

9th Council of Europe Conference  
on the European Landscape Convention



**The contribution of municipalities  
to landscape management:  
the mechanism for reporting on  
the implementation of landscape  
policy**

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**State level**

**Regional level**

**Local level**

**Lithuania aims to create a modern national system for landscape protection and management, that would preserve the country's ethnic regions and the identity of the landscape and enhance the landscape ecological stability.**

**Lithuania signed EL Convention in 2000, ratified in 2002**



**Ministry of Environment (MoE) is responsible for implementation of EL Convention**

**The most important partners in the ELC implementation process are:**

- **Ministry of Agriculture...Culture**
- **Agencies under MoE: State Protected Areas Service, Environmental Protection Agency, State Forest service and General Forest Enterprise and etc.**
- **Municipalities administrations**
- **Universities**
- **Non-Governmental Organisations**

**The process of implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Lithuania began with adoption of the National Landscape Policy (2004) and the Government measures of its realization (2005); from 2015 - realization of the National Landscape Management Plan**

# Lithuanian administrative system ...



- **-10 counties**, each named after their principal city. The counties do not have a separate administration, only a regional council from representatives of municipalities.
- **-the counties are subdivided into 60 municipalities** (53 district municipalities and 7 important city municipalities; municipalities consist of over **500 elderships**).
- **The population of municipalities is very different: from 4 thousand in Neringa (resort) to 550 thousand in Vilnius City**
- **Lithuania has 5 ethno-cultural regions** (regional factor is very important in the system of landscape planning)



# Municipalities and landscape management



Lithuanian municipalities are governed by the Law on Local Municipality, which provides functions for local administrations: municipalities have 44 autonomous and 38 delegated (states transferred) functions, including, landscape (e.g., function nr. 26. “landscape management and protection, protection of greenery, greenery in the territory of a municipality, management and development....”

# The principles of cooperation...



- Municipalities - the largest implementer of NLP and ELK
- Municipalities want quality of the environment...but always short of money
- Ministry identified priority actions for near future ( next 5 years): active planning of the landscape in the local level, support for the green infrastructure projects, education of society and community involvement in decision-making.
- Two active periods was in order to increase the involvement of municipalities in the landscape management

