

**2021-2030 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND SPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA EDUCATION
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS MEASURES NO. 12-003-03-04-02 "ENSURING
EFFECTIVE SCIENCE AND STUDY SYSTEM MANAGEMENT" DESCRIPTION
OF THE JUSTIFICATION OF THE INFORMATION SPECIFIED IN THE DESCRIPTION**

**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Tool code and title	12-003-03-04-02 "Ensure effective management of the science and study system"
National progress plan task	3.4. task "Improve the correspondence between the competences acquired in the education system and those required in the labor market and adapt to the changing environment".
Development program	2021-2030 The Education Development Program of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, the manager of the development program, approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2021. December 1 by resolution no. 1016 "For 2021-2030 Approval of the Education Development Program of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, the manager of the development program".
Responsible authority (coordinating authority)	Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter - Ministry of Education, Science and Sports)

A change is expected	<p>I. NEED FOR THE MEASURE, EXPECTED QUANTITY AND/OR QUALITATIVE CHANGE</p> <p>The progress instrument is being developed in order to contribute to the National Progress Plan¹ (hereinafter - NPP) implementation of the 3rd strategic goal - "increasing the inclusion and effectiveness of education in order to meet the needs of the individual and society" and the seventh project "Modern, Modern, efficient and mission-oriented management of the study and science system" of actions 1.7.1-1.7.4.</p> <p>The Lithuanian education system faces such challenges as insufficient efficiency of the system, lack of compliance with the needs of the changing society and the labor market. It is important for Lithuania to increase efficiency at all levels of the education system. In order to respond to demographic changes, a strategy is needed that provides access to good quality education for all, while ensuring the effectiveness of the school network. Efforts are needed to consolidate the network of higher education institutions, which consists of 37 public and private higher education institutions.</p> <p>The implementation of the progress measure solves the causes of the problem "Mismatch between the skills provided by the higher education system and the needs of the labor market" :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the study financing and admission system does not encourage the orientation of higher education institutions towards progress and quality (cause of ŠPP 15.1); - the network of research and study institutions does not correspond to the decreasing trends in the number of pupils/students (reason of ŠPP 15.2); - the basic funding of research activities remains low, when the funding of study activities is close to the European Union (hereinafter - EU) average (reason of ŠPP 15.3);
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¹ 2020 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania September 9 resolution no. 998 "On the approval of the National Progress Plan for 2021-2030".

² 2021 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania March 10 resolution no. 155 "On the Eighteenth Government of the Republic of Lithuania approval of the plan for the implementation of the provisions of the program".

- ineffective monitoring of the science and study system and human resources. (reason of ŠPP 15.4).

- too little access to informational resources for science and studies and the infrastructure of students' learning and life that does not satisfy their needs (reason of ŠPP 15.6).

Although the employment rate of persons who graduated from higher education in Lithuania after 1–3 years after graduation is high (87.6%), but there is a noticeable discrepancy between the available qualifications of recent graduates and the work they do³. In 2019 one year after graduation only 42 percent of university graduates, 65 percent of the II tier of universities and 30 percent of college graduates worked in highly skilled jobs. On the one hand, the high level of education of the population should give the country a competitive advantage, but the employment rates of persons with higher education show a discrepancy with the needs of the labor market, the creation of "excess qualifications" - graduates work in jobs that do not require higher education.

The activities of the progress instrument aim to: -
 implement the financing model of research and study institutions, -
 optimize the activities of colleges, -
 create a strong research agency, - clarify
 the objectives of the activities of research and study institutions.

The implemented Progress measure is intended not only to eliminate the causes of the problem being solved, but also to respond to the demand-supply trends in the education sector in order to achieve a breakthrough in ensuring the effective management of the science and study system. The following details the solutions of the Progress tool that will work on the causes of the specified problem.

The causes of the problem "Mismatch between the skills provided by the higher education system and the needs of the labor market" (causes to be eliminated):

1. The study financing and admission system does not encourage the orientation of higher education institutions towards progress and quality (reason of ŠPP 15.1).

As the expenses of the state and municipal budgets for higher education studies are growing, and the number of students is decreasing, the state expenses per student in the last five years have increased by 8 percent in universities and by 31 percent in colleges⁴.

The share of funds per student in 2019 amounted to 6,500 euros in universities and 2,700 euros in colleges, respectively, and in 2020 these funds amounted to 7,400 euros in universities and 3,000 euros in colleges⁵. Despite the relatively optimal state funding for education, the absorption of funds is inefficient and does not directly reach students. According to Eurostat, Lithuania is the fourth among the countries with the least funds per student, that is, among the countries that allocate the least funds to students. Lithuanian state expenses per student recalculated according to the purchasing power standard in 2017. was 4,272 euros, while the average of EU countries was 9,393 euros⁶. The part of the funds that goes to the student is very small, because most of the funds are spent on the farm and administration. The financing of universities is not sustainable, as the dependence on EU structural funds prevails. The study financing system is not oriented to meet the needs of the economy, state-funded study places are allocated to higher schools not only to train specialists in the missing professions, but also to meet the needs of applicants. There is great pressure to increase the total number of state-funded study places, which distorts the proportions between the vocational training, college and university sectors.

³ STRATA (2020) State of studies in Lithuania. Access via the Internet: <https://strata.gov.lt/images/tyrimai/2020-metai/svietimo-politika/20200901-Lietuvos-studiju-bukle.pdf>.

⁴ STRATA (2020) State of studies in Lithuania. Access via the Internet: <https://strata.gov.lt/images/tyrimai/2020-metai/svietimo-politika/20200901-Lietuvos-studiju-bukle.pdf>.

⁵ <https://osp.stat.gov.lt/statistiniu-rodikliu-analize?hash=84c9cc16-cf38-4e5b-9845-065cd78e848d#/>.

⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/EDUC_UOE_FINE09_custom_114970/bookmark/table?lang=en&bookmarkId=c9242ca0-6106-4649-80b6-29c003f327a3.

Higher education institutions offer study programs to applicants and train specialists not according to the real market demand for specialists, but according to their popularity, because the financing of studies depends on this. As a result, there is a shortage of some specialists (especially STEAM) in the labor market⁷, and graduates of some study programs work in jobs that do not require higher education. The application of unequal admission conditions to those who wish to study at their own expense and those who wish to study at state-funded places also affects the quality of the ongoing studies. According to LAMA BPO data, in 2021 the average competitive score of those who have signed contracts with universities for state-funded study places is 7.73 (in 2020 - 7.56), the average competitive score of those studying in places not funded by the state is 6.71 (6.83 in 2020)⁸. The average competitive score of those who have signed an agreement with colleges is significantly lower than in the university sector. Agreement on state-funded study places with colleges in 2021. signatories have an average competitive score of 6.06 (6.03 in 2020) and 4.26 in unfunded places (4.72 in 2020). in 2020 persons studying in I-level and integral studies at their own expense (at places of study not financed by the state) accounted for 46 percent of all students.

