

# LIFE+ CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2008

## National annual priorities for LITHUANIA

### 1. CONTACT INFORMATION

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### 2. METHOD EMPLOYED TO SELECT THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES

National priorities were selected after the the internal discussions among the specialists of Nature Protection Department (Ministry of Environment), taking into account the EU Biodiversity Action Plan.

### 3. IDENTIFIED LONG-TERM NEEDS IN CONNECTION WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

**1. To investigate exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of Lithuania in Baltic Sea and select the most valuable areas for Natura 2000 network.** There are a lot of data about nature values (habitats and species) in Lithuanian territorial waters, but data concerning EEZ is very poor. Taking into account the requirements of EU Biodiversity Action Plan - "complete marine network of Special Protection Areas (SPA) by 2008; adopt lists of Sites of Community Importance (SCI) by 2008 for marine; designate Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and establish management priorities and necessary conservation measures for SACs [by 2012 for marine]; establish similar management and conservation measures for SPAs [by 2012 for marine]", Lithuania identifies investigations of nature values in the EEZ as a priority.

**2. To design exemplary models for safeguarding sustainable agriculture and aquaculture in ecosystems that are highly dependent on such human activity.** In Lithuania is increasing tendency when land owners neglect fields or aquaculture ponds (stops previous activities) and for such reasons the area loses its nature values. Economical reasons determine such changes of previous activities, so it is necessary to analyse such reasons and create scenarios how to sustain activities which are favourable for nature, and to restore such activities in abandoned areas. Such scenarios will serve to formulate suggestions for programmes for 2007-2013 and later programming periods which are dedicated to support agriculture and fishery sectors.

|   | Principal objectives and priorities as set out in Annex II of the LIFE+ Regulation | Area chosen as national annual priority:<br>(Tick if appropriate) | Types of projects as set out in Article 3(2) of the LIFE+ Regulation | Specific national objective<br>(Please include reference to more information) |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <b>LIFE+ NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY</b>  |  |   |  |   |
| <p>1. <b>Nature and Biodiversity</b> To protect, conserve, restore, monitor and facilitate the functioning of natural systems, natural habitats, wild flora and fauna, with the aim of halting the loss of biodiversity, including diversity of genetic resources, within the EU by 2010.</p> |  |   |  |   |

|                                |   |   |  |   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Priority areas of action (PPA) | a) contributing to implement Community policy and legislation on nature and biodiversity, in particular of Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC, and promote its integration with other policy areas;  |   |  |   |
|                                | b) supporting the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network, including coastal and marine habitats and species;   | X | 3(2)(a) being best-practise or demonstration projects, for the implementation of Directive 79/409/EEC or Directive 92/43/EEC | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Projects aimed to survey exclusive economic zone of Lithuania in Baltic Sea and complete Natura 2000 network in it.</li> <li>2. Projects aimed to design models for safeguarding sustainable agriculture and aquaculture in ecosystems that are highly dependent on such human activity.</li> </ol> |
|                                | c) supporting design and implementation of policy approaches and instruments for monitoring and assessing national and biodiversity and the factors, pressures and responses that impacts on it, in particular in relation to achieving the target of halting biodiversity loss within the Community by 2010; |   |  |   |
|                                | d) improving the knowledge of the impact of genetically modified organisms on ecosystems and biodiversity: risk assessment methodologies.   |   |  |   |