# The most active periods

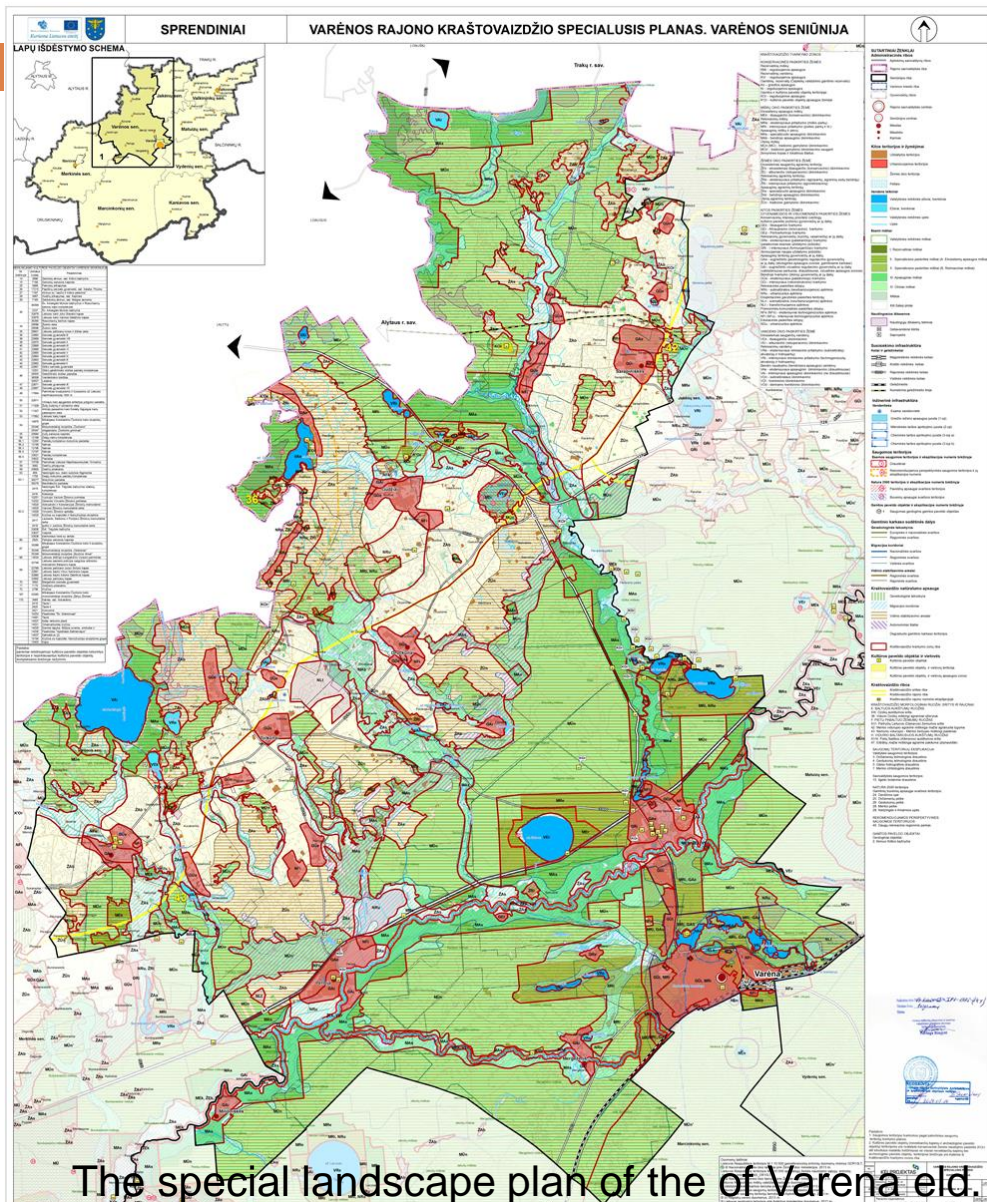


1. **2012-2015** - when 7 methodological publications were issued to for municipal specialists and professionals (designers, planners), 3 competitions were organized (national level), National Landscape Management Plan and recommendations for its implementation were prepared

2. **2015-2017** - the phase of preparation to the new period of support of EU Structural Funds (2016-2020). Different seminars, presentations, external meetings have been organized seeking to represent landscape management opportunities for local municipalities. During this period municipalities will get the largest support in the field of landscape management and planning.

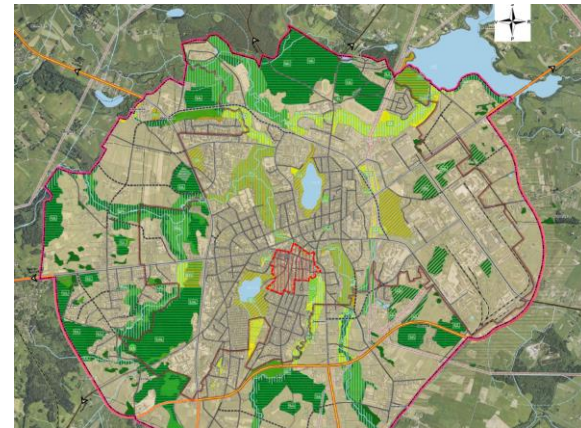


# The contribution of municipalities



The special landscape plan of the of Varena eld.

## Territorial planning documents



2015 information from municipalities:

- 4 green areas management spec. plans
- 2 special plans for Nature frame
- 5 special plans for Recreational areas



# The contribution of municipalities



## Landscaping



1-2. Vilnius city:  
the public space  
instead the former  
stadium

3. Šakiai  
township: the

# The contribution of municipalities



## Legislation and strategic documents of municipality level

- Anykščiai District Municipality Landscape Policy directions (2016)

## Cross-border cooperation on landscape:

- Project “City’s green areas and water bodies in Zemgale and Northern Lithuania (Latvia-Lithuania)2013”

