



State of national MAES: Case of Lithuania

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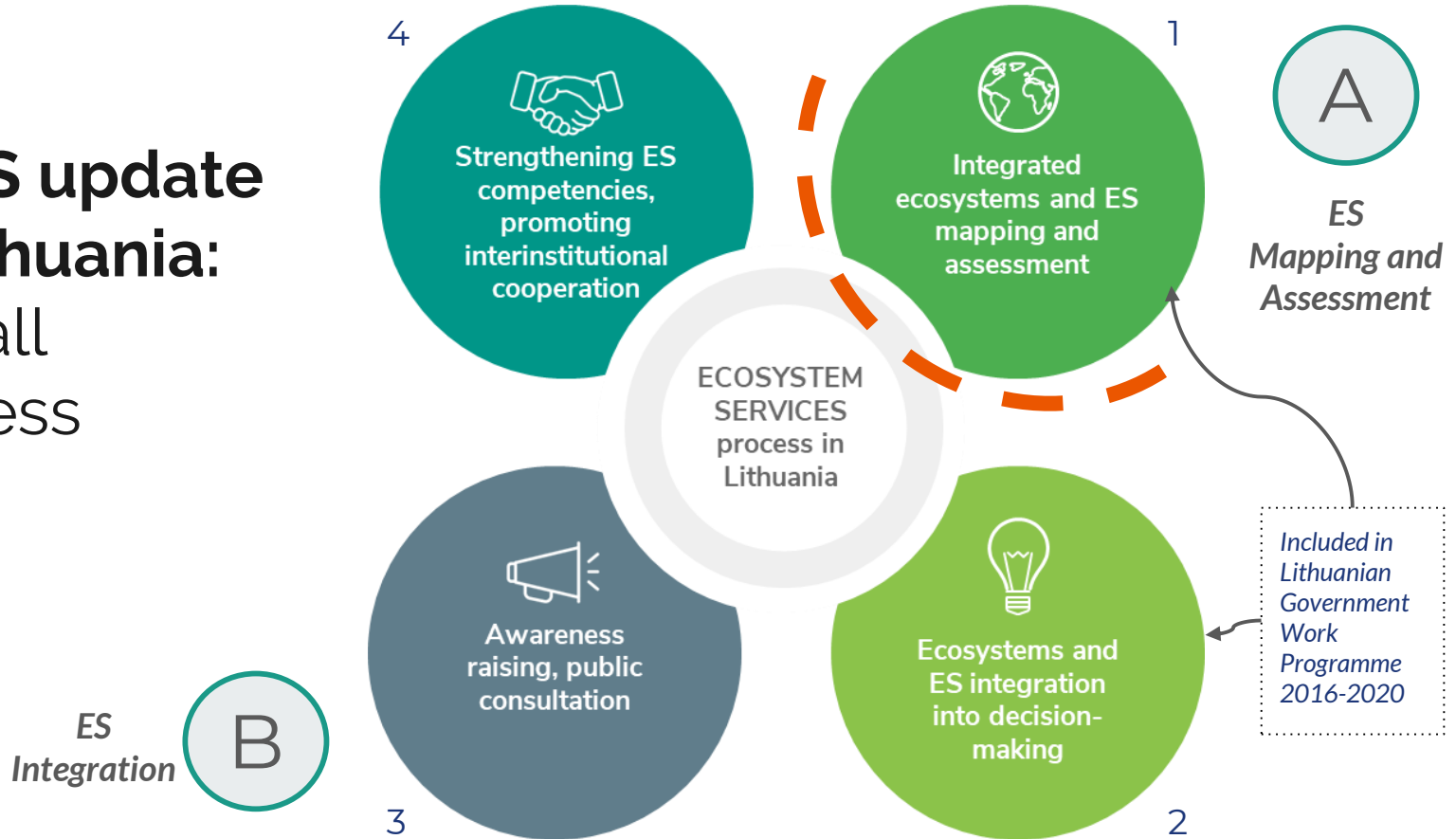
*Final LIFE VivaGrass Conference
28 February 2019*



