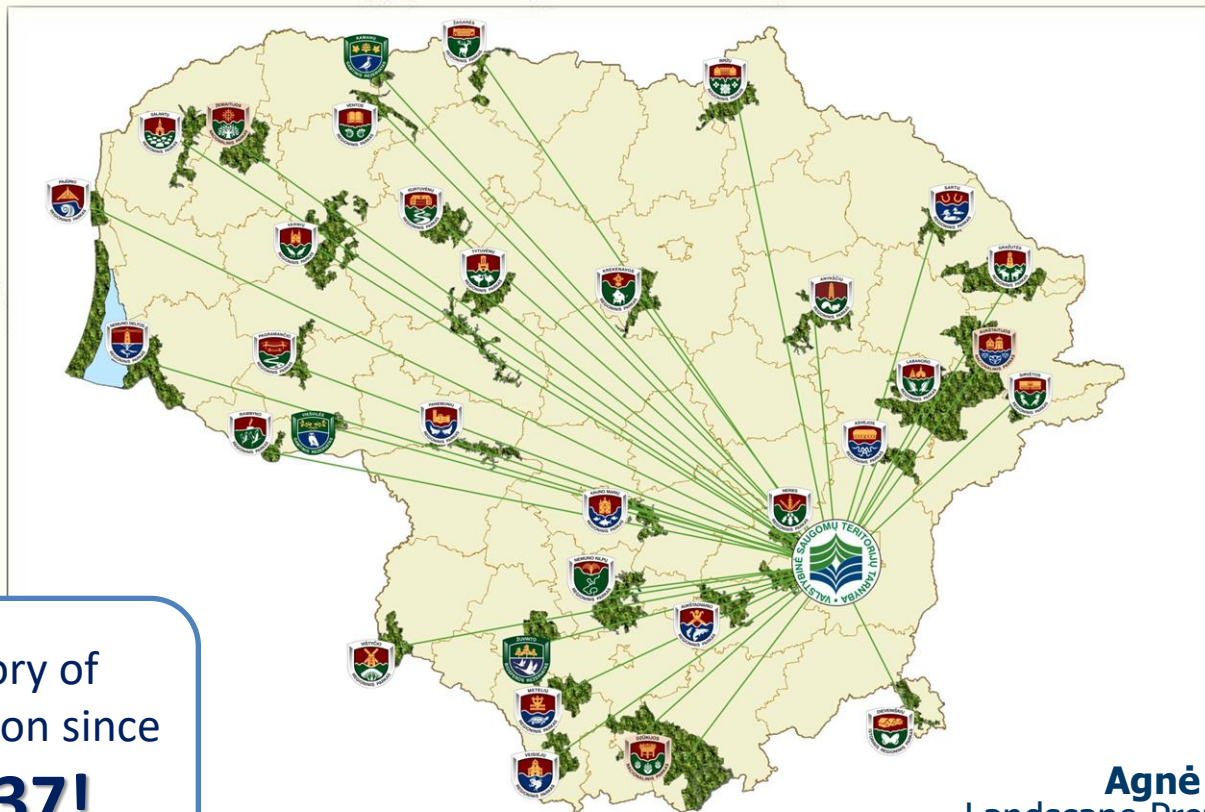




NATURE CONSERVATION SYSTEM IN LITHUANIA AND LINK TO THE LANDSCAPE AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING



History of
protection since
1937!

