



# **INTER-TERRITORIAL AND TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION**

## **UNDER THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR LITHUANIA 2007-2013**

**Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania  
Rural Development Department**

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Activities Measures**

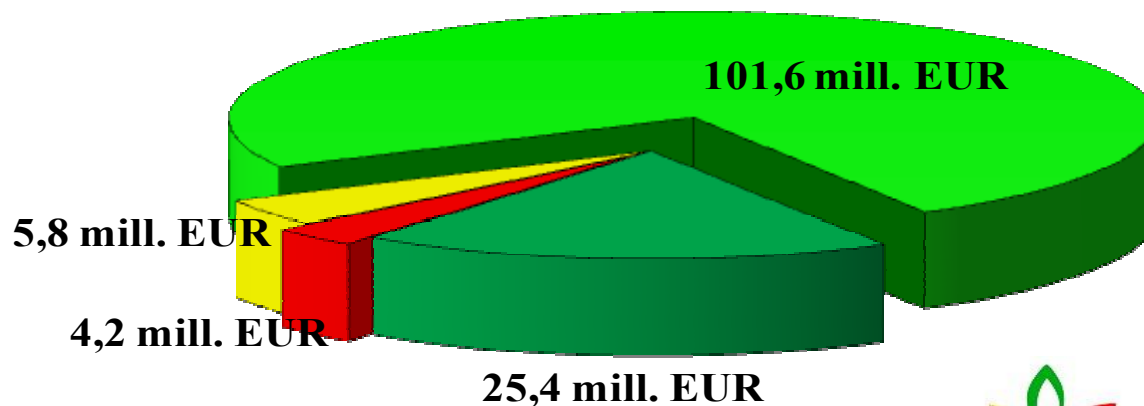
**2010, Estonia**

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESOURCES OF EAFRD AND NATIONAL BUDGET FOR AXIS IV “IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *LEADER* METHOD” UNDER THE RDP 2007-2013

