



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION No 1247 of 16 September 2009

AMENDING RESOLUTION NO 1160 OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA OF 11 SEPTEMBER 2003 ON THE APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Vilnius

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania resolved:

1. To amend Resolution No 1160 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 11 September 2003 on the Approval and Implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No [89-4029](#)):

1.1. To add new Clause 2 (former Clauses 2, 3, 4 and 5 shall become Clauses 3, 4, 5 and 6 respectively):

"2. To approve the Plan of Implementation Measures for the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (as appended)."

1.2. To adopt a new version of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development approved by the indicated resolution (as appended).

2. To oblige the competent authorities referred to in Clauses 201-204 of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development to supply, on an annual basis, Statistics Lithuania under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania with the data on the indicators specified in the mentioned clauses within the time limits set out in the official statistics work programme; to oblige Statistics Lithuania under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to publish the key sustainable development indicators at the time of its choice.

3. To suggest that local authorities take part in the implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development.

4. Implementation of the strategy mentioned in Clause 1.2 of this Resolution shall be funded through the allocations approved in the State Budget of the Republic of Lithuania and municipal budgets as well as through European Union funds and other sources.

Prime Minister

Andrius Kubilius

Minister of Environment

Gediminas Kazlauskas

APPROVED by Resolution No 1160 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 11 September 2003 (as amended by Resolution No 1247 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 16 September 2009)

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The main provisions of sustainable development were formulated at the World Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Sustainable development was endorsed as the main long-term ideology of societal development. The concept of sustainable development is based upon three pillars of equal importance: environmental protection, economic development and social development. Agenda 21, an action programme for the implementation of sustainable development, and declaration were adopted in Rio de Janeiro. It sets out the main principles of sustainable development.

2. Methods of sustainable development for developed and developing countries differ. If very rapid population growth, poverty, gender inequality and inadequate systems of education and medicine are typical for developing countries, developed countries mostly face such problems as excessive consumption of natural resources and environmental pollution. However, both the developed and the developing countries (except for those devastated by war or natural disasters) are developing according to the pattern of natural evolution and their economies as well as welfare are growing, although at different paces.

3. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, a third group of countries with very distinctive features emerged, namely the group of transition economies with very peculiar traits of societal development. Large-scale and very rapid changes are characteristic of all the economies in transition.

4. Following the restoration of independence, more up-to-date fuel combustion technologies were introduced in energy and industrial facilities, which began using more natural gas in contrast to the transport sector, which shifted towards liquefied petroleum gas. The stock of means of transport was regularly upgraded, resulting in lower pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the same amount of consumed energy. Eco-efficiency substantially increased: energy consumption per Gross Domestic Product (hereinafter referred to as "GDP") unit dropped approximately by half, while the atmospheric pollutant release went down by 2.5 times. Thus, environmental changes are independent from changes in the consumption of resources.

5. The Lithuanian National Strategy for Sustainable Development (hereinafter referred to as "the Strategy") was approved by Resolution No 1160 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania stipulating that the Strategy implementation reports shall be drafted every two years. The first report was compiled in 2005 and the second in 2008. On 9 June 2006, the Council of Europe adopted a revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy (Council of the European Union, Brussels, 26/06/2006 (29.06)) and imposed an obligation on Member States to supervise national strategies for sustainable development in order to ensure compatibility and consistency with respect to the specific circumstances of the Member States. The analysis of the Strategy, both the implementation reports and

the revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy led to the conclusion that an updated version of the Strategy was required.

6. Establishment of the priorities and objectives of the Strategy was guided by national interests, by the adopted strategic documents, as well as by the provisions of the strategy for sustainable development of the United Nations and that of the EU, as updated in 2006.

7. The main objective of sustainable development in Lithuania remains the same: to achieve, by 2020, the development level of EU countries of 2003, according to the indicators of economic and social development as well as to the efficiency in consumption of resources, and to stay within the EU's permissible limits, according to the indicators of environmental pollution, while meeting the requirements of international conventions to minimize environmental pollution and input into global climate change. In order to achieve these objectives, it is necessary to base future development of the economy on advanced and more environment-friendly technologies. Thus, the Strategy puts special emphasis on the design and implementation of technologies that are based on scientific achievements and knowledge rather than on resource-intensive technologies.

8. Sustainable development is impossible without wide public participation not only in dealing with the specific tasks set by the Strategy, but also in adopting, on different levels, decisions that are important in terms of sustainable development. Thus, it is crucial to create the conditions necessary for the development of companies' social responsibility and encourage them to apply its principles in their activities, so that they are willing to make a sound contribution to the sustainable development of the country, i.e. to the enhancement of social welfare, economic development and protection of the environment. The transposition of the main principles of the Strategy to regional and municipal development plans will be one of the major conditions for the successful implementation of the Strategy.

9. Lithuania's priorities and principles of sustainable development (Chapter II) were formulated on the basis of the findings presented in the reports on the Strategy implementation as well as the main provisions of the renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy. Lithuania's development strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were determined (Chapter III). The sustainable development vision of Lithuania, the mission of the State (Chapter IV), and the strategic objectives and tasks (Chapter V) were developed on the basis of the results of a strategic analysis. Chapter VI covers issues related to the implementation of the Strategy. It also includes the list of national sustainable development indicators.

II. LITHUANIAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES AND PRINCIPLES

10. Lithuanian sustainable development priorities and principles are established taking into account Lithuania's national interests and peculiarities as well as the provisions of the revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy and other programming documents.

11. The priorities of the revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy are the following: climate change and clean energy production (i.e. when pollutant release, including greenhouse gases, into the environment is limited), sustainable transport, sustainable consumption and production,

protection and management of natural resources, public health, social inclusion, demography and migration, world poverty and sustainable development challenges. Bearing in mind the aforementioned priorities of the revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy, two new priorities were added to the Strategy: sustainable consumption and development cooperation, which correspond to the priority "Global poverty and sustainable development challenges", reflecting Lithuania's obligations for global peace as well as for reduction of disparities between developed and developing states.

12. An average GDP growth of 5-6 per cent would allow Lithuania to achieve the average of EU Member States' economic development level of 2003 in the course of the Strategy implementation period (until 2020). Slow economic growth would prevent the achievement of the sustainable development objective specified in Chapter I of the Strategy, while rapid economic growth, according to estimations, would create a threat of an overly rapid increase of environmental pollution. Therefore, moderate and sustainable development of the economic sectors as well as of regional economies is one of Lithuania's sustainable development priorities.

13. Uneven economic and social development in the regions and the growing disparities in social welfare are listed among the main threats to sustainable development in the EU Sustainable Development Strategy. Bearing in mind that over the recent years, economic and social disparities among Lithuanian regions have not decreased but have kept growing, reduction of the disparities of living standards between different regions, while maintaining their distinctive character, is one of the sustainable development priorities of Lithuania.

14. An extremely important priority of Lithuanian sustainable development is reduction of the environmental impact of the main branches of economy (transport, industry, energy, agriculture, housing and tourism) by increasing their eco-efficiency and inclusion of environmental concerns into their development strategies.

15. Due to very poor thermal characteristics of the major part of old multi-apartment buildings and the worn-out and outdated heat supply infrastructure, the efficiency of household energy consumption in Lithuania is 1.8 times below that of the majority of EU countries. Thus, modernization of multi-apartment buildings and cutting down the costs of thermal energy consumption in the housing sector are other priorities of Lithuanian sustainable development. This would contribute, among other things, to global efforts to slow down climate change.

16. Lithuania also thinks the following priorities of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy are important: reduction of threats to human health, mitigation of global climate change and its impact, protection of biodiversity, and reduction of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion. Although landscape management problems are not identified in the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, they are considered to be very significant priorities in the Strategy due to the importance of landscape protection and its rational management.

17. Another priority of sustainable development is public education (including environmental education and promotion of an environment-friendly lifestyle).

18. Enhancement of a scientific research role, more effective application of research results as well as design and implementation of environment-friendly production and information technologies stand out as other priorities of the Strategy.

19. The Strategy's implementation is based on the following principles:

19.1. the principle of promoting and protecting the fundamental rights. In politics, attention shall be focused on the people with the aim of supporting their fundamental rights, battle all forms of discrimination, reduce poverty and eliminate social exclusion;

19.2. the principle of solidarity between and within generations. To meet the needs of the current generation, while not undermining the opportunities of the future generations to satisfy their needs within the EU and elsewhere;

19.3. the principle of an open and democratic society. To ensure the right of citizens to information as well as to access to justice;

19.4. the principle of public participation. To intensify public participation in decision-making. To promote education for sustainable development and develop public awareness. To inform citizens about their influence on the environment and about opportunities to choose more sustainable activity alternatives;

19.5. the principle of participation of businesses and social partners. To strengthen social dialogue, social responsibility of companies and partnership between the private and the public sectors by promoting their cooperation and joint responsibility in order to ensure sustainable consumption and production;

19.6. the principle of policy coherence and governance. To promote coherence among all policies as well as coherence among local, regional, and national actions to enhance their contribution to sustainable development;

19.7. the principle of strategy integration. To promote integration of economic, social and environmental actions so that they are coherent and reinforce one another, for instance, through balanced impact assessment and consultations with stakeholders.

19.8. the principle of using the best available knowledge. To ensure that policies are developed, assessed and implemented on the basis of the best available knowledge and that they are economically sound and cost-effective;

19.9. the precautionary principle. If there is scientific uncertainty, to implement appropriate evaluation procedures and take preventive actions in order to avoid damage to human health or to the environment;

19.10. The principle of responsibility (polluter pays). To ensure that prices reflect the real costs incurred by society due to consumption and production activities and that polluters pay for the damage they cause to human health and the environment;

19.11. The principle of eco-efficiency. Based on this principle, production and services must develop faster than consumption of natural resources, i.e. less energy and other natural resources must be used to produce the same amount of products and services. Getting more while using less is the goal of applying this principle;

19.12. The principle of substitution. Non-hazardous substances and renewable resources must replace hazardous substances and non-renewable resources

19.13. The principle of science, knowledge and technological progress. According to this principle, the development of different sectors and their branches must be based on modern scientific achievements, knowledge and the latest environment-friendly technologies.

III. SWOT ANALYSIS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF LITHUANIA

20. The object of the strategic analysis of Lithuania's sustainable development is to identify internal and external factors and processes that determine the main strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to Lithuania's development. The vision of the Strategy was developed and the strategic objects as well as measures to achieve these objectives were adopted pursuant to the results of the strategic analysis.

21. The strategic analysis identified the three main blocks of sustainable development: environmental quality and natural resources, economic development, and social development. In analysing the strengths and weaknesses of the environment quality changes as well as the opportunities and the likely threats to solving environmental problems, the main emphasis was put on the following components of the environment: air, water, soil, as well as landscape and biodiversity. Waste treatment is also covered by this block. An analysis of economic development was made in terms of the impact on the environment made by the following main branches of the economy: transport, industry, energy, agriculture and tourism. An analysis of social development was limited to the following priority aspects: unemployment, poverty and social exclusion. This block also includes the issues of public health, education and science, preservation of cultural distinctiveness and identity, and sustainable consumption. The issues of territorial development and development cooperation were addressed separately.

Environmental Quality

Air and climate change

Strengths

22. The preserved system of central heating in Lithuanian cities and towns has resulted in rather low concentrations of sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide in ambient air. With elimination of leaded gasoline, lead concentrations in the cities and near highways have also decreased by several times. In the face of growing energy consumption and scarce consumption of renewable energy sources, nuclear energy prevented any marked increase in greenhouse gases throughout the independence period. The greenhouse gas emissions decrease owes to the fact that energy and industrial (power, heat, cement, petroleum product production, chemical industry, etc.) installations have been integrated into the EU emissions trading system and other measures have been introduced in line with the requirements of EU environmental legislation in the fields of water resource management and wastewater treatment, biodiversity preservation, afforestation and other ones. EU support has been used to create an efficient continuous state monitoring system for ambient air.

Gradually, the air monitoring network is being upgraded with modern equipment that meets EU requirements.

Weaknesses

23. Relatively high greenhouse gas and pollutant releases into the air still persist due to very inefficient use of thermal energy, outdated heat supply systems and poor thermal characteristics of the majority of buildings constructed in the past. The ambient air quality has declined and the greenhouse gas emissions have risen due to the underdeveloped public transport system and insufficient promotion of alternative modes of transport, sluggish development of the infrastructure suitable for those modes as well as the growing numbers of vehicles in urban areas.

Opportunities

24. EU structural funds are available to finance suitable projects developed in time and intended to reduce air pollution caused by transport, industrial and energy enterprises (introduction of environmental technologies, building of bypasses and bicycle tracks, development of multimodal transport systems, etc.). The effective use of EU assistance along with more substantial private capital contributions will enable modernization and renovation of the heating systems and buildings as well as will promote more efficient energy consumption. The wider use of renewable energy sources (wind, sun, water, biomass and geothermal energy), the development of low-output cogeneration power plants and the broader use of biofuel in energy and transport will make it possible to reduce the use of organic fossil fuel and the directly related air pollution and to cut the amounts of greenhouse gases. Air pollution reduction will come from the introduction of eco-innovative technologies, the application of the principles of sustainable consumption, the promotion of environmental audit and the social responsibility of companies, as well the introduction of "green public procurement" principles.

Threats

25. The anticipated rapid growth of consumption is expected to boost the use of primary energy, resulting in larger amounts of pollutants and greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. Upon the decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, as required by the EU Accession Treaty signed by Lithuania, more fossil fuel will be required to meet the energy needs. Far greater amounts of pollutants and greenhouse gases will be released into the atmosphere. This may impede the implementation of international conventions and other obligations. Failure to improve road traffic system and the condition of public transport will discourage the public from changing their habits of urban mobility, and the resulting traffic flows may seriously damage the quality of ambient air in Lithuania's cities.

Water

Strengths

26. Water consumption (other than for energy needs) has slumped threefold, while wastewater amounts have decreased by 1.5 times over the last 15 years. Recently, a number of new wastewater treatment plants have been constructed and a number of existing ones have been upgraded: 99 percent of household and industrial waste is treated. The discharges of organic and suspended solids from

point sources into open water bodies have decreased by more than six times, those of petroleum products – by more than five times, of nitrogen – by approximately three times, of phosphorus – by approximately four times. The water management system, based on the natural geographic boundaries of river basins, has been established. Since 2005, a new State Environmental Monitoring Programme 2005-2010, in line with EU requirements, has been implemented since 2005. It enables assessment of the current condition of the surface waters, the type and the extent of pollution and allows selection of the appropriate measures to improve the condition. Drinking water in Lithuania is supplied almost exclusively from groundwater sources. Groundwater resources are vast – only around a third of all the assured drinking water resources are consumed. Favourable conditions have been established for the improvement of drinking water supply and provision of wastewater treatment services. Drinking water is supplied to 74 per cent and the wastewater treatment service is available to around 63 per cent of the Lithuanian population. The major part of the infrastructure necessary for the management of drinking water supplies and wastewater treatment has been created. The system of water consumption metering has been developed.

Weaknesses

27. The majority of wastewater treatment installations are worn out and outdated and therefore only about 70 per cent of wastewater is treated to the required standard. A number of houses in smaller towns and most in the countryside are not connected to the drinking water supply network and wastewater treatment systems. Drinking water is supplied and wastewater is treated by enterprises of different size and capacity, many of which are unable to ensure service quality and development. The costs of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment services in rural residential areas are growing faster than personal incomes of consumers. Many water suppliers, in particular the smaller ones, are operating at a loss and are unable to make independent investments (to borrow money). The major part of the infrastructure built for drinking water supply and wastewater treatment fails to meet the standards because it is uneconomical or worn out. Water suppliers are short of funds to develop and maintain the infrastructure that would correspond to the needs. The costs recovery principle is not applied universally and therefore water suppliers are short of funds to develop the infrastructure that would meet the needs. For the most part, pollution of water bodies results from agriculture, whose negative effects have been rather resistant to reduction efforts so far. The monitoring system for bathing waters needs improvement.

Opportunities

28. For the purposes of implementing the EU directives on the water protection policy, EU structural funds assistance as well as the resources of the State Budget of the Republic of Lithuania allocated for the water management sector are available with a view to modernize and expand the infrastructure of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment. Reorganization of the administration of the water management sector by concentrating assets and service provision will have been completed by 2015. EU funds will help eliminate the most hazardous groundwater and surface water pollution sources and ensure good ecological and chemical state of water bodies. The funds allocated by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development will allow reducing the pollution of water

bodies from agricultural areas. Implementation of the best available and environment-friendly technologies as well as cleaner production methods and management systems in industrial enterprises will help rationalize the use of resources and raw materials as well as reduce discharges of dangerous substances into water bodies. Reorganization of the drinking water supply and wastewater treatment sectors and amalgamation of water supply enterprises through concentration of assets and provision of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment services will establish the prerequisites for reliable and safe provision of the aforementioned services at optimum prices as well as for ensuring the set requirements for service quality, environment protection and health.

Threats

29. All the Lithuanian river basins are international, which means that Lithuania, in spite of the attention it devotes to the implementation of water protection measures (pollution reduction), will not be able to ensure a good state of water bodies if the same measures are not adopted by the neighbouring states. Unless the necessary wastewater treatment facilities and wastewater collection networks are constructed and upgraded and more measures for reducing agricultural pollution are introduced, bringing pollution down to the required level may be impossible. Unless sufficient funds are allocated for the implementation of the management plans and measure programmes for river basin areas, the state of waters will not improve and other water protection targets will not be achieved. Drinking water quality cannot be ensured without proper renovation and expansion of the centralized water supply systems. Groundwater quality may deteriorate if areas contaminated with chemicals are not eliminated. Drinking water supply and wastewater treatment services are getting expensive. EU funds' financial assistance for the implementation of the requirements for drinking water supply and wastewater treatment services in small agglomerations has not been taken advantage of. The disparities between urban and rural areas in terms of the provision of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment services are expanding. Unless high quality services for an affordable price are ensured, the share of the employed existing infrastructure will decline, the services rendered may become very expensive and thus unaffordable to residents with low incomes.

Landscape and biological diversity

Strengths

30. Since the restoration of Lithuanian independence, forest areas in the country have been steadily expanding. From 2005 to 2007, the Lithuanian forest area increased by 1 per cent. Due to optimization of the network of protected areas as well as establishment of areas of the European ecological network *Natura 2000*, the total area of Lithuanian protected areas reached 15.3 per cent in 2007. New visitor centres in protected areas are being established, sightseeing routes, observation decks and vacation facilities are being set up and nature management plans are being developed with success. Resolution No 1526 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 1 December 2004 approved the description of the Lithuanian landscape policy areas, and Government Resolution No 909 of 22 August 2005 approved the implementing measures for the Lithuanian landscape policy. A

scientific landscape study was developed in accordance with the current state of environment of the country.

Weaknesses

31. A major problem is uneven territorial distribution of forests because of the prevalent land use in separate regions. This prevents even distribution of the country's forests and necessitates, in certain areas, afforestation of rather fertile soils. Bureaucratic barriers often hamper the adoption of State park management plans and nature management plans. The public is not sufficiently aware of landscape as human living environment and is not aware of the requirements, principles and methods of protecting the natural and cultural heritage objects in this landscape. Promotion and compensation systems for ensuring landscape protection and diversity are yet to be established.

Opportunities

32. Changes in the legislation are necessary to make afforestation of fertile soils possible. Implementation of the Lithuanian Programme for Afforestation, approved by Order of the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Agriculture No 616/471 of 2 December 2002 (*Valstybės žinios* (State Gazette) No 1-10, 2003) will allow to increase the forest area in the country to 34 per cent by 2020. For that purpose, it is necessary to encourage private land owners to take advantage of the opportunities created by EU Structural Funds to obtain financial assistance for planting new forests. It is necessary to employ economic as well as administrative measures to ensure successful recultivation of used up quarries and peat bogs as well as proper maintenance of abandoned old farm buildings. It is envisaged to create much better conditions for landscape protection, management, use and planning by way of drafting and approving a special national landscape management plan.

Threats

33. Both legal and illegal construction is making strenuous efforts to penetrate protected areas as well as the Curonian Spit. The very survival of many protected areas is under threat. Due to shortage of funds, used-up quarry and peat-bog recultivation as well as maintenance work on abandoned old farm building have almost stopped. Less and less State forestry land is transferred to forest enterprises, which may prevent them from afforesting all land suitable for afforestation.

Waste management

Strengths

34. A legal framework for waste management has been established. The provisions of EU legislation governing waste management have been transposed into Lithuanian national law in time. Municipal waste is collected from cities, most of the towns and larger villages in centralized manner and the infrastructure of waste collection is being developed. The foundations of regional municipal waste management systems are in place (10 regional waste management centres have been established and regional non-hazardous waste landfills as well as other regional waste management infrastructure objects are used or under construction). Co-financing contributions of the EU Cohesion Fund are being used in creating a modern non-hazardous waste management infrastructure, while landfills that do not meet the environmental and public health safety requirements are being decommissioned. A

hazardous waste management system is being created and hazardous waste collection and recycling is being developed. Development of a regional municipal waste treatment system for sludge and other biodegradable waste has begun.

Weaknesses

35. Waste prevention is the main objective of the waste management policy. However, progress has been insufficient. Waste recovery and recycling remains underdeveloped, and dumping waste in landfills is still the cheapest method of waste management. Municipalities are short of personnel and funds to plan waste management more effectively and to ensure supervision and control of the municipal waste management systems. Adequate funding of medical waste management in health care institutions has not been ensured.

Opportunities

36. Regional municipal waste management systems are being developed, and private investment in these activities will improve the quality of municipal waste management services. Wider application of primary sorting of municipal waste (including packaging waste) will create far better opportunities to recycle secondary raw materials, reduce the amounts of waste disposed of at landfills and enable the achievement of packaging waste management targets. Lithuania is a recipient of EU funding for waste management. Decommissioning of landfills that do not meet the environmental protection and public health safety requirements as well as commencing the use of regional non-hazardous waste landfills creates an opportunity to enhance the control of waste accepted to landfills and to promote waste sorting and recycling as well as other types of recovery. Raising of environmental education and public awareness will encourage it to intensify its contribution to waste management.

Threats

37. Without effective application of the "polluter pays" principle in waste management, it will be impossible to achieve an effective waste management system. Failure to ensure universal, high-quality and accessible service of municipal waste management is likely to increase environment pollution with waste. Unsuitable methods of waste management and the resulting decline in the environment quality may have negative consequences for human health. Without developing municipal waste sorting, it will be difficult to develop waste recovery, while a large share of hazardous household waste will continue to be disposed of at non-hazardous waste landfills.