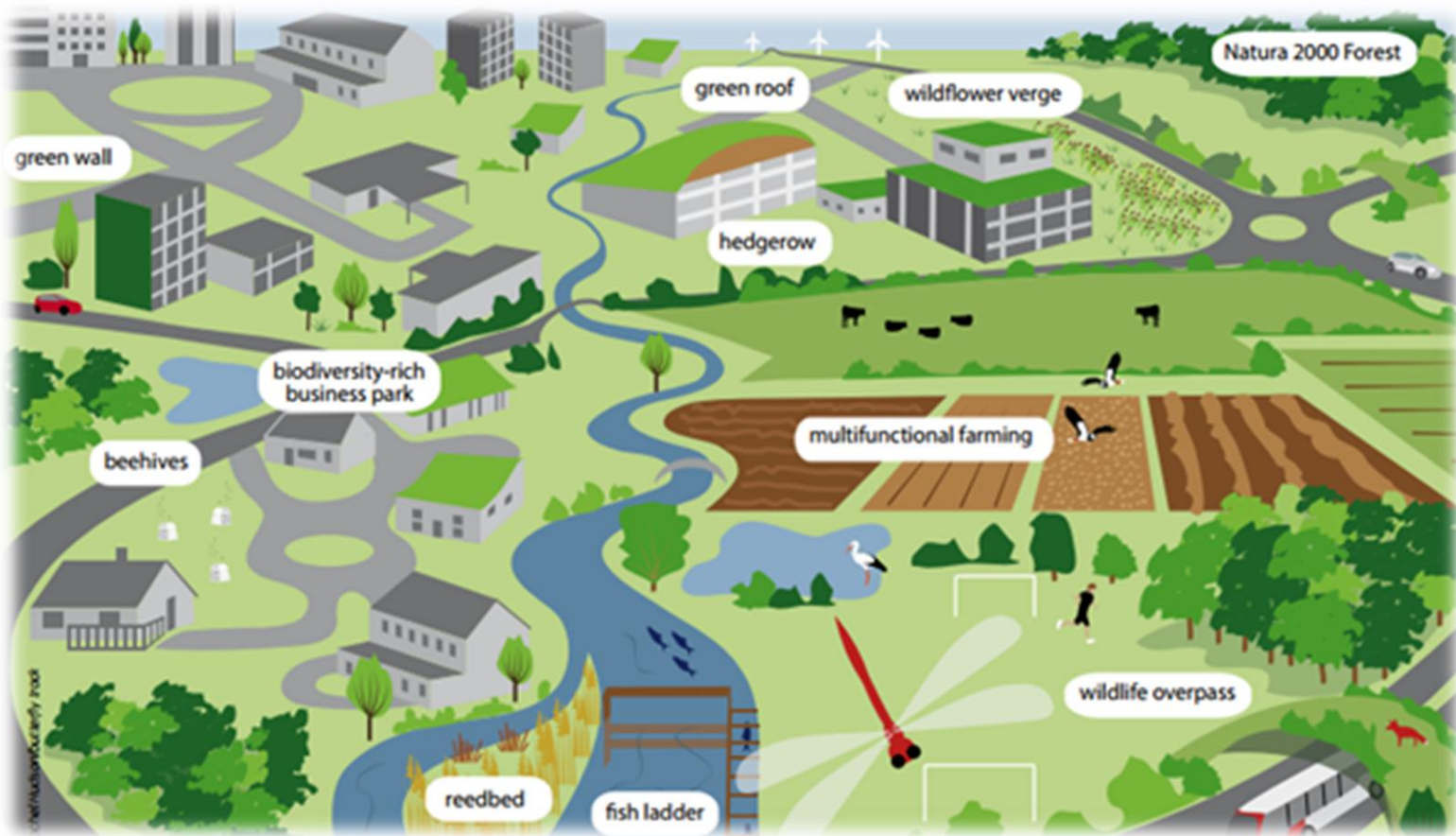
Agnė Jasinavičiūtė
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2018-11-14, Birzai

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Green Infrastructure provides ecological, economic and social benefits through natural solutions.

It helps to understand the value of the benefits that nature provides to human society and to mobilise investments to sustain and enhance them.



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE. Policy setting.

The **Action Plan on Conservation of Landscape and Biodiversity** (Ministry of Environment) for the period 2015–2020 sets a strategic goal for Lithuania to halt biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems and their services and, where possible, to restore them.

