

Interreg V-A Latvia – Lithuania Programme 2014-2020

**LLI-291, «Enhancement of Green Infrastructure
in the Landscape of Lowland Rivers»**

ENGRAVE



3rd Stakeholder panel
discussion: Challenges of
spatial planning in context
of cultural heritage and
nature protection areas

Rundāle, 13.09.2019
Kristīna Veidemane/ Anda Ruskule
Baltic Environmental Forum - Latvia



What is the stakeholder panel?

One of the tools to **strengthening cooperation** between public authorities and stakeholders and supporting local and regional authorities **with know-how** by implementing measures and practices to enhance **river based green infrastructure**

Our moto is "to enhance" – we can better



Stakeholder Panel no 1

- **04.10.2018.** premises of Zemgale Planning region, Jelgava, Latvia
- Participants – 23 from different institutions including municipalities, planning regions, nature conservation agency, experts
- Discussed issues:
 - Expectations from the stakeholder panel meetings
 - Methodology of the for Regional and Local Landscape and Green Infrastructure Planning in Lowland Areas
 - The approach for Zemgale Regional Plan



What are the expectation& benefits of panelists?

- What would you like to contribute?
- to share knowledge and experience
- to show and train practical cases



- What would you like to receive& learn & find out?
- to learn on different landscape planning and management issues
- to gain new knowledge on green infrastructure issues, landscape planning on regional level, river restoration issues

Stakeholder Panel no 2

- 17.04.2019., premises of Žagare RPD, Lithuania
- Participants – 25 from different institutions including municipalities, planning regions, environmental boards, nature conservation agency, experts
- Discussed issues:
 - transboundary river basin management issues in Svēte catchment
 - Joint visit of project site in Žagarė:
 - the status of the Žagarė cherry garden,
 - envisaged plans for enhancement of the garden area



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Recommendations on enhancing integrated planning approach



Aim of the activity

- to collate all findings of the project and to present in the consolidated project Recommendations
- to enhance the integrated planning approach in future in both countries different levels- from regional to local one
- to identify potential need for policy change and new approaches to governance addressing different drivers of the change (factors, barriers, incentives)



Potential aspects to be addressed by recommendations

- Knowledge and data gaps for landscape and Green Infrastructure planning
- Integration of landscape, ecosystem & Green Infrastructure concepts into existing planning systems
- Implementation of planning solutions for improvement of river based Green Infrastructure: multifunctionality, efficient use of resources, available funding sources etc.

EC Guidance on a strategic framework for further supporting the deployment of EU-level green and blue infrastructure, published in 24.05.2019



What is Green Infrastructure (GI)?

The EU Green Infrastructure Strategy (EC, 2013)

“Strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services. It incorporates green spaces (or blue if aquatic ecosystems are concerned) and other physical features in terrestrial (including coastal) and marine areas.”