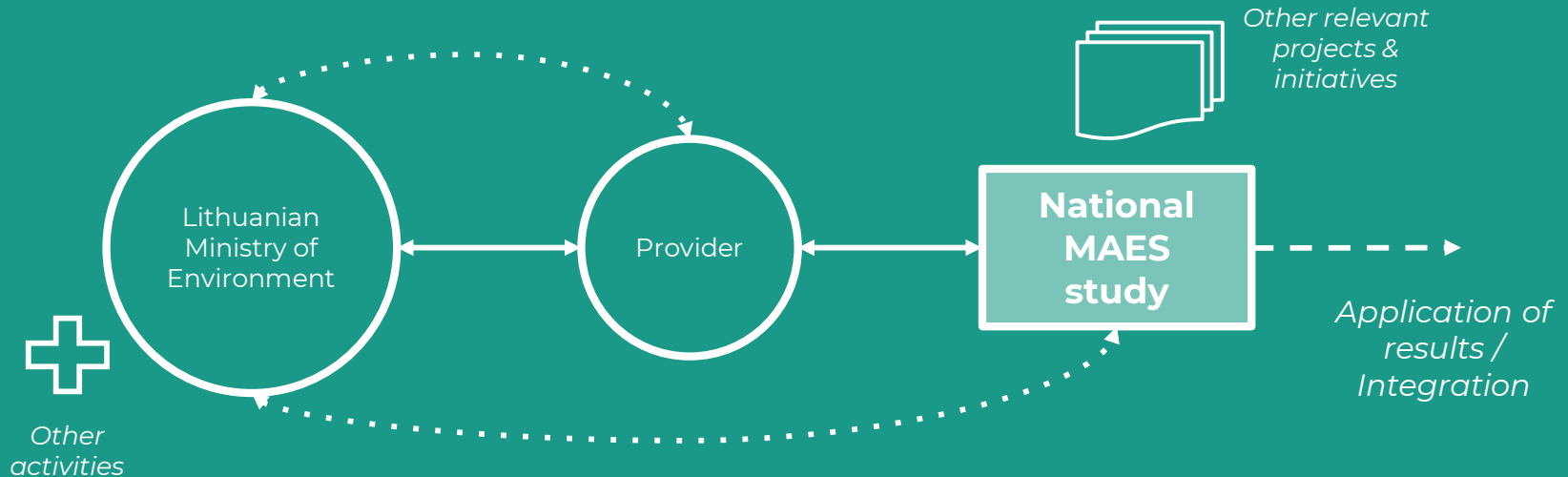
Lietuvos Respublikos
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MAES update in Lithuania: overall process



1) ES mapping and assessment





LINESAM Lithuanian National Ecosystem Services Assessment and Mapping

1. *Develop a national ES mapping and assessment framework to improve the understanding of the relationships between ecosystems, biodiversity and human wellbeing and how drivers of change may affect ES supply in Lithuania*
2. *Support the development of planning and management strategies grounded on socio-ecological principles of ecosystems and biodiversity*
3. *Create a common knowledge baseline on ES*

TIMELINE

- *Interim report* second half 2019
- *Project end* second half 2021

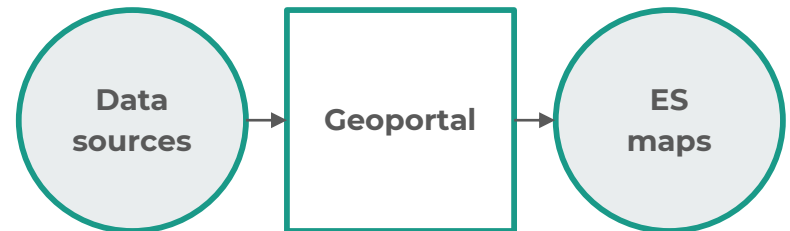
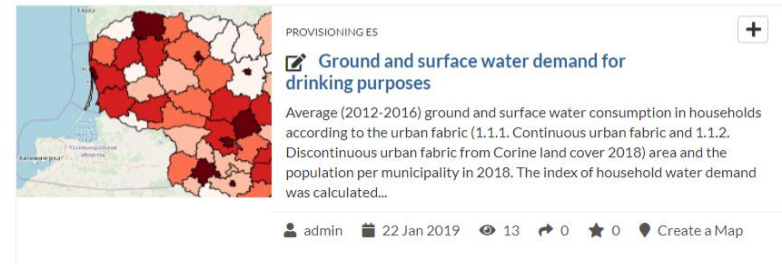
DELIVERABLES

- *Geoportal* (maps, layers)
- Scientific publications

LINESAM Methodology

NATIONAL LEVEL AND CASE STUDY SPECIFIC

1. Assessing and mapping ecosystem services
 - a. ES based on CICES
 - b. Which ES \Rightarrow expert selection
 - c. Modelling \Rightarrow ES potential (following MAES framework)
2. 4 case studies across selected ecosystems:
 - a. *Forest – Alytus region*
 - b. *Urban – Vilnius region*
 - c. *Cropland – Šiauliai region*
 - d. *Coastal – Klaipėda region*
3. Stakeholder engagement process to identify beneficiaries of ES and their power relations





