

The first stage of public consultation on the area of RZGW in Krakow

Barbara Chammas

The Regional Water Management Board in Krakow

bchammas@krakow.rzgw.gov.pl

Rome, November 8-10 2007

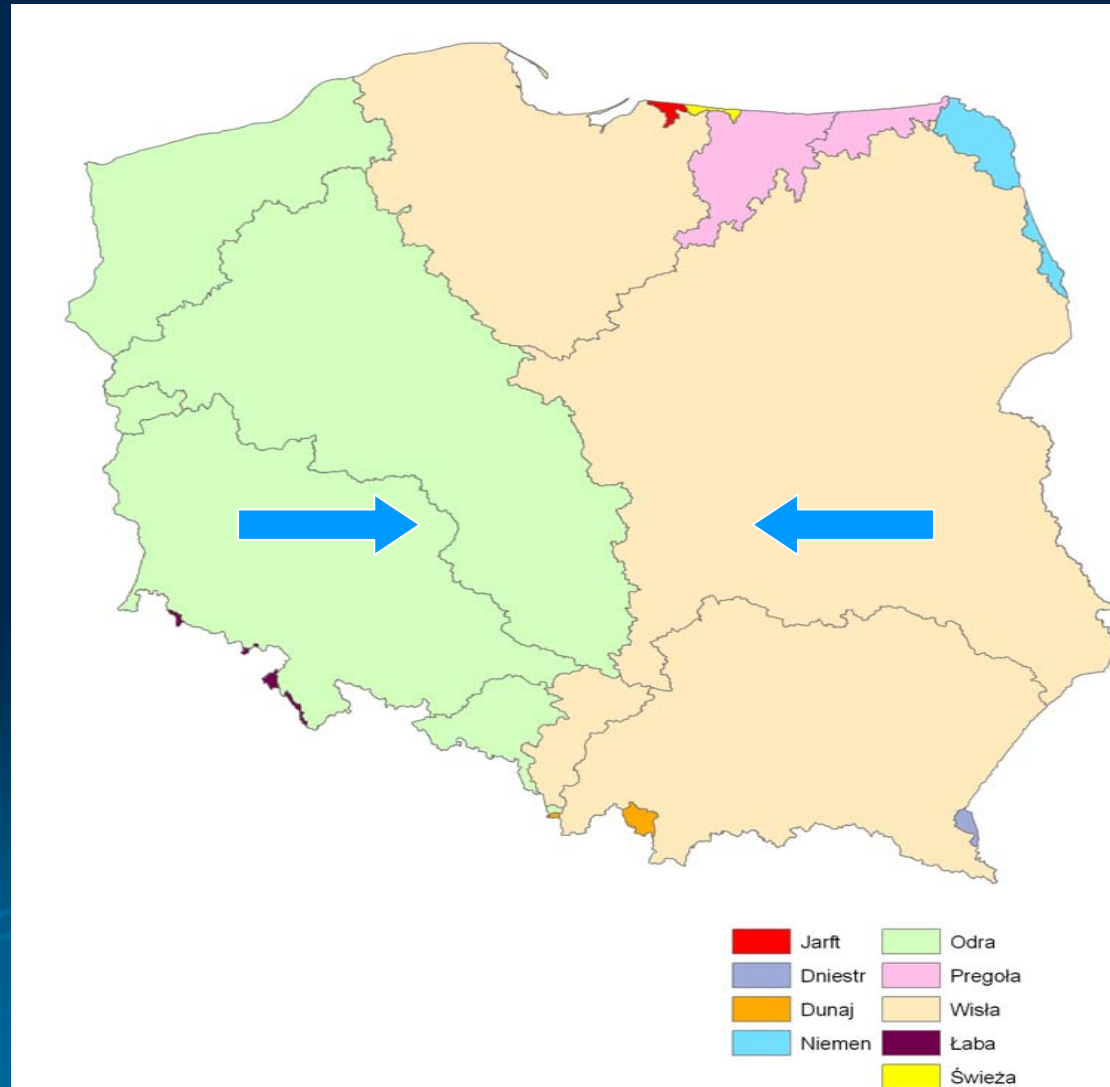
The river basins districts within the Polish borders

In the Baltic catchment's area:

➡ - the Vistula basin district takes up to 60 % of the area of the country;

➡ the Oder basin district area accounts to 38,8 %,

➡ together with the international river basins there are 10 river basins districts in Poland

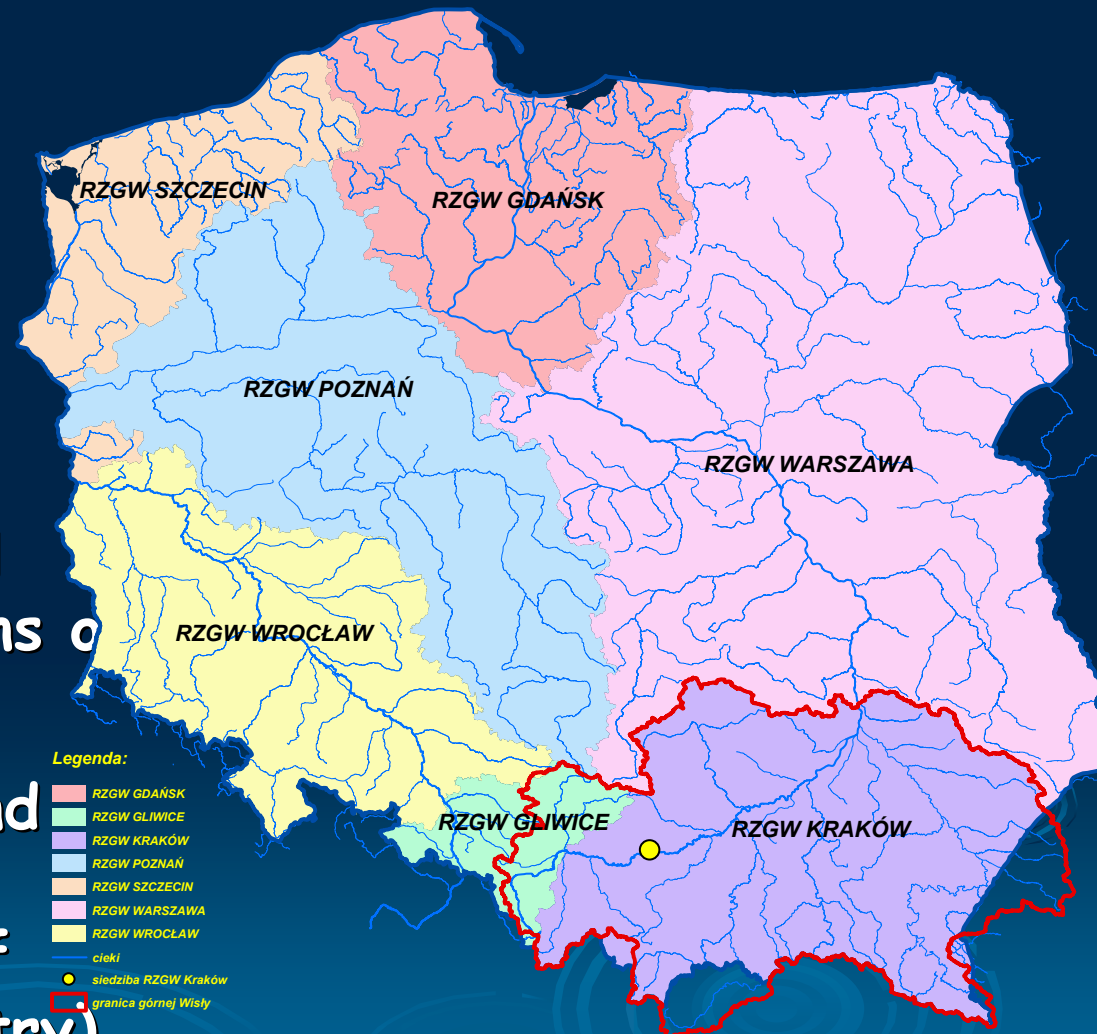


The RZGW in Krakow area

There are **21 hydrographical regions** in Poland. On the area of these 21 regions there are **seven regional water management boards**.

The area of the RZGW in Krakow includes the Upper Vistula basin and two small parts of international basins of Danube and Dniestr.