The performance of research and study institutions is evaluated by allocating state budget funds for scientific research, experimental development and development of artistic activities. In the field of studies, only the costs of the study process are financed: the tuition fee is paid at state-funded study places, which includes the wages of teachers, research and other study-related employees, study-related goods and services, and student promotion costs. Study funding was only linked to quantitative indicators (number of students and tuition fees), and there was no funding allocated based on qualitative performance indicators, so research and study institutions were not financially encouraged to achieve a higher quality of studies. Addressing this cause of the problem in 2021. November 18 the approved amendment to the Law on Science and Studies⁹, which unifies the minimum requirements for admission to state-financed and non-financed study places, establishes the new conditions for higher education institutions and scientific research and experimental development (hereinafter -

R&D) funding structure (funding of studies is supplemented by incentives for the achievements of study activities, contracts with higher education institutions). A new financing structure for the activities of higher education institutions has been established, which encourages higher education institutions to no longer focus on increasing the number of admitted students, but to concentrate all their efforts on the quality of studies, on the needs of the labor market, thereby solving the issues of qualification and skill mismatch with the labor market.

A change is expected. Legal prerequisites have been created for changes that would enable the progress of science and studies, promote the quality of studies, orientation to the needs of the labor market, and remove disproportions in the conditions of admission to higher education institutions.

2. The network of research and study institutions does not correspond to the decreasing trends in the number of pupils/students (reason of ŠPP 15.2).

The number of Lithuanian high school graduates in 2021 decreased again compared to 2020: 19,690 matriculation certificates were awarded in general education schools this year (20,879 in 2020), 3,512 in vocational training institutions (3,781 in 2020). During the implementation of actions to optimize higher education institutions, the number of higher education institutions in Lithuania has been consistently decreasing over the past five years, 7 higher education institutions have had their permits to conduct studies and study-related activities revoked. 2017-2020 Reform of the university network has been initiated. The Seimas of the Republic and the Government of¹⁰ in 2017 Lithuanian the Republic of Lithuania have initiated the transformation of the network of state universities. in 2019 adopted LRV resolution no. 945 "Regarding

⁷ Kurk for Lithuania in 2020 research report (strengthening STEAM regional cooperation) (<http://kurklit.lt/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Teminio-tyrimo-ataskaita-STEAM-2.pdf>)

⁸ <https://bakalauras.lamabpo.lt/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2021-m.-bendrojo-priemimo-rezultatu-apzvalga-2021-09-21-2-1-1.pdf>.

⁹ <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/3444478d04d4f11ec86bdcb0a6d573b32?fwid=b0ge2ykmt>.

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/file_import/2019-european-semester-country-report-lithuania_lt.pdf

Amendment to the approval of measures for the implementation of the network optimization plan of state universities". Three universities (LEU, ASU, VDU) officially became the consolidated Vytautas the Great University. in 2019 Vilnius University (VU) and Šiauliai University (ŠU) signed a letter of intent regarding a joint activity agreement and 2021. Šiauliai University became the Šiauliai Academy of Vilnius University. in 2017 it was planned that 9 of the 14 state universities would remain, but in 2021 the result is 11. Currently, there are 11 state and 7 private universities, 12 state and 7 private colleges operating in Lithuania.

Other university network optimization activities were aimed at optimizing the internal infrastructure of universities by mobilizing it according to the principle of student campuses and strengthening the breakthrough of their activities in areas of specialization. Vilnius Gediminas University of Technology, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kaunas University of Technology, Klaipėda University, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theater participated in these activities. Another direction of optimization of the university network was aimed at the concentration of scientific potential, innovative environment and human resources in 2 teacher training centers (raising the qualifications of teachers; consolidating pedagogical studies and training programs, improving the management and organization of the study process, quality of pedagogical training).

As noted in the European Commission's 2019 in the presented assessment of structural reforms in Lithuania, the reform of the higher education system is being implemented slowly¹¹.

It is possible to increase the quality of research and study activities by various means, but all of them will have a limited effect if the network is fragmented, duplicated and inefficiently using limited resources. The inefficient network of higher education institutions is also shown by the 2021 results of the same study programs conducted by state higher education institutions in the relevant region. statistics. In the universities located in the region of Eastern Lithuania, about 40 percent of all study fields conducted in the region are duplicated, in colleges - about 65 percent of the study fields conducted. The situation is similar in Central Lithuania - in universities, about 40 percent of all fields of study in the region are duplicated, in colleges - 50 percent. Continuing the actions of increasing the efficiency of the network of higher education institutions and achieving a more harmonious operation of the network of higher education institutions, it is planned to review the missions of universities and colleges. The current version of the Law on Science and Studies defines the types of higher education institutions and the basis of their activities. The amendment of the Law on Science and Studies will clarify the missions of higher education institutions, and the prepared by-laws will determine the goals and indicators (criteria) for the activities of colleges and universities. It is also planned to create an opportunity for higher schools to initiate reorganization processes themselves.

A change is expected. A network of higher education institutions operating efficiently through renewed missions. Universities are centers of attraction for the creation of new knowledge and exchanges, carrying out R&D and studies based on them, while colleges, which have greater opportunities to respond to the problem of the lack of business specialists operating in the regions, concentrate on cooperation with representatives of the labor market and regional development.

3. The basic funding of research activities remains low, when the funding of study activities is close to the EU average (reason of ŠPP 15.3).

Basic R&D funding for scientific study institutions (hereafter - MSI) is only 52%. Funds received by MSI for the organization of study activities (student baskets). Since "we get what we fund", MSIs are also more interested in accepting large numbers of students than investing in R&D capacity building. This leads to the fact that Lithuanian researchers have one of the highest teaching loads among EU countries, that is, they have the least incentives and time to carry out R&D activities and develop a researcher's career. In order to achieve a proper balance between research and study activities, the lack of basic R&D funding of MSI, rather than the funds allocated for study activities, remains a systemic shortcoming.

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/file_import/2019-european-semester-country-report-lithuania_lt.pdf

A change is expected. Balanced basic funding of scientific activities.

Promotion of higher education institutions for the achievements of study activities from the state budget, the funds of incentive funding for the achievements of study activities are allocated to research and study institutions according to the results of the evaluation of the achievements of the study activities of research and study institutions carried out every year.

4. Inefficiently functioning monitoring of the science and study system and human resources (cause of ŠPP 15.4, problem 6 of the Science Development Program, "The potential of Lithuanian science is not used in increasing the quality of studies and solving the challenges facing society in other areas" reason 2, "Insufficient effectiveness of quality assurance of studies") .

On a national scale, there is no institutionalized unified institution implementing science and studies policy, which would be responsible for the formation of a consistent R&D environment, the quality of R&D activities and the transfer of the results of these activities to the public, the promotion of the integration of Lithuanian natural and legal persons into the international research space, organizing and conducting programmatic competitive R&D financing of activities, implementing incentive measures to strengthen the cooperation of science and study institutions and business entities in the field of R&D, and conducting long-term analysis of human resources processes, the collected and managed data of which is necessary for making science and study policy decisions.

