



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Instruments to address land abandonment in Lithuania

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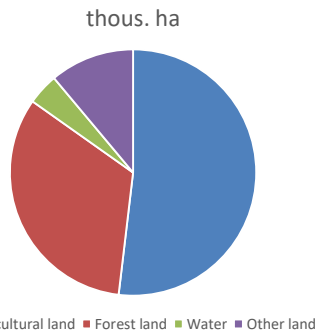


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Content of presentation

- Main information
- Identification of abandonment land
- Motivation to use land:
 - Land rent system;
 - Law on Land Taxation;
 - State control of land use;
 - Incentives to bring the land back into production.





- Population: 3 mln.
- Total area: 6 530 th. ha
- 10 counties, 60 municipalities
- Capital City - Vilnius (600 th. people)



- Agricultural land - 3,386 mln. ha
- Forest land - 2,150 mln. ha
- Water cover - 268 th. ha
- Other land - 726 th. ha



Laws

- The Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania
- The Constitutional Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Implementation of paragraph 3 of article 47 of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania
- Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania
- The Code of Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Lithuania
- **The Law on Land**
- The Law on Land Taxation
- The Law on the Acquisition of Agricultural Land
- The Law on Land Reform



DEFINITION OF “ABANDONED LAND”

- LT: Abandoned land – is unused or unsuitable farming land which is in the agricultural land parcel (Law on Land Taxation)



Data from presentation of 2012 (1)

- During the remote research in 2003-2005 it was found that 150-84 thousand ha consist of obviously abandoned land
- In 2004 using another methods it was found that 470 thousand ha consist of abandoned land
- According to the Rural Development Program 2007-2013 approximately 500 – 600 thousand ha of farming lands are not farmed and the majority of this land could be abandoned
- According to the research done by the Institute of Agrarian Economics there are more than 900 thousand ha



Data from presentation of 2012 (2)

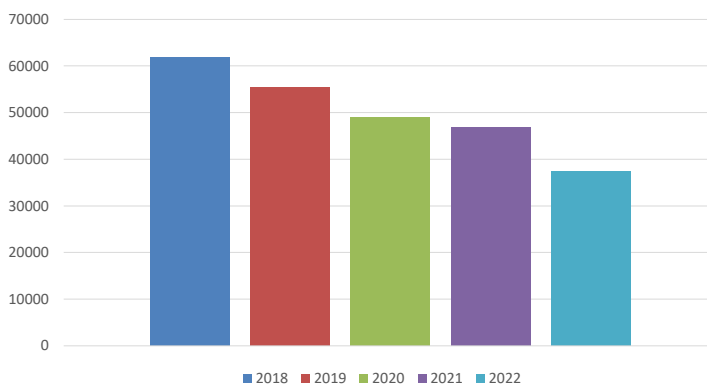
- According to 2012 data during the remote research it was found that about 240 thousand ha consist of obviously abandoned land (it is about 7 % of the total agricultural area of the country).

In 2011 there were 344 thousand ha of abandoned land (10 %), it is 3 % less than in 2012.



Statistic

Abundant land (ha)



Period	Area, ha	% from agricultural land
2018-01-01	61950,3	1,8
2019-01-01	55425,1	1,6
2020-01-01	49060,8	1,4
2021-01-01	46974,8	1,4
2022-01-01	37363,1	1,1



AŽ-DRLT

- AŽ-DRLT – spatial data set of neglected (abundant) land of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania

Šaltinio detalės

Profilis: Nacionalinis (Duomenys)



AŽ_DRLT – Lietuvos Respublikos teritorijos apšviesto žemės erdvinis duomenų rinkinys
AŽ_DRLT – spatial data set of neglected land of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania

Metaduomenys (Metadata)

Metaduomenų kalba (Metadata Language): lt

Metaduomenų kodavimas (Metadata Character Set): UTF-8 (UTF)