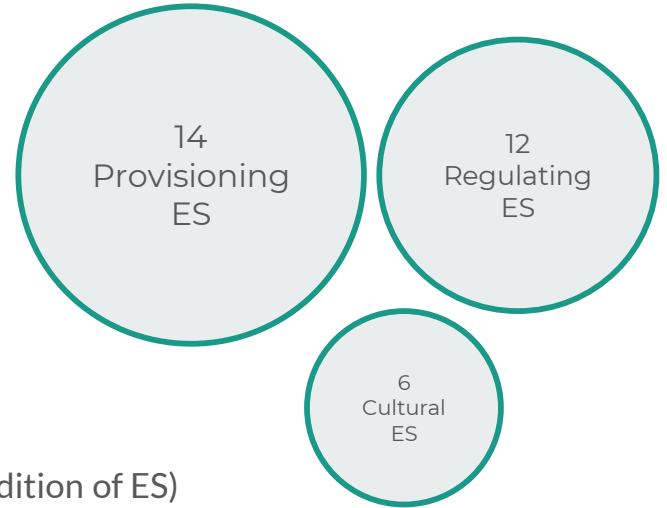
LINESAM First results

Finalised list of ecosystem services to be assessed

- **32 ecosystem services** (supply, demand and in some cases condition of ES)
- *Examples: timber production (P), pollination (R), natural and cultural heritage (C), etc.*

For maps and other data, visit GeoPortal: linesam.mruni.eu

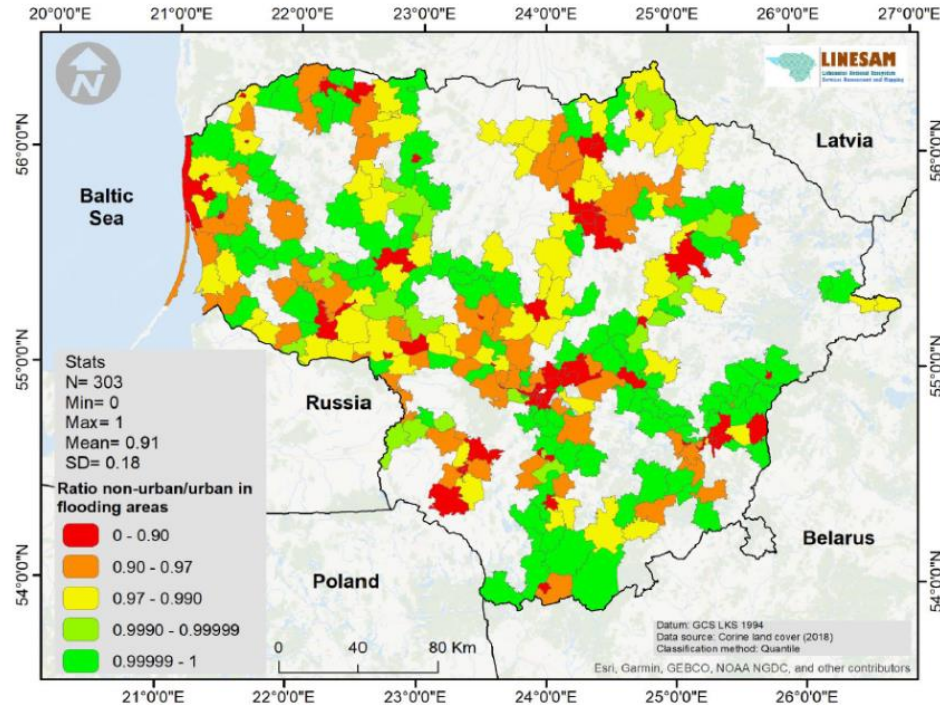
- 39 data layers (as of now, continuously updated)
- *Examples: Mediation of waste, toxics, and other nuisances (supply), Flood protection (supply), Crop supply (cereals and grains), etc.*



Flood protection supply



2014-2020 Operational Programme for the European Union Funds Investments in Lithuania



Ratio between area between flood protection area supply in flood plain and coastal risky areas (1.4.1. Green urban areas, 2.2.2. Fruit trees and berry plantations 2.3.1. Pastures; 2.4.2. Complex cultivation patterns; 2.4.3. Land principally occupied by agriculture, with significant areas of natural vegetation; 3.1.1. Broad-leaved forest, 3.1.2. Coniferous forest, 3.1.3. Mixed forest, 3.2.1. Natural grassland, 3.2.2. Moors and heathland, 3.2.4. Transitional woodland shrub, 3.3.1. Beaches, dunes, and sand plains, 3.3.3. Sparsely vegetated areas, 4.1.1. Inland marshes and 4.1.2. Peatbogs) and the total flooded area

Metrics: Index

Data source: Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency and Corine land cover (2018).