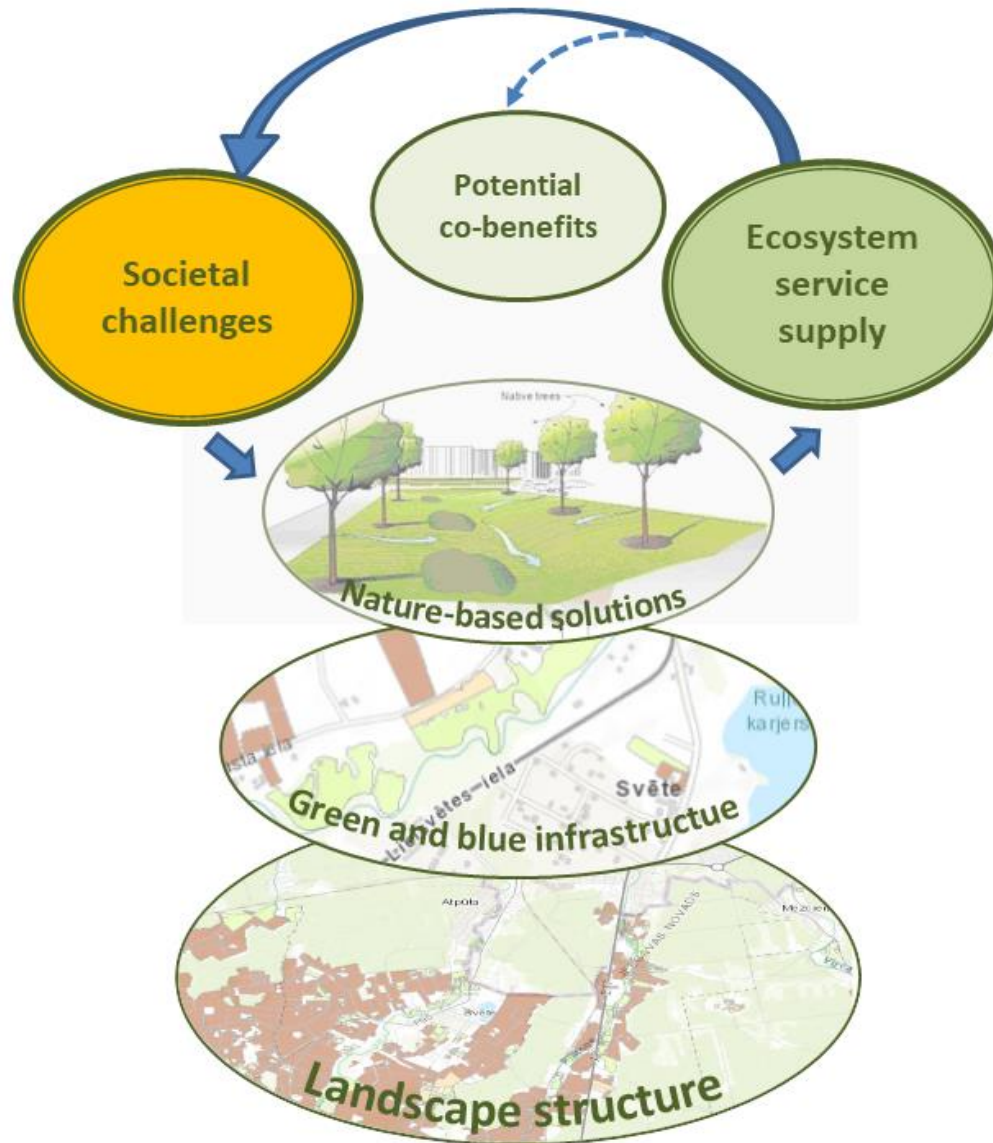
Source: European Commission (2013). Green infrastructure (GI) – Enhancing Europe’s Natural Capital. COM(2013)249.



Green infrastructure includes:

- **Natural ecosystems/green network** providing various ecosystem services
- **Nature-based solutions**, which imitate or utilize ecosystem services:
 - *rain water management techniques,*
 - *river protection belts etc.*
 - *eco-ducts, fish ladders*





Conceptual basis for integrated landscape and GI planning

Landscape analysis & planning provides great opportunities for:

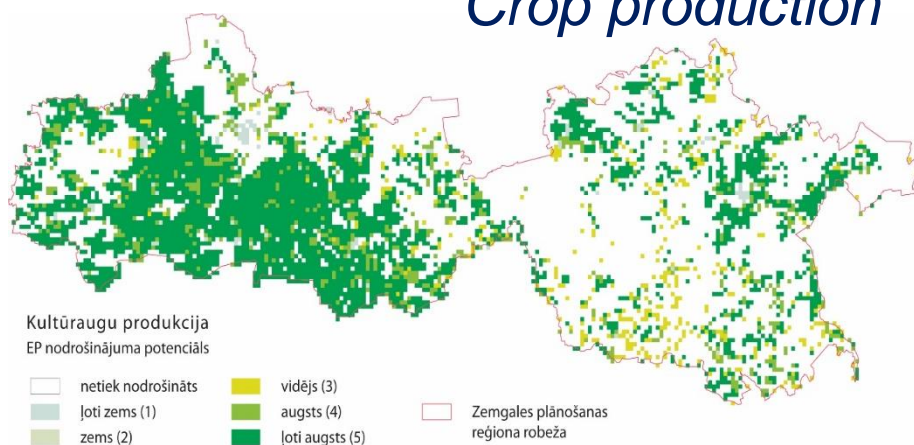
- improving of the GI
- selection of the most suitable sites for particular NBS

Source: Albert C., et al.2019. Addressing societal challenges through nature-based solutions: How can landscape planning and governance research contribute? Landscape and Urban Planning 182: 12–21.

