Possibilities for applying ES assessment results in spatial planning in Latvia

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Projekts LIFE EcosystemServices, LIFE13 ENV/LV/000839

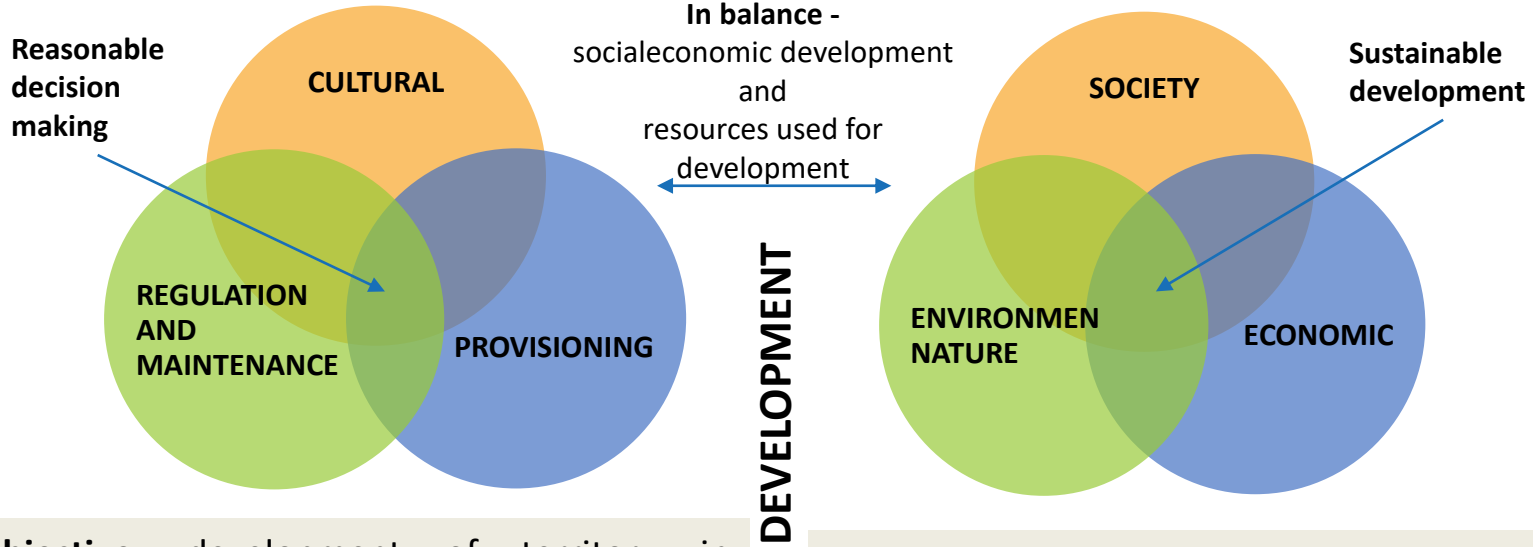
Interaction between ecosystem services and economic activity

Economic activity **impact** ecosystems and their services

Changes in ecosystems poses **risks and opportunities** for economic activity

Economic activity **depends on** ecosystems and their services

Ecosystem services approach and sustainable development – correlation



Objective: development of territory in reasonable and non-degrading manner by respecting ecosystems capacity to provide ecosystem services.

Steps: ES mapping, assessment, modelling of development scenarios (analysis of benefits and losses), decision making, implementation.

Objective: to balance our economic, environmental and social needs, allowing prosperity for now and future generations.

Steps: identifying the situation (needs and possibilities), vision, definition of strategic objectives and priorities, development of action program and budget planning, implementation.

LEVELS OF SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Sectoral strategies

National level

- Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030 (including territories and objects of national interests)
- National Development Plan until 2020 (mid-term, 7 years)
- Maritime spatial plan (thematic plan on national level)

Regional level - 5 Regions

- Sustainable development strategy (long-term - 25 years)
- Development Program (mid-term - 7 years)
- Thematic plans (can be elaborated when necessary)

Municipal / local level

- Sustainable development strategy (long-term - 25 years)
- Development Program (mid-term - 7 years)
- Territorial plan (long-term - 25 years)

Nature Conservation Plans (10 – 15 years)

National level documents for reasonable decision making by respecting capital of nature - I

Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030

- ✓ Latvia – leader provider of sustainable nature services in EU
- ✓ Capital of nature have to be assessed - ecosystems quality assessment

Proportion of area of special areas of conservation, % of the state territory - **18**

Now **~ 12%**

National Development Plan of Latvia for 2014-2020 (NDP2020)