Hierarchinis lygmuo (Hierarchy Level): Duomenų rinkinys (Dataset)

Metaduomenų šaltinio kontaktas (Metadata Contact):



The publicity of AŽ_DRLT

- AŽ_DRLT is announced on:
- LIS website (www.zis.lt)
 - Lithuanian geographic information portal (www.geoportal.lt)
 - Website of information systems of the receipt of applications (<http://pasielai.vic.lt>)
 - Website of SE Centre of Register (www.regia.lt)





Methods to identify abandoned land



Satellite images



Orthophoto maps



Measurements



Identification

- By distance using remote mapping method
- Interpretating satellite images
- Checking not less than 500 cases each year in the area



Attributes	
Attributes	Geometry
FID	147
Netiko_LNr	
Tikrimat	TK
Tiko_data	2020-02-13
GKoidas	sd16
Data	2020-04-11
Plotas_ha	0.386047
Shape_Leng	368.830755
Shape_Area	5860.473725



Using orthophoto maps



Using Sentinel – 2 satellite photos





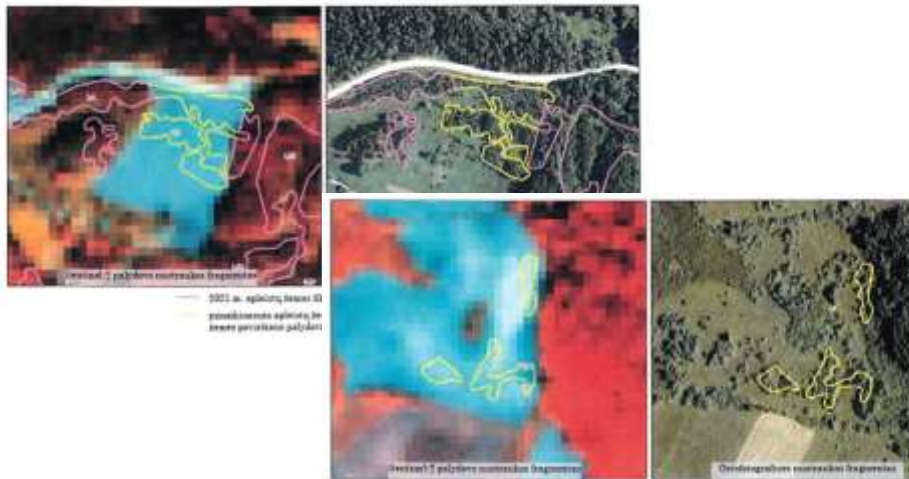
The adjustment of AŽ_DRLT

Reports of inaccuracies of AŽ_DRLT are submitted via: e-services of the portal; PPIS electronic services; directly or by registered mail.

The received information is evaluated, if there is a need the verification is carried out on-site, AŽ_DRLT is being (or not) adjusted