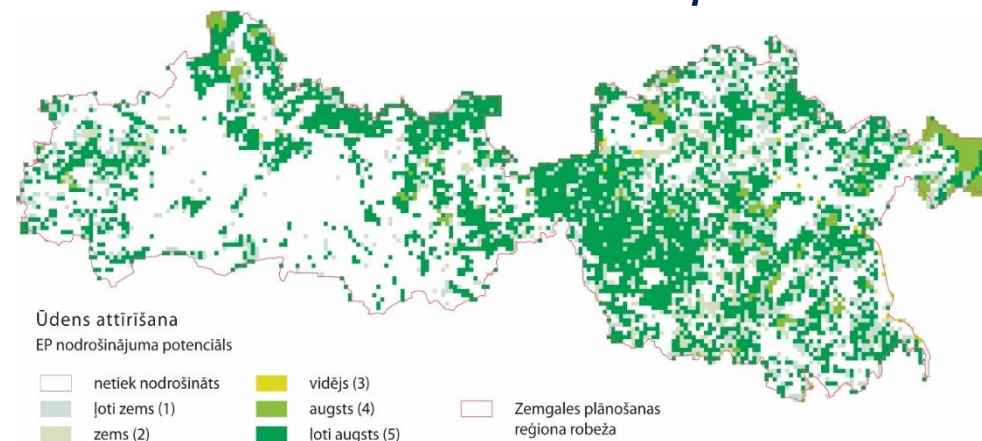


Mapping of ecosystem service potential

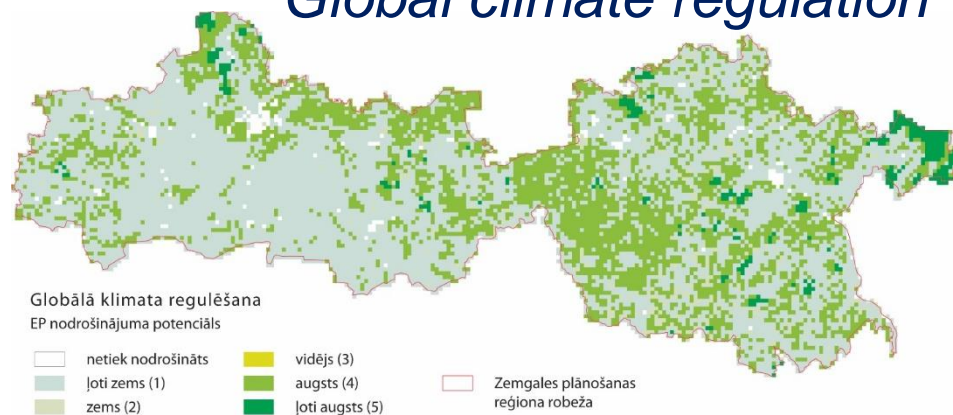
Crop production



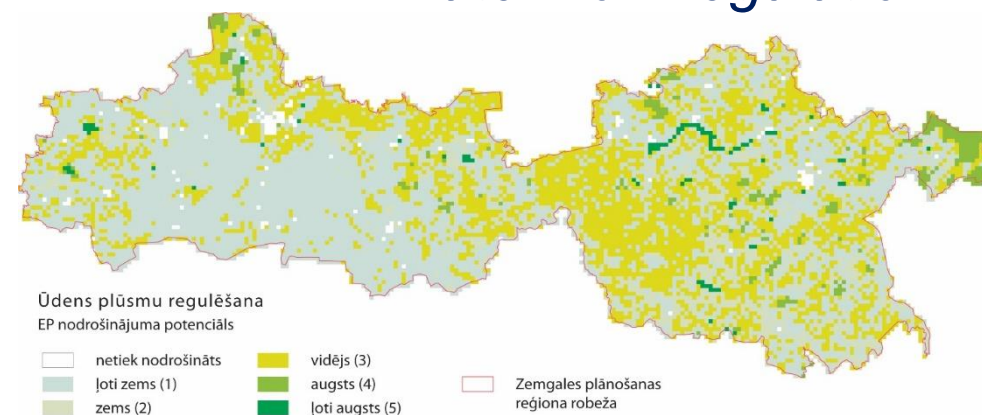
Water purification



