

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Third National Report
Lithuania

Ministry of the Environment
Vilnius, 2005

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A. REPORTING PARTY

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Information on the preparation of the report

Box I.

Please provide information on the preparation of this report, including information on stakeholders involved and material used as a basis for the report.

The Third National Report has been prepared with financial assistance from UNDP Lithuania programme, within the frame of Global Environment Facility funded project "Preparation of the Third National Report on Biodiversity: GEF Additional Funding for Biodiversity Enabling Activities".

For the preparation of the Third National Report the activities have been carried out as follow: synthesis biodiversity information, building upon previous activities, studies, experiences that were used for the preparation of the Lithuanian Second National Report. The preparation process also used extensive consultation with the full range of national stakeholders, including NGOs, local authorities and communities in order to ensure perspectives of all national stakeholders are taken into account in the preparation of the Third National Report. Synthesis of the key sources of relevant biodiversity information was focused on the main strategic documents as follow: Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1998), First National Report to the CBD (1998), Second National Report to the CBD (2002), Environmental Protection Strategy for Lithuania (1996), Strategy of Agriculture and Rural Development (2000), Rural Development Plan (2005), Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Implementation Strategy and Action Plan (2002), National Inland Waters Management Programme (2001 – 2005), National Strategy of Sustainable Development (2003). The relevant other sectoral strategic documents, programmes, regulations have been taken into consideration as well. In addition to the biodiversity thematic assessment, it was used the consultation mechanisms (workshops, surveys etc) and expert networks existing in Lithuania. This additional information was used for key gaps identification.

Results of the project "National Capacity Self – assessment for Global Environmental Management: Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation (LT)" were used for gap assessment in the field of biodiversity conservation. The main gaps are identified in the field of the implementation of the Convention of the Biological Diversity.

B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES

Box II.

Please provide an overview of the status and trends of various components of biological diversity in your country based on the information and data available.

In the last fifteen years Lithuania was under big economical development changes. Former economical system collapse, but recently it is growing rapidly. Agriculture was quite extensive for many years, but it become intensive in different regions. Upon grow of economical developments, biodiversity protection issues became more important. In pre – accession to the European Union (EU) period, Lithuania transposed main EU requirements to national legislation. Nature conservation requirements, especially Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (the Habitats Directive, 92/43/EEC), and Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the Birds Directive, 79/409/EEC), have been transposed to national nature conservation legislation before accession in 2004. Lithuania is being developed EU ecological network Natura 2000. Having biodiversity conservation not priority, with accession to EU, biodiversity conservation issues have been prioritized.

Biodiversity protection in Lithuania is based on main Laws: “The Law on Protected Animal, Plant and Fungi Species and Communities” (1997, amended in 2001), “The Law on Wild Animals” (1997, amended in 2001), “The Law on Wild Plants” (1999), “The Law on Protected Areas” (1993, new wording in 2001). Biodiversity protection requirements are introduced in the main environmental legal act “The Law on Environment Protection” (1992, amended and supplemented in 1996, 1997, 2000, 2001) as well as in the Law on Forestry (1994, new wording in 2001), “The Law on Environment Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economical Activities” (2000). Based on these Laws, Lithuanian Government has adopted several supporting Decisions, Ministerial Orders, Regulations and Rules concerning protection of biodiversity. Biodiversity protection legislation has been amended according European Union legislation requirements (the Birds 79/409/EEC and the Habitats 92/43/EEC Directives, Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the Protection of Species of Wild Fauna and Flora by Regulating Trade therein).

In general, Lithuanian nature conservation legislation corresponds to the Convention on Biological Diversity”.

To implement the *Article 6* of the Convention, Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has been elaborated and adopted by the Order of the Ministry of Environment and ministry of Agriculture in 1998. According to the Article, main requirements of biodiversity protection have been integrated into Lithuanian sectoral strategic documents: Lithuanian Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (2000), Rural Development Plan (2004 – 2006), Strategy for Sustainable development in Lithuania (2003), Lithuanian Forest Policy and Implementation Strategy and Action Plan (2002), National Inland Waters Management Programme (2001 – 2005). Main provision of biodiversity protection has been introduced into Single Programming Document (2004 – 2005) which outlines using of European Union Funds (European Rural Development Fund, European Social Fund, etc).

To implement the *Article 7*, the Law on Environment Monitoring has been adopted in 1997. Following the Law and the Convention requirements the National Environment Monitoring Programme has been elaborated and adopted in 1998. In 2005 programme has been amended, especially according to European Union requirements. Environment Monitoring Programme contains sub – programmes. Biodiversity monitoring sub – programme is as a separate programme and contains these requirements.

Regarding to the implementation of the *Article 8* of the Convention, the national protected areas system has been created by the Law on Protected Areas and several regulations. Management of the protected areas is mainly based on spatial plans. The Law on Protected Areas (2001) as amended and related Governmental regulations outline strategic document: Nature Management Plan which is being recently elaborated mostly for Special Protected Areas (SPA) and potential Sites of Community Importance Sites (pSCI) which form EU ecological network Natura 2000. Species Conservation Plans falls under the Law on Protected Animal, Plant and Fungi Species and Communities.

In order to implement the *Article 8* of the Convention, the legislation on plant ex – situ conservation has been put in place. It provides main requirements for regulation and management of plant collections and animals.

To implement provisions of the *Article 13* of the Convention, some measures have been taken into consideration, but education and public awareness programme is still under development. Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan provides information, sets training and education actions for each ecosystem types and species.

Regarding to the *Article 14* of the Convention, the Law on Environment Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity and relevant regulations concerning procedures were put in place. Biodiversity protection requirements are incorporated into the legislation. It also foresees main provisions concerning minimizing negative impact and establishing of compensation measures.

Priority Setting

1. Please indicate, by marking an "X" in the appropriate column below, the level of priority your country accords to the implementation of various articles, provisions and relevant programmes of the work of the Convention.

Article/Provision/Programme of Work	Level of Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
a) Article 5 – Cooperation		X	
b) Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use		X	
c) Article 7 - Identification and monitoring		X	
d) Article 8 – <i>In-situ</i> conservation		X	
e) Article 8(h) - Alien species		X	
f) Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions			X
g) Article 9 – <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation		X	
h) Article 10 – Sustainable use of components of biological diversity	X		
i) Article 11 - Incentive measures		X	
j) Article 12 - Research and training		X	
k) Article 13 - Public education and awareness			X
l) Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts		X	
m) Article 15 - Access to genetic resources		X	
n) Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology			X
o) Article 17 - Exchange of information		X	
p) Article 18 – Scientific and technical cooperation		X	
q) Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits			X
r) Article 20 - Financial resources			X
s) Article 21 - Financial mechanism			X
t) Agricultural biodiversity		X	

u) Forest biodiversity	X		
v) Inland water biodiversity		X	
w) Marine and coastal biodiversity		X	
x) Dryland and subhumid land biodiversity			N/A
y) Mountain biodiversity			N/A

Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation

2. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the provisions of the Articles of the Convention (5, 6,7, 8, 8h, 8j, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15,16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)

3 = High Challenge	1 = Low Challenge
2 = Medium Challenge	0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome
N/A = Not applicable	

Challenges	Articles																	
	5	6	7	8	8h	8j	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
a) Lack of political will and support	1	2	2	2	1	N/A	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	1	2	2	1	1	N/A	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	1	2	2	1	1	N/A	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	1	2	1	1	1	N/A	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

e)	Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	2	1	2	1	1	N/A	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
f)	Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	1	1	1	1	2	N/A	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
g)	Loss of traditional knowledge	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
h)	Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	N/A	1	2	2	1	N/A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
i)	Lack of accessible knowledge and information	N/A	1	1	1	1	N/A	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
j)	Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	1	1	1	2	1	N/A	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
k)	Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	N/A	1	1	2	1	N/A	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
l)	Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	N/A	2	N/A	1	2	N/A	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	N/A	N/A

m)	Lack of financial, human, technical resources	1	2	2	3	2	N/A	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	3
n)	Lack of economic incentive measures	1	2	2	2	2	N/A	2	2	N/A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
o)	Lack of benefit-sharing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
p)	Lack of synergies at national and international levels	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
q)	Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	N/A	1	1	1	1	N/A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
r)	Lack of effective partnerships	2	2	1	3	2	N/A	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1
s)	Lack of engagement of scientific community	2	2	1	1	1	N/A	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A
t)	Lack of appropriate policies and laws	1	1	2	1	2	N/A	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1
u)	Poverty	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3
v)	Population pressure	1	2	0	1	1	N/A	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
w)	Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	N/A	2	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
x)	Lack of capacities for local communities	2	2	2	2	2	N/A	N/A	2	2	2	1	1	N/A	N/A	1	1	N/A	1

y)	Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	N/A	2	N/A	2	2	N/A	N/A	1	2	N/A	1	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1
z)	Weak law enforcement capacity	1	2	2	2	2	N/A	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
aa)	Natural disasters and environmental change	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	1	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
bb)	Others (please specify)																		

2010 Target

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VII/30, annex II, decided to establish a provisional framework for goals and targets in order to clarify the 2010 global target adopted by decision VI/26, help assess the progress towards the target, and promote coherence among the programmes of work of the Convention. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box III.

Goal 1	Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes.		
Target 1.1	At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a)	No		
b)	Yes, the same as the global target		
c)	Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X
Please provide details below.			
The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan contains prioritized conservation problems and developed goals at geosystematic, ecosystematic, species and genetic levels only.			
There are no mentioned specific 10% target in other planning documents as well.			
Natura 2000 network of protected areas is under development.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details

<p>a) Agricultural</p>	<p>The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has prioritized certain actions on conservation of agricultural biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop regulations for landscape management zones for the protection of ecosystems in agrarian areas; - to establish methods for an integrated ecological assessment of agrarian areas; - to highlight measures for the conservation of natural landscape and biodiversity while preparing land management plans; - to provide a scientific basis for the program of sustainable and "bio-organic" agricultural development.
<p>b) Inland water</p>	<p>The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has prioritized certain actions on conservation of inland waters biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop wetland protection regulations; - to establish municipal reserves for conservation of valuable wetland sites; - to develop methods for restoration of damaged wetlands (excavated peat lands); - to develop program for restoration of peatlands; - Include measures for the protection of water bodies and their biota in the development of water management projects; - to conduct research of Lithuanian wetland vegetation and fungi composition, and assess their status. <p>River basin management plans are being developed for main basin districts which are going to focus on protection measures of whole ecosystem complexes.</p>

c) Marine and coastal	X	<p>The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has prioritized certain actions on conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to establish laws for protective zones of bird wintering sites, resting sites, fish spawning grounds by amending the Law on Protected areas, and approve their formal procedure; - to develop a network of marine and lagoon strict nature reserves and reserves and Ramsar sites, for the protection of ecosystems and their biodiversity; - to include measures for the protection of biological values and natural landscape in the development of the general Klaipėda district plan and Integrated Coastal Zone Plan; - to prepare and implement specialized training biological interpretive paths projects in the Curonian Spit national park and Pajūris and the Nemunas River Delta regional parks; - to inventory the most valuable aquatic areas for biodiversity, in the Baltic Sea, Curonian Lagoon and the coastal zone; - Inventory the Baltic Sea and Curonian Lagoon fish resources, determining their population trends.
d) Dry and subhumid land	-	
e) Forest	X	<p>The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has prioritized certain actions on conservation of forest biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop a program of biodiversity conservation in forests; - to develop a program for establishment of small strict nature reserves for the protection of the diversity of forest types; - Develop a program of specialized measures for the protection of forest communities which are at the boundaries of their range; - Develop programs for restoration of Lithuanian broad-leaved forests.
f) Mountain	-	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No	X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		
Please provide details below.		

Lithuania has not revised Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan since adoption in 1997. The target has been not incorporated to other strategic planning documents.

In spite that this target is not incorporated into planning documents, but 14,65% of Lithuanian territory is protected. Actually it is implemented.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

In general, this target is implemented already by protecting 14,65% of Lithuanian territory. Recently Lithuania designated new protected areas Natura 2000 network: Special Protected Areas (SPA) under the Birds Directive and nominated Sites of Community Interest (pSCI) which will increase of protected areas up to 17-18%.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

There are no indicators related to this target. Meanwhile there is the Order of the Minister of Environment concerning criteria of designation of Natura 2000 network. This framework is being designated according to the approved criteria.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The main challenge to achieve the target is establishment of national protected areas and protected areas of European Union importance (Natura 2000 network).

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

List of national protected areas and Natura 2000 sites can be found on: www.vstt.lt

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan can be found on Convention website.

Box IV.

Target 1.2	Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a)	No		
b)	Yes, the same as the global target		
c)	Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X
Please provide details below.			
The target is not set in Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. Designation of protected areas is based on biodiversity conservation priorities and protection of ecosystems of various types (3.1; 3.11; 3.12; 3.13; 3.1.4; 3.1.5; 3.16), and protection of species (3.2). The strategy foresees the main provisions concerning designation of protected areas according to the values to conserve landscape and ecosystems elements. Meanwhile Law on Protected areas incorporate provisions on designation of protected areas in sites with high biodiversity values.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	There are no specific targets. But Rural Development Plan (2004 – 2006) has agro – environment programme which support organic agriculture and natural and semi – natural meadows management. The compensation schemes is being prepared for areas which restrictions in protected areas. The Order of Minister of Environment concerning selection and designation of Special Protected Areas and potential Sites of Community Importance is based on selection of sites with European Union biodiversity importance.

b) Inland water	X	<p>There are special national targets. Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan sets some actions related to this target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to include measures for the protection of water bodies and their biota in the development of water management projects; - to supplement monitoring programs on water bodies with studies of river biota and rare species. <p>The Order of Minister of Environment concerning selection and designation of Special Protected Areas and potential Sites of Community Importance is based on selection of sites of European Union biodiversity importance.</p>
c) Marine and coastal	X	<p>There are special national targets. Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan sets some actions related to this target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop a network of marine and lagoon strict nature reserves and reserves and Ramsar sites, for the protection of ecosystems and biota; - to inventory the most valuable aquatic areas for biodiversity, in the Baltic Sea, Curonian Lagoon and the coastal zone. <p>The Order of Minister of Environment concerning selection and designation of Special Protected Areas and potential Sites of Community Importance is based on selection of sites with European Union biodiversity importance.</p>
d) Dry and subhumid land	-	
e) Forest	X	<p>There are special national targets. Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan sets some actions related to this target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop a program of biodiversity conservation in forests; - to develop a program for establishment of small strict nature reserves for the protection of the diversity of forest types. <p>The Order of Minister of Environment concerning selection and designation of Special Protected Areas and potential Sites of Community Importance is based on selection of sites with European Union biodiversity importance.</p>
f) Mountain	-	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		
Please provide details below.		

No specific targets have been set of the strategic goals at the moment of developing Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. But Strategy sets main biodiversity conservation principles as followed:

- every decision which may have an impact upon biodiversity should be accepted with maximum caution, taking into consideration all possible consequences;
- all decisions which have an impact upon biodiversity should have sound scientific motivations and take into consideration potential environmental impacts;
- any activities, methods or materials which may adversely affect biodiversity have to be replaced with less harmful ones;
- any activities which pose a threat to biodiversity have to be relocated to other sites less valuable from a biological point of view, in cases where there is no possibility to change or neutralize them;
- biodiversity conservation should be based on an ecosystematic approach, the analysis of habitats and relations between species;
- in the protection of all species in-situ measures should be absolutely dominant, and ex-situ protection considered only as a supplement hereto;
- acceptance of full responsibility for biodiversity conservation in a region's territory, even when the biological objects occur in other countries, the same principle applies to separate regions of the country.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Biodiversity conservation was not priority field between different environment conservation sectors. Selection and designation of protected areas were based on mostly geographical criteria. In the transition period to join EU Lithuania transposed the Birds and the Habitats directive requirements. In order to select potential Natura 2000 sites Lithuanian experts started more actively carry out biodiversity inventory and select potential sites for Natura 2000 network. Selection of sites and creation of database was done by Lithuanian experts within Danish – Lithuanian project "Approximation of Lithuanian Capacity, Policies and Procedures on Nature Protection to EU Requirements" (1999 – 2001). Minister of Environment issued Order on selection of areas of Community importance (SPA and pSCI). These criteria were fully based on directives requirements to select and designate areas with high biodiversity value and importance to European Community. Until now 73 Special Protected Areas and 266 potential Sites of Community Importance have been designated. Part of these territories were protected, some of them are designated as new protected areas.

60 management plans are being prepared in the period of 2004 – 2005. Phare project "Protection of Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna and their Habitats through Implementation of CITES and the Bern and Bonn Conventions and the related EU legislation" is being prepared site management and species management plans.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

343 eligible for Natura 2000 network sites have been designated: SPA 8 % and pSCI 9,94 % of total Lithuanian territory.

3 strict nature reserves, 1 biosphere reserve, 5 national parks, 30 regional parks and 364 nature reserves, including 5 Ramsar sites, have been designated earlier. Recently nationally protected areas and Natura 2000 sites cover 14,65 % of Lithuanian territory.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

The main challenges in protected areas are to prevent unsustainable forestry, intensive agriculture, housing developments and intensive tourism prevention.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box V.

Goal 2	Promote the conservation of species diversity
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Target 2.1	Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups
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I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian has ratified Bonn Convention and Agreement of Protection of Bats in Europe, Bern, Ramsar and CITES Conventions. But there are no specific selected taxonomic groups that are targeted by Lithuanian legislation. Endangered and rare species are included in Lithuanian Red Data Book and have legally priority protection. Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan do not also foresee special protection measures for selected taxonomic groups.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		-	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		-	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Vilnius university, Institute of Botany, Institute of Ecology, Klaipeda university and some NGOs, like Entomological Society, are carrying out studies on selected taxonomical groups. The results of the research could be used for protection of most declining species in the future.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

The are no established indicators to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Main challenge is to prepare Biodiversity study programme, set by Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box VI .

Target 2.2	Status of threatened species improved
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X
Please provide details below.	

Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan has main provisions concerning species conservation:

- protection of species from persecution and intensive use,
- conservation of habitats by establishing protected areas and managing them in accordance with the requirements of their flora and fauna,
- environmental protection by limiting activities causing destruction of landscape and habitats and by reducing air, water and soil pollution.

The lists of species of priority interest are compiled and amended in accordance with the recommendations of international environmental organisations, European Council, International Conventions and the Lithuanian Red Data Book. The list of species of higher protection interest should include the species corresponding to at least one of the following criteria:

- species included in the Lithuanian Red Data Book and attributed to the categories Ex, E, V, R (0-3),
- species with considerable fraction of global or European population found in Lithuania (the criteria of importance must be approved),
- species found in Lithuania and declining on global or European scale, endemic species and subspecies.

The Law on Protected Animal, Plant, Fungi Species and Communities (1997) and related regulations foresees main provisions concerning improvement of threatened species status.

Lithuanian Red Data Book include 23 animal, 75 bird, 2 reptile, 5 amphibia, 7 fish, 7 mollusc, 226 vascular plant, 97 mosses, 12 algae, 63 lichens and 112 fungi species. Protection of the species from the list of Red Data Book is priority in relation to not threatened species.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	There are no any established targets in agricultural sector concerning threatened species. But Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan foreseen main provision concerning threatened species.
b) Inland water	X		There are no specific target, but conservation of threatened species are set in the Law on Fisheries and related legal acts (e.g. fishing rules, etc.).

c) Marine and coastal	X	<p>There are no specific target, but conservation of threatened species are set in the Law on Baltic Sea, Fisheries and related legal acts (e.g. fishing rules, etc.). Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets related goals to the target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus on establishing a legal institutional foundation, • adopt laws on sea protection and fisheries, • develop coastal protection regulations, • propose ratification of the Bonn Convention (ratified in 2001), • develop a legal basis for the protection of fish spawning grounds, • identify and give legal protection to bird wintering and resting sites, and fish spawning grounds.
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A	
e) Forest	X	<p>There are no specific target, but conservation of threatened species is set in the Law on Forest and related legal acts (e.g. forestry rules, etc.) as well as in the National Forest Conservation Programme.</p>
f) Mountain	N/A	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		
Please provide details below.		

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan foresee some specific goals concerning species protection:

“Protection programmes should be established and implemented in priority order for the species corresponding to the greater number of the criteria listed below:

I. State of population of international importance:

- population very small, close to critical survival point;
- population rapidly declining;
- expansion of population is hampered by lack of suitable habitats.

II. State of national population:

- population very small, close to critical survival point;
- population rapidly declining;
- expansion of population is hampered by lack of suitable habitats.

III. General state of species:

- easily endangered species exposed to frequent factors causing their extinction;
- inefficient protective measures”.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

The Law on Protected Animal, Plant, Fungi Species and Communities (1997) and related regulations provide some mechanisms for species protection. Species conservation projects (species action plans) should be prepared for specially protected species. National monitoring programme contains special sub – programme for selected threatened species.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

There are no specific indicators related to this target, but number and distribution range are used as main indicators for evaluation of threatened species status.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Integration of species protection in sectoral development programmes and species protection outside protected areas are most important challenges.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box VII.

Goal 3	Promote the conservation of genetic diversity
Target 3.1	Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets some provisions on the conservation of genetic diversity:

Genetic resources of plants include only those species, sorts, lines, hybrids and forms that are used by man. The priority should be attributed to the plants of local origin that are especially important to human needs, such as plants used for food, fodder, technical, medical and decorative purposes.

In order to conserve and increase plant genetic resources, comprehensive evaluation, selection and maintenance of genetic identity and formation of databases are necessary in specific collections and sites (in situ). The main goals are:

- research and identification of valuable forms,
- protection of genetic resources (ex-situ).

The Law on Wild Plant, Wild Animals set main provisions on conservation of genetic resources. The Law on Conservation of National Plant Genetic Resources sets target the same as the global target.

Lithuanian Plant Gene Bank is implementing programme for conservation of plant genetic diversity.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets main provisions of conservation local plant varieties and animal breeds. Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture, and Institute of Animal Science of Lithuanian Veterinary Academy and Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for maintaining of local plant varieties and animal breeds. This target is included in institutes and ministerial strategic plans.
b) Inland water	X		Lithuanian State Fisheries and Fish Breeding Center has some programmes for conservation of selected fish species and breeds.
c) Marine and coastal		X	There are no special programme concerning conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity genetic resources. Lithuanian State Fisheries and Fish Breeding Center has some programmes for conservation of selected fish species and breeds.
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A		

e) Forest	X	Lithuanian Forest Conservation Strategy sets main goals to maintain forest trees genetic resources. Institute of Forestry and Lithuanian Agriculture University carried out programmes and projects on conservation genetic resources.
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f) Mountain	N/A	
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III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X

Please provide details below.

The main provisions to maintain genetic diversity is set in Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Forest conservation and agriculture policies and legislation.

Lithuanian Rural development plan supports maintaining of local animal breeds.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

There are established 2 boards on coordination of conservation of genetic diversity under Ministry of Agriculture: one for plant species, second for animal species. But there any activities concerning conservation of wildlife genetic diversity.

Rural development plan subsidies for breeding of local animal breeds since 2004.

here are designated forest genetic reserves to maintain forest trees genetic diversity and resources.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Number of breded animals is main indicator for this target. Number of plant varieties and forest trees species are main indicators as well.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Lack of funding.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Websites of Ministry of Agriculture (www.zum.lt), Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture (www.lzi.lt), Institute of Animal Science of Lithuanian Veterinary (www.lgi.lt) and Lithuanian Forestry Institute (www.lvmi.lt) contain information on conservation on genetic diversity and resources. For more information look at the Article 15.

Box VIII .