Economic development

Transport

Strengths

38. Most of the vehicles now used in the country were made in Western Europe, Japan and South Korea and are more economical and environment-friendly. Significant changes have been observed in the structure of fuel consumed in the transport sector (in 2007, diesel accounted for 57.2 per cent, petrol – for 24.9 per cent, liquefied gas – for 14.2 per cent and biofuel for – 3.7 per cent in

the total structure of automobile fuel). As a result, the increase in pollutant releases into the environment and adding to climate change has not been as fast as the increase in fuel consumption. The motor roads network is being developed, the quality and capacity of roads is improving, bypasses are being constructed, gravel roads are being asphalted, automatic traffic control systems are being introduced and intersections are being reconstructed, all of which allows reducing city air pollution, noise and risk of traffic accidents. The use of inland water transport routes has been on the rise, and shipping in the Baltic Sea is being developed. The network of bicycle tracks is being expanded, pedestrian paths are being built, and technical measures for noise reduction are being introduced in densely populated areas. Biofuel production and use match the indicators of the leading EU states in this area. Modernization of rolling stock (according to the plan, a third of locomotives will be renovated and all of the old engines of diesel locomotives will be replaced with new ones by 2014) will help rationalize the use of fuel and increase railway line capacity. The approved strategic documents place major importance on the implementation of sustainable development provisions in the transport sector.

Weaknesses

39. The residents' motivation is insufficient and their mobility habits in the cities are disadvantageous to the environment. Lithuanians still drive too many automobiles older than 10 years that account for a large share of air pollution. Due to the lack of competitiveness of the public transport, the use of private transport (including older cars) is increasingly frequent. Road transport is a major air polluter. Urban air pollution and noise are aggravated by the insufficient capacity of city streets, especially in the old quarters. The majority of vehicles are outdated and worn out, while bicycle tracks as well as multimodal urban transport systems are underdeveloped and neglected. Thus, air pollution in the central parts of the majority of cities is higher. The most polluting mode of transport (road transport) enjoys the fastest development, while the more environment-friendly transport (railway and inland waterway transport) requires major investments and a lot of time. Poor railway technical parameters cannot ensure the required capacity and increase accident risk. Yet another factor adding to ambient air pollution is environmentally insufficiently effective cargo carriage by rail. The traffic accident rate on Lithuanian roads is very high.

Opportunities

40. Efficient use of EU structural funds may speed up the development of roads and bypasses, asphaltting of gravel roads and modernization as well as development of the network of railways, including the European-gauge railways. A more extensive use of modernized railway transport, especially in freight transportation, will enable significant reduction of air pollutant release from road transport and its negative impact on the environment and human health. Following the reconstruction of Klaipėda Seaport and implementation of other projects, it will be possible to use EU Structural Funds to develop modern multimodal transport systems as well as to significantly reduce air pollution. Broader application of capital partnership principles and attraction of private capital into the public transport sector will provide opportunities for a more rapid modernization of the sector, more efficient

use of energy resources, reduction of costs and service prices as well as the negative impact on the environment.

Threats

41. If the road transport sector is developed intensively without paying more attention to pollution control and regulation and without promoting the upgrading of the fleet of vehicles, air pollution is likely to begin increasing rapidly. Weak environmental motivation and limited investments in railway transport will prevent faster expansion and acceleration of cargo transport and more effective use of this far more environment-friendly mode of transport. Limited possibilities of upgrading public road transport may further stimulate the use of private transport. The number of cars is rising, traffic conditions are increasingly difficult, street capacity is limited, the working hours of offices are inflexible, and traffic organization is complicated. All of that results in heavier traffic jams not only in the central parts of the cities but also in the main road traffic arteries and on the outskirts of the cities. The transport situation in the cities is made even worse by construction of major attractions, such as shopping malls or recreation facilities, in unsuitable locations, because they create new traffic jam areas and cause long-term and hardly reversible consequences for the environment and human health. Unless the necessary economic conditions are established, the development of inland waterway transport, i.e. one of the most environment-friendly modes of transport, will be impossible.

The protracted reconstruction and infrastructure development at Klaipėda Seaport has reduced the changes of competing with the neighbouring Baltic seaports. This will not only limit the economic development opportunities, but also obstruct the development of the more environment-friendly modes of transport as well as the multimodal transport systems.

Industry

Strengths

42. Market relations in economy, introduction of taxes for natural resources and environmental pollution and implementation of EU requirements regarding the permissible limits according to environmental pollution indicators have increased the productiveness of companies, improved the efficiency of the consumption of natural resources and reduced environmental pollution. Industrial enterprises have introduced preventive environmental measures and cleaner production methods as well as environmental and quality management systems. Important preconditions for industrial development are already in place: privatization as well as major structural changes in industry have been completed, the country's industrial enterprises are successfully competing on international markets, cluster formation has begun, the country boasts a large number of qualified specialists, labour costs are competitive, and the presently unused production capacities may be used in other industries. In 2008, the amendments to the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Corporate Income Tax were adopted, creating a tax advantage, in force as of 1 January 2009, which allows a reduction of the taxable corporate income by 50 per cent for companies that invest in major technological upgrading. This may be an additional stimulus for businesses to replace the old technologies with more environment-friendly ones. The existing infrastructure does not meet modern standards, however its level is sufficient to successfully sustain industrial growth. The country boasts a

scientific potential that may be used to develop and reinforce competitiveness of the industry. The executives of industrial enterprises have a unique business experience in the markets of the Commonwealth of Independent States and are also quite experienced in the western markets. Over the last decade, the eco-efficiency of the industrial sector has impressively increased, and the average energy costs per GDP unit have declined by 1.7 times, while the water costs have dropped nearly twofold. The legal framework for sustainable development of industry has been established.

Weaknesses

43. The technology of a number of Lithuanian industrial companies are still backward: there are few manufacturers of science-intensive enterprises, and too much energy, raw materials and water is consumed to make a product (approximately 1.5-2 times above the EU15 average). Such companies cause substantial damage to the environment because they use large amounts of substances dangerous to the environment and human health. Few companies use secondary materials. Cooperation among various business operators is underdeveloped. Companies lack competence and resources to develop innovations independently and conduct almost no research activities. The system of science and research is not industry-oriented, company investments in technological development are not promoted, and business service infrastructure is poor. The financial services sector is insufficient, and the borrowed capital is expensive. There are no national programmes for sustainable industrial development. There is a shortage of publicly available information on the environmental impact of industrial enterprises. Compared with EU27, labour productivity is low (in 2007 labour productivity per employee, expressed in purchasing power standards, totalled 61.4, compared to 100 in EU27)

Opportunities

44. Development and reorganization of industry and systematic management of industrial infrastructure will be accelerated by technical, consultative and financial assistance from the EU, big opportunities to attract foreign capital and technological innovation, the growing competence of company executives, as well as the accumulated experience of doing business on international markets. The recovering Russian economy will open excellent opportunities for Lithuanian companies to make use of the experience gained in this market as well as in western markets. Involvement in the single European Research Area will enable faster and more effective use of EU states' industrial and scientific potential. The single EU market along with the legal framework for economic activities will provide the conditions for faster integration into strong clusters and will increase Lithuania's appeal for investors. Economical energy consumption will slow down the growth of energy demand and eliminate the necessity to boost the capacity of energy-generating installations. This will facilitate dealing with the issues of environmental protection.

Threats

45. The biggest potential threat to industrial development would be failure to perceive, at national level, the significance of science, knowledge and innovation (the slower is the development of an effective national innovation system, the more funds and efforts will be necessary not to fall behind). Some industry sectors are unprepared to take advantage of the EU Structural Funds. This

prevents timely establishment of investment-friendly conditions. The decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant may raise the electricity prices.

Energy

Strengths

46. Currently (before the decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant), there is an adequate balance structure of primary energy which consists of nuclear energy, oil and petroleum products and natural gas; the use of local and renewable energy resources is expanding and many energy companies are capable of using different types of fuel. Energy facilities, such as power plants, the oil refinery, import and export terminals for oil and petroleum products, natural gas supply system, central heating system etc., are well-developed. The accumulated experience in producing biofuel, created biofuel production capacities as well as their planned development will make it possible to fulfil the EU requirements for national fuel markets to replace 5.75 percent of petroleum products used in transport with biofuels by the year 2010. The electricity sector has been restructured and preparations for integration into the single Baltic electricity market have been made. All levels of the energy sector boast highly-qualified personnel. The existing system for staff training and development has satisfied the national needs so far. Lithuanian universities as well as scientific institutions are capable of preparing qualified specialists. The project "Estlink", connecting Estonian and Finish energy networks, has been completed, and trade in electricity over the new 350 MW power transmission cable has commenced. This project represents the start in connecting the Baltic electricity system with the Scandinavian one. It provides an opportunity to participate in the Scandinavian power market and increases the reliability of electricity supplies thus reducing dependence on Russia.

Weaknesses

47. Lithuanian power and gas networks do not have direct connection to the Western European energy systems. The reliability of the Lithuanian power system as well as the possibilities of importing electricity depend on a Russian state energy company. As there are no natural gas supply alternatives, the country remains dependent on the single natural gas supplier (demand for gas is due to increase up to 75 per cent following the closure of Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant). Natural gas prices have rocketed. A large number of power plants, power networks, transformer substations and pipelines are worn out and outdated. As demand for heating has substantially decreased during the transition into market economy, many central heating systems are not operating under the optimal conditions, thus are used inefficiently. Many heat supply networks are outdated and damaged by corrosion. However, their renewal is too slow and thus central heating systems are under serious threat of accidents. Central heating and hot water supply systems of residential houses and other buildings constructed before 1990 are worn out and therefore not suitable for rational energy consumption. Many consumers are unable to independently regulate heat consumption and to reduce irrational heating costs.

Opportunities

48. More efficient consumption of energy will slow down increase in energy demand, reduce fuel imports and facilitate dealing with environmental issues. The country's existing main gas pipelines are sufficient to increase natural gas supply to Lithuanian consumers in the future. In view of the increasingly expensive fossil fuels, the existing, yet untapped local and renewable energy resources (energy plantations, straw, peat, biogas, municipal, logging and other combustible waste as well as raw materials for biofuel production, also wind, water and geothermal energy) may be subject to wider applications. Dependence on fuel imports will decrease, and consequences of rise in fossil fuel prices will be less painful. Restructuring of the energy sector will accelerate establishment of the single Baltic States' energy market. If existing central heating systems are modernized, heat and power production at cogeneration power plants can be expanded significantly in this way using primary energy resources much more effectively and reducing environmental pollution. Connection of the Lithuanian electricity system with the Polish and Swedish ones will increase reliability of energy supply and enable integration into the Western European markets. Building an underground natural gas storage as well as a liquefied natural gas import terminal would enhance reliability of natural gas supply in Lithuania.

Threats

49. The economy of Lithuania does not have sufficient primary energy resources of its own and depends on the import of these resources (from a single supplier in case of gas). It is therefore vulnerable, especially when gas supply is interrupted or gas prices start mounting rapidly. Decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant and dismantling of its units without first having set up the required competitive power generation sources and implemented the energy supply network reliability instruments, especially without intersystem connections to Poland and Sweden, may pose a serious threat to stable electric energy supplies. Furthermore, price increases may become a heavy burden on the consumers and the country's economy. The shortage of investments necessary to upgrade the transmission network may pose a threat of major systemic accidents. More and more consumers may leave the central heat supply systems if their upgrading is overextended. This could cause serious environmental, economic and social problems. Setting up an underground natural gas storage as well as a liquefied natural gas import terminal will require substantial investments.

*Agriculture**Strengths*

50. Despite the growth in crop production over the recent years, the use of pesticides over the last decade has declined. Meanwhile, the quality of pesticides has significantly improved. The use of mineral fertilisers has also decreased (Lithuania uses much less of the active substances of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium than many other EU Member States). Balanced fertilization has reduced the leaching of mineral fertilizers, first of all nitrogen compounds, into groundwaters and surface waters as well as their eutrophication. Smaller amounts of mineral fertilizers and pesticides have resulted in higher quality of agricultural products. Organic farming areas have been expanding. The majority of

large animal husbandry complexes are equipped with modern technologies, leading to smaller environmental impacts, especially as regards surface water and groundwater pollution. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania supports the development of organic farming and the number of organic farms is on the rise. Legislation on environmental monitoring in the areas of major animal husbandry complexes is in place. It enables the control of their impact on surface water as well as groundwater bodies.

Weaknesses

51. Overly intensive land reclamation has destroyed many natural plant areas and farm plantations, accelerated soil erosion and caused serious damage to the Lithuanian landscape and biological diversity. Intensive use of mineral fertilizers over the aforementioned period has led to a major increase in agricultural non-point source pollution. Therefore, most surface water bodies and a number of groundwater bodies have been seriously damaged by eutrophication. The development of organic farming has been sluggish in certain sectors and certified organic animal farms as well as processing enterprises are few. The production still fails to meet the market needs, which obstructs the formation of a marketing system for trade in organic products. The expansion of pig farm complexes in the recent period has resulted in higher pollution of the environment and negative consequences for the residents.

Opportunities

52. The worldwide demand for food products will constantly grow and so will the demand for natural healthy products, which promises them a larger market share and better sales opportunities. Introduction of environment-friendly farming in traditional Lithuanian farms rather than only in organic farms, coupled with the reduced consumption of mineral fertilizers and chemicals to protect plants, will reduce environmental pollution and shift farming towards more natural food products. Organic agricultural and food products will be in a position to compete in the markets of the European Union and other countries. In addition to traditional crop production, development of a more profitable crop production (such as gardening, vegetable and berry growing, floriculture), crop production that satisfies the need for energy resources, cultivation of technical and herbal crops, and non-traditional rural business will increase the competitiveness of small farms and ensure a more favourable economic, social and cultural development of rural areas. Organic farming is being expanded with the help of funding provided by the established EU agriculture support funds.

Threats

53. Absence of the required economic and legal organic farming development mechanisms as well as of an organic sales infrastructure may slow down the development of organic farming. Amalgamation of arable land plots as well as concentration of animals and birds at large farms and complexes create a threat of failure to comply with all the EU requirements for crop production, animal and bird keeping and manure handling. The rise in the demand for food products in the world will increase food production and farming intensity, which may precondition an increase in the use of pesticides and mineral fertilizers. The growing demand for food products will add to the development

of foreign investments: the number of big animal and bird farming complexes will increase, creating a threat of negative environmental impact on agriculture.

Housing

Strengths

54. In 2007, Lithuania's residents lived in 814 000 dwellings in multi-apartment buildings and 463 000 dwellings in single-apartment or two-apartment houses. The housing infrastructure is developed quite well. 74 per cent of all the residents have access to drinking water supply, 63 per cent enjoy access to the wastewater management infrastructure, and 73 per cent of dwellings are connected to central heating supply. In the majority of cities and towns, municipal waste is collected in a centralized manner, and the container waste management system is being introduced in rural residential areas. In order to privatize their dwellings, the residents paid for them in investment vouchers. Today, approximately 95% of all the dwellings are under the private ownership of people living there. At the end of 2007, the stock of social housing totalled 27 717 dwellings. This accounts for 2.9 per cent of all the dwellings in the country. The Lithuanian Housing Strategy was approved in 2004. The Programme for the Development of Social Housing has been implemented since 2004 and the Programme for Multi-apartment Building Modernization – since 2005. Another 2 200 apartments were added to the social housing stock in 2004-2007. With the help of these as well as other vacant apartments owned by municipal authorities, social housing was provided to over 4 200 families and single persons. A mechanism of providing state assistance for the modernization of multi-apartment buildings has been created and is being implemented. 228 modernized multi-apartment buildings benefited from State assistance in 2005-2007.

Weaknesses

55. Thermal resistance of the windows and walls of the majority multi-apartment buildings and a number of private houses is very low. Therefore, heating of dwellings requires huge amounts of energy (the daily average is 200 kJ per 1°C, 1 sq m): 2-2.5 times above the respective indicator in most northern EU states. The central heating infrastructure is outdated and inefficient in terms of energy. Energy losses are especially big in distribution networks, which boost apartment heating costs to roughly 10 per cent of the average family income. The infrastructure for drinking water supply and wastewater treatment fails to meet the standards because it is uneconomical or worn out. Municipal waste collection services often fail to meet the demands of consumers. Residents are reluctant to spend money on the maintenance of their dwellings. Thus, in some places the state of premises is very poor, the establishment of apartment building communities is very slow and the condition of apartment buildings is deteriorating.

Opportunities

56. Lithuania's integration into the EU has resulted in the adoption of legal acts that liberalize household infrastructure management, increasing liability and accountability. The EU provides substantial support to the development of water supply and municipal waste management. This, in turn, stimulates the development of the housing infrastructure objects with payback. The EU

also subsidizes programmes aimed to reduce CO₂ releases into the environment, including multi-apartment building renovation and social housing development in problematic territories. This would speed up the implementation of the measures aimed at energy savings at home, stimulate housing renovation, heat supply infrastructure upgrading as well as social housing development. The EU structural funds and the State assistance will help find solutions to the major problems faced by households faster. Improvement of the legal framework on the establishment of apartment building communities as well as apartment building maintenance, implementation of the Programme for Multi-apartment Building Modernization, housing renovation and modernization and increasing their energy performance should reduce the energy costs for heating and enhance housing administration and maintenance.

Threats

57. Unless sufficient allocations in the Budget of the Republic of Lithuania are made available for the implementation of the Programme for Multi-apartment Building Modernization, the process of reducing energy costs in the old multi-apartment buildings will slow down. If the energy costs keep rising, while its consumption in dwellings does not decrease, residents with low incomes may find it difficult to pay energy bills and their indebtedness to energy suppliers will increase with possible negative social consequences.

Tourism

Strengths

58. Tourist flows as well as revenues from incoming tourism are rapidly growing. The GDP growth contributed by tourism produces smaller negative environmental impact compared to other economy branches. It is an area attractive for investment and there is a constantly growing demand for active recreation and health improvement services. A favourable geographical position thanks to proximity to major foreign tourism markets. A huge natural and cultural potential as well as a rural landscape that has escaped major urbanization. Attractive tourism service prices and good quality as well as hospitality. A rapidly growing demand for accommodation services and recreational entertainment. Close ethnic ties to foreign countries. A legal framework as well as a tourism planning system is in place.

Weaknesses

59. A short tourism season and slow development of the infrastructure necessary to overcome the effect of seasonality. Insufficient adaptation of the cultural heritage and natural territories (including protected areas) for tourism. Large flows of unorganized tourists (holiday-makers) at recreational locations. Insufficient variety of recreational activities and their diversification according to the level of the incomes of tourists. Rather weak information dissemination and marketing. Underdeveloped supply of health improvement services and public infrastructure of active recreation (water and bicycle tourism). Underdeveloped sector of tourist-class accommodation services. Shortage of qualified staff and low average wages in the tourism sector. Large concentration of tourism services in major cities, and backwardness of the provinces. Planning inconsistencies. The potential of resorts and resort territories as well as recreational locations are not fully taken advantage of for the purposes

of tourism. Underdeveloped supply of health improvement services and active recreation infrastructure.

Opportunities

60. Development opportunities of the tourism sector consist of: rational use of the country's geopolitical advantages, expansion of Lithuania's international relations, cooperation in the areas of science, culture and economy, rising tourist flows as well as revenues from incoming tourism, establishment of a new attractive route system for active recreation and cultural tourism in the country's regions, priority promotion of tourism development in the regions as well as areas unsuitable for farming and rich in recreational resources, effective use of EU Structural Funds and other international assistance instruments, growing personal incomes as well as demand for active recreation and health improvement products.

Threats

61. Widening economic and social gaps between Lithuania's regions, decreasing residents' purchasing power, inadequate funding of tourism development, declining quality of recreational resources and cultural heritage and fewer opportunities to use them, inability to create an attractive image for tourism in Lithuania, no progress in improving the country's accessibility, growing migration of tourism experts to other EU states, inability to react in time to the shortcomings of the application of the sustainable development principles and legal framework, and consequences of imposing inadequate restrictions.

Social development

Employment

Strengths

62. Lithuania boasts a consistent system for the implementation of the employment promotion policy, which aims at full employment, improvement of work quality and productiveness, as well as social and territorial cohesion. Qualified administration and modern financing principles help attract to and preserve in the labour market larger numbers of people and promote their attitudes to work as a life-long cycle. Educated workforce has psychologically adapted to the requirements of market economy. Employment policy measures aimed to modernize the labour market, to expand employment and to promote investment in the human capital are being implemented.

Weaknesses

63. Insufficient economic activity and employment of the population. The rather inflexible labour market is the reason for difficulties in adaptation to structural changes as well as labour market segmentation. Illegal employment is still widespread. Employment remains financially unattractive. Young people lack entrepreneurship. Youth unemployment is especially vulnerable to changes in the economic conditions. Life-long learning opportunities are not sufficiently utilized, and an effective employee requalification system is missing. There is a shortage of attractive life-long learning

institutions providing various services for adults. The education system is struggling to adapt to the changing market.

Opportunities

64. In pursuance of a balance between labour market flexibility and employment security, as a response to structural changes in economy, will enable better and faster solutions to employment promotion issues. Introduction of modern technologies coupled with the enhancement of the life-long learning system will create better opportunities to use qualified labour force, increase productivity and pay, and reduce workforce emigration. An enhanced ability of employees and businesses to adapt to changes, development of flexible work organization forms, and reinforcement of occupational safety and health will eliminate obstacles to youth employment and improve parents' ability to flexibly combine work and family obligations. Investment in raising energy consumption efficiency, in the production and consumption of renewable energy resources as well as in the technologies reducing pollutant emissions, including greenhouse gases, into the environment would create more "green" jobs, contribute to the improvement of environmental quality, and stimulate the economy.

Threats

65. The lack of an integrated approach to the balance between labour market flexibility and employment security may interfere with the efforts to increase employment and workforce economic activity. At the time of economy restructuring and globalization processes, an inflexible labour market may obstruct the attempts to reduce unemployment, introduce innovation and modern technologies, and deal with the demand for qualified workforce. Further emigration of the workforce, especially of highly qualified employees, may hinder economic development. The employment disparities, which are increasing due to the development inconsistencies of the regions, may cause a serious imbalance between the labour demand and supply and further increase the differences in workforce qualification and employment attractiveness.

Poverty and social exclusion

Strengths

66. Since 2000, Lithuania has pursued a policy of reducing poverty and social exclusion, which is based on quantitative targets, financially sound measures and implementation monitoring. Since the accession to the EU, Lithuania has been actively participating in the implementation, based on the open method of coordination, of a policy for building and implementing social security and social inclusion, which is coordinated at EU level. The policy of reducing poverty and social exclusion is one of the key priorities enabling faster solving of social problems. Interinstitutional and interdepartmental cooperation is being developed, and the role of communities and NGOs has increased.

Weaknesses

67. Lithuania's social situation has been hugely dependent on the essential long-term demographic changes, i.e. the population decrease as well as the ensuing population ageing. The risk of poverty persists, especially as regards certain groups of the population (single parents, families with

many children, unemployed persons), huge income differences, large regional disparities in terms of living standards, quality of life and social status. The population is ageing, social security costs are on the rise, and, if the economic situation deteriorates, even the existing modest social security benefits may be reduced. All this restricts the possibilities of personal income growth for people of the retirement age and other non-working residents of the country, thus increasing their poverty risk.

Opportunities

68. Macroeconomic stability, growing employment and rising real incomes create favourable conditions to fight poverty and social exclusion. The pursued active policy of inclusion results in interaction between the employment and social policies. The implemented active labour market policy measures help residents that are economically inactive yet capable and willing to work, to prepare for labour market changes and challenges, to gain the competencies valuable on the labour market and to become its active participants. The social security system allows people who are unable to work or are temporarily out of job to obtain security against exclusion and poverty. The infrastructure of social services is expanding, service accessibility is improving, and service quality controls are in place.