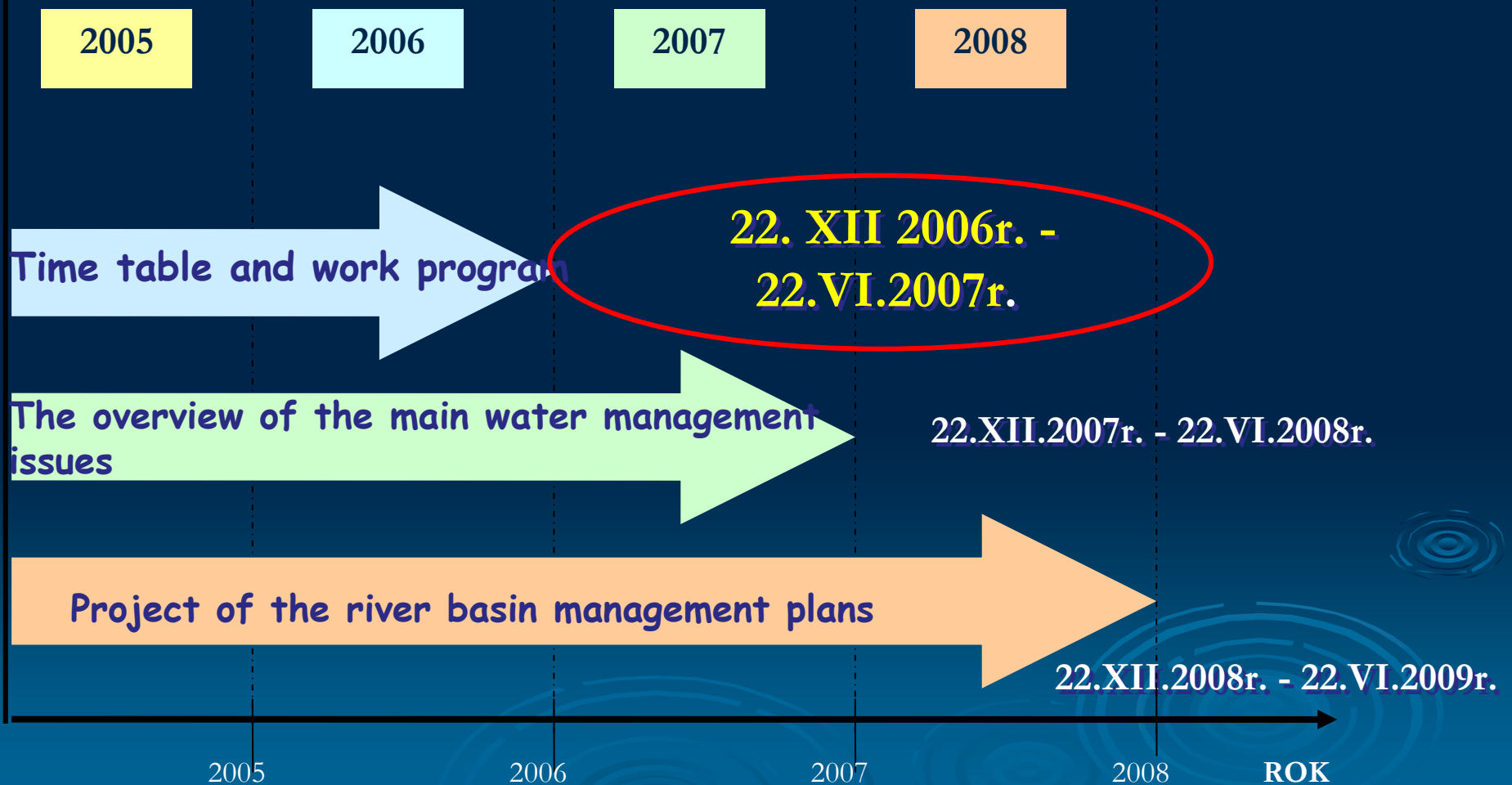
The area amounts to around **43 767 km²**, and has over **5,9 mln residents (15 % of the population of the country)**.



There are **456 communes** in this area, and **63 counties**.