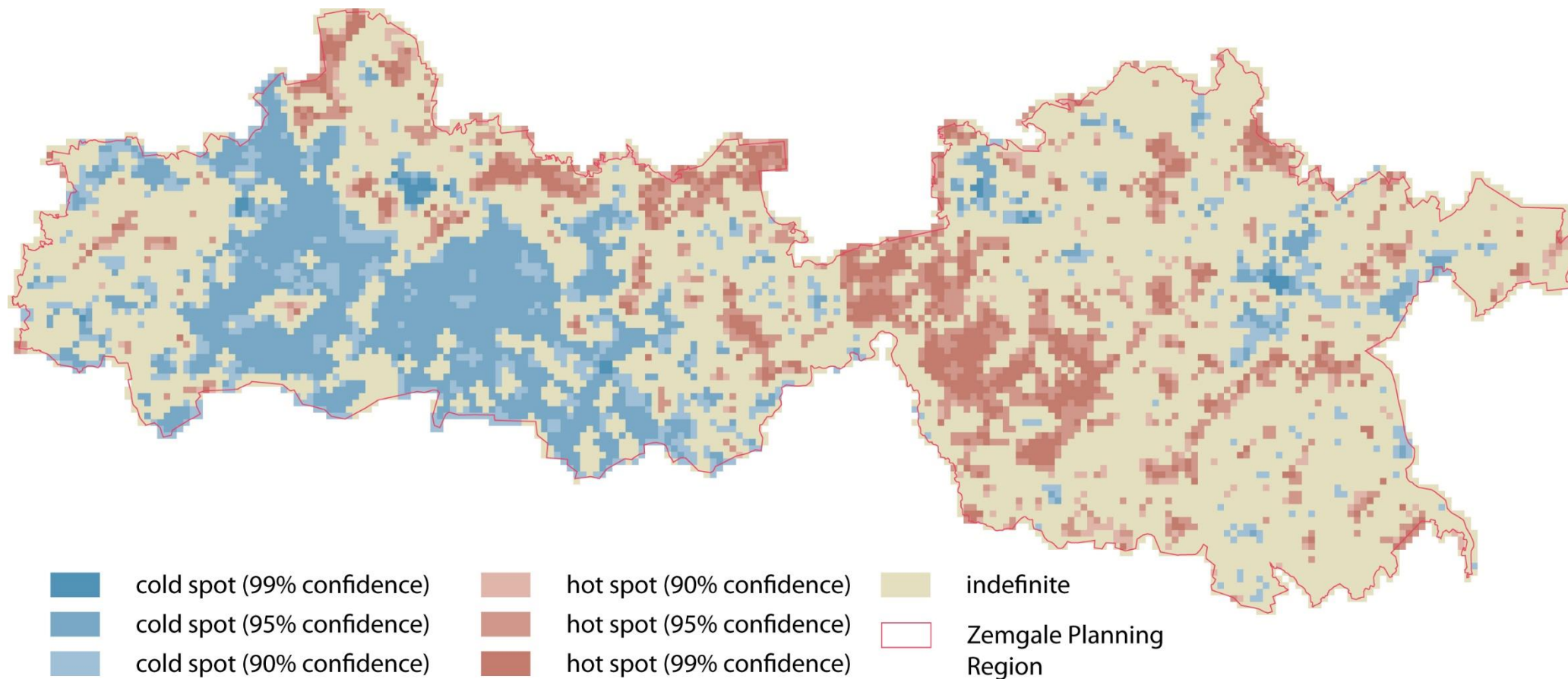
Global climate regulation



Water flow regulation



Ecosystem service 'hot & cold' spot analysis



Planning of GI improvement in lowland river landscape used for intensive agriculture