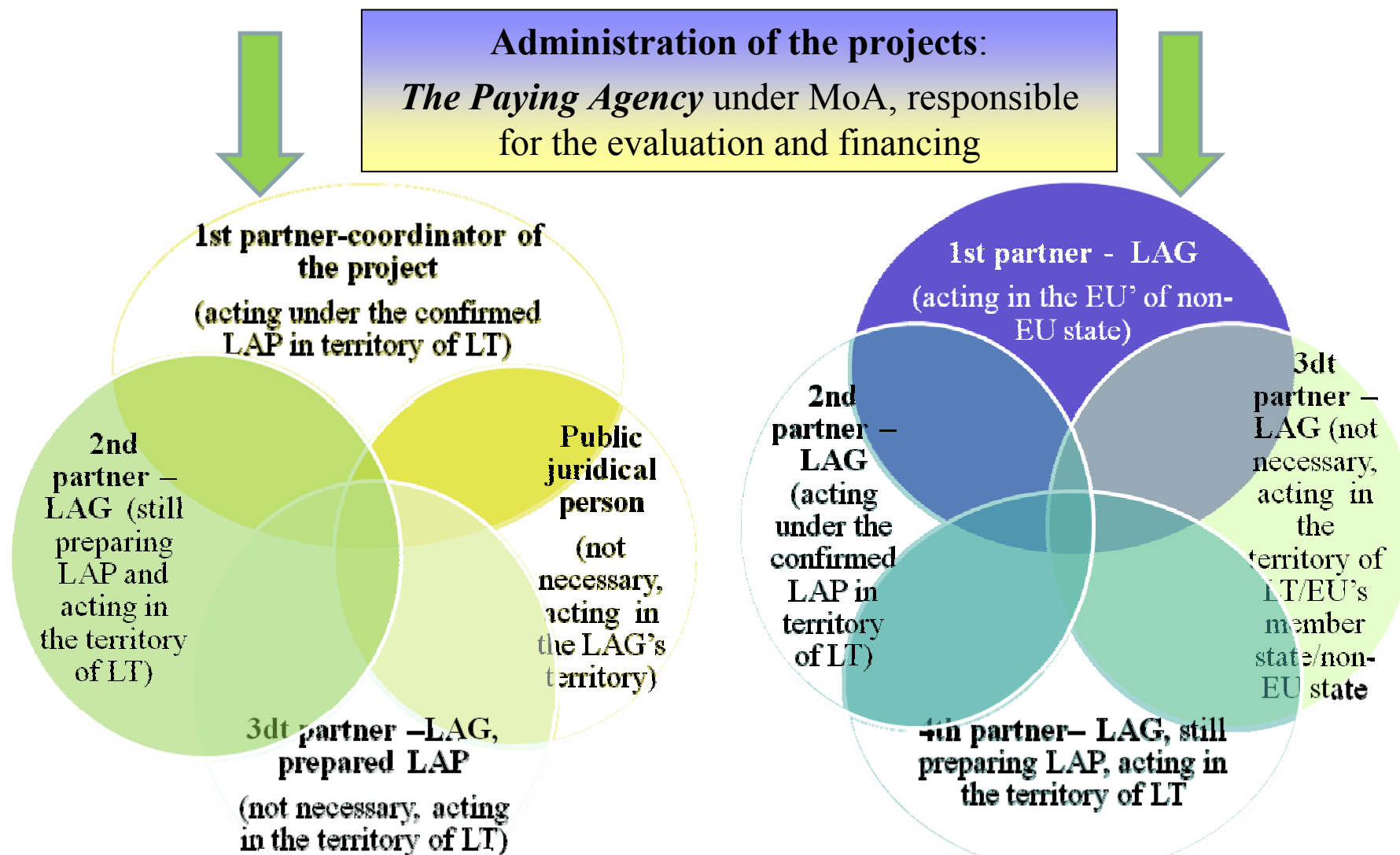
The amount of the EU’s support **102,8 mill. EUR** + co-financing from the national budget **34,2 mill. EUR**,  
**TOTAL: 137 mill. EUR**

- ADMINISTRATION OF  
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIES
- INTER-TERRITORIAL AND  
TRANSNATIONAL  
COOPERATION
- SUPPORT FOR RUNNING  
THE LAG, ACQUIRING OF  
SKILLS AND ANIMATING  
THE TERRITORY
- IMPLEMENTATION OF  
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIES

Allocations for separate measures (EUR)



# THE MODEL FOR THE INTER-TERRITORIAL AND TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION MEASURE UNDER RDP



## THE MODEL FOR THE INTER-TERRITORIAL AND TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION MEASURE UNDER RDP

### Project for the inter-territorial cooperation:

- prepared by no less than two LAGs, acting in the territory of LT;
- no less than one partner of the project should be LAG, received support for the implementation of the LAP, confirmed by the MoA;
- the project should be dedicated for the achievement of the aims of the Axis III measures.

### Project for the transnational cooperation:

- prepared by no less than two partners, acting in the different EU's member states and (or) non-EU states;
- no less than one partner of the project should be LAG, received support for the implementation of the LAP, confirmed by the MoA, and acting in the territory of Lithuania;
- the project should be dedicated for the achievement of the aims of the Axis III measures