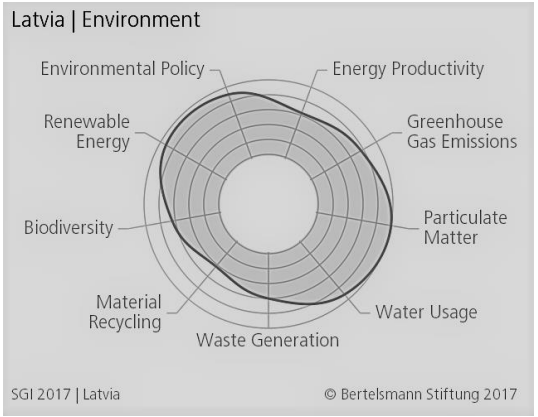
- ✓ Action – sustainable management of capital of nature and culture
- ✓ Maintain capital of nature as the basis for sustainable economic activity

Proportion of organic farming, % of the state agricultural land - **10**

National level documents for reasonable decision making by respecting capital of nature - II

Environmental policy strategy 2014 – 2020

- ✓ **Objective** – ensure environment in good quality as a basis for society well – being
- ✓ Nature protection - one of thematic sector
  - ensure quality of ecosystems;
  - balance between nature protection and socioeconomic interests



Actions

- ✓ integration of environmental aspects in early stage territorial planning and respect these aspects;
- ✓ to fill nature data gaps (mapping of species and habitats – base for assessment);
- ✓ integration of nature conservation plans and territorial plans

Policy implementation

Key action

- ✓ **Collection of detailed and complete information about Latvia's natural capital - a Nature Census (2017 – 2020) – mapping of EU importance habitats in Latvia**

National level planning

- ✓ The national Maritime Spatial Plan (MSP)

Actual case studies and projects

- ✓ LIFE Viva Grass - grasslands
- ✓ LIFE EcosystemServices – terrestrial coastal areas
- ✓ Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava and JSC “Latvian State Forests” collaboration project: “The impact of forest management on forest and related ecosystem services” – forests
- ✓ LIFE Restore - peatlands

LIFE EcosystemServices project case – Jaunķemeri and Saulkrasti

Objectives and tasks

To create an innovative approach within the territorial planning processes in Latvia by developed methodology of ecosystems and their services assessment in accordance with the best EU practices.

ES mapping and assessment/valuation (biophysical and economic) methodology

Applying the mapping and valuation results in planning documents

Recommendations and Toolkit for practical ES approach applying in planning process

Creation of Nature Design Park in Saulkrasti

ES approach applying steps for local level

Step 1

Assessment of spatial data by identifying ecosystems and services witch can be provided

Step 2

Valuation of ES for each type of land use (spatial units) – biophysical and economic assessment

Step 3

Modelling and assessment of development scenarios

Approach No.1 – area changes (land use changes)

Approach No.2 – changes of spatial units **quality**

Step 4

Decision making based on results of assessment:

Conformity assessment to aim of development

Assessment of advantages and disadvantages of each scenario (including costs and investments valuation)

