

Rural Support Service of Latvia

March 2025



Lauku atbalsta
dienests

RSS main Areas of Responsibility



Administration of national support and European Union support to rural areas, agriculture, forestry and fisheries:

- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)
- The European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)
- State Aid

Support provided



Area
Payments



Investment
Measures



Animal
registration and
identification



State Aid



Market
Measures



Other
services

Programme «School Milk and Fruits»

About us

- ✓ Clients - ~72,000
- ✓ Hectares - ~1,76 mil.
- ✓ Aid schemes - 95
- ✓ Transactions - ~400,000
- ✓ Yearly paid support > 600 mln. EUR



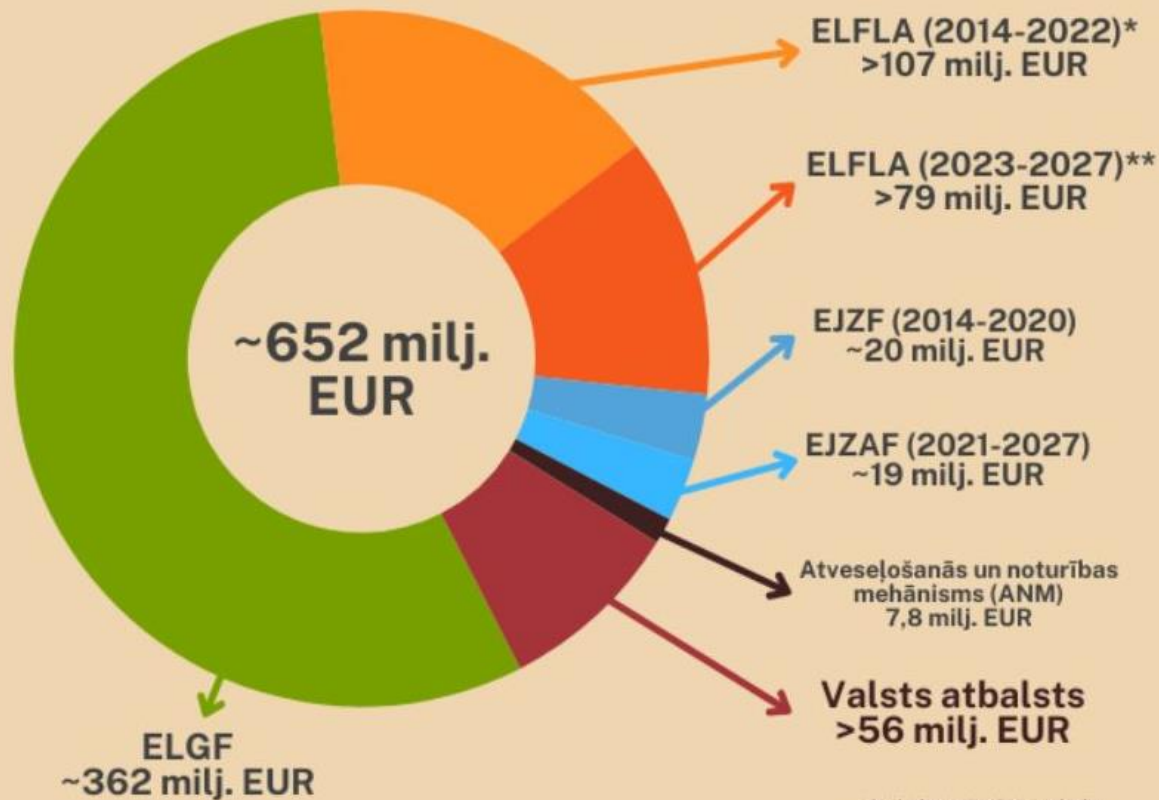
**LAUKU ATBALSTA DIENESTA
TERITORIĀLĀ KARTE**