Goal 4	Promote sustainable use and consumption.
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Target 4.1	Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity
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I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has the goals related to the target:

- *protect and restore game resources* by optimizing use of game and restoring populations which resources have been decreased;
- *protect and restore fish resources* by protecting spawning grounds of valuable fish species, by organizing artificial reproduction of valuable fish species, and by restocking lakes and rivers;
- *protect or restore non-timber forest products* by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a program for resources restoration;

National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Lithuanian Rural Development Plan foresees some provisions on sustainable management of natural resources.
b) Inland water	X		Lithuanian legislation sets fishing limits and foresees sustainable use of freshwater fisheries resources.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Lithuanian legislation sets fishing limits and foresees sustainable use of marine fisheries resources.
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A		
e) Forest	X		National Forest Conservation Programme sets main principles of sustainable use of forest. Forest cutting limits have been established for different tree stands. Legislation obliged forest owners to replant cut over forests. Hunting, picking of mushrooms and berries limits have been established as well.
f) Mountain	N/A		

II) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

There is no specific goal in the strategy, but main principles of sustainable use of biological resources are foreseen.

III) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

There is established forest green certification system (FSC – Forest Stewardship Council). All state forests are already certified FSC. Management of private forest is non-sustainable and private owners are not willing to join FSC yet.

Lithuanian Sustainable Development Strategy sets principles for sustainable use of biological resources.

IV) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Several indicators are used in environmental reports by sectors, e.g.: hunting (hunting limits, game population size, amount of hunting production), fishery (fishing limits and quotas, fish stocks, fishery production), forestry (timber amount, forest area, replanted forest area, age and structure of trees), amount of collected mushrooms and berries. But there are no officially approved indicators.

V) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Main challenges are establish eco – efficiency in private forestry, transforming intensive agriculture to extensive, incubation and releasing wider diversity fish species.

VI) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box IX.

Target 4.2 **Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced**

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes, the same as the global target | |
| c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established | |

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals on sustainable use and restoration of biological resources.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water	X		Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has a goal on restoration of freshwaters fish stocks: <i>protect and restore fish resources</i> by protecting spawning grounds of valuable fish species, by organizing artificial reproduction of valuable fish species, and by restocking lakes and rivers National Inland Waters Management Programme sets main provisions related to this target.
c) Marine and coastal		X	Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has a goal on restoration and protect fish spawning grounds.
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A		
e) Forest		X	Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has a goal on sustainable use of forest timber: - <i>protect or restore non-timber forest products</i> by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a program for resources restoration. Lithuanian Forest Conservation Programme sets main principles concerning unsustainable consumption and promote sustainable use of forest resources.
f) Mountain	N/A		

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan | X |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | X |

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Lithuanian Sustainable Development Strategy have related goals.

Forest Conservation Programme sets goal for sustainable use and restoration of forest resources.

National Inland Waters Management Programme sets goals for sustainable use and recovery of fish resources in inland waters.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Unsustainable consumption of timber take place in private forest. There are a lot of illegal forest cutting cases in private as well in state forests. Unsustainable consumption could be regarded by fishing smaller fish as it is recommended by fishery research institutions. Illegal fishery take place also. Restoration of fish stocks is not efficient.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Several indicators are used in environmental reports by sectors, e.g.: hunting (hunting limits, game population size, amount of hunting production), fishery (fishing limits and quotas, fish stocks, fishery production), forestry (timber amount, forest area, replanted forest area, age and structure of trees), amount of collected mushrooms and berries.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Main challenges are establish eco – efficiency in private forestry, transforming intensive agriculture to extensive, incubation and releasing wider diversity fish species.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box X.

Target 4.3		No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?				
a)	No			X
b)	Yes, the same as the global target			
c)	Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.				
Lithuania has ratified CITES convention in 2001 and EU Regulation 338/97 about wild animal and plant species protection by regulating trade is in force since joining EU in 2004.				
Illegal trade of endangered local species is not yet a problem in Lithuania. But there are some facts that some species juveniles or eggs of raptor birds (e.g. White - tailed Eagle) are illegally transported to other countries.				
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).				
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details	
a) Agricultural		X		
b) Inland water		X		
c) Marine and coastal		X		

d) Dry and subhumid land	-
e) Forest	X
f) Mountain	-

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Lithuanian Environment Protection Inspectorate issues special permits for importing and exporting any species which are included in CITES convention annexes.

It is issued 50 – 60 permission every year (55 permissions in 2004).

PHARE project on endangered species is carried out in the period 2004 – 2006. The project is focused on CITES Convention and one of the tasks is to train Custom officers responsible for endangered species trade.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

No indicators used.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Establish the national target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XI .

Goal 5	Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.		
Target 5.1	Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals for all habitat types: forest, coastal and Baltic Sea, inland waters, wetlands, meadows, agricultural lands. It is also evaluated impact from different development sectors on the different habitat types.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details

a) Agricultural	X	Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals related to the target: - <i>conserve and enrich human environment</i> by preventing destruction of natural ecosystems in agrarian and urban areas, by keeping up their restoration processes, and increasing biodiversity; - <i>conserve natural meadow ecosystems</i> by prohibiting their non-traditional use, by defining possibilities for restoring meadows.
b) Inland water	X	Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals related to the target: - <i>prevent further degradation of inland waters</i> by the regulation of their use, by not increasing anthropogenic loads in the coastal zone, by avoiding radical changes in hydro-ecological conditions; - <i>conserve wetland ecosystems by prohibiting exploitation of new wetlands</i> , by restoring peat lands, and by delineating measures for the conservation of valuable habitats.
c) Marine and coastal	X	Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals related to the target: - <i>prevent further degradation of the coastal ecosystems</i> by strictly limiting the intensity of use in coastal zones, by prohibiting construction close to the sea, protecting rare and declining habitats, and conserving wintering sites and fish spawning grounds of international importance.
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A	
e) Forest	X	Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals related to the target: - <i>avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems</i> by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure.
f) Mountain	N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goals related to the target (please see details above). There are sets of actions for prevention habitats degradation and loss for each habitat type.

Lithuanian Strategy for Sustainable Development has provisions concerning implementation of the target.

Forest Conservation Programme sets goals regarding the implementation of the target in forest habitats.

Lithuanian Rural Development Plan has provision to protected and restore agrarian semi-natural habitats. Agro-environmental programme support management of grasslands and wetlands, and strips along water bodies.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Loss and degradation of habitats are prevented by legislation: the Law on Environment Protection, Law on Forest, Law on Protected Areas, etc. and related legal acts.

Law on Environment Impact Assessment provides assessment of the proposed activities. More strictly impact assessment is carried out in protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

There are no specific indicators established. There are used some indicators in the environmental reports: loss of certain habitat areas, proportion of protected habitats, proportion of protected areas, proportion of afforested areas.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Prevention of loss and degradation of habitats are challenged by forestry, intensive agriculture and tourism.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XII.

Goal 6	Control threats from invasive alien species.		
Target 6.1	Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
The Law on Wild Plant (1999) and Regulation of the Ministry of Environment on import of new plant and fungi species (2000), The Law on Wild Animal (1997, amended 2001) and related regulations provide control for pathways for introducing species.			
Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goal and actions related to the target.			
The goal is as follow: <i>protect locally characteristic species and natural populations</i> by preventing the spread of adventitious and invasive species, and by enhancing research.			
The action is as follow: prepare study "Introduced and invasive species and their ecological role"			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	There are no specific target, but Lithuanian Plant Protection Inspectorate has programme and its task is to control import of invasive species.
b) Inland water		X	There are no specific target, but control is foreseen in legislation (see above).
c) Marine and coastal		X	There are no specific target, but control is foreseen in legislation (see above).
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A		
e) Forest		X	There are no specific target, but control is foreseen in legislation (see above).

f) Mountain **N/A**

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan

X

c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes

X

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets goal and actions related to the target.

The goal is as follow: *protect locally characteristic species and natural populations* by preventing the spread of adventitious and invasive species, and by enhancing research.

The action is as follow: prepare study "Introduced and invasive species and their ecological role"

In 2002 Ministry of Environment approved the Programme on Introduction, Reintroduction and Relocation and Action Plan.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

There are no big threats of invasive species to local species and habitats. But some species have negative impact on habitats and local species. American mink have large impact on bird species breeding in inland waters and wetlands. Plant *Heracleum sosnowsky* expanded in Lithuania and has negative impact on habitats and plant species.

There is no national programme to control specific invasive species abundance and distribution, but some research institutions, like Institute of Botany, Institute of Ecology, Klaipeda University, carry out research on invasive species.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

There are no special indicators. Research institutions have their own indicators to evaluate status of invasive species (abundance, distribution areas).

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Species action (management) plans to manage and control invasive species are under preparation. State authorities control import pathways, but natural distribution pathways and distribution within country is not controlled enough.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

See also answers for Target 6.2 and Article 8(h).

Box XIII.

Target 6.2

Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No

b) Yes, the same as the global target

X

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established

X

Please provide details below.

In Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan spreading of adventive and invading species was identified as the problem at species level, degradation of gene pool of introduced alien biota taxa – as a problem at genetic level. A

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets also targets which correspond to the global target: to protect locally characteristic species and natural population by preventing the spread of adventitious and invasive species, and by enhancing research;

avoid degradation of the gene pool of introduced alien biota taxa by ensuring maintenance of introduced taxa, strengthening basis for experiments.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		
b) Inland water	X		
c) Marine and coastal	X		
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest	X		
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X

Please provide details below.

In 2002 Ministry of Environment approved the Programme on Introduction, Reintroduction and Relocation and Action Plan, in which are set the main principles for prevention, public awareness raising, introduction, eradication, control and monitoring of alien and invasive species. Among various activities set in this Action plan (for 2002-2007) there are:

strengthening and preparation of legislation

strengthening of institutional capacities for prevention of introduction, trade and relocation of harmful alien species

creation of data base on alien bacteria, fungi, plant and phytoviruses;

creation of data base on alien dendroflora in forest ecosystems;

creation of data base on alien Baltic sea species;

creation of data base on animal species;

creation of consolidated data base on all alien species and integration of this data base into international information networks on alien species;

incorporation of monitoring of alien species into National monitoring programme;

preparation of specific monitoring programmes and implementation to track and control spreading and habitats of specific alien species;

control of adventitious dendroflora in Lithuanian forest ecosystems (6 separate actions are foreseen under this target);

evaluation of introduced tree species in Lithuanian forests (inventory of tree species, preparation of catalogue, estimation of spreading, adaptiveness and aggressiveness degree evaluation of ecological and economical damage or benefit);

creation of the list of invasive species;

identify invasive species origin, distribution, spreading routes and ways;

preparation of maps of invasive species distribution;

preparation of control and eradication plans for invasive species;

creation of information system for public, education and awareness raising.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Research institutions carry out surveys and monitoring of selected invasive alien species. The output of data analysis is going to be recommendations on control and management of alien species. These research and recommendations could contribute for preparation of management plans in the future.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

No indicators related to management plans for invasive alien species have been set.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Main challenges on implementation of this target are preparation a national programme and management plans for invasive alien species.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

See also answers for Target 6.1 and Article 8(h).

Box XIV.

Goal 7	Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.
Target 7.1	Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

Institute of Ecology carries out studies on impact of climate changes to biodiversity. The research results are being analyzed and evaluated. Institute is going to prepare a recommendations concerning implementation of this target.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	Lithuanian Agriculture University and Lithuanian Forest Institute are carrying out Forest monitoring programme. Monitoring is carrying out taking in account climate changes consequences. Long term results will facilitate evaluation of climate change to forest ecosystems.
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University is carrying out 2 programmes related to the target (see the article 6, p.17).

These programmes were started recently and it is not possible to evaluate impact.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

There are no elaborated special indicators related to the target yet.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Target is not set yet, but a challenge would be preparation of national programme on evaluation impact of climate change to biodiversity.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XV.

Target 7.2	Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action plan sets some principles and goals related to this target. Strategy has main principle as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - principles aimed to avoid negative impacts upon natural environment and biodiversity by means of actions aimed to prevent potentially drastic nature use. <p>One of the Strategy goals is related to the target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>prevent further degradation of inland waters</i> by the regulation of their use, by not increasing anthropogenic loads in the coastal zone, by avoiding radical changes in hydro-ecological conditions; <p>Lithuanian Environmental Strategy has some goals concerning reduction pollution related to the target. Waste management programme is aimed to establish a new waste management system in Lithuania and reduce pollution.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	<p>There are no national target, but some principles and goals incorporated in strategic documents.</p> <p>Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy has general provisions related to the target.</p> <p>Rural Development Plan, including Agro–environment programme support farmers reducing pollution and organic farming.</p> <p>Code of Good Agriculture Practice for Lithuania sets agriculture practice aimed to reduce pollution.</p>
b) Inland water		X	<p>There are no national target, but some principles and goals incorporated in strategic documents.</p> <p>One of the Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan goals is related to the target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>prevent further degradation of inland waters</i> by the regulation of their use, by not increasing anthropogenic loads in the coastal zone, by avoiding radical changes in hydro-ecological conditions; <p>Lithuanian Environmental Strategy has some goals concerning reduction pollution related to the target.</p> <p>Code for Good Agriculture Practice for Lithuania sets agriculture practice aimed to reduce pollution.</p>

c) Marine and coastal	X	There are no national target, but some principles and goals incorporated in strategic documents. One of the Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan goals is related to the target: - <i>prevent further degradation of marine ecosystems</i> by developing scientifically sound protection and rational use of marine deep habitats, and by strengthening marine environment protection systems.
d) Dry and subhumid land	N/A	
e) Forest	X	There are no national target, but some principles and goals incorporated in strategic documents. One of the Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan goals is related to the target: - <i>avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems</i> by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure;
f) Mountain	N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan | |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | |

Please provide details below.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Biodiversity is threatened mainly by agriculture runoff, transport and industry pollution. Increased water pollution caused eutrophication and toxicity of inland waters and Baltic Sea, which negatively effect biodiversity.

Lithuanian Government built water treatment plants in biggest cities and in some towns. Recently were identified main pollution sources and most polluted rivers.

The Water Framework Directive require to achieve good water status and Government has plan to build water treatment plants to prevent pollution from main pollution sources.

Rural Development Plan supports programme to reduce pollution in agriculture areas.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

There are no indicators, but they are under development.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Prevention of water pollution is the main challenge. Increasing of agriculture runoff will be challenges as well.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XVI .

Goal 8	Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.
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Target 8.1	Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained
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I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

Some development sectors, as forestry, farming and aquaculture promote the maintenance of capacity of ecosystems to delivery goods and services. Forestry is aimed to maintained forests as timber resources, habitat for species, prevent land degradation and floods in order to ensure water quality. Aquaculture is aimed to breed different fish species and enlarge fish stocks.

In general there are no policy to maintain capacity of ecosystems as the hole system, it is mostly focused on maintenance of separate ecosystem components.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Please see descriptions in Targets 1.1, 1.2, 4.1, 4.2
b) Inland water		X	Please see descriptions in Targets 1.1, 1.2, 4.1, 4.2
c) Marine and coastal		X	Please see descriptions in Targets 1.1, 1.2, 4.1, 4.2
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	Please see descriptions in Targets 1.1, 1.2, 4.1, 4.2
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan sets the goal related to the target as follow:
 - *prevent further degradation of coastal areas, marine and inland waters, forests, agricultural areas by the regulation of their use.*

Actions set maintenance of different ecosystems as are it is sets in the goal above.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Capacity of maintenance of ecosystems to delivery goods and services are different.

To maintain agricultural areas to delivery goods and services on sustainable basis are supported by Rural Development Plan, including agro – environmental measures.

Marine and inland waters resources are overexploited, but there are some programmes for recovery of fish and crayfish resources. Coastal resources are overexploited, but there are no programmes to recovery.

Forest resources are maintained by reforestation and afforestation. Introducing protection of Key habitats and FSC certification are main measures to maintain forest ecosystems.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

No indicators

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Grow of development sectors, such as agriculture, forestry, energy, tourism, are challenging to implement this target.

Inflow of EU funds and capital are also challenges for the implementation of the target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XVII.

Target 8.2

Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No

X

b) Yes, the same as the global target

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established

Please provide details below.

Please see descriptions to Targets 1.1, 1.2, 4.1, 4.2.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	N/A
b) Inland water		X	N/A
c) Marine and coastal		X	N/A
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	N/A
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
No information	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
No information	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
No indicators	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
No challenges	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XVIII.

Goal 9	Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.		
Target 9.1	Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No	X		
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Target not applicable to Lithuania			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	N/A
b) Inland water		X	N/A
c) Marine and coastal		X	N/A
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	N/A
f) Mountain		N/A	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
N/A	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
N/A	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
N/A	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
N/A	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XIX.

Target 9.2	Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No	X		
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
N/A			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	N/A
b) Inland water		X	N/A
c) Marine and coastal		X	N/A
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	N/A
f) Mountain		N/A	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No	X		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			

Please provide details below.

N/A

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

N/A

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

N/A

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

N/A

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XX.

Goal 10	Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.
Target 10.1	All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	
Please provide details below.	

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

No indicators

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Please look at the Article 14.

Box XXI .

Target 10.2

Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No **X**

b) Yes, the same as the global target

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established

Please provide details below.

Target not applicable to Lithuania

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	N/A
b) Inland water		X	N/A
c) Marine and coastal		X	N/A
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	N/A
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No **X**

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan

c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes

Please provide details below.

N/A

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

N/A

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

N/A

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

N/A

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Please look at the Article 15.

Box XXII.

Goal 11	Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.
Target 11.1	New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

In spite that Lithuania has recently entered the European Union, Lithuania is considered as country with economy in transition and this target is not applicable for Lithuania.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	N/A
b) Inland water		X	N/A
c) Marine and coastal		X	N/A
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	N/A
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

N/A

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

N/A

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

N/A

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

N/A

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXIII.

Target 11.2	Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4
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I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		N/A	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		N/A	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VI/9, annex, adopted the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. The Conference of the Parties considered the Strategy as a pilot approach for the use of outcome oriented targets under the Convention. In decision VII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to integrate the targets into the reporting framework for the Third National Reports. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box XXIV.

Target 1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania (adopted in 1998 by the order of the minister of environment and minister of agriculture) states to maintain diversity of species by developing a special programme for the conservation of relict, endemic, rare and declining taxa, and by establishing a legal basis for effective protection.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

During the last 20 years, 6 volumes of Lithuanian Flora have been published which describe 1300 species.

A 3 volume monograph „Flora of the Baltic Countries“ is published.

The Lithuanian Red Data Book was published in 1992.

The Lithuanian Red Data Book of Plant Communities published in 2000.

Books on the vegetation of some protected areas have been published.

6-volume publication „Lithuanian Vegetation“ is being published. At present only 1 volume is published.

The Botany Institute issues a scientific journal „Botanica Lituanica“.

In 1990, a multi-volume publication „Lithuanian Fungi“ was started, which has resulted in publication of the first 15 volumes.

The book „Habitats of EU importance“ published in 2001.

The book „Sand Dune Plants of the Curonian Spit“ published in 2001.

Lists of fungi, bryophytes, algae are incomplete. Every year a new species are identified.

Leading taxonomic centres are the Botany Institute, Vilnius University, Forests Institute, Vilnius Pedagogical University.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Institute of Botany works on inventory of various habitats and species communities.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)
No indicators used.
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target
Insufficient funding.
VII) Any other relevant information
Lack of projects dealing with this target and insufficient funding.

Box XXV.

Target 2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania states to maintain diversity of species by developing a special programme for the conservation of relict, endemic, rare and declining taxa, and by establishing a legal basis for effective protection.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Evaluation of conservation status of vascular plants, fungi, algae and lichens has been done during the compilation of the Red Data Books (1981, 1992). Six categories are used in the Red Data Book of vascular plants, fungi, algae and lichens of Lithuania (0 - Extinct or probably extinct species. In Lithuania, this means plant species observed after 1800 but not encountered today; 1 - Endangered species. These plant and fungi species are on the verge of extinction and require special protective measures to maintain their existence; 2 - Vulnerable species. The number of plants and fungi of these species and abundance of individuals in their populations is evidently decreasing; 3 - Rare species. Their small number is due to biological characteristics of plants and fungi of these species; 4 – Indeterminate, insufficiently studied species. Due to the lack of information, it is not possible to place these species in a higher (1-3) category; and 5 – Restored species).	
The Lithuanian Red Data Book of Plant Communities published in 2000 (prepared by Botany Institute). 5 categories are in the Lithuanian Red Data Book of Plant Communities: 0 – Extinct communities, earlier existence of which is fixed in literature; 1 – Narrow distribution area; communities which are rare throughout the distribution area; their diagnostic species have been listed in the Lithuanian and neighboring countries' Red Data Books; 2 – rare communities; the limit of their distribution lies across Lithuania; 3 – rare and standard (typical) communities; 4 – communities of underfined status (insufficiently studied, but to be protected).	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	

Every year a special commission of scientists revises a list of Red Data Book species and makes recommendations for amendments of list. Final decision on the amendments of the list makes Ministry of Environment of Lithuania (some restored species can be deleted from the list, other species can be included or can be changed categories of the species).

Botany Institute participates in the project „European crop wild relative diversity assessment and conservation forum“.

Project „National Grassland Inventory in Lithuania“ (2002-2005) is implemented by Lithuanian Fund for Nature.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

The latest updates in The List of Red Data Book species was made in June 2005. At present there are 226 vascular plant species, 97 mosses species, 12 algae species, 112 fungi species, 63 lichens species on the list.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

The main constraint is insufficient funding.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVI.

Target 3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania states that the preparation of Special Action Plans are proposed for species and communities listed in EU documents on biodiversity protection, species and communities included in the Lithuanian Red Data Book.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

The priority species for which Species Conservation Actions Plans should be prepared are plant species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive.

Management plans of particular protected areas also contain a practical guidance to ensure plant conservation and sustainable use activities.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Legal basis for preparation of Species Conservation Action Plans is ensured (provisions set in the Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (1997 amended in 2001).

Two year (2005-2006) Phare project „Protection of endangered species of flora and fauna and their habitats through implementation of CITES and the Bern and Bonn Conventions and the related EU legislation“ will prepare 4 Species Conservation Actions Plans (for *Cypripedium calceolus*; *Saxifraga hirculus*; *Aldrovanda vesiculosa*; *Pulsatilla patens*).

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

No indicators used.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Lack of capacity and financial resources.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVII.

Target 4. At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania states following goals (ecosystematic level): 1) avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems; 2) prevent further degradation of marine ecosystems; 3) prevent further degradation of the coastal ecosystems; 4) prevent further degradation of inland waters; 5) conserve wetlands ecosystems; 6) conserve natural meadow ecosystems; 7) prevent the decline of sand ecosystems.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

At present protected areas cover 14,65 % of Lithuanian territory.

In Lithuania there are 33 Botanical Nature Reserves; 39 Mires Nature Reserves; 15 Botanical – Zoological Nature Reserves. Various rare flora species are also protected in 4 National Parks, 3 Strict Nature Reserves and 1 Biosphere reserve and many small Municipality Reserves.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Inventory of Annex I habitat types and Annex II species of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora) was carried out and the list of potential Sites of Community Importance (pSCI) for habitat types and species from the Habitats Directive is submitted to European Commission on 2005 July (in this list there are included already existing areas and suggested new territories). That list contains 266 sites (9,94 % of Lithuania territory).

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

Cover of protected areas of Lithuania has increased from 12,05 % in 2004 (January 1) to 14,65% in 2005 (June 1). If the list of Lithuania pSCI will be approved by the European Commission, after the establishment of the Natura 2000 network the protected areas will cover about 17,20 % of Lithuania territory.