Main challenges
to be addressed

Flood risks

Eutrophication

Types of NBS

Land-use change:
Transformation of arable land to permanent grasslands

Governance measures

Thematic planning for
landscape and GI

Agri-environmental schemes
targeted to problem areas

Co-benefits

Landscape
structure

Biodiversity
Habitat
connectivity

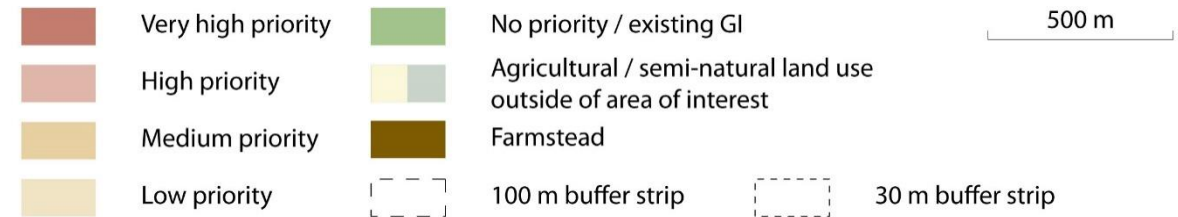
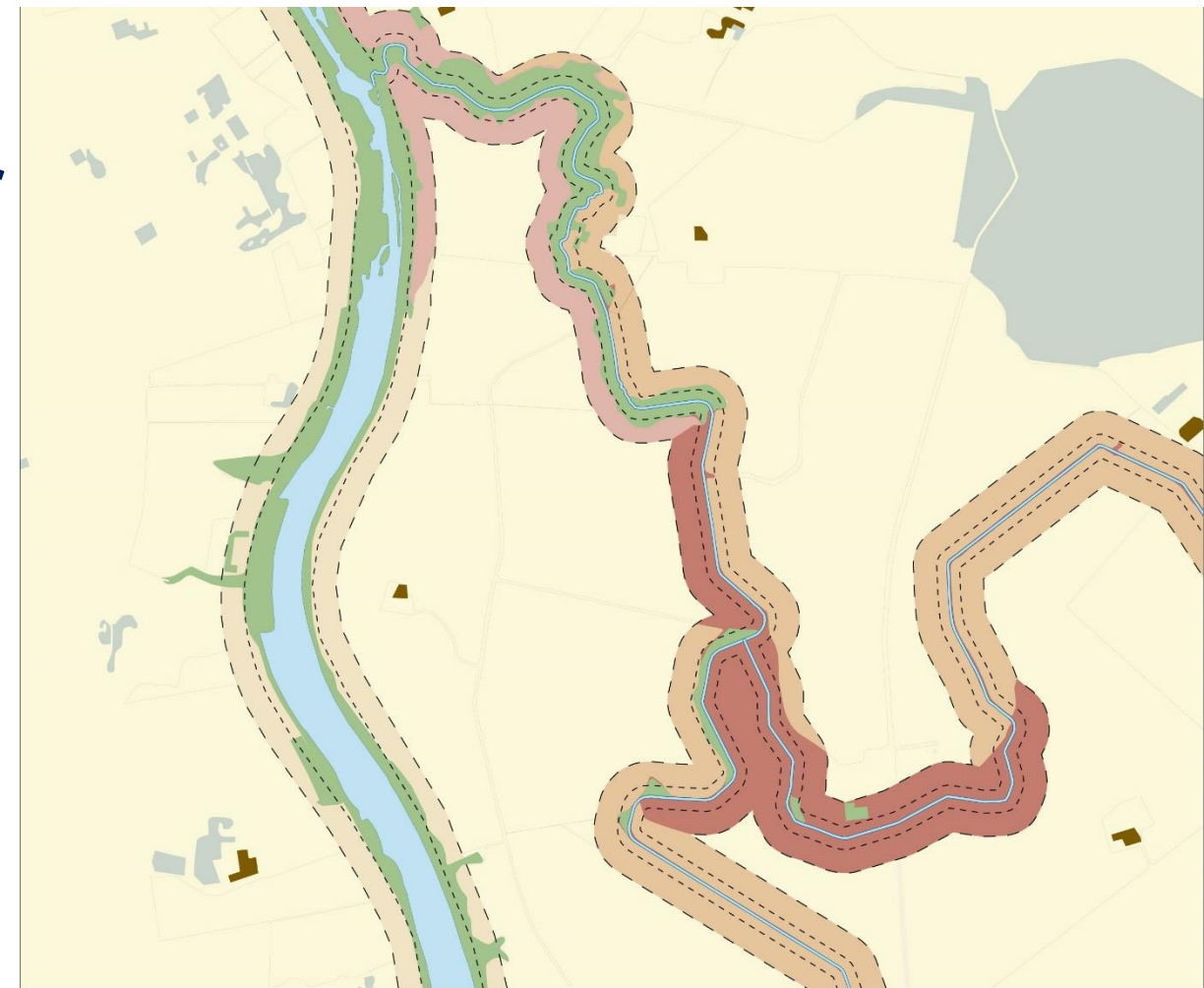
Recreation &
tourism