**Location of RSS
Regional Agricultural
Departments**

BIELARŪS
BALTKRIEVĪJA



In 2024 payed 650 mil. EUR



* ieskaitot pārejas periodu
** arī iekļaujot pārejas periodu

Cooperation



Farmers'
organizations –
more than 60



Associations



Paying
Agencies
in EU

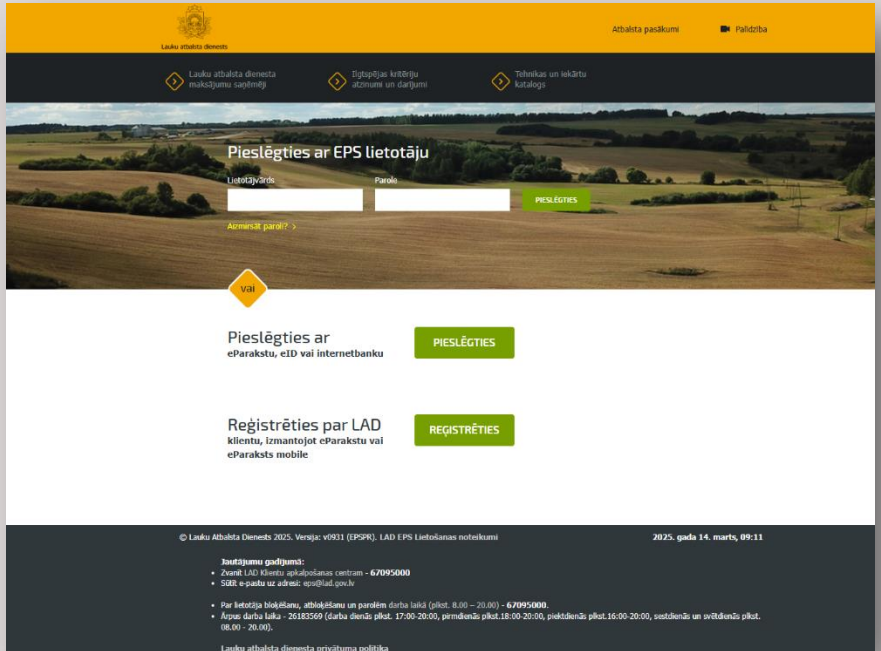


State
institutions –
ministries, local
governments,
education
institutions etc.

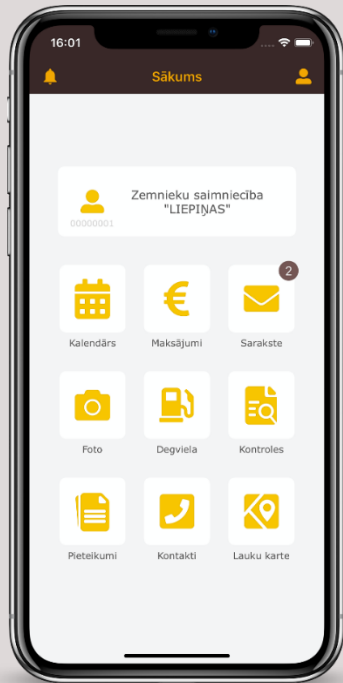
Electronic Application System - EAS

Users:

- Farmers
- Fishermen
- Foresters
- Education workers
- Accountants
- Municipalities
- State Revenue Service
- Gas stations
- Various entrepreneurs



Mobile app



- opportunity to see current information
- balance of reduced duty diesel
- information on on-farm controls
- possibility to take photos of fields or investments, send photo to RSS

Work electronically

RSS information system:



Client Register



Field Register –
GIS



IAKS



Project Administration
System

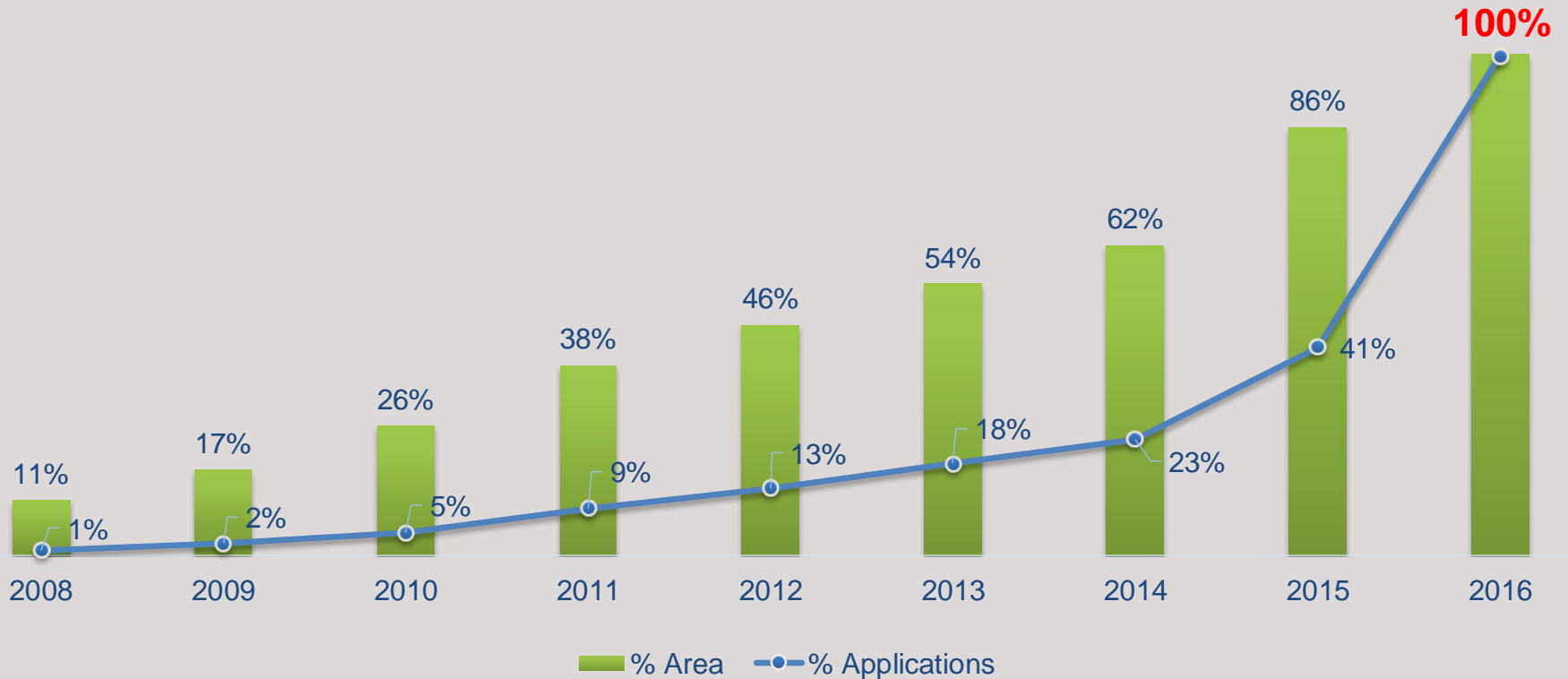


Payment System

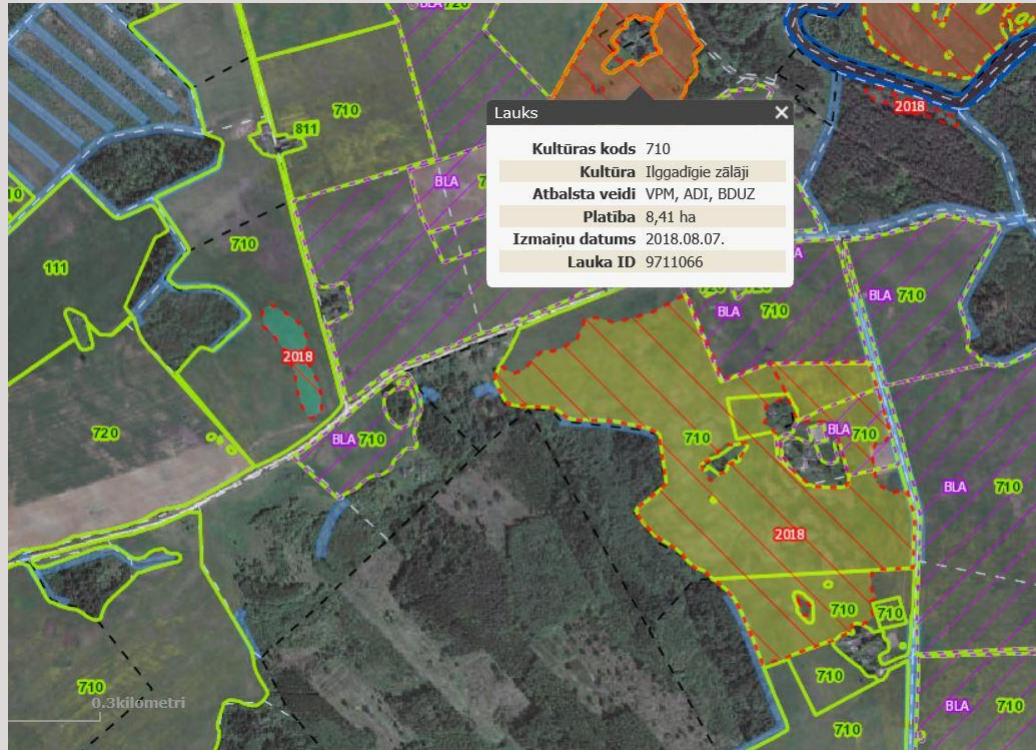


Electronic Application
System

Digitalisation – use of Electronic application system



Open data - Land Parcel Identification System public map



<https://karte.lad.gov.lv>

Types of support in the forestry sector

- Support for afforestation, restoration after damage and replacement
- Support for thinning of young plants
- *Natura 2000* payments
- Support for improving the monitoring and control of forest fire safety (remote monitoring systems, GNSS transmitters)
- Cooperation measures (support for scientific research)
- Entrepreneurship promotion (support for diversification of services of forest-related companies)
- Support for the development of the forest sector (State Forest Development Fund)

