



# Agri Renaissance

Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

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# CONTENT

## 1. BRIEF PRESENTATION OF LITHUANIA

## 2. PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE REGIONAL DIAGNOSIS

*SOCIOECONOMIC CONTEXT OF AGRIFOOD SECTOR IN THE REGION*

KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR

*MAIN PROGRAMS AND INICIATIVES SUPPORTING R&D AND INNOVATION*

## 3. PRESENTATION OF GOOD PRACTICES OF LITHUANIA

# BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE REGION LITHUANIA

# BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE REGION LITHUANIA

From the cartographic point of view, Lithuania (capital: Vilnius) is a Central rather than an Eastern European country, as it is sometimes groundlessly claimed. Located in the center of Europe, Lithuania is situated at one of the largest crossroads of the continent. Lithuania is one of the states in the East ringing the Baltic Sea.

- **Total area** 65,300 km<sup>2</sup>
- Rural area – 85 %
- Urbanized area – 15 %
- Population – 2 808 901
  
- Unemployment rate

In the period between 2004 and 2016, one out of five Lithuanians left the country, mostly because of insufficient income situation or seeking for a new experience and studies abroad. Long term emigration and economy growth has resulted in noticeable shortages on the labor market and growth in salaries being larger than growth in labor efficiency.

- Unemployment rate from active population in 2017 was 7.1% (in rural areas - 15,8%).



## KEY INDICATORS OF LITHUANIA

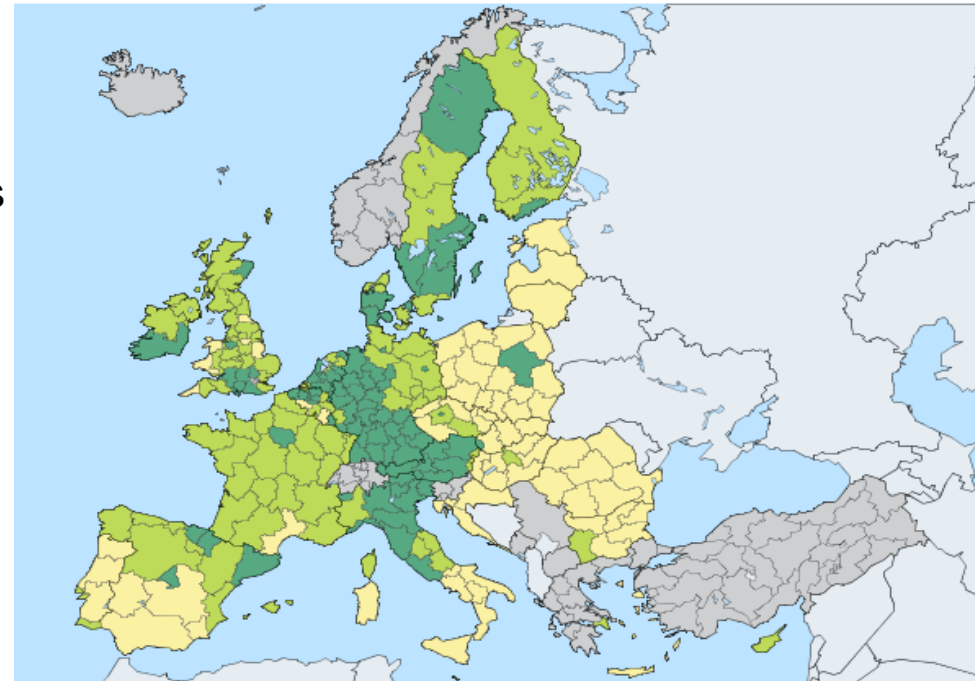
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>European Union</b>
Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	2017	65 300	4 381 376
Population	2017	2 847 904	511 522 671
Population density (inhabitant/km <sup>2</sup> )	2017	43,6	116,7
GDP (Eur)	2017	41 800 000 000	13 500 000 000 000
GDP per capita (Eur/person)	2017	16 443	29 900
Unemployment rate (%)	2017	7,1	7,8

# BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE REGION LITHUANIA

Lithuanian GDP experienced very high real growth rates for decade up to 2009, peaking at 11.1% in 2007. As a result, the country was often termed as a Baltic Tiger.

However, 2009, due to Global financial crisis marked experienced a drastic decline – GDP contracted by 14.9% and unemployment rate reached 17.8% in 2010.

After the decline of 2009, Lithuanian's annual economic growth has been much slower compared to pre-2009 years.



Legend

8600.0 - 22500.0

22500.0 - 30200.0

30200.0 - 178200.0

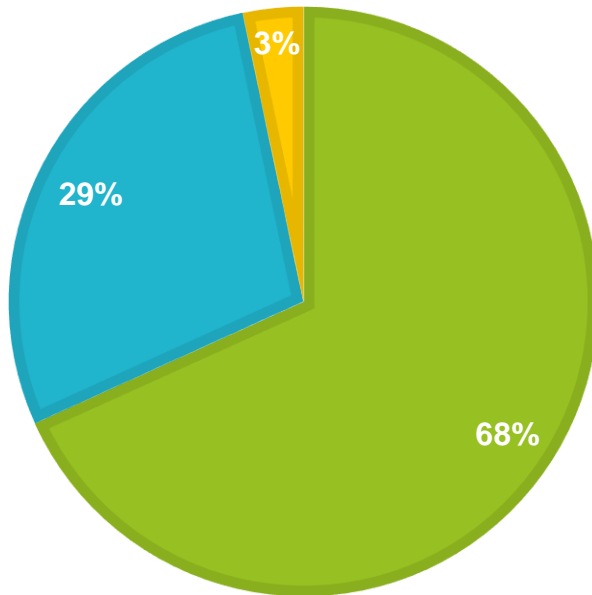
Minimum value:8600.0 Maximum value:178200.0

The GDP per capita is 16 443 Eur, which is below the EU 28 average (29 990 Eur).

# BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE REGION LITHUANIA

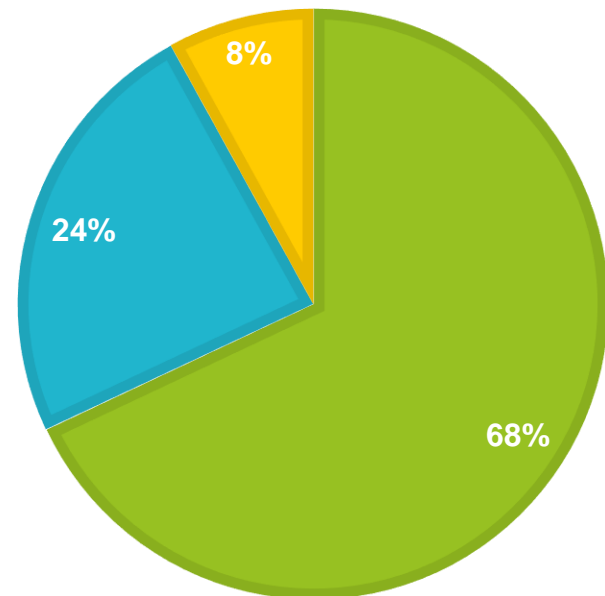
## MAIN ECONOMIC SECTORS % OF GDP

■ SERVICES ■ INDUSTRY ■ AGRICULTURE



## ACTIVITY RATE IN MAIN SECTORS % OF ALL ACTIVE LABOR FORCE

■ SERVICES ■ INDUSTRY ■ AGRICULTURE

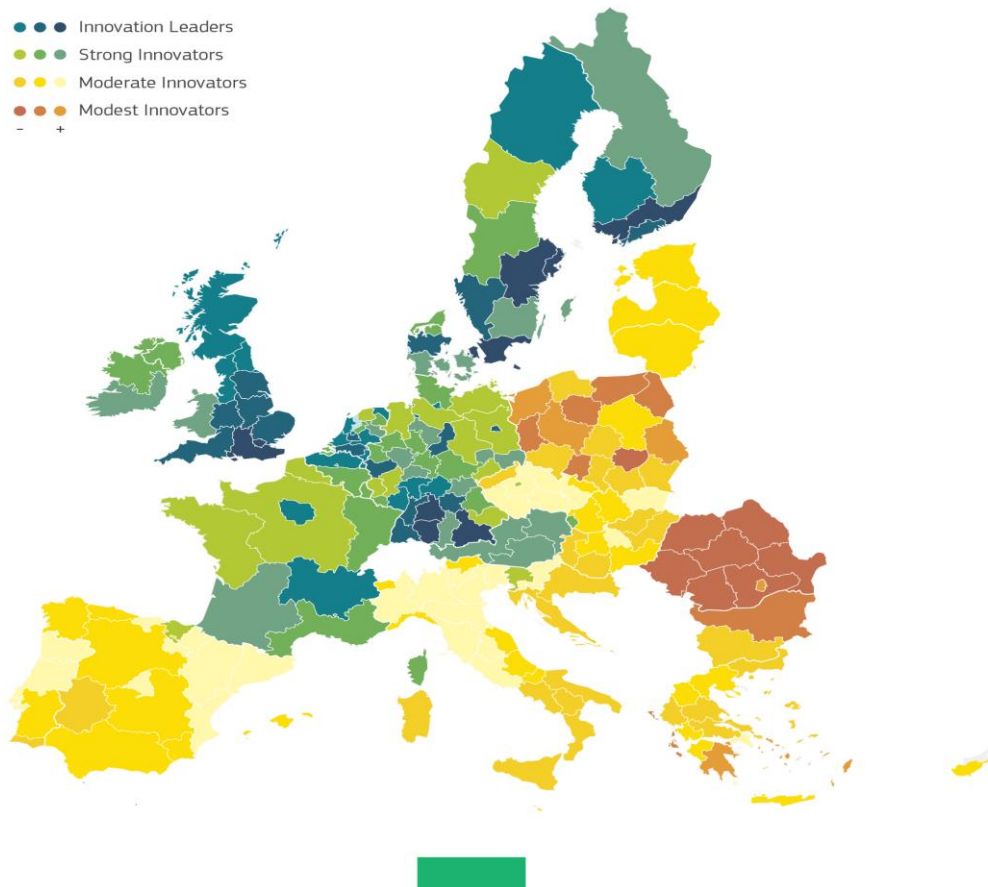


# REGIONAL INNOVATION SCOREBOARD



## 2017 REGIONAL INNOVATION SCOREBOARD

- ● Innovation Leaders
  - ● Strong Innovators
  - ● Moderate Innovators
  - ● Modest Innovators
- +



Nowadays, the country is among moderate innovators group in the International Innovation Index. Ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the European Innovation Scoreboard among all EU countries.

Lasers and biotechnology are flagship fields of the Lithuanian science and high tech industry. Lithuanian Ltd "Šviesos konversija" (Light Conversion) has developed a femtosecond laser system that has 80% market share worldwide, and is used in DNA research, ophthalmological surgeries, nanotech industry and science. Vilnius University Laser Research Center has developed one of the most powerful femtosecond lasers in the world dedicated primarily to oncological diseases.



# REGIONAL INNOVATION SCOREBOARD



Lithuania has launched three satellites to the cosmos: LitSat-1, Lituania SAT-1 and LituaniaSAT-2.

15 R&D institutions are members of Lithuanian Space Association; Lithuania is a cooperating state with European Space Agency.

In 2018, Lithuania became Associated Member State of CERN.

Most advanced scientific research in Lithuania is being conducted at the Life Sciences Center, Center For Physical Sciences and Technology. *Brolis Semiconductors* are producing beyond state-of-the-art technology solutions for security and medical sensing applications. As of 2016 calculations, yearly growth of Lithuania's biotech and life science sector was 22% over the past 5 years. 16 academic institutions, 15 R&D centers (science parks and innovation valleys) and more than 370 manufacturers operate in the Lithuanian life science and biotech industry.

In 2008 the Valley development programme was started aiming to upgrade Lithuania's scientific research infrastructure and encourage business and science cooperation. Five R&D Valleys were launched - Jūrinis (maritime technologies), Nemunas (agro, bioenergy, forestry), Saulėtekis (laser and light, semiconductor), Santara (biotechnology, medicine), Santaka (sustainable chemistry and pharmacy).

Lithuanian Innovation Center is created to provide support for innovations and research institutions.

# **PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE REGIONAL DIAGNOSIS**

# AGRICULTURE IN LITHUANIA

Declared area – 2 853 387 ha

arable land – 2 089 884 ha (73%)

grasslands and pastures – 740 175 ha (26%)

other – 23 328 ha (1%)

Farmers – 124 803 (869 companies)

13 % – <40 years      Men – 55%, women – 45%

49 % – <60 years      Average age – 57

38 % – 60< years      Average farm – 22,86 ha



## AGRICULTURE IN LITHUANIA

Farm sector	Farmers	Companies
livestock*	10 %	20 %
milk	25 %	
crop	45 %	45 %
mixed	20%	35 %

\*beef cattle, pig, sheep, horse

- 68 % – <10 ha
- 23 % – <50 ha
- 9 % – >50 ha

Organic farms – 2 539



# SOCIOECONOMIC CONTEXT OF AGRI-FOOD SECTOR IN THE REGION

## Macroeconomic indicators in the agricultural and food sector of Lithuania in 2013–2017

Indicators	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*
Value of gross production in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, EUR mill.	3326	3424	3467	3288	...
Gross value added, at current prices, EUR mill.	31690	33068	33709	34789	37584
Gross value added created in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, EUR mill.	1251	1252	1288	1155	1302,4
Share of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in gross value added, %	3,9	3,8	3,6	3,3	3,5
Value of exported products, EUR mill.	4696	4644	4475	4386	4824
share in total export, %	19,1	19,1	19,5	19,4	18,3
Value of imported products, EUR mill.	3722	3706	3585	3409	3783
share in total import, %	14,2	14,3	14,1	13,8	13,2
Foreign trade balance, EUR mill.	974	939	890	977	1042

\*Preliminary data.