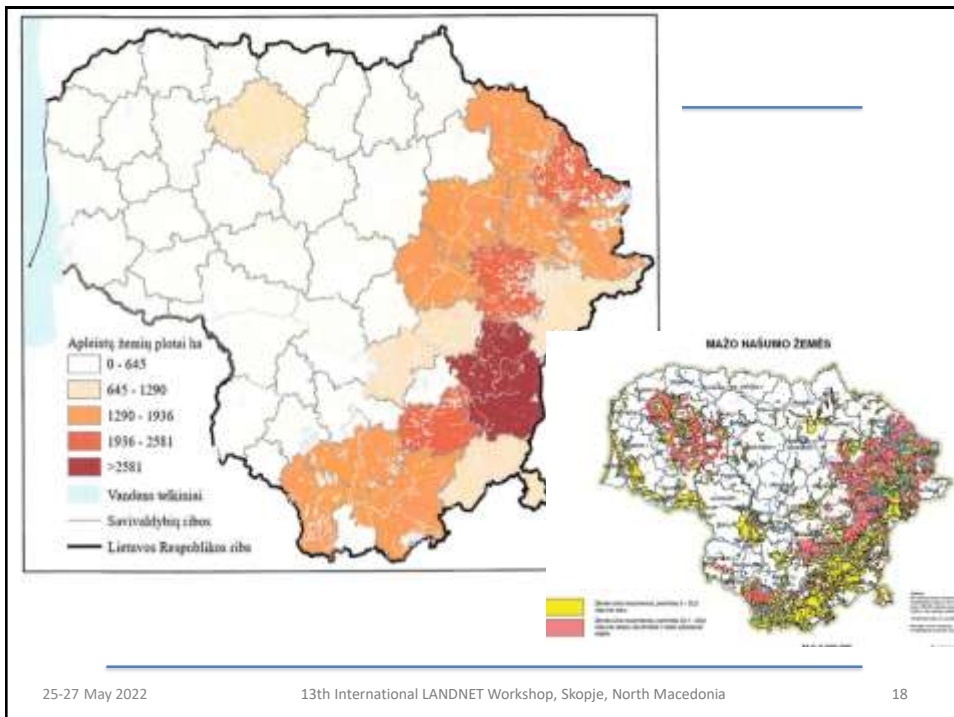
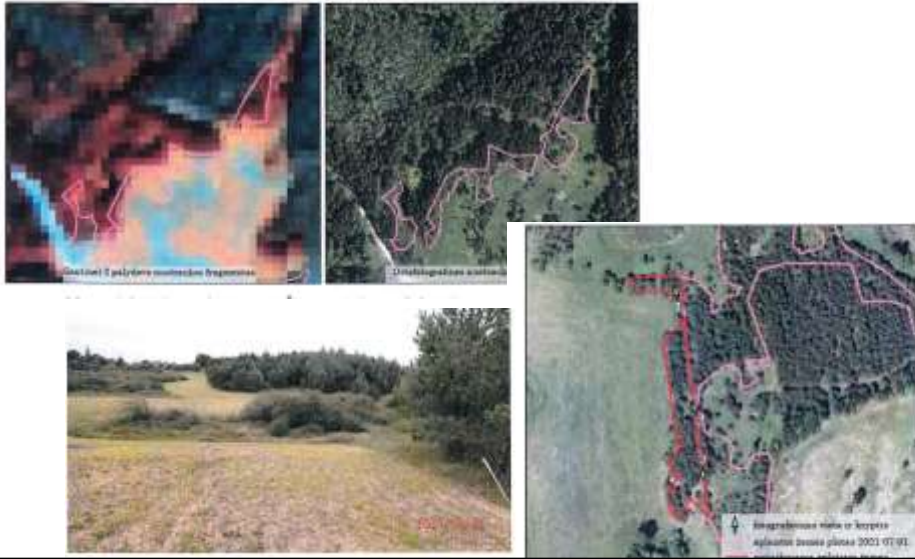


Corrections (1)





Corrections (2)





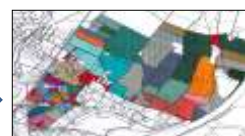
Motivation to use land

- Priorities of EU support allocation and intensity
- Concessions of State land rent
- Differentiation of land tax
- Fines according to Administrative code for unused land defined by:
 - National Land Service;
 - State Service for Plants Protection.



State-owned land can be disposed of by:

- Selling;
- Leasing;
- Land consolidation procedure





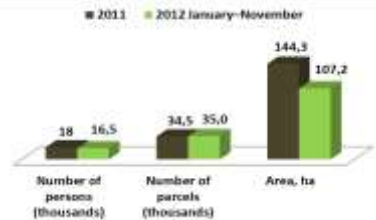
Short term agricultural land (up to 1 year)