Various limitations on forestry have been set out in Lithuania's forests with the aim to protect the environment.

Also some voluntary schemes as Woodland Key Habitats protection increases proportion of protected areas.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Lack of specialists for inventory of some species.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVIII.

Target 5. Protection of fifty percent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

One of the goals of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania is to prevent further degradation of landscape in especially protected areas by improving the surveillance and management of protected areas, by reducing clear-cutting, by regulating construction activities, by implementation of scientifically based sustainable recreation system in protected areas (state parks), by directing agricultural development towards environmentally balanced use of land.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

In Lithuania there are 33 Botanical Nature Reserves; 39 Mires Nature Reserves; 15 Botanical – Zoological Nature Reserves. Various rare flora species are also protected in other Nature reserves (such as hydro-graphical, soil, landscape), 4 National Parks, 3 Strict Nature Reserves and 1 Biosphere reserve and in many small Municipality Reserves.

After the analysis of inventories made during the designation of Natura 2000 sites network in Lithuania, it was assumed that majority of the most important areas for plant diversity conservation are already state protected.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Rules of the Use of Forest Minor Resources (1996) sets the order on picking berries, mushrooms, nuts.

Law on on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (1997, amended 2001) prohibits gathering of specially protected species in wild.

Every year a special commission of scientists revises a list of Red Data Book species and makes recommendations for amendments of list.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

The list of potential Sites of Community Importance (pSCI) for habitat types and species from the Habitats Directive is submitted to European Commission (in this list there are included already existing areas and suggested new territories). That list contains 266 sites (9,94 % of Lithuania territory).

The updated List of Red Data Book species was approved by the order of the minister of environment in June 2005.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Insufficient funding, lack of capacity.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXIX.

Target 6. At least thirty percent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania states the following goals: 1) prevent further degradation of landscape in especially protected areas by improving the surveillance and management of protected areas, by reducing clear-cutting, by regulating construction activities, by implementation of scientifically based sustainable recreation system in protected areas, by directing agricultural development towards environmentally balanced use of land; 2) avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure; 3) conserve natural meadow ecosystems by prohibiting their non-traditional use; 4) conserve and enrich the human environment by preventing destruction of natural biocenoses in agrarian and urban areas, by keeping up their restoration processes, and increasing biodiversity; 5) protect and restore non-timber forest products by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a programme for resource restoration; 6) conserve and enrich the human environment by preventing destruction of natural biocenoses in agrarian and urban areas, by keeping up their restoration processes, and increasing biodiversity.

One of the measures of the Rural Development Programme (2004-2006) of Lithuania is Agro-Environment.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Agricultural intensity has increased since different support programmes and funds from EU become available for farmers.

The logging intensity has increased about 30% during the last decade, but comparing to data in 2005 and 2004, the logging during one year decreased by 5%.

Forests cover about 32% of Lithuania territory (49,80% are owned by state, 33,40% are private owned and 16,80% are reserved for restitution). I group (strict nature reserves) forests occupy 1,2%, II group (ecosystem protection and recreational) – 11,9%; III group (protective) – 16,1% and IV group (commercial) – 70,8% (2004 data).

Mainly native tree species from local seed populations are used in tree plantations.

More information about forests and forestry statistics in Lithuania is available in the official website of the State Forest Survey Service – www.lvmi.lt

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Forest Law (1994, amended in 2005) regulates activities in state and private owned forests.

Rules for forest main fellings approved by the order of the minister of environment in 1999.

Rules of forest sanitary conservation approved by the order of the minister of environment in 2004.

Rules for forest improvement fellings approved by the order of the minister of environment in 2003.

During Lithuanian – Swedish project „Full-Scale Woodland Key Habitat (WKH) Inventory in Lithuania“ were identified 6672 WKHs (about 20 000 ha) in forest enterprises and national parks. Woodland key habitats are such sites in the forest where the forest has existed for hundreds of years and where no significant management has been done for a long time, and which provide conditions for the living of rare and endangered species having highly specific demands for the habitat.

In The Rural Development Programme for Lithuania (2004-2006) activities for restoration of pastures, meadows, wetlands and cultural heritage are included.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

Since 1998 till the 1 of January 2005 the forest land area has increased by about 110 000 ha, which comprises 1,5% of total forest coverage.

In the end of 2004 the Government approved the compensatory order for the restrictions in forestry in the protected areas.

In May 2004 minister of environment approved the list of areas with special environmental restrictions concerning agriculture. This order states that farmers in certain areas can get the compensations for the land use restrictions.

After the Rural Development Programme (2004-2006) started to be implementing and after establishment of Consulting Service it helped farmers to change orientation from intensive to ecological farming. Number of ecological farms is increasing.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Land abandonment; land use changes (from grasslands to arable land or forest).

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXX.

Target 7. Sixty percent of the world's threatened species conserved *In-situ*.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Lithuania states to prevent the further reduction of the species composition of biocenoses, protect locally characteristic species and natural populations and ensure conservation of species of international importance.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

At present there are 226 vascular plant species, 97 mosses species, 12 algae species, 112 fungi species, 63 lichens species protected by Law in Lithuania.

In Lithuania there are 33 Botanical Nature Reserves; 39 Mires Nature Reserves; 15 Botanical – Zoological Nature Reserves. Various rare flora species are also protected in 4 National Parks, 3 Strict Nature Reserves and 1 Biosphere reserve and in many small Municipality Reserves.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Inventory of habitats and species listed in the Annexes of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) carried out in 2000-2003 and all the known most important territories for flora conservation are included within Natura 2000 sites.

In 2004-2005 will be prepared 37 management plans (some plans already prepared) for potential Sites of Community Importance.

Law on Protected Areas (1993, amended 2001).

Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (1997, amended 2001).

Law on Wild Flora (1999).

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

Cover of protected areas of Lithuania has increased from 12,05 % in 2004 (January 1) to 14,65% in 2005 (June 1). Many new areas for protection of rare plant species and habitats were designated.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Insufficient funding for species inventories.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXI.

Target 8. Sixty percent of threatened plant species in accessible *Ex-situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 percent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania states to prevent further degradation or extinction of gene pool of domesticated taxa by strengthening protection of gene pool of domesticated taxa, including plants, fungi and animals, by reviving and expanding scientific selection activities; prevent the further degradation of the gene pool of taxa of international importance; to provide meaningful financial-technical support for maintenance of existing ex-situ protection, and for organizing specialized ex-situ protection centres; to create the system for coordination of ex-situ protection activities and to plan measures for ex-situ conservation.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Since 1994 the state finances research programmes of plant genetic resources.

In 1997 in the Institute of Agriculture was established long-term storage of the gene bank. There is 1799 of plant seed accessions in the long-term storage of the gene bank (data up to 2004).

In Lithuania there are 2 large herbaria of flowering plants: Vilnius University (650 000 specimens) and the Botany Institute (446 000) specimens). The Botany Institute also houses 8000 moss specimens, 4000 specimens of lichens, 18 000 macromycetes and 10 000 micromycetes. Vilnius University also houses about 2000 lichen specimens, and over 2000 fungi. In vitro collections of microorganisms (viruses, fungi-destructors) are housed in the Botany Institute.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Plant Gene Bank and coordination centres of national plant genetic resources (5) established in 2004 by Governmental order, but started to function in 2005. Plant Gene Bank is a subordinate institution of the Ministry of Environment. Plant Gene Bank coordinates researches of genetic resources and stores plants genetic material, organizes and coordinates the work coordination centres of national plant genetic resources, protecting genetic resources in-situ and ex-situ.

Coordination centres of national plant genetic resources: 1) Agricultural plants; 2) Forest trees; 3) Fruits and vegetables; 4) Ornamental plants; 5) Medical plants.

Commission on Plant Genetic resources established in 2004.

Law on Lithuanian Republic Plant National Genetic Resources (adopted in 2001) and 18 supplementary legal acts.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

No indicators used to monitor progress towards the target.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Constrains not known.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXII.

Target 9. Seventy percent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania states to avoid degradation of forest populations; prevent further degradation or extinction of the gene pool of domesticated taxa.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Plant Gene Bank and Coordination centres of national plant genetic resources makes genetic resources researches and stores specimens of these plant groups and species: 1) cereal and grain legume crops; 2) yellow lupine, blue forage and blue sideral lupine; 3) forage grasses and legumes; 4) potato; 5) genetic resources of flax; 6) vegetables; 7) traditional horticultural plants; 8) wild small fruit and non-traditional horticultural crops; 9) medical and aromatic plants; 10) ornamental plants; 11) natural and induced mutants; 12) forest genetic resources; 13) genetic resources of *Salix*.

Introduction and acclimatization of plants is performed in botanical gardens. The largest collections are botanical gardens of Kaunas Vytautas Magnus University (5000 taxa) and Vilnius University (2000 taxa), and in the arboretum of Girionys (1000 taxa). Kaunas Botanical Garden boasts the largest (718 taxa) collection of trees and has a large section of medical herbs. The fruit section of Vilnius University Botanical Garden carry out selection of species of *Ribes* and *Grossularia*.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Law on Lithuanian Republic Plant National Genetic Resources (adopted in 2001) and 18 supplementary legal acts.

Commission on Plant Genetic resources established in 2004.

Plant Gene Bank and coordination centres of national plant genetic resources (5) established in 2004 by Governmental order, but started to function in 2005.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

No indicators used.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Constrains not known.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXIII.

Target 10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania states to protect locally characteristic species and natural populations by preventing the spread of adventitious and invasive species, and by enhancing research.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

No management plans for alien species prepared at the moment, but in 2005 there is planned to prepare a management plan for *Heracleum sosnowskyi*.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Law on Wild Flora (1999) and Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (1997, amended 2001) states regulations for introduction of alien species.

Law on Plant Protection (1995, amended in 2003) states regulations for import and export of plants.

State Plant Protection Service established in 1998.

A programme of introduction, reintroduction, control and elimination of invasive species approved by the order of the minister of environment in 2002.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

The list of invasive fauna and flora species approved by the order of the minister of environment in 2004. This list includes 4 alien plant species: *Acer negundo*; *Heracleum sosnowskyi*; *Lupinus polyphyllus*; *Impatiens parviflora*.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Lack of capacity and funding.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXIV.

Target 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan states to conserve species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
No information what species might be subject to international trade.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Lithuania ratified the Convention „On International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild fauna and Flora“ (CITES) in 2001. „Trade Order of Wild Plants and Mushrooms“ (order of the minister of environment, 2000); From the date of accession to EU Lithuania must fulfill the requirements of Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) which Article 13 stipulates the restrictions concerning trade and requirements of EC Regulation 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein. State Environmental Protection Inspection (subordinate institution of the Ministry of Environment) is responsible for issuing CITES permits.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
No indicators selected.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Lack of capacity and funding.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXV.**Target 12. Thirty percent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.**

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania states to avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure; protect and restore non-timber forest products by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a programme for resources restoration.

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania also states that in order to maintain biodiversity in agrarian areas it is necessary, to the broadest extent possible, to introduce specific agricultural practices and technologies, from diverse agricultural landscapes that conserve natural conditions, apply specially adapted economic/organizational and legal measures (institutional regulation) and educate or train farmers. Any programme aimed at restructuring agriculture, including sustainable or „organic“ (biological) agriculture, should contain measures for biodiversity conservation.

The Rural Development Programme for 2004-2006 states to encourage application of environment-friendly methods in the environmentally vulnerable areas; to support ecological farming. In this Programme there are foreseen activities which concern accumulation of information and education of farmers.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

The logging intensity has increased about 30% during last decade, but comparing data in 2005 and 2004, the logging during one year decreased 5%. The volume of wood has increased due to the increase of forested land and improvement of forest productivity by various methods.

In Lithuania exists the pilot programme „Tatula“. Implementation of this environmental programme is based on the „Tatula Fund“, which offers long-term interest-free loans to farmers, whose participation is voluntary. These credits, and other advantages and services, have been successful.

In some areas agricultural intensity has increased since different support programmes and funds from EU become available for farmers.

In The Rural Development Programm for Lithuania (2004-2006) activities for restoration of pastures, meadows, wetlands and cultural heritage are included.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

The Forest Law of Lithuania (1994, amended in 2005) determines sustainable forest management.

One of the measures of the Rural Development Programme for Lithuania (2004-2006) is Agri-Environment which is composed of separate programmes:

Arable Land Programme;

Proposed Protected Areas Programme;

Meadows Management Programme;

Ecoagricultural Programme;

Programme for Rare Varieties;

Demonstration Programme.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

The subsidies for managing biotopes within the Rural Development Programme (2004-2006) have contributed to the active management of biodiversity. Nowadays more area of pastures, meadows, wetlands and cultural heritage biotopes are in active management than it was ten years ago.

After the Rural Development Programme (2004-2006) started to be implementing and after establishment of Consulting Service it helped farmers to change orientation from intensive to ecological farming. Number of ecological farms is increasing.

Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013 now is under preparation and the Agri-Environment measure will include more programmes.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Lack of co-operation among producers of biological agriculture; poorly developed science and education system concerning biological agriculture; rather low public awareness in biological agriculture.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXVI.

Target 13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

One of the goals of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania is to protect or restore non-timber forest products by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a programme for resources restoration.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Over 100 medical plants, about 400 edible mushroom species, and 20 plant species with edible fruit and berries grow in the forests of Lithuania.

Gathering of mushrooms and wild berries is very popular in Lithuania (gathering of nuts is less popular).

In Lithuania is also popular traditional health care in terms of using herbal teas (there are several companies producing herbal teas from medical plants gathered in wild). The use of medical plants is not considered to be dangerous for wild plants sustainability.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Legislative measures. General provision are set in the Law on Wild Flora (1999) and concrete rules a set in the supplementary legal acts:

„Order of the Use of Wild Flora“ (order of the minister of environment, 2000);

„Order on Trade in Wild Plants and Mushrooms“ (order of the minister of environment, 2000);

„The List of Species of Wild Plants and Mushrooms which Gathering and Trade is Prohibited“ (order of the minister of environment, 2000);

„Rules on Gathering Mushrooms in the Forests of Lithuania“ ((order of the minister of environment, 1998).

Gathering of wild berries (cranberries) are allowed in two Strict Nature Reserves only for very short period and only for local people with special permissions (it is regulated by individual regulations of the Strict Nature Reserves).

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

No indicators used.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Lack of information on current status.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXVII .

Target 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania states the following actions: 1) society should be informed continually on progress in the life of protected areas via mass media; 2) secondary schools and schools of higher education need a special programme on the background of biodiversity. Ecological clubs in secondary schools should be enlarged, and their activities intensified; 3) publish posters on protected species and ecosystems conservation; 4) publish maps of Lithuanian protected areas (forests, meadows, wetlands, etc.); 5) prepare an educational films on various ecosystems and nature conservation; 6) produce and distribute informative displays at protected areas.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

The public awareness on importance of plant diversity is rising gradually. Increasing number of ecological clubs in schools and their members number.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Posters, leaflets, books and video films on nature conservation issues including plant conservation are regularly prepared by different NGO's, projects and state institutions (Ministry of Environment, administrations of protected areas, local municipalities).

Public education and awareness rising activities are included in all nature conservation projects and management plans of protected areas.

Annual events within the framework of Biological Diversity day are organized for public.

Monthly newspapers „Green world“, „Nature of Motherland“, „White Stork“, „Our Forests“, „Green Lithuania“ about nature conservation issues (including plant conservation) are published.

Lithuanian television has a weekly broadcast „Start from yourself“ on nature conservation issues.

In 2005 a Coalition of NGOs of Lithuania created a website, which is regularly updated with a new information on nature conservation issues (including plant conservation).

Lithuanian Fund for Nature in 2005 started to publish a bulletin „Nature conservation Actualities“.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

No indicators developed.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Lack of capacity, lack of funding.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXVIII.

Target 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania states that it is equally necessary to strengthen the regional departments of the Ministry of Environment and the agencies of cities and districts. Planning positions for biologists responsible for the protection of biodiversity should be introduced in the administrations of regions and municipalities. Every year advanced courses in the field of nature protection are especially needed by officials who make decisions at state, regional and local level, by staff of administrations of protected areas, and regional departments or district agencies of the Ministry of Environment.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

There are 8 Regional Nature Protection Department (RNPD) under the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania. In each RNPD there is a Division of Wild Nature Protection (4-5 people are working in these divisions, but usually majority of them are not botanists).

Department of Nature Protection at the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania established (26 people work in this department).

State Protected Areas Service under the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania established (28 people are working in this service).

Administrations exists for all 4 National Parks; Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve; 3 Strict Nature Reserves; 30 Regional Parks. Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve has a specialist in botany; all 3 Strict Nature Reserves and 4 National Parks have a botanists as staff members. From 30 Regional Parks only few have a specialists in botany.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Protected Area Strategy Division established in Nature Protection Department of the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania in 2001 (4 specialists are working in this division).

In August 2005 a new division on Natura 2000 network and biodiversity established in the State Protected Areas Service under the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania.

Different training activities and workshops for environmental inspectors, ecologists and biologists from the administrations of protected areas were organized by various state institutions and NGO's (inputs of various local and international projects).

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

The number of specialists working on nature conservation issues in the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania and subordinate institution increased during last 5 years.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Insufficient funding.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXIX.

Target 16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| a) Yes | |
| b) No | X |

Please specify

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| a) Yes | |
| b) No | X |

Please specify

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

There is no network designed exactly for plant conservation in Lithuania. However, some NGO's dealing with different nature conservation issues have regional branches. Institute of Botany is closely cooperating with institutes of various countries.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Institute of Botany is a partner of various NGO's.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

In 2005 a Coalition of NGO established in Lithuania. One of activities of this coalition is biodiversity and nature resources protection (including conservation of plants).

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Rather low public awareness in plant conservation.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XL.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The main goals of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania are to conserve the country's biological diversity – major ecosystems and species – for future generations, at the same time contributing to the global conservation efforts which employ every measure known and available to mankind, to lay down the foundations for sustainable use and management of biological and landscape diversity by integrating its conservation measures into the national economy development programmes. The outcomes of the actions taken in implementing the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan are improvement of national legislation concerning flora conservation, enlargement of protected areas and increasing capacity of people working in nature conservation. The main constraints in implementation of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania are lack of capacity in terms of human resources and funding.

Ecosystem Approach

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way.

Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties has affirmed that the ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the Convention (decision II/8). The Conference of the Parties, at its fifth meeting, endorsed the description of the ecosystem approach and operational guidance and recommended the application of the principles and other guidance on the ecosystem approach. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties agreed that the priority at this time should be facilitating implementation of the ecosystem approach. Please provide relevant information by responding to the following questions.

3. ?¹ Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but application is under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects are being applied	X
d) Yes, substantially implemented	
4. ? Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but development is under consideration	X
c) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying some principles of the ecosystem approach	
d) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying most principles of the ecosystem approach	
5. Is your country strengthening capacities for the application of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to apply the ecosystem approach? (decision V/6)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, within the country	
c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties	
6. ? Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders? (decision V/6)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, informal cooperation (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, formal cooperation (please provide details below)	
Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders.	

¹ Please note that all the questions marked with ? have been previously covered in the second national reports and some thematic reports.

7. Is your country facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach? (decisions VI/12 and VII/11)

a) No	X
b) No, some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

8. Is your country creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, including through development of appropriate institutional frameworks? (decision VII/11)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant policies and programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

Ecosystem approach is not applied, but some elements are used in Nature management plans and Species conservation plans. The plans require broader scope which would take into account management of habitats and ecosystems.

Some principles of ecosystem approach is applied in the procedures of environmental impact assessment. The procedure require that assessment should be done on ecosystem level taking into account not only species and habitats, but other ecosystem elements also.

C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

Article 5 – Cooperation

9. Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
d) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation (please give details below)	X
e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below)	

Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

b) Lithuania has signed Intergovernmental bilateral agreements concerning the cooperation on environmental issues with Latvia, Belarus, Sweden and Russian Federation. In addition there are many bilateral institutional agreements between Lithuanian institutions and institutions of other countries (Sweden, Austria, Poland, Holland, Finland, Belarus, Denmark, Kazakhstan, Latvia and Slovak Republic) concerning the cooperation on environmental issues or specific environmental questions.

c) The trilateral cooperation among the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) on environmental issues is well developed and is based on the agreement among the Governments of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (signed in 1995). Within this framework the Ministers of Environment of all three Baltic states periodically meet on environmental protection issues.

d) Permanent international cooperation of Lithuanian environmental specialists is not limited by the Baltic Sea Region. Such cooperation is promoted devising and implementing working plans for bilateral intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements between Lithuania and foreign countries.

Being a Party to the Baltic Sea Environment Protection Convention (Helsinki Convention) from 1994 and a Party to the Convention on Fisheries and the Protection of Fish Resources in the Baltic Sea from 1994, Lithuania actively participates in the implementation of biodiversity and its resources protection in the Baltic region.

10. Is your country working with other Parties to develop regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No

b) No, but consultations are under way

c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below)

d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on development of regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention.

Strengthening international relations with other European States Lithuania has signed two Conventions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe – the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

Lithuania actively participates in the implementation of the joint programme Baltic 21. This is a joint programme for sustainable development in the Baltic sea region approved by the Council of Baltic Region Countries (Ministers of Foreign Affairs) in 1998.

11. Is your country taking steps to harmonize national policies and programmes, with a view to optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and relevant regional initiatives at the national level? (decision VI/20)

a) No

b) No, but steps are under consideration

c) Yes, some steps are being taken (please specify below)

d) Yes, comprehensive steps are being taken (please specify below)

X

Further comments on the harmonization of policies and programmes at the national level.

Through its governmental institutions Lithuania has made bilateral and multilateral cooperation contacts with the neighbouring and other countries as well as international organisations in the sphere of environment formation and protection. Lithuania has acceded to a lot of major international environmental treaties.

The EU accession process has essentially influenced international cooperation in environment formation and protection. During this period most of attention was devoted to the efficient assimilation of support from foreign countries and other donors in order to harmonise the Lithuanian legislation in the field of environment formation and protection with the EU legislation requirements and to achieve a successful integration into the EU. Therefore, the relations between Lithuania and foreign countries were based on donor / support recipient approach. The support predetermined improvements in the environmental sector and contributed to Lithuania's successful integration into the EU.

Box XLI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Being a member of a number of international Conventions and having concluded number of bilateral and multilateral Agreements Lithuania actively collaborates at the regional and subregional levels taking decisions and implementing biodiversity protection related issues.

Number of programs and initiatives have been initiated to achieve 2010 target and implement National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use

12. Has your country put in place effective national strategies, plans and programmes to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention? (Goal 3.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant strategies, plans and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the strategies, plans and programmes for implementing the three objectives of the Convention.

The main strategic document providing a national framework for implementation of the Convention is Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (elaborated in 1995 - 1996 and approved in 1998). Strategy consists of review biodiversity current status and trends (biodiversity review, protection and use of biodiversity, biodiversity conservation prerequisites), strategy (problems and goals, strategy concepts and goals), action plan (general action plans of biodiversity conservation, special plans for biodiversity conservation) and implementation of action plan (economic and political preconditions, preconditions conservation in development of forestry and agriculture, regional and local policy – making). Unfortunately only some actions are implemented. This strategic document is prepared 8 years ago and there is a need to renew or elaborate a new one since strategy and action plan sets only the Convention main provisions, but goals and targets doesn't include all global goals and targets. Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has been elaborated and approved after ratification of the Convention.

There are only general provisions incorporated in sectoral plans and programmes.