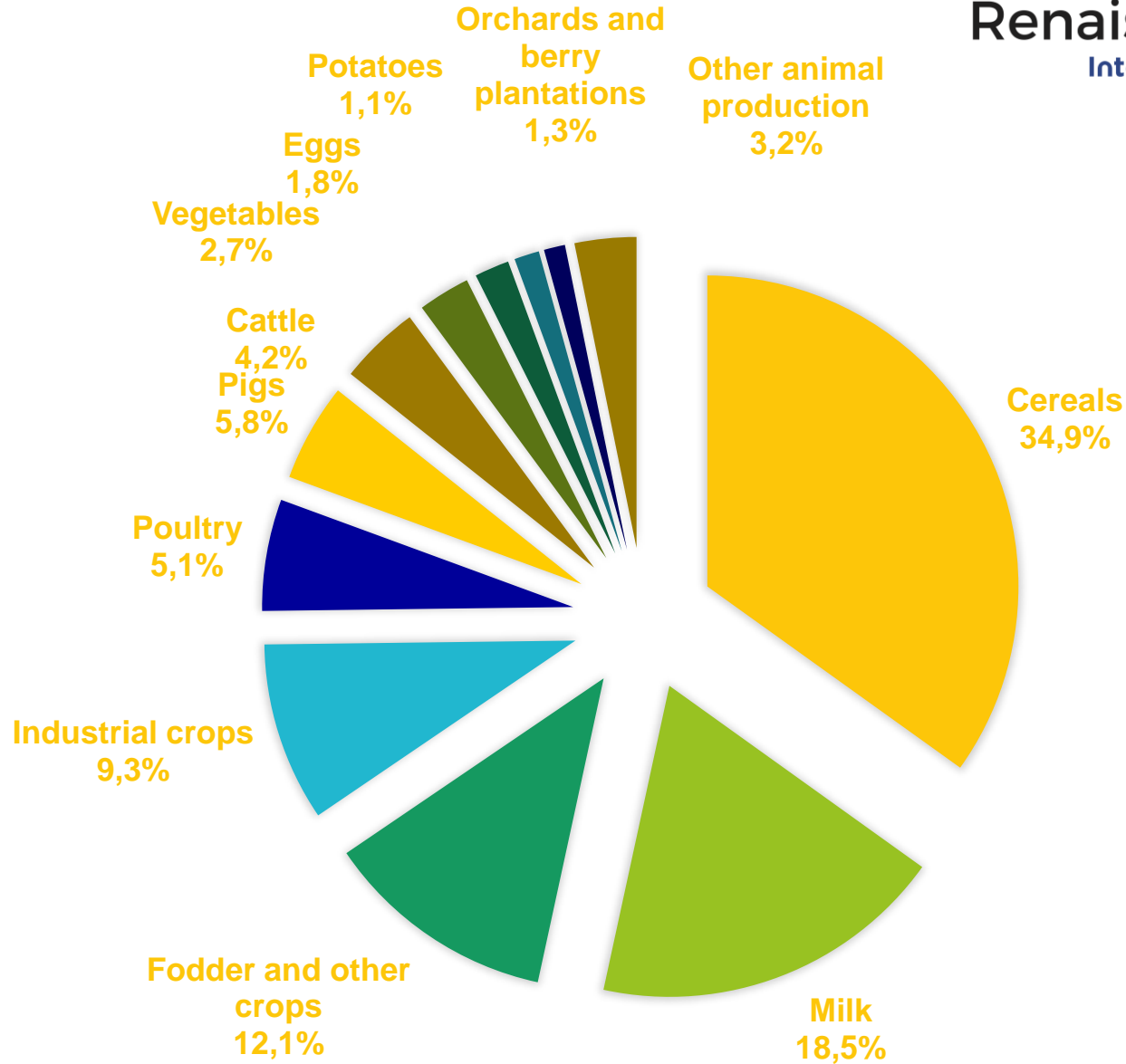
Sources: Data by Statistics Lithuania and Eurostat.

# Structure of gross agricultural production in EU countries

Country	2013			2017		
	crop production, %	livestock production, %	gross agricultural production, EUR/ha UAA	crop production, %	livestock production, %	gross agricultural production, EUR/ha UAA
Ireland	28,3	71,7	1473	22,1	77,9	1613
Denmark	33,9	66,1	3915	31,3	68,7	3796
Finland	38,3	61,7	1816	37,7	62,3	1648
United Kingdom	40,3	59,7	1591	40,0	60,0	1611
Luxembourg	47,3	52,7	2976	40,2	59,8	3014
Malta	40,9	59,1	11472	42,4	57,6	10619
Belgium	44,3	55,7	6511	42,7	57,3	6437
Austria	45,2	54,8	2330	45,7	54,3	2414
Poland	52,0	48,0	1593	45,8	54,2	1651
Estonia	45,8	54,2	871	46,0	54,0	860
Cyprus	46,7	53,3	6089	46,2	53,8	6361
Sweden	48,1	51,9	1863	48,0	52,0	1846
Germany	50,3	49,7	3396	48,8	51,2	3180
Slovenia	52,5	47,5	2349	50,5	49,5	2378
Netherlands	54,3	45,7	13447	54,3	45,7	13882
Latvia	56,9	43,1	623	57,4	42,6	679
Czech Republic	61,8	38,2	1353	59,0	41,0	1292
France	60,8	39,2	2447	59,8	40,2	2360
Portugal	57,4	42,6	1783	59,9	40,1	1892
Slovakia	56,0	44,0	1137	60,2	39,8	1065
Croatia	63,3	36,7	1427	60,2	39,8	1239
Spain	61,1	38,9	1818	60,5	39,5	2036
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>59,3</b>	<b>40,7</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>61,4</b>	<b>38,6</b>	<b>919</b>
Hungary	63,2	36,8	1561	62,8	37,2	1638
Italy	65,2	34,8	4011	64,2	35,8	3745
Bulgaria	69,8	30,2	826	72,6	27,4	773
Greece	70,9	29,1	1941	73,6	26,4	2015
Romania	75,7	24,3	1233	76,0	24,0	1230

The gross agricultural production structure in the EU countries varies from country to country. All the EU countries as to the structure of gross agricultural production may be subdivided into three groups: Lithuania is listed in the third group (the first group consists of the countries with the prevailing livestock production (e.g., Ireland, Denmark), the second group – countries where the share of crop and livestock output is almost equal (e.g., Slovenia, Germany), the third group – countries where crop output is predominant (e.g., Romania, Greece)). It is notable that at the beginning of the period under analysis the crop output in Lithuania has made the gross production share that was lower by 2.1 percentage points. In 2017, the crop output share was similar to that in Spain, Croatia, Slovakia and Hungary.

# Structure of gross agricultural production in 2017





Lithuania's gross agricultural production per hectare of UAA in 2017 was one of the lowest in the EU. Compared to Denmark where conditions are similar, this indicator was lower by more than 4 times. Such results were mostly impacted by the purchase prices for agricultural products that were lower than in other countries. In 2017, the highest gross agricultural production per hectare of UAA was in the Netherlands, Malta, Belgium and Cyprus. These countries have utilised rationally their natural and industrial resources and selected product production priorities according to their competitive advantages and situation on the market.