Until now, two institutions have been operating in the field of science policy implementation: the Lithuanian Science Council (hereinafter - LMT) and the Science, Innovation and Technology Agency (hereinafter - MITA), whose main purpose is to implement the state's science and study policy through various support measures for the development of R&D activities. and to educate society in science. in 2022 January 11 adopted the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies no. XI- 242 Amendment of Articles 15, 73 and Supplementing the Law with Article 241 Law No. XIV-894, which establishes the provision that the rights and duties of the owner of the Lithuanian Science Council are implemented by the Government.

Leading up to 2021 December 9 the adopted amendment to the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Technology and Innovation¹² establishes the Innovation Agency, and the functions assigned by the Ministry of Economy and Innovation, performed by MITA, related to the development of innovations, are transferred to the Innovation Agency. LRV at the 2022-03-23 meeting, adopting resolutions of the LRV Regarding the resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania "On the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2017 March 1 resolution no. 149 "On the implementation of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies" and the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania "On the Government of the Republic of Lithuania 2010 October 20 resolution no. 1517 "On the amendment of institutions attached to the ministries", a protocol decision was also approved, instructing:

- The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports, together with MITA and LMT, should carry out actions related to the reorganization of MITA, connecting it to LMT; - The Ministry of Economy and Innovation together with MITA and the public institution Innovation Agency to perform actions related to the transfer of projects and activities intended for the implementation of technology and innovation policy to the public institution Innovation Agency.

Based on these decisions in 2022 May 18 approved resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania no. 513 "On the consent to reorganize the Science, Innovation and Technology Agency", based on which MITA will be reorganized by merger and connected to LMT. The LMT, which will operate after the reorganization, will comply with the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies and the regulations of the LMT, approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2022. April 20 by resolution no. 375 "Regarding the approval of the provisions of the Lithuanian Science Council", the functions established for the Lithuanian Science Council. This would optimize the management of institutions operating in the field of science policy, increase the supply and quality of provided services, create a unified R&D value chain from fundamental scientific

¹² <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/1ff86f305d9811eca9ac839120d251c4>.

from research to the commercialization of scientific knowledge and integration into the international scientific space, conditions have been created for the LMT scientific and study institutions operating on the principle of a "one-stop shop" with the updated mandate to receive a full range of necessary services and a package of financial support.

An important part of this reform is related to ensuring long-term analytics of HR processes. A necessary condition for the implementation of reforms of the funding and admission system for science and studies is the continuous monitoring of the system, analysis and evaluation of its condition, changes, processes, on the basis of which goals would be formulated. Until now, the general monitoring of science and studies carried out by the Center for Strategic Analysis of the Government (hereinafter referred to as STRATA) was carried out fragmentarily, only according to a special request of the Ministry coordinated with the Government Chancellery, depending on the funds available at STRATA and the annual plans set by the Government Chancellery, not concentrated in a single data system, which would constantly monitor, accumulate and analyze qualitative, quantitative and other process data necessary for the formation of higher education policy and for improving and ensuring its quality. The effective monitoring of higher education systems and higher education institutions is hindered by insufficient digitization of external evaluation and monitoring services.

A change is expected. The operation of a unified institution financing R&D activities and the application of their results in research and study institutions is ensured, whose decisions would be based on effective and continuous analysis of the functioning of the research and study system. Reorganized MITA, by joining it to LMT, subordinated to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, giving LMT a wider and more effective operational mandate for supporting R&D activities and the dissemination of their results, promoting Lithuania's participation in international R&D and innovation programs and organizations, ensuring long-term systematic analytical functions of research and study processes.

5. Too little access to research and study information resources and the infrastructure of students' learning and life that does not meet their needs (reason ŠPP 15.6).

Research and study institutions are missing a new generation of library services platform that would enable the accumulation of full-text documents in the PDB (publication database) and submit them through a search gateway for open access.

In order to ensure a smooth process of distance studies, it is necessary to implement a common overlap verification system that would ensure the possibilities of plagiarism verification and prevention. After analyzing the services provided by the Lithuanian academic electronic library, it became clear that outdated technical and software infrastructure is still used, there is a lack of integration with other information systems, limited access to databases and other electronic resources does not meet the needs of the academic community and global trends (academic libraries are being transferred from information systems to new generation library service platforms (*Library Services Platform, LSP*), operating on the basis of cloud computing).

Solving this cause of the problem in 2021. June 9 by order no. V-1065 approved action plan for the development of Lithuanian science and studies information infrastructure 2021-2024, which provides for the development of common science and studies information systems and registers, to ensure the integration and efficient operation of science and studies information systems and infrastructure, to create conditions for institutions that shape science and studies policy and scientific and study institutions to ensure efficient management, the academic community to carry out modern studies, to ensure integrated access to national and international digital scientific and learning resources and the planned funds for the implementation of these measures.

II. 2014-2020 IMPACT OF INVESTMENTS OF EU FUNDS IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION 2014-2020

The implementation of EU investments in the field of quality and accessibility of studies was directly influenced by the initiated structural reform of education, which in the field of studies foresees the optimization of the university network, quality improvement and increasing the prestige of researchers. Despite the ambitious goals, during the period analyzed during the evaluation

the implementation of the reform was limited by the weak coordination of university network optimization, including the university merger process, and the lack of regulatory and administrative measures to implement the University Network Optimization Plan. At the moment, 3 universities have been finally merged: Vytautas Didios, Lithuanian University of Education and Aleksandars Stulginskis. After the merger of Vytautas the Great University

the investments received from EU funds are intended not only for the development and concentration of study infrastructure, but also contribute to the transformation of the teacher training system.

Although in 2014 - 2020 Investments of EU funds in the study infrastructure should primarily contribute to the concentration and improvement of the available infrastructure, in the implementation of the University Network Transformation Plan, the projects selected and implemented by the state project planning method included the improvement of college infrastructure. The assessment showed¹³ that the planned educational infrastructure capacity of the eight high schools and nine colleges that received EU investments exceeded 40%. of all higher education students in 2019-2020 Therefore, it can be said that significant investments in improving the study environment create conditions for achieving study quality goals in study institutions with the greatest potential, which attract a significant part of students. However, 96 risks to the sustainability of investments in study infrastructure are posed by the decreasing number of students receiving secondary education and since 2014. there is a continuous decline in the number of students in universities and colleges.

In order to improve the quality of studies and compliance with the labor market, the following project contributions contributing to changes and creating prerequisites for them are planned at the systemic level during projects financed by EU funds:

- prepared and updated documents regulating studies: updated methodology for creating descriptions of study areas for different levels, prepared and/or updated descriptions of study areas or their groups;
- the external quality control system

of higher education institutions has been improved: the external performance evaluation methodology has been updated; carried out external evaluations of activities and study programs/fields of higher education institutions;

- a system of academic recognition of foreign qualifications related to higher education has been developed.

In order to increase the accessibility of studies and their relevance to the labor market, state and individual higher education institution projects were also implemented, aimed at:

- to improve access to studies for students from socially sensitive, socially excluded and underrepresented groups by awarding a targeted payment or a social scholarship;
- adapt the informational and physical study environment for persons with special educational needs;

- for student internships in companies and organizations;

promote student entrepreneurship;

- involve teachers and students of higher education institutions in non-formal education programs.