National Strategy for Sustainable Development (elaborated in 2003) sets main priorities related to implementation of the Convention of Biological Diversity only, but goals and actions not fully comply with goals and targets of the Convention.

13. **?** Has your country set measurable targets within its national strategies and action plans? (decisions II/7 and III/9)

a) No	X
b) No, measurable targets are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but measurable targets are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, relevant targets are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, reports on implementation of relevant targets available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets set within national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

14. Has your country identified priority actions in its national biodiversity strategy and action plan? (decision VI/27 A)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but priority actions are being identified | |
| c) Yes, priority actions identified (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on priority actions identified in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (1997) sets priority action list for conservation of different ecosystems and species. It sets responsible institutions and obstacles of implementation. Unfortunately part of actions are not implemented since 1997 up to now due to restricted financial resources.

15. Has your country integrated the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision VI/27 A)

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes, in some sectors (please provide details below) | X |
| c) Yes, in major sectors (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, in all sectors (please provide details below) | |

Further information on integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity have been integrated in Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Implementation Strategy and Action Plan (2002), in FSC standards and Lithuanian Rural Development Plan (2005) and Lithuanian Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (2000 – 2006). Rural development Plan provides subsidies for maintenance of biodiversity in grassland areas and wetlands, establishment buffer belts along water bodies, support genetic resources of farming animals, especially local breeds.

Requirements for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are also included in hunting, fishery, forest legislation, Lithuanian Inland Waters Management Programme (2000 - 2005), spatial planning regulations.

16. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan (NBSAP)? (decision VI/20)

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| a) Yes | X |
| b) No | |

If **YES**, please briefly describe the extent to which it addresses

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species | Issue of conservation is set in Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan as a goal as follow:
- <i>avoid destruction of migration routes of fauna species and changes in their environment</i> , by regulating the use of areas (particularly those which lead to the fragmentation of habitats), by establishing legal basis for effective protection; |
| (b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas | The issue is not addressed in Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. |

(c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration	The issue is partially addressed in Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan: - prevent further degradation of the coastal ecosystems by strictly limiting the intensity of use in coastal zones, by prohibiting construction close to the sea, protecting rare and declining biocenoses, and conserving wintering sites and fish spawning grounds of international importance.
(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species	The issue is not addressed in Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. Institute of Ecology and Klaipeda university are carrying research and monitoring on migratory species.
(e) Transboundary movement	The issue is not addressed in Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan.
If NO , please briefly indicate below	
(a) The extent to which your country addresses migratory species at national level	
(b) Cooperation with other Range States since 2000	

Biodiversity and Climate Change

17. Has your country implemented projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but some projects or programs are under development	
c) Yes, some projects have been implemented (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

Some research institutions are carrying out programmes and projects related to impact of climate changes on biodiversity. Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University is carrying out 2 programmes approved by the Government: 1) Regularities and mechanisms of sensitivity, vulnerability, adaptation and microevolution of ecosystems and their constituent parts under global changes and anthropogenic impact; 2) Functioning of aquatic ecosystems under conditions of global changes and anthropogenic impact, regularities, adaptation and evolution. Vilnius University is involved in research theme "Global Changes of Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecosystems". These programmes contain items on impact of climate changes on selected species conservation and sustainable use.

18. Has your country facilitated coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.

Lithuania elaborated "UN Framework Convention on Climate Changes Implementation Strategy" and adopted by the Government in 1996. Recently the strategy is being amended and revised version is going to be adopted in 2006. Strategy foresees mitigation measures and activities related to climate changes issues are coordinated following the strategy.

The main requirements of the strategy are introduced in Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Implementation Strategy and Action Plan (2002), Lithuanian Agriculture and Rural development Strategy (2000) and National Rural Development Plan, National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2003). Diversification of agriculture and increasing of forest territories as well as sustainable use of forest are incorporated in above mentioned strategies and plans.

Box XLII .

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

UN Framework Convention on Climate Changes Implementation Strategy, elaborated in 1996, foresees main measures related to climate change issues. In 2003 Ministry of Environment issued the Order on UN Framework Convention on Climate Changes Kyoto Protocol implementation and regulations related to this issues. Regulations sets registration of greenhouse gas emissions and reporting procedures to the Convention secretariat. In 2004 Ministry of Environment adopted "Lithuania" National Allocation Plan for Greenhouse Gas Emission Allowances for the Period 2005 – 2007. The main measures and projects aimed at mitigation and adoption to climate changes started in the last few years and it is too early to evaluate impact of these measures.

Above described actions and measures contribute to the achievement of Goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention and to

the implementation of the Millennium development Goal 7 Ensure environmental stability.

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan foresee only main provisions on climate change issues. Requirements of UN Framework Convention on Climate Changes Implementation Strategy have been incorporated into Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Implementation Strategy and Action Plan (2002), Lithuanian Agriculture and Rural development Strategy (2000) and National Rural Development Plan (2004-2006).

Main constraints to evaluate impact of climate changes on biodiversity are as follow: lack of financial resources, lack of monitoring data and research on impact of climate changes on biodiversity.

Article 7 - Identification and monitoring

19. On Article 7(a), does your country have an ongoing programme to identify components of biological diversity at the genetic, species, ecosystem level?

a) No

b) Yes, selected/partial programmes at the genetic, species and/or ecosystem level only (please specify and provide details below)

c) Yes, complete programmes at ecosystem level and selected/partial inventories at the genetic and/or species level (please specify and provide details below)

X

Further comments on ongoing programmes to identify components of biodiversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Institute of Botany has issued 6 volumes of Lithuanian Flora over 20 years (which describe 1300 species). 5 volumes of Lithuanian Fauna, covering birds, fish, insects, moths and hoofed mammals has been issued by Institute of Ecology. Publication of the next volumes of the Lithuanian Vegetation and Fungi are in progress.

Separate works on flora and fauna of certain protected areas have been published.

The first Lithuanian Red Data Book was published in 1981 and revised second edition in 1992. In 2000 list of Protected Animals, Plant, Fungi Species and Communities was approved by the Ministry of Environment.

Lithuanian red Data Book of Plant Communities published in 2000.

Universities of Vilnius, Kaunas and Klaipeda having faculties of biology and Institute of Botany, and Institute of Ecology are leading institutions to identify, study and monitor the components of biological diversity. Also the contribution from the Lithuanian Ornithological Society, Lithuanian Fund for Nature (and some other NGOs) and materials collected during various projects are valuable source for BD identification.

Agro-biodiversity probably is not sufficiently studied. Additional efforts are needed to identify the components of valuable agricultural biodiversity. The corresponding activities listed in Lithuanian National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Action Plan need to be expanded as well (e.g. agricultural environmental ecosystems protection comprise a total of 6 actions per four categories of actions).

20. On Article 7(b), which components of biological diversity identified in accordance with Annex I of the Convention, have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes?

a) at ecosystem level (please provide percentage based on area covered)

X for major ecosystems

b) at species level (please provide number of species per taxonomic group and percentage of total known number of species in each group)

X for a range of major groups

c) at genetic level (please indicate number and focus of monitoring programmes)

X minimal activity

Further comments on ongoing monitoring programmes at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

The first national monitoring program was launched in 1989. The Law on Environmental Monitoring was adopted in November 1997. The Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP) was approved in June 1998. In terms of BD monitoring, it comprise four relevant components. These are monitoring of vegetation, wildlife and agricultural ecosystems and integrated monitoring of semi-natural ecosystems.

The EMP is a comprehensive program covering a large number of elements of BD monitoring. The main constrains to the implementation of the monitoring program is the financial ones.

Full implementation of EMP is foreseen, including the biota monitoring.

In 2005 a new National Environmental Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 was approved by Government which stipulates that must be collected no less than 80% reliable data about pollution of air, falls and biodiversity condition and changes; to collect no less than 90% reliable data about each measurable component of atmosphere and 75% about ozone each year.

In new NEMP is foreseen to carry out the monitoring of underground water in 280 places; monitoring of surface-water in 1205 places; soil monitoring in 138 sites; biodiversity monitoring: monitoring of habitats of EU importance – 658 sites; monitoring of species of EU importance (except birds) – 183 sites; bird species monitoring – 79 sites; monitoring of forests – 972 sites; monitoring of huntable ungulates species – 40 sites; monitoring of fish species – 150 sites; monitoring of problematic invasive species – 68 sites; monitoring of relatively natural ecosystems – 2 stations of complex monitoring; monitoring of agroecosystems – 3 areas; monitoring of coasts dynamic – 154 km (Baltic sea shore and Curonian Lagoon shores); monitoring of air quality in agglomerations – no less than 2 station in each agglomeration; monitoring of climate changes – 18 stations; radiological air monitoring – 26 stations; background air monitoring – 3 stations; stratosphere monitoring – 1 station.

21. On Article 7(c), does your country have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes on any of the following key threats to biodiversity?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes, invasive alien species (please provide details below) | X |
| c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below) | X |
| d) Yes, pollution/eutrophication (please provide details below) | X |
| e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below) | X |
| f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity.

In the new National Environment Monitoring Programme for 2005-2010 (which was adopted in February 2005) there are stipulated such goals concerning question No. 21:

- a) To halt the loss of biodiversity till 2010 assessing the main tendencies of biodiversity changes; to assess, forecast and control spread of the most dangerous fauna and flora invasive species to Lithuanian biodiversity;
- b) to mitigate the amount of pollutants to the air and amount of gas causing greenhouse effect, to assess and mitigate the negative impact of climate change to the ecosystems and human health, to assess and mitigate the impact of gas which destroy ozone layer;
- c) to improve quality of soil, to mitigate erozion and acidification of soils, to assess the rate of urbanization;
- d) to reach the good quality of underground waters in 2015 and assess the measures to reduce the water pollution;
- e) to halt the loss of landscape in the protected areas; to improve the general landscape structure;
- f) and etc...

Also see the answers to the question No. 20 (last paragraph of the answer).

22. On Article 7 (d), does your country have a mechanism to maintain and organize data derived from inventories and monitoring programmes and coordinate information collection and management at the national level?

- a) No
- b) No, but some mechanisms or systems are being considered
- c) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are being established
- d) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are in place (please provide details below)
- e) Yes, a relatively complete system is in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the coordination of data and information collection and management.

Data on species and communities is maintained by the data collectors, such as Institute of Botany, Institute of Ecology and Forests Research Institute; both in digital and paper format.

In December 2002 minister of environment approved monitoring programme for Natura 2000 (requirements of EU Habitats and Birds Directives) in which is determined which institutions or who must carry out monitoring, assess monitoring data and coordinate information collection and analyze it.

Monitoring data is stored by the Environmental Protection Agency (subordinate institution of the Ministry of Environment), an institution which is responsible for State Environmental Monitoring Program.

23. Does your country use indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity? (decision III/10)

- a) No
- b) No, but identification of potential indicators is under way (please describe)
- c) Yes, some indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)
- d) Yes, a relatively complete set of indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)

X

Further comments on the indicators identified and in use.

In Lithuania we use a wide range of indicators determined in the NEMP.

Status and pressure/impact indicators:

Status of habitats and species (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects and plant species) of EU concern and impact on them of main types of human activities

Status of species of EU concern (exceptions for Lithuania) – wolves and beavers

Status of forests in European, Regional and intensive levels

Status of regulated ungulates game species

Status, diversity and distribution of fish species, with emphasis on migrant species

Status and diversity of field vegetation species

Status and distribution of problematic and invasive species (plants, insects and wildlife)

Response indicators

Diversity and area of valuable habitats in State Protected Areas

Total area of territories restored in during activities in Designated Areas

More pressure indicators are part of water quality and integrated monitoring.

Under preparation are indicators for assessment of favourable conservation status of species and habitats (that is the requirement of EC Habitats Directive).

As was mentioned in the answers of other questions, since 2005 a new NEMP came into force and first new data will be available in 2006. Summary of old reports is available on these web sites: http://aaa.am.lt/rubric.php3?rubric_id=1034 and http://aaa.am.lt/rubric.php3?rubric_id=1038, but only in Lithuanian language.

Box XLIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

New National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 (approved in February 2005) was prepared taking into consideration international environment conservation agreements such as Biodiversity Convention, UN Climate Change Convention and Kyoto protocol, Ramsar convention, Vienna convention on conservation of ozone layer, Montreal protocol, Europe landscape convention, Convention on access to information (Arhus), Convention on EIA in a transboundary context (Espoo), Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and other. So it strongly contributes to the achievements of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, Millennium Development Goals, to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and to the achievement of the 2010 target.

The biggest constraint in implementation of NEMP can be insufficient funding and lack of specialists to carry out monitoring of some specific fauna species (for example invertebrates).

Decisions on Taxonomy

24. Has your country developed a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1? (decision IV/1)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but a plan is under development | |
| c) Yes, a plan is in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, reports on implementation available (please provide details below) | |

Further information on a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1.

25. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections? (decision IV/1)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | X |

Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.

The main holders of taxonomic collections in Lithuania are Institute of Botany, Institute of Ecology, Kaunas Zoological Museum and Vilnius University. These institutions receive regular state support in order to maintain their daily business, to some extent, but this funding is not sufficient.

26. [?] Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)

a) No

X

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.

Vilnius University, Institutes of Botany and Ecology and other scientific institutions working on taxonomic research have partners in all neighboring countries and also cooperating with many institutions world-wide.

27. [?] Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable? (decision IV/1)

a) No

b) No, but steps are being considered

c) Yes, for some institutions

X

d) Yes, for all major institutions

28. ^{* 2} Is your country collaborating with the existing regional, subregional and global initiatives, partnerships and institutions in carrying out the programme of work, including assessing regional taxonomic needs and identifying regional-level priorities? (decision VI/8)

a) No

b) No, but collaborative programmes are under development

c) Yes, some collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessments)

X

d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessment and priority identification)

Further information on the collaboration your country is carrying out to implement the programme of work for the GTI, including regional needs assessment and priority identification.

Professional Societies and research institutions are collaborating with respective organizations worldwide to assess regional taxonomic needs and identify main priorities.

29. ^{*} Has your country made an assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities at the national level for the implementation of the Convention? (annex to decision VI/8)

a) No

X

b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)

² The questions marked with ^{*} in this section on Taxonomy are similar to some questions contained in the format for a report on the implementation of the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative. Those countries that have submitted such a report do not need to answer these questions unless they have updated information to provide.

- c) Yes, thorough assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)

Further comments on national assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities.

30. * Is your country working on regional or global capacity building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties? (annex to decision VI/8)

- a) No
- b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development
- c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on regional or global capacity-building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties.

31. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8? (annex to decision VI/8)

- a) No
- b) Yes, for forest biodiversity (please provide details below)
- c) Yes, for marine and coastal biodiversity (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, for dry and sub-humid lands (please provide details below)
- e) Yes, for inland waters biodiversity (please provide details below)
- f) Yes, for mountain biodiversity (please provide details below)
- g) Yes, for protected areas (please provide details below)
- h) Yes, for agricultural biodiversity (please provide details below)
- i) Yes, for island biodiversity (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention.

There are fragmented studies that do not qualify for state level programme.

32. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8?

- a) No
- b) Yes, for access and benefit-sharing (please provide details below)
- c) Yes, for Article 8(j) (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, for the ecosystem approach (please provide details below)
- e) Yes, for impact assessment, monitoring and indicators (please provide details below)
- f) Yes, for invasive alien species (please provide details below)

X

g) Yes, for others (please provide details below)

Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention.

Article 8 - *In-situ* conservation **[excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h) and (j)]**

33. ? On Article 8(i), has your country endeavored to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are being identified
- c) Yes, some measures undertaken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures taken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.

The Law on Environmental Protection was adopted in 1992, Law on Environmental Impact Assessment was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005, Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004.

Law on Forestry (1994, amended in 2001) stipulates (art.9) that „...forests shall be managed according to the principle of sustainable forest use, so that timber and other forest products shall be constantly supplied and the annual or periodical balance between timber growth and logging shall be maintained./ ...Forest managers, owners and users must protect....biological variety...“. Forest utilization permit entitles the person to use the forest resource.

Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities regulates the protection and use of other components of biological diversity.

Law on Wild Flora (1999) and Law on Wild Animals (2001) provide principles of sustainable use of biological resources.

Lithuanian Forestry and Timber Industry Program exists since 1996. It could be regarded as Forestry Policy, which puts measurable targets to the forest use and limits to the optimum annual felling amounts. It declares the importance of conservation of forest biodiversity. The program sets an objective to work out a separate program for conservation of forests biodiversity and for the conservation of rare and endangered species, but has failed to meet the objective yet.

However, the complexity of forests categories and sub-categories may result in a difficulty to classify the forests and monitor the use and management of them.

Statistics on picking and sales of mushrooms, berries and medical plants show fluctuations in the amount collected and commercialized.

34. ? On Article 8(k), has your country developed or maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations?

- a) No
- b) No, but legislation is being developed
- c) Yes, legislation or other measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the legislation and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.

Law on Wildlife (1997), Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (1997), Law on Plant Species and Communities (1999) and Law on Welfare, Keeping and Use of Animals (1997), Governmental resolution on general regulations of sites important for birds and habitats (Natura 2000 sites) (2004) regulate in one or another way the protection of species.

In 2000 the List of Protected Animal, Plant and Fungi Species was approved by the Ministry of Environment. This includes 777 species (22 mammal, 76 bird, 2 reptile, 4 amphibian, 8 fish, 4 mollusca, 4 arachnid, 108 insect, 7 crustaceans, 1 leech, 224 angiospermous, 1 gymnospermous, 13 cryptogamous, 101 moss, 18 algae, 130 fungi and 59 lichen species).

35. **?** On Article 8(l), does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant processes and categories of activities being identified
- c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the regulation or management of the processes and categories of activities identified by Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biodiversity.

Law on Environmental Impact Assessment was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005, Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004. Also some provisions concerning EIA are stipulated in the Law on Protected Areas (2001).

Box XLIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation

Relatively high ecosystems and species diversity has been maintained in Lithuania depending on development of economical practices, their intensity and local tradition.

Current legal and institutional system serves as one of footsteps to reach 2010 target. Actions undertaken and described in above section contribute to the achievement of all 4 main goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention. The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 **Ensure environmental sustainability**.

Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Article 8 (a) to (e))

36. Has your country established suitable time bound and measurable national-level protected areas targets and indicators? (decision VII/28)

- a) No (please specify reasons)
- b) No, but relevant work is under way
- c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below)

X

d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below)

Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas.

The time bound for establishment of some protected areas is stated in the Comprehensive Plan of Lithuania.

The time bound was established for designation of Natura 2000 sites (requirements of EC Birds Directive (79/409/EEC and EC Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC)), but that time bound was not established by the country – it was set by the European Commission during the negotiations to join the EU.

National criteria for selection of Natura 2000 sites were elaborated by scientists (for example minimal number of breeding pairs in the area; minimal wintering birds number in the area, etc.).

37. Has your country taken action to establish or expand protected areas in any large or relatively unfragmented natural area or areas under high threat, including securing threatened species? (decision VII/28)

a) No

b) No, but relevant programmes are under development

c) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)

d) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on actions taken to establish or expand protected areas.

Lithuania is establishing a Natura 2000 network – protected areas under the requirements of Birds (79/409/EEC) and Habitats (92/43/EEC) Directives. Part of Natura 2000 sites designated on the background of existed national protected areas (within the existing boundaries or broadening their boundaries) and another part of the sites is designated in a new natural areas.

38. Has your country taken any action to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No

b) Not applicable

c) No, but relevant actions are being considered

d) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)

e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on actions taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas.

In spring 2005 was established (Governmental resolution) a new marine protected area in the Baltic sea – state reserve (for protection of rear wintering and migrating bird species and reefs). In nearest future plans there is a designation of Curonian Lagoon as a protected area (site of international importance for waterfowl).

Also in Lithuania there are 5 Ramsar sites (Zuvintas biosphere reserve; Cepkeliai, Viesvile and Kamanos strict nature reserves and Nemunas Delta regional park). Many inland waters are protected inside the national and regional parks. In Lithuania there are 36 hidrographical nature reserves, 10 ichthyological nature reserves, 39 mires nature reserves. Many new water bodies fall under protection during designation of Natura 2000 sites (requirements of Birds and Habitats Directives).

39. Has your country identified and implemented practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures? (decision VII/28)

- a) No
- b) No, but some programmes are under development
- c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on practical steps for improving integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures.

The main step is designation of Special Protected Areas (SPAs) for birds (according to the requirements of Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) for species and habitat types (according to the requirements of Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)). SPAs and SAC will form a Natura 2000 sites network. The designation of Natura 2000 sites is strictly based on the scientific reasoning.

40. Is your country applying environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas? (decision VII/28)

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant EIA guidelines are under development
- c) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to some projects or plans (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to all relevant projects or plans (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on application of environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas.

The Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of Proposed Economic Activities was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005 (new articles concerning Natura 2000 areas added). This Law is in full compliance with the EC Directive 85/337/EEC.

Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004. Order of the minister of environment concerning the assessment of impact of plans and programs implementation to Natura 2000 areas was adopted in December 2004.

Some provisions concerning EIA also are stipulated in the Law of Protected Areas.

41. Has your country identified legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant work is under way
- c) Yes, some gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas.

Lack of specialists (biologists, ecologists) in the administrations of protected areas and not all specialists are qualified enough to carry out monitoring or prepare a management plans (needs for training).

42. Has your country undertaken national protected-area capacity needs assessments and established capacity building programmes? (decision VII/28)

- a) No
- b) No, but assessments are under way
- c) Yes, a basic assessment undertaken and some programmes established (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, a thorough assessment undertaken and comprehensive programmes established (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on protected-area capacity needs assessment and establishment of capacity building programmes.

The assessment is made concerning the establishment of Natura 2000 network, capacity of the administrations of protected areas and State protected areas service under the Ministry of Environment.

This spring started trainings for the staff of administrations of protected areas how to make a monitoring of biodiversity.

This summer was established a new division in the State Protected Areas Service under the Ministry of Environment.

Agreements with scientific institutes to carry out monitoring in some protected areas will be signed this year.

43. Is your country implementing country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant plan is under development
- c) Yes, relevant plan is in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, relevant plan is being implemented (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on implementation of country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas.

Every year State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment and national protected areas (national and regional parks, nature reserves, strict nature reserves, biosphere reserve, biosphere polygons) are financed from state budget.

Protected areas which area established by local municipalities (municipalities reserves) are financed from municipalities budget (municipalities receives finances from the state budget).

Also there is a financing plan for 5 year biodiversity monitoring (it is prepared in the National Environment Monitoring Programme for 2005-2010).

44. Is your country implementing appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance? (decision VII/28)

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant methods, standards, criteria and indicators are under development
- c) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use and some international methods, standards, criteria and indicators in use (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance.

In Lithuania we use EU related standards, criteria and indicators for Natura 2000 network. Selection of Natura 2000 sites was strictly based on scientific information. Criteria: number of breeding species; favourable conservation status – under the elaboration; site area; representativity; threatened species... and etc. In 2004 was approved order of Minister of Environment of on preparation of strategic environmental documents. This document contains requirements and guidelines for preparation of management plans and etc.

Box XLV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Requirements of EC Directives (Birds and Habitats) fully contribute to the goal of 2010 and Strategic Plan of CBD Convention. As a result of Lithuania's accession to EU, number of protected areas in Lithuania increased from 11.9% till 14,65% of the country's territory.

Actions undertaken and described in above section contribute to the achievement of Goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 **Ensure environmental sustainability**.

The main constrains – insufficient financing (also lack of sufficient financial support to the land owners within the protected areas).