# The contribution of municipalities

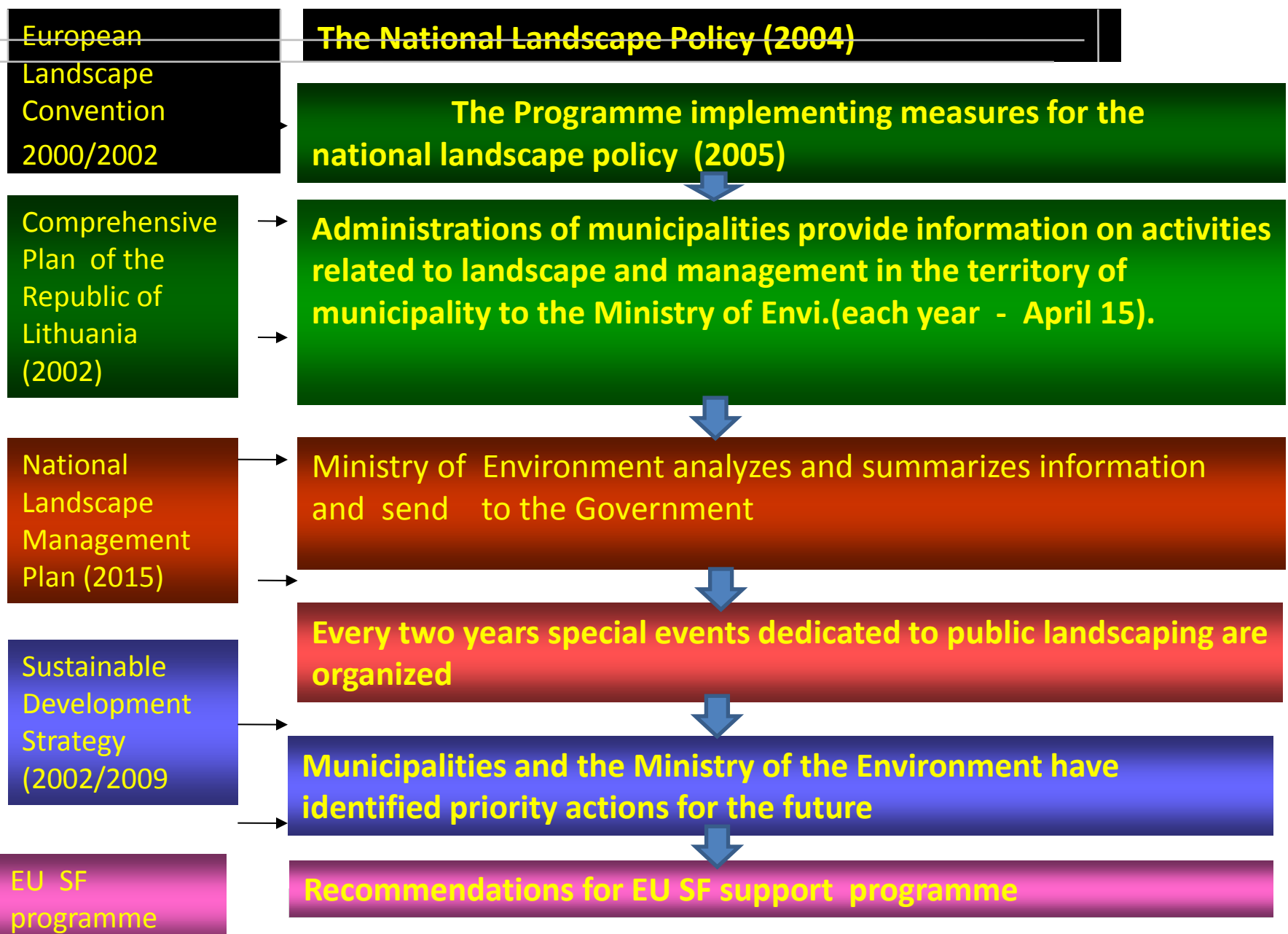


## Projects initiated by local communities and NGOs



Lithuanian landscape diversity: a book to summarize local initiatives

# Mechanism for reporting on the implementation of landscape policy



# The most important landscape works 2013-2015: municipality and local level



## **Municipal contribution to landscape management**

**Municipalities have a lot of responsibilities in the landscape protection**

**Municipalities each year send a report on the implementation of the landscape policy;**

**About 200 -250 positions of landscape management in the report:**

**Effectively used the EU's support for landscape management and planning**

**In the local level the very important "players" – the directions of national and regional parks and the local communities**

**NGO – ALLA, NHF, BEF**



# The principles of cooperation...



## The information is provided in 9 questions groups:

1. Research/ scientific works
2. Events for the landscape with the participation of the public
3. Publications on landscape (history, the best examples of greenery, planning et etc.)
4. Legislation and strategic documents of municipality level
5. Territorial planning documents and landscaping projects



# The principles of cooperation...



The information is provided in 9 questions groups:

6. Projects initiated by local communities and NGOs

7. Cross-border cooperation on landscape

8. Information about the staff responsible for implementing the European Landscape Convention and National Policy of Landscape

9. Other important information

The amount of information varies greatly - from 1-2 up to 15-20 page.



# Awareness-raising (artical 6A): iniciatives at national level 2015-2016



## National visitor centre was opened in 2015

Main porpose – to provide knowlege about the most valuable areas of Lithuanian Protected Areas, help to choose natural routes and to tour throught country.