The evaluation showed that these projects are likely to have a positive impact at the individual level of the individuals who participated in the project activities, but the scale of the interventions is relatively small for changes to occur at the level of the entire higher education system.

2014-2020 EU investments in the field of studies have contributed to improving the quality of studies, increasing internationality, improving the relevance of studies to the labor market and strengthening students' entrepreneurial skills. In order to improve the quality of studies,

¹³ 2021-2030 map of investment needs in the education system.

https://smsm.lrv.lt/uploads/smsm/documents/files/veikla/es_investicijos/Aktualizutasas%20svietimo%20zemelapis_2020%2008%2024.pdf

accessibility and conformity to the labor market, documents regulating studies were prepared and updated, the external quality control system of higher education institutions was improved, etc. The potential of science was also strengthened with EU funds in order to develop, retain and attract talents for high-level science and science-based innovations. Also during this period, the 17th Government initiated a structural reform, which envisaged optimizing the network of state universities, improving the quality of studies and increasing the attractiveness of the profession of teachers and researchers in order to create prerequisites for the effective connection of higher education with the needs of the country's society, the state, business and the international competitiveness of science and studies. 2014-

in 2020 Activities financed by EU funds were intended to connect and/or strengthen areas of specialization, concentrate available resources in "student campuses", strengthen the professional competence of teachers and researchers, update and enlarge study programs, improve higher education management, administration, organization of the study process, as well as pedagogues to create a professional development model.

III. TARGET GROUPS

When forming the target groups of the Measure, the planned results and those for whom the implementation of the Progress Measure will create the greatest added value were evaluated, namely:

- students (prospective students),
- students (including foreigners), state
- and non-state higher education institutions (universities and colleges)

teachers etc. staff,

- employees of scientific and study institutions, including academic society.

Target group sample: 2020-2021 33.8 percent pursued higher education. 20-24 year olds. In the 2020-2021 academic year, 104 thousand students studied in Lithuanian higher education institutions. students, of which 71.9 thousand in universities, 32.5 thousand in colleges. Compared to the previous academic year 2019-2020, the number of students in universities decreased by 1.1 thousand. (1.5 percent), in colleges - 0.5 thousand. (1.5 percent). 12 thousand studied in non-state higher education institutions (7 universities and 10 colleges). or almost 11.6 percent. of all students (11.2 thousand or 10.6 percent in 2019-2020). in 2020 higher education institutions prepared 24.8 thousand higher education specialists. In colleges, 7.5 thousand were awarded the professional bachelor's degree. graduates, 9.3 thousand in universities. students awarded a bachelor's degree, 6.5 thousand - master's degree, 306 - doctoral degree, 742 graduates who completed professional studies obtained professional qualifications (409 completed residency, 333 - pedagogical studies). in 2020 59.6 percent 30-34-year-old Lithuanians had higher education (57.8% in 2019). 2020-2021 10,370 teachers worked in Lithuanian higher education institutions, of which 2,448 were in colleges, 7,922 were in universities. in 2021 2,316 students studying in higher education institutions received social scholarships.

All the identified target groups are related to studies and higher education, therefore they face greater or lesser causes of the previously named problems, which do not create opportunities to ensure effective management of the science and study system, therefore the solution of the identified problem will have a significant impact on all target groups, because the implementation of the Progress Measure will :

- created legal prerequisites for increasing the efficiency of higher education institutions; - prerequisites for the growth of the quality of studies have been established, by allocating funding to higher education institutions for the achievements of study activities;
- with the help of contracts with higher education institutions, prerequisites are created to implement strategic measures for the advancement of the science and study system, to agree with higher education institutions on the implementation of a specific goal and the achievement of results;
- prerequisites have been created to implement a new funding structure for higher education institutions, promoting the progress of higher education institutions and orientation towards the quality of studies;
- a unified institution financing R&D activities and the application of their results in scientific and study institutions has been created;

	<p>- conditions have been created for permanent analysis of the functioning of the science and study system; - financial conditions have been created for optimizing the activities of colleges.</p> <p>IV. A CHANGE IS EXPECTED AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADVANCEMENT TOOL</p> <p>A general change in the Progress Instrument is expected - an increase in the compliance of higher education with the needs of the labor market and society, and effective and continuous analysis of the functioning of the science and study system is ensured.</p> <p>Qualitative indicators of change:</p> <p>- improved quality of studies; - improved the efficiency of the network of higher education institutions; - decreased percentage of persons studying at their own expense from all persons studying.</p> <p>Quantitative indicators of change:</p> <p>- adopted amendments to the Law on Science and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania, regulating the activities of higher education institutions; - the legal act establishing the science policy implementation agency has entered into force;</p> <p>- the necessary infrastructure of the Lithuanian Science Council for the implementation of science policy has been created; - the model of contracts with higher schools and incentive financing of higher schools is being implemented; - implemented college transformation projects.</p> <p>The progress measure directly contributes to this indicator of the NPP plan - the number of high school graduates who are employed for the relevant qualifications position within 6 months after graduation (71 percent in 2025; 76 percent in 2030).</p>
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Alternatives for the implementation of the Progress Instrument

Based on the following arguments, only one alternative for the implementation of the activities of the Progress Instrument is formed:

- The actions of the Progress Facility related to the renewal of the college network and the creation of a strong science agency are classified as activities of the Economic Revitalization and Resilience Facility.
- The actions of the progress instrument related to the clarification of the activity goals of science and study institutions and the implementation of financing and R&D evaluation and financing models are named in the program of the Eighteenth Government of the Republic of Lithuania, approved by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania in 2020. December 11 by resolution no. XIV-72 "On the Eighteenth Program of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania" (hereinafter - the LRV Program). LRV Subsection 56.1 of the program states that financing of higher education institutions will be linked to their performance quality indicators, and agreements of at least three years duration are formed with higher education institutions regarding the goals to be achieved and performance quality indicators. Also, subsection 54.2 of the LRV program states that the missions of universities and colleges will be refined, clearly specifying the qualitative requirements they must meet, this can only be done by changing the Law on Science and Studies.

Alternative I

The implementation of the alternative combines regulatory and investment activities. In the implementation of regulatory activities, it is planned to change the Law on Science and Studies in defining the missions of universities and colleges. Investment activities will be dedicated to implementing funding models for research and study institutions, optimizing the network of colleges, and restructuring MITA.

	Activities and their links to the cause of the Progress Tool problem	Alternative budget, thousand Eur	Funding source, thousand Eur	Project executors
Regulatory activities	1. To refine the objectives of the activities of science and study institutions by changing the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies (reason of ŠPP 15.2)	-	-	ŸŸŸ
Investment activities	2. Reorganize MITA, create LMT with a new mandate (reason for ŠPP 15.4)	1,800	Funds of the Economic Stimulation and Resilience Enhancement Facility (hereinafter -	LMT

			EGADP) - 1,500 thousand, state budget funds (hereinafter - VB) - 300 thousand.	
	3. To introduce new funding models for research and study institutions (reasons for ŠPP 15.1, 15.3)	41,200	VB - 41,200 thousand, of which 11,200 thousand Promotion of higher education institutions for achievements of study activities, 30,000 thousand Eur - for special ones for contracts	MSI
	4. Update the network of colleges, after assessing the potential, national and regional economic development and labor market needs (SPP reason 15.2)	24,000	EGADP - 20,000 thousand EUR, VB - 4,000 thousand	Higher schools
	Altogether:	67,000		

The desired results are detailed in the "Expected Change" section of this document.