Carbon
sequestration



Development of scenarios for improvement of GI in lowland river landscapes in Zemgale region

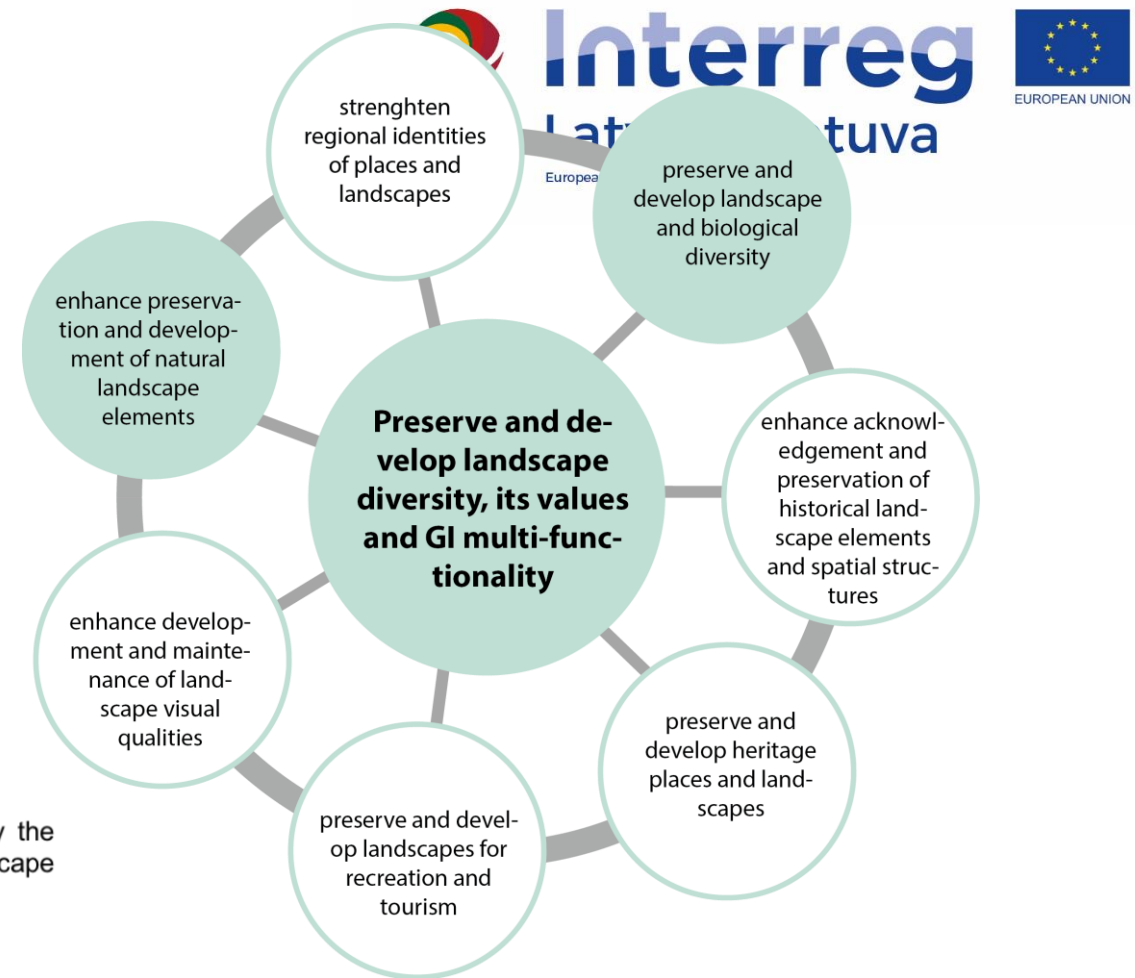
Priority areas for land use change in 100 m and 30 m buffer stripes along rivers



