

**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)  
Actions by Lithuania**

**Country:** Lithuania

**Title:**

**Supporting Energy Efficiency in Housing Sector in Lithuania**

*Focus area 2:* Promote the internalization of negative externalities and the sustainable use of natural capital

**Description of the action:** In 2013, Lithuania revamped its programme for renovation of multi-apartment buildings. The overall aim of the programme is to increase the energy efficiency in housing sector by means of providing the long-term loan financing on preferential terms and conditions. Eligible expenditure covers enhancement of energy performance of buildings, including replacement or installation of the heating and hot water and ventilation and recuperation systems; thermal insulation of façade walls, glazing of balconies and loggias; replacement of doors and windows in all apartments insulation of basement; renovation of lifts and other engineering systems of common use As a result of renovation, the building must reach at least Energy Efficiency Class “C”. The renovation of multi-apartment buildings stimulates creation of new jobs, contributes to reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, improves living standard of apartment owners and reduces the energy bill.

**Action’s timeframe/milestones, as appropriate:** 2014–2023.

**Type of action:** Economic and fiscal instruments.

**Economic sectors:** Housing, buildings and construction.

**Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** UNECE - The Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing; Sustainable Building and Construction programme of 10YFP; Directive 2010/31/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the energy performance of buildings.

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** Improved living conditions; increased energy efficiency; reduction of fossil fuels and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

**SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:** Action contributes to SDG targets: 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; 11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums; 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

**Implementation of EPR Recommendations, as appropriate:** —

**Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:** 30 000 households with improved energy consumption classification; 80 000 t CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent – total annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2023.

**Partner:** Ministry of Finance; EIB, Commercial banks (private sector).

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**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)  
Actions by Lithuania**

**Country: Lithuania**

**Title:**

**Improvement of Water Supply and Sanitation Services in Lithuania**

*Focus area 2: Promote the internalization of negative externalities and the sustainable use of natural capital*

**Description of the action:** In urban areas, the share of households with access to safe drinking water supply and wastewater services is quite large. However, availability of quality water supply and wastewater services in rural areas remains problematic. In Lithuania, water services are provided by municipally-owned water utilities. The cost of services provided by these utilities varies significantly: in larger agglomerations, water utilities offer lower prices due to better management and the economies of scale, while utilities based in rural areas incur higher costs and fail to ensure adequate quality of services and to implement the cost recovery principle. To reduce the gap between the urban and rural areas in terms of drinking water and wastewater service coverage and quality, steps must be taken to improve the management of water supply utilities and optimise their operations.

Investment into better water supply and wastewater services will result in increased service coverage and operational efficiency. Improved water services will contribute to implementation of the polluter pays principle and the cost recovery principle. As a result, reduced point source pollution will improve the status of surface water bodies and the Baltic Sea.

Measures to be taken:

- Development and renovation of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure. Funding will be offered for: development of drinking water supply and wastewater collection infrastructure with particular focus on agglomerations with the population less than 2000; renovation of networks aiming to improve the quality and efficiency of services and networks; construction and renovation of drinking water improvement facilities; construction and renovation of wastewater treatment facilities; sewage sludge processing .

**Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate:** 2014–2023.

**Type of action:** Economic and fiscal instruments.

**Economic sectors:** Water

**Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** UNECE Water Convention; UNECE/WHO Protocol on Water and Health.

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** Increased accessibility of water supply services and wastewater treatment services reaching 90 % of the population; improved status of the Baltic Sea and other surface waters.

**SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:** Action contributes to SDG targets: 6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.

**Implementation of EPR Recommendations, as appropriate:** —

**Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:** Accessibility of water supply services will increase from 76 % to 90 % of the population; accessibility of wastewater treatment services will increase from 67 % to 90 % of the population by 2023.

**Partner:** Municipalities, water supply utilities.

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**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)  
Actions by Lithuania**

**Country:** Lithuania

**Title:**

**Improvement of the National Waste Management System in Lithuania, by:**

**-Separate collection of reusable and recyclable wastes and materials (including deposit system);  
-Banning food waste disposal to landfills and establishing programme for collection of food waste in residential areas and catering services.**

*Focus area 4; 5:* Shift consumer behaviours towards sustainable consumption patterns; Develop clean physical capital for sustainable production patterns

**Description of the action:** The major national objective in waste management sector is to reduce the generation of waste, to minimize landfilling and to increase the reuse and recycling. In pursuing the waste management hierarchy, population will be consistently motivated by economic means to separate waste at source (green waste, food/kitchen waste, recyclables, including packaging).