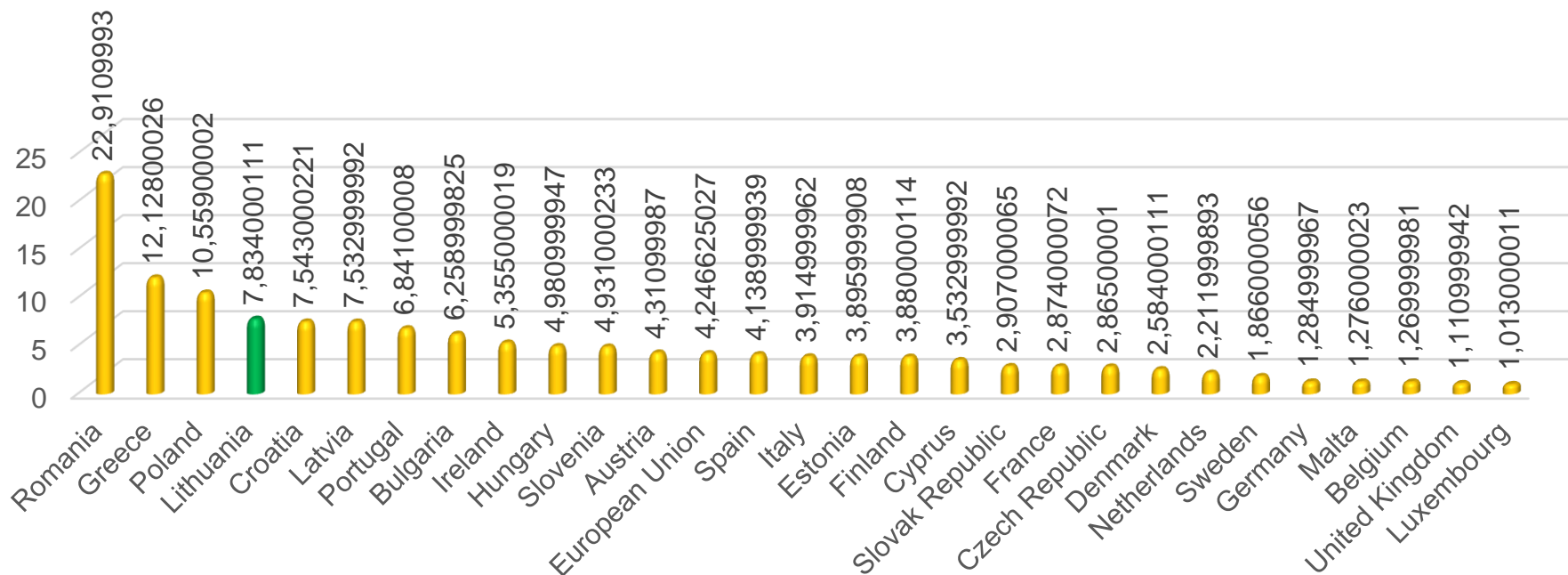
Comparing the gross agricultural output per hectare of UAA, one can see that no distinct difference exists between groups. In Lithuania the gross agricultural output per hectare of UAA in 2017 was by 6.9% higher than in Estonia where livestock production makes a considerably larger portion of the gross agricultural output.



## Structure of gross agricultural production in 2013–2017

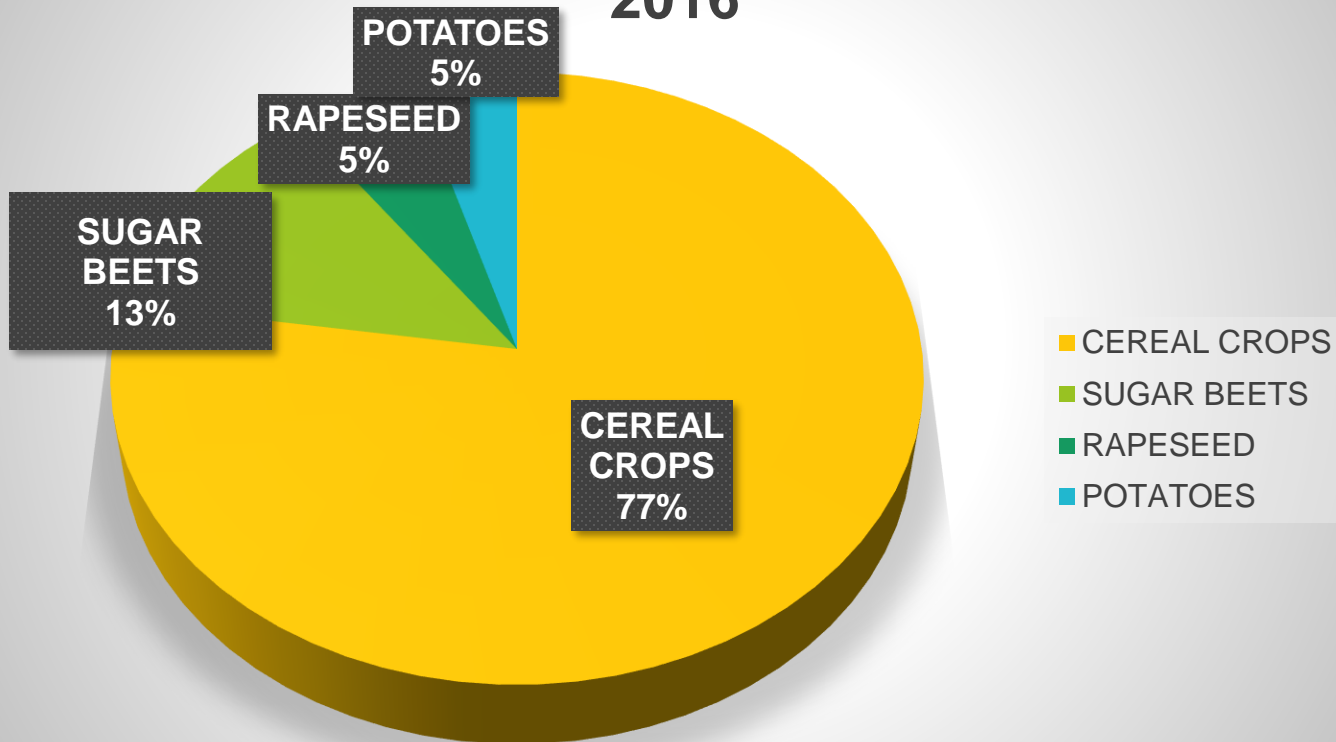
Production	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Eur. mill.	%	Eur. mill.	%	Eur. mill.	%	Eur. mill.	%	Eur. mill.	%
<b>Total</b>	2548,7	100	2450,9	100	2530,4	100	2270,0	100	2628,5	100
<b>crop production</b>	1512,0	59,3	1456,2	59,4	1678,8	66,3	1465,2	64,5	1612,8	61,4
<b>animal production</b>	1036,7	40,7	994,7	40,6	851,6	33,7	804,8	35,5	1015,7	38,6