Article 8(h) - Alien species

45. Has your country identified alien species introduced into its territory and established a system for tracking the introduction of alien species?

- a) No
- b) Yes, some alien species identified but a tracking system not yet established
- c) Yes, some alien species identified and tracking system in place
- d) Yes, alien species of major concern identified and tracking system in place

X

46. **?** Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?

- a) No
- b) Yes, but only for some alien species of concern (please provide details below)
- c) Yes, for most alien species (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the assessment of the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species.

Such alien species as *Mustela vison* has caused serious damage for natural species – local species *Mustela europea* has totally replaced and now is considered as extinct. *Nyctereutes procionoides* causes huge damage to breeding birds by destroying their nests. Plant *Hieraclium sosnowski* is rapidly occupying suitable habitats and pushing out local plant species.

47. ? Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate, those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under consideration
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.

As referred to the Law on Wild Fauna (1997, (as) amended in December 2001) and the Law on Wild Flora in 2002 the Ministry of Environment approved the Order on Introduction, Reintroduction and Relocation, the Order on Control and Eradication of Invasive Species Organisms, and Composition of Committee on Invasive Species Control.

In 2004 the List of Invasive Species was approved by the Ministerial Order No D1-433.

When importing live non – native animal species into country it is required to present a permit issued by the Ministry of Environment. The importer should present to the Ministry of Environment an application and get conclusions and recommendations from the Committee on Invasive Species Control that these species distribution in the wild will not have an adverse ecological and economical impact or affect human health. The permit is issued only having approval of the Committee on Invasive Species Control.

The control of invasive species is performed by the State Food and Veterinary Service, State Plant Protection Service, Customs Department, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Environment. The competence of these institutions is described in the Order on Control and Eradication of Invasive Species Organisms.

48. ? In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed, or involved itself in, mechanisms for international cooperation, including the exchange of best practices? (decision V/8)

- a) No
- b) Yes, bilateral cooperation
- c) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation
- d) Yes, multilateral cooperation

X

49. ? Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species? (decision V/8)

- a) No
- b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the use of the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches in work on alien invasive species.

See answers 47 and 48 above.

50. Has your country identified national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but needs and priorities are being identified	
c) Yes, national needs and priorities have been identified (please provide below a list of needs and priorities identified)	
Further comments on the identification of national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles.	

51. Has your country created mechanisms to coordinate national programmes for applying the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanisms created to coordinate national programmes for implementing the Guiding Principles.	

52. Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but review under way	
c) Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, adjustment and development ongoing	
e) Yes, some adjustments and development completed (please provide details below)	
Further information on the review, adjustment or development of policies, legislation and institutions in light of the Guiding Principles.	

53. Is your country enhancing cooperation between various sectors in order to improve prevention, early detection, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential coordination mechanisms are under consideration	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation between various sectors.	

54. Is your country collaborating with trading partners and neighboring countries to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity in ecosystems that cross international boundaries? (decision VI/23)

- a) No
- b) Yes, relevant collaborative programmes are under development
- c) Yes, relevant programmes are in place (please specify below the measures taken for this purpose)

X

Further comments on collaboration with trading partners and neighboring countries.

See also answers for Target 6.2 and 6.1

55. Is your country developing capacity to use risk assessment to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity and incorporate such methodologies in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA)? (decision VI/23)

- a) No
- b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development
- c) Yes, some activities for developing capacity in this field are being undertaken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)

X

Further information on capacity development to address threats of invasive alien species.

See also answers to Target 6.2 and question 47.

56. Has your country developed financial measures and other policies and tools to promote activities to reduce the threats of invasive species? (decision VI/23)

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant measures and policies are under development
- c) Yes, some measures, policies and tools are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures and tools are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the development of financial measures and other policies and tools for the promotion of activities to reduce the threats of invasive species.

In 2002 the Ministry of Environment approved the Programme on Introduction, Reintroduction and Relocation and Action Plan. In the Programme there are main guidelines how to prevent and stop distribution of invasive species and in the Action Plan there are presented detailed actions, who and when should perform these actions and how they are financed.

In 2005 there is planned to prepare management plans for two invasive alien species - *Heracleum sosnovskyi* Manden. and *Orconectes limosus*.

See also answers for Targets 6.2 and 6.1.

Box XLVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Current legal and institutional system serves as one of footsteps to reach 2010 target. The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 **Ensure environmental sustainability**.

Lack of institutional capacity and financial resources as well as relatively low interest from landowners and land users are the main challenges to implementation of the Program.

See also answers for Targets 6.2 and 6.1.

Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions

GURTS

57. Has your country created and developed capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to genetic use restriction technologies?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to GURTs.

Status and Trends

58. Has your country supported indigenous and local communities in undertaking field studies to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered | |
| c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken) | |

Further information on the studies undertaken to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and priority actions identified.

N/A

Akwé:Kon Guidelines

59. Has your country initiated a legal and institutional review of matters related to cultural, environmental and social impact assessment, with a view to incorporating the Akwé:Kon Guidelines into national legislation, policies, and procedures?	
a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, a review undertaken (please provide details on the review)	
Further information on the review.	
N/A	

60. Has your country used the Akwé:Kon Guidelines in any project proposed to take place on sacred sites and/or land and waters traditionally occupied by indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a review of the Akwé: Kon guidelines is under way	
c) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further information on the projects where the Akwé:Kon Guidelines are applied.	
N/A	

Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

61. Has your country undertaken any measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to be effectively involved in decision-making related to the use of their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes being developed	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities.	

62. Has your country developed appropriate mechanisms, guidelines, legislation or other initiatives to foster and promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision making, policy planning and development and implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at international, regional, subregional, national and local levels? (decision V/16)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are under development	
c) Yes, some mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the mechanisms, guidelines and legislation developed.	

According to the Law on Protected Areas (1993 as amended in 2001) and its supplementary legal acts the public hearings should be held when establishing new protected areas. Public participation is also stated in the Law on Territorial Planning and in the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment.

63. Has your country developed mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work? (decision V/16, annex)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed | |
| c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of women of indigenous and local communities in all elements of the programme of work.

Support to implementation

64. Has your country established national, subregional and/or regional indigenous and local community biodiversity advisory committees?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but relevant work is under way | |
| c) Yes | |

65. Has your country assisted indigenous and local community organizations to hold regional meetings to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare for meetings under the Convention?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes (please provide details about the outcome of meetings) | |

Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.

N/A

66. Has your country supported, financially and otherwise, indigenous and local communities in formulating their own community development and biodiversity conservation plans that will enable such communities to adopt a culturally appropriate strategic, integrated and phased approach to their development needs in line with community goals and objectives?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below) | |
| c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below) | |

Further information on the support provided.

N/A

Box XLVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Questions are not applicable for Lithuania.

Article 9 - *Ex-situ* conservation

67. On Article 9(a) and (b), has your country adopted measures for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country and originating outside your country?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

x

Further information on the measures adopted for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biodiversity native to your country and originating outside your country.

There are several zoological gardens that contribute to European breeding programmes for threatened animal species (there is Zoo in Kaunas and A Marine Aquarium located in Klaipeda). These programmes are coordinate through the European programmes by the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA).

There are six botanical gardens in Lithuania: Kaunas, Vilnius, Klaipeda, Šiauliai, Kretinga and Palanga.

Zoology Museum at the Vilnius University and the Museum of Ecology attached to the Institute of Ecology have the best examples of specimen of the Lithuanian Fauna.

There is a comprehensive collection of plant specimen stored in Institute of Botany since 1948 and at Vilnius University. The herbarium of Institute Botany (a total of 130,000 specimen) comprises sub-collections, such as fungi, lichens, bryophytes, vascular plants (terrestrial and aquatic) and alien species.

All collections referred above are state owned and managed.

There are also private collections which maintain a good representation of cultural plant and tree species and varieties. There are a few private collections of reptile, amphibia and fish species.

The collections are replenished according to research programs and projects run by the institutes or universities.

The institutions also periodically publish the catalogues of their collections. Major part of the research on national biodiversity is based on the collections.

However, there is no single source of information on state collections. Information on private live animal collections is collected at the Ministry of Environment.

With genetic resources of cereal and grain legume crops are working two institutions - Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture and Lithuanian Agricultural University.; with genetic resources of yellow lupine, blue forage and blue sidental lupine - Voke Branch of Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture; with genetic resources of forage grasses and legumes - Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture and Lithuanian Agricultural University; with genetic resources of potato - Voke Branch oh Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture; with genetic resources of flax - Upyte Branch of Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture; genetic resources of vegetables - Lithuanian Institute of Horticulture; with genetic resources of traditional horticultural plants - Lithuanian Institute of Horticulture; with genetic resources of wild small fruit and non-traditional horticultural crops - Institute of Botany, Botanical Garden of Kaunas Vytautas Magnus University.

68. On Article 9(c), has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.

The programme and action plan for restoration and conservation of *Salmo trutta* resources for 2003-2010 was approved by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture in 2003.

The programme and action plan for restoration and conservation of *Salmo salar* resources for 1997-2010 was approved by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture in 1998.

Until the adoption of this programme and action plan wild *Salmo salar* was observed only in one river and currently it lives in 10 rivers. There was established a hatchery for wild salmon and certain number of smolt annually is released into Lithuanian rivers.

69. On Article 9(d), has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for *ex-situ* conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and *in-situ* populations of species?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for *ex-situ* conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and *in-situ* populations of species.

In Lithuania taking of wild species from the the wild is regulated by these legal acts:

Law on Wildlife (1997).

Law on Protected Animal, Plant, Fungi Species and their Habitats (1997).

Order on Taking of Wild Animals from their Habitats to Form Zoological Collections and their Registration (2002).

Order on Use of Wild Animals for Scientific, Cultural, Educational and Aesthetical Purposes (2002).

Order on Taking of Protected Wild Animal, Plant and Fungi Species from the Wild (2000).

Rules on Licensing, Management and Control of Zoos (2002).

Law on Wild Flora (1999).

Order on Use of Resources of Wild Flora (2000).

For taking from the wild most of fauna species and all protected Flora species depending on situation is obligatory to have a permit issued by the Ministry of Environment, Regional Environmental Protection Department or Administration of Protected Area. The issuing Authorities have a right to take a decision on every single case to issue permit or refuse the application depending on the status of species and it should take into account present trends of species population.

Box XLVIII .

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

See Question 116 and Box LIV for descriptions of some challenges and outcomes.

Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

70. On Article 10(a), has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making?

a) No	
b) No, but steps are being taken	
c) Yes, in some relevant sectors (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, in most relevant sectors (please provide details below)	

Further information on integrating consideration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making.

National Strategy for Sustainable Development has been adopted by Lithuanian Government in 2003. The strategy has been developed involving representatives from different sectors as well as researchers, planners, representatives from NGOs. The objectives of the strategy are to strengthen integration of sustainable development principles into different sectors. Sustainable use of biological resources are among one of the key elements of the strategy. Following the National Strategy for Sustainable Development conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of natural resources has been integrated in some development sectors.

71. On Article 10(b), has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the measures adopted relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity.

Legislation sector dealing with sustainable use of biological resources is in force. Law on Wild Plants, Law on Wild Animals, Hunting Rules, Fishery Law, Forestry Law and related Regulations are securing system of licenses and limits for conservation of endangered species and use of biological resources. Licenses and permission systems ensure control of fishery and hunting, taking plant and animal species from the wild.

72. ? On Article 10(c), has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but potential measures are under review | |
| c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below) | |

Further information on the measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

There no legal requirements concerning protection and encouraging of customary use of biological resources.

73. ? On Article 10(d), has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but potential measures are under review | |
| c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below) | X |

Further information on the measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity has been reduced.

Legal acts, including different regulations set measures for re-naturalization and restoration of degraded land. Permission for extraction in bogs and gravel areas are issued with obligation to re-naturalize areas. Forest management plans require obligatory reforestation of deforested areas as well as to keep forest stands with higher biodiversity.

Rural Development Plan and other documents foresee measures for diversification of agricultural areas to forest areas. Local population, especially farmers have used aforestation schemes. In the previous years Government also support local diversification of agricultural land to forest and that support was widely used by local population. Agro – environmental scheme foresees support for landscape management and restoration with aim to nature conservation as well as management of semi – natural grassland areas.

74. ? Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way | |
| c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below) | |

Further comments on the identification of indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

75. ? Has your country implemented sustainable use practices, programmes and policies for the sustainable use of biological diversity, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation? (decision V/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but potential practices, programmes and policies are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on sustainable use programmes and policies.

76. Has your country developed or explored mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please describe below)	X

Further comments on the development of mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity.

Legal acts and systems of limitation of harvesting of fish, wild game, Roman snails, mushrooms and medical plants are in force. Private sector need permissions for limits to harvest above mentioned biological resources. Private persons or companies exploring fish or Roman snails for trade are obligatory obliged to recover resources.

77. Has your country initiated a process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)

a) No	X
b) No, but the principles and guidelines are under review	
c) Yes, a process is being planned	
d) Yes, a process has been initiated (please provide detailed information)	

Further information on the process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

There are only plans to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

78. Has your country taken any initiative or action to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)

a) No

X

b) No, but relevant programmes are under development

c) Yes, some technologies developed and transferred and limited financial resources provided (please provide details below)

d) Yes, many technologies developed and transferred and significant financial resources provided (please provide details below)

Further comments on the development and transfer of technologies and provision of financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

Biodiversity and Tourism

79. **?** Has your country established mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity?

a) No

X

b) No, but mechanisms are under development

c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please specify below)

d) Yes, existing mechanisms are under review

Further comments on the establishment of mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity.

There no plans or programmes to assess or monitor the impact of tourism on biodiversity. Some local projects have been carried out. PHARE project "Integrated Coastal Zone Management " focused on impact of tourism on nature, including biodiversity, in coastal area.

80. **?** Has your country provided educational and training programmes to the tourism operators so as to increase their awareness of the impacts of tourism on biodiversity and upgrade the technical capacity at the local level to minimize the impacts? (decision V/25)

a) No

X

b) No, but programmes are under development

c) Yes, programmes are in place (please describe below)

Further comments on educational and training programmes provided to tourism operators.

Some universities have developed the programmes on recreation and tourism, where is the course on "Tourism and Environment", but not specially focused on biodiversity.

81. Does your country provide indigenous and local communities with capacity-building and financial resources to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management? (decision VII/14)

a) No

b) No, but relevant programmes are being considered

X

c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)

Further comments in the capacity-building and financial resources provided to indigenous and local communities to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management.

There are some private initiatives, like tourism associations, which trained local communities on capacity – building, development management and product development and management, but not policy – making.

82. Has your country integrated the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development in the development or review of national strategies and plans for tourism development, national biodiversity strategies and actions plans, and other related sectoral strategies? (decision VII/14)

a) No, but the guidelines are under review

b) No, but a plan is under consideration to integrate some principles of the guidelines into relevant strategies

X

c) Yes, a few principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)

d) Yes, many principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)

Further information on the sectors where the principles of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development are integrated.

Biodiversity protection and tourism development is not incorporated in sectoral strategies, but they are under consideration.

National Tourism Development Programme (2003 – 2006) contains some provisions on development of environmentally friendly tourism (ecotourism).

Box XLIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;

b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;

c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;

d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Tourism is a rapidly growing economical sector in Lithuania in the last years. Every year amount of tourists is increasing, especially in countryside. Forecasted tendency is that tourism will be developed in the future. Such tendency is considered as a threat to biodiversity. It is necessary to implement the following actions in Lithuania:

First of all nature and biodiversity conservation should be incorporated in tourism legislation and policy and strategic planning documents. The environment protection legislation sector should be revised and updated with aspects of tourism impact on environment, especially biodiversity.

Government and municipalities should develop education programmes for tourism associations, tourism companies, tourism managers, guides, information centers. These programmes should include training and education materials (publication materials and internet sites) on environmentally friendly tourism, impact of tourism on environment, especially biodiversity, establishing "Green Certificate" companies and organizations dealing with tourism industry.

Government and environment authorities should develop programmes for tourism management in protected areas, Natura 2000 and environmentally sensitive areas. These programmes should include tourism management, development infrastructure and education.

Scientific studies on impact of tourism on environment, especially biodiversity, should be carried out. It is necessary to develop guidelines on tourism management with aspects to environment protection.

It is important to build cooperation between governmental institutions, municipalities, tourism organizations and NGOs.

These actions undertaken and described in the section will contribute to achievements of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, contribute to progress towards the 2010 targets, the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and to progress in implementation of Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

Article 11 - Incentive measures

83. ? Has your country established programmes to identify and adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the programmes to identify and adopt incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Some biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of biological resources issues are integrated in Lithuanian Rural Development Plan and Good Agriculture Code. Agro – environmental schemes foresee management of semi – natural grasslands, establishing and management of buffer zones along the watercourses and water bodies. Rural Development Plan supporting local communities could serve as good incentive and enhance to incorporate conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of biological components to other sectors plans and programmes.

84. ? Has your country developed the mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas? (decisions III/18 and IV/10)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

d) Yes, review of impact of mechanisms available (please provide details below)

Further comments on the mechanism or approaches to incorporate market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes.

85. Has your country developed training and capacity-building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private -sector initiatives? (decision III/18)

a) No

b) No, but relevant programmes are under development

c) Yes, some programmes are in place

X

d) Yes, many programmes are in place

86. Does your country take into consideration the proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures as contained in Annex I to decision VI/15 when designing and implementing incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision VI/15)

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the proposals considered when designing and implementing the incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

There are only some. It has been draft the Regulation on the compensation of the loss due to the restrictions of economical activity in the protected areas. The Regulation foresees to compensate loss of income costs resulting from the total or partial restrictions. This compensation mechanism could be applied mostly for agriculture land, but in some case to forestry activities. In the end of 2004 the Government approved the compensatory order for the restrictions in forestry in the protected areas.

87. Has your country made any progress in removing or mitigating policies or practices that generate perverse incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity? (decision VII/18)

a) No

b) No, but identification of such policies and practices is under way

X

c) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified but not entirely removed or mitigated (please provide details below)

d) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified and removed or mitigated (please provide details below)

Further information on perverse incentives identified and/or removed or mitigated.

Box L.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The incentives concerning payments are provided in the Rural Development Plan (Agro – environmental scheme) and the compensation of the loss of income due to the restriction of economic activity in protected areas. These payments is going to provide source of income for rural population which used intensive farming in the past.

Actions undertaking and described in above section contribute to the achievement of all 4 major Goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

Incentives will facilitate the implementation of Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan.

The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 Ensure Environmental Sustainability.

One of the main obstacles for successful implementation of Article 11 in forests and especially in protected areas is lack of compensatory mechanisms and financial resources allocated for these purposes.

Article 12 - Research and training

88. On Article 12(a), has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components?

a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the programmes for scientific and technical education and training in the measures for identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

There are no established state programmes for scientific and technical education and training. Lithuanian Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan contain some provisions and actions, but further actions has not been done.

There are plans of the Ministry of Environment to develop education programme on biodiversity conservation.

Baltic Environmental Forum, PHARE and DANCEE projects arranged training courses on biodiversity conservation and management of protected areas in the past years.

Some Lithuanian Universities established education programmes for students and training courses for environmental specialists.

89. On Article 12(b), does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Ministry of Environment has limited financial sources for funding research on conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of biological components. Governmental funds for research are also small to contribute to research of biodiversity and sustainable use of biological components. In general funding for research on biodiversity and sustainable use of biological components is insufficient.

90. On Article 12(c), does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the use of scientific advances in biodiversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Box LI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Lithuanian universities are providing education programmes, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University and Vilnius University have training course on biodiversity and sustainable use of biological components.

Baltic Environmental Forum, PHARE and DANCEE projects have organized series of trainings on biodiversity conservation and management of protected areas and key forest habitats.

Some training activities were organized by NGOs: Lithuanian Fund for Nature, Lithuanian Ornithological Society on biodiversity conservation, management of protected areas, key forest habitats.

Actions undertaken and described in above mentioned section contribute to the achievement of Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention and contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal Ensure Environmental Sustainability.

There are some obstacles for successful implementation of Article 12 of the Convention. Lack of financial resources for research, absence of state programme and training on biodiversity and sustainable use of biological components, absence of joint biodiversity database and register as well as education material are the key obstacles for successful implementation of the Article.

Article 13 - Public education and awareness

91. Is your country implementing a communication, education and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention? (Goal 4.1 of the Strategic Plan)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but a CEPA strategy is under development | |
| c) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a limited extent (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a significant extent (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the implementation of a CEPA strategy and the promotion of public participation in support of the Convention.

Any special communication, education and public awareness strategy regarding to the Convention has not been yet elaborated in Lithuania. Such strategy has been not elaborated for general environmental protection issues as well. Issues on education and information regarding for biodiversity protection are included in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan and Environment Protection Strategy.

92. Is your country undertaking any activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness as contained in the annex to decision VI/19? (decision VI/19)

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below) | X |
| d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA.

Lithuanian Ministry of Environment and its managed environment protection fund has allocated budget line for environmental education and public awareness, but there are no special resources allocated related for biodiversity. Ministry has supported several publications on biodiversity protection issues. Municipalities are active in publication of books and brochures on their district biodiversity. Such publications are available for different specialist groups and general public.

International biodiversity related projects, funded by PHARE, DANCEE, GEF, etc, contain education and public awareness components and activities, especially projects related to Natura 2000.

Some NGOs, like Lithuanian Fund for Nature, Lithuanian Ornithological Society and Environment Information Center, carried out or are being carrying out several projects related to education and public awareness issues on biodiversity protection.

93. Is your country strongly and effectively promoting biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level? (decision VI/19)S

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but some programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below) | X |
| d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.

In general promotion of biodiversity protection related issues through the media and different communication networks is active and significant. Ministry of Environment and its sub – ordinated authorities have not special education and communication officer related to biodiversity conservation (in the Ministry of Environment is a Public Information Division for all general environment issues). Media is interested mostly in illegal building of houses in protected areas, hunting issues, pollution, but not so much in biodiversity. Time by time main newspapers are publishing articles on biodiversity protection. Specialized newspapers and magazines, like “Zaliasis pasaulis” (“Green World”), “Teviskės Gamta” (“Nature of Motherland”), “Baltasis Gandras” (“White Stork”) are publishing a lot of articles on biodiversity conservation issues. Magazine “Musu Girios” (“Our Forests”) also is publishing articles on forest biodiversity protection. Some NGOs are publishing their own publications. Lithuanian Fund for Nature is publishing information bulletin “Gamtosaugos Aktualijos” (“Nature Conservation Actualities”), which articles are related only to biodiversity protection issues. Lithuanian Green Movement is publishing newspaper “Zalioji Lietuva” (“Green Lithuania”) which contains some articles on biodiversity protection.

Currently there is no specialized TV programme related to biodiversity protection. Sometimes environment education TV programmes contain biodiversity protection issues. National broadcasting radio programme has regular programmes on nature conservation issues.

In order to facilitate environment education and public awareness, Ministry of Environment of Lithuania together with Lithuanian Journalist Union has establish special yearly award “Man and Environment” to journalists and persons writing articles on environment, including biodiversity, conservation issues.

94. Does your country promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level? (decision VI/19)

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the efforts to promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level.

State authorities are promoting education and public awareness activities mainly on the national level. Meanwhile some municipalities, like Kasiadorys, Mazeikiai, are active on education and public awareness on local level. These activities are mostly related to nature conservation issues, including biodiversity conservation. Several municipalities support biodiversity research and different books and brochures on biodiversity conservation.