Financial flows and period of analysis:

The analysis period is 15 years, taking into account the sector of the Progress Instrument (other sectors are assigned) and the useful life of the assets planned to be created.

The following additional operational and support costs are planned for 2030-2037:

- reinvestment 374 thousand Eur;
- operating expenses for promoting higher schools for the achievements of study activities 608,400 thousand. Eur.

Target groups and their scope:

- students of general education schools (prospective students) – 330 26214;
- high school (university and college) students - 103 56415;
- teachers of state and non-state higher schools (universities and colleges), etc. personnel - 10 30416;
- employees of scientific and study institutions, including academic society.

Funding volume: alternative activities budget 67,000 thousand. Eur. Funding sources - EGADP and VB funds. The alternatives table details the sources of funding for each planned activity.

Activity 1. To clarify the objectives of the activities of science and study institutions by changing the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies.

Continuing the actions of increasing the efficiency of the network of higher education institutions and achieving a more harmonious operation of the network of higher education institutions, it is planned to review the missions of universities and colleges. In order to achieve this goal, it is planned to change the Law on Science and Studies for each type of institution by establishing operational goals and criteria. The amendment to the Law on Science and Studies will clarify the missions of higher education institutions and determine the quality requirements of studies that colleges and universities must meet.

Activity 2. Reorganize MITA, create LMT with a new mandate.

After reorganizing MITA and connecting it to LMT, a "one-stop shop" will be created for scientific and study institutions to receive support, covering the entire chain of levels of technological readiness from fundamental research, applied research and experimental development, where there will also be product prototyping and *spin-offs* born from science and study financing of projects for the establishment of *off*. Joint scientific projects with business will also be financed, that is, all national and EU support for science and related networking, competence development, etc. will be concentrated in one agency. project administration competencies. Expert services will be unified and qualitatively improved, the analytics of science and study processes will be strengthened, which will help to make political decisions based on objective analysis.

Activity 3. To implement the financing model of research and study institutions.

On 11/18/2021, an amendment to the Law on Science and Studies was approved, which unifies the minimum requirements for admission to state-financed and non-financed study places, and establishes a new funding structure for higher education institutions¹⁷. The Law on Science and Studies enshrines the model for concluding special contracts with higher education institutions. The object of the contract may be the development of scientific and/or study activities; science and

¹⁴ Lithuanian Department of Statistics (<https://osp.stat.gov.lt/statistiniu-rodikliu-analize/>).

¹⁵ Lithuanian Department of Statistics (<https://osp.stat.gov.lt/statistiniu-rodikliu-analize/>).

¹⁶ Lithuanian Department of Statistics (<https://osp.stat.gov.lt/statistiniu-rodikliu-analize/>).

¹⁷ <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/344478d04dfd11ec86bdcb0a6d573b32?fwid=-b0qe2ykmt>.

(or) increasing the quality of study activities; investments in the infrastructure of the state institution of science and studies; optimization of the activities of state scientific and study institutions; fulfillment of the state's international obligations; other measures implementing the strategic goals and progress objectives set in the National Progress Plan approved by the Government. Funding needs for these activities

implementation could reach ~30 million Eur. These activities are planned to be financed from the state budget funds: in 2023 - 5 million EUR, 2024 - 10 million EUR, 2025 - 15 million EUR. On average, one project may require ~4-5 million to finance. Eur (the value of one project is calculated based on the experience of implemented ESF projects,

these ESF projects were intended for the implementation of the plan of measures to optimize the activities of higher education institutions, an average of about 4 million was allocated per project. EUR), but the amount allocated to the projects may vary depending on the scope, activities carried out, etc.

Also in the Law on Science and Studies from 2024 promotion of higher education institutions for the achievements of study activities has been established. It was determined that the state budget's incentive funding for the achievements of study activities awarded to research and study institutions according to the results of the evaluation of the achievements of study activities of research and study institutions carried out every year. The assessment of activity achievements is carried out according to the following formal criteria: 1) study performance; 2) internationality of studies; 3) recruitment of students to science, art and study activities; 4) career success of graduates; 5) availability of studies; 6) funds of scientific and study institutions, received from economic entities, non-governmental organizations and natural persons for orders for studies and in accordance with support agreements for conducting study activities. According to the cumulative estimates of the evaluation of study activity achievements, 5 percent is allocated to all scientific and study institutions in 2024, in 2025 -

10 percent, in 2026 and subsequent years - 20 percent of the state budget funds, calculated from the allocations approved in the state budget of the previous year, for the basic funding of studies. It is estimated that the preliminary need for funds to implement this provision of the law in 2024. is 11.2 million EUR, 2025 - 24.3 million

Eur. Taking into account the fact that only the expenses of the permanent nature of the first year can be considered as progress funds, the progress instrument indicates the need for funds in 2024. - 11.2 million Eur.

Activity 4. Renovate the network of colleges after assessing the potential, national and regional economic development and labor market needs.

Support for colleges to reorganize their activities according to refined missions. Projects are being implemented that will include the restructuring of the colleges' activities: consolidation of existing study programs, integration and optimization of the main administrative and scientific and study support functions and processes, optimization of the infrastructure used. Joint projects of several high schools are supported, resulting in the optimization of the activities of 5 high schools.

It is planned to finance the changes in the consolidation and improvement of the activities of state higher education institutions, the improvement of the quality of studies and integration, and to compensate the costs related to the reorganization of the offer of the ongoing study programs and their optimization, the strengthening of applied science activities, the optimization and consolidation of the main administrative and scientific and study service functions and processes, infrastructure optimization.

An average of 4 mln. EUR, a total of about 5 projects are planned to be implemented.

The project will include the optimization processes of several institutions and will be aimed at restructuring (as well as consolidating) activities taking into account the new missions established by the Ministry of Education and the recommendations of experts. The values of one project were calculated based on the experience of implemented ESF projects. These ESF projects were intended to implement the plan of measures to optimize the activities of higher education institutions.

Form of financing: the form of financing of all planned activities of the alternative is a grant.

Choosing the best alternative

67,000 thousand will be needed to implement the activities of the progress instrument. Eur.

An alternative analysis of the Progress Instrument was performed using the SNA method (financial and economic analysis). The following table presents the economic indicators of the alternative analysis of the Progress Facility activities:

Economic analysis indicators Alternative no. 1	
EGDV, thousand Eur	833 397

ENIS	3.12
EVGN	24.27%

Using the "Progress Measures Calculator" provided by CPVA, it is estimated that the economic benefits of the Progress Measures activities (EGDV) will amount to 833,397 thousand within a 15-year period. Eur.

It should be noted that the economic benefit of the Progress Measure will exceed the incurred costs, and the economic benefit-to-cost ratio (ENIS) will reach 3.12.

All calculations and calculation assumptions are specified in the Progress Instrument financial calculator.