## Employment in agriculture (% of total employment)



SOURCE: World bank database

## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (t) 2016



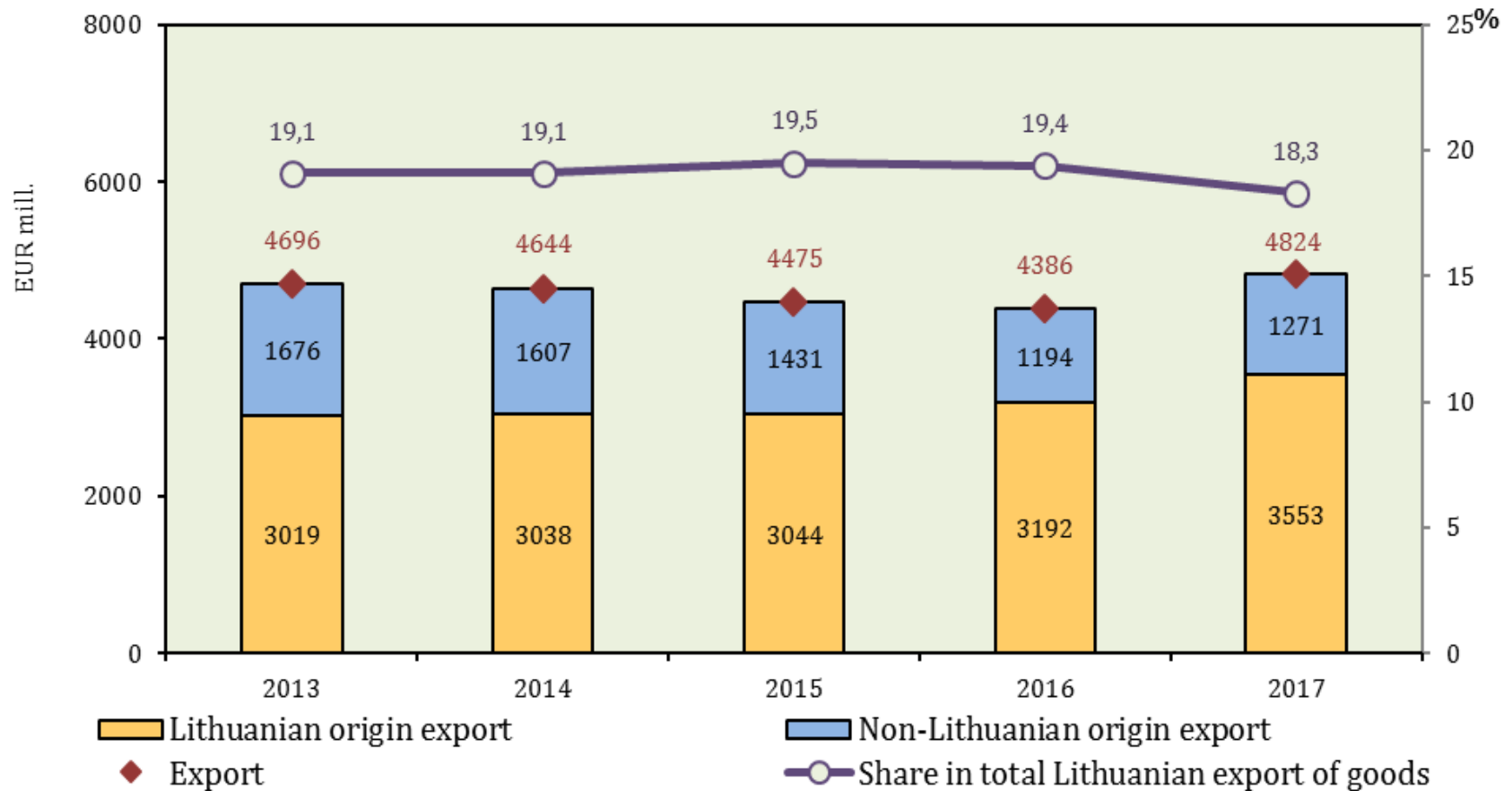
In 2016, agricultural production was made for 2.29 billion euros in Lithuania. Cereal crops occupied the largest part of it (5709,7 tons), other significant types were sugar beets (933,9 tons), rapeseed (39 2,5 tons) and potatoes (340, 2 tons)

## Foreign trade in agricultural and food products

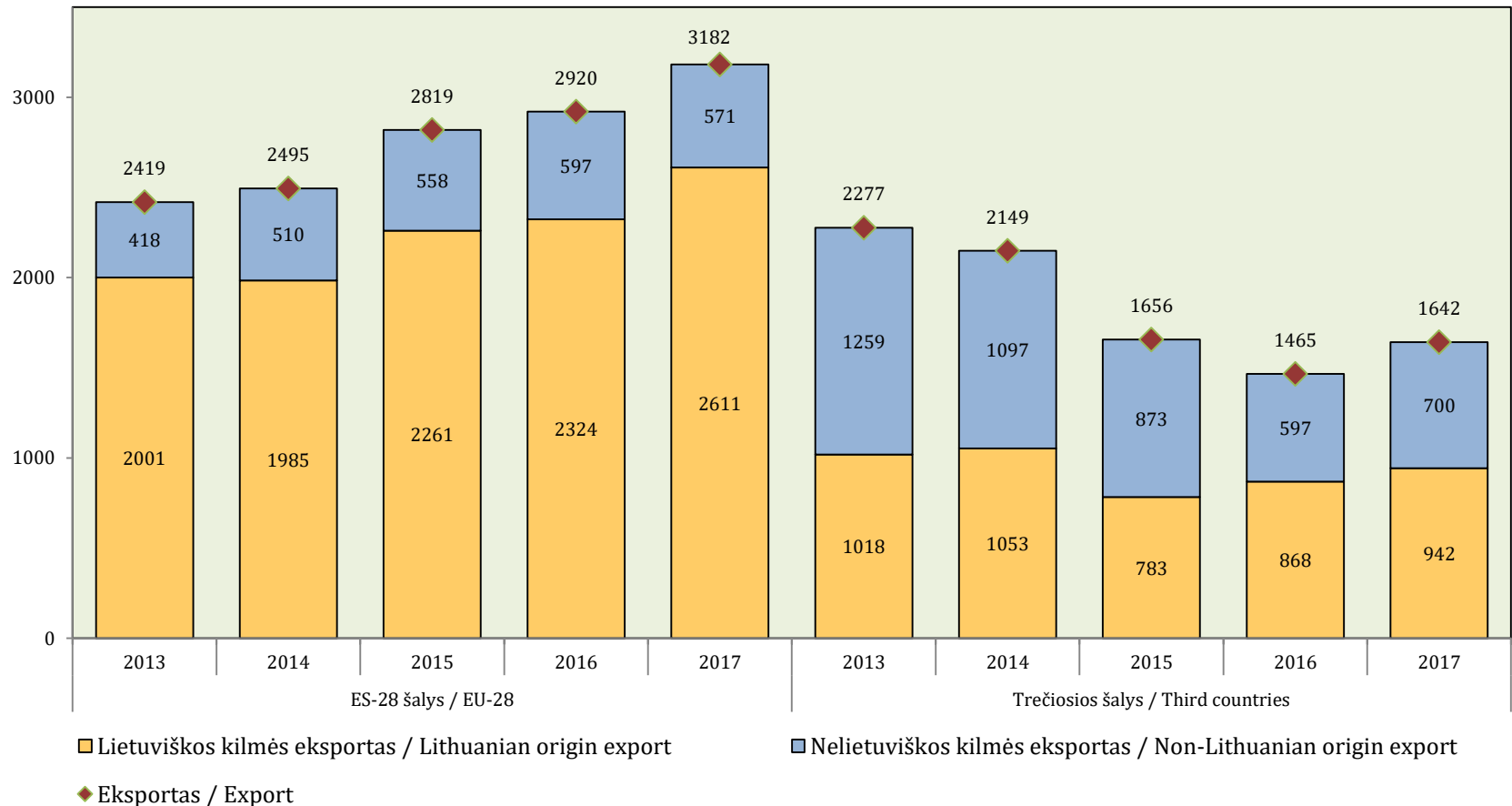
Trading in agricultural and food products makes a substantial part of Lithuania's foreign trade structure. The share of exports in agricultural and food products increased from 19.1% in 2013 to 19.5% in 2015 though started diminishing in 2016 and in 2017 reached 18.3% of Lithuania's total commodity exports.