Threats

69. The ageing society as well as the stagnating economy have reduced the possibilities of financing the social security system. Economic instability has had the most painful social effects on the citizens with the lowest incomes. The problem of huge income disparities and long-term sustainability of the pension system remains unsolved.

Public Health

Strengths

70. More and more attention is devoted to modern public health and its strengthening based on cooperation among social partners. An effective system for public health care and control is being developed with an emphasis on healthy lifestyle and creation and preservation of a healthy environment, with the aim to ensure adequate health care based on international experience and scientific evidence. Residents receive more information on ways to maintain good health and to prevent diseases and they show more concern with health effects on the environment and healthy lifestyle.

Weaknesses

71. Investments in the health policy, in improving the competencies of public health specialists, in infrastructure development, in the building of the communities' health improvement capacities as well as in the analysis of the impact of social and economic factors are insufficient. Stronger efforts are needed to include the health policy objectives in the economic strategies as well as in the regional and the self-government policies. There should be more cooperation among health, social security, education and law enforcement institutions when dealing with public health care issues. The criteria for planning the Lithuanian State budget allocations for public health care have not been established. There is a shortage of mechanisms promoting concentration of health improvement

resources and health investments. Legal definition of economic liability for the negative effects of economic activities is necessary.

Opportunities

72. To formulate and implement the health policy in line with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and the EU implemented priority areas (health, regional development, social policy and other). To develop international cooperation in relation to public health care and to participate in the implementation of international programmes. To create a primary healthcare infrastructure and public health offices, thus enabling the development of health improvement activities within the community.

Threats

73. The public health care model being developed is medical in nature, which means that the contribution to the activities from ministries, local authorities and scientific institutions is insufficient. The focus is on disease and injury treatment and prevention, instead of health improvement and healthy lifestyle promotion activities. Social and economic inconsistencies in the development of the Lithuanian national health system are growing. The ageing society and the surging emigration of young working-age residents are increasing the burdens and the expenses of the health care system, while the compulsory health insurance system encounters numerous financial problems. Intensive migration of the population, primarily youth, from rural and remote areas has reduced the possibilities of developing modern public health care in those regions. Unemployment and other economic and social problems result in lower birth rates, more suicides and poorer health of the residents. They are becoming increasingly dependent on alcohol, tobacco and drugs. After many years of decline, the natural population growth indicator remains negative. A major concern is alcohol abuse-related health problems, particularly the menacing effects of alcohol on children. The system of responding to public health threats is ineffective.

Education and science

Strengths

74. A dialogue between business and science is being intensely developed: competence centres and networks, clusters (interconnected companies that support each other) and national technology platforms are being created; development visions of integrated centres (valleys) of science, studies and business have been devised. Adequate attention is devoted to education: the State has resolved to increase investment in science, studies and innovation. A large share of EU Structural Funds goes to satisfy the needs of education, science, studies and innovation. In 2008, amendments to the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Corporate income were passed, establishing corporate tax advantages for companies investing in research and development. These advantages are expected to encourage businesses to invest in research and development, also to create new high added-value materials and technologies. A master's degree programme in sustainable development has been developed using EU Structural Funds and is now offered by three universities. Ecological, environmental as well as social issues of sustainable development with a focus on developing

sustainable development competencies have been included into the general programmes for general education, educational standards for pre-school, primary and basic education, the General Programme for Civic Education, also for the basic educational standards for forms 8 and 10 as well as the general programmes and general education standards for forms 11-12. In implementing the Sustainable Development Strategy of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the National Sustainable Development Education Programme 2007-2015 has been developed. The availability of information technologies and IT literacy are improving. Schools of general education, vocational schools, colleges and universities are being supplied with computers and internet access. International projects have added to the experience of the national specialists.

Weaknesses

75. Relations among science, business and politics are weak. So is the coordination of research and development (R&D) and innovative activities. Strategic administration of the formulation of the science and innovation policy is limited, and the policy is insufficiently coordinated with the EU strategies for science and innovation. Funding of the systems of science, studies and innovation is inadequate and insufficiently linked to the R&D results and promotion of competitiveness. Lithuanian science remains rather unknown in the world. The increasing expensive and small workforce and ageing of research staff have reduced the efficiency of the science and innovation system. Heads of municipal education units and school headmasters as well as teachers are not well-acquainted with sustainable development education and lack skills of implementing the principles of sustainable development through the education process. The lack of methodological and instructional materials on sustainable development education does not ensure the quality of sustainable development teaching and learning for the target groups. The quality of implementing sustainable development education instruments has not been ensured. The examination programmes of Lithuanian general education schools and the system of assessment of the educational process are not sufficiently oriented towards competence assessment. The possibilities of educational institutions to acquire new teaching tools and laboratory equipment are limited. The number of adults in education is growing but remains small compared to other EU states. There is still a shortage of information technology teachers.

Opportunities

76. Great opportunities have been created by the implementation of the Lisbon objectives promoting R&D investment, creation of a single European Research Area, also by participation in the development of the European Higher Education Area in accordance with the common European principles. Opportunities of international collaboration and involvement in European research area, created by the EU Structural Fund and other EU and NATO programmes. Participation in the implementation of the EU framework research programmes, which regard sustainable development as one of the main priorities. An opportunity for researchers to obtain education in the best foreign centres, to return them back to Lithuania, and to attract foreign researchers to Lithuania. Development of the knowledge society creates a favourable area for sustainable development education; EU Structural Funds are available for sustainable development education; there are increasing opportunities to adopt domestic and foreign experience in sustainable development education and to

apply modern educational methods for the purposes of sustainable development education. There are plans to prepare and publish methodological materials for teachers that will help them to develop the principles of sustainable development and raise awareness on this issue. Introduction of new technologies in industry will promote cooperation between educational establishments and businesses in upgrading and developing new study programmes and in organizing employee requalification.

Threats

77. There is no coherent policy of science and innovation, and budgetary investments are scarce. Therefore, Lithuanian science and businesses may lose the competitive battle in the European area of research and economy. If a closed national system of science, innovation and higher education is created only from budgetary resources, the national scientific potential as well as training of specialists will deteriorate. Inadequate use of EU structural funds for R&D and innovation as well as uncoordinated processes of specialist training and labour market development may encourage highly-qualified specialists, researchers and other workers to move to foreign countries. Insufficiency of funding for the tasks of the sustainable development programme may interfere with the implementation of this programme.

Preservation of cultural identity

Strengths

78. Located at the junction of cultures and known for the promotion of cultural tolerance traditions, Lithuania enjoys a valuable and significant cultural and historical heritage, a peculiar interaction of different cultural traditions, as well as freedom of expression. The main characteristic trait of the identity of the Lithuanian culture is the ability to preserve the roots of the Baltic culture. Ethnic cultural discrimination or manifestations of intolerance do not exist in Lithuania. Understanding and diversity of cultural heritage values as well as relations with European countries promote interest in the development of cultural tourism and the use of private capital for the protection and management of cultural heritage. Inclusion of important cultural heritage objects into the UNESCO world heritage list stimulates the activity and attention of the public to heritage protection. The abundance of talented, professional and proactive artists has resulted in an important role of professional and amateur artists in presenting Lithuania abroad. In order to preserve its national cultural identity, the State ensures the national status, protection and sustainability of the Lithuanian language, supports ethnic culture and local traditions, protects cultural heritage and its cultural value, supports the efforts of the Lithuanian community abroad to preserve national identity, and encourages culture and education of other national communities living in Lithuania by legal, administrative and financial means. The diversity of the forms and scope of expression demonstrates that the Lithuanian culture is open to the world and the world's culture is open to Lithuania.

Weaknesses

79. The pace and the trends of the development of the Lithuanian language culture cannot counterweigh the influence of foreign languages resulting from the development of the information society and new communication means. Cultural heritage has not been fully explored, revealed,

systematized or protected. The legislation on the cultural heritage protection policy is not fully consistent. The State and municipal funding of culture in general as well as of cultural heritage protection and management is insufficient and the modernization of cultural infrastructure is sluggish. Cultural establishments are short of information technologies. Compared to specialists of other areas, wages of cultural workers are low, which prevents adequate protection of cultural distinctiveness under the circumstances of globalization. Non-sustainable development of culture in cities and regions is the reason why the cultural needs of rural inhabitants cannot be satisfied to the full extent. Appropriate promotion of the phenomena of ethnic culture existing naturally has not been ensured.

Opportunities

80. The viable, distinct and open Lithuanian culture, which has enriched the European and international cultural diversity, has sustained the high public need for cultural self-expression and ensured the identity of the Lithuanian culture. Improvement of the legal framework, implementation of the adopted legal provisions and increase in the efficiency of State assistance in coordinating the priorities of the different sources of funding, also the implementation of the regional policy have created the possibility of ethnic cultural expression. Rural tourism development promotes a more expressive continuity, demonstration and support of cultural values and traditions. Integration of cultural heritage into tourism, recreation development and landscape formation programmes and projects helps guide decisions on their protection and use, providing better conditions to attract financing. Lithuanian participation in the implementation of international cultural programmes makes it possible to present the national culture abroad and reinforces the image of Lithuania as an attractive and interesting country. The large numbers of creative professionals encourage the development of the creative industry. Improvement of the institutional system for cultural heritage protection enables collaboration between public authorities, municipalities as well as legal and natural entities in the management of cultural heritage objects. Development of the cultural NGOs allows formation of a State culture policy that meets the public needs. Modern IT tools contribute to the dissemination of national culture as well as accessibility of culture to the public.

Threats

81. Under the circumstances of globalization, development of new communication means and increasing mobility of people, there emerges a threat of cultural assimilation and loss of ethnic authenticity of culture, and the ability of culture to compete with the commercial mass culture is declining. The expression of Lithuania's cultural identity is losing force. The culture of historic ethnographic regions may be destroyed under the influence of growing urbanization, negative demographic processes in the rural areas, lifestyle changes and the increasing concentration of culture in the cities. Underfunding of culture, lack of investments, emigration of artists and cultural specialists from Lithuania, failure to ensure education and public awareness, especially among young people, of the distinctiveness and significance of Lithuania's cultural heritage prevent active involvement of the public in the creation and protection of the Lithuanian culture and poses a risk of losing the unprotected cultural values. The lack of State investments as well as the pressure from the business organizations concerned may cause the deterioration of the cultural heritage that does not receive

adequate protection. The EU cultural policy promotes cultural diversity, however it is only the Lithuanian State which is responsible for the identity of the Lithuanian culture and for identification, development and dissemination of its culture. Lack of State attention to the preservation of cultural distinctiveness and identity cannot be compensated for in other ways.

Sustainable consumption

Strengths

82. A legal framework that allows successful development of sustainable consumption has been developed. The market is supplied with more and more products that are less harmful to human health and the environment, that are produced using smaller amounts of raw materials and energy and that serve longer periods when their life cycle expires and can be recycled. With the growing economy and living standards, consumption is also booming. The consumption habits are changing with a shift towards organic food products. This, in turn, influences production: agricultural organic production enjoys an approximately 60 per cent annual growth. When making a product or offering a service, the focus is not only on product or service improvement at the production phase, but also on reducing resource consumption, optimization of production and transportation, increasing the life-cycle of the product and ensuring that smaller amounts of dangerous substances are used in production and that the resulting waste is treated in a safer way, i.e. following the sustainable development and production principles under Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 1023 of 8 October 2008 on Goods that Are Subject to Energy Efficiency Requirements in Public Procurement as well as the List of the requirements for energy efficiency of goods adopted by the aforementioned resolution.

Weaknesses

83. It has been established that a final product contains only 5 per cent of the raw materials used to make it. Thus, the increasing consumption and production also raise the amounts of waste. All this worsens the state of environment. Since consumption growth is faster than the growth of consumer awareness, even the constantly improving waste management infrastructure in Lithuania has been unable to manage the growing flows of waste. Consequently, public areas are not as clean as they were 15-20 years ago. With the rising supply of goods, less educated consumers prefer attractive yet not so healthy products. Wrong nutrition habits are developing with negative impacts on consumer health. Green procurement is not widespread in Lithuania yet. When making a purchase, the environmental criteria are seldom taken into account. The reason behind that, in addition to other factors, is that environment-friendly products are more expensive.

Opportunities

84. In line with the National Green Procurement Implementation Programme, approved by Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 804 of 8 August 2007 (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 90-3573, 2007), environment-friendly green procurement will amount to 25 per cent of all the procurements in 2011. Setting environmental criteria for goods, services and works and direct application of green procurement will directly contribute to environmental quality improvement. It is of utmost importance that the initiative of State authorities to purchase environment-friendly

products receives support from local authorities, which are closest to the people. This would allow a hope that even individual consumers in the long run will start choosing environment-friendly products. Worthy of note is the growing interest of producers, suppliers and service providers in the green procurement opportunities and in the opened new market segment. This especially holds true of the construction sector. It is important to reinforce the controls of the quality of the imported non-food articles into Lithuania and to reduce the amounts of imported potential waste. A contribution to consumption reduction could also come from the national broadcaster, the public institution Lithuanian National Radio and Television, which should get rid of advertising, especially the one that stimulates mass consumption.

Threats

85. The growing scope of green public procurement may hurt the competitiveness of Lithuanian manufacturers, because so far the industry's orientation has been mass production without much concern about the environmental consequences of the production process or product use and utilization. Substantial investments may be required in order to regain international competitiveness. Public authorities and bodies may also need more financial resources to conduct green public procurement because of the higher prices of environment-friendly products.

Territorial development

Strengths

86. Even distribution and good access to towns and other residential areas throughout the national territory allow rational location of the economic and social potential and faster development of the backward regions as well as reduction of development disparities. The objective, tasks and implementing measures of the national regional policy, the drafting and approval of the regional development planning documents, also the obligations of the entities implementing the national regional policy are set out by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Regional Policy (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 66-4987, 2000; No 123-5558, 2002). The following main regional strategic and programming documents for the implementation of the regional policy have been approved: the Lithuanian Regional Policy Strategy until 2013 (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 66-2370, 2005); the Programme for Reducing the Social and Economic Disparities among the Regions 2007-2010 (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 127-5185, 2007); problematic area development programmes. Adequate attention to the issues of regional development is also devoted in the long-term sector strategies: the Long-term Development Strategy of the State (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 113-5029, 2002), the Long-term Strategy for the Development of the Lithuanian Economy until 2015 (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 60-2424, 2002), and the Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 110-4852, 2002). Most areas in the country have internal territorial development reserves, which are revealed and used with the help of the State Budget of the Republic of Lithuania (as well as EU Structural Funds). Success has marked the start of the implementation of the measures of reducing social and economic disparities among the regions, approved by Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 1269 of 28 November 2007. They provide for the subsidization of job creation for the unemployed

in problematic areas, renovation and heat insulation of multi-apartment buildings in problematic areas, and for the adaptation of buildings for social housing.

Weaknesses

87. The largest share of investments is going to the most urbanized regions, especially their centres. In economic and social terms, these regions have enjoyed the fastest development, significantly widening the development and human welfare gaps among the regions. The main reason for the social disparities among the country's regions is inconsistent territorial economic development. The persisting territorial social disparities raise social tensions, prevent solutions to social problems and stimulate the residents' migration to the cities as well as abroad. In certain areas of Lithuania, the residents face serious social issues. This further diminishes the economic development possibilities of the regions having such areas. New activities and services are concentrated in the centres of the more advanced counties (Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai and Panevėžys), in particular the capital Vilnius, at the same time widening the gaps between the counties in terms of the comparative weight of their GDP contribution. This trend is strengthened by the parallel accumulation of foreign direct investments. Regional centres with weak economic potential do not offer adequate employment conditions or income augmentation opportunities to change the situation of the surrounding residential areas (within a 50-70 km range). The growth of the regional centre economies is too slow. A number of counties (Panevėžys, Tauragė and Alytus) are suffering from high unemployment. Foreign investments are insufficient and unevenly distributed. The territorial planning process is protracted and complex, the preparation of territorial planning documents is too costly in terms of time and resources, the institutions providing territorial planning services (consulting and assistance) are too few, and the information database is rather poor. Planning of administrative territories, instead of real urban systems, incomplete land restitution as well as the changing of cadastral plans into territorial planning documents do not ensure the efficiency of the territorial planning system and interfere with these activities.

Opportunities

88. Reallocation and optimization of the functions of county governors will cut State regulation, clarify the competence of the institutions, define the responsibility and accountability, and bring the services closer to the people. The EU assistance will improve the development opportunities of the backward regions and create the conditions necessary for reducing the social and economic disparities among Lithuania's regions. Allocation of additional EU Structural Funds for the promotion of the development of 7 regional centres (Alytus, Marijampolė, Mažeikiai, Tauragė, Telšiai, Utena and Visaginas) as well as 14 problematic areas (Akmenė District Municipality, Druskininkai Municipality, and the municipalities of Ignalina, Jonava, Joniškis, Jurbarkas, Kelmė, Lazdijai, Mažeikiai, Pasvalys, Rokiškis, Skuodas, Šalčininkai and Švenčionys) will partly make up for the lack of investments in these areas, improve the investment and the living environment and contribute to the solution of the issue of population decline. Planning of a part of EU structural support investments at regional level would provide the regional and municipal institutions with more favourable conditions to implement regional and local development initiatives as well as regional development plans. Rational use of areas

for the construction of industrial and service facilities as well as housing, along with the increase in their multifunctionality will enable faster social development and air pollution reduction. Rational and targeted use of the resources of the State budget of the Republic of Lithuania and EU Structural Funds will not only be a positive influence on the development of the country's sectors, but also reduce the territorial disparities in the living standards and improve territorial social cohesion.

Threats

89. The bulk of investments and EU Structural Funds will reach the most advanced regions. This will further increase disproportions in regional development. Concentration of economic growth in the most urbanized regions and their centres will negatively affect the state of environment in these regions and cities. The insufficient capacities of the backward regions and municipalities to take advantage of the EU funds, irrational use of EU support in problematic territories and regional centres or of support granted to regional and local initiatives will leave large areas of economic and social stagnation and environmental instability, increase the trends of imbalance and destruction of the network of residential areas, damage the historically balanced network of Lithuanian towns and other residential areas, and increase the negative environmental impact.

Development cooperation

Strengths

90. The policy of development cooperation is an integral part of the foreign policy. In 2005, the allocations from the State budget of the Republic of Lithuania for the implementation of the policy of development cooperation amounted to LTL 0.5 million, followed by LTL 2.44 million in 2006, LTL 9 million in 2007 and 11.4 million in 2008. State allocations for official development aid are also steadily mounting. In 2005-2007, Lithuania increased them threefold. With the current volume of official development aid, Lithuania will be able to discharge its obligation to grant 0.17 per cent of its GDP for official development aid by 2010. Regularly increasing contributions to development cooperation have enlarged Lithuania's regional role and has heightened its image. A legal framework for the implementation of the Lithuanian development cooperation policy is in place. With every year, the number of public authorities and non-governmental organizations implementing development cooperation projects has been growing. Lithuania is actively involved in the formation and implementation of the EU development cooperation policy. It has access the co-funding resources of the European Commission and certain EU Member States, which are intended for the implementation of different development cooperation projects.

Weaknesses

91. Lithuanian NGOs are relatively young and small, which means that they may find it difficult to take on large-scale projects. Lithuanian public authorities currently lack interest to participate in the implementation of development cooperation projects. Diplomats and public servants are unwilling to move to work in unappealing countries, and this prevents productive pursuance of foreign policy objectives in those countries.

Opportunities

92. A larger number of projects raising public awareness on development cooperation might increase its support to the development cooperation policy. If other state donors contributed to the implementation of Lithuania's development cooperation projects, their scope could be increased and their quality improved. The capacities of Lithuanian State institutions and NGOs to participate in the European Commission's tendering procedures for development cooperation projects can be improved. Successful implementation of projects would further expand the role of Lithuania as an active state in the region.

Threats

93. Worsening of the security situation in Lithuania's partner states may endanger the implementation of development cooperation projects. Due to the economic difficulties, Lithuania's allocations for the development cooperation policy may be substantially decreased, which would make effective implementation of this policy impossible. The same would happen if the number of public authorities and NGOs willing to participate in development cooperation projects would substantially decline. Certain threats are also posed by unrests and terrorist attacks occurring in the states where Lithuanian diplomats and public officials work.

IV. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT VISION AND STATE MISSION

94. This chapter presents a general picture of Lithuania's future, discusses the future changes and the factors behind them, which reflect the results of the Strategy implementation.

95. Successful implementation of the Strategy can be ensured only if its main provisions and ideas are understood and supported by the whole society. Nevertheless, the role of State institutions is very important. The State mission outlines the State's main target provisions and actions aimed at implementing the Strategy. The sustainable development vision and the State mission are closely interrelated, but the State mission is a more specific reflection of the State's general objectives and actions intended for the implementation of the vision's main provisions. Sustainable development objectives are set out in the chapter "Objectives and Tasks of Sustainable Development".

Sustainable development vision

96. Lithuania is a full-fledged member of the EU, having preserved its distinct culture and successfully adjusted to the challenges of globalization, and consistently pursuing the policy of sustainable development, which ensures a healthy environment, adequate use of natural and intellectual resources, a moderate yet stable economic growth, as well as public welfare and reliable social guarantees. In terms of the main economic and social indicators, by 2020 Lithuania will have reached the EU15 average of 2003 and in terms of the environmental quality indicators it will have complied with all the EU standards and the requirements of the international conventions dealing with minimization of environmental pollution and input into global climate change.

97. In spite of the rapid economic growth, the state of environment in Lithuania is in line with the EU standards. Thanks to the introduction of the latest technologies distinguished for efficient

consumption of resources, a smaller negative environmental impact and cleaner production methods in different areas of production and services, environmental pollution will not be linked to economic growth and will grow much slower than production. Lithuania will meet all international commitments in terms of global climate change and environmental pollution. An upgraded transport system, intense development of the public transport and multimodal transport systems as well as a modern environmental monitoring system will ensure good air quality even in Lithuanian cities. Modernized water supply and wastewater treatment networks and installations, along with water resource management according to the basin principle will guarantee good quality of drinking water to the residents as well as the minimum negative impact on the open water bodies, whose water quality will significantly improve. The developed regional waste management system as well as primary sorting of waste will considerably reduce the flows of waste to landfills and increase their recycling. Spontaneous renaturalization and a targeted increase of the Lithuanian forest area as well as other perennial vegetation areas, rational development of protected areas and the natural frame, as well as their integration into the international ecological networks will help to protect landscape and biodiversity, slow down the processes of soil erosion and strengthen ecological stability of territories.

98. Natural resources will be well protected and used in more rational and effective ways. The use of resources will be decoupled from economic growth. It will increase more slowly than production and services. Local and renewable resources will become more important and conditions required for the renewal of resources will be ensured. Extraction and consumption of the rather abundant mineral resources will revive together with the revival of construction and the construction industry. After the decommissioning of Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, the consumption of renewable energy resources (wind, water, sun, geothermal energy, etc.) will gradually increase. These resources will form an increasingly large part of primary energy. Biological fuel produced from agricultural production, also biodiesel and bioethanol will satisfy a substantial part of transport energy needs. An increase in the import of natural gas, the cleanest organic fuel, is expected. Greater amounts of liquefied gas will be used in transport. The use of recreational resources will grow, as rural tourism will expand, but the impact of this activity on the environment will be within the ecological capacity of the territories.