The first stage of public consultation

According to the „Program of public participation in the process of creation of the river basin management plans in Poland”

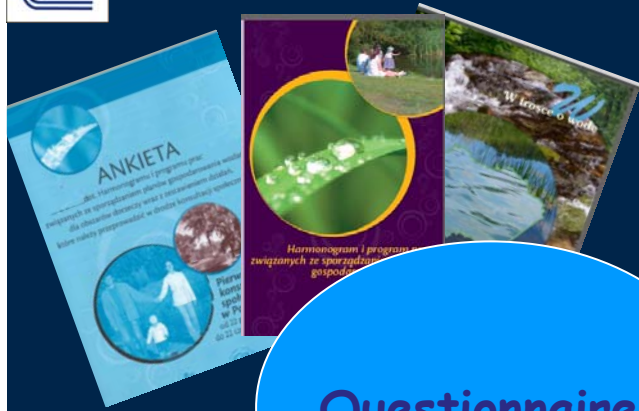


Why did we carried out public consultation?

Objectives of consultation

- collection of opinions, remarks, comments on the consulted document,
- receiving the information about expectations of different groups of interest (necessary for the next activities),
- passing the information about the WFD, about its objectives, about planned and already realized implementing works, their results,...
- creation of the „friendly atmosphere“ for our activities leading to improvement of water status, also for consultation activities,
- making contacts and gaining partners for cooperation during the next stages of public consultation,

How were we collecting comments to the consulted document? Consultation activities

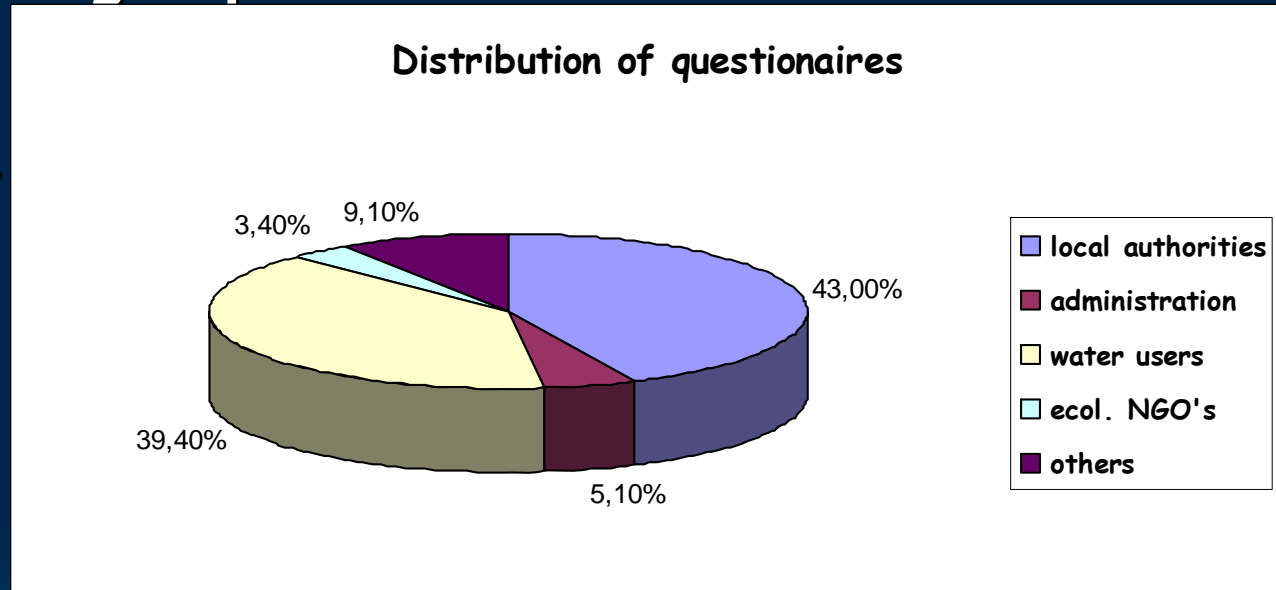


Questionnaires

Public consultation

We disseminated **2000 questionnaires**. The questionnaire was addressed to the groups of interest:

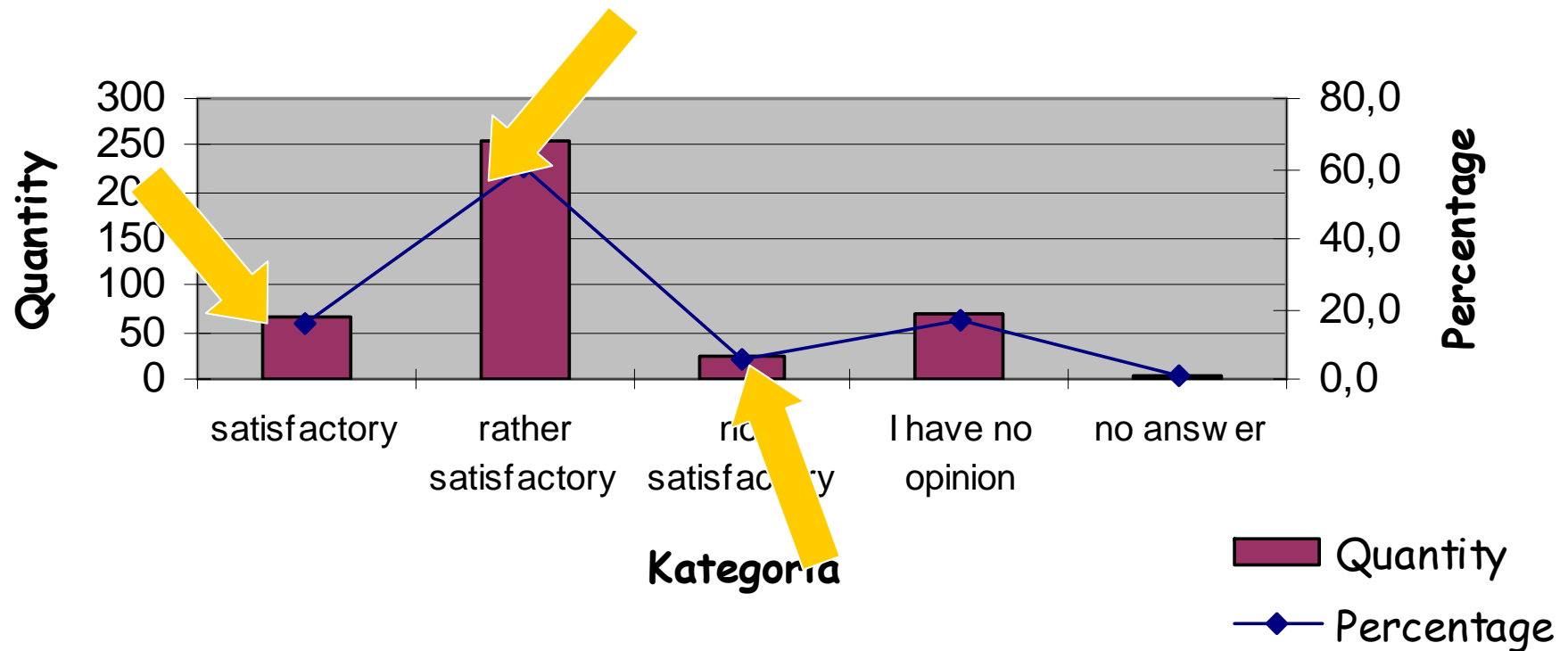
- 💧 Water users,
- 💧 Local authorities,
- 💧 NGO's
- 💧 Public administration