Based on the calculation assumptions made, an analysis of the alternative was performed and the impact of the alternative on public finances was determined, which will amount to ~423,250 thousand. Eur (net present value).

The performed sensitivity analysis of the Progress instrument showed that prices and their changes can have a slight influence on financial indicators. Advancement measures may have the greatest impact on economic indicators through the socioeconomic benefits of improved skills to achieve wage increases changes.

One critical variable was identified for the EGDV and ENIS indicators, namely the socioeconomic benefit, the wage increase achieved as a result of improved skills.

The analysis of the Progress Instrument scenarios shows that the Progress Instrument is insensitive to the achievement of economic benefits. Even if a pessimistic scenario occurs during the implementation of the Progress Instrument, the socio-economic benefits of the Progress Instrument would remain high - EGDV would reach 428,578 thousand. EUR, and ENIS 1.87.

Measures of progress of the education development program of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, manager of the 2021-2030 development program no. 12-003-03-04-02 "Ensuring effective management of the science and study system" appendix to the description

2021-2030 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS MEASURES NO. 12-003-03-04-02 "ENSURING EFFECTIVE SCIENCE AND STUDY SYSTEM MANAGEMENT" DESCRIPTION OF FINANCING CONDITIONS OF PROJECTS "REORGANIZE THE SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY, CREATE THE LITHUANIAN SCIENCE COUNCIL WITH A NEW MANDATE"

ACTIVITIES OR IMPACTS FOR WHICH THE CONDITIONS OF PROJECT FINANCING ARE DETERMINED										
Name of activity	Financing and the source	Priority or component	Task or tool	An activity or a measure	Intervention code	Support forms code	Main territorial area code(s)	Economic activity code(s)	"European Social Fund +" (hereinafter ESF+) sub-theme codes	Gender dimension code
Reorganize Science, Innovation and Technology Agency (hereinafter - MITA), created with a new mandate Lithuanian	EGADP , state budget funds (invalid m VAT)	5	E.1.1.	E.1.1.4.	143, 109, 011	-	-	-	-	-

scientific council (hereinafter - LMT)										
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SPECIAL FINANCING REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicable legal acts

Legislation guiding the preparation, submission, evaluation, decision on project financing, conclusion of the project contract and implementation of the project financed under 2021-2030. development program manager of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, measures for the progress of the educational development program no. 12-003-03-04-02 "Ensure effective management of the science and study system" project financing conditions description no. 1 (hereinafter – Description):

General legislation:

1.1. Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies; 1.2.

Technology and Innovation Law of the Republic of Lithuania;

1.3. in 2021 February 12 Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a measure for economic recovery and resilience;

1.4. in 2021 July 28 Addendum to the approval of the implementation decision of the Council CM4171/21 on the evaluation of the plan for revitalizing the Lithuanian economy and increasing resilience;

1.5. "New Generation Lithuania" plan, adopted in 2021 July 28 the implementation decision of the Council on the approval of the plan for revitalizing the Lithuanian economy and increasing its resilience;

1.6. 2021-2030 The educational development program of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, the manager of the development program, was approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2021. December 1 by resolution no. 1016 "Regarding 2021-2030 approval of the educational development program of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, the manager of the development program";

1.7. Description of the procedure for the implementation of projects financed or partially financed by means of European Union funds and the Economic Revitalization and Resilience Enhancement Fund for the years 2021-2027, approved by the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania in 2021. July 7 by order no. 1K-240 "On the approval of the description of the implementation procedure for projects financed or partially financed by means of European Union funds and the Economic Revitalization and Resilience Enhancement Facility for the years 2021-2027" (hereinafter - the Description of the Project Implementation Procedure);

1.8. Strategic management methodology, approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2021. April 28 by resolution no. 292 "On the implementation of the Strategic Management Law of the Republic of Lithuania, Article 4, Parts 3 and 5, Article 7, Parts 1 and 4 of the Law on Regional Development of the Republic of Lithuania, and Article 141, Part 3 of the Law on the Budget Structure of the Republic of Lithuania".

Special legal acts and other documents:

1.9. 2022 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania March 23 resolution no. 256 "On the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2017 March 1 resolution no. 149 "On the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2017 March 1 resolution no. 149 "On the implementation of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies";

1.10. 2022 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania March 23 resolution no. 255 "On the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2010 October 20 resolution no. 1517 "On the amendment of the institutions attached to the ministries".

1.11. 2022 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania May 18 resolution no. 513 "On consent to reorganize the Science, Innovation and Technology Agency".

1.12. 2022 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania April 20 resolution no. 375 "On ratification of the provisions of the Lithuanian Science Council"

1.13. 2022 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania March 23 meeting protocol no. 18 8 p.

The terms used in the description are understood as they are defined in the description of the Project Implementation Procedure, the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Technologies and Innovations, the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Science and Studies and the previously mentioned legal acts.

2. Requirements for projects

2.1. The project partner is MITA.

2.2. The target group of the project is MITA and LMT staff, the Lithuanian scientific community, research and study institutions.

2.3. According to the Description, the form of financing provided is a grant.

2.4. According to the Description, up to EUR 1,500,000.00 (one million five hundred thousand euros) of funds from the Economic Revitalization and Resilience Enhancement Fund and no more than EUR 300,000.00 (three hundred thousand euros) of the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania are allocated for value added tax. (hereinafter - VAT) to compensate.

2.5. According to the Description, the supported activity is to reorganize MITA, to create LMT with a new mandate (optimization of LMT and MITA activities by reorganizing MITA by connecting it to LMTir, ensuring the performance of functions related to the implementation of science and studies policy).

2.6. The project must meet the project's general selection criteria set out in Annex 9 of the Project Implementation Procedure.

2.7. Project activities must be implemented by 2023. December 31

2.8. During the implementation of the project, mandatory project visibility and project information measures must be implemented in accordance with paragraphs 4.1-4.4 of Appendix 5 of the Project Implementation Procedure.

2.9. Along with the Project implementation plan, the following must be

submitted: 2.9.1. declarations of partners in accordance with Appendix 8.1 of the Project Implementation

Procedure; 2.9.2. Questionnaire on the suitability of purchase and/or import value added tax for financing from the European Union structural funds and/or the budget funds of the Republic of Lithuania (if VAT costs are included in the project budget);

2.9.3. The investment project together with the investment calculator, prepared according to the methodology for the preparation of investment projects aimed at receiving financing from the European Union's structural support and/or state budget funds, approved by the director of the Central Project Management Agency of the public institution in 2014. December 31 by order no. 2014/8-337, which is located at <http://www.ppplieutuva.lt/> in the "Preparation of public investment projects" section under "Preparation and evaluation" (if applicable according to the provision of p. 120.5 of the Strategic Management Methodology);

2.9.4. documents justifying the reasonableness of project costs (concluded contracts, commercial offers, references to market prices), cost calculations;

2.9.5. documents confirming the ownership or other right of management or use of the building/land plot, if the activities carried out during the project are not carried out in the building/land plot (if applicable).

2.9.6. Documents confirming the project's compliance with the general project selection criteria specified in Appendix 9 of the Project Implementation Procedure Description.

