnimas” cyclic survey on a group of 1 004 respondents aged over 15 which was considered representative for the whole population of Poland. The maximum statistical error in this survey is $\pm 3\%$. When citing the results of this poll, please specify the source: “Poll carried out by TNS OBOP to commission of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).”

For detailed results of the opinion poll visit page: www.onz.org.pl/rozwoj

Summary of poll results:

- ➔ In the opinion of 63% of the respondents, Poland should support the development of less developed countries while every tenth of them is definitely against providing by our country development assistance for poorer States.
- ➔ In most cases, the respondents indicate moral obligation as the main reason for helping less developed countries. As little as 4% of them consider Poland as rich enough to help others.
- ➔ Those who think that Poland should not provide development assistance for less development countries justify their opinion that our country is too poor to help others and every second of them states that we should first solve our own problems.
- ➔ Every second Pole is of opinion that Poland’s development assistance should be addressed to African countries while every fourth of the respondents would wish the assistance to be offered to our eastern neighbors.
- ➔ As the area where Poland should help poorer countries, the respondents most frequently indicate the improvement of the health service (44%) and the raising of education level (34%).
- ➔ In most cases (40%), the respondents indicate the transfer of money through specialized international organizations as the best way to provide money for development assistance for less developed



countries. Somewhat less respondents would entrust the money transfer task to Polish NGOs or business units.

- ➔ 51% of the respondents would wish the Poland's development assistance to be provided for Africa, preferably for the improvement of the condition of health service (63%) and for the raising of education level (45%). Every fourth of those who want Africa to be supported indicates the prevention of and recovery from conflicts and the development of agriculture. The largest group (50%) is of opinion that the aid for Africa should be rendered through international organizations.
- ➔ 25% of the Poles would wish Poland to help our eastern neighbors (Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia) in such areas as the improvement of the condition of health service (41%), the raising of education level (38%), and the prevention of and recovery from conflicts (35%). The money should be transferred through Polish organizations (42%); for this region, the number of respondents who would prefer the offering of money to local organizations or governments of the countries receiving the assistance (8% in both cases) slightly exceeds that recorded for other regions.
- ➔ 12% of those covered by the survey would wish the Poland's development assistance to be given to other former Soviet Republics. The money should be offered for the improvement of the condition of health service (45%), the raising of education level (43%), the prevention of and recovery from conflicts (37%), and the development of agriculture (32%). The funds should be disbursed through Polish and international organizations (45% and 42%, respectively).
- ➔ 11% of the Poles would wish the development assistance to be given to Asia, preferably for the improvement of the condition of health service (67%), the raising of education level (47%), and, more frequently than for other regions, for the development of infrastructure (26%) and agriculture (28%). In their opinion, the funds should be transferred through international organizations (54%).
- ➔ 7% of those covered by the survey would wish to address the assistance to South-East European countries. They would like to allocate the money for the raising of education level (57%), the improvement of the condition of health service (44%), the prevention of and recovery from conflicts (36%), and, more frequently than for other regions, for the supporting of democratic reforms (28%) and environmental protection (21%). The funds should be transferred through international organizations (53%), though a considerable number of the respondents also indicated the governments of the supported countries.
- ➔ According to 49% of the respondents, the amounts allocated by Poland for the development assistance are just as they should be. These amounts are considered too small and too high by 12% and 14% of the respondents, respectively.
- ➔ A half of the respondents would agree to the disbursement of 3 PLN a month from their taxes for development assistance for poorer countries and 6% would offer even more. 15% of the respondents would accept the giving of a part of their taxes for this purpose but the amount in question should be less than 3 PLN a month. Only every fourth Pole, if having the right to decide, would forbid any disbursement of his/her taxes for development assistance.
- ➔ More than a half of the respondents (67%) are of opinion that well developed countries and international organizations offered very little assistance to Poland in her development after 1989.