99. A stable annual economic growth corresponding to the potential GDP growth would result in a GDP increase by 2.5-3 times by 2020. In terms of GDP per capita, this would put Lithuania at the level of EU15 average in 2003. An industry based on science and knowledge as well as advanced and environment-friendly technologies will guarantee successful economic development and integration into European transport, communication and energy infrastructures. The communication and information technology sector will have a dominant position and it will stimulate the development of other economic branches. Small and medium businesses will develop the fastest in the industrial sector. The consumption of local and renewable resources as well as recycling will increase. An industry with sufficient capacity for production of transport fuel (biodiesel and bioethanol) from biological resources will be created. Modernization of the highways and railways network and Klaipeda Seaport as well as the upgrading of the transport fleet will help find comprehensive solutions to the regional and internal transportation problems and reduce the negative impacts of the transport

sector on the environment. A hierarchical polycentric network of residential areas, formed in accordance with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania will provide all the regions with favourable conditions for environmental protection, economic and social development and high living standards. Development of organic farming, modernization of traditional branches of agriculture and a more limited (compared to many EU states) use of chemicals will reduce agriculture-related environmental pollution. The sector will produce healthier products, become competitive and successfully penetrate European and world markets. A flexible system of taxes and other economic levers, combining economic, environmental and social objectives, will create favourable preconditions for sustainable development of Lithuania.

100. In terms of social and human health indicators, Lithuania will reach the EU15 average of 2003. Along with the improving living standards, the birth rates will begin gradually climbing and the population growth will be expressed in positive figures. Youth emigration will decline and a rather large part of youth in emigration will return to Lithuania. With the help of an expedient policy for promoting the development of problematic territories, the developmental disparities of the regions will significantly decrease, a high level of employment and living standards as well as good health care for everyone will be guaranteed, and depopulation of the underdeveloped regions will be prevented. All the decisions regarding strategies, economic activities and territorial planning will be taken based on the results of environmental and health impact assessment. Conditions for the elimination of health disparities and improvement of health care accessibility and quality of services will be established. As a result of better public awareness and participation, residents will be more active in protecting and strengthening their health. A modern education system will guarantee education, which corresponds to the EU level, and will build a society of active and responsible citizens who eagerly participate in taking important decisions at municipal and State levels. Improved working conditions, living standards and health care will raise the life-expectancy to the EU average. Proper pension security will be ensured by combining current and accumulative financing. The majority of people will enjoy access to work and income, while social support will be provided only to those who really need it. A lot of attention will be paid to disability, poverty and social exclusion prevention, while extreme poverty will be eradicated. A rational and universally accessible system for housing acquisition and for the improvement of the energy performance of dwellings will be developed. Strong consideration will be given to the preservation and promotion of the cultural distinctiveness of Lithuania and its ethnic minorities

101. The State will provide sufficient funds to preserve and maintain cultural objects. This will enable the revival of valuable cultural heritage and its preservation for the future generations. Protection and management of the cultural objects will become an integral part of national territorial planning and other State programmes.

102. Landscape will be formed in accordance with the scientifically sound landscape models in line with the goals of the society. They will be formed on the basis of territorial units with individual characteristics.

103. An active State regional policy in the field of regional sustainable development will stimulate a more balanced development of Lithuanian regions. Targeted promotion of the development

of problematic territories will reduce regional imbalances, guarantee a high employment rate and living standards as well as good health care to all people, and ensure a healthy environment. Rational cooperation among the state, regional institutions, municipalities and society will be based on the partnership principle. Local Agenda 21 projects will be developed and implemented by all the municipalities. A targeted State regional policy will strengthen the weak links in the network of residential areas and help create an optimal network of regional and local centres and develop the system of self-government. In rural regions, agricultural production process will be successfully reformed with an emphasis on new types of business and services and rural tourism expansion. Depopulation of these regions will significantly decline.

The State mission

104. The most important task of the State in implementing the Strategy is to coordinate the development of the key components of sustainable development (environment, economy and the social area) and their branches, to create an opportunity for all the social groups to actively partake in the sustainable development process and to benefit from the progress achieved with joint efforts, and to ensure the compatibility of the short- and long-term international, state, regional and local interests, as well as timely implementation of the sustainable development provisions in all spheres of life.

105. In order to implement the Strategy, the State must take different legal, economic and organizational measures and seek assistance of State institutions and public organizations. Some European countries have already made constitutional amendments or adopted constitutional laws that enforce the main sustainable development principles at the highest legal level. In order to ensure stability and continuity of the State policy from the sustainable development point of view, the main sustainable development provisions should not only be laid down in the Strategy but also integrated into special sectorial plans, programmes, regional and municipal planning documents and other legal acts in this area.

106. In the field of environmental protection, the State must control and regulate the impact on environment and urge economic operators and public authorities to take preventive actions against the negative impact on the environment and human health, instead of fighting the consequences of the impact. It is very important to effectively use State financing and EU support for modernization of the water supply and wastewater infrastructure, establishment of a water resource management system based on the basin principle as well as establishment of a modern waste management system. Implementation of the Lithuanian Programme for Afforestation will not only facilitate the use of unproductive farmland, but also supplement the missing elements of the natural frame, and, upon establishment of the necessary links, will facilitate the integration of the Lithuanian system of protected areas into the European ecological networks.

107. The State must employ legal and economic instruments to ensure the best protection of natural resources as well as effective and more economical consumption of these resources. Taxes on resources must be restructured in a way that links them not only to the amount of resources consumed but also to the efficiency of consumption. The State must extend full support to wider consumption of local renewable resources and material recycling. Local authorities must be given more rights to

consume the natural resources located in their territories. Special attention will have to be devoted to the increase in the efficiency of energy resource consumption. By 2020, renewable energy must account for 23 per cent of the total consumed energy. The necessary legal framework must be established and full support must be extended to the development of agriculture and processing industry that satisfy the energy requirements. This will allow to satisfy a similar part of the transport fuel needs by producing biodiesel and bioethanol. As demonstrated by the experience of other countries, the main impediment to a broader consumption of alternative energy sources (biofuel, wind, hydroenergy, etc.) is resistance of companies producing and selling petroleum products. Without delay, the State must regulate the legal and economic issues of introducing energy production from renewables.

108. In the field of economy, the State must use legal and economic instruments to promote sustainable development of various branches of economy and reduce the interdepartmental barriers. The optimal distribution of the State budget allocations and EU support in line with the sustainable development provisions is one of the major tasks of the State. Investments and economic support must serve not only to increase economic efficiency of production and to ensure quantitative development, but also to increase environmental efficiency of production and to ensure a smaller negative impact on the environment and human health. Support must be extended to enterprises and farms in various spheres of production that introduce the latest technologies ensuring efficient and economical consumption of resources, a smaller environmental impact and cleaner production methods. Special encouragement should be given to the development of organic farms. Promotion of recycling of secondary raw materials and building of recycling capacities must be among the more important tasks of industrial development. The largest direct and indirect support must be granted to the branches of economy and services based on science and knowledge and causing a smaller negative environmental impact, also to the establishment of multimodal logistic centres and technology parks. In the household sector, special attention should be paid to the renovation of housing and the household sector and to the improvement of their energy performance. Constant attention must also be paid to incoming and, above all, countryside tourism development. With the aim to reduce environmental pollution and inefficient consumption of resources, the tax policy should also be oriented to the implementation of the responsibility principle (*polluter pays and producer's responsibility principles*).

109. In the social sphere, the State must provide each resident of the country, who is able and wishes to work, with an opportunity to do so in order to ensure an adequate standard of living for himself. An effective employment policy must be implemented and a universally accessible distance education system must be developed. This would ensure a qualified workforce matching the needs of the changing labour market and make it possible to maintain a steadily high employment rate. To stimulate social responsibility of companies, in cooperation with social partners, the State should implement a social policy that would cover the entire national population, ensure targeted social protection from major social risk factors and stimulate economic activity by limiting assistance only to those who really require it, focusing on the prevention of poverty and social exclusion. The State's important task is to implement the Housing Programme and to create the conditions for residents to obtain convenient and energy-efficient homes. In the sphere of public health, the State must regulate

and control the effects on human health and make sure that decisions taken at different levels in all areas of activities take into account health care issues. The State should consistently encourage the activities that help protect and improve public health, prohibit and restrict health threatening activities, enforce the instruments of compensation for damage to public health, and support the implementation of prevention programmes. Science and education should indeed become one of the most important priorities in the development of the State. All Lithuanian citizens must be provided with a possibility to pursue a desirable education. Civil society education, environmental education and promotion of healthy lifestyles must be a significant part of the curricula at different stages of education. Integration of science and scientific achievements into everyday life, formation of a knowledgeable society, also development and introduction of advanced environment-friendly technologies must find their place among the State's key priorities. As the globalization processes are gaining momentum, preservation and promotion of the distinctiveness of Lithuanian culture as well as securing the historical continuity of the State represent another important task for the State.

110. In order to fulfil its obligation to look after historical heritage, the State must develop a legal framework and institutional set-up for the protection and management of cultural objects and make investments into the protection and use of cultural heritage. The State must devote a lot of attention to the revival and preservation of rural traditions and heritage.

111. In the sphere of sustainable development, the State must ensure consistent development of all the regions in order to reduce the regional disparities in terms of economic development and welfare of the population and to preserve the distinct features of the regions. The reform of territorial administrative governance must continue and the capacities of regional and local authorities to make the most of the opportunities presented by EU membership must be further built. The state must support the development of regional and local centres and strengthen the national system of territorial planning with the help of legal, administrative and economic measures. Yet another important task for the State is to strengthen and develop municipalities, to support the implementation of the programmes under the *Local Agenda 21* and to intensify partnerships with various groups of society as well as different institutions.

V. OBJECTIVES AND TASKS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

112. The Lithuanian sustainable development objectives and tasks were formulated in the light of the principles of sustainable development set out in Chapter II of the Strategy. The general strategic objective of sustainable development is to combine environmental protection, economic and social development concerns, ensure a clean and healthy environment, effective consumption of natural resources, universal economic welfare of the society and strong social guarantees; and, during the Strategy implementation period (until 2020) to achieve, in terms of economic and social indicators as well as efficiency of natural resource consumption, the EU15 average of 2003, while keeping the environmental pollution indicators within the limits permissible in the EU and respecting the requirements imposed by the international conventions limiting environmental pollution and impact on climate change.

113. Two periods of the Strategy implementation have been identified: one for the achievement of the short-term strategic objectives (until 2012) and one for the achievement of the long-term strategic objectives (until 2020).

114. In pursuance of the main goal of Lithuania's sustainable development specified in Paragraph 11 of the Strategy, the plan is to increase the eco-efficiency of various branches of economy twofold on average, i.e. the growth of the consumption of natural resources is expected to be two times slower compared to the growth of production and services. Some of the implementing measures for the long-term strategic objectives and tasks will retain their relevance even past 2020.

115. To make sure that the costs related to maintaining a clean and healthy environment are not covered only by the taxpayers, it is necessary to introduce new economically and environmentally efficient technologies, reducing the costs of environmental measures as well as the price of services. Combination of the principles of payback and accessibility of the environmental infrastructure (waste management, water economy, etc.) is one of the key measures leading to the desired economic effect.

116. It is crucial that regulation of economic development respects the principle of prevention with the aim to stay within the permissible environmental impact limits and to avoid a negative impact on human health. The best way to prevent pollution is to introduce the most advanced environment-friendly technologies and cleaner production methods, to expand the consumption of renewable energy sources and other natural resources, to optimize territorial planning, and to promote environment-friendly and healthy lifestyles. An important organizational tool of prevention is the environmental impact assessment of economic activities.

117. Integration of environmental concerns into different economic branches and a more efficient consumption of energy and other natural resources are strongly emphasized in the Strategy. Another major concern is measures related to the observance of the substitution principle. Substances dangerous to the environment and human health used in industry, agriculture and households will be substituted by less dangerous or non-dangerous substances, while the exhaustible natural resources, particularly energy resources, will be replaced by renewables.

118. As one of the primary objectives identified in the EU Sustainable Development Strategy is to unlink economic growth from environmental effects and to make sure that, despite economic growth, the use of natural resources and environmental pollution stop growing or grow much slower, some of the Strategy's quantitative tasks refer to the link between the pace of economic growth and the pace of growth of the environmental effects. As far as environmental protection is concerned, some of the tasks aim not at the 2003 level but at the EU average of 2020 to be achieved during the Strategy implementation period, where possible.

119. The growth of labour productivity in the context of sustainable development is not only a driving force behind economic competitiveness, but also a prerequisite for solving the most relevant social and environmental issues. Conditions for rapid growth of production without increasing negative environmental impact can only be achieved through the introduction of high and advanced production environment-friendly technologies. Only rapid growth of labour productivity can enable rapid growth of personal incomes and welfare without damaging the macroeconomic stability. It is

only a fast improvement of the welfare of the Lithuanian population that can stop the negative migratory processes and help solve other important social problems.

120. The general tasks of sustainable economic development also cover another initiative, which is gaining growing attention in the EU, namely the initiative to increase the social responsibility of businesses, which means that, in pursuing their economic operations, companies voluntarily take into account the social and environmental requirements. Observance of the principles of social responsibility allows to combine companies' economic, social and environmental goals as well as to contribute to the implementation of the sustainable development principles at company level.

Environmental Quality

Air and climate change

121. The long-term objectives are to ensure air quality that is safe for human health and compliant with the requirements throughout the national territory, to achieve a situation when the growth of emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases is two times slower than the growth of production and services, and to eliminate the consumption of ozone depleting substances.

122. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

122.1. to make sure that the emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases per GDP unit decrease in half and stay within the prescribed national limits;

122.2. to ensure that the environmental pollution norms are respected;

122.3. by 2015, to discontinue the use of ozone depleting substances, save for exceptional cases when there are no alternatives or application of alternatives would be economically or technically unacceptable.

123. Short-term objectives: to limit the growth of pollutant release from the growing sectors of industry, energy and transport in the period up to 2010 to 5 per cent compared to the 2001-2005 period through adequate use of the resources of the State budget of the Republic of Lithuania, private finds and EU support.

124. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

124.1. to ensure the implementation of pollution reduction requirements at large combustion plants;

124.2. to make sure that the emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia do not exceed the set national limits;

124.3. to make sure that the concentration of particulate matter meets the ambient air quality standards in the course of implementing the air pollution reduction measures.

Water

125. Long-term objectives: good quality of groundwater as well as rivers, lakes, the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea; preserved great diversity of water ecosystems; surface water bodies suitable for recreational needs; drinking water satisfying the safety and quality requirements available to the whole population of the country.

126. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

126.1. to reduce water contamination with hazardous substances to a degree where discharges of hazardous substances do not exceed the EU standards and do not interfere with efforts to achieve good state of water bodies;

126.2. to reduce pollution of the Baltic Sea and the Curonian Lagoon from land sources, ships and activities conducted in the sea or in other water bodies;

126.3. to reduce water pollution from agricultural sources;

126.4. to ensure groundwater protection from pollution and to promote the consumption of groundwater resources;

126.5. to establish an effective system of flood risk assessment and management with respect to social, economic and environmental aspects.

127. The long term objectives are to achieve a reduction of the pollution of the surface waters and groundwaters through adequate use of State, municipal and private resources as well as EU Structural Funds.

128. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

128.1. to reduce point source pollution by 810 tonnes of nitrogen and 85 tonnes of phosphorus and to cut biochemical consumption of oxygen per 7 days by 1 050 tonnes, compared to the year 2004;

128.2. to reduce non-point source pollution with nitrogen and phosphorus;

128.3. to introduce a water resource management system based on the river basin principle in order to enable the entire national population to take an active part in the setting of water body protection objectives and in selecting their implementing measures;

128.4. to make sure all economic activities are organized in a way that prevents the discharge of substances dangerous to the environment and human health into surface water and groundwater bodies.

Landscape and biological diversity

129. The long-term objectives are to preserve landscape and biological diversity, nature and cultural heritage values, to promote restoration of damaged natural elements and to ensure rational use of landscape and biological diversity.

130. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

130.1. to preserve the landscape and biological diversity and distinctiveness of the State and its ethnographical regions, to ensure their rational use, and to minimize the negative effect of agricultural activities on the landscape and biological diversity;

130.2. to develop the protected areas network and the natural frame, to incorporate them into the European ecological networks, and to increase the total protected areas in Lithuania to 14-18% of the country's territory.

130.3. to ensure protection and rational use of recreational resources, to increase the accessibility of protected areas to the public, and to disseminate information on the significance and goals of protected areas;

130.4. during the period of the Strategy implementation (until 2020), to increase the Lithuanian forest area by 3 per cent, to expand other areas of natural perennial vegetation, and to decrease the territorial forests inconsistencies with special attention to afforestation in the districts with the smallest forest cover;

130.5. to reinforce the protection of the seacoast, the landscape of the coastal zone of the Curonian Lagoon and the marine ecosystem biodiversity, and to combine this protection with their natural use for the benefit of society;

130.6. to protect and expand green areas and other natural areas of urbanized landscape;

130.7. to improve the biodiversity protection methods; to develop research into biodiversity, impacts of economic activities, and efficiency of the protected area regime.

131. The long-term objective is to create a modern system for the protection and use of the landscape, biological diversity and cultural heritage in line with the national interests of Lithuania and the EU requirements.

132. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

132.1. to improve the legal framework and strategic provisions for the biodiversity protection ;

132.2. to improve the system of the Lithuanian protected areas and the natural frame, to ensure the protection of essential forest habitats, and to complete the establishment of important bird protection areas;

132.3. to expand the use of protected areas, primarily national and regional parks, for sightseeing and eco-tourism, also urban areas intended for ecological education as well as promotion of objects of natural and cultural value;

132.4. to restore the most severely damaged landscape elements, to protect and increase aesthetical values of the landscape, to strengthen protection of the traditional countryside landscape, and to decrease its visual pollution.

Waste management

133. The long-term objectives include the development of the most socially, environmentally and economically suitable system for the management of municipal, industrial and other types of waste resulting from economic activities, reduction of waste generation and its negative impacts on the environment and human health, ensuring of rational use of waste energy resources as well as raising of awareness and education on the issues of waste management.

134. The main long-term tasks are the following:

134.1. to achieve a situation where the amounts of waste are growing much slower than production, while the amount of waste per GDP unit does not exceed the EU Member States' average amounts of waste in the respective branches of industry;

134.2. to develop effective regional municipal waste management systems, to make sure that by 2013 at least 50 per cent of municipal waste is collected and recycled or otherwise recovered and that by 2020 the municipal biodegradable waste disposed of at landfills does not exceed 35 per cent of the amount of municipal biodegradable waste in 2000;

134.3. to provide the public with information on waste management and to develop environmental education;

134.4. to manage the sewage sludge effectively;

134.5. to use the waste energy resources effectively.

135. The short-term objectives include the establishment of the conditions necessary to develop an up-to-date municipal waste management system and hazardous waste management system, to develop the provision of public municipal waste management services, to promote the waste management culture of the residents and to raise public eco-consciousness.

136. The main short-term tasks are the following:

136.1. to establish the conditions necessary to ensure the universality, quality and accessibility of the public municipal waste management service and to develop the regional waste management systems;

136.2. to ensure integrated hazardous waste management, including collection, classification, treatment, recovery and disposal;

136.3. to improve the qualifications of staff engaged in the hazardous waste management;

136.4. to ensure effective biodegradable waste management with regard to the possibilities of production and other economic activities as well as municipal biodegradable waste joint management;

136.5. to promote the use of technical compost as well as ground and soil cleaned from oil and petroleum products to fertilize soil, to plant roadsides, to restore damaged relief, to recultivate quarries, to grow energy plants, and to serve other purposes.

Economic development

General economic development

137. One of the Strategy's priorities is to reduce the impact of the main branches of the economy on the environment and human health through the inclusion of environmental concerns into their development strategies. This makes it possible to ensure the prevention of environmental pollution and other negative environmental impact, instead focusing the greatest efforts on dealing with the negative consequences of economic activities. Following the precautionary principle, the negative environmental impact of economic activities should be reduced to the minimum (to stay within the permissible impact limits). Here, an important role is reserved for environmental impact assessment of planned economic activities as well as strategic environmental assessment of the implementation of economic development programmes and plans.

138. It is crucial that the economy grows due to the introduction of the latest environment-friendly technologies and products as well as improvement of labour efficiency. The growth of labour efficiency in the context of sustainable development is not only a driving force behind economic competitiveness, but also a prerequisite for solving the most relevant social and environmental issues.

139. The long-term general objective is to build a modern knowledge- and science-based economy marked by stability and consistent territorial growth, ensuring rapid improvement of the living standards without worsening the environmental quality.

140. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

140.1. under the circumstances of long-term sustainability of the macroeconomic environment, to ensure steady 5-6 per cent annual economic (GDP) growth and, in terms of the GDP per capita (based on the purchasing power standard), to achieve the 2003 level of the EU old-timers.

140.2. to reduce the economic development inconsistencies among the regions;

140.3. to create a favourable environment for the development of social responsibility of businesses.

Transport

141. The long-term objectives include the creation of a safe, economically efficient and environment-friendly system of transport with a shift towards alternative fuels, to reduce the negative impact of transport on human health and the environment, and to provide equal competitive conditions for unrestricted and safe passenger transportation.

142. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

142.1. to increase economic and ecological efficiency of the transport sector and to ensure that the fuel costs and the emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases grow two times slower compared to the volumes of cargo and passenger transportation;

142.2. to develop transport that is less polluting and has a smaller impact on human health, in particular railway and marine transport as well as multimodal and intermodal transport systems;

142.3. to integrate environmental and public health safety aspects into the processes of national transport policy decision-making, monitoring and impact assessment;

142.4. to improve the energy efficiency of road transport activities.

143. The short-term objectives include the establishment of economic and legal environment promoting the development of less polluting and safer transport, improvement of the organization and regulation of road transport, enhancement of its safety, reduction of air pollution and noise, and keeping pollution and noise in the cities within the permissible limits.

144. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

144.1. to reduce transit transport flows through cities and, in particular, city centres;

144.2. to develop public transport by giving priority to less polluting and less noisy transport means;

144.3. to enhance traffic safety with the aim to halve the number of accident casualties by 2010.

Industry

145. The long-term objective is to build an industry that is based on the latest environment-friendly technologies and is effective in economic, environmental and social terms.

146. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

146.1. to increase the economic and environmental efficiency of production and products, to reduce the consumption of energy and water in producing a single GDP unit, and to bring these indicators to the average EU level of 2003;

146.2. to expand high-technology production and, based on this indicator, to bring Lithuania closer to the EU states' average (20-25 per cent);

146.3. to make sure that chemicals are produced, managed and used without causing major threats to human health and are in line with the EU Regulation concerning the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals (REACH) as well as the plan of implementing measures for the Regulation.

147. The short term objectives are to reduce the negative environmental impact of industry, to increase the recycling of local renewable and secondary raw materials, to expand the introduction of cleaner production approaches as well as other sustainable industrial development measures.

148. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

148.1. to encourage Lithuanian industrial enterprises to apply the product life-cycle assessment instruments and other sustainable development measures (environment management systems, eco-product design, eco-labelling and sustainable industrial development reports);

148.2. to minimize the negative impact of industry on the environment and to ensure that cleaner production methods are applied by at least one third of Lithuanian industrial companies;

148.3. to expand recycling of secondary raw materials.