District and town municipalities’ newspapers usually have articles on biodiversity protection. Local NGOs, schools and protected areas administrations publish different information materials and arrange different events on biodiversity conservation.

Local people are involved in public hearings during elaboration of management plans.

95. Is your country supporting national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness? (decision VI/19)

a) No

b) No, but some programmes are under development

c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below)

d) Yes, many activities supported (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the support of national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness.

Lithuania supports related, but not the same, activities of the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness. It is performed by state, municipality and NGOs as well as projects in different ways. Different organizations are carrying out different activities: from media and publications to maintaining of home pages or establishing information centers.

Protected areas management, especially Natura 2000 and biodiversity related international projects (PHARE, DANCEE, GEF, etc.) contain education and public awareness activities. A lot of trainings on Natura 2000 and biodiversity protection for different stakeholder groups were performed by Baltic Environment Forum (BEF).

96. Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness?

a) No

b) No, but some programmes are under development

c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)

X

d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)

Further comments on the development of adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness.

There are no special adequate programmes and projects on communication, education and public awareness. But related activities are performed (see above sections).

97. Does your country promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness at the national, regional and international levels? (decisions IV /10 and VI/19)

a) No

X

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on the promotion of cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness, at the national, regional and international levels.

There are no programmes which promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness raising. Irregular and not systematic exchange and cooperation is performed between some state authorities or NGOs on different levels.

Vilnius University and Kaunas Vytautas Magnus University together with 3 Norwegian universities have elaborated and performed joint master studies on biodiversity and environment management. Other universities in Lithuania have irregular exchange of international programmes on biodiversity protection.

98. Is your country undertaking some CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention?

a) No (please specify reasons below)

b) Yes, some activities undertaken for some issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)

X

c) Yes, many activities undertaken for most issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive activities undertaken for all issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)

Further comments on the CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention.

Some activities on different thematic issues are foreseen in Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. Some projects carry out cross – cutting activities targeting to conservation of different ecosystems, forest, agriculture, etc.

Some projects have trainings to increase capacity and awareness related to biodiversity protection and Natura 2000, among agriculture and forestry stakeholders. Project on woodland key habitats performed a lot of trainings on conservation and awareness for foresters and other interested groups.

99. ? Does your country support initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes as well as into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision IV/10 and Goal 4.4 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biodiversity conservation in their practice and education programmes as well as their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Ministry of Environment of Lithuania and its managed Environment Protection Fund have budget line to support environmental education and public awareness raising. Local municipalities' environment protection funds also support institutions in the field of environment education and public awareness. Unfortunately there are no special fund or programme to support biodiversity conservation related education and public awareness activities.

100. Is your country communicating the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and establishing appropriate linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development in the implementation of your national CEPA programmes and activities? (decision VII/24)

a) No

X

b) No, but some programmes are under development

c) Yes, some programmes developed and activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive programmes developed and many activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)

Further comments on the communication of the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.

Box LII .

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

In spite that Communication, Education and Public Awareness Strategy is not elaborated in Lithuania, related activities are carried or being carried out. The main outcomes of these activities are: information publications are printed and delivered to different target groups, more information and education centers are established in protected areas, more information is available on websites, public participation in environment impact assessment procedures and public hearings on elaboration of management plans are increased, main biodiversity provisions are incorporated in sectoral plans (agriculture, forestry, etc.).

Described actions in above contribute to the achievement of Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

Some of activities are foreseen in Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan have been implemented and they partly contribute towards the 2010 targets and to implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability.

Results of the project "National Capacity Self – assessment for Global Environmental Management: Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation (LT)" identified that the main constraint implementing Communication, Education and Public Awareness Strategy activities is lack of capacity (financial resources, human resources), prioritization of such activities. Communication between different institutions are insufficient yet, clear insufficient communication is among state authorities and land owners, and even municipalities. Lack of public involvement in decision making process, EIA, public hearing are results of insufficient communication and public awareness.

Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

101. ? On Article 14.1(a), has your country developed legislation requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, legislation is still in early stages of development | |
| c) No, but legislation is in advanced stages of development | |
| d) Yes, legislation is in place (please provide details below) | X |
| e) Yes, review of implementation available (please provide details below) | |

Further information on the legislation requiring EIA of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biodiversity.

The Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of Proposed Economic Activities was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005 (new articles concerning Natura 2000 areas, public participation and role of local municipalities added). This Law is in full compliance with the EC Directive 85/337/EEC.

102. ? On Article 14.1(b), has your country developed mechanisms to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development | |
| c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development | |
| d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on the mechanisms developed to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biodiversity.

Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004. Order of the minister of environment concerning the assessment of impact of plans and programs implementation to Natura 2000 areas was adopted in December 2004.

103. ? On Article 14.1(c), is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction?

- a) No
- b) No, but assessment of options is in progress
- c) Yes, some completed, others in progress (please provide details below)
- d) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biodiversity outside your country's jurisdiction.

Exists one bilateral agreement with Poland on EIA which was signed in 2004. It is prepared a draft agreement with Latvia on EIA but at present all further negotiations was stopped. At the moment there are no actions concerning the preparation of bilateral agreements on EIA with Russia and Belarus.

The trilateral cooperation among the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) on environmental issues is well developed and is based on the agreement among the Governments of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (signed in 1995). Within this framework the Ministers of Environment of all three Baltic states periodically meet on environmental protection issues.

Being a Party to the Baltic Sea Environment Protection Convention (Helsinki Convention) from 1994 and a Party to the Convention on Fisheries and the Protection of Fish Resources in the Baltic Sea from 1994, Lithuania actively participates in the implementation of biodiversity and its resources protection in the Baltic region.

Strengthening international relations with other European States Lithuania has signed two Conventions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe – the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

Lithuania actively participates in the implementation of the joint programme Baltic 21. This is a joint programme for sustainable development in the Baltic sea region approved by the Council of Baltic Region Countries (Ministers of Foreign Affairs) in 1998.

Also look at the answer to the question No. 109

104. ? On Article 14.1(d), has your country put mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your territory to biological diversity in the territory of other Parties or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction?

- a) No
- b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development
- c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development
- d) Yes, mechanisms are in place based on current scientific knowledge

X

105. ? On Article 14.1(e), has your country established national mechanisms for emergency response to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity?

- a) No
- b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development
- c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development
- d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on national mechanisms for emergency response to the activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity.

In Lithuania there is a State Environment Protection Inspection (subordinate institution of the Ministry of Environment). This Inspection has a Division of Emergency Prevention and Control. Also in Lithuania there are 8 Regional Nature Protection Departments and in each department there is a Division of Wildlife Conservation. These institutions are responsible for prevention and control of activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity.

Also in the state parks (national and regional) and nature reserves there are state environment protection inspectors.

106. Is your country applying the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes and in Strategic Impact Assessment as contained in the annex to decision VI/7 in the context of the implementation of paragraph 1 of Article 14? (decision VI/7)

- a) No
- b) No, but application of the guidelines under consideration
- c) Yes, some aspects being applied (please specify below)
- d) Yes, major aspects being applied (please specify below)

X

Further comments on application of the guidelines.

The Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of Proposed Economic Activities was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005 (new articles concerning Natura 2000 sites, public participation and role of local municipalities added). This Law is in full compliance with the EC Directive 85/337/EEC.

Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004.

Order of the minister of environment concerning the assessment of significance of impacts of plans and programs implementation to Natura 2000 sites was adopted in December 2004 (SEA level).

Now is prepared a draft ministerial order on the assessment of significance of impacts of projects implementation to Natura 2000 sites (EIA level).

107. On Article 14 (2), has your country put in place national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity? (decision VI/11)

- a) No
- b) Yes (please specify the measures)

X

Further comments on national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.

Governmental resolution on Redress for Damage Causes to the Forests was adopted in 1991.

In the administrative Violation Code of Republic of Lithuania there are articles about liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.

108. Has your country put in place any measures to prevent damage to biological diversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but some measures are being developed
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity.

The Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of Proposed Economic Activities was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005 (new articles concerning Natura 2000 areas added).

Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004. Order of the minister of environment concerning the assessment of impact of plans and programs implementation to Natura 2000 areas was adopted in December 2004.

The Law on Environmental Protection was adopted in 1992.

Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (adopted in 1997) regulates the protection and use of other components of biological diversity.

Law on Plant Species and Communities (1999).

Law on Wild Flora (1999) and Law on Wild Animals (2001) provide principles of sustainable use of biological resources.

In 2000 the List of Protected Animal, Plant and Fungi Species was approved by the Ministry of Environment.

Law on Protected Areas adopted in 2001.

And also there are some supplementary legal acts (orders of the minister of environment) preventing damage to biodiversity (such as restrictions for boating in some water bodies, list of rivers where is prohibited to construct dams and etc.).

109. Is your country cooperating with other Parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity, establishment and implementation of national legislative regimes, policy and administrative measures on liability and redress? (decision VI/11)

- a) No
- b) No, but cooperation is under consideration
- c) No, but cooperative programmes are under development
- d) Yes, some cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)
- e) Yes, comprehensive cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on cooperation with other Parties to strengthen capacities for the prevention of damage to biodiversity.

Lithuania has signed Intergovernmental bilateral agreements concerning the cooperation on environmental issues with Latvia, Belarus, Sweden and Russian Federation. In addition there are many bilateral institutional agreements between Lithuanian institutions and institutions of other countries (Sweden, Austria, Poland, Holland, Finland, Belarus, Denmark, Kazakhstan, Latvia and Slovak Republic) concerning the cooperation on environmental issues or specific environmental questions.

The trilateral cooperation among the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) on environmental issues is well developed and is based on the agreement among the Governments of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (signed in 1995). Within this framework the Ministers of Environment of all three Baltic states periodically meet on environmental protection issues.

Permanent international cooperation of Lithuanian environmental specialists is not limited by the Baltic Sea Region. Such cooperation is promoted devising and implementing working plans for bilateral intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements between Lithuania and foreign countries.

Being a Party to the Baltic Sea Environment Protection Convention (Helsinki Convention) from 1994 and a Party to the Convention on Fisheries and the Protection of Fish Resources in the Baltic Sea from 1994, Lithuania actively participates in the implementation of biodiversity and its resources protection in the Baltic region.

Strengthening international relations with other European States Lithuania has signed two Conventions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe – the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

Lithuania actively participates in the implementation of the joint programme Baltic 21. This is a joint programme for sustainable development in the Baltic sea region approved by the Council of Baltic Region Countries (Ministers of Foreign Affairs) in 1998.

Box LIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of Proposed Economic Activities was adopted in 1996 and amended in June 2005 (new articles concerning Natura 2000 sites, public participation and role of local municipalities added). This Law is in full compliance with the EC Directive 85/337/EEC. Also this Law reflects the requirements of Espoo convention. The Ministry of Environment according to the Law on EIA is competent authority and its decision is legally binding.

Governmental resolution on Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Impact of Plans and Programmes (SEA) was adopted in 2004. This Governmental resolution is in full compliance with European Parliament Directive 2001/42/EC (Strategic Environmental Assessment).

These legal acts strongly contributes to the achievements of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, Millennium Development Goals, to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and to the achievement of the 2010 target because it helps to prevent or reduce negative impacts to biodiversity and environment.

The biggest constraints are that sometimes economical needs play leading role in decision making and nature conservation is in second place.

Article 15 - Access to genetic resources

110. ? Has your country endeavored to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, in accordance with paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 of Article 15?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the efforts taken by your country to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms.

In the Article 4 of the Law on National Plant Genetic Resources (2001) there are the provisions that Institutions authorized by the Government shall establish the procedure of exchange, import and export of the national genetic resources and co-operate with foreign institutions.

111. ? Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Parties, in accordance with Article 15(6)?

a) No

b) No, but potential measures are under review

c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties.

112. ? Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and of the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources, in accordance with Article 15(7)?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place (please provide details below)
- e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place (please provide details below)
- f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the type of measures taken.

113. ? In developing national measures to address access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, has your country taken into account the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?

- a) No
- b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on national measures taken which consider the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing as set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

In 2005 Lithuanian Parliament ratified the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

114. Is your country using the Bonn Guidelines when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing and/or when negotiating contracts and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing? (decision VII/19A)

- a) No
- b) No, but steps being taken to do so (please provide details below)
- c) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Please provide details and specify successes and constraints in the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines.

115. Has your country adopted national policies or measures, including legislation, which address the role of intellectual property rights in access and benefit-sharing arrangements (i.e. the issue of disclosure of origin/source/legal provenance of genetic resources in applications for intellectual property rights where the subject matter of the application concerns, or makes use of, genetic resources in its development)?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential policies or measures have been identified (please specify below)
- c) No, but relevant policies or measures are under development (please specify below)

- d) Yes, some policies or measures are in place (please specify below)
- e) Yes, comprehensive policies or measures adopted (please specify below)

X

Further information on policies or measures that address the role of IPR in access and benefit-sharing arrangements.

There are no legal acts which specifically address the use of native genetic resources by other bodies outside Lithuania. The cases so far have been related to research projects and the terms of use of such resources have been regulated by agreements or contracts between the parties.

The Law on the Protection of Plant Varieties (2001) regulates the relations of natural and legal persons relating to legal protection and use of varieties of plants. Here are provisions establishing breeder's rights and obligations, types of Licence Contracts (a written agreement drawn up between the selector and a natural or legal person, granting that person the right to propagate and disseminate the propagating material of the variety whereof legal protection shall be applied), conditions for conclusion of licence contracts, requirements of Licence Contracts and what should be specified in this contract. The Law also states that natural and legal persons who violate the requirements of this Law shall be held liable under the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

The Law on National Plant Genetic Resources (2001) states that the national plant genetic resources shall make up a component part of the living natural resources of the Republic of Lithuania. They shall belong by the right of ownership to the State and legal and natural persons. National plant genetic resources shall be freely available for plant breeding and research and other bona fide objectives, as for: scientific research, plant breeding and seed production, reproduction, exchanges, satisfaction of the rational (purposeful) human needs (food, technological reprocessing, raw materials for drugs and for other objectives consuming national plant genetic resources in the environment) and the national plant genetic resources shall be used on a sustainable basis.

The Law on Animal Breeding (1998) regulates the preservation of the gene pool of animal breeds of the Republic of Lithuania and is applied to most of animals used in Agriculture.

116. Has your country been involved in capacity-building activities related to access and benefit-sharing?

- a) Yes (please provide details below)
- b) No

X

Please provide further information on capacity-building activities (your involvement as donor or recipient, key actors involved, target audience, time period, goals and objectives of the capacity-building activities, main capacity-building areas covered, nature of activities). Please also specify whether these activities took into account the Action Plan on capacity-building for access and benefit-sharing adopted at COP VII and available in annex to decision VII/19F.

The main legal acts related to access and benefit sharing are:

1. The Law on National Plant Genetic Resources (2001).
2. The Law on the Protection of Plant Varieties (2001).
3. The Law on Animal Breeds (1998).

Implementing the Law on National Plant Genetic Resources was established Plant Gene Bank which is financed from the State Budget and which co-ordinates conservation and studies of plant genetic resources and conserves plant genetic material. The co-ordination centers (various Institutes and Universities) co-ordinate collection, research and conservation according to plant groups (agricultural (field crops), forest trees and shrubs, horticultural plants, ornamental plants, medicinal aromatic plants. The Permanent Committee of the National Plant Genetic Resources established of the representatives of the State administrative institutions, science and study institutions and non-governmental institutions, for solving the issues of the selection, conservation, use and regeneration of the national plant genetic resources. Upon receiving the proposals of the co-ordination centers of plant national genetic resources, this committee selects plant genetic resources and submits them to the institutions authorized by the Government in order that they may grant them the status of national genetic resources and include them in the central database. The Committee also submits proposals to the institutions authorized by the Government concerning the improvement of the condition of the national plant genetic resources. Among other tasks of the committee is the task to propagate the importance of plant genetic resources and cooperate with similar institutions in the country and abroad. The committee operates on a voluntary basis. In 2003 the Central Data Basis of the National Plant Genetic Resources was established by the Ministry of Environment, the Manager of this data base was appointed the Plant Gene Bank.

According to the Law on the Protection of Plant Varieties the responsibility and authority to register these varieties is given to the Center for Research of Plant Varieties by the law. Also the Commission for the Evaluation of Plant Varieties at the Ministry of Agriculture was established by the law.

The Register of Varieties of Plants Protected in the Republic of Lithuania is the principal document for recording varieties of plants, having legal protection in Lithuania. The Register is comprised and administered by the Register of Protected Varieties Administrator - the institution authorised by Ministry of Agriculture.

As it is stated in Article 6 of the Law on National Plant Genetic Resources the implementation of scientific research, collection, conservation and regeneration of the national plant genetic resources shall be funded from the State Budget and the funds of users of national plant genetic resources, funds of international foundations and organizations and also, voluntary contributions by legal and natural persons may be sources of funding the means of the protection of national plant genetic resources.

Box LIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

There were no specific actions taken to implement certain decisions and Bonn Guidelines, but part of the provisions are transposed and implemented by the National Laws and leading legislation. Previously mentioned (in Question No 116) institutions are implementing legal provisions on access to and protection of genetic resources, the newly established (in January 1, 2004) Plant Gene Bank under the Ministry of Environment coordinates most of the activities related to plant genetic resources and management of data base and storage of plant genetic material. Currently insufficient financial resources are allocated for all activities needed to implement Bonn Guidelines and other related issues. The research institutions are financed from the State budget allocated for scientific purposes, the Plant Gene Bank - from Strategic Action Programme of the Government and at this moment the Ministry of Environment makes attempts to get financial resources for maintenance, renewal and propagation of field collections.

Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology

117. ? On Article 16(1), has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.

Access to genetic resources and transfer of technologies is determined in various legal acts and mostly on contractual basis.

118. ? On Article 16(3), has your country taken measures so that Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place
- d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place
- e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place
- f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative arrangements are in place
- g) Not applicable

X

119. ? On Article 16(4), has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of Government institutions and the private sector of developing countries?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)
- e) Not applicable

X

Further information on the measures taken.

Box LV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The access and transfer of technology is regulated by the national legal acts, usually the transfer requires conclusion of contracts between parties on mutually agreed terms.

Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation

120. Has your country provided financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation? (decision VII/29)

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but relevant programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some programmes being implemented (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive programmes being implemented (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the provision of financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.

121. Is your country taking any measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation? (decision VII/29)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but some measures being considered | |
| c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation.

122. Has your country made any technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building? (annex to decision VII/29)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but assessments are under way | X |
| c) Yes, basic assessments undertaken (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, thorough assessments undertaken (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building.

123. Has your country made any assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies? (annex to decision VII/29)

- a) No
- b) No, but assessments are under way
- c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive assessments undertaken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies.

According to the Law on Genetically Modified Organisms and Order on Risk Assessment for deliberate release and placing on the market genetically modified organisms is needed permit. The application is considered at the Management Steering Committee which presents its conclusions to the Ministry of Environment – permits issuing authority. Until now the Ministry of Environment has issued 3 permits.

124. Has your country identified and implemented any measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including assessing capacity building needs? (annex to decision VII/29)

- a) No
- b) No, but some programmes are under development
- c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation.

125. Has your country taken any of the measures specified under Target 3.2 of the programme of work as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention? (annex to decision VII/29)

- a) No
- b) No, but a few measures being considered
- c) Yes, some measures taken (please specify below)
- d) Yes, many measures taken (please specify below)

X

Further comments on the measures taken as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention.

Most of the national Laws of various sectors have a provision that among other tasks, the implementing institutions and Management Authorities shall cooperate with other national and international institutions and participate in appropriate international projects.

Box LVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 17 - Exchange of information

126. On Article 17(1), has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources with a view to assist with the implementation of the Convention and promote technical and scientific cooperation?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

The following question (127) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

127. On Article 17(1), do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries and include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?

a) No	N/A
b) Yes, but they do not include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	
c) Yes, and they include categories of information listed in Article 17 (2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	

Box LVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Main environmental protection authorities have elaborated and maintain home pages which contain information on biodiversity protection, status on environment, e.g. Lithuanian Ministry of Environment (www.am.lt), Environment Protection Agency (<http://aaa.am.lt>), State Protected Areas Service (www.vstt.lt), State Environment Protection Inspectorate (<http://vaai.am.lt>). NGOs also have own home pages, like Lithuanian Fund for Nature (www.glis.lt), Lithuanian Ornithological Society (www.birdlife.lt), Environmental Information Center (www.apicentras.lt). Database on protected areas and Natura 2000 network is available on State Protected Areas Service. Unfortunately there are any available database on biodiversity. Biodiversity register is not established yet. Internet is widely used among general society and it is available in cities and towns. Available information is used for education, scientific and technical purposes.

Actions undertaken and described above contribute to the achievement of the Goals 2 and 4 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan includes information, training and education sections for each type of ecosystems and species protection. Lithuanian Environment Protection Agency maintain environment monitoring database, including biodiversity. Ministry of Environment is publishing information report "Status on Environment". Report is available for general public and different specialist groups. Ministry of Environment is also publishing information books and brochures on environment, including brochure on status of Red Data Book list. In general some actions of the strategy are implemented, but some still need to be undertaken.

These actions contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 "Ensure environmental sustainability".

The report of the project "National Capacity Self – assessment for Global Environmental Management: Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation (LT)" identified main gaps and constraints in the field of exchange information: absence of state biodiversity database and register, lack of coordination in gathering data, lack of data on biodiversity trends, lack of information on biodiversity conservation for general public.

Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation

128. ? On Article 18(1), has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation.

International technical and scientific cooperation is established with Latvian, Belarus and Russia (Kaliningrad region) state and research institutions, NGOs as well. There are transboundary agreements between these countries on protected areas and biodiversity conservation.

Some projects, like "Sustainable development of Curonian lagoon", "Baltic Sea Regional Project" promote cooperation between Lithuania and Kaliningrad region (Russia).

Baltic Environmental Forum facilitate cooperation on Natura 2000 and biodiversity conservation between Baltic States (Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia).

129. ? On Article 18(4), has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant methods are under development	
c) Yes, methods are in place	

130. ? On Article 18(5), has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide some examples below)	

Examples for the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention.

131. Has your country established links to non-governmental organizations, private sector and other institutions holding important databases or undertaking significant work on biological diversity through the CHM? (decision V/14)

a) No	X
b) No, but coordination with relevant NGOs, private sector and other institutions under way	
c) Yes, links established with relevant NGOs, private sector and institutions	

The following question (132) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

132. Has your country further developed the CHM to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation? (decision V/14)

a) No	N/A
b) Yes, by using funding opportunities	
c) Yes, by means of access to, and transfer of technology	
d) Yes, by using research cooperation facilities	
e) Yes, by using repatriation of information	
f) Yes, by using training opportunities	
g) Yes, by using promotion of contacts with relevant institutions, organizations and the private sector	
h) Yes, by using other means (please specify below)	

Further comments on CHM developments to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation.

133. Has your country used CHM to make information available more useful for researchers and decision-makers? (decision V/14)

a) No

X

b) No, but relevant initiatives under consideration

c) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on development of relevant initiatives.

134. Has your country developed, provided and shared services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of the CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions? (decision V/14)

a) No

b) Yes (please specify services and tools below)

X

Further comments on services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions.

As reported by the project "the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) of Lithuania for Global Environmental Management in field of Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation", main constraints are limited financial resources and lack of cooperation. There are no joint database for biodiversity and official register (cadastre) of biodiversity. Absence of legally approved cadastre is big constraint protection of biodiversity in situ.