# Contests and events



## National contests 2015-2016

- Contest of landscapes best reflecting the features of Lithuanian ethnographical regions (2015)-
- **Contest of the Tree of the year**, due to the contest of the European Tree of the year.(2016);



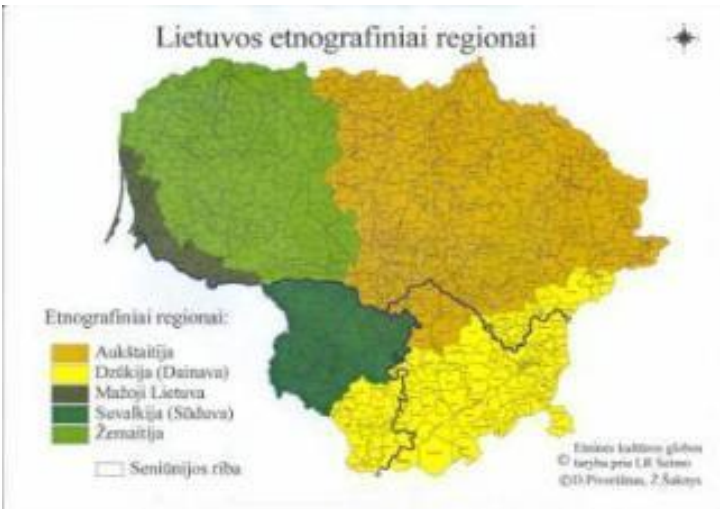
# The Contest of Regional Landscapes

2015 was the Year of Regions in Lithuania  
 Country has five ethnographic regions with specificities and differences in:

- natural environment
- settlement structure
- building architecture and colours
- small architecture
- road network
- regional dialects.

**MoE organized the Contest of Regional Landscapes** - contest of landscapes best reflecting the features of Lithuanian ethnographical regions (2015)

27 participants



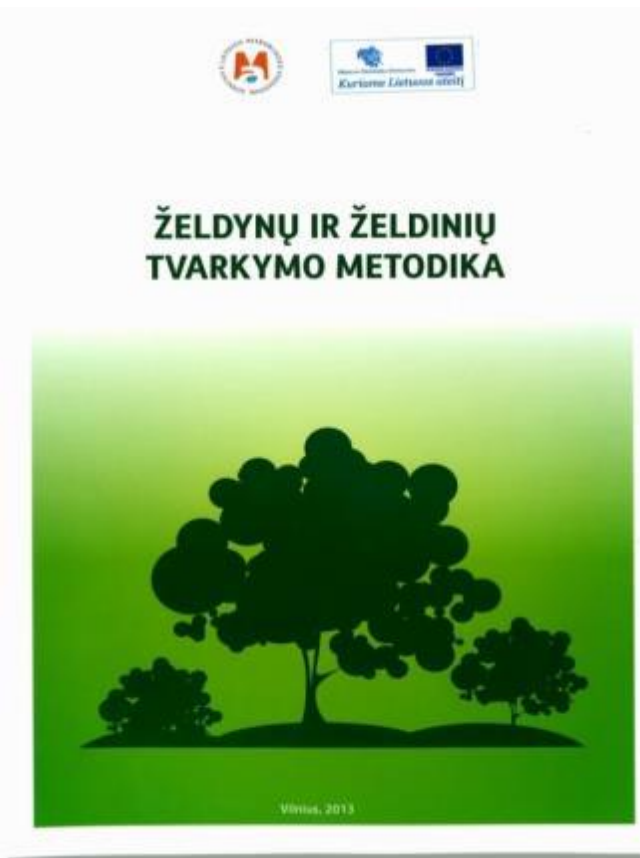
# Education on landscape: work with local communities



- New trends in municipal work on landscape - education programs for local population
- This is a general direction in the implementation of landscape projects in municipalities until 2022.
- The Public Participation Program is mandatory for all projects funded by the Ministry of the Environment (EU SF)



# Publications for professionals



Management Methodology for Greeneries (MoE, 2013)



Landscape Guidelines for Roads and Railways (MoE, 2013)



Lithuanian Landscape types and its spatial characteristics identification study (MoE, 2013)