## PROJECTS FOR THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

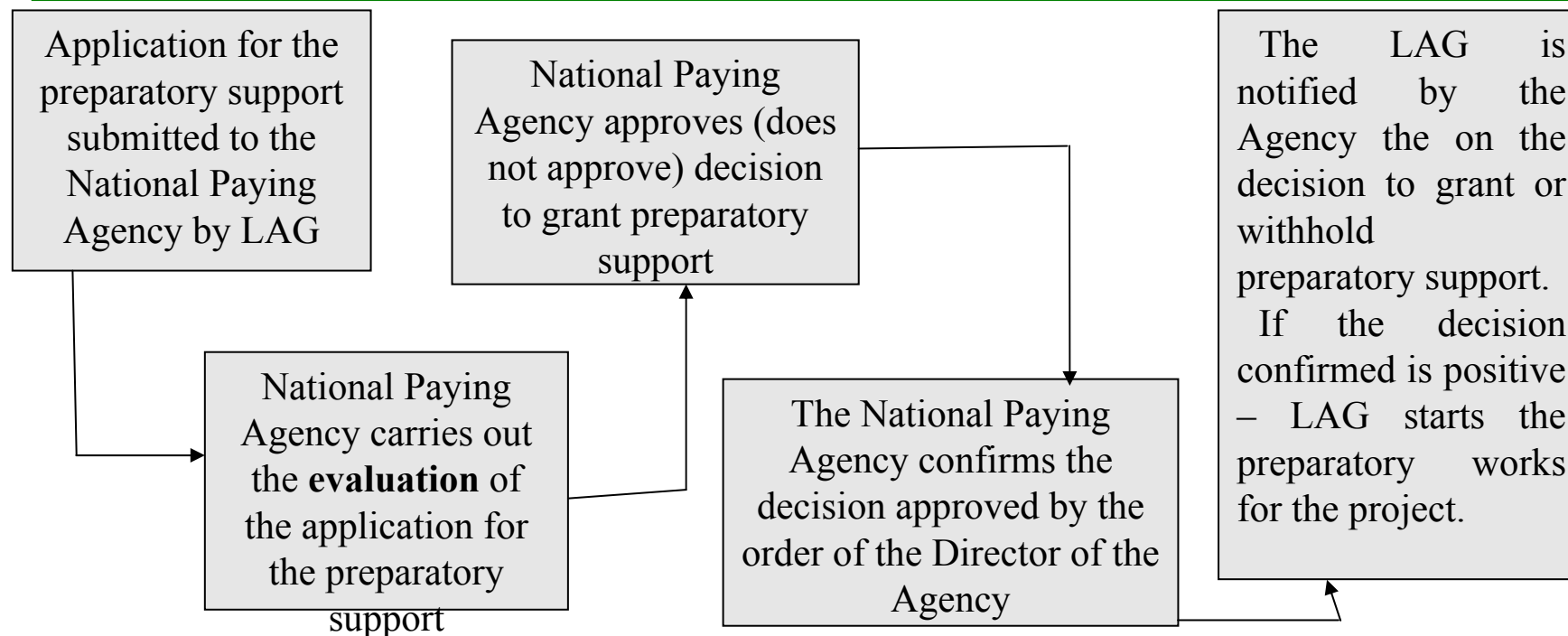
*according to the implementation rules' draft version*

- **The two stages of the implementation of the transnational projects are envisaged:**
  - initiation of the transnational cooperation project (the preparatory support);
  - implementation of the transnational cooperation project.



## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 1<sup>ST</sup> STAGE

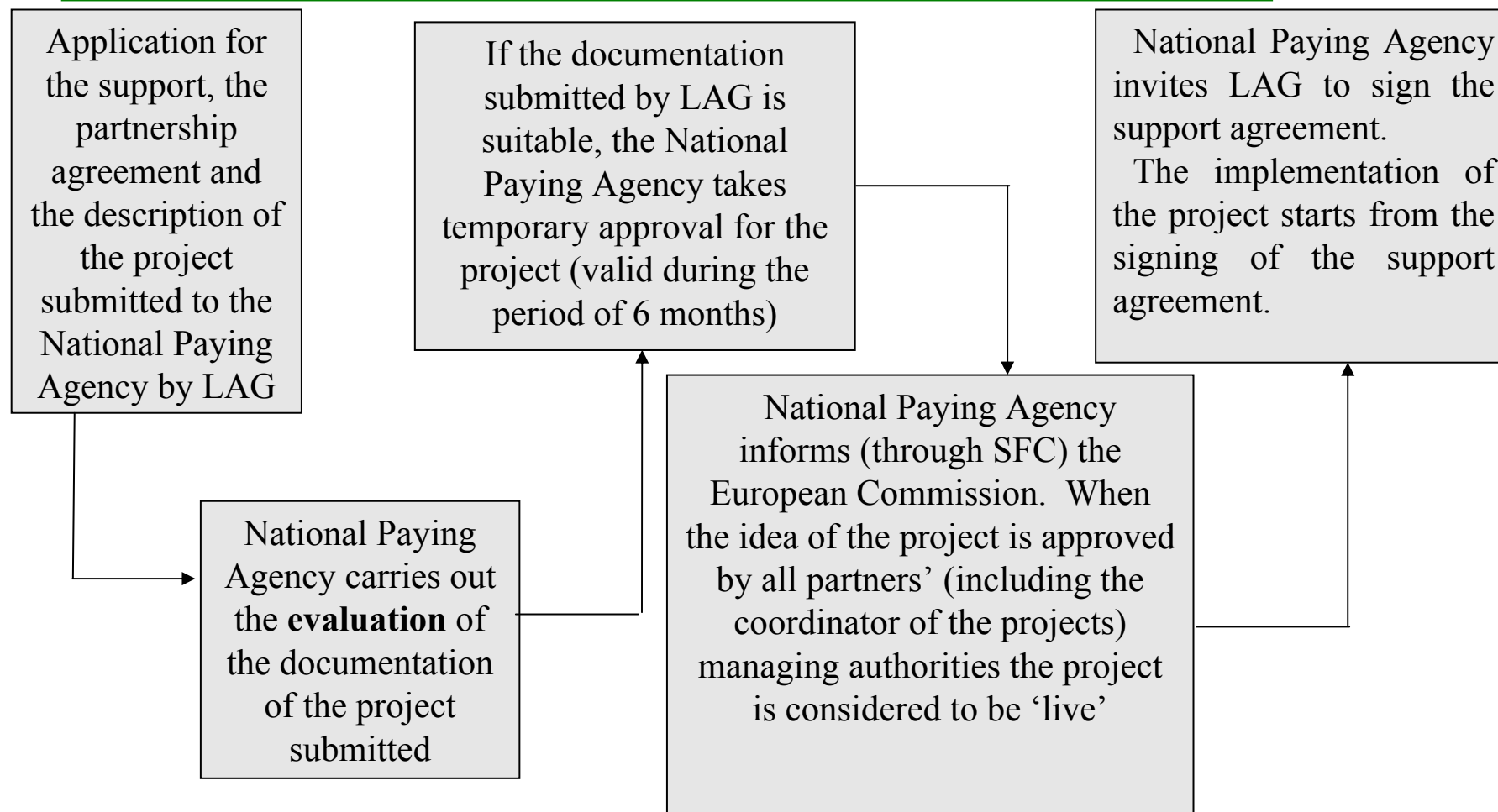
### 1<sup>st</sup> STAGE. The order for the confirmation and offering of the preparatory support:



- *It is recommended that the evaluation of the applications for the preparatory support should continue no longer than 30 running days after the submission of the application to the National Paying Agency.*
- During the evaluation process the National Paying Agency should cooperate with the applicant .