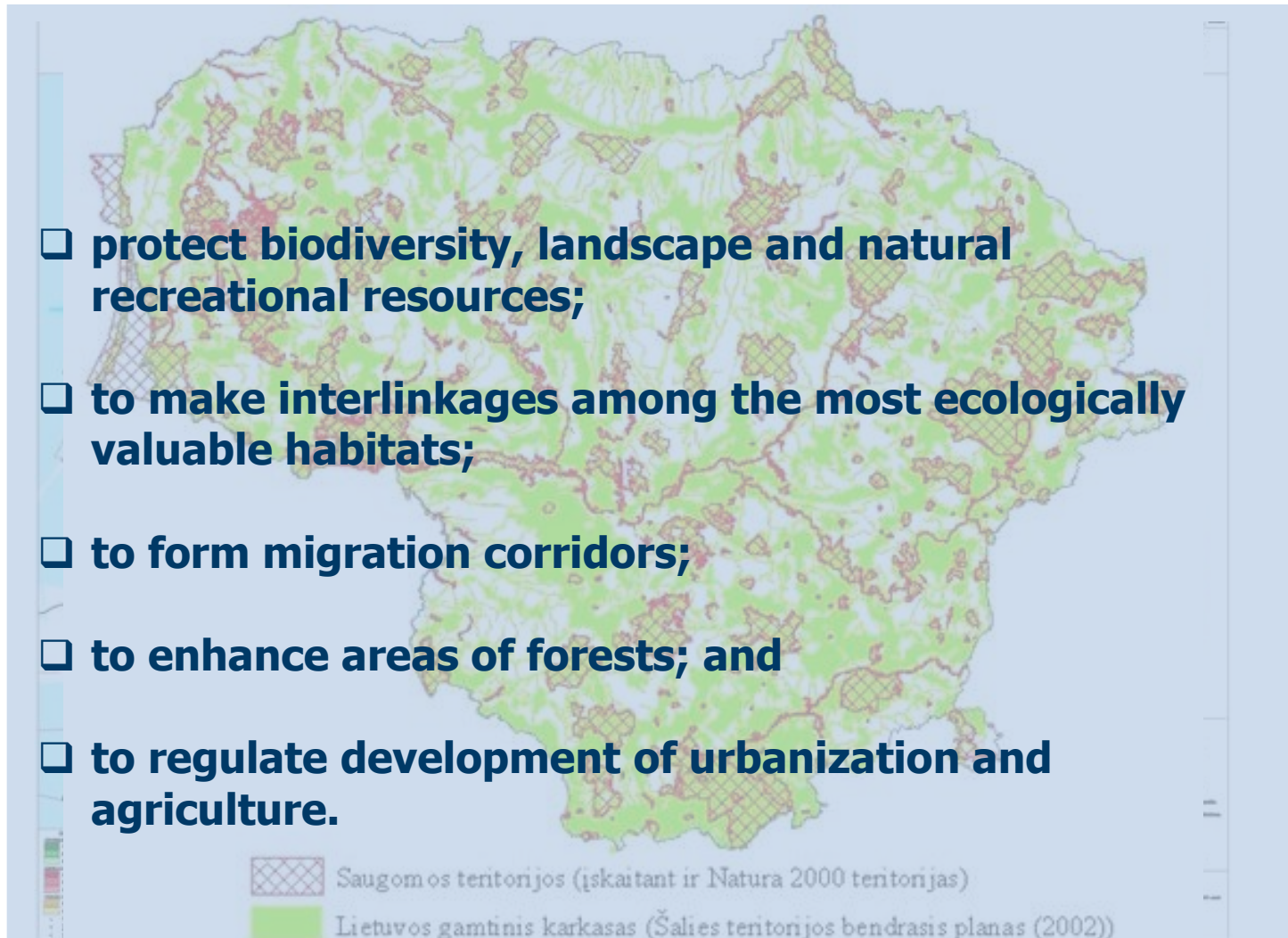
Lithuania adopted its **National Environment Protection Strategy** (approved by order of Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania) in 2015. The Strategy lays down the country's environmental protection vision up to 2050 and its implementation goals up to 2030.



The special document on territorial planning – **the National Landscape Management Plan** (Ministry of Environment) – was approved in 2015. It establishes the system of landscape management areas, provides the regulations on landscape management at national level. This plan presents valuable information about natural and cultural landscape values of national importance, its physical, ecological, visual structure, and specifies the directions of landscape usage, protection, and management to ensure sustainable landscaping

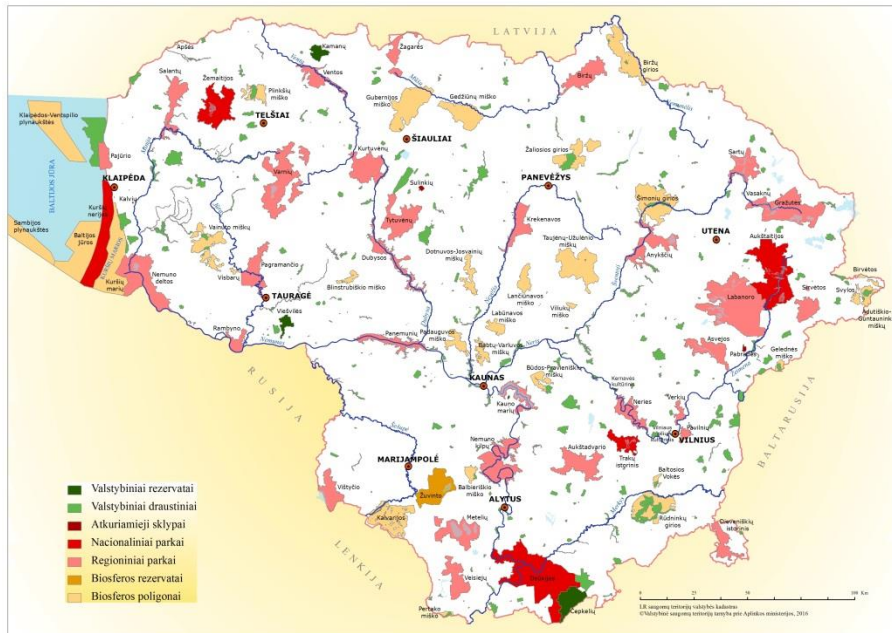
NATURE FRAMEWORK in Lithuania

- ☐ **protect biodiversity, landscape and natural recreational resources;**
- ☐ **to make interlinkages among the most ecologically valuable habitats;**
- ☐ **to form migration corridors;**
- ☐ **to enhance areas of forests; and**
- ☐ **to regulate development of urbanization and agriculture.**