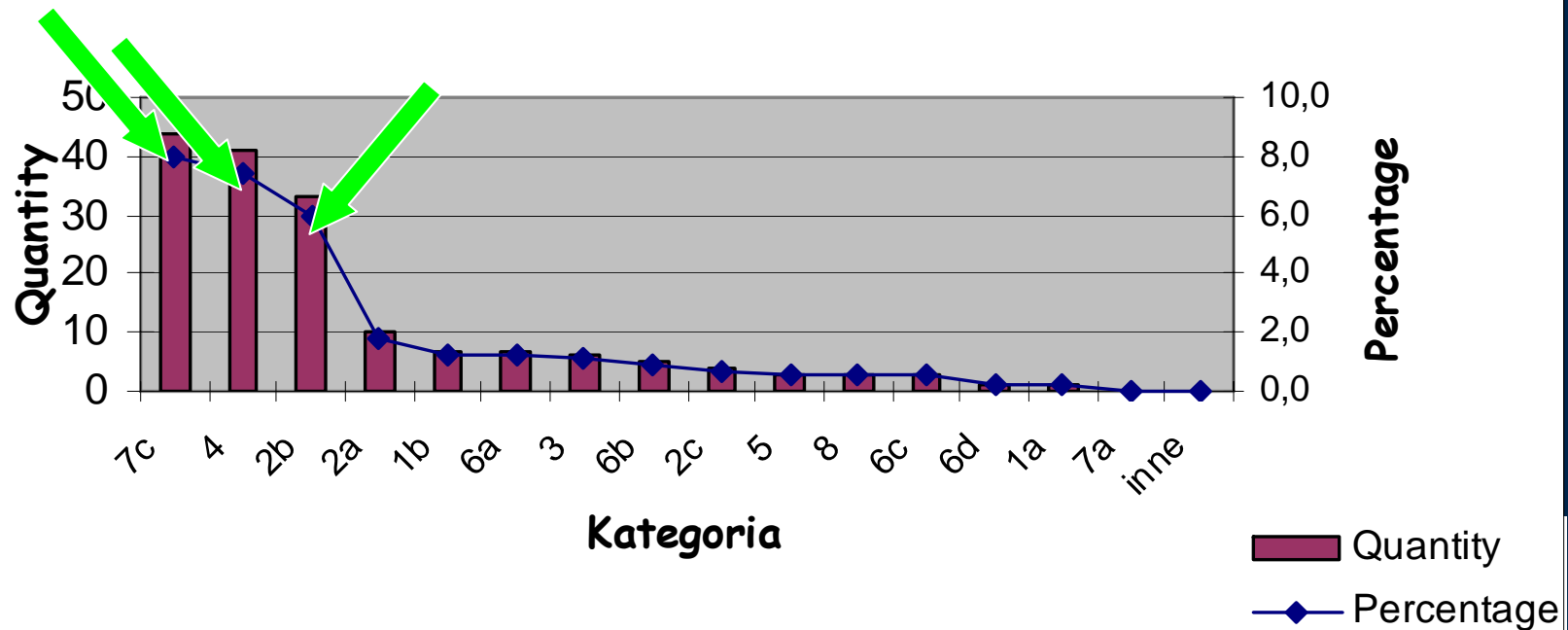
We received back 20% of questionnaires

(In Poland - **10%** of enquired people responded)

Does the time table and work programme satisfy you?