# Building Design Guides for Lithuanian ethnographical regions (2013)



KAIMO STATYBA:  
DŽŪKIJĄ



KAIMO STATYBA:  
VAKARŲ AUKŠTAITIJĄ



KAIMO STATYBA:  
ŽEMAITIJĄ



KAIMO STATYBA:  
SUVALKIJĄ



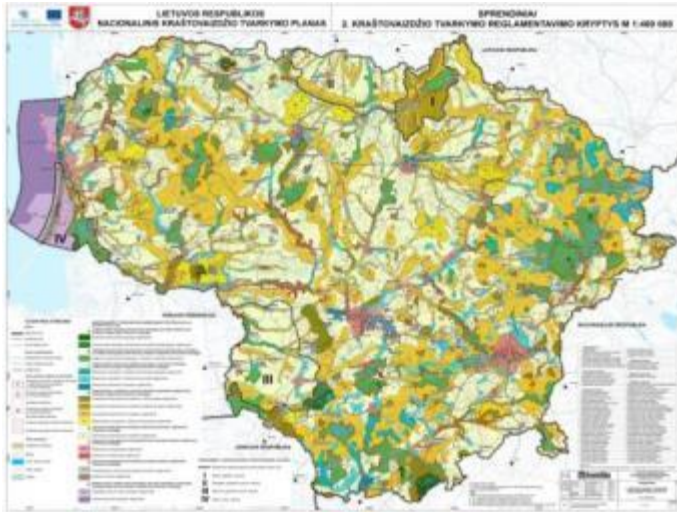
KAIMO STATYBA:  
MAŽOJI LIETUVA

# Identification and assesemen (artical 6C): planning documents

- National Landscape Management Plan was adopted in 2015



# National Landscape Management Plan

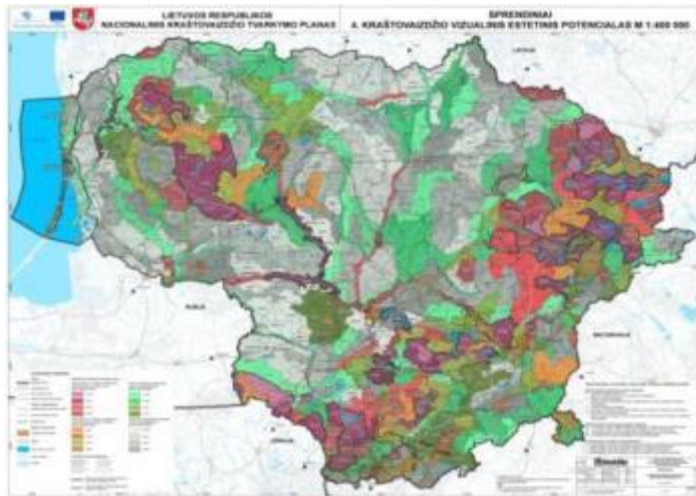


Preparation took place in 2012-2015  
Scale 1:200 000, 1:400 000

National Landscape Management Plan:

- delivers the guiding provisions for landscape formation, protection and management,
- determines the main directions and actions which ensure the proper quality of landscape and fulfil the requirements of ELC.