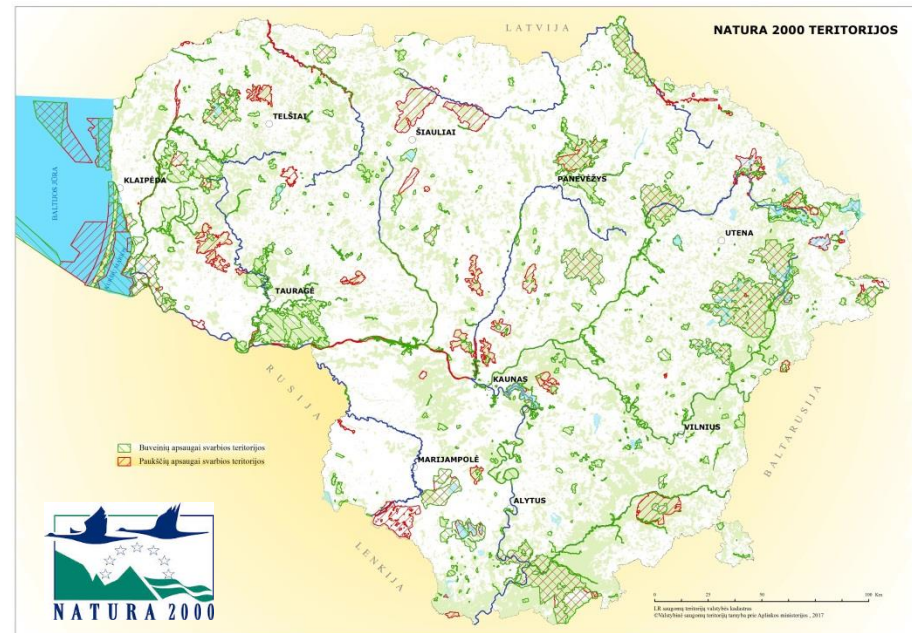


Nature framework of the State and its ecological „backbone“ in Lithuania

SYSTEM of PROTECTED AREAS in Lithuania



17,64 %
National protection



13 %
Natura 2000 areas
(70% on national PA's)

SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS:
5 national parks on 1991
30 regional parks on 1992

LITHUANIA'S PROTECTED AREAS ARE CREATED IN ORDER TO:

- **protect natural** as well as cultural heritage complexes and objects, **landscape** and **biological diversity** and the existing gene pool;
- **protect** the **landscape's ecological balance** and ensure the balanced use and regeneration of natural resources;
- **facilitate** informative and educational tourism, applied scientific research and environmental monitoring;
- **promote** natural and cultural heritage complexes and objects, traditional ways of life and ethnographical customs.



BENEFITS OF PROTECTED AREAS:

- High-quality natural resources, including clean water, soil and air
- Natural resources for local communities
- Climate Balance
- Conditions for all forms of live creatures to exist



- Information on living and non-living nature structures
- Cognitive tourism (ecological, cultural, etc.)
- Stationary recreation (rural tourism, campsites, campsites, hotels)
- Traditional activities, business

ADMINISTRATION of PROTECTED AREAS in Lithuania



MAIN OBJECTIVES OF DIRECTORATES:

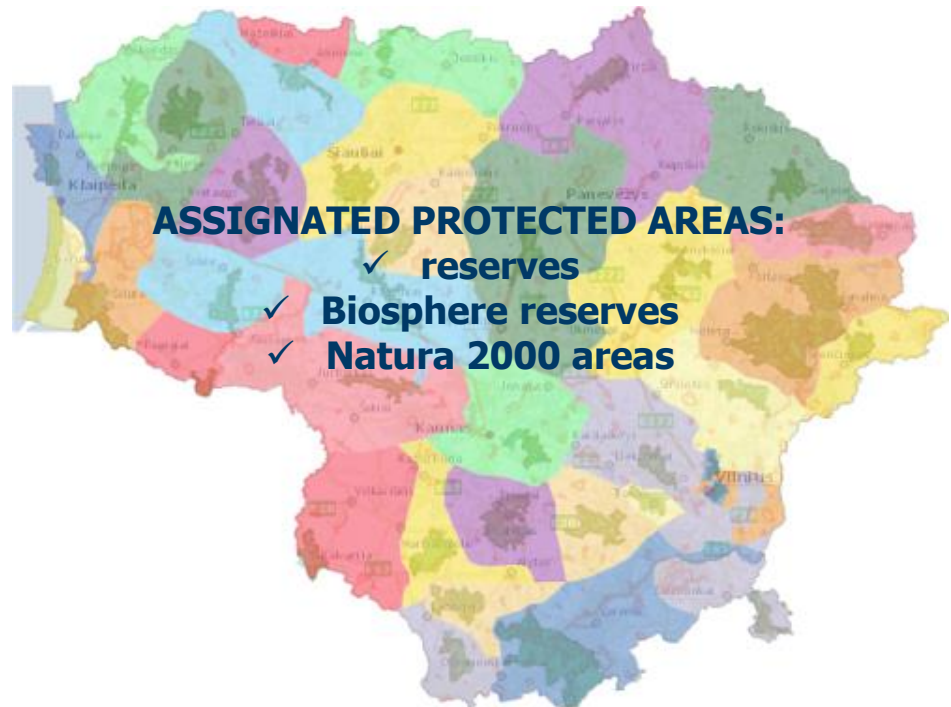
- ☐ **PROTECT** and **MANAGE** landscape and biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage;
- ☐ **PERFORM** researches, monitoring;
- ☐ **PARTICIPATE** in the development and coordination of territorial planning documents and construction projects;
- ☐ **INFORM** and **EDUCATE** the society, visitors;
- ☐ ... **all other** nature conservation duties 😊