**Measures to be taken:**

- a) Further development of the municipal waste collection and treatment system. Investments will be made in waste collection infrastructure, i.e. containers and container sites for separate collection (recyclables and textile), biodegradable (green and food) and mixed waste
- b) Financial incentives will be provided for scaling-up and modernisation of capacities to prepare waste for recycling, re-use or other recovery.

**Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate:** 2014–2023.

**Type of action:** Legal/Regulatory/Economic/ Information, education-based instruments.

**Economic sectors:** Waste.

**Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** EU Circular economy package.

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** Improved resource efficiency.

**SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:** Action contributes to SDG target 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses; 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

**Implementation of EPR Recommendations, as appropriate:** —

**Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:** Share of paper, plastic, metal and glass waste in municipal waste stream, prepared for re-use or recycling increased from 17 % to 50 % by 2023; Additional/improved municipal waste separate collection capacity – 150,000 Tonnes/year.

**Partner:** Municipalities

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**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)  
Actions by Lithuania**

**Country: Lithuania**

**Title:**

**Increase of Forest Coverage in Lithuania**

*Focus area 3: Enhance ecosystems and ecosystem services as part of ecological infrastructure*

**Description of the action:** Forest is one of the most important renewable natural resources of Lithuania, which brings benefits both to national economy and society at large. Forests are among the most important tools in climate change mitigation. Lithuania's forest cover has been consistently increasing ever since the World War II. As of the regaining of Independence in 1990, as a result of targeted forest policy measures (afforestation of abandoned agricultural land) the rate of afforestation has been 3 %. In continuation of this coherent policy, Government of the Republic of Lithuania has adopted The National forestry development programme for 2012-2020 (National Forest Programme). One of its objectives is to afforest the poor or abandoned agricultural lands, as well as provide financial incentives for afforestation of private and state-owned lands. Currently support for afforestation measures is provided from European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development under the Lithuania's Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and state budget.

**Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate:** National Forest Programme specifies target to afforest (since 2011 inclusive) 30 000 ha area by 2020 and increase forest coverage (the ratio of the forest land area to the area of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania) from 33,2 % in 2011 up to 34,2% in 2020.

**Type of action:** Legal/ Regulatory/Policy instruments.

**Economic sectors:** Forestry

**Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy.

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** increased forest coverage of the country.

**SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:** Action contributes to SDG target 15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.

**Implementation of EPR Recommendations, as appropriate:** —

**Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:** afforested 30 000 ha area, increased forest coverage up to 34, 2% of the country.

**Partner:** Ministry of Agriculture.

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**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)  
Actions by Lithuania**

**Country: Lithuania**

**Title:**

**Enhancement of Protected Areas in Lithuania**

*Focus area 9: Promote public participation and education for sustainable development*

**Description of the action:** While environmental awareness in Lithuania remains relatively low, the protected areas have not been fully adapted for meaningful cultural and ecological awareness raising activities. The action includes measures which would result in higher environmental awareness, the efficient protection and well-balanced use of natural and recreational resources, as well as improved access by the public into protected areas.

**Measures to be taken:**

- a) Landscaping of protected areas, their promotion and adaptation for visitors. Support will be provided for maintenance of protected areas and as well as the cultural and natural heritage sites; instalment of outdoor information systems for cognitive and protective purposes; modernization of visitor centres and nature schools/educational centres;
- b) Provision of information to the public on environmental issues and improvement of infrastructure in environmental-recreational sites. Funding will be provided for the implementation of public information, education and awareness-raising measures on different environmental issues. Other actions include the modernisation of parks of national importance and environmental-recreational sites, increasing their attractiveness, thus contributing also to the economic development of regions.
- c) Cultural heritage sites will undergo comprehensive landscaping and adaptation for cultural, educational, economic and social needs, by using their social and economic potential in innovative ways. Adaptation of buildings for use will increase their attractiveness and economic viability.

**Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate:** 2014–2023.

**Type of action:** Policy/Economic/Information, education-based instruments.

**Economic sectors:** Tourism.

**Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** Convention on Biological Diversity, Aichi Targets UNESCO - Education for sustainable Development; European Landscape Convention.

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** Improved image of Lithuania as an attractive tourist destination in foreign markets; increased public awareness of Lithuanian population in environment, cultural and natural heritage, thus turning environmental-recreational sites into centres of social, educational and economic activities.

**SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:** Action contributes to SDG target 11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

**Implementation of EPR Recommendations, as appropriate:** —

**Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:** increased share of population well-informed on environmental resources from 55 % to 65 %; increased share of the Lithuanian population that has visited a site of cultural heritage per year from 53 % to 60 %; increased number of trips of tourists (foreign and local) to prioritised tourism development regions by 10%.

**Partner:** State Service of the Protected Areas under the Ministry of the Environment.

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