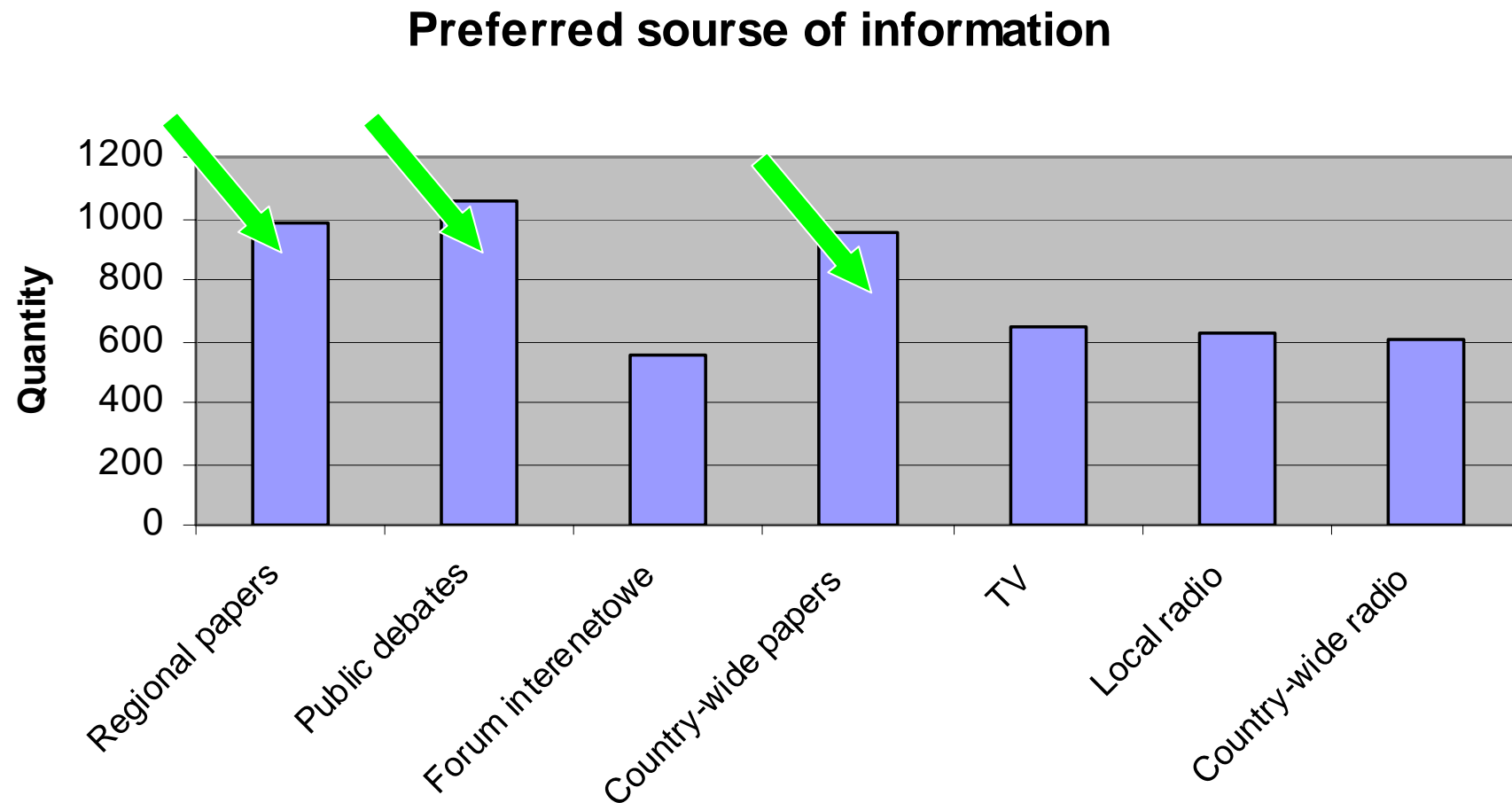


Are there issues on which you would like to receive more information?



- Changes and limitations in water and water environment usage (regarding the WFD implementation) (cat. 7c)
- Information about the activities that lead to achieving the good water status (investment plans) (cat. 4)
- Information about the current status of environment (cat. 2b)

How would you like to receive the information on water management?



How were we collecting comments to the consulted document? Consultation activities



Questionnaires

The Regional Water Management Council, The Regional PP Commission



Representation of 45 institutions and organizations

Public consultation

Meetings with various groups of interest

Web site, Internet Water Forum

20 meetings with various groups



Comments received through different methods of consultation concentrated on the necessary (according to participants) information about:

- 💧 **potential changes and limitations in water and water environment usage** - participants need to know how the WFD implementation may influence their activities,
- 💧 **the activities (methods) that lead to achieving the good water status (e.g. investment plans) presented from the local level** - participants would like to know methods that will be proposed,
- 💧 **information about the current status of water environment** - participants want to know why the implementation of the WFD is necessary, the information about water environment is a condition of success of planning and consultation process, as participants relate the proposed solutions to the current status

Comments received - cont.

- **costs of WFD implementation, about the financial consequences for different groups of interest, and about the financial back up for planned activities** – participants want to know how the implementation will influence their financial situation, the lack of this information makes them worried about their future,
- **public participation in planning process and implementation of plans** – participants want to know if they have possibilities to influence the decision making process, and how they can influence the decisions, this information is necessary if we want the participants to take part in the next consultation.

Conclusions for the next steps

On the next stage of public consultation it is necessary:

- to increase information activities (media need to be engaged!! to reach the broad public)
- to define very clearly the role of different groups of interest in the implementation process
- to define the responsibility of particular institutions engaged in implementation process
- to increase the amounts of meetings, local debates as the method of consultation (that was the most effective method during the first stage of consultation, it is the most wanted and expected method of consultation and it plays a big information and promotion role)



Thank you for your attention

Barbara Chammas

bchammas@krakow.rzgw.gov.pl