STAFF IN PROTECTED AREAS DIRECTORATES:

DIRECTORS **ECOLOGISTS** **INSPECTORS**
LANDSCAPE MANAGERS
BIOLOGISTS
CULTURE MANAGERS
RECREATION MANAGERS
GEOLOGIST

ASSIGNATED PROTECTED AREAS:

- ✓ **reserves**
- ✓ **Biosphere reserves**
- ✓ **Natura 2000 areas**



CHALLENGES OF THE PROPERTY PROTECTION

INTEGRATION OF THE INFORMATION, COLLABORATION, SHARING, EFFICIENCY, FLEXIBILITY



Cognition of the Value and it's disclosure

Violations

Monitoring and Accounting



Management of infrastructure

Working groups

The attraction of visitors



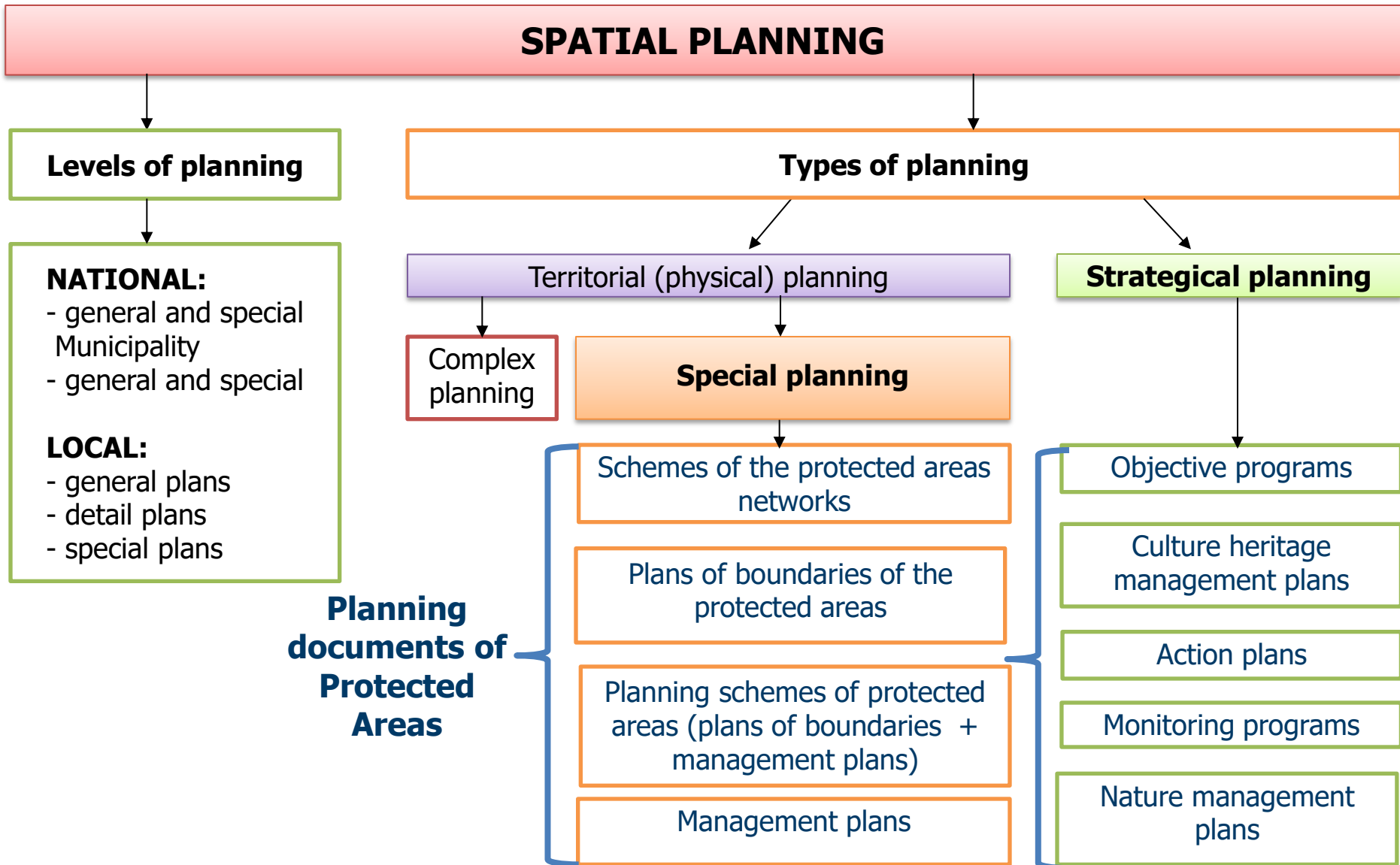
Illegal activities

Coordination of activities

Public awareness

INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS - BETTER UNDERSTAND AND DEAL WITH

PLANNING SYSTEM in Lithuania (1)



Management plan of protected area should consist of:

Directions and measures of nature conservation/management/restoration

Directions and measures for protection of cultural heritage

Cognitive tourism routes

Possibilities of development of settlements and infrastructure

ALL 35 state parks have management plans!



Part of Pavilniai Regional Park management plan

MONEY & RELATIONSHIPS

- € State budget
- € Municipal budget
- € EU funds
- € EEA grants
- € Private funds



Kuriame
Lietuvos ateitį
2014–2020 metų
Europos Sąjungos
fondų investicijų
veiksmų programa

Challenge!

To start and finish the projects on time from
2015(!)-2020 EU funds

Since 2015 all environmentally friendly
persons could buy voluntary visitor ticket



Counties administrations
Municipal institutions

State Forest Enterprise

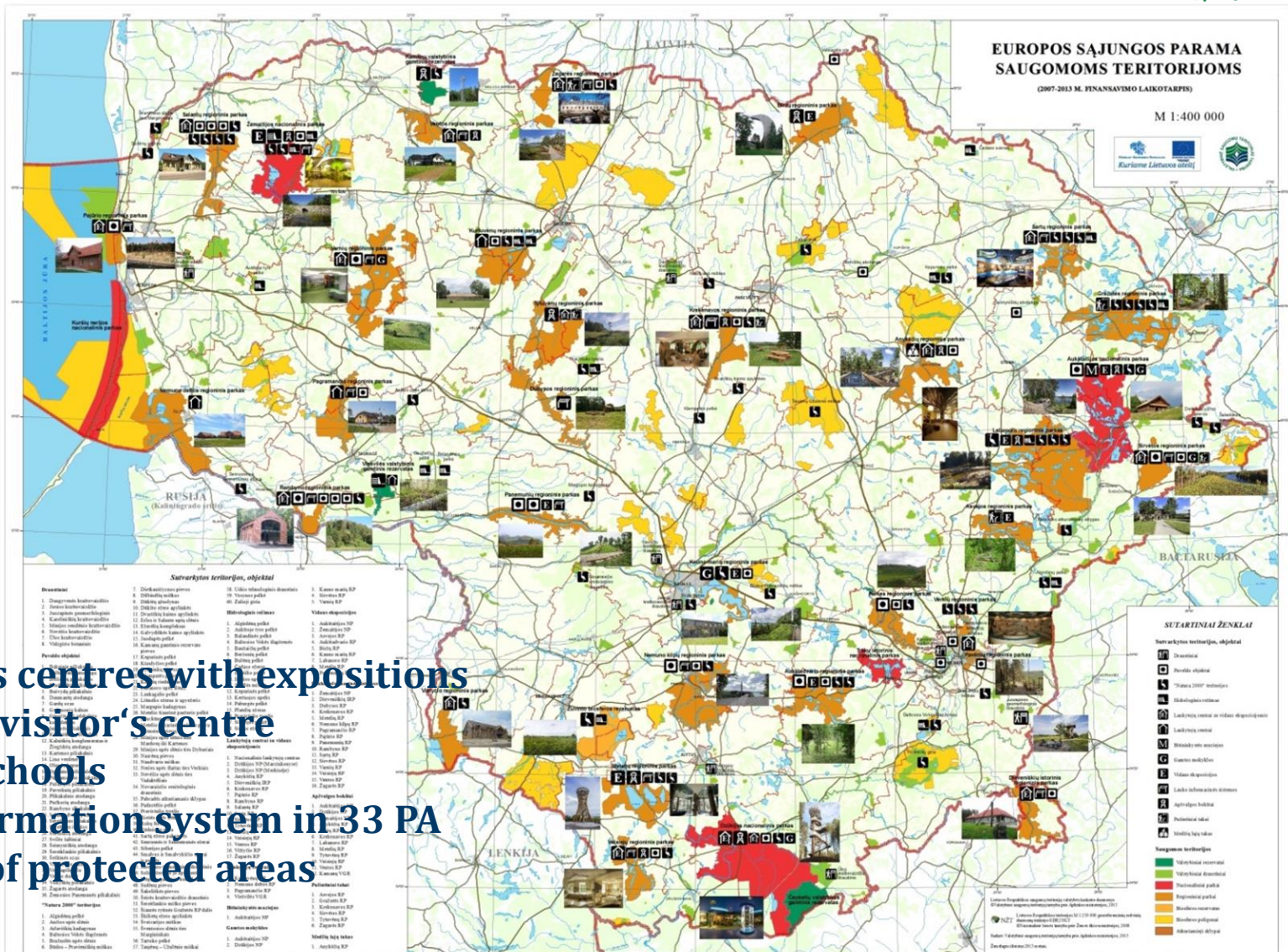
Institutions under the Ministry of the
Culture – territorial divisions