**Publication: Recommendations of implementation and methodology of preparation of LMP**

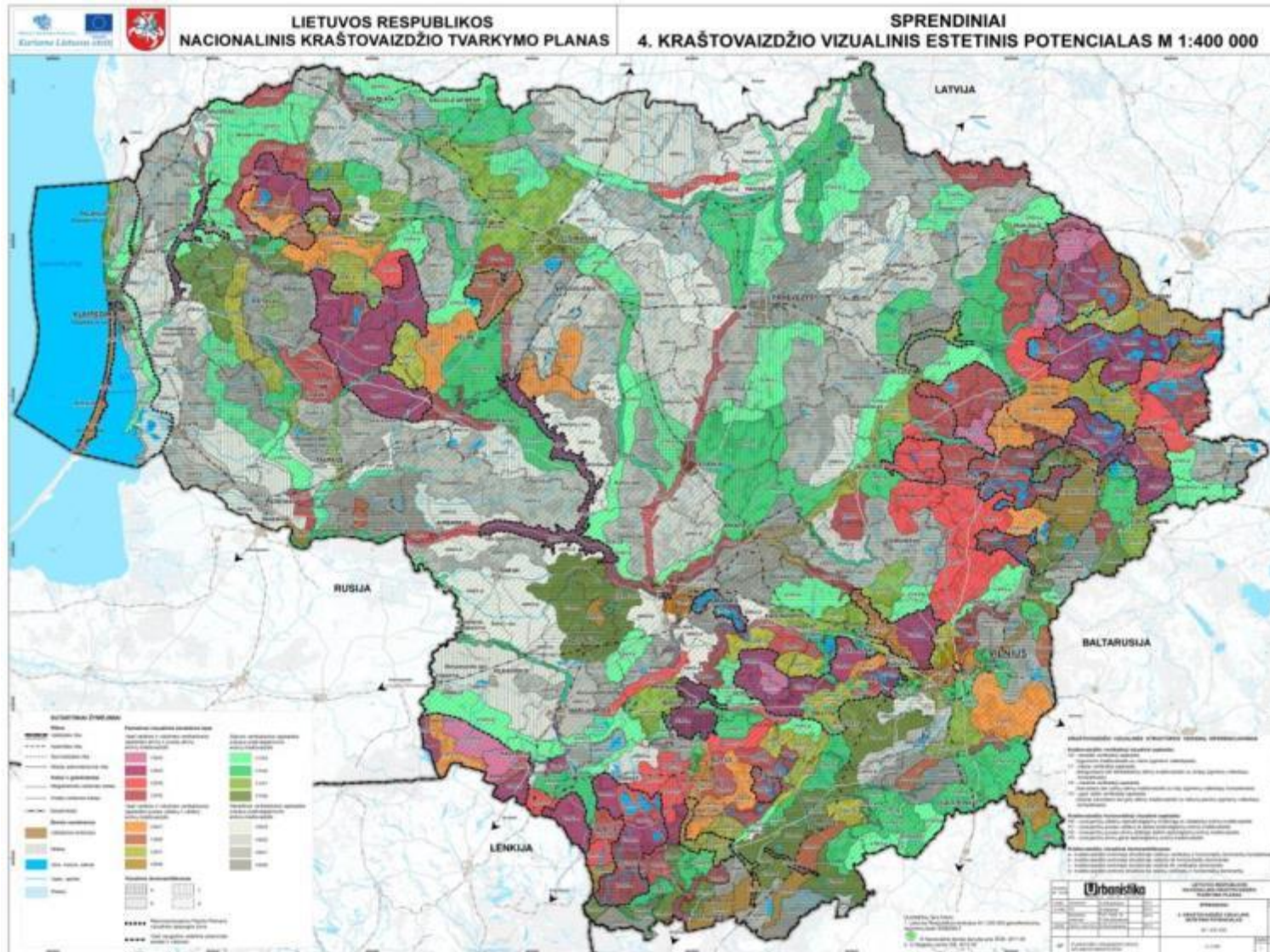


# 2. Landscape management directions





# 3. Visual aesthetic potential





   
COUNCIL OF EUROPE      EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION  
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE      LEVONTÉNYI EURÓPAI PÁLYSÁGI SZABÁLYTÉR

European Landscape Convention  
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe  
2013

*The Committee of Ministers attributed a special mention  
for giving attention to  
the urban landscape as common good to*