2.1. Requirements for joint project projects

Not applicable			
2.2. Targeted monitoring indicators			
Indicator name	Indicator code	The units	Target value
It is necessary to implement the created science policy Infrastructure of the Lithuanian Science Council	R-12-003-03-04-02-03	Number	1 (Q4 2023)
3. Requirements for compliance with the provisions of the horizontal principles (hereinafter - HP) and the related provisions of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (hereinafter - the Charter)			
<p>3.1. Projects cannot include:</p> <p>3.1.1. restrictions that would have a negative impact on the implementation of the principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, language, origin, social status, faith, beliefs or views, age, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion;</p> <p>3.1.2. actions that would have a negative impact on the implementation of the principle of sustainable development.</p> <p>3.2. Project promoters must ensure that project activities actively contribute to the implementation of horizontal principles of innovation (creativity) and/or equal opportunities for all.</p> <p>3.3. Projects must comply with the principle of not causing significant harm, that is, they must be environmentally sustainable and implemented in full consideration of the European Union's climate and environmental protection standards and priorities, as understood by the 2020 June 18 European Parliament and Council Regulation (EU) No. 2020/852 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088. Compliance with this principle must be ensured during the entire project implementation.</p>			
4. Region to which the projects are assigned			
Not applicable			
5. Requirements for state aid 5.1.			
<p>According to the Description, state aid as defined in Article 107 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (OJ 2010 C 83, p. 47) and <i>de minimis</i> aid, which corresponds to the 2013 December 18 Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013 on the <i>de minimis</i> application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (OJ 2013 L 352, p. 1) provisions, is not provided.</p> <p>5.2. According to the description, state aid that corresponds to the 2014 June 17 Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014, which declares certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market by applying Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, is not provided.</p>			
6. Project selection criteria			

6.1. Special and priority project selection criteria are not established.

7. Requirements after implementing project activities

7.1. Projects implemented in accordance with this Description are not subject to additional continuity requirements than those set out in the Project Implementation Procedure Description.

8. Other requirements

8.1. The description can be changed according to the procedure established in the description of the project implementation procedure.

ELIGIBILITY FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

9. Eligibility requirements for costs

9.1. Planned expenses must meet the requirements for project expenses set out in Appendix 2 of the Project Implementation Procedure Description.

9.2. The costs of preparing the application are not financed (except for the costs of the investment project).

9.3. Project costs may be incurred before the signing of the project contract, without contradicting the provisions of Clause 3.2.2 of Annex 2 of the Project Implementation Procedure Description.

9.4. The maximum possible financing part of projects is 100 percent. of all eligible project costs. There is no requirement to contribute your own contribution. The applicant and/or partner can contribute to the implementation of the project on their own initiative and with their own and/or other sources' funds.

9.5 The part of the eligible costs of the project, which do not cover the funding allocated to the project, must be financed from the funds of the project promoter and/or partner(s).

9.6. An advance payment may be made to the project executor in accordance with clause 73 of the description of the project implementation procedure.

9.7. Cross-funding is not applicable.

9.8. According to the Description, eligible expenses are the following:

Row No.	Expenses	Requirements and explanations
1.	Construction, reconstruction, repair and other works	Eligible for financing
2.	Equipment, facilities and other assets	Purchase, rental and leasing (financial lease) of tangible/intangible short-term/long-term assets (furniture, computer equipment, software, databases, other equipment, devices, licenses and other long-term or short-term assets) necessary for the implementation of the project activities costs, as well as software development, development and/or modernization of information systems, including design, maintenance and other related costs of information systems) spending on goods and services. Also, other goods and services are necessary for the reorganization of institutions.

3.	Service and wage severance payments to MITA and LMT civil servants and employees who did not agree to continue civil service and labor relations in the Lithuanian Science Council after MITA's reorganization, as well as long-term work benefits, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Long-Term Work Benefits for Employees of the Republic of Lithuania in the event of their employer becoming insolvent . Expenses for raising employees' competences and business trips.	
4.	Information about the project	Eligible for financing
5.	Indirect costs and other costs according to the fixed rate of project costs	Eligible for financing

10. Simplified amounts of paid costs are applied to the implementation of project activities and joint project projects

10.1. Indirect costs are paid using a fixed rate in accordance with Clause 99.1 of the Project Implementation Procedure.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indexed <input type="checkbox"/> Not indexable				
Activities and/or expenses to which simplified amounts of paid expenses apply	The code for the amount of expenses paid in a simplified manner	A simplified version of the amount of expenses paid	The name of the amount of expenses paid in a simplified manner	additional information
Advertising costs (1121.56 EUR)	FS-01-03	01	The fixed amount of the implemented mandatory visibility and information measures on the investment activities of EU funds, FS of the second set without VAT (FS-01-03)	The fixed amount of the implemented mandatory visibility and information measures on the investment activities of EU funds, FS of the second set without VAT
Advertising costs (1357.09 EUR)	FS-01-04	01	The fixed amount of the implemented mandatory visibility and information measures on the investment activities of EU funds, FS of the second set without VAT (FS-01-04)	The fixed amount of the implemented mandatory visibility and information measures on the investment activities of EU funds, FS of the second set without VAT
Indirect costs	FN-01	01	Fixed rate for indirect project costs (FN-01)	Indirect project costs are calculated from eligible

				finance direct project costs (7 percent)
The part of the salary costs of the staff implementing the project per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible salary costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (8.63 percent)	FN -05 -01	01	The fixed rate applies when 20 days (if working 5 days per week) or 24 days (if working 6 days per week) of annual leave are due.	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible actual incurred salary costs of implementing staff.
the share of wage costs per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible wage costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (10.44%)	FN -05 -02	01	Fixed rate applicable when subject to annual leave from 21 to 25 days (if working 5 days per week) or from 25 to 30 days (if working 6 days per week)	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible costs of implementing staff wages actually incurred.
the share of wage costs per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible wage costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (12.35%)	FN -05 -03	01	Fixed rate applicable when subject to annual leave from 26 to 30 days (if working 5 days per week) or from 31 to 36 days (if working 6 days per week)	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible actual incurred salary costs of implementing staff.
the share of wage costs per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible wage costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (14.99%)	FN -05 -04	01	Fixed rate applicable when subject to 31 to 36 days (if working 5 days per week) or 37 to 42 days (if working 6 days per week) of annual leave	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible costs of implementing staff wages actually incurred.
the share of wage costs per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible wage costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (15.25%)	FN -05 -05	01	Fixed rate applicable when subject to 37 to 39 days (if working 5 days per week) or 43 to 47 days (if working 6 days per week) of annual leave	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible actual incurred salary costs of implementing staff.

the proportion of wage costs per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible wage costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (18.89 percent)	FN-05-06	01	Fixed rate applicable when 40 days (if working 5 days per week) or 48 days (if working 6 days per week) of annual leave are due	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible actual incurred salary costs of implementing staff.
the share of wage costs per month for annual leave, which is calculated from the eligible wage costs actually incurred for the time actually worked (20.02%)	FN-05-07	01	Fixed rate applicable when dependent on 41 days (if working 5 days per week) or 49 days (if working 6 days per week) of annual leave	Salary costs of project implementing staff for annual leave, which are calculated from the eligible actual incurred salary costs of implementing staff.