Lease variations

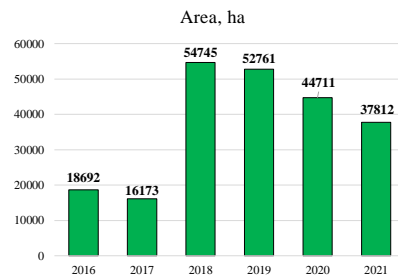
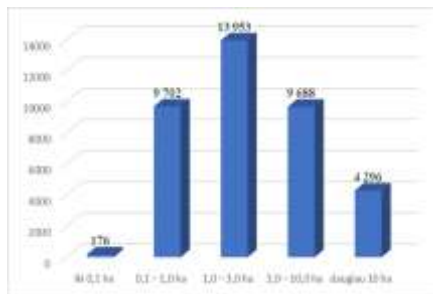
Long term agricultural land (up to 25 years)



Other purpose land (up to 99 years)



Short term use (for 1 year)





Online auctions

- Website - online shop and auction that provide a possibility to the State Land Fund to transfer the state property auctions to the electronic environment. In this way to provide the right and possibilities to potential auction bidders seeking to buy state property offered by the State Land Fund and to participate in auctions without any place limitations.
- User-friendly navigation - simple but modern



The main page

- Several types of auctions: the ongoing and future auctions;
- Real-time renewable auction list with a visible end time.





Page of the auction



- Detailed text and graphic information of the auction;
- Object location display on Maps;
- The possibility to increase the auction price of the object and see the history of the stakes in real time;
- Reminders of victory / defeat of the auction, the increase of the amount of your proposed sum;



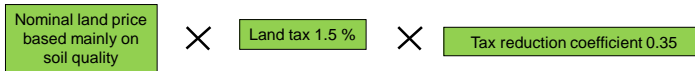
Environment of a registered user

- Current status and history of a participation in auctions;
- The possibility to pay for the object of the auction via e-banking;
- Payment history, generation of accounts
- Profile management;
- Possibility to subscribe e-mail reminders about preferred auction objects;
- Auction selection by category, price or location.

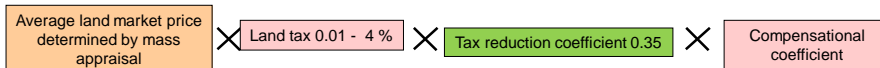


Law on Land Taxation

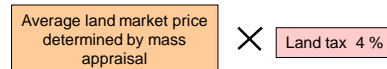
Taxation system until 2013



Taxation system from 2013



Taxation for abandoned land



A system of incentives and penalties

- State control of land use and its main principles
- Land use inspections
- Administrative misdemeanor law
- Elimination of land use violations
- Interactive reporting options
- Indicators of state control of land use



Law on Land provides that:

- State control of land use is organized and carried out by the National Land Service (NLS) in accordance with the regulations approved by the Government and coordinated by an institution authorized by the Government.
- During the state control of land use, it is systematically checked whether persons using the land have not violated the land use procedure established by laws and Government resolutions.



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- The Code of Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Lithuania (CAO) provides for administrative liability for non-compliance with the established requirements
 - The objective is to identify and eliminate land use violations.
 - The aim is to make individuals aware of their responsibilities as landowners (users) and to reduce land use violations.



Planned	Unplanned
<p>Each year the criteria (guidelines) are approved to select the land plots belonging to the highest risk group according to the identified priority inspection areas.</p>	<p>Being performed according to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notifications received of possible land use violations, • having information and reasonable suspicions of land use irregularities, • checking that previously identified land use violations have been remedied.
<p>The heads of territorial divisions of the NLS approve the lists of planned inspections on a quarterly basis, which are published on the NLS website - the plots of land to be inspected are made public.</p>	
<p>During the inspections, a certain control questionnaire is filled in, which is sent to the owner of the land plot for information before the inspection.</p>	



- Being inspected:
 - Is public or private land not arbitrarily occupied and / or water bodies not used willfully (Article 110 of the CAO)