Landscape quality objectives for Zemgale plain landscape region

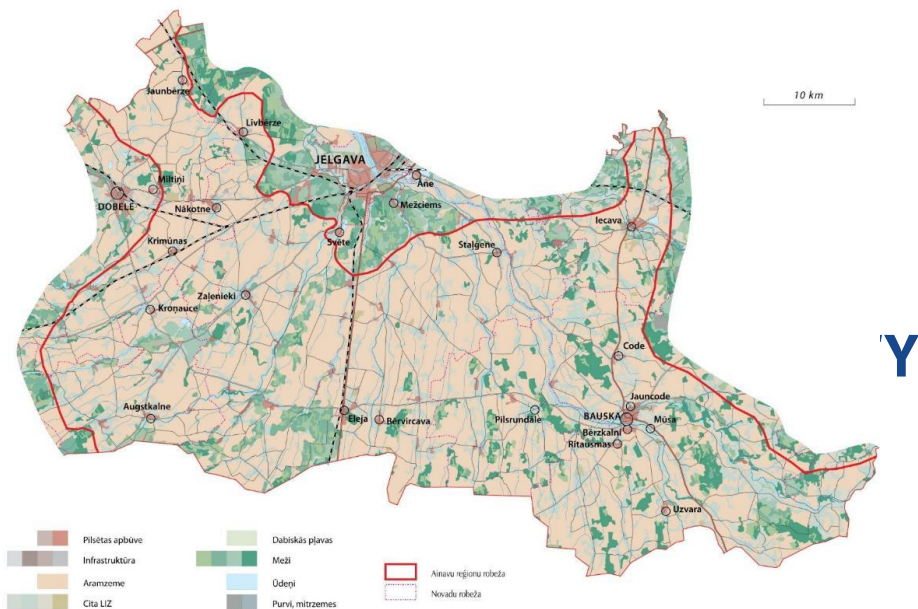
[Thematic plan for landscape and green infrastructure]

- c "Landscape quality objective" means, for a specific landscape, the formulation by the competent public authorities of the aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings;



Result of stakeholder workshop (2nd meeting, March, 2018):

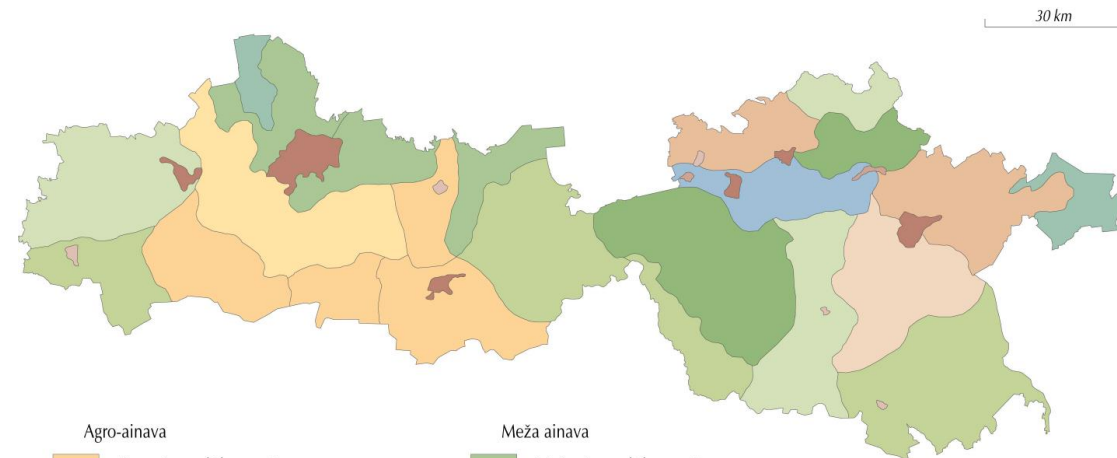
- agreement about LQO
- discussion and nomination of landscape values and its analysis in relation to GI and ES