Box LVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Lithuania has not yet established Clearing House Mechanism. Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan do not foresee promotion of international cooperation on technical and scientific issues. Meanwhile several state authorities and research institutions, as well NGOs, established international cooperation.

International projects contain elements on technical and scientific cooperation. The projects carried out by Baltic Environmental Forum, especially "Baltic States' Regional Cooperation Programme for "Natura 2000", "Management of Natura 2000 sites – needs, possibilities, perspectives" has facilitated cooperation on biodiversity conservation.

Described actions in above contribute to the achievement of Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention and to implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability.

Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

135. On Article 19(1), has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place
- d) Yes, comprehensive legislation are in place
- e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy and subsidiary legislation are in place
- f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place

X

136. On Article 19(2), has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access by Parties, on a fair and equitable basis, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties?

- a) No
- b) No, but potential measures are under review
- c) Yes, some measures are in place
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place

X

Box LIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The research institutes in various aspects of biotechnology are the Institute of Biotechnology, Institute of Biochemistry, Institute of Botany, Vilnius University and Institute of Forestry. Institute Biotechnology is probably the most industry oriented research institute, giving the birth to four biotechnology based companies - AB Fermentas, AB Biofa, UAB Biocentras and UAB Biok in 1993-1994. The IB is working in two main directions of fundamental and applied research: genetic and molecular studies of the restriction-modification mechanisms and research and development of recombinant biomedical proteins.

Institute of Biotechnology as well as other biotech institutes are a part of a wide international network of partners, also having close links with universities and domestic biotech industry.

The Law on Genetically Modified organisms passed in 2001 and in 2003 it was amended. This Law contains provisions on management and control of genetically modified organisms and products, determines competences of Governmental institutions (Ministry of Environment, Ministries of Agriculture and Health, State Food and Veterinary Service), sets regulation provisions on activities involving the use of genetically modified organisms and products, provisions on information to the public and participation in decision making.

Article 20 – Financial resources

Box LX.

Please describe for each of the following items the quantity of financial resources, both internal and external, that have been utilized, received or provided, as applicable, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an annual basis, since your country became a Party to the Convention.

- | | |
|---|--|
| a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries | For implementation of the Convention financial resources are allocated from the State budget for various programmes, and here is no possibility to provide exact data on quantity of financial resources allocated for conservation of biological diversity and implementation of the Convention. |
| b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies) | |
| c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies) | Danish EPA (DANCEE program) has supported 2 projects on implementation of Natura 2000 in Lithuania in the period 1999 – 2004. The total support was appx.: 2,5 Million Euros. |
| d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies) | PHARE project has provided support for implementation of Bern and Bonn Conventions appx. 1,2 Million Euro for the period 2005-2006. In addition to this support PHARE has provided 400 000 Euro as technical support in order to implement these conventions. PHARE project on preparation of management plans for Natura 2000 sites provided appx. 900 000 Euro for the period 2004 – 2005. PHARE project on institutional capacity building and strengthening of protected areas administration provided 1.41 Million Euro for the period 2005 – 2006. |
| e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies) | Lithuania has received support for wetland conservation and restoration project from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). During I phase (2001-2003) it was provided 250 000 USD, II phase (2004 – 2009) 3 Million USD. Special support has been provided for the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management project and for preparation of the Third National Report on Biodiversity:
GEF Additional Funding for Biodiversity Enabling Activities |
| f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies) | Some international NGOs (WWF, Birdlife, Eeconet Action Fund, Frankfurt Zoological Society, MillieKontakt Oost-Europa, etc.) supported protection of biodiversity projects in total appx. 500 000 Euro for the period 2002-2005. |
| g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity | Financial resources charged for use of hunting species (approximately 1 50 000 Litass annually) are used for the protection of fauna species, for restoration of endangered species, for compensations for damage caused by protected fauna species) |

Box LXI.

Please describe in detail below any major financing programmes, such as biodiversity trust funds or specific programmes that have been established in your country.

Major part of biodiversity, sustainable use and other projects which are financed from State budget are financed through Environmental protection support programme.

137. ? On Article 20(1), has your country provided financial support and incentives to those national activities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention?

- a) No
- b) Yes, incentives only (please provide a list of such incentives below)
- c) Yes, financial support only
- d) Yes, financial support and incentives (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on financial support and incentives provided.

The next question (138) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

138. ? On Article 20(2), has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?

- a) No
- b) Yes (please indicate the amount, on an annual basis, of new and additional financial resources your country has provided)

Further comments on new and additional financial resources provided.

The next question (139) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

139. ? On Article 20(2), has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable it to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?

- a) No
- b) Yes

X

140. ? Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector? (decision V/11)

- a) No
- b) No, but procedures being established
- c) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on processes to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector.

141. ? Has your country considered any measures like tax exemptions in national taxation systems to encourage financial support to biodiversity? (decision V/11)

- a) No

X

- b) No, but exemptions are under development (please provide details below)
- c) Yes, exemptions are in place (please provide details below)

Further comments on tax exemptions for biodiversity-related donations.

142. Has your country reviewed national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance allocated to biodiversity, with particular attention paid to positive incentives and their performance as well as perverse incentives and ways and means for their removal or mitigation? (decision VI/16)

- a) No
- b) No, but review is under way
- c) Yes (please provide results of review below)

X

Further comments on review of national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance.

143. Is your country taking concrete actions to review and further integrate biodiversity considerations in the development and implementation of major international development initiatives, as well as in national sustainable development plans and relevant sectoral policies and plans? (decisions VI/16 and VII/21)

- a) No
- b) No, but review is under way
- c) Yes, in some initiatives and plans (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans.

144. Is your country enhancing the integration of biological diversity into the sectoral development and assistance programmes? (decision VII/21)

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant programmes are under development
- c) Yes, into some sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, into major sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the integration of biodiversity into sectoral development and assistance programmes

The next question (145) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

145. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which area your country has provided financial support to developing countries and/or countries with economies in transition. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

A r e a s	Support provided
a) Undertaking national or regional assessments within the framework of MEA (decision VI/8)	
b) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)	
c) Enhance national capacity to establish and maintain the mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge (decision VI/10)	
d) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation (decision V/26)	
e) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9)	
f) Implementation of the Bonn Guidelines (decision VI/24)	
g) Implementation of programme of work on agricultural biodiversity (decision V/5)	
h) Preparation of first report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources (decision VI/17)	
i) Support to work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and development of regional and sub regional networks or processes (decision VI/27)	
j) Development of partnerships and other means to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme of work on dry and subhumid lands biological diversity (decision VII/2)	
k) Financial support for the operations of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision VII/9)	
l) Support to the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity Building as contained in the annex to decision VII/19 (decision VII/19)	
m) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27)	
n) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28)	
o) Support to the development of national indicators (decision VII/30)	
p) Others (please specify)	

Further information on financial support provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

The next question (146) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

146. Please indicate with an “X” in the table below in which areas your country has applied for funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), from developed countries and/or from other sources. The same area may have more than one source of financial support. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

Areas	Applied for funds from		
	GEF	Bilateral	Other
a) Preparation of national biodiversity strategies or action plans		X	X
b) National capacity self-assessment for implementation of Convention (decision VI/27)	X		
c) Priority actions to implement the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision V/9)			
d) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)		X	X
e) Development of national strategies or action plans to deal with alien species (decision VI/23)			X
f) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation, establishment and maintenance of <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation facilities (decision V/26)		X	X
g) Projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 (Education and Public Awareness) (decision VI/19)			X
h) Preparation of national reports (decisions III/9, V/19 and VI/25)	X		X
i) Projects for conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity (decision IV/4)			X
j) Activities for conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity (decision V/5)			X
k) Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (decision VI/26)	X		X
l) Implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative			
m) Implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity			
n) Others (please specify)			

Further information on application for financial support.

Box LXII .

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 **Ensure environmental sustainability**.

D. THEMATIC AREAS

147. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the thematic programmes of work of the Convention (marine and coastal biodiversity, agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, inland waters biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands and mountain biodiversity).

3 = High Challenge

1 = Low Challenge

2 = Medium Challenge

0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome

N/A = Not applicable

Challenges	Programme of Work					
	Agricultural	Forest	Marine and coastal	Inland water ecosystem	Dry and subhumid lands	Mountain
a) Lack of political will and support	2	2	2	1	N/A	N/A
b) Limited public and stakeholder participation and involvement	2	2	2	1	N/A	N/A
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	2	2	2	2	N/A	N/A
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	2	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	1	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	2	1	2	2	N/A	N/A

g)	Loss of traditional knowledge	2	1	1	1	N/A	N/A
h)	Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	1	1	2	1	N/A	N/A
i)	Lack of accessible knowledge and information	2	1	2	1	N/A	N/A
j)	Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	2	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
k)	Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	2	1	2	1	N/A	N/A
l)	Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
m)	Lack of financial, human, technical resources	2	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
n)	Lack of economic incentive measures	1	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
o)	Lack of benefit-sharing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
p)	Lack of synergies at national and international levels	1	1	2	2	N/A	N/A
q)	Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	2	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
r)	Lack of effective partnerships	1	1	2	1	N/A	N/A
s)	Lack of engagement of scientific community	1	1	2	1	N/A	N/A
t)	Lack of appropriate policies and laws	1	2	2	1	N/A	N/A
u)	Poverty	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
v)	Population pressure	2	3	3	3	N/A	N/A
w)	Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	2	3	3	2	N/A	N/A
x)	Lack of capacities for local communities	2	2	3	2	N/A	N/A
y)	Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	2	2	2	2	N/A	N/A

z) Weak law enforcement capacity	2	2	2	2	N/A	N/A
aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	1	1	1	1	N/A	N/A
bb) Others (please specify)						

Inland water ecosystems

148. Has your country incorporated the objectives and relevant activities of the programme of work into the following and implemented them? (decision VII/4)

Strategies, policies, plans and activities	No	Yes, partially, integrated but not implemented	Yes, fully integrated and implemented	N/A
a) Your biodiversity strategies and action plans		X		
b) Wetland policies and strategies		X		
c) Integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans being developed in line with paragraph 25 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	X			
d) Enhanced coordination and cooperation between national actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity		X		
Further comments on incorporation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work				

a) Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1998) of Lithuania sets several goals concerning inland water protection:

- 1) prevent further degradation of river valley and lake hollow by safeguarding the protection and use regimes of protection zones around water bodies;
- 2) stabilize and reduce eutrophication of inland waters by reducing chemical pollution, by strengthening and enforcing water protection zones by the formation of green buffer zones and by strengthening control of pollution sources;
- 3) prevent further degradation of inland waters by the regulation of their use, by not increasing anthropogenic loads in the coastal zone, by avoiding radical changes in hydroecological conditions;

The action plan for protection of water bodies has been developed to:

- 1) prevent further degradation of inland aquatic ecosystems;
- 2) preserve diversity of their animal and plant species and communities;
- 3) regulate use of inland water bodies;
- 4) reduce the negative human impact on water bodies and their edges.

b) BCSAP of Lithuania sets the goal to conserve wetland ecosystems by prohibiting exploitation of new wetlands, by restoring peat lands, and by delineating measures for conservation of valuable habitats.

An action plan for the protection of wetlands and meadow ecosystems has been developed to:

- 1) conserve wetlands and natural meadow ecosystems;
- 2) ban new exploitation of wetlands and remaining natural meadows;
- 3) renaturalize (restore) excavated peat lands;
- 4) foresee a possibility for the restoration of damaged wetlands and meadows.

c) In Lithuania preparation of River Basins Management Plans has begun (as required by Water Framework Directive). In 2004 started a project „Preparation of Venta and Lielupe Rivers Basins Management Plans and Capacity Building of National Institutions“ financed by Sweden Environment Protection Agency. In Lithuania there are 10 international river basins.

d) Cooperation and coordination between various actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity is supported through establishment of Nemunas, Lielupe, Venta and Dauguva Rivers Basins Coordination Boards (Governmental decision March 2005). The main goal of these boards is coordinate and harmonize interests of State institutions, local municipalities and NGOs concerning inland waters protection, elaboration of management programmes and plans of river basins.

149. Has your country identified priorities for each activity in the programme of work, including timescales, in relation to outcome oriented targets? (decision VII/4)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) Outcome oriented targets developed but priority activities not developed | |
| c) Priority activities developed but not outcome oriented targets | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive outcome oriented targets and priority activities developed | |

Further comments on the adoption of outcome oriented targets and priorities for activities, including providing a list of targets (if developed).

150. Is your country promoting synergies between this programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level? (decision VII/4)

- a) Not applicable (not Party to Ramsar Convention)
- b) No
- c) No, but potential measures were identified for synergy and joint implementation
- d) Yes, some measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)
- e) Yes, comprehensive measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)

X

Further comments on the promotion of synergies between the programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level.

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1998) of Lithuania sets the goals for implementation of Ramsar Convention and CBD. Co-operation between Ramsar and CBD focal points in Lithuania is very close, because they work in the same Nature Protection Department of the Ministry of Environment which is responsible for implementation of both conventions.

151. Has your country taken steps to improve national data on: (decision VII/4)

Issues	Yes	No	No, but development is under way
a) Goods and services provided by inland water ecosystems?	X		
b) The uses and related socioeconomic variables of such goods and services?	X		
c) Basic hydrological aspects of water supply as they relate to maintaining ecosystem function?		X	
d) Species and all taxonomic levels?	X		
e) On threats to which inland water ecosystems are subjected?	X		

Further comments on the development of data sets, in particular a list of data sets developed in case you have replied "YES" above.

a)-b) At the national level the assessment of goods and services provided by inland waters ecosystems is not made, but River Basins Management Plans contains socio-economic values of inland water ecosystems focusing on economic value of water use. Environment Protection Agency makes assessment of water taking and consumption.

d) National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 contains several components related to monitoring of wetlands and inland waters and species depending on them. Environment Protection Agency is responsible for the implementation of monitoring program.

e) Threats to inland water and wetlands ecosystems are listed in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010, such as intensive farming, land reclamation, recreation pressure, waste carries from adjacent countries, construction of hydroelectric power stations which destroy river ecosystems (in 2003 recommendations of environmental impact assessment of construction of hydroelectric power stations were approved by the order of the Minister of environment).

152. Has your country promoted the application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems? (decision VII/4)

- a) No, the guidelines have not been reviewed
- b) No, the guidelines have been reviewed and found inappropriate
- c) Yes, the guidelines have been reviewed and application/promotion is pending
- d) Yes, the guidelines promoted and applied

X

Further comments on the promotion and application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.

Box LXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Main outcomes are amendments of legislation and increased knowledge for improvement of programmes and plans.

Actions undertaken and described above contribute to the achievement of goals of Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity and progress towards the 2010 target.

Few implemented and ongoing actions are listed below to show the progress of implementation of Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1998) of Lithuania:

Rivers and lakes: Restoration of fish migration routes in several rivers is under implementation. In 2003 recommendations of environmental impact assessment of construction of hydroelectric power stations (HES) were approved by the order of the Minister of environment, resulting in better control on impact of HES on rivers ecosystems. „Special regulations on navigation in water bodies“ approved by the order of the Minister of environment in March 2005. These regulations determines restrictions for navigation in order to protect biodiversity in rivers and lakes. In 2004 started a project „Elaboration of Venta and Lielupe Rivers Basins Management Plans and Capacity Building of National Institutions“ financed by Sweden Environment Protection Agency.

Mires. In Lithuania there are 5 Ramsar sites. Natura 2000 sites have been established in most valuable mires in Lithuania. For several wetlands management plans and individual site protection rules are prepared and for several are under preparation. National Environment Monitoring Programme for 2005-2010 includes monitoring of wetlands and monitoring of surface waters (carried out by State Environment Protection Agency). There are plans to restore hydrological regime of several mires.

NGO Lithuanian Fund for Nature (with the support of WWF Sweden) carried out a project „Lithuanian Wetland Conservation and Management“ and prepared „Peatland Conservation Strategy and Action Plan“ (1998) which contains mires restoration activities, actions to minimize pollution, management and etc.

Ongoing UNDP GEF project (2004-2008) „Conservation of Inland Wetland Biodiversity in Lithuania“ contribute to conservation of most valuable Lithuanian wetland ecosystems (Ramsar sites). This project has been the largest wetland biodiversity protection project in Lithuania. It aims at stopping the degradation processes minimizing negative anthropogenic impact and preserving biodiversity, as well as ensuring long-term protection in the main wetlands of the country (more information at: www.wetlands.lt).

The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal 7 **Ensure environmental sustainability.**

Marine and coastal biological diversity
General

153. Do your country's strategies and action plans include the following? Please use an "X" to indicate your response. (decisions II/10 and IV/15)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) Developing new marine and coastal protected areas | X |
| b) Improving the management of existing marine and coastal protected areas | X |
| c) Building capacity within the country for management of marine and coastal resources, including through educational programmes and targeted research initiatives (if yes, please elaborate on types of initiatives in the box below) | X |
| d) Instituting improved integrated marine and coastal area management (including catchments management) in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loads into the marine environment | X |
| e) Protection of areas important for reproduction, such as spawning and nursery areas | X |
| f) Improving sewage and other waste treatment | X |
| g) Controlling excessive fishing and destructive fishing practices | X |
| h) Developing a comprehensive oceans policy (if yes, please indicate current stage of development in the box below) | |
| i) Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge into management of marine and coastal resources (if yes, please elaborate on types of management arrangements in the box below) | |
| j) Others (please specify below) | |
| k) Not applicable | |

Please elaborate on the above activities and list any other priority actions relating to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania (1998) states such ecosystematic level goals :

- 1) prevent further degradation of marine ecosystems by developing scientifically sound protection and rational use of marine deep biocenoses, and by strengthening marine environment protection systems;
- 2) prevent further degradation of the coastal ecosystems by strictly limiting the intensity of use in coastal zones, by prohibiting construction close to the sea, protecting rare and declining biocenoses, and conserving wintering sites and fish spawning grounds of international importance.

BCSAP provides the following actions:

- a) Develop a network of marine and lagoon strict nature reserves, other reserves and Ramsar sites, for the protection of ecosystems and biocenoses (priority action). Establish the Curonian Lagoon biosphere polygon (under elaboration). Establish reserves to protect biodiversity near the Lagoon and to correct boundaries of existing ones.
- b) Develop and approve coastal protection regulations. Include measures for the protection of biological values and natural landscape in the development of the general Klaipeda district plan and Integrated Coastal Zone Plan (priority action).
- c) Prepare an inventory of the most valuable aquatic areas for biodiversity, in the Baltic Sea, Curonian Lagoon and the coastal zone. Conduct research on the natural processes which impact fish reproduction and the status of fish breeding grounds. Organize and update the Baltic Sea, Curonian Lagoon and coastal biological monitoring program.
- d) Develop and approve coastal protection regulations. Investigate natural biofilters in the Baltic Sea and Curonian Lagoon. Control and halt illegal washing of vessel ballast tanks.
- e) Develop regulations for protection of fish spawning grounds. Conduct research on the natural processes which impact fish reproduction and the status of fish breeding grounds. Prepare an inventory of the Baltic Sea and Curonian Lagoon fish resources, determining their population trends (priority action).
- f) Develop an oil pollution control and oil spill liquidation plan. To reduce pollution, an observation service should be strengthened, equipped with modern oil spill collectors and capable of applying the latest water treatment technology.
- g) Prepare an inventory of the Baltic Sea and Curonian Lagoon fish resources, determining their population trends (priority action). Protect and restore fish resources by protecting spawning grounds of valuable fish species, by organizing artificial reproduction of valuable fish species. Control the use of fishing methods and increase the selectivity of fishing tools.

Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

154. Has your country established and/or strengthened institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated management of marine and coastal ecosystems?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Early stages of development | X |
| c) Advanced stages of development | |
| d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below) | |
| e) Not applicable | |

Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management.

Law on Baltic Sea Coastline (2002) determines use and protection of coastal landscape, conditions of use of land and water area, restrictions of economic activity, biodiversity conservation issues. Measures for the protection of biological values and natural landscape included in the general Klaipeda district plan and Integrated Coastal Zone Plan.

155. Has your country implemented ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal resources, for example through integration of coastal management and watershed management, or through integrated multidisciplinary coastal and ocean management?

- a) No

- b) Early stages of development
- c) Advanced stages of development
- d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)
- e) Not applicable

X

Further comments on the current status of application of the ecosystem to management of marine and coastal resources.

The strongest legal tool is Law on Baltic Sea Coastline (2002). Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for Curonian Lagoon pilot area have been elaborated with assistance of HELCOM. This project includes watershed management, monitoring and coastal zone management.

LIFE Nature application developed by the Baltic Environment Forum (BEF) Latvia and its partners (BEF Lithuania and BEF Estonia) aiming at Natura 2000 implementation in the Eastern Baltic Sea. proposed project activities are very important and needed for the implementation of Natura 2000 network in the marine environment in Lithuania as well as in Latvia and Estonia.

LIFE Nature application developed by NGO „Zvejone“ and its partners (Curonian Spit National Park, Pajuris Regional Park, Institute of Ecology) aiming at protection and management of coastal habitats is also contributing to implementation of ecosystem – based management.

Marine and Coastal Living Resources

156. Has your country identified components of your marine and coastal ecosystems, which are critical for their functioning, as well as key threats to those ecosystems?

- a) No
- b) Plans for a comprehensive assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)
- c) A comprehensive assessment is currently in progress
- d) Critical ecosystem components have been identified, and management plans for them are being developed (please provide details below)
- e) Management plans for important components of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)
- f) Not applicable

X

Further comments on the current status of assessment, monitoring and research relating to marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as key threats to them

Pajuris Regional Park management plan was approved by the order of the Minister of Environment in 2005. Management plan of Curonian Spit National Park and Nemunas elta Regional Park are under elaboration. Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania (1998) foresees protection of critical marine ecosystem components (fish species, seals, waterbirds, etc.). Coastal components are identified (dunes, beaches, cliffs).

157. Is your country undertaking the following activities to implement the Convention's work plan on coral reefs? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

Activities	Not implemented nor a priority	Not implemented but a priority	Currently implemented	Not applicable
a) Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs				X
b) Socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders				X
c) Management, particularly through application of integrated coastal management and marine and coastal protected areas in coral reef environments				X
d) Identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services				X
e) Stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns				X
f) Provision of training and career opportunities for marine taxonomists and ecologists				X
g) Development of early warning systems of coral bleaching				X
h) Development of a rapid response capability to document coral bleaching and mortality				X
i) Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coral reef habitats				X
j) Others (please specify below)				X

Please elaborate on ongoing activities.

N/A

Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

158. Which of the following statements can best describe the current status of marine and coastal protected areas in your country? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| a) Marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted (please indicate below how many) | X |
| b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders | X (coastal) |
| c) Effective management with enforcement and monitoring has been put in place | X |
| d) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development | X (marine) |
| c) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas has been put in place | |
| d) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas managed for purpose of sustainable use, which may allow extractive activities | |
| e) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses | X |
| f) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas is surrounded by sustainable management practices over the wider marine and coastal environment. | |
| g) Other (please describe below) | |
| h) Not applicable | |

Further comments on the current status of marine and coastal protected areas.

a) Baltic Sea Marine Nature Reserve established in 2005 by Governmental decision. Coastal protected areas such as Curonian Spit National Park (established in 1991) and Pajuris Regional Park (established in 1992) includes a marine part. Nemunas Delta Regional Park (1992) established on the coast of Curonian Lagoon includes a part of Lagoon, this regional park is a Ramsar site. Smelte Botanical Nature Reserve (1988), Luzija Botanical Nature Reserve (1998) and Kintai Botanical Nature Reserve (1992) are established on the coast of Curonian Lagoon.

b) Pajuris Regional Park management plan prepared involving all relevant stakeholders.

c) State administration for some coastal protected areas is in place: Curonian Spit National Park, Pajuris Regional Park, Nemunas Delta Regional Park has administrations. Botanical Nature Reserves without administrations are under supervision by other protected areas administrations.