Energy

149. The long-term objectives are to create a safe, environmentally-friendly and competitive energy sector integrated into the single EU energy system, to ensure reliable and diversified energy supply, to raise efficiency of energy generation, distribution and consumption and to expand the use of renewables and waste energy.

150. The main long-term tasks are the following:

150.1. to modernize the existing and, depending on the demand for useful thermal energy, to build new high-efficiency cogeneration power plants;

150.2. to increase the efficiency of electric energy and heat production, distribution and consumption, and to reduce energy losses in the distribution networks;

150.3. to reduce the quantity of pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions per energy unit;

150.4. to reduce the country's dependence on fuel imports by boosting energy production from renewable and waste energy sources;

150.5. to integrate, in a comprehensive manner, Lithuanian energy systems, especially the electricity and gas supply sectors, into the EU systems and the EU energy market.

151. The short-term objectives are to ensure reliable and safe supply of energy, within the set limits for pollution, to all branches of the Lithuanian economy; to increase energy savings and efficiency with the help of proper use of resources of the EU structural funds as well as the State and private funds.

152. The main short-term tasks are the following:

152.1. to increase the share of heat generated from renewable and waste energy sources in the total heat production balance to 17 per cent in 2010 and to increase the share of electricity generated from renewables to more than 7 per cent of the total national electricity consumption;

152.2. to increase efficiency of primary energy transformation in electricity and, especially, centralized heat supply sectors, and to reduce heat transmission losses;

152.3. to increase energy savings and efficiency of energy use.

Agriculture

153. The long-term objectives include the creation of an economically efficient and competitive agriculture, based on farming with a lower environmental impact; development of organic farms and production of high-quality certified agricultural and food products; conservation of natural resources.

154. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

154.1. to intensify the development of organic crop production and animal husbandry and to raise the share of certified organic production areas in the total agricultural land to at least 5 per cent in 2013 and at least 10 per cent in 2020;

154.2. to promote effective development of biofuel production: to replace at least 5.75 per cent of transport fuels with biofuel by 2010 and at least 15 per cent by 2020.

155. The short-term objectives include reduction of the environmental impact of agriculture, particularly in the ecologically vulnerable areas, improvement of the economic and legal environment for the development of traditional (especially small and medium-sized) organic farms, increasing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized farms, and providing the consumer with high-quality food products matching the nutritional needs;

156. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

156.1. to reduce the environmental impact of agriculture especially in ecologically vulnerable areas and to increase their stability;

156.2. to enhance the competitiveness of small and medium-sized farms and to make sure they have a smaller impact on the environment;

156.3. to reduce the negative impact of organic and mineral fertilizers as well as pesticides on the quality of agricultural production;

156.4. to reduce the leakage of ammonia into the environment.

Housing

157. The long-term objectives are to create a modern housing infrastructure, good and hygienic living conditions, increase the energy efficiency of housing, to ensure modern, high-quality and universally accessible public social services, to minimize the negative environmental impact of housing, and to promote social cohesion.

158. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

158.1. to increase the energy efficiency of housing and to speed up the modernization of multi-apartment buildings;

158.2. to improve the housing quality and to raise the useful area to 28-29 sq m per inhabitant, thus approaching the average in the EU old-timers;

158.3. to develop the stock of social housing for rental.

159. The short term-objective is to continue the implementation of the Programme for the Modernization of Multi-apartment Buildings.

160. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

160.1. to make sure the provided State support serves to encourage the apartment owners in multi-apartment buildings to implement building modernization projects that are efficient in terms of energy;

160.2. to promote multi-apartment building modernization, i.e. to provide publicity, to inform and offer consultations to apartment owners in multi-apartment buildings, to prepare standard and demonstration projects and studies, and to provide training for the participants in the housing sector.

Tourism

161. The long-term objectives are to implement the sustainable development principles by planning and performing territorial tourism development and carrying out tourism infrastructure projects at national and municipal levels.

162. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

162.1. to enhance the scope and variety of tourism services, to develop the infrastructure of tourism and recreation, to make better use of the distinctiveness of the nature and culture of the country's regions as well as of the valuable ethnocultural objects;

162.2. to improve the national system of management, planning and support for tourism and recreation, to prioritize the development of cultural, ecological and active recreation as well as health tourism, to promote the aforementioned activities, giving preference to projects ensuring the preservation of the environmental quality as well as rational use of recreational resources;

162.3. to develop scientifically sound systems for tourism resources research, market monitoring and human resource development that would enable successful development of the tourism sector and active formation of the image of Lithuania as a country attractive for tourists;

162.4. to initiate projects that would enhance the attractiveness of Lithuanian tourism objects and improve the supply of cultural, communication, health and other services as well as entertainment;

162.5. to promote and provide full support to the development of the public infrastructure of bicycle and water tourism and to improve dissemination of information.

163. The short-term objectives include the development of high-quality infrastructure and services for cultural and active recreation, health improvement activities and countryside tourism; systematic development of the capacities of human resources; ensuring the protection and rational use of natural and cultural valuable objects.

164. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

164.1. to expand the tourism potential in the country's regions and tourism centres through effective use of State, municipal and EU resources as well as support of other international funds;

164.2. to coordinate tourism infrastructure development in the national territory with respect to the potential of recreational resources as well as ecological identity of the regions;

164.3. to disseminate information in Lithuania and abroad on the potential of the tourism and recreational opportunities offered in Lithuania and to collect information on the natural and cultural valuable objects of the country.

Social development

165. The major attention in the Strategy's chapter *Social Development* is devoted to the problems of poverty and social exclusion as well as public health. Since the implementation of the Strategy is impossible without active public involvement and support, a substantial part of it is dedicated to the education of the public (as well as environmental education and promotion of a more environment-friendly lifestyle), also to the preservation of cultural distinction. The social sphere also covers the enhancement of research role, more effective use of research results in the implementation of the main principles of sustainable development, and a new subchapter, *Sustainable Consumption*.

Employment

166. The long-term objectives are to promote employment of the population, investments in the human capital and creation of new high-quality jobs, to ensure equal opportunities for everyone to participate in the labour market and public life, and to reinforce social cohesion.

167. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

167.1. to pursue an active policy of the improvement of employment and human resources, to enhance work quality and efficiency, and to reinforce social as well as territorial cohesion;

167.2. to raise the national average annual employment rate to 70 per cent and to enable every Lithuanian citizen wishing and able to work to find a suitable job matching his capabilities;

167.3. to improve compliance with the labour market requirements and to create the conditions for the improvement of competencies and employment capacity building, i.e. to enlarge investments in the human capital and make better use of them;

167.4. to promote labour market flexibility, adjust it to the employment guarantees, and secure active involvement of the social partners in this process.

168. The medium-term objectives include enhancement of the labour force adaptability to changes; inclusion of more people, having problems to integrate into the labour market, into the labour

market, while ensuring high-quality and safe employment; reduction of unofficial employment; and strengthening social partnership as well as social responsibility of companies.

169. The main mid-term tasks are as follows:

169.1. to increase the average annual employment rate in the country to 68.8 per cent, while maintaining the already achieved employment rates of 61 per cent for women and 53 per cent for the elderly (people aged 55-64) at least at the same level;

169.2. to increase the employment of job-seekers (especially youth) as well as labour attractiveness, to carry out measures for unemployment (in particular long-term unemployment) prevention, and improve the active labour market policy measures;

169.3. to reduce unofficial employment, to enable transition from illegal to legal employment, and to introduce new work organization methods;

169.4. to create the conditions necessary for the elderly and the disabled to remain in the labour market, to retain experienced staff in the labour market for as long as possible, to enhance the health improvement activities, and to maximize the working capacity of the residents;

169.5. to create the conditions necessary for life-long learning, to develop vocational guidance services, and to improve the assessment and recognition of the competencies acquired spontaneously or informally;

169.6. to implement measures ensuring the preservation of working capacity, health and life at work.

Poverty and social exclusion

170. The long-term objectives are to increase personal incomes of the residents, to reduce the differentiation and poverty of the society, to establish adequate working conditions, and to achieve effective social security, i.e. to create favourable conditions for families and to secure social integration of the socially disadvantaged groups of residents.

171. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

171.1. to reduce the disparities and poverty of the society as well as the regional disparities of social development;

171.2. to implement a social policy based on the principles of social justice and solidarity;

172. The mid-term objectives are to ensure adequate compensation of lost incomes for the recipients of social insurance benefits, especially pensions; to extend social support to the persons who need it the most; to ensure for every member of the social exclusion groups at least the minimum economic and social security; and to eradicate extreme poverty.

173. The main mid-term tasks are as follows:

173.1. to maintain an adequate level of social insurance benefits, particularly pensions, and to adjust it to the financial capacities of the social insurance and pensions system;

173.2. to ensure adequate assistance to young families raising children;

173.3. to ensure the expedience and magnitude of social assistance that guarantees a decent income to the justified recipients of this assistance;

173.4. to improve the accessibility and quality of social services.

Public health

174. The long-term objectives cover the improvement of the living standards of the Lithuanian population; increasing the life expectancy, i.e. reduction of morbidity, mortality and disability, especially resulting from accidents and injuries, circulatory system and oncological diseases and mental health disorders; and improvement of the accessibility and quality of health care services.

175. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

175.1. to combine the efforts of the society and all the sectors with the aim to reduce the negative impact of social and economic factors on human health: to increase the average life expectancy to 72.5 years and to achieve the current infant mortality rate of the EU old Member States;

175.2. to reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol and psychoactive substances;

175.3. to reduce the injury rate, as well as morbidity and mortality resulting from chronic non-infectious diseases;

175.4. to improve the accessibility and quality of the health care services provided to the residents;

175.5. to reduce the health differences among Lithuanian regions as well as between men and women;

175.6. to perform prevention and control of communicable diseases;

176. The short-term objectives are to develop a modern and effective public health care system based on co-operation among social partners and promoting healthy lifestyle, healthy environment as well as accessible and proper health care.

177. The main short-term tasks are as follows:

177.1. to reduce mortality from accidents and injuries;

177.2. to stabilize the mortality of residents aged under 65 related to circulatory system diseases;

177.3. to improve the mental health of the population and reduce the number of suicides; to pay particular attention to the prevention of addictive diseases;

177.4. to improve the management of health risk factors and to reduce the health disparities between the rural and the urban populations;

177.5. to ensure rapid response to public health threats;

177.6. to reinforce public health care in municipalities, i.e. to bring health care closer to the communities.

Education and science

178. The long term objectives are to educate independent, active and responsible members of society and to develop intellectual potential of the society, so that knowledge and science may ensure sustainable implementation of economic, social and environmental objectives.

179. The main long-term tasks are as follows:

179.1. to ensure accessibility of different-level education;

179.2. to create a continuously learning society and to provide life-long learning opportunities to persons wishing to change or improve their qualifications;

179.3. to promote sustainable development ideas on all levels of education;

179.4. to ensure systematic development of science and technologies that would allow building a knowledge society based on science, on the latest technologies with a lower environmental impact, as well as on innovations;

179.5. to implement the action plan for the Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) as well as the Strategy's Vilnius Framework (CEP/AC. 13/2005/3/Rev.1);

179.6. to carry out inter-branch and interdisciplinary research covering social and natural sciences, to stimulate their interaction with the policy-making process, and to make sure the decision-making is based on research findings and on the integration of economic, social and environmental objectives and tasks as well as implementing measures.

180. The short-term objectives are to ensure rapid development of education, science and technologies and to ensure that education, science and the latest technologies contribute to Lithuania's international competitiveness in all spheres of life and promote sustainable development of Lithuania.

181. The main short-term tasks are the following:

181.1. to reinforce the cohesion of general education, vocational education and higher education institutions;

181.2. to encourage interaction between science, technology and business institutions, to develop advanced and environment-friendly technologies;

181.3. to make knowledge and science important factors which help to ensure rapid economic and social development, effective use of natural resources and clean and healthy environment; to speed up the creation of a knowledge-based society.

181.4. to increase the efficiency and international competitiveness of research and to slow down brain drain.

Preservation of cultural identity

182. The long-term objectives are to preserve the Lithuanian language, the ethnic and regional culture of the Lithuanians, the historical heritage of Lithuanian culture, as well as the cultural peculiarity of the national communities residing in Lithuania.

183. The main long-term tasks are the following:

183.1. to form the value system of Lithuanian citizens in relation to Lithuanian culture and help them learn about and understand the distinctiveness and peculiarities of Lithuanian culture;

183.2. to purposefully build a sustainable rural community capable of preserving and transferring to the future generations the tangible and spiritual heritage of the Lithuanian rural community, which is based on the national cultural values;

183.3. to secure protection and continuity of the Lithuanian language and to promote its development in order to meet the needs of the knowledge society;

183.4. to preserve ethnic culture and local traditions and to protect the heritage and its value;

183.5. to support culture and education of ethnic communities living in Lithuania;

183.6. to address the issues of preserving the Lithuanian cultural heritage located in foreign countries;

184. The short-term objectives are to ensure the protection of cultural heritage reinforcing the responsibility of public authorities and society for the preservation of cultural heritage.

185. The main short-term tasks are the following:

185.1. to encourage as active public participation as possible in the protection of the peculiarity of Lithuania and its ethnic regions;

185.2. to develop the regional cultural policy and protect regional distinctions of cultural heritage.

Sustainable consumption

186. The long-term objectives: in the face of the growth of total consumption of products and services, to make sure that the growth does not worsen the environmental quality, giving preference to environment-friendly services and products that are produced and used with the smallest amount of energy and other natural resources, without toxic substances and which have the lowest possible impact on the environment throughout the life-cycle.

187. The main long-term tasks are the following:

187.1. to make sure environment-friendly (green) procurement covers the entire public sector and matches the average of the leading EU states in this area;

187.2. to promote individual environment-friendly (green) procurement as well as the use of eco-products;

187.3. to provide contracting authorities and the public with methodological assistance on the issues of green procurement;

187.4. to enforce sustainable consumption standards at public and local authorities and bodies.

188. The short-term objectives are to explore the attitudes of the consumers, consumption habits and behaviour, to establish environment-friendly consumption priorities, and to develop and start implementing a sustainable consumption policy based on the use of products and services having the lowest possible negative impact on the environment.

189. The main short-term tasks are the following:

189.1. to conduct research on the attitudes, habits and behaviour of consumers and to set the priorities for environment-friendly consumption;

189.2. to encourage producers to develop the manufacturing of products with EU and /or Lithuanian eco-labelling.

Territorial development

190. The long-term objectives are to ensure consistent territorial development of the country, favourable conditions for social and economic development, and good state of environment throughout the national territory.

191. The main long-term tasks are the following:

191.1. to reorganize the existing territorial planning system and to create a modern stable, transparent, convenient and logical system of territorial planning and implementation;

191.2. to reduce territorial differences in living standards and to ensure faster economic development of the regions and problematic territories that are below the national average, to reduce the pendular migration to the cities, thus reducing the transportation needs and the ensuing environmental pollution and climate change;

191.3. to ensure a positive environment for the interaction and partnership between cities and rural areas.

192. The short-term objectives are to optimize the system of public and local authorities and bodies as well as the distribution of their functions; to strengthen the local communities, to solve the economic and social development issues of the problematic areas as soon as possible, and to stop their depopulation processes.

193. The main short-term tasks are the following:

193.1. to reinforce weak links in the network of residential areas and their economic and social potential; to improve the living standards for their inhabitants;

193.2. to strengthen local authorities and bodies as well as their capacities;

193.3. to increase the efficiency of consuming local resources and to preserve natural and cultural valuable objects;

193.4. to encourage participation of the public in the management of municipalities.

Development cooperation

194. The long-term objectives are to contribute to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals, to the securing of worldwide peace, to the reduction of gaps between the industrial and developing countries, to the integration of the developing countries into the global economy and their sustainable development, and to the prevention of conflicts.

195. The main long-term tasks are the following:

195.1. to achieve compliance of the Lithuanian development cooperation policy with the principles and goals of the EU development cooperation policy.

195.2. to increase the official development aid of Lithuania with due regard for the national financial capacities.

196. The short-term objectives are to contribute to the growth of the EU development cooperation in accordance with the EU obligations and to pursue Lithuanian bilateral development cooperation projects in priority states.

197. The main short-term tasks are the following:

197.1. to ensure the payment of Lithuania's obligatory contributions to international organizations which form part of the official development aid of Lithuania;

197.2. to reinforce the administrative capacities of the management of the bilateral and multilateral projects and programmes pursued by Lithuania.

VI. FINAL PROVISIONS

Implementation and supervision of the Strategy

198. To reinforce sustainable development cooperation, Resolution No 88 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 28 July 2000 Setting up a National Commission on Sustainable Development and Adopting its Regulations (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 65-1950, 2000) formed the National Commission on Sustainable Development.

199. In order to implement the monitoring of the Strategy and to carry out a change and causal links analysis, Order No 672 of the Minister of Environment of 19 December 2003 (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 4-79, 2004) established an Expert Group for the Assessment of the Progress in the Implementation of the National Sustainable Development Strategy and for the Development of the Respective Guidelines.

200. The National Commission for Sustainable Development shall examine biennial sustainable development reports that shall be submitted to the UN and EU institutions in accordance with the prescribed procedure. These reports must be introduced to the public. This shall be organized by the respective divisions of the Ministry of Environment.

Sustainable development indicators

201. Sustainable development indicators have been grouped based on the three main sustainable development sectors: environmental status, economic development and social development. Such a type of grouping is rather conditional as a small number of the indicators presented are trans-sectoral, characterising sector interaction. The indicators of territorial development are presented separately to reflect the situation in the counties, municipalities and smaller territorial units.

202.	Environmental status indicators	Competent authority
202.1.	greenhouse gas emissions in CO ₂ equivalent: total, million tonnes, per GDP unit, in total and according to economic activity, tonnes/ thousand LTL	Environmental Protection Agency
202.2.	emissions of sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds and ammonia: total, kilotonnes, per GDP unit, in total and according to economic activity, tonnes/thousand LTL	Environmental Protection Agency
202.3.	urban air quality: the number of days per annum when the concentrations of nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter and ground level ozone are above the permissible rates	Environmental Protection Agency
202.4.	compliance of treated wastewater (million cubic metres) with the established requirements for annual quantities, %	Environmental Protection Agency
202.5.	Surface water quality: concentrations of organic substances, nitrogen and phosphorus compounds in rivers, lakes, the Curonian Lagoon, the Baltic Sea coastal zone, mg/l	Environmental Protection Agency
202.6.	groundwater consumption, million cubic metres and %, in current groundwater resources	Environmental Protection Agency
202.7.	samples of groundwater meeting water quality standards in groundwater bodies, %	Lithuanian Geological Survey under the Ministry of Environment
202.8.	inflow of organic substances, nitrogen and phosphorus compounds into the Baltic Sea, kilotonnes	Environmental Protection Agency
202.9.	the share of total protected areas in the entire territory of Lithuania, %	State Protected Areas Service under the Ministry of Environment
202.10.	the share of total forest area in the entire territory of Lithuania, %	State Forest Service
202.11.	the area of damaged land, used as well as used-up quarries of minerals, peat-bogs and landfills, ha	National Land Service under the Ministry of Agriculture
202.12.	the area of idle land, which is unsuitable for agricultural crop cultivation or for regular pasturage or haymaking due to the soil of low economic value, ha	National Land Service under the Ministry of Agriculture
202.13.	annual quantity of collected municipal waste per capita, kg	Environmental Protection Agency
202.14.	the quantity of industrial waste per GDP unit, total and by economic activity, tonnes/thousand LTL	Environmental Protection Agency
202.15.	waste recycling: the amount of paper, glass, plastic and metal waste	Environmental Protection Agency
202.16.	the quantity of collected hazardous waste– by type, tonnes	Environmental Protection Agency
202.17.	share of green public procurement in total public procurement, percentage, LTL	Public Procurement Office under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania
203.	Economic development indicators	
203.1.	GDP at the prices of that time, LTL million, GDP growth, %, growth of gross added value by economic activity, %	Statistics Lithuania under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as "Statistics Lithuania")
203.2.	GDP per capita, in LTL and purchasing power standard	Statistics Lithuania

203.3.	total general government debt against the GDP, %	Statistics Lithuania
203.4.	total investment against GDP, %, total and by sector	Statistics Lithuania
203.5.	labour efficiency (gross added value per actual hour of work), in LTL, nationally and by economic activity; labour efficiency per employee, in purchasing power standards	Statistics Lithuania
203.6.	final energy consumption in branches of economy per GDP unit, total and by economic activity	Statistics Lithuania
203.7.	water consumption in industry per GDP unit, total and by economic activity	Environmental Protection Agency
203.8.	distribution of cargo and passenger transportation by mode of transport, million tkm and per GDP unit, million passenger km	Statistics Lithuania
203.9.	biofuel consumption in transport and its share in the total amount of fuel consumption in transport, kilotonnes and %	Statistics Lithuania
203.10.	number of cars per 1 000 inhabitants	Statistics Lithuania
203.11.	percentage of cars older than 10 yrs. against total number of cars	Statistics Lithuania
203.12.	number of factories that hold quality management system certificates ISO 9000 or ISO 9001, percentage of all enterprises	Lithuanian Standards Board under the Ministry of Environment (hereinafter referred to as "Lithuanian Standards Board")
203.13.	number of factories holding ISO 14001 or EMAS certificates, and percentage of all enterprises	Lithuanian Standards Board, Environmental Protection Agency
203.14.	share of the high-technology sector in total added value generated by manufacturing industrial companies, %	Statistics Lithuania
203.15.	share of renewable energy sources in total energy consumption, %	Statistics Lithuania
203.16.	share of electricity generated from renewable sources in total produced electricity, %	Statistics Lithuania
203.17.	share of electricity generated by cogeneration plants in total produced electricity, %	Statistics Lithuania
203.18.	annual household electricity consumption, total and per capita, GWh	Statistics Lithuania
203.19.	crop area for biofuel production, thousand ha and percentage in total area of agricultural land	Statistics Lithuania
203.20.	area of organic farms, thousand ha; percentage in total agricultural land area	Ministry of Agriculture
203.21.	organic farming production area, ha, by production type (vegetables, grain, potatoes, fruit and berries), milk and dairy products and meat, according to the number of certified animals	Ministry of Agriculture
203.22.	pesticide consumption (total consumed pesticides by active substance), kilotonnes and kg per ha of used agricultural land	State Plant Protection Service
203.23.	daily water quantity consumed by households, litres per capita	Environmental Protection Agency
203.24.	annual household thermal energy consumption, toe, and annual electricity consumption per capita, kWh	Statistics Lithuania