Physical and Legal entities

Non-government institutions



„FIRST GET TO KNOW YOUR HOMELAND, THEN ENJOY THE OTHER LANDS“



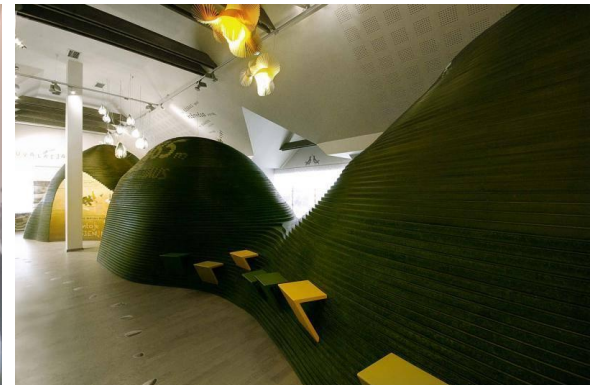
- 34 visitor's centres with exhibitions
- 1 national visitor's centre
- 7 nature schools
- visual information system in 33 PA
- Emblems of protected areas
- Etc.

VISITOR'S CENTER - THE BEGINNING OF COGNITION

34 visitor's centers in state parks and strict nature reserves with modern interactive expositions.

Each exposition of visitor center has the main theme, which reveals the peculiarity of the protected area.

The goal - to **interest** and **provide more knowledge about the protected area**, so that the visitor can then travel independently and discover the natural treasures of our country.



NATIONAL VISITOR'S CENTER - THE GATES TO THE PROTECTED AREAS



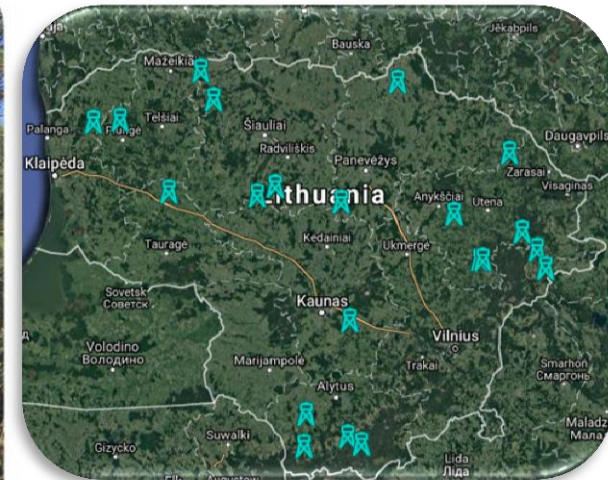
VISUAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

Create an information system for the park's visit with minimal elements of the infrastructure, preserving and revealing the values of the park, and facilitating cognitive and recreational tourism.



WATCH TOWERS – TO GET KNOW THE VALUE OF THE LANDSCAPE

The observation towers are probably one of the most popular tourist attractions in Lithuania. Why? Because it does not cost you anything to go to, and a magnificent view is worth a million!



The Treetop Walking Trail in Anyksciai RP is the Winner of the UNWTO Award for Innovation in Tourism, 2016!

RESULTS OF THE COOPERATION IN MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS



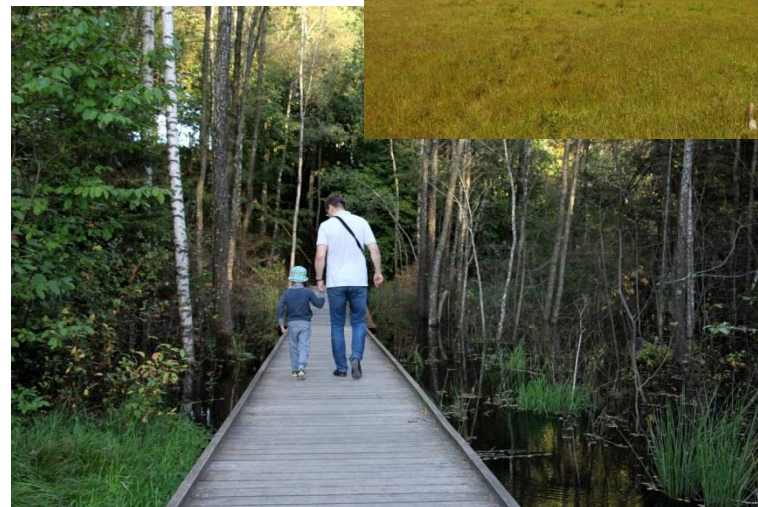
RESULTS OF THE MANAGEMENT IN PROTECTED AREAS