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE

### 2<sup>nd</sup> STAGE. Confirmation and implementation of the projects:



## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS:

### THE 1<sup>ST</sup> STAGE – PREPARATORY SUPPORT (1)

- The maximum amount of the preparatory support per project shall not exceed **EUR 4 344**.
- Support may cover **up to 100 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project, however **potential foreign partners should contribute by the explicit means no less than 30 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project.
- Related application for support for other transnational cooperation project may be filed only following the accomplishment of the previous transnational cooperation project (the implementation rules don't forbid implement inter-territorial cooperation project at the same time).
- Preparatory support could be afforded **no more than twice**, however only following the accomplishment of the conditions under the previous agreement for the preparatory support.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS:

### THE 1<sup>ST</sup> STAGE – PREPARATORY SUPPORT (2)

- If several Lithuanian LAGs are included to the same transnational cooperation project, according to the common agreement, the preparatory support could be afforded **only for one of them**.
- The preparatory support should be spent **in the period of 6 months** from the signing of the preparatory support agreement.
- The deadline term for the appliance of the preparatory support for transnational cooperation projects – **the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2011**.
- The preparatory support **should be repaid** if the applicant doesn't start the implementation of the project **in the period of 3 months** after the signing of the support agreement.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS:

### THE 1<sup>ST</sup> STAGE – PREPARATORY SUPPORT (3)

#### APPLICANT:

LAG, which acts under the LAP, confirmed by the MoA, and must:

- Confirm the capability to implement the preparation for the project and to spent the assigned preparatory support effectively;
- confirm the signing of the partnership agreements with the foreign partners, the input which will consist **no less than 30 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project.

#### PARTNER (PARTNERS):

**At least one partner should be LAG, acting in the territory of the EU's member state (except Lithuanian partners) or non-EU state.**

- Eligibility criteria for the **foreign** partners should be settled by their managing authorities, however:
  - at least one of the foreign partners should act under the LAP, prepared according to the programming documents for the period 2007-2013;
  - the foreign partner should be registered according to the legal acts of the EU's member state or non-EU state;
  - the input of the foreign partner to the preparation for the project should consist at least **30 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project.
- Eligibility criteria for the partners (LAGs), acting in the territory of Lithuania:
  - should act under the LAP, confirmed by MoA.

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 1<sup>ST</sup> STAGE – PREPARATORY SUPPORT (4)

## THE MAIN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE PREPARATORY SUPPORT:

- The investments and expenses, provided for in the preparatory support project, are not and will not be financed through other national programmes and Community funds;
- The preparatory support project should have the reasoned opportunities for continuity;
- The period for the implementation of the preparatory support project – no more than **6 months** from the signing of the preparatory support agreement, which ends no later than in **the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2011**;
- The description of the preparatory support project should be prepared (no more than 3 pages).

## ELIGIBLE AND NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES:

**Expenditures for the project implementation:** the preparation of the study about project's opportunities, the consulting; traveling and lodging (for the “first contact” trips); telecommunications and post services; translation services; the preparation and signing of the partnership agreements and etc.

**Publicity arrangements of the project:** shall not exceed **EUR 58**.

- ! The order, confirmed by the MoA for the **publicity arrangements is valid only for the applicants, acting in the territory of Lithuania.**
- ! The publicity arrangements, obligatory for the foreign partners, should be settled by their national managing authorities.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (1)

- **Two types of order could be excluded, in which:**
  - Lithuanian LAG is also the coordinator of the project;
  - Lithuanian LAG as participant of the project (the coordinator – foreign LAG).
- In both cases the related application for support for other transnational cooperation project may be filed only following the accomplishment of the previous transnational cooperation project (the implementation rules don't forbid implement inter-territorial cooperation or preparatory support project at the same time).
- **Two types of the LAGs' transnational cooperation projects could be supported:**  
*the implementation of common actions and the creation of common organizational structures.*
- The project should be implemented **in the period of 24 months** from the signing of the preparatory support agreement.
- The transnational cooperation project should be submitted to the National Paying Agency till the 30th of September, 2013.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: *THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (2)*

### When Lithuanian LAG is participant of the project :

- The maximum amount of the support per project shall not exceed **EUR 8 688**;
- Support may cover **up to 100 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project, however **potential foreign partners should contribute by the explicit means**.