203.25.	percentage of residents having access to central water supply in the total population – nationally, urban and rural.	Environmental Protection Agency
203.26.	percentage of residents having access to central wastewater management services in the total population – nationally, urban and rural.	Environmental Protection Agency
203.27.	percentage of residents using public municipal waste management service in total population – nationally, urban and rural.	Environmental Protection Agency
203.28.	short-term household expenditure on housing, water and fuel: percentage of average household expenditure against average household income, LTL	Statistics Lithuania
203.29.	share of gross added value contributed by the added value generated in the tourism sector, %	Statistics Lithuania
203.30.	number of hotel nights and nights spent at health and recreation, rural tourism and other accommodation establishments, thousand	Statistics Lithuania
203.31.	length of bicycle tracks built in accordance with the set requirements, km	Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania
204.	Social development indicators	
204.1.	employment rate for persons aged 15-64, %	Statistics Lithuania
204.2.	unemployment and long-term unemployment rates, %	Statistics Lithuania
204.3.	GDP share consisting of social security expenditure, %	Statistics Lithuania
204.4.	poverty risk level, %	Statistics Lithuania
204.5.	income distribution coefficient	Statistics Lithuania
204.6.	average life expectancy (total and by gender), by year	Statistics Lithuania
204.7.	natural population change per 1 000 residents	Statistics Lithuania
204.8.	number of deaths from all respiratory system diseases per 100 000 residents	Statistics Lithuania
204.9.	number of deaths from all circulatory system diseases per 100 000 residents	Statistics Lithuania
204.10.	number of deaths from all malignant tumour diseases per 100 000 residents	Statistics Lithuania
204.11.	number of deaths caused by traffic accidents, total and per 100 000 residents	Statistics Lithuania
204.12.	annual number of injuries in traffic accidents, total and per 100 000 residents	Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior
204.13.	salmonella poisoning cases per 100 000 residents	Centre for the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases
204.14.	infant (under 1 year) mortality (infant deaths against 1 000 births)	Statistics Lithuania
204.15.	useful living area per capita – urban and rural, sq m	Statistics Lithuania
204.16.	number of deaths from accidents at work	State Labour Inspectorate
204.17.	area of territories affected by equivalent noise level, sq km, close to major transport infrastructures	State Public Health Centre
204.18.	number of people affected by equivalent noise level in agglomerations and close to major transport infrastructures	State Public Health Centre
204.19.	funds allocated for education, % of GDP	Statistics Lithuania
204.20.	funds allocated for culture, % of GDP	Statistics Lithuania

204.21.	expenditure on research and development, % of GDP	Statistics Lithuania
204.22.	number of students in higher education institutions (total graduates of that year), compared to the number of persons aged 20-24, %	Statistics Lithuania
204.23.	number of pupils at schools of general education (all graduates who obtained basic or secondary education that year), compared to the number of persons aged 15-19, %	Ministry of Education and Science, Statistics Lithuania
204.24.	percentage of vocational education students of the total secondary-education-level students	Statistics Lithuania
204.25.	young people aged 18-24 having only secondary education and not pursuing further education, %	Statistics Lithuania
204.26.	the amount of student funding basket in higher education	Ministry of Education and Science
204.27.	annual number of university third-level study graduates having earned a scientific degree	Statistics Lithuania
205.	Territorial development indicators	
205.1.	GDP of the region per capita and ratio to national average, %	Statistics Lithuania
205.2.	investments in tangible assets per capita, million LTL, and ratio to national average, %	Statistics Lithuania
205.3.	number of residents having access to the centralized supply of drinking water in the regional territory, %, compared to the total population, according to the declared place of residence	Environmental Protection Agency
205.4.	number of residents having access to the centralized wastewater network in the regional territory, %, compared to the total population, according to the declared place of residence	Environmental Protection Agency
205.5.	daily amount of centrally supplied drinking water, average in cubic metres per capita	Environmental Protection Agency
205.6.	employment rate for residents aged 15-64, %, and ratio to the national average	Statistics Lithuania
205.7.	unemployment rate, %, and ratio to the national average	Statistics Lithuania
205.8.	emissions of pollutants in the region, tonnes/ sq km, and ratio to national the average	Environmental Protection Agency
205.9.	forest area in the region, %	State Forest Service

APPROVED by Resolution No 1160 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 11 September 2003 (as amended by Resolution No 1247 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 16 September 2009)

PLAN OF IMPLEMENTING MEASURES FOR THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		I. AIR QUALITY		
		Air and climate change		
1. The long-term objectives are to ensure air quality that is safe for human health and compliant with the requirements throughout the national territory, to achieve a situation when the growth of emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gasses is two times slower than the growth of production and services, and to eliminate the consumption of ozone depleting substances	1.1. To make sure that the emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases per GDP unit decrease in half and stay within the prescribed national limits	1.1.1. To make sure that by 2015 thermal power plants comply with the new environmental requirements established for large fuel combustion plants	2015	Ministry of Environment
		1.1.2. To organize and coordinate the implementation of the National Strategy for the Implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change until 2012	2009–2012	Ministry of Environment
		1.1.3. To work out a strategy for the national policy of climate change management and the plan of its implementation measures for 2013-2020	2012	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Agriculture
		1.1.4. To use economic measures to promote the consumption of biological fuel as well as generation of electricity and heat at cogeneration plants	2009–2020	Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		1.1.5. In order to ensure the implementation of the EU air quality improvement and climate change reduction objectives, to establish national strategic objectives for the development of the economy sectors in line with the national limits for 2020 concerning the emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, ammonia and primary particulate matter (KD _{2,5})	2011–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.1.6. To develop a National Programme for the Management (Limitation) of Emissions of Pollutants until 2020 and to coordinate its implementation	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture
	1.2. To make sure that the environmental pollution norms are respected.	1.2.1. To draft and improve the legislation regulating air pollution and quality assessment and management	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.2.2. In accordance with the established time limits, to update the Ambient Air Quality Assessment Programme, its plan of implementing measures as well as municipal programmes for the reduction of ambient air pollution, and to implement them effectively	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment, local authorities
		1.2.3. To support the introduction of innovative and productive technologies having a minimum negative impact on the environment and human health	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy
		1.2.4. To develop public transport	2009–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Transport and Communications
	1.3. By 2015, to phase out the consumption of ozone depleting substances, save for exceptional cases when there are no alternatives or application of alternatives would be economically or technically unacceptable	1.3.1. To employ economic and administrative measures as well as the respective projects in order to promote the consumption of substances and technologies that do not deplete the ozone layer or to apply other alternative measures	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
2. Short-term objectives: to use the resources of the State budget of the Republic of Lithuania, private funds and the EU assistance in order to stop the growth of pollution by 2010, compared to 2001-2005, despite the development of the sectors of industry, energy and transport	2.1. To ensure the implementation of pollution reduction requirements at large combustion plants	2.1.1. To make sure that the total emissions of SO ₂ and NO _x resulting from electricity production in 2009-2010 do not exceed the limits established in the EU Accession Treaty signed by Lithuania	2009–2010	Ministry of Environment
	2.2. To make sure that the emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia do not exceed the prescribed national limits	2.2.1. To draft laws amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Ambient Air Protection as well as the Code of the Republic of Lithuania on Administrative Violations in order to define the responsibility of municipalities for setting and implementing the measures for the management of ambient air quality	2009	Ministry of Environment
		2.2.2. To set the pollution limits for installations using biofuel and biofuels for transport	2009–2010	Ministry of Environment
	2.3. To make sure that the concentration of particulate matter meets the ambient air quality standards in the course of the implementation of the air pollution reduction measures	2.3.1. To develop a system for regulating pollution caused by transportation, following the responsibility ("polluter pays") principle	2009	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, local authorities
		Water		
1. Long-term objectives: good quality of groundwater as well as rivers, lakes, the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea; preserved great diversity of the water ecosystems; surface water bodies	1.1. to reduce water contamination with dangerous substances to a degree where discharges of dangerous substances do not exceed the EU norms and do not interfere with efforts to achieve a good state of water bodies	1.1.1. To support the introduction of innovative and productive technologies resulting in water resource economy and reducing water pollution	2009–2015	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy
		1.1.2. To conduct quality monitoring of the Baltic Sea and inland bathing waters	2009–2020	local authorities

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
suitable for recreational needs; drinking water satisfying the safety and quality requirements and available to the whole population of the country	1.2. To reduce pollution of the Baltic Sea and the Curonian Lagoon from land sources, ships and activities conducted in the sea or other water bodies	1.2.1. To expand international cooperation with other countries, especially Belarus, the Russian Federation and Poland with a view to take joint action for the protection of the Baltic Sea and other surface waters and groundwater and for the reduction of their use and pollution	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.2.2. To improve the legislation governing the protection of the marine environment and to build the institutional capacities of sea protection	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
	1.3. To reduce water pollution from agricultural sources	1.3.1. To use economic, legal and informational instruments with the aim to promote the introduction of measures aimed to reduce pollution from agricultural sources in farms	2009–2013	Ministry of Agriculture
		1.3.2. To develop and approve environment requirements for farms rearing more than 100 livestock units	2010	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture
	1.4. To ensure the protection of groundwater from pollution and to promote rational use of groundwater resources	1.4.1. To determine the amount of available groundwater resources and the highest quality groundwater bodies for water supplies; to work out the optimum methods of water consumption and to analyze the water quality	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.4.2. To determine potential groundwater pollution sources in the areas affecting the extraction points, to evaluate the scope of the threats posed by them to the quality of the resources at the extraction points, and to eliminate these sources of pollution	2010	Lithuanian Geological Survey under the Ministry of Environment (hereinafter referred to as "Lithuanian Geological Survey"), Ministry of Environment, local authorities
		1.4.3. To work out and approve the Procedure for the Assessment (monitoring, eco-geological examination) of the Impact of Animal Husbandry Facilities on Groundwater	2010	Ministry of Environment, Lithuanian Geological Survey

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.5. To establish an effective system of flood risk assessment and management with respect to social, economic and environmental aspects	1.5.1. To carry out preliminary flood risk assessment in the areas with the established high risk of floods, and to develop flood risk maps as well as a report on the scope of floods, their negative impact and land use in those areas	2011	Ministry of Environment
2. The long term objectives are to achieve a reduction in the pollution of surface water and groundwater through adequate use of State, municipal and private resources as well as the EU Structural Funds assistance	2.1. To reduce point source pollution by 810 tonnes for nitrogen and 85 tonnes for phosphorus and to cut biochemical consumption of oxygen by 1 050 tonnes per 7 days, compared to the year 2004	2.1.1. To carry out projects for the upgrading and development of urban wastewater treatment plants using State, municipal and EU assistance funds	2010	local authorities
	2.2. To reduce non-point source pollution with nitrogen and phosphorus	2.2.1. To draw a map of sensitivity to agricultural pollution of the Republic of Lithuania	2009	Ministry of Environment
		2.2.2. To work out a methodology for calculating the balance of nutrients intended for the determination of the dependence of water pollution on the soil type, farming conditions and other factors	2009	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture
		2.2.3. To update the State Programme for the Reduction of Water Pollution from Agricultural Sources as well as the plan of Programme implementing measures	2012	Ministry of Agriculture
	2.3. To introduce a decentralized water resource management system based on the river basin principle in	2.3.1. To draft river basin management plans and measure programmes and to coordinate them with the public as well as with the river basin district coordination councils	2009	Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	order to enable the entire national population to take an active part in the setting of water body protection objectives and in selecting their implementing measures	2.3.2. To establish an effective system for the collection and management of information on the state of water bodies as well as on the impact on this state caused by economic activities	2009	Ministry of Environment
	2.4. To make sure all economic activities are organized in a way that prevents the discharge of substances threatening the environment and human health into surface water and groundwater bodies	2.4.1. To tighten the control of industrial wastewater discharge into the Curonian Lagoon and the Nemunas below the Neris inflow point	2009	Ministry of Environment
		2.4.2. To identify the groundwater resources of sub-basins (locally spread bodies) and to develop special hydro-geological models for the major groundwater basins	2010	Ministry of Environment
		2.4.3. To establish the factual extraction point resource formation areas (impact zone) as well as their potential changes in the period of 2008-2020	2010	Ministry of Environment
		2.4.4. To amend the Wastewater Treatment Regulation, approved by Order No D1-236 of the Minister of Environment of 17 May 2006 with a view to implement Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy	2010	Ministry of Environment
		Landscape and biological diversity		
1. Long-term objectives are to preserve landscape and biological diversity, natural	1.1. To preserve the landscape and biological diversity and distinctiveness of the State	1.1.1. To implement measures for the protection of the valuable objects of landscape and biodiversity in agrarian territories	2010–2020	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
and cultural heritage values, to promote restoration of damaged natural elements, and to ensure rational use of landscape and biological diversity	and its ethnographical regions, to ensure their rational use, and to minimize the negative effect of economic activities on the landscape and biological diversity	1.1.2. To support environment-friendly forms of farming in meadows, pastures and wetlands with significant natural value	2009–2013	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment
	1.2. To develop the protected areas network and the natural framework, to incorporate them into the European ecological networks, and to increase the total protected areas in Lithuania up to 14–18% of the country's territory.	1.2.1. To draft nature management plans for the most sensitive areas of the European ecological network Natura 2000 and other protected areas in Lithuania or parts thereof and to organize their implementation	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
	1.3. To ensure the protection and rational use of recreational resources, to increase the accessibility of protected areas to the public, and to disseminate information on the significance and goals of protected areas	1.3.1. To organize the construction of sightseeing tourism paths and tracks (for biking, hiking, water recreation, motoring, horse-riding, etc) in the state parks, to develop a system of sightseeing tourism paths, and to organize ecological education campaigns	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.3.2. To establish visitor centres in all state parks	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.3.3. To organize the implementation of river re-naturalization projects	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment
	1.4. During the period of the implementation of the Strategy (until 2020), to increase the Lithuanian forest area by 3 per cent, to expand other areas of natural perennial vegetation, and to	1.4.1. To encourage the owners and managers of agricultural land to make use of the EU assistance for afforestation more actively	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture
1.4.2. To develop projects for forest recultivation and afforestation on the ecological-genetic basis and to coordinate afforestation with spontaneous reforestation		2009–2012	Ministry of Environment	

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	decrease the territorial inconsistencies of forests with special attention to afforestation in the districts with the smallest forest cover	1.4.3. To stimulate the development of nurseries in order to guarantee afforestation stock quality and variety	2009–2012	Ministry of Environment
	1.5. To reinforce the protection of the seacoast, the landscape of the coastal zone of the Curonian Lagoon and the marine ecosystem	1.5.1. To implement the EU requirements in the field of coastline protection, integrated coastal zone development, to implement the Baltic Sea protection and management measures, and to optimise the coastal land-use structure	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment, local authorities
	biodiversity, and to coordinate the protection with their natural use for the benefit of the society	1.5.2. In the course of forming the European eco-network Natura 2000, to identify in the sea territory of Lithuania, the areas of the greatest significance in terms of biodiversity protection	2009–2012	Ministry of Environment
	1.6. To protect and expand green areas and other natural areas of urbanized landscape	1.6.1. To develop and implement projects for the expansion and management of natural and subnatural areas performing the ecological and recreational functions of urbanized landscape	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment, local authorities
	1.7. To improve biodiversity protection methods and to develop research on biodiversity, impacts of economic activities, and efficiency of the protected areas regime	1.7.1. To research landscape and biological diversity	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.7.2. To supplement the updated general programmes of general secondary education with education on the protection, management and rational use of nature and cultural valuable objects; to recommend inclusion of these topics into the content of study programmes as well as into the modules of non-formal adult education	2009–2011	Ministry of Education and Science
2. The long-term objective is to create a modern system for the protection and use of the landscape,	2.1. To improve the legal framework and strategic provisions for the protection of biodiversity	2.1.1. To upgrade the Lithuanian Strategy for Biological Diversity Preservation and its action plan with the aim to integrate biodiversity protection into individual sectors of branches of economy	2010	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
biological diversity and cultural heritage in line with the national interests of Lithuania and the EU requirements		2.1.2. To update the National Environmental Protection Strategy, which envisages long term priorities for the environmental sector	2011	Ministry of Environment
	2.2. To improve the system of Lithuanian protected areas and the natural framework , to ensure the protection of essential forest habitats, and to complete the establishment of important bird protection areas	2.2.1. To select key forest habitats for inclusion into the European ecological network Natura 2000; to conclude an agreement with private forest owners regarding the protection of key forest habitats	2009–2010	Ministry of Environment
		2.2.2. To complete the formation of the European eco-network Natura 2000 and to maximize its integration into Lithuanian protected areas	2012	Ministry of Environment, State Protected Areas Service
	2.3. To expand the use of protected areas, primarily national and regional parks, for sightseeing and eco-tourism, also urban areas intended for ecological education as well as promotion of natural and cultural valuable objects	2.3.1. To organize ecological education seminars and sightseeing tours in protected areas	2010	municipalities, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Education and Science
	2.4. To restore the most severely damaged landscape elements, to protect and increase aesthetical values of the landscape, to strengthen the protection of the traditional countryside landscape, and to decrease its visual pollution	2.4.1. To develop and implement projects for the recultivation of landfills breaching the environmental requirements as well as abandoned quarries	2011	local authorities, Ministry of Environment
		2.4.2. To develop recommendations regarding the varieties of trees to be selected for forest recultivation and afforestation, taking into consideration various environmental factors	2010	Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
<p>1. The long-term objectives include the development of the most socially, environmentally and economically suitable system for the management of municipal, industrial and other types of waste resulting from economic activities, reduction of waste generation and its negative impacts on the environment and human health, ensuring of rational use of waste energy resources as well as raising awareness and education on the issues of waste management</p>	<p>1.1. To achieve a situation where the amounts of waste are growing much slower than production, while the amount of waste per GDP unit does not exceed the EU Member States' average amounts of waste in the respective branches of industry</p>	<p>Waste management</p> <p>1.1.1. To support the implementation of innovative and effective technologies resulting economy in natural resource using and reducing waste generation</p>	<p>2010–2020</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy</p>
	<p>1.2. To develop effective regional municipal waste management systems , to make sure that by 2013 at least 50 per cent of municipal waste is collected and recycled or otherwise recovered and that by 2020 the municipal biodegradable waste disposed of at landfills does not exceed 35 per cent of the amount of municipal biodegradable waste of 2000</p>	<p>1.2.1. To ensure timely updating and amendment of the State Strategic Waste Management Plan</p>	<p>2009–2020</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment</p>
		<p>1.2.2. To develop regional waste management systems and to implement projects co-financed by EU assistance</p>	<p>2009–2011</p>	<p>local authorities</p>
		<p>1.2.3. To close the landfills that fail to meet EU requirements</p>	<p>2009–2015</p>	<p>local authorities</p>

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.3. To provide the public with information on waste management and to develop environmental education	1.3.1. To provide the public with regular information about waste prevention, the importance of sorting and recycling, to educate it on these topics, to develop positive attitudes towards re-use as well as products made from waste, to organize public awareness raising campaigns and events, to create informational and journalistic short subjects in video and audio formats and visual material for press and outside advertising, and to prepare and publish articles, publications, leaflets and flyers	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Economy, local authorities
	1.4. To manage the sewage sludge effectively	1.4.1. To develop regional sludge management systems (in the cities, to build sewage treatment plants complying with the applicable requirements and having capacities necessary for sufficient management of the sludge generated in the regions)	2009–2013	local authorities
	1.5. To use the waste energy resources effectively	1.5.1. To build capacities for energy recovery from the municipal waste, remaining after municipal waste sorting, which is unsuitable for recycling but has energy value	2009–2013	local authorities
2. The short-term objectives include the establishment of the conditions necessary to develop an up-to-date (=modern) municipal waste management infrastructure and hazardous waste management system, to expand the provision of public municipal waste management services, to promote the waste management culture of the	2.1. To establish the conditions necessary to ensure the universality, quality and accessibility of the public municipal waste management service and to develop the regional waste management systems	2.1.1. To draft a Law Amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Waste Management	2009	Ministry of Environment
		2.1.2. To establish the minimum requirements for the quality of the public municipal waste treatment service	2009	Ministry of Environment
	2.2. To ensure integrated management of hazardous waste, including collection, classification, treatment, recovery and disposal	2.2.1. To draft the State Programme for the Management of Hazardous Waste 2009-2013	2009	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
residents and to raise public eco-consciousness	2.3. To improve the qualification of hazardous waste managers	2.3.1. To establish the requirements applicable to training programmes intended for the supervisors and specialists of hazardous waste management works who wish to obtain qualification certificates	2009	Ministry of Environment
	2.4. To ensure effective management of biodegradable waste with regard to the possibilities of production and other economic activities as well as joint management of municipal biodegradable waste	2.4.1. To organize the development of a pilot project for biodegradable waste management in Šiauliai region and to coordinate its implementation	2009–2010	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment
		2.4.2. To prepare guidelines for biodegradable waste management and to promote cooperation among economic operators in managing industrial waste, waste resulting from other economic activities and municipal biodegradable waste	2010	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment
	2.5. To promote the use of technical compost as well as ground and soil cleaned from oil and petroleum products to fertilize soil, to plant roadsides, to restore damaged relief, to recultivate quarries, to grow energy plants, and to serve other purposes	2.5.1. To develop a programme for the use of technical compost	2009	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Transport and Communications
		2.5.2. To establish the requirements regarding the use of ground and soil cleaned from oil or petroleum products as well as the guidelines for fulfilling the requirements	2009	Ministry of Environment
		II. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
		General economic development		

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
1. The long-term general objective is to build a modern knowledge- and science-based economy marked by stability and consistent territorial growth, ensuring rapid improvement of the living standards without worsening the environmental quality	1.1. Under the circumstances of long-term sustainability of the macroeconomic environment, to ensure a steady 5-6 per cent annual economic (GDP) growth and, in terms of the GDP per capita (based on the purchasing power standard), to achieve the 2003 level of the EU old-timers	1.1.1. In implementing the medium-term and long-term tasks of all branches of economy, to promote the implementation of measures aimed at the introduction of high and latest technologies as well as products and capable of increasing labour efficiency to the EU level of 2003 in the respective branch of industry	2009–2020	Ministry of Economy
	1.2. To reduce the economic development inconsistencies among the regions	1.2.1. To provide the problematic areas and regional economic growth centres with a larger share of the EU assistance as well as investments from the Lithuanian State budget and to establish new high-quality jobs in the said areas	2010–2020	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of the Interior
	1.3. To create a favourable environment for the development of social responsibility of businesses	1.3.1. To prepare a National Programme for the Development of Social Responsibility of Businesses	2009–2013	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		Transport		
1. The long-term objectives include the creation of a safe, economically efficient and environment-friendly system of transportation with a shift towards alternative fuels, to reduce the negative impacts of transport on human health	1.1. To increase economic and ecological efficiency of the transport sector and to ensure that the fuel costs and the emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases grow two times slower compared to the volumes of cargo and passenger transportation	1.1.1. To improve road infrastructure and to build the main city divertive routes provided for in the Comprehensive Plan of the Republic of Lithuania	2010–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Transport and Communications
		1.1.2. To prioritize the asphaltting of national-significance district roads used for public fixed-route transportation	2009–2020	Ministry of Transport and Communications
		1.1.3. In the cities, to introduce modern coordinated automatic traffic control systems that react to traffic changes	2010–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Transport and Communications