Level: Eldership.

Method source: Syrbe, R.U., Grunewald, K. (2017) Ecosystem supply and demand – the challenge to balance spatial mismatches. *International Journal of Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services & Management*, 13, 148-161.



Other projects

Known projects:

- *VivaGrass* – grassland ES
- *EcoServe* – coastal and marine ES
- *FOREstRESS* – forest ES
- *RETRO* – rivers and lakes ES
- *Wetlife2* – wetland ES

More projects and initiatives?

Project database + more engagement needed!

*What ES
assessed?*

*What type of
assessment?*

*What
stakeholders
involved?*

*ES central to
the project or
a side aim?*

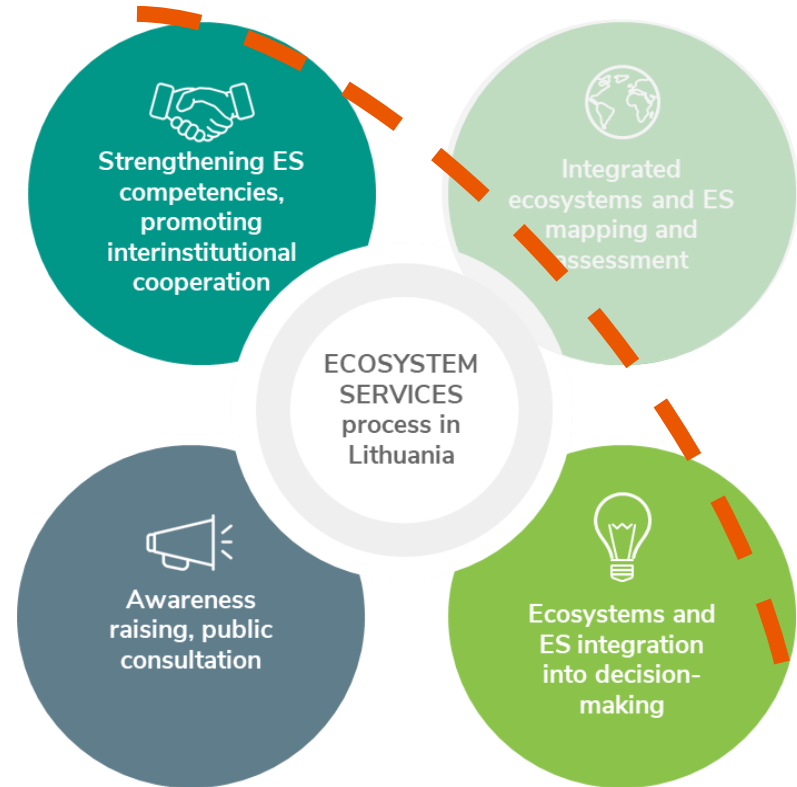
*Achieved
results; how
can they be
applied?*

2) Application of MAES results, integration into decision- making and other activities



Other activities

1. Communication, stakeholder engagement
2. ES concept advocacy
 - Integration in national planning documents (e.g. LRBP 2030)
 - Fill in the gaps in reports, policy documents
3. National study for ES integration (*in planning*)
 - *Policy areas – integration priorities*
 - *Integration models and tools*
 - *Economic valuation of ES*
 - *Increased competencies*





LRBP 2030 Comprehensive territorial plan and ES


- [Plan 2030](#) will outline national spatial development directions:
 - How will the Lithuanian territory be used?
 - Natural heritage, ecosystems considerations – including socio-economic aspects
- *Plan 2030* will be the document to combine different sectors and their interests and ensure the integrity of the multitude of different national strategies
- ES touched upon in the *Current state analysis* in preparation for the Plan development
 - Success! But what's next?
 - **How ES concept could successfully and beneficially be integrated in the Plan or in the SEA?**





Overview

- **National MAES**
 - LINESAM project by MRU (2017-2021), EnvMin a partner. Also other projects to improve the overall knowledge base on different ecosystems and their services
 - Project database, joint platform to exchange knowledge and experience needed
- **Integrating ES concept**
 - Various activities to engage stakeholders, raise awareness and build capacities on-going, but a more unified and strategic approach is needed (roadmap on ES?)
 - Plans for a national study on ES integration
 - Some national processes moving faster, e.g. LRBP 2030 – important to include ES.



Thank you for your attention!

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More info (in Lithuanian)
bit.ly/ekosistemupaslaugosAM