### When Lithuanian LAG is also the coordinator of the project :

- The maximum amount of the support per project shall not exceed **EUR 20 273** and depends from the **number of partners**;
- The minimum amount of the support per project shall not be less than **EUR 8 688**, where the amount for the participation of each partner is **EUR 2 896** (not including the coordinator of the project);
- Support may cover **up to 100 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project, however **potential foreign partners should contribute by the explicit means no less than 40 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (3)

### When Lithuanian LAG is participant of the project :

#### **APPLICANT:**

LAG, which:

- acts under the LAP, confirmed by the MoA;
- confirms the signing of the partnership agreements with the foreign and other partners and coordinators of the project;
- confirms the capability to implement project and to spent the assigned support effectively;
- till the signing of the support agreement submits the documents, shoving the fact of the contribution by the explicit means from other project's partners and coordinator.

### When Lithuanian LAG is also the coordinator of the project :

#### **APPLICANT:**

LAG, which:

- acts under the LAP, confirmed by the MoA;
- submits transnational cooperation project with partner (the number of partners is not limited);
- confirms the signing of the partnership agreements with the foreign and other partners;
- confirms the capability to implement project and to spent the assigned support effectively.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (4)

### When Lithuanian LAG is participant of the project :

#### **PARTNER (PARTNERS):**

- The applicant also could have a partner – public or private juridical person.

### When Lithuanian LAG is also the coordinator of the project :

#### **PARTNER (PARTNERS):**

- at least one partner should be LAG, acting in the territory of the EU's member state (except Lithuanian partners) or non-EU state, corresponding the eligibility criteria, settled by the appropriate national managing authority and submitted the application for the support for the transnational cooperation project;
- the foreign partner should ensure the contribution to the project (by the explicit means), which should consist at least **40 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project;
- the coordinator and (or) the partner of the project also could have a partner – public or private juridical person.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (4)

### THE MAIN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR LITHUANIAN LAG-COORDINATOR OF THE PROJECT :

- LAG is appointed as the coordinator of the transnational cooperation project;
  - project is prepared by no less than two partners (LAGs), acting in the different EU's member states and (or) non-EU states and designated for the achievement of the aims of the axis III measures and axis IV measure “Inter-territorial and transnational cooperation” of the RDP;
  - project corresponds the LAPs, prepared by the projects' coordinator and other partners, acting in the territory of Lithuania;
  - project corresponds the public character (non-profit initiative);
  - under the project the common actions and initiatives of the LAGs and other partners should be encouraged (the exchange of the good experience examples is underestimate);
  - project should be implemented under the partnership agreement, in which all responsibilities, functions and arrangements of the investments from the project coordinator and other partners should be settled;
  - the description of the project should be prepared;
  - the investments and expenses, provided for in the preparatory support project, are not and will not be financed through other national programmes and Community funds.
- ! The additional eligibility criteria, obligatory for the foreign partners, could be settled by their national managing authorities.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (5)

### ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES WHEN THE APPLICANT IS LITHUANIAN LAG-COORDINATOR OF THE PROJECT :

- **project's coordination expenditures:** the implementation of the coordination functions – monitoring, control, supervision of the implementation processes, the presentation of the intermediate results for the partners or the managing authority and etc. (**up to 20 per cent** of the total eligible expenditure of the project); also traveling and lodging, telecommunications and post services, translation services; office expenses and etc.;
- **publicity arrangements of the project:** shall not exceed **EUR 290**;
- **expenditures for the implementation of the common actions** (for example, the common actions, dedicated for the achievement of the aims of the axis III measures, also common editions, publications, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, exchanges of the personnel and etc.): rent of the accommodation or place; the purchase of the services, equipment; the purchase or rent of the machinery including computer hardware and software; traveling and lodging (according to the project's specific) and etc.;

**OR**

- **expenditures for the action and operation of newly established common organizational structure (juridical person):** the costs of the establishment and registration of new common juridical person; rent of the accommodation or place and public utilities; rent of the machinery, office equipment, including computer hardware and software; the purchase of the services and equipment; telecommunications and post services, office expenses and etc.
- !** The expenditure shall not be considered as eligible if they were incurred in the non-EU territory, except the expenditures for the coordination of the project and public arrangements.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (6)