land use



river network

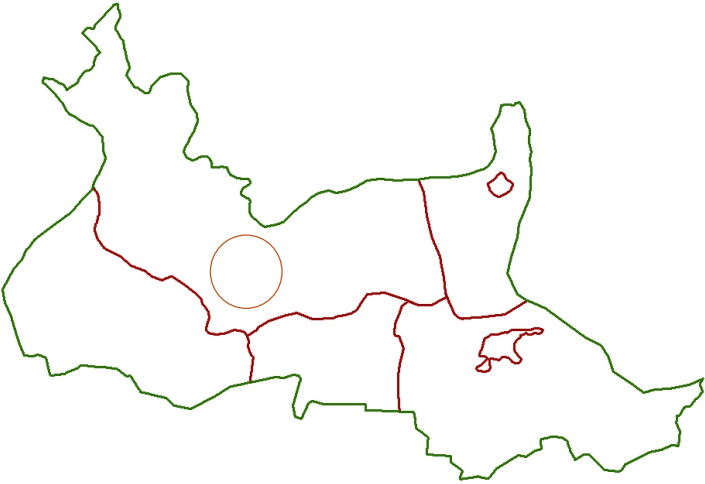


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| <p>Agro-ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agro-ainava līdzenumā Atklāta agro-ainava līdzenumā <p>Lauku-meža ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lauku-meža ainava viļņotā līdzenumā Meža-lauku ainava viļņotā līdzenumā <p>Mozaikveida ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mozaikveida ainava paugurainē Mozaikveida ainava viļņotā līdzenumā | <p>Meža ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meža ainava līdzenumā Meža ainava viļņotā līdzenumā <p>Mitrzemju ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitrzemju ainava <p>Urbanizēta ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilsētas un piepilsētu ainava Pilsētas ainava Lielciema ainava | <p>Upes senielejas ainava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upes senielejas ainava |
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landscape regions

Agro-industrial landscape of Zemgale Plain

PRELIMINARY RESULTS



Semi-quantitative assesment of landscape qualities and GI for Bērze-Zaļenieki landscape unit

- Characterizes GI diversity and distribution
- Indicates GI spatial proportion in landscape unit
- Indicates culturally important GI sites
- Indicates naturally important GI sites
- Important indicator of GI core areas and their protection status
- Indicates GI recreational use
- Important indicator of GI values at the regional and national scale

LANDSCAPE QUALITIES							
Landscape diversity	Historical structure and elements	Cultural heritage	Recreation	Scenic and aesthetic	Naturalness	Spiritual	Uniqueness
Landscape quality indicators (expert values: 0-5)							
Land use diversity [1]	Presence of historical landscape structures [2]	Density of historical heritage [3]	Distribution and density of tourism objects [2]	Landscape openness [5]	Naturalness of water courses [2]	Density of sacred places [0]	Unique landscapes and place at national level [4]
Field size [1]	Historical landmarks [3]	Diversity of cultural monument types [3]	Accessibility of accomodation [1]	Scenic landscapes [4]	Unique semi-natural territories (biotopes) [1]	Density of churches	Important cultural and scenic landscapes at regional scale [4]
Lake density [0]		Management of cultural heritage	Proportion of nature parks, national parks, nature monuments [1]	Scenic roads [3]	Diversity and density of SPNA [1]	Density of cemeteries [3]	Important landscape nature values at regional scale [1]
River density [5]		Accessibility of cultural heritage	The diversity of tourism and recreational infrastructure [1]	Attractive landscape elements [2]	Natural and semi-natural wetlands [0]		
Density of small landscape elements [2]			Cycling routes [2]	Visual polution and abandoned elements [1]	Dune landscapes [0]		
Settlement density [3]			Swimming, boating possibilities [1]		Technological alterations [4]		
Density of natural elements [1]			State forests for recreation [1]				
Density of industrial units							

Questions to stakeholder pannel

- **What challenges/barriers you see with regard to:**
 - **Integration** of landscape/cultural heritage & GI concepts into existing planning systems
 - **Implementation** of measures for improving GI & landscape quality
- **What opportunities/incentives you see for :**
 - **Integration** of landscape/cultural heritage & GI concepts into existing planning systems
 - **Implementation** of measures for improving GI & landscape quality



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Thank you for the attention!

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