Restoration and management of natural hydrological regime

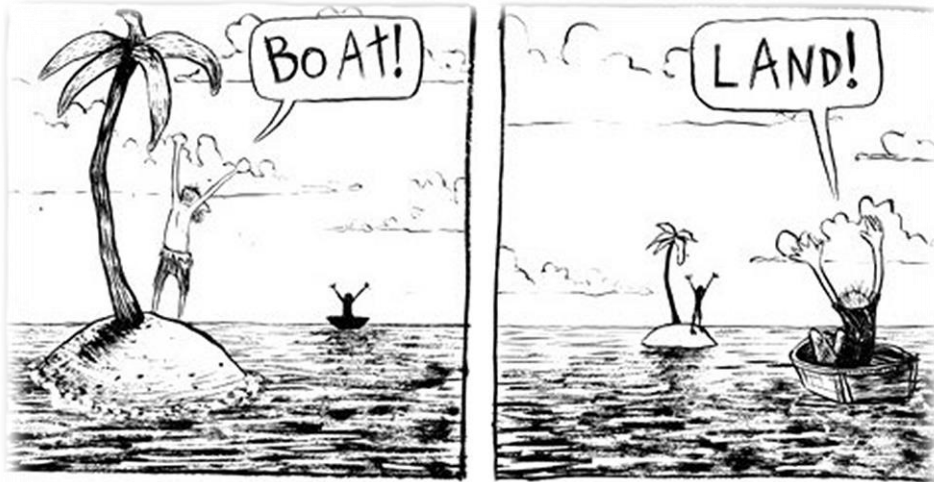
The marshes and meadows management areas have been cut and planted on the edges of cultivated areas.

Mowing and removal of reed and other herbaceous vegetation.

Supporting works are ongoing now!



PROBLEMS?

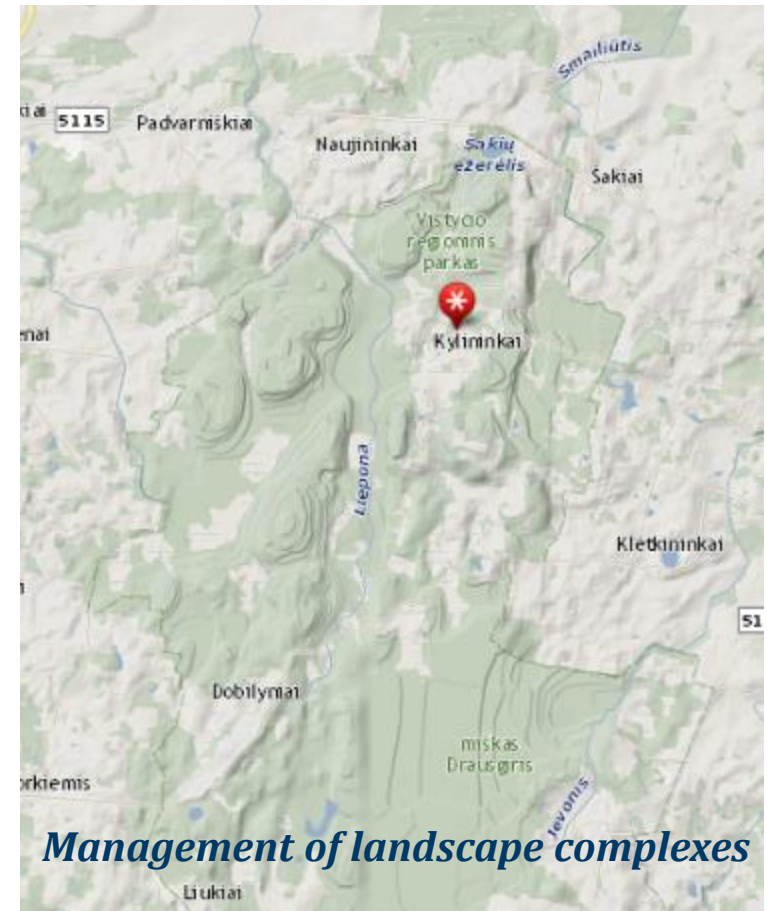


Perspective...



PROBLEMS provide the **CHALLENGES** which prepare us for **OPPORTUNITY**

NEW PERSPECTIVES AND FRESH IDEAS.



„Less is more!“



IDEAS FOR FUTURE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PROTECTED AREAS?



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