U-parks U-turn we love  
Utena district Municipality  
Lithuania

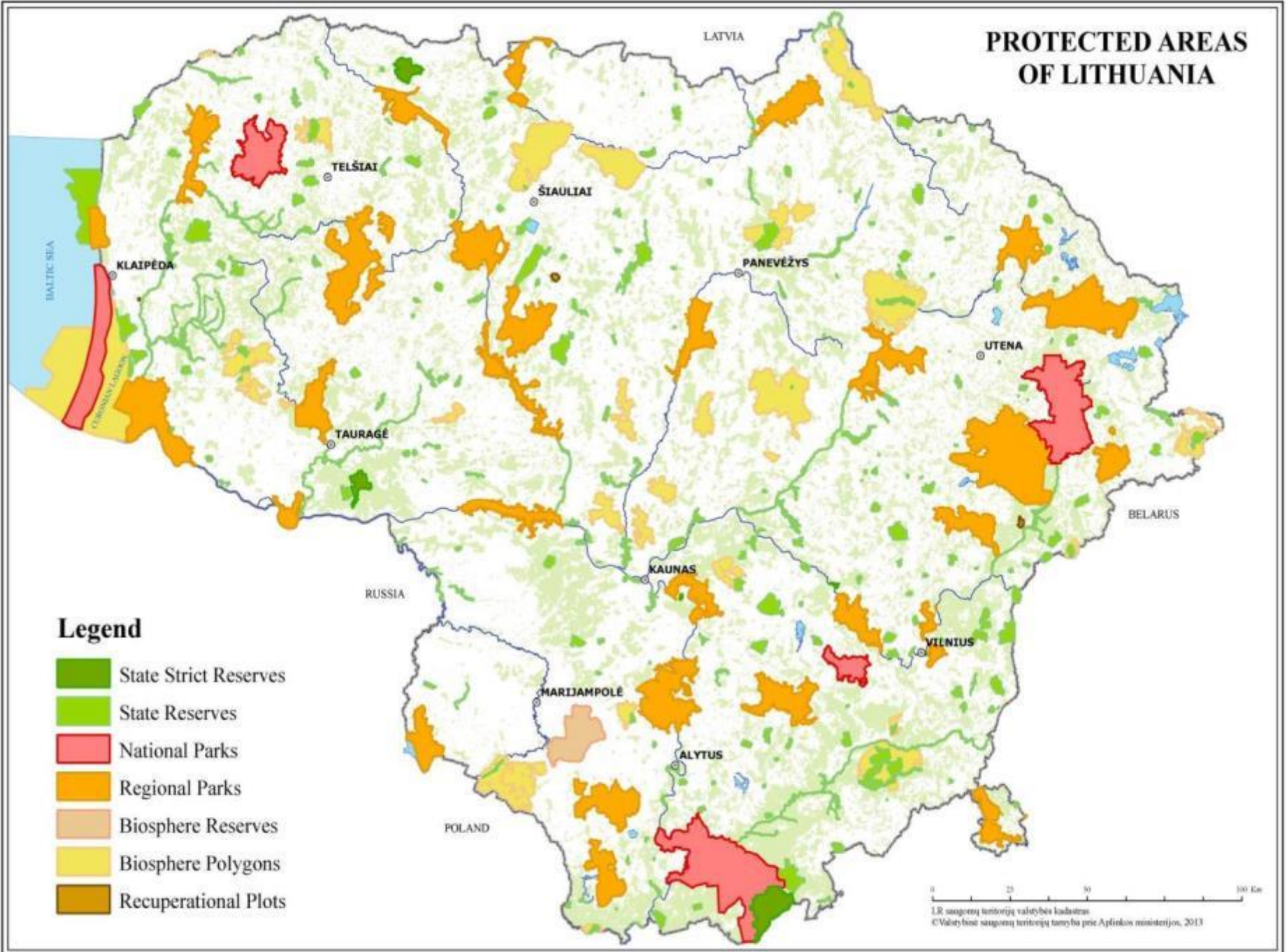


**LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**  
**„U-PARKS. U-TURN WE LOVE“**

# Landscape management in the State parks



# PROTECTED AREAS OF LITHUANIA



# The most important landscape works: local level: cooperation between municipalities and state parks directorates



## National and regional parks programs to get to know the landscape:

- Visitor centres (30) and training program to know the landscape
- Visitor view towers for experiencing and enjoying landscapes (25)
- State parks landscape monitoring programme (34)





Visitor center of Krekenava RP: landscape presentation

# Visitor view towers 25

**Metelių RP**



**Dzūkijos NP**



**Krekenavos RP**

**Ventos RP**



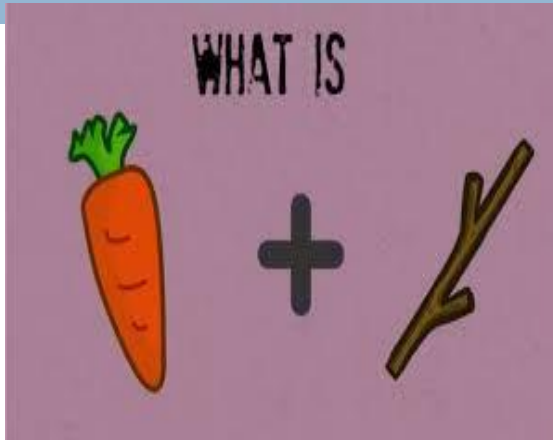
**Veisiejų RP**

# Once again .....about the mechanism of coloboration





# stick principles in the landscape politice



## THE STIC EFFECT:

- Specific project selection criteria - from Landscape and Biodiversity conservation Action Plan for 2015-2020 ( 2015)
- Events for municipalities staff: trainings, competitions, courses
- Strict selection criteria for projects:
- Clarity of project selection: regional project planning (projects are selected by regional development councils - each municipality has 1 vote plus 1 vote representative of the Department of Regional Development)

All municipalities can apply

The phrase "carrot and stick" is a metaphor for the use of a combination of reward and punishment to induce a desired behavior. It is based on the idea that a cart driver might activate a reluctant mule by dangling a carrot in front of it and smacking it on the rear with a

# ....about the mechanism...and carrot effect



The funds will be 22 300 741  
EUR

/ 7 ears

45 mln. EUR / 7 ears for National  
and regional parks  
and for 8 oldest historical parks



# Landscape and Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for 2015-2020



## The new EU financial programming period for 2015–2020(2)

For landscape protection during this period  
Lithuania has planned the following:

- to review and update general **planning documents for 30 municipalities** with the aims to improve quality of protective measures for landscape aesthetic values and for nature frame/ecological networks;
- to prepare and to implement **10 landscape management projects for transfrontier territories** with the aim to improve the aesthetic quality and represent the diversity of landscape in Lithuania;