Improper use of land



Proper use of land



- Administrative penalty:
 - Warning or fine from 300 to 1200 Eur



- Being inspected:
 - Are measures taken to restore destroyed or damaged boundary markers, or are permanent land use boundary markers and geodetic points not destroyed (damaged) (Articles 112 and 113 of the CAO)

Destroyed landmark



Protected landmark



- Administrative penalty:
 - Failure to take measures after written warning of restoration of boundary markers, fine from 70 to 300 Eur



- Being inspected:
 - Does the exploitation of minerals comply with the requirements of legal acts aiming to preserve the fertile soil layer and recultivate damaged land (Article 257 of the CAO)

Improper use of land



Proper use of land



- Administrative penalty:
 - Fine from 90 to 300 Eur



- Being inspected:
 - Are the legal measures for soil protection against erosion and degradation implemented (Article 258 of the CAO)

Improper use of land



Proper use of land



- Administrative penalty:
 - Fine from 14 to 60 Eur



- Being inspected:
 - Are the land plots used according to the main purpose and method of land use (Article 261 of the CAO)

Improper use of land



Proper use of land



- Administrative penalty:
 - Fine from 140 to 580 Eur



- Being inspected:
 - Whether the land easements established for the land plot are observed (Article 261 of the CAO)

Improper use of land



Proper use of land



- Administrative penalty:
 - Fine from 140 to 580 Eur



- Being inspected:
 - Whether agricultural plots are not abandoned (Article 333 of the CAO) .

Improper use of land



Proper use of land



- Administrative penalty:
 - Warning or fine from 70 to 1000 Eur



- A land use violation has been identified
- An investigation of administrative misconduct is underway
- Determination of the guilt of the person and the dangerous act committed by the perpetrator (intentionally or through negligence)
- The offender is held administratively liable
- A report shall be drawn up with an administrative instruction - a proposal to pay half of the minimum fine to the person subject to administrative liability, or
- A decision to impose a penalty is made (unpaid administrative order, a warning is given).



Alternatives



A proposal to remedy the breach in good faith within the specified time limit.

If the breach is not remedied in good faith:



Violations in state land - an action by a court ordering the offender to eliminate the violation.



Violations on private land - Victims are informed that they have the right to go to court to seek protection of violated rights/compensation for the violated rights.



How we get information?



By submitting a notification (in writing, by e-mail) to the NLS.



NLS receives information from other institutions.



Land Use State Control Website (interactive el. service) that provides information on infringements.



•By using the website of the State Control of Land Use adapted for mobile devices as well - on an interactive map indicating the place and the nature indicating of the violation

–<https://znavk-nzt.hub.arcgis.com/>



–The web side presents a possibility to monitor the progress of the report, the verification process, and learning the outcome (whether the report was confirmed and the deadline for the violation should be remedied).



Average per year (based on results for the last three years)	
Inspections being carried out	over 12 thousand
Violations identified	over 3,6 thousand
Fines imposed	more than 93 thousand Eur <i>(respectively: by administrative instructions about 80 thousand EUR, by resolutions about 13 thousand EUR)</i>
Nature of the infringements	Occupation of public and private land <i>(according to Article 110 of the CAO- more than 1800 violations)</i> Abandonment of agricultural land <i>(according to Article 333 of the CAO - more than 1500 violations)</i> Improper use of land plots for the intended purpose or non-compliance with easements <i>(according to Article 261 of the CAO - more than 200 violations)</i>



A system of incentives to bring the land back into production until 2022



Back to agriculture

Bushes, trees and old grass

Reclamation system

Soil quality > 39

Topography

Farm structure

Short rotation plants

Bushes, trees and old grass

No reclamation system

Topography

Farm structure

Afforestation

Trees

Soil quality < 39

No reclamation system

Forest

25-27 May 2022



A system of incentives to bring the land back into production – priority for afforestation

- From 2022 - Private land can be afforested even if it was abounding;
- Isn't permitted to afforistate concrete land parcel only if afforestation is prohibited by law.

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Thank you for your attention!

Contact us
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