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
and the environment, and to provide equal competitive conditions for unrestricted and safe passenger transportation		1.1.4. To implement educational measures encouraging vehicle owners to opt for vehicles that consume less fuel and are less polluting and less noisy	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Health
	1.2. To develop transport that is less polluting and has smaller impacts on human health, in particular railway and marine transport as well as multimodal and intermodal transport systems	1.2.1. To use economic instruments in order to ensure that freight carriage by rail and by sea is more economically rational and constantly growing, thus reducing air pollution; to develop water transportation infrastructure, thus increasing the possibilities to use greener water transport	2009–2020	Ministry of Transport and Communications
		1.2.2. To promote the development of the infrastructure of logistics centres with the aim to expand the use of multimodal transport systems, maximising the use of the potential of all modes of transport	2009–2020	Ministry of Transport and Communications
		1.2.3. To expand the waterways network as well as the infrastructure necessary for water tourism	2009–2020	Ministry of Transport and Communications, State Tourism Department under the Ministry of Economy (hereinafter referred to as "State Tourism Department")
		1.2.4. To develop the network of bicycle and pedestrian paths in towns, settlements as well as suburban and national-significance roads	2009–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Transport and Communications
		1.2.5. To reduce the exclusion of the Lithuanian transport system, especially the railways, by implementing and developing the Rail Baltica project	2009–2020	Ministry of Transport and Communications
	1.2.6. Following the completion of economic assessment, to adopt a decision regarding the construction of a deepwater seaport	2009–2018	Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Finance, Transport Investment Administration	

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.3. To integrate environmental and public health safety aspects into the processes of national transport policy decision-making, monitoring and impact assessment	1.3.1. In view of the possibilities available every year, to develop and implement gravel road asphaltting plans, thus improving the traffic conditions and reducing the negative effects of transport on the environment and human health	2009–2020	local authorities
	1.4. To improve the energy efficiency of road transport activities	1.4.1. To introduce more effective control systems with the aim to reduce the negative environmental impact and to ensure traffic safety in road transport	2009–2015	local authorities, State Road Transport Inspectorate under the Ministry of Transport and Communications
2. The short-term objectives include the establishment of economic and legal environment promoting the development of less polluting and safer transport, improvement of the organization and regulation of road transport, enhancement of its safety, reduction of air pollution and noise, and keeping pollution and noise in the cities within the permissible limits	2.1. To reduce transit transport flows through cities and, in particular, city centres	2.1.1. To introduce urban transport control systems and to regulate transport flows in the cities in a way that minimizes traffic in the centres and reduces traffic jams, air pollution and noise	2009–2010	local authorities, Ministry of Transport and Communications
	2.2. To develop public transportation by giving priority to less polluting and less noisy transport means	2.2.1. To increase the application of economic and legal measures reducing air pollution and noise from road transport vehicles	2009–2011	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, local authorities
	2.3. To enhance traffic safety with the aim to halve the number of accident casualties by 2010	2.3.1. To conduct a thorough and scientifically sound analysis of the trends and causes of traffic accidents occurring on Lithuanian roads, to update the State Programme for Traffic Safety on Automobile Roads for 2005-2010 and to work out and implement traffic safety improvement measures based on this analysis	2009–2010	Ministry of Transport and Communications

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		Industry		
1. The long-term objective is to build an industry that is based on the latest environment-friendly technologies and effective in economic, environmental and social terms	1.1. To increase the economic and environmental efficiency of production and products, to reduce the consumption of energy and water in producing a single GDP unit, and to bring these indicators to the average EU level of 2003	1.1.1. To support the initiative of the application of measures enhancing economic and environmental productiveness at industrial enterprises	2010–2020	Ministry of Economy
	1.2. To expand high-technology production and, based on this indicator, to bring Lithuania closer to the EU states average (20-25 per cent).	1.2.1. To allocate the bulk of the EU Structural Funds assistance to promote the industrial branches relying on knowledge and high-technologies, ensuring high labour efficiency	2010–2020	Ministry of Economy
	1.3. To make sure that chemicals are produced, managed and used without causing major threats to human health and in line with the EU regulation concerning the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals (REACH) as well as the plan of implementing measures for the regulation	1.3.1. To promote the replacement of substances dangerous to the environment and human health used in industry with less dangerous substances, and the replacement of exhaustible resources with renewable resources	2010–2020	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Energy

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
2. The short term objectives are to reduce the negative environmental impacts of industry, to increase the treatment of local renewable and secondary raw materials, to more widely introduce cleaner production approaches as well as other sustainable industrial development measures	2.1. To make sure the growth of pollutants emissions into the air is at least two times slower than the growth of production	2.1.1. In accordance with the prescribed procedure, to use the EU and Lithuanian budget resources to finance projects aimed to introduce systems for the reduction and monitoring of air pollution caused by industrial and energy enterprises	2010–2012	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment
	2.2. To maximise in Lithuanian industry the application of the product life-cycle assessment instruments and other sustainable development measures (environment management systems, eco-product design, eco-labelling and sustainable industrial development reports)	2.2.1. To disseminate informational and methodological material on sustainable industrial development measures and their application	2010–2011	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment
	2.3. To minimize the negative impact of industry on the environment and to ensure that cleaner production methods are applied by as many Lithuanian industrial companies as possible	2.3.1. To support introduction of certified environment management systems (ISO 14001 and EMAS) at industrial companies	2009–2010	Ministry of Economy

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	2.4. To increase recycling of secondary raw materials	2.4.1. To support the initiative of private capital investment in building local capacities for secondary raw material collection and processing	2010–2011	Ministry of Economy
Energy				
1. The long-term objectives are to create a safe, environmentally-friendly and competitive energy sector integrated into the single EU energy system, to ensure reliable and diversified energy supply, and to raise efficiency of energy generation, distribution and consumption; to expand the use of renewables and waste energy	1.1. To modernize the existing and, depending on the demand for useful thermal energy, to build new high-efficiency cogeneration power plants	1.1.1. To analyze the legal and financial possibilities of building a new combined-cycle gas turbine unit with a capacity of up to 450 MW at the Lithuanian Power Plant	2009–2012	Ministry of Energy
		1.1.2. To analyse the legal and financial conditions for building combined cycle gas turbine units at the power plants of Panevėžys, Alytus, Marijampolė and other locations	2009–2012	Ministry of Energy, local authorities
		1.1.3. Taking into account the requirements and the possibilities, to organize the construction of cogeneration plants using biofuel or municipal and other waste unsuitable for processing but having energy value in Šiauliai, Panevėžys and other towns	2012–2020	Ministry of Energy, local authorities
	1.2. To increase the efficiency of electricity and heat production, distribution and consumption, and to reduce energy losses in the distribution networks	1.2.1. To coordinate the modernization and development of central heat supply systems as well as the renovation of heat supply networks, thus providing heat producers with competitive opportunities, while enabling consumers to control heat consumption	2009–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Energy
		1.2.2. To organize the renovation of the electricity supply system (modernization of transformer substations and, to a certain extent, renovation of the electricity transmission and distribution networks), thus providing new electricity producers with connection possibilities	2010–2020	Ministry of Energy
	1.3. To reduce the quantity of pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions per energy unit	1.3.1. To coordinate the implementation of the project for a new nuclear power plant in line with the EU safety requirements	2009–2018	Ministry of Energy

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.4. To reduce the country's dependence on fuel imports by boosting energy production from renewable and waste energy sources	1.4.1. To analyse the legal and financial conditions for ensuring efficient energy production using the local, renewable and waste energy resources	2010	Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment
		1.4.2. To carry out organization and coordination work to make sure the entire economically justifiable potential of logging waste, which amounts to 150 000 toe (around 900 000 solid cubic metres) per year, is used for energy generation	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy
	1.5. To integrate, in a comprehensive manner, the Lithuanian energy systems, especially in electricity and gas supply sectors, into the EU systems and the EU energy market	1.5.1. To coordinate implementation of projects intended to connect the Lithuanian high-voltage power networks with the Scandinavian and Polish ones	2009–2015	Ministry of Energy
		1.5.2. To analyze legal and financial conditions for building a liquefied natural gas terminal and developing natural gas transmission networks	2009–2015	Ministry of Energy
2. The short-term objectives are within the foreseen limits of pollution to ensure reliable and safe supply of energy, to all branches of the Lithuanian economy; to increase energy savings and efficiency of use with the help of proper use of resources of EU structural funds as well as State and	2.1. To increase the share of heat generated from renewable and waste energy sources in the total primary energy production balance to 17 per cent in 2010 and to increase the share of electricity generated from renewables to more than 7 per cent of the total national electricity consumption	2.1.1. To update the Cogeneration Development Plan in order to substantially increase the production of heat and electricity from biofuel	2010	Ministry of Energy
		2.1.2. To draft a legislative act governing the promotion of production and purchasing of electric energy generated from renewable sources of energy in 2010-2020 with the aim to expand the use of renewable and local energy resources	2010	Ministry of Energy
		2.1.3. To draft and approve an Action Plan for the Promotion of the Use of Lithuanian Renewable Energy Resources for 2010-2020	2010	Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
private funds	2.2. To increase the efficiency of primary energy transformation in electricity and especially in centralized heat supply sectors, and to reduce heat transmission losses	2.2.1. To identify a balanced, effective and economically competitive general need for the centralized generation of heat and electricity in the country, to increase biofuel consumption and to implement the Cogeneration Development Plan	2010	Ministry of Energy, local authorities
	2.3. To increase energy savings and energy use efficiency	2.3.1. To draft the National Programme for Improving Energy Efficiency 2011-2015 and the plan of Programme implementing measures and to submit the drafts to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania	2010	Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications
		2.3.2. To implement energy conservation instruments for branches of economy that would in three years time reduce the comparative final energy consumption by 1.5 per cent as compared to the year 2007	2010	Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Economy
		Agriculture		
1. The long-term objectives include the creation of an economically efficient and competitive agriculture, based on farming with a lower environmental impact; development of organic farms and production of high-quality certified agricultural and food products; conservation of natural resources	1.1. To intensify the development of organic crop production and animal husbandry and to raise the share of certified organic production areas in the total agricultural land to at least 5 per cent in 2013 and at least 10 per cent in 2020	1.1.1. To extend economic support to organic farm development and to promote the eco-label	2009–2013	Ministry of Agriculture
2. The short-term objectives include reduction of the environmental impact of agriculture, particularly in	2.1. To reduce the environmental impact of agriculture especially in ecologically vulnerable areas	2.1.1. To devise a nature management plan for the part of the area of Biržai Regional Park, envisaging adequate protection and management measures for the karst region	2011	Ministry of Environment, State Protected Areas Service

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
ecologically vulnerable territories, improvement of the economic and legal environment for the development of traditional (especially small and medium-sized) organic farms, increasing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized farms, and providing the consumer with high-quality food products matching the nutritional needs	and increase their stability	2.1.2. To promote organic farming in ecologically sensitive areas (karst region, hilly regions)	2009–2013	Ministry of Agriculture
	2.2. To increase the opportunities of organic product sales domestically and abroad	2.2.1. To develop research and databases on organic production, organic product quality and organic product market; to promote consumer education and awareness raising	2009–2010	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education and Science
	2.3. To enhance the competitiveness of small and medium-sized farms and make sure they have a smaller impact on the environment	2.3.1. To encourage small and medium-sized farms to shift to non-traditional alternative crop-production and animal husbandry and to adopt more productive and less polluting farming methods	2009–2010	Ministry of Agriculture
		2.3.2. To employ economic instruments to promote the establishment of small agricultural production processing enterprises	2009–2010	Ministry of Agriculture
	2.4. To reduce the negative impact of organic and mineral fertilizers as well as pesticides on the quality of agricultural production	2.4.1. To make sure mineral fertilizers are used in line with the recommendations offered by scientific institutions, while pesticides are used in accordance with the good practice rules for plant protection as well as integrated control requirements; to apply stricter controls on their quality and use	2009–2010	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy
	2.5. To reduce the leakage of ammonia into the environment	2.5.1. To use economic and legal means to promote the construction of manure storage facilities as well as slurry and wastewater collection facilities in line with the EU requirements and to use modern organic fertilizer insertion and dispersion instruments, reducing the leakage of ammonia into the environment	2009–2010	Ministry of Agriculture
		Housing		

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
1. The long-term objectives are to create a modern housing infrastructure, good and hygienic living conditions, increase energy efficiency of housing, to ensure modern, high-quality and universally accessible public social services, to minimize the negative environmental effects of housing, and to promote social cohesion	1.1. To increase the energy efficiency of housing and to speed up the modernization of multi-apartment buildings	1.1.1. To implement the Programme for the Modernization of Multi-apartment Buildings, i.e. to improve the measures intended for the achievement of the objectives of the Programme and to pool the resources of the EU Structural Funds, the Ignalina Programme and other programmes as well as State budget appropriations and private capital resources	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, local authorities
		1.1.2. To work out a regulatory framework for a "passive energy consumption building" , i.e. a building with the maximum energy savings, and to implement a demonstrational project	2010	Ministry of Environment
	1.2. To improve the housing quality and to raise the useful area to 28-29 sq m per inhabitant, thus approaching the average in the EU old-timers	1.2.1. For multi-apartment buildings, to ensure the control of joint ownership administration and technical maintenance; to improve quality controls on housing construction	2009–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Environment
	1.3. To develop the stock of social housing	1.3.1. To analyze the need for social housing, to forecast its changes, and to improve the conditions and procedure for granting State support to housing acquisition or rent, with special attention to young families with children	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment
2. The short-term objective is to continue the implementation of the Programme for the Modernization of Multi-apartment Buildings.	2.1. To make sure the provided State support serves to encourage the owners of apartments in multi-apartment buildings to pursue building modernization projects that are efficient in terms of energy	2.1.1. To provide and administer State support for the preparation and implementation of housing modernization projects	2009–2011	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Housing and Urban Development Agency
	2.2. To promote multi-apartment building modernization, i.e. to provide	2.2.1. To prepare and implement publicity measures for multi-apartment building modernization (press releases, radio and TV shows, flyers, etc)	2009–2011	Housing and Urban Development Agency, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	publicity, to inform and offer consultations for the owners of apartments in multi-apartment buildings, to develop standard and demonstrational projects and studies, and provide training for the participants of the housing sector	2.2.2. To provide consultations for owners of apartments in multi-apartment buildings, to organize training and other events for the participants of the housing sector, introducing them to multi-apartment building maintenance, modernization and rational energy resource use	2009–2011	Housing and Urban Development Agency, Ministry of Environment
		2.2.3. Every year, to develop at least 5 typical multi-apartment building modernization projects using the funds of the State budget of the Republic of Lithuania as well as the EU structural assistance	2009–2011	Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development Agency
		Tourism		
1. The long-term objectives are to implement the sustainable development principles by planning and performing territorial tourism development and carrying out tourism infrastructure projects at national and municipal levels	1.1. To enhance the scope and variety of tourism services, to develop the infrastructure of tourism and recreation, to make better use of the peculiarity of the nature and culture of the country's regions as well as of the valuable ethnocultural objects	1.1.1. To encourage the development of the infrastructure of recreational and tourism services in order to meet the growing requirements of domestic and incoming tourism and the expectations of holiday-makers and tourists; to maintain the quality of recreational and ecological potential of the areas	2009–2020	Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department
		1.1.2. To initiate projects envisaging the use of cultural heritage objects (mansions, mills, etc) for tourist purposes as well as creation of the public infrastructure for tourist routes	2009–2020	State Tourism Department, Department of Cultural Heritage

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.2. To improve the national system of management, planning and support for tourism and recreation, prioritize the development of cultural, ecological and active recreation as well as health tourism, and to promote the said activities, giving preference to projects ensuring the preservation of the environmental quality as well as rational use of recreational resources	1.2.1. To initiate projects intended to create national-significance public infrastructure for cultural tourism and active recreation (bicycle, water tourism routes)	2009–2020	State Tourism Department, Department of Cultural Heritage
		1.2.2. To create and introduce an efficiency monitoring system for tourism service quality and marketing	2009–2020	State Tourism Department, Ministry of Environment
	1.3. To develop scientifically sound systems for tourism resources research, market monitoring and human resource development that would enable successful development of the tourism sector and active formation of the image of Lithuania as a country attractive for tourists	1.3.1. To improve a consumer-oriented national system of tourism information	2010–2020	State Tourism Department
	1.4. To initiate projects that would increase the supply of cultural, communication, health improvement and other services as well as	1.4.1. To implement cultural measures to address the seasonality issue faced by resorts and resort territories	2012–2020	State Tourism Department, local authorities
		1.4.2. To promote the development of indoor and outdoor sports and recreational infrastructure (golf courses, racecourses, etc)	2009–2020	Ministry of Economy

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	entertainment	1.4.3. To promote the development of the accommodation service infrastructure with a preference to the network of economy class hotels and campsites in tourism centres and recreational locations	2009–2020	Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department, local authorities
		1.4.4. To take part in the European Commission's tourism project European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN)	2009–2011	State Tourism Department
	1.5. To promote and extend full support to the development of the public infrastructure of bicycle and water tourism and to improve dissemination of information	1.5.1. To prepare special plans and infrastructure development plans for national tourist bicycle tracks	2009–2015	State Tourism Department, local authorities, Ministry of Environment
		1.5.2. To initiate projects of national water tourism routes and their infrastructure development; to promote their implementation	2009–2015	State Tourism Department, Ministry of Economy, local authorities, Ministry of Environment
		1.5.3. To develop public awareness raising measures for the promotion of bicycle tourism	2011–2020	State Tourism Department
2. The short-term objectives include the development of high-quality infrastructure and services for cultural and active recreation, health improvement activities and rural tourism; systematic development of the capacities of human resources; ensuring of the protection and rational use of natural and cultural valuable objects	2.1. To expand the tourism potential in the country's regions and tourism centres through effective use of State, municipal and EU resources as well as assistance from other international funds	2.1.1. To implement the Programme for the Development of Rural Tourism and Non-traditional Crafts in Rural Areas	2009–2013	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department
		2.1.2. To implement the measures of the programme <i>Vilnius – European Capital of Culture 2009</i>	2009	Ministry of Culture, Vilnius City Municipality
	2.2. To coordinate tourism infrastructure development in the national territory with respect to the potential of recreational resources as well as ecological identity of the regions	2.2.1. To work out a methodology and conduct a study for territorial assessment of the potential of Lithuanian tourism and recreational resources in order to identify the locations with the highest tourism potential	2010–2011	Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department
		2.2.2. To support the activities of the national tourism information system and to update the information on a regular basis	2009–2010	State Tourism Department

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		2.2.3. To conduct a feasibility study for the development of amateur fishing in Lithuania	2010	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department
		2.2.4. To conduct a feasibility study for the development of aviation tourism	2011	Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Transport and Communications, State Tourism Department
	2.3. To disseminate information in Lithuania and abroad on the potential of tourism and recreational opportunities offered by Lithuania and to collect information on the natural and cultural valuable objects of the country	2.3.1. To promote and encourage the development of resort health improvement and SPA services, as a promising means of increasing tourism, health improvement and employment in resorts and resort areas	2009–2020	Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department, Ministry of Health
		2.3.2. To improve the performance of the information centres of local authorities and national parks, to expand the information presentation possibilities, and to reinforce the educational activities as well as the activities of information dissemination and image creation	2009–2010	Ministry of Environment, local authorities, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department
		III. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT		
		Employment		
1. The long-term objectives are to promote employment of the population, investments in the human capital and establishment of new high-quality jobs, to ensure equal opportunities for all to participate in the labour market and public life, and to reinforce social cohesion	1.1. To pursue an active policy of the improvement of employment and human resources, to enhance work quality and efficiency, and to reinforce social as well as territorial cohesion	1.1.1. To effectively apply active labour market policy measures combined with psychological social and/or vocational rehabilitation services reducing the number of people who are suffering from the highest degree of exclusion from the labour market	2010–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour, State Tourism Department
		1.1.2. To enhance the life-long learning system and to ensure the variety and accessibility of life-long learning services	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.1.3. To deal with the employee safety and health issues in an integrated fashion, based on a thorough situation analysis	2010–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.2. To raise the average annual employment rate to 70 per cent and to enable every Lithuanian citizen wishing and able to work to find a suitable job matching his capabilities	1.2.1. To ensure a receptive and inclusive labour market and to integrate the gender equality and equal opportunity aspect into the employment sphere	2010–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		1.2.2. To create the conditions necessary for reconciling family commitments and employment duties and to develop the infrastructure of social services	2010–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	1.3. To improve compliance with the labour market requirements and to create the conditions for the improvement of competencies and employment capacities, i.e. to enlarge investments in the human capital and make better use of them	1.3.1. To train a qualified workforce that is able to adjust to the market changes: to organize vocational education with a preference to work with the latest technologies; to promote participation of people, especially members of the social exclusion groups, in the process of continuous education	2009–2020	Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		1.3.2. To apply methods for predicting medium and long-term qualification requirements and to enhance vocational guidance system	2009–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		1.3.3. To create and develop a national qualification system and its infrastructure	2009–2020	Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	1.4. To promote labour market flexibility, adjust it to the employment guarantees, and to secure active involvement of the social partners in this process	1.4.1. Through the development of a social dialogue, to improve the legislation governing employment relations, thus aiming for a balance between labour market flexibility and employment guarantees	2009–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour, social partners
2. The medium-term objectives include enhancement of the labour force adaptability to changes; inclusion of more people into the labour	2.1. To increase the average annual employment rate in the country to 68.8 per cent, while maintaining the already achieved employment rates of 61 per cent for women and 53	2.1.1. To build a labour market that is accessible to all, to ensure equal employment opportunities for men and women as well as reconciliation of family and work commitments; to support job creation for the disabled and unemployed as well as self-employment of the disabled, the unemployed and parents of big families	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
market struggling to integrate into it, while ensuring high-quality and safe employment; reduction of unofficial employment; and strengthening of social partnership as well as social responsibility of companies	per cent for the elderly (people aged 55-64) at least at the same level	2.1.2. To develop youth entrepreneurship	2009–2011	Ministry of Education and Science, Department of Youth Affairs under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Ministry of Economy
	2.2. To increase the employment of job-seekers (especially youth) as well as labour attractiveness, to carry out measures for unemployment (in particular long-term unemployment) prevention, and improve the active labour market policy measures	2.2.1. To modernize labour market institutions, to enhance the systems of labour market monitoring and management indicators, to increase the productivity of applied measures and services, and to use the funds more rationally	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		2.2.2. To support workforce mobility	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	2.3. to reduce unofficial employment, to enable transition from illegal to legal employment, and to introduce new work organization methods	2.3.1. To reduce incentives of illegal employment, to carry out effective prevention of illegal employment, and to reinforce the coordination of interinstitutional control	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		2.3.2. To carry out measures promoting social responsibility of businesses	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	2.4. To create the conditions necessary for the elderly and	2.4.1. To develop a network of vocational rehabilitation services for the disabled	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	the disabled to remain in the labour market, to retain experienced staff in the labour market for as long as possible, to enhance health improvement activities, and to maximize the working capacity of the residents	2.4.2. Through coordination of measures of the policies of employment, public health, education and science, pensions and social partnership, to prolong the working age of people and to increase the participation of the elderly in the labour market	2010–2012	Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science
	2.5. To create the conditions necessary for life-long learning, to develop vocational guidance services, and to improve the assessment and recognition of the competencies acquired spontaneously or informally	2.5.1. To provide job-seekers with access to high-quality training and vocational guidance; to adopt and introduce training and vocational guidance programmes for persons with poor education	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		2.5.2. To enhance the system of providing life-long education services for adults	2009–2012	Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	2.6. To implement measures ensuring the preservation of working capacity, health and life at work	2.6.1. To establish a system of regular monitoring of occupational safety and health condition at work, intended for on-site collection of data about the working conditions of enterprises, bodies and organizations	2010–2011	Ministry of Social Security and Labour, State Labour Inspectorate
		2.6.2. To implement the Employee Safety and Health Strategy for 2009-2012	2009–2012	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		Poverty and social exclusion		
1. The long-term objectives are to increase the personal	1.1. To reduce the disparities and poverty of the society as	1.1.1. To plan and implement poverty and social exclusion prevention measures	2010–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
incomes of the residents, to reduce the differentiation and poverty of the society, to establish adequate working conditions, and to achieve effective social security, i.e. to create favourable conditions for families and to secure social integration of the socially disadvantaged groups of residents	well as the regional disparities of social development	1.1.2. To guarantee sufficient minimum assistance to low-income residents, taking into account the possibilities of the State budget of the Republic of Lithuania	2010–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
2. The mid-term objectives are to ensure adequate compensation of lost income for the recipients of social insurance benefits, especially pensions; to extend social support to the persons who need it the most; to ensure for every member of the social exclusion groups at least the minimum economic and social security; and to eradicate extreme poverty.	2.1. To maintain an adequate level of social insurance benefits, particularly pensions, and to adjust it to the financial capacities of the social insurance and pensions system	2.1.1. To carry out the monitoring of the pensions system in order to determine the development prospects of the current (state social insurance) and accumulative (pension funds) models of the Lithuanian pensions system	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	2.2. To guarantee adequate support for young families	2.2.1. To seek favourable conditions for families to reconcile employment and personal life	2009–2015	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
	2.3. To ensure the expedience and size of social assistance that guarantees a decent income to legitimate recipients of this assistance	2.3.1. To improve the system of financial social assistance to poor families as well as persons living alone	2009–2013	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		2.3.2. To develop and implement measures for the prevention of poverty and social exclusion; to improve the monitoring system of poverty and social exclusion, the necessary databases as well as the systems of information processing and analysis	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
2.4. To improve the accessibility and quality of social services	2.4.1. To improve the infrastructure of social services through the development of the capacities of social workers and their assistants	2009–2010	Ministry of Social Security and Labour	
		Public health		