## Exports of agricultural and food products by origin of product and the share in total Lithuanian export of goods 2013–2017



## Exports of agricultural and food products by country group and by origin of product in 2013–2017, EUR mill.





## Exports of agricultural and food products by country group and by origin of product in 2013–2017

Export of agricultural and food products from Lithuania in 2017 amounted to EUR 4.8 billion. If compared to 2016, export increased by 10%.

Export of products of Lithuanian origin within the past five years has been just increasing and in 2017 has reached its highest level (amounted to EUR 3.6 billion) and, comparing to 2013, increased by 18%. The specific weight of products of Lithuanian origin in the export structure by origin increased from 64% in 2013 to 74% in 2017.

Variation tendencies of exports of products of non-Lithuanian origin have reiterated the export tendencies of the total export of agricultural and food products, dropping from EUR 1.7 billion in 2013 to EUR 1.2 billion in 2016 and increasing to EUR 1.3 billion in 2017.

Lithuanian exporters are expanding the export geography of agricultural and food products: in 2013 products were shipped to 134 countries, and in 2017 to 143 countries.

The EU market further remains the main part of exports for Lithuanian agricultural and food product exporters. Share of exports in agricultural and food products, taken by the EU countries, has increased from 52% in 2013 to 66% in 2017.



Organic farming is constantly becoming more popular in Lithuania.

The status of organic growers and producers in the country is granted by the public body *Ekoagros*.

In 2016, there were 2539 such farms that occupied 225 541,78 hectares, or 5,5 % of all arable land (it is close to EU-28 average – 5,8 %).

Of these:

43,13% were cereals

31,22% were perennial grasses

13,9% were leguminous crops

11,75% were others.



## CERTIFICATIONS AND QUALITY OF ORIGIN

### Protected designation of origin

Seinų/Lazdijų  
krašto medus  
(SKVN)/ Honey



Mėsos gaminy  
„Lietuviškas skilandis“ /  
Meat product



„Žemaitiškas kastingys“  
/ Dairy product



### Protected geographical indication

Midus „Stakliškės“  
(SGN) /Mead



Sūris „Liliputas“  
(SGN) / Cheese



Lietuviškas  
varškės  
sūris (SGN)/  
Lithuanian  
curds cheese



Daujėnų naminė  
duona  
(SGN)/Homemade  
bread



# SOCIOECONOMIC CONTEXT OF AGRI-FOOD SECTOR IN THE REGION



**Agri  
Renaissance**  
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## KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR

**Universities &  
Research Centers**



- Aleksandras Stulginskis University (ASU) 
- Lithuanian institute of agrarian economics (LAEI) 
- Lithuanian university of health sciences (LSMU) 

**Technological  
Centers**



**Visoriai  
information  
technology  
park (VITP)** 

**Support of  
innovation**



- National Paying Agency (NMA) 
- Lithuanian agricultural advisory service (LŽŪKT) 
- Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA) 

# KEY PLAYERS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR



## Main features:

1. History of Aleksandras Stulginskis University started in 1924.
2. At present about 5000 undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD students are studying at the University.
3. It is the only state institution of higher education and research in Lithuania awarding the diplomas and degrees at PhD, MSc and BSc levels in the fields of food sciences, agriculture, forestry, water and land resources management, bioenergy and mechanical engineering, climate change and sustainable use of natural resources. These degrees are recognized all over the world and have the highest standard of equivalence.
4. Research and teaching staff of the University consists of 400 people, including 200 professors and associated professors.

## Collaboration:

Maecenas: UAB „ROVALTRA“, UAB „LYTAGRA“, UAB „DELAVAL“, UAB „DOTNUVOS PROJEKTAI“, UAB „BALTIC AGRO“, UAB „ARVI“ IR KO, UAB „AGROCHEMA“, UAB „DOJUS AGRO“, UAB „BIRŽŪ ŽEMTIEKIMAS“, UAB „IVABALTĖ“, UAB „AGROKONCERNAS“.

**International partnerships.** ASU cooperates with more than 120 foreign partners (universities, their departments, scientific, research and business institutions), participates in the EU Erasmus, NOVA-BOVA network of agricultural universities in Nordic and Baltic countries, Leonardo da Vinci, the EU Sixth general research programs as well as programs and international scientific projects supported by other international funds and foreign governments. Within the EU Erasmus programme the University is partner to over 70 European universities.

Membership in international organisations. ASU is a member of 11 international organizations.

# KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR

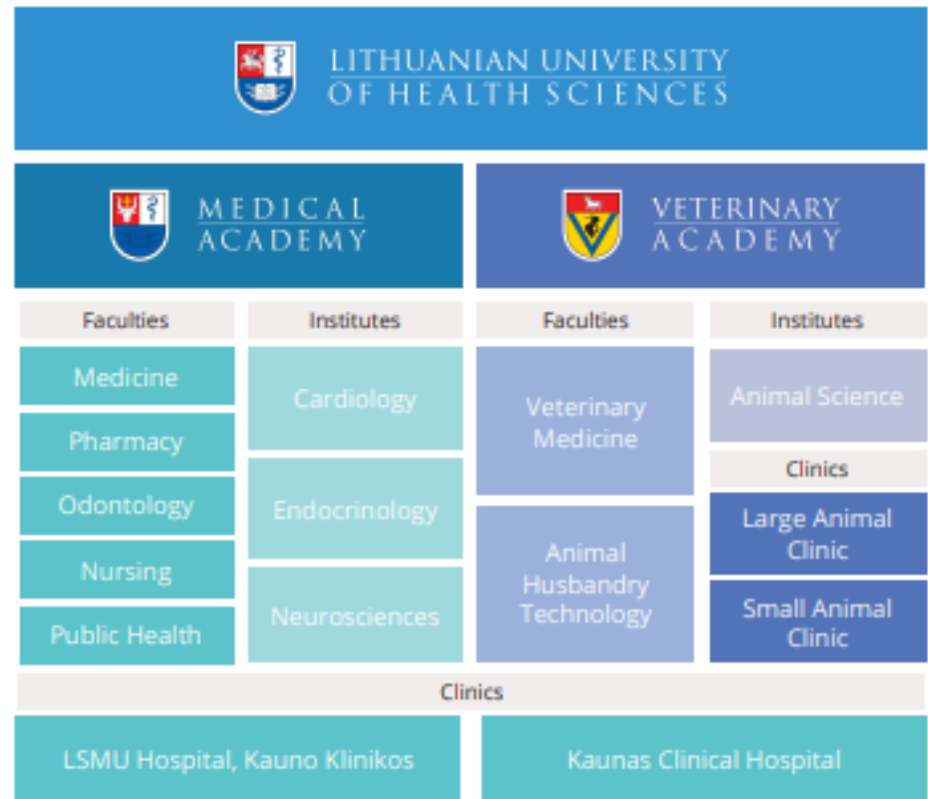


## **Main features:**

1. Was founded in 1990 by way of restructuring the Lithuanian Scientific Research Institute of Agricultural Economics founded in 1959.
2. The Institute has the total number of 60 employees and 38 involved in scientific research, including 10 doctors of science.
3. High importance is determined to analysis and prognosis of micro and macro processes in the field of scientific research and information management. The Institute is also working on important issues of agricultural and rural development.
4. During last years the researchers pay special attention to agricultural policy survey, taking into consideration Lithuania's integration into the EU.

# KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR

LSMU is one of the best and largest institution of higher education for biomedical sciences in Lithuania with almost 100 years of academic experience and great potential for development. Medical teaching and research are mainly based on cooperation with the largest health care institution in the Baltic States – the Hospital of LSMU “Kauno klinikos”. Veterinary Academy is the only establishment in Lithuania to train veterinary surgeons. A number of other health related programmes (Pharmacy, Food Sciences, Public Health, Nursing, etc.) are offered to students here. One can get an opportunity to widen and deepen his knowledge in a number of disciplines, to improve skills within the modern and innovative environment and to become a highly qualified specialist in a fast-changing world of practicing health sciences.



## KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR



VISORIAI INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY PARK

Visoriai Information Technology Park (VITP) – upcoming knowledge economy center in the field of information and communication technologies. The main goal of VITP – develop favorable infrastructure for the establishment of new businesses and growth of existing ones. VITP seeks to provide comfortable environment for commercialization of R&D activities and integration of business, science and studies.

Activities related to information technologies took place in Vistoriai since 1986 when Institute of Mathematics and Informatics moved to this location. Since 1988 IT companies established mainly by former institute staff were established. Businesses in collaboration with the Institute and Universities located in Vilnius carried out joint projects related to modern methods and software for scientific information review and storage, development and introduction integrated systems, etc. More than 200 new jobs were created in Vistoriai since 2000 providing Lithuanian market with new products and developing export capacities.

Visoriai is prospective location for new knowledge economy center for few more seasons: Institutes of Biotechnology and Ecology are also based in the same district; next to Vistoriai is located the largest center of medical institutions and hospitals Santariškės, laser and biotechnology companies are operating in neighborhood.

VITP is determined to contribute to the development of Vilnius as a coherent knowledge based economy cluster.

# KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR



The National Paying Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania was established on 11 November 1999. NPA is the only accredited institution managing the measures of support for agriculture, rural development and fisheries. NPA manages over 200 support measures and activities. Its customers are more than 175,000 applicants and beneficiaries who receive over EUR 800 million of support each year.

NPA goals and objectives related to international cooperation, are integral with the general objectives of foreign policy and long-term state development strategy: to promote cooperation in the region and abroad, to become an effective member of the EU, to strengthen worldwide the authority of Lithuania, to spread the values of democracy, tolerance and dialogue.

NPA maintains close business relationship with quite a few EU Member States (Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Czech Republic, France, Romania, Slovenia, Finland, and Holland). Cooperation is ongoing with the Eastern Partnership countries (Belarus, Moldova), with the EU candidate countries (Montenegro, Albania, Serbia, Turkey). NPA concluded bilateral cooperation agreements with the paying agencies in Croatia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Poland. A Trilateral Agreement between the Polish Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture, the Ukrainian State Farmers Support Fund and the NPA was concluded. Cooperation Agreement has been signed with the Agricultural and Rural Development Support Institution (Paying Agency) in Turkey.

Collaboration comprises study visits, implementation of joint projects, workshops.



# KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR



The Lithuanian Agriculture Advisory Service (LAAS) was founded in 1993. It is a public institution the mission of which is to help all farming people to develop their businesses profitably without causing damage to environment, produce competitive production, survive and be leaders under the conditions of market economy.

The Advisory Service's founders are:

The Lithuanian Ministry of Agriculture;

The Lithuanian Farmers' Union;

The Lithuanian Association of Agricultural Companies.

The interest of LAAS services' users are represented by the national Advisory Board. It participates in submitting proposals and preparing the Activity Programme of Advisory Service.

The Advisory Service functions on two levels: the central level represented by the Central Office in Akademija, the geographical centre of Lithuania and the regional level represented by district offices in each district of the country (48 offices in total). The department specialists of the Service's Centre take care of in-service training of advisers, provide them with trainings materials, help them to carry out purposeful planning of their activities, provides regular monitoring of the implementation of their work plans and quality of services and participate in the international projects and different work groups.

LAAS has established a farmers' advisory system covering the whole country.

The Service employs more than 350 employees, who improve their skills in the Lithuania and abroad on regular basis.

# KEY ACTORS IN R&D AND INNOVATION IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR



## Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology

Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA) is the main governmental institution, responsible for implementation of innovation policy in Lithuania. Briefly, it is a national innovation agency.

MITA provides free of charge services for clients from business, science and public sectors, interested in possibilities to develop strong cooperation relations with international partners and get financial support for research and innovation projects.

The main activity is the coordination of national activities and international programmes (HORIZON2020, EUREKA, EUROSTARS) of research, technological development and innovation and other financial schemes (innovation vouchers, protection of industrial property rights). MITA provides national financial support for projects participants.

MITA also promotes business and science cooperation, commercialization of research and protection of intellectual property rights.

MITA welcomes innovators, inventors, entrepreneurs, businessmen, intellectuals, researchers and other individuals, which have innovative ideas and are not afraid of risk.

MITA was established on 4th of May in 2010 with the aim to foster business and science cooperation and to create a friendly environment for business needs and innovation. These goals are foreseen in national Innovation Strategy for the year 2010-2020, approved by Lithuanian Government. Two ministries: the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Education and Science are the main founders of MITA. The activities of MITA are jointly supported and funded by them.