Measures of progress of the education development program of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania, manager of the 2021-2030 development program no. 12-003-03-04-02 "Ensure effective management of the science and study system" description of the activity "Reorganize the Science, Innovation and Technology Agency, create the Lithuanian Science Council with a new mandate" appendix to the description of the project financing conditions

**PROJECT (INCLUDING JOINT PROJECT) COMPLIANCE WITHOUT DOING SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO THE HORIZONTAL
DESCRIPTION OF IN PRINCIPLE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Funding source from which the project is financed (*check the appropriate one*): Economic

Recovery and Resilience Facility (hereinafter referred to as EGADP)

European Union Funds Investment Program (hereinafter - ESIP)

<p align="center">Environmental goals</p> <p><i>(pursuant to Regulation (EU) No. 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, amending Regulation (EU) No. 2019/2088)</i></p>	<p align="center">Justification</p> <p><i>(based on measures (when the source of funding EGADP) or actions (activities) (when the funding source is ESIFP) by evaluation questionnaires)</i></p>	<p align="center">Supporting documents</p> <p><i>(indicates the document that will be evaluated in order to assess the project's compliance with environmental goals, or provides information substantiating this compliance)</i></p>
<p>1. Mitigation of climate change</p>	<p>The activities planned to be implemented do not have any expected impact on this environmental goal or its expected impact is insignificant, that is, it does not have a direct and primary indirect impact during the entire life cycle, therefore it is considered,</p>	<p>Procurement documentation, contract with the contractor, performance certificate, etc.</p> <p>IT Equipment acquisition documents. Declaration of the project executor.</p>

	<p>that they meet the climate change mitigation objective, <i>because:</i></p> <p>- modernization of the infrastructure will be followed legal acts regulating environmental protection and construction. It is also planned to carry out <u>an assessment of the impact of the planned economic activity on the environment</u>, as provided for in the Law on the Assessment of the Planned Economic Activity of the Republic of Lithuania¹. <i>(applies if capital or simple building repairs will be carried out during the implementation of the activities.</i></p> <p>The equipment planned to be purchased must meet (this will be provided for in the relevant equipment procurement documents) efficiency, sustainability, durability requirements in accordance with Directive 2009/125/EC and Directive 2011/65/EU (applicable if it is planned to purchase IT and other equipment during the activities) .</p>	
2. Adaptation to climate change	<p>It is not expected that the activities planned to be implemented will have a negative impact on adaptation to climate change, since the planned investments in the improvement of the existing infrastructure will be carried out only after the verification of climate risks and whether physical and non-physical adaptation solutions will be implemented during construction/renovation activities that will reduce the most important physical climate risks .</p> <p>Also, renovation will not be carried out in flood zones, the use of green infrastructure - vegetation and other building design / greening solutions that will reduce energy (condensation) needs, etc. will be encouraged.</p>	<p>Procurement documentation, contract with the contractor, performance certificate, etc. IT Equipment acquisition documents. Declaration of the project executor.</p>
3. Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources	<p>The planned activities do not have any expected impact on this environmental goal or</p>	<p>Procurement documentation, contract with the contractor, performance certificate, etc.</p>

¹ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.0539E2FEB29E/asr.>

	<p>its expected impact is negligible, i.e. no direct and primary indirect impacts throughout the life cycle, therefore the reforms are considered to be in line with the goal of Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources.</p> <p>It is not planned to build infrastructure near water bodies, which could affect the sustainable use of water and marine resources.</p>	<p>IT Equipment acquisition documents. Declaration of the project executor.</p>
<p>4. Transition to a circular economy, including waste prevention and recycling</p>	<p>The activities planned to be implemented do not have any expected impact on this environmental objective or their expected impact is insignificant, that is, they do not have direct and primary indirect impacts throughout the entire life cycle, therefore they are considered to be in line with the objective of the circular economy, including waste prevention and recycling. Efficient collection of waste will be ensured, reuse of individual parts will be encouraged, and builders will be required to limit the generation of waste during modernization, apply the latest methods, reuse or recycle materials, using advanced construction waste sorting systems.</p> <p>The IT equipment planned to be purchased must meet (this will be stipulated in the relevant IT equipment procurement documents) efficiency, sustainability, durability requirements in accordance with Directive 2009/125/EC (for servers and data storage, computers and computer servers or electronic screens) and Directive 2011/65/EU.</p> <p>At the end of the useful life of the purchased equipment, the suppliers (sellers) of the equipment must (this will be provided for in the relevant equipment purchase</p>	<p>Procurement documentation, contract with the contractor, performance certificate, etc. IT Equipment acquisition documents. Declaration of the project executor.</p>

	documents). Dispose of equipment waste in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2012/19/EU and the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania regulating waste management and the provisions of the State Waste Prevention and Management Plan.	
5. Prevention and control of air, water or land pollution	<p>The activities planned to be implemented do not have any expected impact on this environmental objective, or their expected impact is insignificant, that is, they do not have direct and primary indirect impacts throughout the entire life cycle, so the reforms are considered to meet the objective of prevention and control of air, water or land pollution:</p> <p>Significant air, water and soil pollution would occur during the modernization of the buildings, because during the modernization materials allowed in the Construction Technical Regulation and other legal acts will be used, meeting the environmental protection requirements.</p> <p>The implementation of the reform or investment is not expected to increase emissions to air, water or land because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the construction parts and materials used in the construction do not contain asbestos and substances of very high concern, determined on the basis of the list of materials requiring a permit specified in Regulation (EC) of the European Parliament no. 1907/2006 in Annex XIV and the Council; - components and materials used in construction that may come into contact with residents emit less than 0.06 mg of formaldehyde per m³ of material or component and less than 0.001 mg of 1A and 1B 	<p>Procurement documentation, contract with the contractor, works performance deed etc.</p> <p>IT Equipment acquisition documents.</p> <p>Declaration of the project executor.</p>

	<p>category carcinogenic volatile organic compounds 1 m³ of substance or component after tests according to CEN / TS 16516 and ISO 16000-3 or other similar standardized test conditions and determination methods;</p> <p>- measures are taken to reduce noise, dust and pollutants during construction or maintenance work.</p> <p>Investments are considered to be in line with the goal of sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, as during the implementation of activities, it is not expected that damage to water and marine resources will be caused:</p> <p>The activity is implemented in accordance with the European Parliament and Council Directive (EU) of 2018. December 11 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, the provisions of the Block Exemption Regulation, as well as national legislation, which sets requirements to ensure the sustainable use and protection of resources.</p>	
6. Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems	<p>The reforms planned to be implemented do not have any expected impact on this environmental goal, or their expected impact is insignificant, that is, they do not have direct and primary indirect effects throughout the entire life cycle, therefore they are considered to be in line with the goal of protection and restoration of Biodiversity and ecosystems.</p> <p>It is not planned to create or renovate infrastructure in protected areas or areas for the protection of animal, plant habitats and species, including those protected by the EU.</p>	Declaration of the project executor