### THE MAIN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR LITHUANIAN LAG-PARTICIPANT OF THE PROJECT:

- appointed coordinator of the transnational cooperation project – foreign LAG;
- project corresponds the LAP, prepared by the applicant (Lithuanian LAG) and the aims of the axis IV measure “Inter-territorial and transnational cooperation” of the RDP;
- coordinator of the project is already submitted the application for the support for the transnational cooperation project to his national managing authority;
- project corresponds the public character (non-profit initiative);
- under the project the common actions and initiatives of the LAGs and other partners should be encouraged (the exchange of the good experience examples is underestimate);
- project should be implemented under the partnership agreement, in which all responsibilities, functions and arrangements of the investments from the project coordinator and other partners should be settled;
- the description of the project should be prepared;
- the investments and expenses, provided for in the preparatory support project, are not and will not be financed through other national programmes and Community funds.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS: THE 2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE – IMPLEMENTATION (7)

### ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES WHEN THE APPLICANT IS LITHUANIAN LAG- PARTICIPANT OF THE PROJECT :

- **project's administration expenditures (up to 10 per cent of the total eligible expenditure of the project):** traveling and lodging, duty journeys (only for persons, acting under the labour contract), reward for the administrator of the project, telecommunications and post services, translation services; office expenses and etc.;
- **publicity arrangements of the project:** shall not exceed EUR 290;
- **expenditures for the implementation of the common actions** (for example, the common actions, dedicated for the achievement of the aims of the axis III measures, also common editions, publications, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, exchanges of the personnel and etc.): rent of the accommodation or place; the purchase of the services, equipment; the purchase or rent of the machinery including computer hardware and software; traveling and lodging (according to the project's specific) and etc.;

**OR**

- **expenditures for the action and operation of newly established common organizational structure (juridical person):** the costs of the establishment and registration of new common juridical person; rent of the accommodation or place and public utilities; rent of the machinery, office equipment, including computer hardware and software; the purchase of the services and equipment; telecommunications and post services, office expenses and etc.



## CONCLUSION FINDINGS:

### II. Different expectations towards beneficiaries in different programmes (1)

#### Present Situation:

- **The content of the common action projects should correspond to the aims of the axis III measures of the RDP.**
- **Two types of the LAGs' transnational cooperation projects could be supported:**
  - **the implementation of common actions** (for example, the common actions, dedicated for the achievement of the aims of the axis III measures, also common editions, publications, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, exchanges of the personnel and etc.);
  - **the creation of common organizational structures** (establishment and registration of new common juridical person);
  - **the exchange of the good experience examples is underestimate.**
- **The types of common costs (eligible expenditures) for the preparatory stage are envisaged:**
  - **expenditures for the project implementation** (preparation of the study, consulting, traveling and lodging, telecommunications and post services, translation services, the preparation and signing of the partnership agreements and etc.) (for Lithuanian LAGs);
  - **publicity arrangements of the project** (for Lithuanian LAGs);
  - *the publicity arrangements, obligatory for the foreign partners, should be settled by their national managing authorities.*