# Landscape and Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan for 2014-2020 (2)

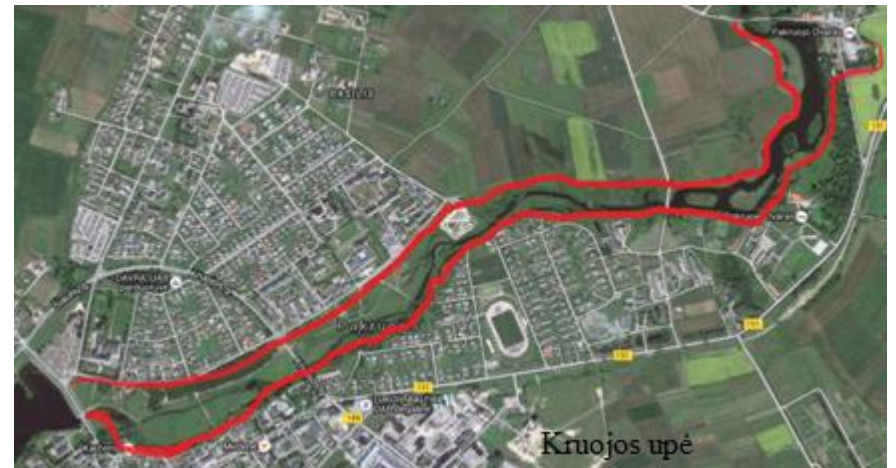
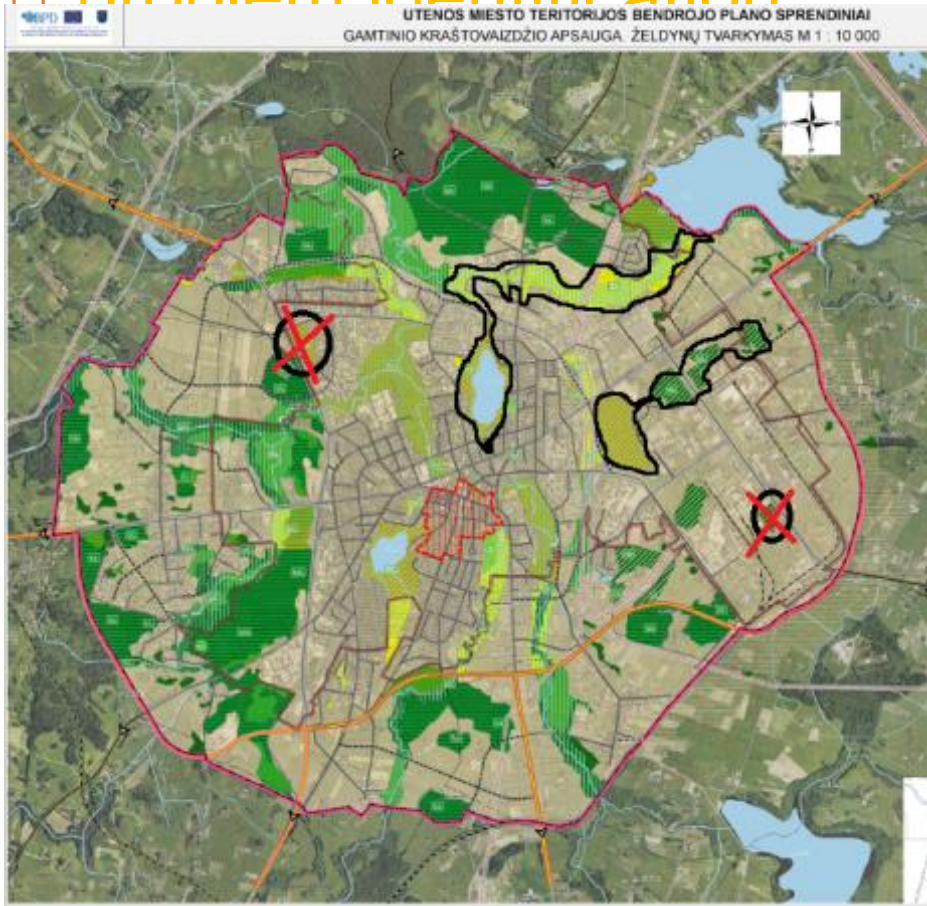


- to implement ~30 green infrastructure projects with the aim to strengthen ecological stability of landscape, to improve functionality of nature frame and to manage territories affected by erosion, etc.;
- to implement management projects for 8 historical parks of state importance. The aim of the projects is to protect and reveal the value of these territories and to ensure the long lasting results;
- to further eliminate the abandoned ownerless buildings in rural areas which have negative influence on landscape aesthetic value;
- to continue preparation and implementation of management plans for protected areas.

# □ Planning documents examples:

phase of

problem identification



Skatinama tvarkyti didesnes teritorijas, apimančias daugiau nei vieną sklypą, todėl nurodoma, kad teritorija gali būti ir ne vientisa. Siekiama, kad tvarkomos teritorijos apimtų kuo didesnę želdynų sistemos dalį, todėl vengtina tvarkyti atskirus mažus plotus.



Thank you for your attention

**Welcome to visit and enjoy the landscapes of  
Lithuania**