Funding until 2027

- Public funding for investments in forests is planned **54,3 million EUR**
- *Natura 2000* - **32,9 million EUR**
(+19,5 million EUR from previous period)

Support in the forestry sector

From 6 February to 6 March 2025

- LA 7 “Investments in sustainable forestry”
- LA 8 “Support for improving and maintaining the resilience and ecological value of forest ecosystems”

Total 3 428 applications received

Funding applied for – **9.86 million euros**

Statistics: period 2014-2024

- Submission of applications only in **electronic form**
- The highest activity for implemented projects in thinning young plants – **101 000 ha, 13 700 applications**
- **6 200 ha afforested**, equivalent to an area of 62 km²
- **2,500 ha of forests restored** after damage
- **3 500 ha of white alder** and **146 ha of unproductive forests replaced**

Statistics: period 2014-2024

Significant support for ensuring fire safety measures of the **State Forest Service** –

- 28 fire observation towers renovated,
- 23 remote fire observation stations installed,
- 11 drones,
- 264 GPSU and
- 410 GNSU purchased



Cooperation with the State Forest Service

Work on the possibility of linking the RSS EAS with the State Forest Service GIS

"-" Approval of the forest management plan and reports of work performed in paper format - longer period of time for administration

"+" Possibility to abandon paper documentation and electronicize submitted documents and information

"+" Feedback – clients are informed about actions taken with submitted information

"+" Faster decision-making

Two types of compensation are available to forest owners for restrictions on forestry activities:

From the **EU budget** -
Compensation
payment for *Natura*
2000 forest areas

From the **state budget** -
Compensation for annual
support payments as *de*
minimis aid

Compensation payments for *Natura 2000* forest areas can be received

- on the following restrictions on economic activities, which are prohibited throughout the year:
 - forestry activities
 - main felling and maintenance felling
 - main felling
 - clear felling
- if the eligible area is at least 1 ha
- if restrictions are in effect on March 1 of the current year
- if the forest land has been inventoried and included in the State Forest Register no later than March 1 of the current year

Who sets the restrictions?

- Law «On Specially Protected Natural Territories»
- Cabinet of Ministers Regulations on the Use and Protection of Specially Protected Nature Territories
- Specific Specially Protected Areas Individual Use and Protection Regulations
- Approved forest management plans of Gauja National Park or Slītere National Park for each specific forest land unit

Support rates

Type of restriction	Rate, EUR/ha
prohibited forestry activities	196
main felling and maintenance felling prohibited	196
main felling prohibited	145
clear-cutting prohibited	52


Eligible areas can be seen on the public rural block map of the RSS

The map includes only the following areas:

- in which a restriction on eligible economic activity has been established (specify which one)
- where there is a valid forest inventory
- for which the one-time compensation payment (paid by the Nature Conservation Agency) has not been received

In the application form of the Electronic application system the area selected from the marked map reads in

 Natura 2000 mežiem pielikums

Lauka numurs	Kadastra vienības apzīmējums	Deklarētā platība (ha)
1	2	3
1	56480070009 	10.6838
2	56480070009 	0.4547
3	56480070009 	1.1583
4	56480070023 	0.3006

Total areas of forestry activity restrictions and support applied for in Latvia

Type of forestry activity restriction	2020			2021			2022			2023			2024		
	platība pēc MVR, ha	pieteiktā platība LAD, ha	%	platība pēc MVR, ha	pieteiktā platība LAD, ha	%	platība pēc MVR, ha	pieteiktā platība LAD, ha	%	platība pēc MVR, ha	pieteiktā platība LAD, ha	%	platība pēc MVR, ha	pieteiktā platība LAD, ha	%
Any forestry activity is prohibited	10 587	7 885	74	11 222	8 454	75	12 035	8 985	75	12 890	9 929	77	12 722	9 916	78
Main and maintenance felling prohibited	13 833	11 072	80	14 274	11 374	80	14 091	11 479	81	14 574	12 119	83	14 649	12 044	82
Main felling prohibited	2 076	1 488	72	2 054	1 514	74	2 397	1 711	71	1 885	1 530	81	1 920	1 445	75
Clear-cutting prohibited	37 526	27 838	74	37 847	27 903	74	37 487	27 875	74	36 571	27 342	75	35 679	27 010	76
Total	64 022	48 283	75	65 398	49 245	75	66 010	50 050	76	65 920	50 920	77	64 970	50 415	78

To apply for support

Conduct a timely inventory of forest lands and do not forget to register it in the Forest Register of the State Forest Service by March 1 of the current year!



By May 22 of the current year (with a reduction in the deadline to June 15), the RSS EPS must submit:

- Geospatial application in 2025;
- Annex "Support application for compensation payment for Natura 2000 forest areas"



STAND WITH

UKRAINE