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
1. The long-term objectives cover the improvement of the living standards of the Lithuanian population; increasing of the life expectancy, i.e. reduction of morbidity, mortality and disability, especially resulting from accidents and injuries, circulatory system and oncological diseases and mental health disorders; and improvement of the accessibility and quality of health care services	1.1. To join the efforts of the society and all the sectors with the aim to reduce the negative impacts of social and economic factors on human health: to increase the average life expectancy to 72.5 years and to achieve the current infant mortality rate of the EU old Member States;	1.1.1. To develop interdepartmental cooperation and to involve other sectors in the health improvement activities	2009–2020	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, local authorities
		1.1.2. To promote healthy nutrition and physical activity; to reverse the trends of spreading overweight and obesity	2009–2020	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Agriculture, local authorities
		1.1.3. To implement measures ensuring the health of mothers and children	2009–2020	Ministry of Health, local authorities

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.2. To reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol and psychoactive substances	1.2.1. To evaluate possible effects on human health; to plan and implement measures for mitigating the negative effects of addictive diseases	2009–2020	Ministry of Health, local authorities, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of the Interior, Drug Control Department under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as "Drug Control Department")
	1.3. To reduce the injury rate, as well as morbidity and mortality resulting from chronic non-infectious diseases	1.3.1. To carry out prevention of chronic non-infectious diseases with special attention to the prevention of addictive diseases as well as to public mental health	2009–2020	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Drug Control Department
	1.4. To improve the accessibility and quality of the health care services provided to the residents	1.4.1. To ensure safe, good quality and effective personal and public health care services, according to the EU requirements	2011–2020	Ministry of Health
	1.5. To reduce the health differences among Lithuanian regions as well as between men and women	1.5.1. To develop the infrastructure of resorts and resort territories: to enlarge the variety and scope of health improvement and treatment services and improve their accessibility to different consumers	2009–2020	Ministry of Economy, local authorities, Ministry of Health
		1.5.2. To carry out research into public health in order to reduce health disparities among regions and between men and women	2009–2010	Ministry of Health

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.6. To perform prevention and control of communicable diseases	1.6.1. To carry out prevention of communicable diseases (especially flu, infections that can be controlled by vaccination, infections carried by food, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases)	2009–2020	Ministry of Health
2. The short-term objectives are to develop a modern and effective public health care system based on co-operation among social partners and promotion of healthy lifestyle, healthy environment as well as accessible and proper health care	2.1. To reduce mortality from accidents and injuries	2.1.1. To develop and implement injury prevention measures	2009–2010	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Interior
	2.2. To stabilize the mortality of residents aged under 65 related to circulatory system diseases	2.2.1. To promote healthy lifestyle, increase physical activity of children, youth and other age groups; to promote healthy nutrition	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
	2.3. To improve the mental health of the population and reduce the number of suicides; pay particular attention to the prevention of addictive diseases	2.3.1. To implement the Mental Health Strategy and its implementation programme	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
		2.3.2. To implement alcohol use reduction measures	2009–2010	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Transport and Communications, local authorities, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of the Interior
	2.3.3. To implement measures to fight smoking, especially among children and youth	2009–2010	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Transport and Communications, local authorities, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of the Interior	
2.3.4. To carry out drug control and prevention of drug addiction and psychoactive substances	2009–2010	Drug Control Department, Ministry of Health, Prison Department under the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Education and Science		

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		2.3.5. To carry out public health monitoring	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
		2.3.6. To perform health research	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
	2.4. To improve the management of health risk factors	2.4.1. To enhance the assessment of public health effects	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
		2.4.2. To carry out the monitoring of public health risk factors	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
		2.4.3. To carry out research into health risk factors	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
	2.5. To ensure rapid response to public health threats	2.5.1. To carry out the Programme for the Implementation of the Provisions of the International Health Regulations of the World Health Organization, adopted at the assembly of the World Health Organization on 23 May 2005, in Lithuania for 2007-2012	2009–2010	local authorities, Ministry of Health
		2.5.2. To improve the capacities of public health care personnel	2009–2010	Ministry of Health
	2.6. To reinforce public health care in municipalities, i.e. to bring health care closer to the communities	2.6.1. To improve the public health care services provided by the local authorities: to establish public health offices which will facilitate dealing with the relevant public health care problems experienced by a particular area and stimulate health improvement activities	2009–2010	local authorities, Ministry of Health
		Education and science		
1. The long-term objectives are to educate independent, active and responsible members of society and to develop the intellectual potential of	1.1. To ensure accessibility of education of different levels	1.1.1. To lay down the main provisions regarding education for sustainable development and creation of a knowledge society in the instruments governing educational activities of different levels	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
	1.2. To create a continuously learning society and to	1.2.1. To enable people to obtain both formal and non-formal education	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
society, so that knowledge and science may ensure sustainable implementation of economic, social and environmental objectives	provide life-long learning opportunities to persons wishing to change or improve their qualifications	1.2.2. To use flexible forms and methods of learning and studies which enable working people to obtain, continue or improve education on all levels	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
	1.3. To promote sustainable development ideas on all levels of education	1.3.1. To carry out research into education content and methods and monitor education for sustainable development	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.3.2. To initiate and develop a national network of competence in education for sustainable development	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
	1.4. To ensure systematic development of science and technologies that would allow building a knowledge society based on science, the latest technologies with a lower environmental impact as well as innovations	1.4.1. To develop and implement teacher in-service training programmes based on the latest scientific achievements, which would cover the topics of sustainable development	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.4.2. To encourage businesses to invest in research and participate in the development and implementation of innovation, reinforcing the triangle of studies, research and innovation	2010–2020	Ministry of Economy
		1.4.3. To regularly develop and update informational and other materials on education for sustainable development; to ensure their dissemination	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
	1.5. To implement the Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) as well as the Strategy's Vilnius Framework	1.5.1. To conduct monitoring of the implementation of the National Sustainable Development Education Programme based on the indicators of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development	2010–2015	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.5.2. To implement the National Sustainable Development Education Programme for 2007-2015	2009–2015	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.5.3. To regularly update the website on education for sustainable development	2010–2020	Ministry of Education and Science

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.6. To carry out inter-branch and interdisciplinary research covering social and natural sciences, to stimulate their interaction with the policy-making process, and to make sure the decision-making is based on research findings and on the integration of economic, social and environmental objectives and tasks as well as implementing measures	1.6.1. To implement regular controls of the quality of education, to take into account the needs of sustainable development of the society as well as the labour market changes, and to improve the procedure for the assessment of the quality of education	2009–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.6.2. To initiate international projects, programmes and networks for research into sustainable development and to participate in the implementation thereof	2009–2020	all the ministries
		1.6.3. To promote cooperation between scientific and educational institutions and businesses	2009–2020	Ministry of Education and Science
2. The short-term objectives are to ensure rapid development of education, science and technologies and make sure that education, science and the latest technologies contribute to Lithuania's international competitiveness in all spheres of life and promote sustainable development of Lithuania	2.1. To reinforce the cohesion of secondary education, vocational education and higher education institutions	2.1.1. To draft amendments to the provisions of the State Education Strategy for 2003-2012, approved by Order No IX-1700 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 4 July 2003	2010	Ministry of Education and Science
	2.2. To stimulate interaction between science, technology development and business; to develop advanced technologies with a smaller negative impact on the environment	2.2.1. To use economic and organizational instruments to increase participation in international scientific and educational exchanges as well as in international programmes for research and advanced technology development	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science
	2.3. To make knowledge and science important factors which help to ensure rapid economic and social development, effective use of	2.3.1. To reform the network of educational institutions	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science
		2.3.2. To substitute active education methods based on self-sufficiency, action and responsibility for the traditional methods of passive education and studying	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	natural resources, clean and healthy environment and rapid creation of a knowledge-based society	2.3.3. To increase computerization of secondary schools and to improve the methods of gaining and using knowledge	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science
		2.3.4. To carry out research for sustainable development, as one of the national priorities of science	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science
	2.4. To increase the efficiency and international competitiveness of research and to slow down the brain drain.	2.4.1. By way of improving the conditions for research and funding, to reduce the brain drain and to encourage Lithuanian scientists having gained research experience abroad to return to national scientific institutions	2009–2010	Ministry of Education and Science
		Preservation of cultural identity		
1. The long-term objectives are to preserve the Lithuanian language, the ethnic and regional culture of the Lithuanians, the historical heritage of Lithuanian culture, as well as the cultural peculiarity of the national communities residing in Lithuania	1.1. To form the value system of Lithuanian citizens in relation to Lithuanian culture and help them learn about and understand the distinctiveness and peculiarities of Lithuanian culture	1.1.1. To implement the Long-term Strategy for the Development of Ethnic Culture	2010–2020	Ministry of Culture
	1.2. To purposefully build a sustainable rural community capable of preserving and transferring to the future generations the tangible and spiritual heritage of the Lithuanian rural community, which is based on the national cultural values	1.2.1. To implement the most valuable measures for increasing the appreciation of the significance of cultural heritage; to improve the records and promotion of cultural heritage	2009–2020	Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture (hereinafter referred to as "Department of Cultural Heritage")
		1.2.2. To organize and implement monitoring of the protection of cultural objects	2009–2020	Department of Cultural Heritage
	1.2.3. To implement the Programme for the Protection and Market Development of National Heritage Products and Development of Crafts	2009–2015	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, State Tourism Department	

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.3. To secure protection and continuity of the Lithuanian language and to promote its development in order to meet the needs of the knowledge society	1.3.1. To improve the legal foundation for the use of Lithuanian as the State language	2010–2020	State Lithuanian Language Commission
		1.3.2. To ensure integration of the Lithuanian library collections into the digital space of European cultural heritage	2009–2013	Ministry of Culture
	1.4. To cherish ethnic culture and local traditions and to protect cultural heritage and its value	1.4.1. To improve the education of the public by including key knowledge on cultural valuable objects and protection thereof into the general programmes of schools of general education and to recommend including them into high education programmes	2011–2015	Ministry of Education and Science
		1.4.2. To transfer ethnic cultural heritage to modern storage media; to conduct ethnic culture research	2011–2020	Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Culture
	1.5. To support culture and education of ethnic communities living in Lithuania	1.5.1. To implement the provisions of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in Lithuania	2009–2020	Ministry of Culture
2. The short-term objectives are to ensure the protection of cultural heritage through reinforcing the responsibility of public authorities and society for the preservation of cultural heritage	2.1. To encourage as active public participation as possible in the protection of the distinctiveness of Lithuania and its ethnic regions	2.1.1. To inform the public about the remaining cultural values, ethnic peculiarities, local traditions through the national and local mass media, in order to have broader public and, in particular, youth involvement in their protection and preservation	2009–2010	Department of Cultural Heritage
		2.1.2. To complete the restoration of the Royal Palace of the Lithuanian Grand Duchy; to celebrate the millennium anniversary of Lithuania; and to organize the events of the project <i>Vilnius – European Capital of Culture</i>	2010	Ministry of Culture, local authorities

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	2.2. To develop the regional cultural policy and protect regional distinctions of cultural heritage	2.2.1. To develop regional programmes for the protection of cultural heritage objects and sites, which form part of the regional development programmes, and to organize their implementation	2009–2010	Department of Cultural Heritage, local authorities
		2.2.2. To improve funding system for the maintenance work on cultural heritage objects	2009–2010	Ministry of Culture
		2.2.3. As part of rural development programmes, to envisage measures for the revival and protection of cultural heritage and traditions	2009–2010	local authorities
		Sustainable consumption		
1. The long-term objectives: in the face of growing total consumption of products and services, to make sure that the growth does not worsen the environmental quality, with a preference to environment-friendly services and products that are produced and used with the smallest amount of energy and other natural resources, without toxic substances and which have the lowest possible impact on the environment throughout the life-cycle	1.1. To make sure the environment-friendly (green) procurement covers the entire public sector and matches the leading EU states average in this sphere	1.1.1. To draft and implement amendments to the National Green Procurement Implementation Programme, approved by Resolution No 804 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 8 August 2007 with a view to set the implementing measures for the National Green Procurement Implementation Programme for 2012-2016	2011	Ministry of Environment
		1.1.2. To regularly update the lists of products whose green procurement is subject to environmental criteria as of the following year (to form new groups of respective products on a regular basis)	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment
		1.1.3. To periodically establish the criteria for green procurement for new product groups	2010–2020	Ministry of Environment
	1.2. To promote individual environment-friendly (green) procurement as well as the use of eco-products	1.2.1. To support public organizations actively encouraging society to shift to environment-friendly (green) procurement as well as the use of eco-products	2009–2020	Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
	1.3. To provide contracting authorities and the public with methodological assistance on the issues of green procurement	1.3.1. To devise advisory and informational publications on green procurement and to distribute them to contracting authorities as well as to the public	2010–2020	Public Procurement Office under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as "Public Procurement Office")
	1.4. To enforce sustainable consumption standards at public and local authorities and bodies	1.4.1. To introduce the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and the environmental protection management system based on LST EN ISO14001:2005	2009–2020	all the ministries and local authorities
2. The short-term objectives are to explore the attitudes of the consumers, the consumption habits and behaviour, to establish the environment-friendly consumption priorities, and to work out and start implementing the sustainable consumption policy based on the use of products and services having the lowest possible negative impact on the environment	2.1. To conduct research into the attitudes, habits and behaviour of consumers and to set the priorities for environment-friendly consumption	2.1.1. To periodically upgrade the Green Procurement Training Programme	2009–2011	Public Procurement Office, Ministry of Environment
		2.1.2. To organize green procurement training for contracting authorities	2009–2011	Public Procurement Office, Ministry of Environment
	2.2. To encourage producers to expand the manufacturing of products having the EU and /or Lithuanian eco-labelling	2.2.1. To simplify the procedure of obtaining the Lithuanian eco-label	2009–2010	Ministry of Environment
		2.2.2. On the green procurement website, to provide information on environment-friendly products, environmental criteria and other information useful to the contracting authorities conducting green procurement	2009–2011	Ministry of Environment
		2.2.3. To adapt the information system of the Public Procurement Office to collect green procurement statistics	2009–2011	Public Procurement Office

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		IV. TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT		
1. The long-term objectives are to ensure consistent territorial development of the country, favourable conditions for social and economic development, and a good environmental state throughout the national territory	1.1. To reorganize the existing territorial planning system and to create a modern stable, transparent, convenient and logical system of territorial planning and implementation	1.1.1. To draft a new version of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Territorial Planning, improving the management of the territorial planning process	2010	Ministry of Environment
		1.1.2. To upgrade the information system of the registers of territorial planning documents by integrating the solutions of State and municipal territorial planning into a single system; to establish, introduce and organize the system of territorial planning monitoring with the aim to improve the management of the territorial planning process	2012	Ministry of Environment
	1.2. To reduce the territorial differences in the living standards and to ensure faster economic development of the country's regions and problematic territories that are below the national average, to reduce the pendular migration to the cities, thus reducing the needs for transportation ensuing environmental pollution and climate change	1.2.1. To develop and support local employment initiative projects and other community measures to increase employment and to reduce poverty and exclusion as well as territorial disparities	2011–2020	Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Ministry of the Interior
		1.2.2. To regularly update urban and district development plans in line with the sustainable development principles	2010–2020	local authorities
		1.2.3. To draft the Law Amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Drinking Water Supply and Wastewater Management to ensure the development of the infrastructure of drinking water supply and wastewater management as well as the accessibility of drinking water supply and wastewater management in order to reduce the development disparities between cities and other residential areas and to speed up the development of backward regions	2009	Ministry of Environment
		1.2.4. To prepare and adopt guidelines for local authorities regarding the connection of new customers to the drinking water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure	2010	Ministry of Environment

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		1.2.5. To organize the implementation of projects for the modernization and development of wastewater treatment carried out in agglomerations with more than 2 000 residents	2010	Ministry of Environment, Environmental Project Management Agency under the Ministry of Environment
2. The short-term objectives are to optimize the system of public and local authorities and bodies as well as the distribution of their functions; to strengthen the local communities, to solve the economic and social development issues of the problematic areas as soon as possible, and to stop their depopulation processes	1.3. To ensure a positive environment for the interaction and partnership between cities and rural areas	1.3.1. To develop and implement projects aimed at economic growth and employment of rural areas	2011–2020	local authorities, Ministry of Agriculture
		1.3.2. To promote adaptation of environmental and cultural heritage objects for tourist and recreational needs	2011–2020	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Culture
		1.3.3. To draft and approve the Coastal Zone Management Programme for 2014-2018 taking into consideration the productiveness of the implemented coastal management measures	2013	Ministry of Environment, local authorities
		2.1.1. To develop and approve planning norms for cities, towns and villages (residential areas)	2009	Ministry of Environment
		2.1.2. To complete the preparation of comprehensive plans for local authorities and parts thereof (cities, towns)	2009–2010	local authorities, Ministry of Environment
		2.1.3. To develop and implement development programmes for problematic and backward areas; to administer and use the EU Structural Funds properly	2009–2020	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		2.1.4. To conduct monitoring of social and economic development of the regions and to improve the monitoring system of the regional social and economic development as well as strategic documents of the national regional policy	2009–2020	Ministry of the Interior

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		2.1.5. To work out and approve a concept for the special plan of the management of public recreational areas (water bodies and their coastal areas), setting out the principles for the protection, management and use of and economic activities in State areas intended for public recreation and leisure	2011	Ministry of Environment
	2.2. To strengthen local authorities and bodies as well as to build their capacities	2.1.6. To draft a new version of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Territorial Planning, obliging the local authorities to prepare detailed plans for recreational areas by elaborating the comprehensive plans of the territories of local authorities	2010	Ministry of Environment
		2.1.7. To set the trends of the Lithuanian urban development policy with the aim to form a sustainable urban development policy, as well as the plan of implementing measures for 2011-2016	2009	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Culture
		2.2.1. To create a permanent system for competency development of specialists of local authorities	2009–2010	local authorities
		2.2.2. To create a financial and legal mechanism encouraging investments in the economy of backward areas	2009–2010	Ministry of the Interior
		2.2.3. To upgrade the Integrated Computer System for Environmental Information Management (ICSEIM) in order to ensure the publishing of environmental data and information	2012	Ministry of Environment
		2.3.1. To initiate programmes and support projects guiding the economic and social potential of problematic areas towards service provision as well as adaptation of the natural environment and cultural heritage objects to serve the needs of tourism and recreation	2009–2010	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economy, State Tourism Department

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
		2.3.2. To implement measures for 2008-2012 for the project of the Lithuanian Baltic coastal zone restoration and preservation, financed from the EU resources	2009–2012	Ministry of Environment, local authorities
		2.3.3. To prepare and approve eco-geological guidelines, according to types of economic activities in the Lithuanian territory, and to draw up a map of these guidelines	2010	Ministry of Environment, Lithuanian Geological Survey under the Ministry of Environment (hereinafter referred to as "Lithuanian Geological Survey")
		2.3.4. To draft and approve methodological instructions for the use of geological information in territorial planning	2010	Ministry of Environment, Lithuanian Geological Survey
	2.4. To encourage participation of the public in the management of local authorities	2.4.1. To create the legal and economic preconditions for active participation of communities of residents in the decision-making process affecting their living areas	2009–2010	Ministry of the Interior, local authorities
		2.4.2. To develop a publicly accessible information system of potentially polluted and polluted areas	2010	Ministry of Environment, Lithuanian Geological Survey
		2.4.3. To draft amendments to the provisions of the Public Participation in the Process of Territorial Planning, approved by Resolution No 247 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 14 March 2007 in order to create better conditions for public participation in the elaboration of territorial planning decisions	2011	Ministry of Environment
		V. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION		

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
1. The long-term objectives are to contribute to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals, to the securing of worldwide peace, to the reduction of gaps between the developed and developing countries, to the integration of the developing countries into the global economy and their sustainable development, and to the prevention of conflicts.	1.1. To achieve compliance of the Lithuanian development cooperation policy with the principles and goals of the EU development cooperation policy.	1.1.1. To participate in the implementation of the EU development cooperation policy and to adopt the best practices of the EU Member States in this area	2009–2020	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	1.2. To increase Lithuania's official development aid with due regard for the national financial capacities.	1.2.1. To implement the EU international commitments undertaken in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000, at the Monterrey Summit in 2002, in the Johannesburg Plan for Sustainable Development of 2002, and at the Millennium Goals review summit in 2005	2009–2020	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		1.2.2. To analyze the current and new sources of funding and support forms for sustainable development	2009–2020	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		1.2.3. To maximise the involvement of Lithuanian stakeholders in the implementation of development cooperation projects	2009–2020	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		1.2.4. To develop a Plan for Increasing Lithuanian Official Development Aid until 2015	2009	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. The short-term objectives are to contribute to the EU development cooperation development in accordance with the EU obligations and to pursue Lithuanian	2.1. To ensure the payment of Lithuania's obligatory contributions to international organizations which form part of Lithuania's official development aid	2.1.1. To ensure timely payment of obligatory contributions to the international organizations by Lithuania	2009–2010	Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Objectives	Tasks	Task implementation measures	Implementation period (year)	Implementing bodies
bilateral development cooperation projects in priority states.	2.2. To build the administrative capacities of the management of the bilateral and multilateral projects and programmes pursued by Lithuania.	2.2.1. To consult other EU Member State representatives regarding the methodology of administering the development cooperation policy	2009–2010	Ministry of Foreign Affairs