## **Biotechnology**

1. Sicor Biotech
2. Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltic
3. Biotechpharma
4. Kurana
5. Esspo
6. Biocentras

## **Nanotech**

1. Nano technologic
2. Nova fabrica
3. Lithuanian Biotechnology Association

## **Associations**

1. Union of farmers
2. Lithuanian confederation of Industrialists
3. Chamber of Agriculture

## **SMART SPECIALISATION**

### **The strategic goal includes the following objectives:**

- create innovative technologies, products, processes and/or methods and, using the outputs of these activities, respond to global trends and long-term national challenges;
- increase competitiveness of Lithuanian legal entities and their opportunities for establishing in global markets – commercialization of knowledge created in the implementation of the R&D and innovation priorities as well as knowledge created in developing the R&D and innovation priority areas otherwise and using the unique synergy arising from the collaboration of science and businesses, economic entities and other public and private sector entities.

### **“Agro-innovation and food technologies” priorities:**

- Sustainable agro-biological resources and safer food;
- Functional food;
- Innovative development, improvement and processing of biological raw materials (biorefinery).

# MAIN PROGRAMS AND INICIATIVES SUPPORTING R&D AND INNOVATION

## INNOVATION POLICY IN LITHUANIA

Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Education and Science are the main institutions responsible for the formation and implementation of innovation policy in Lithuania:

- the Ministry of Economy is responsible for the policy of the development of innovation environment;
- the Ministry of Education and Science is responsible for the policy of research and development.

The fundamental strategic document setting guidelines for innovation policy in Lithuania is Innovation Development Programme 2014–2020. The Programme has been drafted with a view to mobilizing the state resources for the improvement of Lithuania’s innovativeness and development of competitive economy based on high level knowledge, high technologies, qualified human resources and smart specialization. The strategic goal of the Programme – to enhance competitiveness of the Lithuanian economy through the development of the effective innovation system promoting economic innovation.

Objectives of the Lithuanian Innovation Development Programme 2014–2020:

- to develop innovative society by developing new knowledge and its application;
- to enhance innovation potential of business;
- to promote the creation of value networking, development and internationalization;
- to increase efficiency of innovation policy-making and implementation and promote innovation in the public sector.

# MAIN PROGRAMS AND INICIATIVES SUPPORTING R&D AND INNOVATION



## RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2020

EUR 1.977 billion of support funds were earmarked for the implementation of the Rural Development Programme for Lithuania in total.

A total of EUR 328.7 million was paid in 2017 under the Lithuanian Rural Development Programme measures, which is almost EUR 25 million more than in 2016 (EUR 305 million). The greatest support amount was paid under the measure “Investments in tangible assets” (with the major share being disbursed for investments in agricultural holdings). The most, namely 244, applications for support were approved and contracts were signed under the activity area “Support for the setting up of young farmers” of the measure “Farm and Business Development” of the Lithuanian Rural Development Programme 2014–2020; support was approved for 1 182 beneficiaries under the activity area “Support for replacing asbestos roofing” of the measure “Main services and renovation in rural areas” of the Lithuanian Rural Development Programme 2014–2020. Of the EUR 1.977 billion allocated by the programme funds, at the end of 2017 NPA had already paid 38 percent.

## MAIN PROGRAMS AND INICIATIVES SUPPORTING R&D AND INNOVATION



### ESTABLISHMENT OF EIP ACTION GROUPS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR ACTIVITIES

The European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI) has been launched in 2012 to contribute to the European Union's strategy 'Europe 2020' for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. This strategy sets the strengthening of research and innovation as one of its five main objectives and supports a new interactive approach to innovation: European Innovation Partnerships.

The EIP-AGRI brings together innovation actors (farmers, advisers, researchers, businesses, NGOs and others) at EU level and within the rural development programmes (RDPs). Together they form an EU-wide EIP network. EIP Operational Groups can be funded under the RDPs, are project-based and tackle a certain (practical) problem or opportunity which may lead to an innovation. The Operational Group approach makes the best use of different types of knowledge (practical, scientific, technical, organisational, etc.) in an interactive way. An Operational Group is composed of those key actors that are in the best position to realize the project's goals, to share implementation experiences and to disseminate the outcomes broadly.

# **PRESENTATION OF GOOD PRACTICES OF LITHUANIA**



# GOOD PRACTICE N° 1

**TITLE:** Competitive farm

**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** The usage of innovations for milk and meat livestock productivity improvement in farms by reducing costs and inputs also improving the quality of production itself. Main project activities: 1) Coordination and administration of project activities; 2) Analyzing the situation of livestock farms' competitiveness and need of innovations; 3) Cultivation of herbal forage additives, establishing their chemical composition and microbiological contamination. Preparing, creating new forage mixtures and setting the dosage; 4) Creating rations; 5) Testing feedings. 6) Exploring the quality of milk and meat production; 7) Researching the livestock wellness and reproduction features; 8) Evaluating the economic efficiency of innovations and possibilities for their practical appliances; 9) EIP group members' partnership and publicity of their activities.

**INSTITUTION INVOLVED:** ASU, LŽŪKT, Upytė experimental farm, Šilutė breeding company, Association of Lithuanian Agricultural companies, Lithuanian farmers' union, farmers.

## **RELATION WITH THREE THEMATIC AREAS:**

R&I agriculture services  
R&I infrastructure & capacities  
R&I public-private collaboration

**COFUNDING:** EAFRD

**MAIN RESULTS:** Implementation stage

## GOOD PRACTICE N° 2

**TITLE:** Centre for knowledge accumulation, transfer, development of agricultural technologies and their demonstration “Gate of Innovations”

**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** The main objective of the project - to ensure smooth creation, implementation and dissemination processes of agricultural innovations on the chain "farms-consultancy-research" in the project activities. To reach the aim it is planned to use all experience, knowledge, competencies and other existing resources of all project partners, that the methods and means used would fully cover the nature and specificity of the existing problems in the target group farms.

**INSTITUTION INVOLVED:** LŽŪKT, LSMU, ASU, Lithuanian research center for agriculture and forestry, Experimental farms, etc.

### RELATION WITH THREE THEMATIC AREAS:

R&I agriculture services  
R&I infrastructure & capacities  
R&I public-private collaboration

**COFUNDING:** EAFRD

**MAIN RESULTS:** Implementation stage

## GOOD PRACTICE N° 3

TITLE: Commercialization of R&D results

**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** A new initiative of the commercialization of R&D results was launched under the development programme by MITA in 2012. The main goal of this initiative was to encourage scientists, High-Tech researchers and students to establish start-ups or spin-off companies in Lithuania and foster the creation of innovative products, technologies or services, which are competitive in the market.

**RELATION WITH THREE THEMATIC AREAS:**

R&I agriculture services

R&I infrastructure & capacities

R&I public-private collaboration

**MAIN RESULTS:**

During the period of 2012-2016 MITA helped to set up 48 new technological companies in Lithuania: in technology area, mainly ICT – 32, in nanotechnology – 7, in biotechnology – 5, and in mechatronics – 4.

150 new jobs;

150 innovative products created;

15 patent applications submitted.

Funding: over 0.8 million Eur state budget.



# Agri Renaissance

Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

# Thank you!

Questions welcome



*Project smedia*