## CONCLUSION FINDINGS:

### II. Different expectations towards beneficiaries in different programmes (2)

#### Present Situation:

- **The types of common costs (eligible expenditures) for the project's implementation stage are envisaged:**
  - **project's coordination expenditures** (implementation of the coordination functions – monitoring, control, supervision of the implementation processes, the presentation of the intermediate results for the partners or the managing authority and etc., traveling and lodging, telecommunications and post services, translation services, office expenses and etc.) (for Lithuanian LAGs);
  - **publicity arrangements of the project** (for Lithuanian LAGs);
  - **expenditures for the implementation of the common actions** (rent of the accommodation or place, the purchase of the services, equipment, the purchase or rent of the machinery including computer hardware and software, traveling and lodging (according to the project's specific) and etc.) (for Lithuanian LAGs), *or*
  - **expenditures for the action and operation of newly established common organizational structure (juridical person)** (costs of the establishment and registration of new common juridical person, rent of the accommodation or place and public utilities, rent of the machinery, office equipment, including computer hardware and software, the purchase of the services and equipment, telecommunications and post services, office expenses and etc.) (for Lithuanian LAGs);
  - *the expenditure shall not be considered as eligible if they were incurred in the non-EU territory, except the expenditures for the coordination of the project and public arrangements.*



## CONCLUSION FINDINGS:

### *II. Different expectations towards beneficiaries in different programmes (3)*

#### PROBLEMS AND PROPOSALS:

- **The content of the common action projects should correspond to the aims of the axis III measures of the RDP, meanwhile in the other EU's member states possible to initiate the transnational cooperation projects under the aims of the different axis of national rural development programmes (lessons for the further programming period);**
- **The shortage of the LAGs' experience and ideas for the implementation of the transnational cooperation projects (we hope to exchange the examples of good experience and concrete projects during this meeting ☺).**



## CONCLUSION FINDINGS:

### *III. Information needs of different partners involved in TNC implementation (1)*

#### **Present Situation:**

- **At the moment the best way to communicate and to exchange the ideas, concrete proposals and etc. is through the Ministry of Agriculture, because this institution cooperate with Lithuanian LAGs and other social, institutional and economic partners.**
- **In Lithuania permanent cooperation and discussions between Ministry, LAGs, other institutions and social, economical partners are held:**
  - **LEADER coordination group** (MoA, LAGs, other institutions, municipalities and other partners are involved);
  - **Projects selection committee under the axis IV of RDP** (mainly the same participants)
  - **Committees under the Lithuanian Rural Network.**



## CONCLUSION FINDINGS:

### *III. Information needs of different partners involved in TNC implementation (2)*

#### PROBLEMS AND PROPOSALS:

- **In the nearest future the problem of the common basis with the basic information could occur** (the contacts of national managing authorities and LAGs, national documentation , translated into the basic languages, and etc):
  - **The place for the common basic information mentioned could be found in the *European Network for Rural Development* web-page (? ☺).**



## ONE OF THE SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IN LITHUANIA (1)

### The development of the tourism activities by the borderline river *Mėmelė/Nemunėlis /DETOMENE*

- Lithuanian participant – **LAG of the Biržai district.**
- The cooperation agreement under the priority of INTERREG III B was signed in the **29th of April, 2005.**
- The projects' implementation agreement under the priority of INTERREG III B was signed in the **15th of March, 2006.**
- Duration of the project – **till the 28th of February, 2007.**
- **Partners:**
  - LAG of the Biržai district, Lithuania;
  - Lithuanian agricultural advisory service;
  - Latvian consulting center;
  - Skaiskalnės NGO, Latvia.

## ONE OF THE SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IN LITHUANIA (2)

### **The development of the tourism activities by the borderline river *Mėmelė/Nemunėlis* /DETOMENE**

- **The investments made by the river *Nemunėlis*:**
  - 3 new staging posts were built;
  - 3 new quays were built;
  - 3 WC where built;
  - 1 secured boat quay was equipped;
  - other related investments.
- **The value of the project – EUR 98 832 (the input of the LAG of the Biržai district – EUR 24 554,48).**
- **Results of the project:**
  - Lithuanian LAG acquired good experience for the participation in the transnational cooperation projects;
  - the experience for the administration for the transnational cooperation projects;
  - the experience for the communication during the international meetings, seminars, workshops and even conferences;
  - the increased fascination of the region, the propagation of the water tourism.



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS  
ŽEMĖS ŪKIO MINISTERIJA



**Thank you for Your kind attention!**

**Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania**

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