Stakeholders involvement

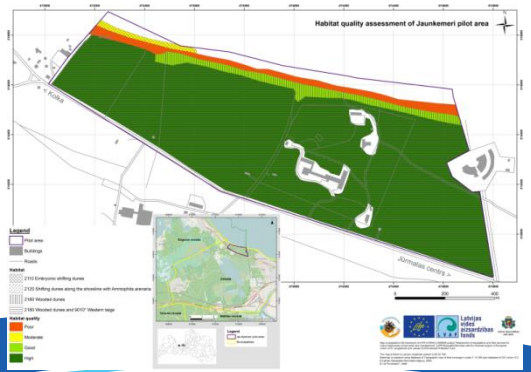
Decision implementation

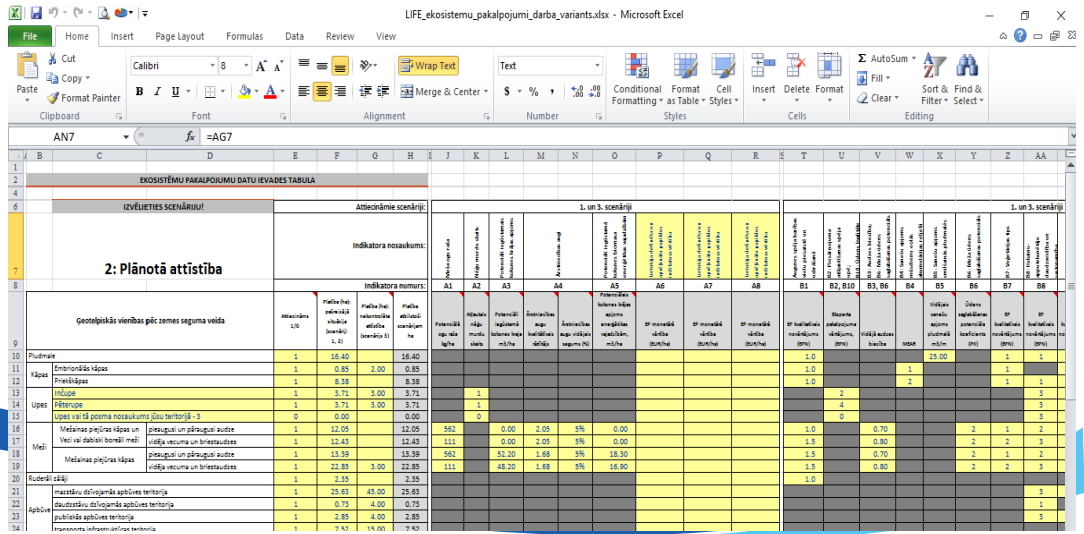
Results of 1st – 2nd step

22 ES identified and assessed – biophysical and economic:

- ✓ 4 provisioning
- ✓ 13 regulation and maintenance
- ✓ 5 cultural

ibas		Smilšaina Pludmale	Kāpas		Meži	
			Embrionālās kāpas	Priekškāpas	Mežainās piejūras kāpas	
					vidēja vecuma un briestaudze	pieaugušas un pāraugušas audzes
Klase	Indikators					
Savvaļas augi, sēnes, aļģes un to produkti	Meža ogu raža	0	0	0	1	3
Savvaļas zivis (upes)	Nēģu murdu skaits	0	0	0	0	0
Šķiedras un citi materiāli no augiem, aļģēm un dzīvniekiem tiešai izmantošanai vai pārstrādei	Potenciāli iegūstamais koksnes krājas apjoms	0	0	0	1	2
Šķiedras un citi materiāli no augiem, aļģēm un dzīvniekiem tiešai izmantošanai vai pārstrādei	Ārstniecības augi	0	0	0	1	1
Augu valsts izcelsmes resursi	Potenciāli iegūstamā koksnes biomasa enerģētikas vajadzībām	0	0	0	1	1
Piesaistes un uzkrāšanas procesi ekosistēmas	Augsnes spēja barības vielu piesaistē un uzkrāšanā	1	1	1	2	2
Piesārņojuma atšķaidīšana saldūdens ekosistēmā	Piesārņojuma atšķaidīšanas spēja upē	0	0	0	0	0
Trokšņu mazināšana	Audzes biezība	0	0	0	4	3
Erozijas kontrole: veģetācijas segums, kas aizsargā sauszemes ekosistēmas	Sanešu apjoms mūsdienu eolās akumulācijas reljefā	0	1	2	0	0
Buferfunkcija un masu plūsmas vājināšana	Sanešu apjoms	4	0	0	0	0





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Proposal for ES assessment applying in planning documents – Nature Conservation Plans (NCP) of specially protected nature territories of Latvia

ES identification — **Updating of legal base**

- ES is defined as a part of basic information of specially protected area's nature values
- Nature values maps include maps of ES provided by area as well

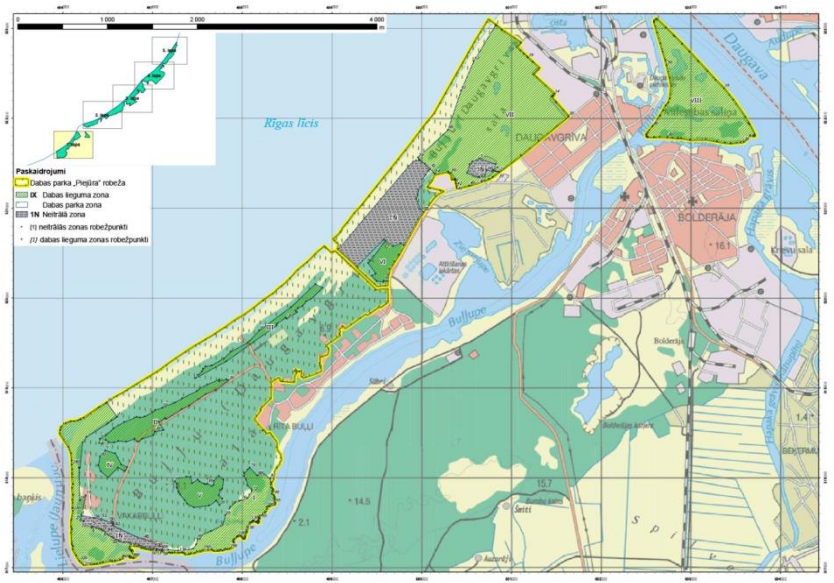
ES valuation — **Elaboration of NCP**

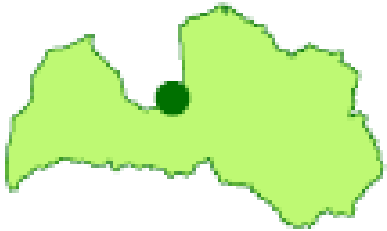
- Necessity for ES identification and mapping defined in updated legal base
- Socioeconomic valuation of nature values means ES assessment methods using

ES assessment results — **Elaboration of NCP**

- Applying for NCP objectives (both long and short term) defining and justifying
- Applying for concrete conservation action justifying
- Applying for justification of proposals for changes in municipalities spatial plans/specially protected nature territory zoning/ specially regulations of using and management of specially territory

Nature Conservation Plan for Nature park “Piejūra” – first case





Nature Conservation Plan elaboration – 2018 – 2020 in close cooperation with LIFE EcosystemServices project

Thank you!

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