Pajuris Regional Park management plan was approved by the order of the Minister of Environment in 2005. Management plan of Curonian Spit National Park and Nemunas Delta Regional Park are under elaboration.

Additionally Curonian Spit National Park and Pajuris Regional Park are preparing application for LIFE projects for management of coastal areas.

National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 foresee the monitoring of coastal and marine habitats, fauna and flora. Administrations of National and Regional Parks are responsible for monitoring of coastal habitats, fauna and flora. Marine Research Center under the Ministry of Environment is responsible for monitoring of marine habitats and fauna.

d) A project of designation of new marine protected area as SPA (according Birds Directive 79/409/EEC) is prepared and submitted to Government.

g) According national legislation (Law on Protected Areas) it is forbidden to start new extraction activities (such extraction and processing of oil, natural gas extraction, peat extraction, quarrying and extraction of other mineral resources) in National and Regional Parks.

Mariculture

159. Is your country applying the following techniques aimed at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity? Please check all that apply.

- a) Application of environmental impact assessments for mariculture developments
- b) Development and application of effective site selection methods in the framework of integrated marine and coastal area management
- c) Development of effective methods for effluent and waste control
- d) Development of appropriate genetic resource management plans at the hatchery level
- e) Development of controlled hatchery and genetically sound reproduction methods in order to avoid seed collection from nature.
- f) If seed collection from nature cannot be avoided, development of environmentally sound practices for spat collecting operations, including use of selective fishing gear to avoid by-catch
- g) Use of native species and subspecies in mariculture
- h) Implementation of effective measures to prevent the inadvertent release of mariculture species and fertile polypoids.
- i) Use of proper methods of breeding and proper places of releasing in order to protect genetic diversity
- j) Minimizing the use of antibiotics through better husbandry techniques
- k) Use of selective methods in commercial fishing to avoid or minimize by-catch
- l) Considering traditional knowledge, where applicable, as a source to develop sustainable mariculture techniques
- m) Not applicable

X

Further comments on techniques that aim at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.

Lithuania has no special aquaculture farm on seawater or cultivation of marine species, only the Lithuanian Marine Museum participates in the bilateral programme with Poland on reproduction and restoration of Baltic seal (*Halichoerus grypus*) population.

The releasing of Salmonids for stock enhancement has been developed.

Alien Species and Genotypes

160. Has your country put in place mechanisms to control pathways of introduction of alien species in the marine and coastal environment? Please check all that apply and elaborate on types of measures in the space below.

- a) No
- b) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from ballast water have been put in place (please provide details below)
- c) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from hull fouling have been put in place (please provide details below)
- d) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from aquaculture have been put in place (please provide details below)

X

X

X

e) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from accidental releases, such as aquarium releases, have been put in place (please provide details below)

X

f) Not applicable

Further comments on the current status of activities relating to prevention of introductions of alien species in the marine and coastal environment, as well as any eradication activities.

List of invasive species was approved by the Ministerial Order No. D1 -433 in 2004.

Order on Control and Eradication of invasive species organisms was approved by the Ministry of Environment in 2002.

In 2002 the Ministry of Environment approved the Programme on Introduction, Reintroduction and Relocation and Action Plan. In the Programme there are main guidelines how to prevent and stop distribution of invasive species and in the Action Plan there are presented detailed actions, who and when should perform these actions and how they are financed.

Box LXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Agricultural biological diversity

161. ? Has your country developed national strategies, programmes and plans that ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components? (decisions III/11 and IV/6)

a) No

b) No, but strategies, programmes and plans are under development

c) Yes, some strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)

X

d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)

Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.

Currently in Lithuania there are various programs and action plans but one of the most important is Rural Development Program for 2004-2006.

One of the measures of the Rural development Programme is Agro-Environment which is composed of separate programmes:

Arable Land Programme,

Proposed Protected Areas Programme,

Meadows Management Programme,

Ecoagricultural Programme,

Programme for Rare Varieties,

Demonstration Programme.

Rural Development Plan for 2007-2013 now is under preparation and the Agro-Environment measure will include more programmes.

162. ? Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (decision V/5)

a) No

b) No, but potential measures are under review

c) Yes, some measures identified (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive measures identified (please provide details below)

X

Further information on ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.

Law on National Plant Genetic Resources (2001).

Law on Genetically Modified Organisms (2001).

Law on Wild Animals (1992 as amended in 2001).

Annex to decision V/5 - Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity

Programme element 1 – Assessment

163. Has your country undertaken specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity such as on plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources, pollinators, pest management and nutrient cycling?

a) No

b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below)

c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below)

X

Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity.

Basing on Law on National Plant Genetic Resources (2001) is established Gene Bank.

National Plant Genetic Resources Coordination Centers are actively inventorying plants in traditional use, collecting samples and documenting associated local knowledge.

164. Is your country undertaking assessments of the interactions between agricultural practices and the conservation and sustainable use of the components of biodiversity referred to in Annex I of the Convention (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance)?

a) No	
b) Yes, assessments are under way	X
c) Yes, some assessments completed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments completed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on assessment of biodiversity components (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance).	
Assessment of plant genetic resources is in progress.	

165. Has your country carried out an assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services for food production and food security?	
a) No	
b) Yes, assessment is under way	X
c) Yes, assessment completed (please specify where information can be retrieved below)	
Further comments on assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities.	
In the Rural Development Program there are foreseen activities which concern accumulation of information and education of farmers.	

166. Has your country been monitoring an overall degradation, status quo or restoration/rehabilitation of agricultural biodiversity since 1993 when the Convention entered into force?	
a) No	
b) Yes, no change found (status quo)	
c) Yes, overall degradation found (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, overall restoration or rehabilitation observed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on observations.	
In the Rural Development Programme activities for restoration of pastures, meadows, wetlands and cultural heritage are included. Nowadays more area of such biotopes is in active management than it was ten years ago.	

Programme element 2 - Adaptive management	
167. Has your country identified management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive, and mitigate the negative, impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, and enhance productivity and the capacity to sustain livelihoods?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, technologies and policies being identified	
c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies.	

The subsidies for managing biotopes within the Rural Development Program have contributed too the active management of biodiversity.

Programme element 3 - Capacity-building

168. Has your country increased the capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders, to manage sustainable agricultural biodiversity and to develop strategies and methodologies for *In-situ* conservation, sustainable use and management of agricultural biological diversity?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes (please specify area/component and target groups with increased capacity) | X |

Further comments on increased capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders.

After the Rural Development Program started to be implemented and after establishment of Consulting Service it helped farmers to change orientation from intensive to ecological farming.

169. Has your country put in place operational mechanisms for participation by a wide range of stakeholder groups to develop genuine partnerships contributing to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but potential mechanisms being identified | X |
| c) No, but mechanisms are under development | |
| d) Yes, mechanisms are in place | |

170. Has your country improved the policy environment, including benefit-sharing arrangements and incentive measures, to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | X |
| b) No, but some measures and arrangements being identified | |
| c) No, but measures and arrangements are under development | |
| d) Yes, measures and arrangements are being implemented (please specify below) | |

Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.

Programme element 4 – Mainstreaming

171. Is your country mainstreaming or integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but review is under way | X |
| c) No, but potential frameworks and mechanisms are being identified | |
| d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below) | |
| e) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed into major sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on mainstreaming and integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes.

The conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity is an explicit responsibility of the agricultural sector, and sector policy and programmes are based on the relevant Environmental quality objectives.

172. Is your country supporting the institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms for the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity in agricultural strategies and action plans, and its integration into wider strategies and action plans for biodiversity?

- a) No
- b) Yes, by supporting institutions in undertaking relevant assessments
- c) Yes, by developing policy and planning guidelines
- d) Yes, by developing training material
- e) Yes, by supporting capacity-building at policy, technical and local levels
- f) Yes, by promoting synergy in the implementation of agreed plans of action and between ongoing assessment and intergovernmental processes.

X

Further comments on support for institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms.

173. In the case of centers of origin in your country, is your country promoting activities for the conservation, on farm, *In-situ*, and *Ex-situ*, of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture, including their wild relatives?

- a) No
- b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on of the conservation of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture in their center of origin.

See answers to Article 15.

Box LXV.

Please provide information concerning the actions taken by your country to implement the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

No actions taken.

Box LXVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

See answers to Article 15.

Forest Biological Diversity

General

174. Has your country incorporated relevant parts of the work programme into your national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes?

- a) No
- b) Yes, please describe the process used
- c) Yes, please describe constraints/obstacles encountered in the process
- d) Yes, please describe lessons learned
- e) Yes, please describe targets for priority actions in the programme of work

X

Further comments on the incorporation of relevant parts of the work programme into your NBSAP and forest programmes

Issues of protection of forest biodiversity are incorporated in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1998) of Lithuania. It states several goals concerning conservation of forests:

- 1) **Ecosystematic level** (in-situ) **goal**: avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure;
- 2) **Species level** (in-situ) **goal**: protect or restore non-timber forest products by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a programme for resources restoration;
- 3) **Genetic level** (in-situ) **goal**: avoid degradation of forest populations by strengthening conservation means at state level, continuing research and monitoring of forest populations.

Box LXVII.

Please indicate what recently applied tools (policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement) and measures, if any, your country is using to implement and assess the programme of work. Please indicate what tools and measures would assist the implementation.

Issues of protection of forest biodiversity are incorporated in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1998) of Lithuania. Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania has been prepared in collaboration with specialists from the Institutes of Botany and Ecology, Vilnius University, the Ministry of Agriculture, and NGOs, by the Working Group established under the order of the Minister of Environment and with the help of foreign consultants. A Steering Committee for the preparation of the strategy has been established.

System of protected areas ensures conservation of the most important forest habitats. In addition Lithuania prepared a list of new areas under the requirements of Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), which will provide protection of valuable forest habitats of EU importance outside recently existing protected areas.

Box LXVIII.

Please indicate to what extent and how your country has involved indigenous and local communities, and respected their rights and interests, in implementing the programme of work.

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania (1998) has been prepared in collaboration with various NGOs. During the elaboration of Strategy and Action Plan were organized several seminars and local communities had the opportunity to express their interests. Training courses for private forest owners are organized by Forest Information Center.

Box LXIX.

Please indicate what efforts your country has made towards capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

The Lithuanian Agricultural University prepared 19 Masters of Science, 73 Bachelors and 6 engineers of forestry in 2003.

Kaunas Forestry College prepared 53 upper secondary level forestry students in 2003.

In 2003, new Forest Information Center was opened. The main purpose of it is propagation of innovations of forestry science and use of new modern technologies in forest industry. It should also help in training the forestry specialists and private forest owners as well as improving the education of society in forestry and protection of environment subjects.

The Forestry Information Center consists of three sectors: forest specialist training sector; private forest owners' education sector and sector of society education.

Box LXX.

Please indicate how your country has collaborated and cooperated (e.g., south-south, north-south, south-north, north-north) with other governments, regional or international organizations in implementing the programme of work. Please also indicate what are the constraints and/or needs identified.

There is close co-operation with Governments of Finland, Sweden and Denmark in the field of forest biodiversity. Several projects in the field of capacity building and exchange of knowledge were implemented with financial support of these Governments. In addition the NGO Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF) organized joint seminars for forest specialists of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity

Programme element 1 – Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing

175. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests?

a) No (please provide reasons below)

b) No, but potential measures being identified (please provide details below)

x

c) Yes (please provide details below)

Comments on application of the ecosystem approach to management of forests (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impact on forest management, constraints, needs, tools, and targets).

There are no approved and widely used guidelines for ecosystem approach to management of forests, but some attempts were made in particular projects. Some provisions concerning ecosystem approach to the management of forests were set during project „Woodland Key Habitats“ (project supported by Sweden Government; Forest Department of the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania is a partner). All State owned forests (49,80% of total forest area) are certified according to FSC requirements and it is foreseen to develop an ecosystem approach management guidelines for these forests.

176. Has your country undertaken measures to reduce the threats to, and mitigate its impacts on forest biodiversity?

Options	Details
a)Yes	<p>X</p> <p>Please specify below the major threats identified in relation to each objective of goal 2 and the measures undertaken to address priority actions</p> <p>Objective 1: In the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania (1998) included the goal to protect locally characteristic species and natural populations by preventing the spread of adventitious and invasive species, and by enhancing research. According to national legislation it is prohibited to use alien species in afforestation.</p> <p>National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 has the goal to assess, control and make prognosis of alien flora (and fauna) species which can cause threat to local biodiversity.</p> <p>Objective 2: National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 foresee such actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to assess changes of forests state due to air pollution (long distance carries) and other stressors impact; X 2) to assess impact of pollutants and other stressors to most valuable forest ecosystems and to forests soil. <p>Environment Protection Agency is responsible for implementation of National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010.</p> <p>Objective 3: In the National Environment Monitoring Program for 2005-2010 are included actions to monitor changes of forest biodiversity caused by climate changes (ICP-Forests).</p> <p>Objective 4: Forest protection system against forest fires is established and works effectively.</p> <p>Objective 5: In several management plans of protected areas there are suggestions to use controlled forest fires and inundation. But according to national legislation burning as a management tool is prohibited yet.</p> <p>Objective 6: Restrictions for forests clearings are stated in the national legislation. Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan states to avoid further degradation of forest ecosystem by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure.</p>
b)No	<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on measures to reduce threats to, and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biodiversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

177. Is your country undertaking any measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity?

Options	X Details
a)Yes	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Objective 1: Provisions for restoration of forest biodiversity are incorporated in national forestry legislation.</p> <p>Objective 2: One of the goals of Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan is to maintain diversity of species by developing a special programme for the conservation of relict, endemic, rare and declining taxa, and by establishing a legal basis for effective protection.</p> <p>X Provisions concerning restriction for activities on threatened species are stipulated in the Law on Protected Plant, Animal and Fungi Species and Communities (1997, amended 2001), Law on Wild Flora (1999), Law on Wildlife (1997) and supplementary legal acts.</p> <p>Objective 3: Forests cover about 32% of Lithuania territory (49,80% are owned by state, 33,40% are private owned and 16,80% are reserved for restitution). I group (strict nature reserves) forests occupy 1,2%, II group (ecosystem protection and recreational) – 11,9%; III group (protective) – 16,1% and IV group (commercial) – 70,8% (2004 data).</p> <p>63% of National Parks are covered with forests and 48% of Regional Parks are covered with forests.</p>
b)No	Please provide reasons below
Further comments on measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).	

178. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity?

Options	X Details
a) Yes	<p>Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Objective 1: All State owned forests (49,80% of all) are certified according to FSC scheme.</p> <p>Objective 2: Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan states several goals concerning forest conservation:</p> <p>X Ecosystematic level (in-situ) goal: avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure;</p> <p>Species level (in-situ) goal: protect or restore non-timber forest products by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a programme for resources restoration;</p> <p>Genetic level (in-situ) goal: avoid degradation of forest populations by strengthening conservation means at state level, continuing research and monitoring of forest populations.</p> <p>For sustainable use of forest annual total felling is limited in state owned forests.</p> <p>Objective 3: Not relevant.</p>

b)No	Please provide reasons below
Further comments on the promotion of the sustainable use of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).	

179. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources?

Options	X	Details
a)Yes		Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken
b)No		Please provide reasons below
	X	<p>According to national legislation only forest owners (State and private) have rights to use timber in forest; other products are available for public.</p> <p>According to national legislation game animals are State property, but exists a system of licenses for limited hunting of wild game animals (Law on Hunting).</p> <p>Rules of the Use of Forest Minor Resources (1996) sets the order on picking berries, mushrooms, nuts, etc.</p>
Further comments on the promotion of access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources. (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets)		

Programme element 2 – Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment

180. Is your country undertaking any measures to enhance the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing?

Options	X	Details
a)Yes		<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Objective 1: The causes of losses of forest biological diversity are monitored according to National Monitoring Program. State Forest Survey Service every year publishes the Lithuanian Statistical Yearbook of Forestry. The Yearbook contains official statistics about Lithuanian forest sector and trends of the last years (forest resources, protected areas and biodiversity, forest health, silviculture, forest protection, multiple use of forests, etc.).</p> <p>X Objective 2: Provisions concerning protection of forests biodiversity are stipulated in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania (1998) and Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy (2003).</p> <p>Objective 3: Law on Forests (1994, amended in 2005) and supplementary legal acts includes provisions concerning conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.</p> <p>Objective 4: The officers of Environment Protection Inspection, its territorial divisions and national parks are working on forest protection and struggle with illegal cuttings. According to statistics the number of illegal cuttings increased while amount of stolen timber diminished in recent years.</p>

b)No	Please provide reasons below
Further comments on the enhancement of the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).	

181. Is your country undertaking any measures to address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a)Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
	X	Objective 1: Support for agriculture is provided to encourage landowners and to reduce pressure on timber resources as the only source of income. In the end of 2004 the Government of Lithuania approved the compensatory order for the restrictions in forestry in the protected areas.
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on review of socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

182. Is your country undertaking any measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a)Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
	X	Objective 1: During various projects public awareness campaigns were carried out. In 2003 new Forest Information Center was opened. The main purpose of it is propagation of innovations of forestry science and use of new modern technologies in forest industry. It should also help in training the forestry specialists and private forest owners as well as improving the education of society in forestry and protection of environment subjects. The Forest Information Center continually gives advices for the forest owners on forestry topics. The greatest attention is paid to society and children attending secondary schools education in forestry and protection of environment, and to communication with the Young Forest Friend Clubs.
b)No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Programme element 3 – Knowledge, assessment and monitoring

183. Is your country undertaking any measures to characterize forest ecosystems at various scales in order to improve the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Objective 1: Compatibility of national forests classification system with regional classification system is under assessment.</p> <p>Objective 2: Lithuanian forest classification system is under the review.</p>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Objective 3: In 2001 – 2005 a joint project „Woodland Key Habitat Inventory“ was carried out by Forests Department of the Ministry of Environment and the Ostra Gotaland Regional Board of Forestry of Sweden. The goal of the project was to identify sites and objects in forests where the concentration of biological values is especially high and to achieve their purpose-oriented protection.</p> <p>In 2001 – 2004 during the identification of potential Natura 2000 sites forests habitats surveys were carried out.</p>
b) No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please provide reasons below

Further comments on characterization of forest ecosystems at various scales (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

184. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve knowledge on, and methods for, the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Objective 1: Only some scientific and research institutes use their own indicators for assessment of forest biodiversity. Indicators for assessment of forest biodiversity for all country are under elaboration and will be adopted at national level. At the moment there is still no agreement on indicators to use for assessment the status of forest biodiversity.</p>
b) No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please provide reasons below

Further comments on improvement of knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

185. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below Research programmes which carry on the Institute of Forests or Institute of Botany are narrow scoped and addressing narrow issues. Main constraint is insufficient funding.

Further comments on the improvement of the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

186. Is your country undertaking any measures at national level to improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below Insufficient funding, lack of human capacity.

Further comments on the improvement of the infrastructure for data and information management (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Box LXXI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Main outcomes are amendments of legislation and increased knowledge for improvement of programmes and plans.

Actions described in the above section contribute to the achievement of goals of Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity and progress towards the 2010 target.

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan of Lithuania (1998) sets several targets concerning forests conservation: **Ecosystematic level** (in-situ) **goal**: avoid further degradation of forest ecosystems by their rational use, prohibiting drainage of forests, and forming and preserving an optimal forest structure; **Species level** (in-situ) **goal**: protect or restore non-timber forest products by ensuring rational use, by preparing and implementing a programme for resources restoration; **Genetic level** (in-situ) **goal**: avoid degradation of forest populations by strengthening conservation means at state level, continuing research and monitoring of forest populations. Several activities were carried out to fulfill above mentioned goals.

The actions undertaken contribute to the implementation of the Millennium development Goal 7 **Ensure environmental sustainability**.

The main constraints are lack of ecosystem functioning research programmes and lack of effective discussions with forest owners.

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

187. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work? (decisions V/23 and VII/2)

a) No

X

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on scientific, technical and financial support, at the national and regional levels, to the activities identified in the programme of work.

N/A

188. Has your country integrated actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

a) No

X

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD.

N/A

189. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD process and other processes under related environmental conventions? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

a) No

X

b) Yes, some linkages established (please provide details below)

c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below)

Further comments on the measures to ensure the synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD processes and other processes under related environmental conventions.

N/A

Programme Part A: Assessment

190. Has your country assessed and analyzed information on the state of dryland biological diversity and the pressures on it, disseminated existing knowledge and best practices, and filled knowledge gaps in order to determine adequate activities? (Decision V/23, Part A: Assessment, Operational objective, activities 1 to 6)

- a) No
- b) No, but assessment is ongoing
- c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive assessment undertaken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the relevant information on assessments of the status and trends and dissemination of existing knowledge and best practices.

N/A

Programme Part B: Targeted Actions

191. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences? (part B of annex I of decision V/23, activities 7 to 9)

- a) No
- b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)
- c) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures taken to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences.

N/A

192. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work?

- a) No
- b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)
- c) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, all identified capacity needs met (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on measures taken to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work.

N/A

Box LXXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

N/A

Mountain Biodiversity

Programme Element 1. Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

193. Has your country taken any measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant measures are being considered
- c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity

N/A

194. Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but some measures are being considered
- c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures taken to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity

N/A

195. Has your country taken any measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems?

- a) No
- b) No, but some measures are being considered
- c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems

N/A

196. Has your country taken any measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources, including preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge?

- a) No
- b) No, but some measures are being considered
- c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources

N/A

Programme Element 2. Means of implementation for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

197. Has your country developed any legal, policy and institutional framework for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing this programme of work?

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant frameworks are being developed
- c) Yes, some frameworks are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive frameworks are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.

N/A

198. Has your country been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered
- c) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity

N/A

Programme Element 3. Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

199. Has your country taken any measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biological diversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant programmes are under development
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity

N/A

200. Has your country taken any measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant programmes are under development
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity

N/A

201. Has your country taken any measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems?

- a) No
- b) No, but relevant programmes are under development
- c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)
- d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems

N/A

Box LXXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

N/A

E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

202. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention? (decision V/20)

- a) No
- b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on the regional and subregional activities in which your country has been involved.

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203. Is your country strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, enhancing integration and promoting synergies with relevant regional and subregional processes? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on regional and subregional cooperation and processes.	

The following question (204) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

204. Is your country supporting the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, included in existing cooperation frameworks (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities ongoing (please provide details below)	
Further comments on support for the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes.	

205. Is your country working with other Parties to strengthen the existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	X
b) Yes	

206. Has your country contributed to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on contribution to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms.	

Box LXXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of the above decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT

Box LXXV.

Please provide below recommendations on how to improve this reporting format.

A lot of questions require an extensive answers and the same or very similar answers can be given to a number of questions. It seems that information and comments received from different countries will be almost impossible to compare. Redundancy and overlapping of questions and answers is the main problem of the Third National Report.

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