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Lietuvos ateitį
2014–2020 metų
Europos Sąjungos
fondų investicijų
veiksmų programa

LITHUANIAN EXPERIENCE IN IMPLEMENTING EUSBSR

12 July 2017

European Parliament

REGI Committee

Workshop on EU macro-regional
strategies

CONTENT

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Lithuanian experience in implementing EUSBSR

- Legal and functional background
- State of play of EUSBSR relevant projects implementation

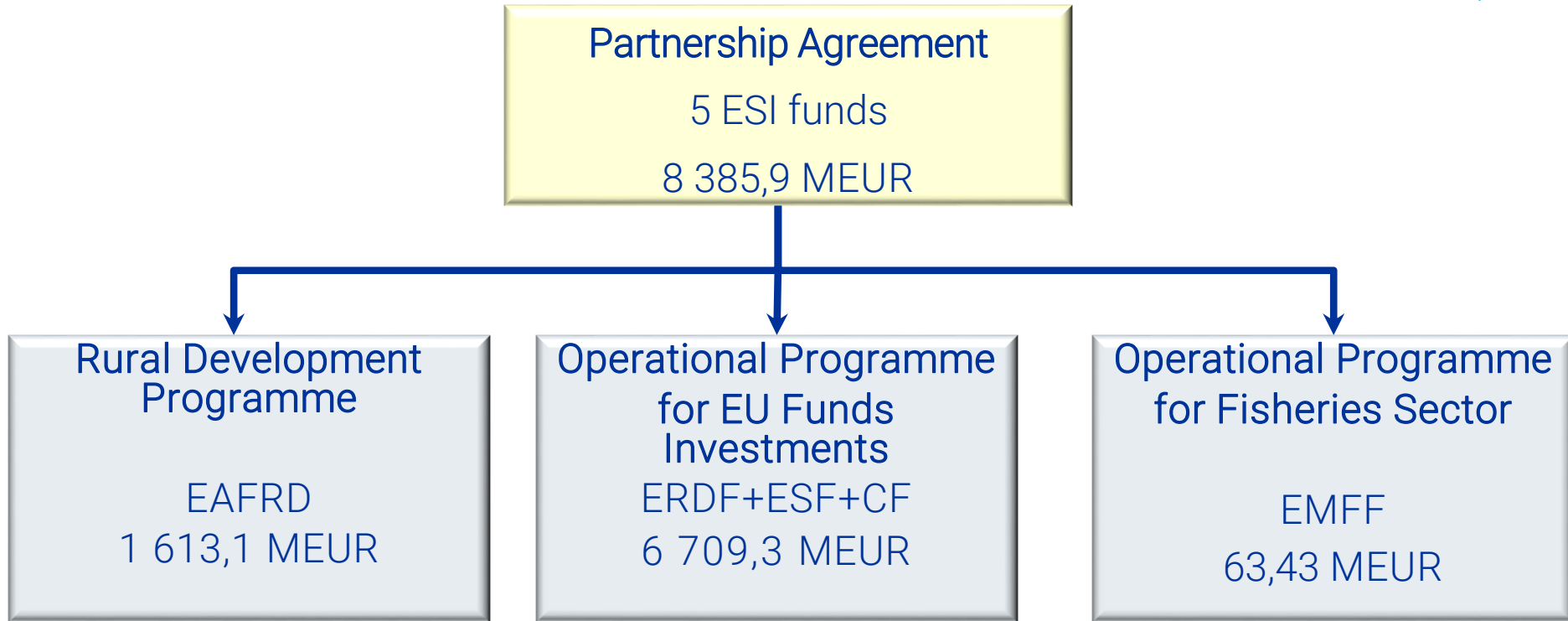


Food for thought

- Challenges
- Ideas for improvement

2014-2020 NATIONAL STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS FOR ESI FUNDS

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ARRANGEMENTS AT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The EUSBSR relevant arrangements (concerning coordination, monitoring, evaluation, etc.) are embedded in the Partnership Agreement and Operational Programme.

Project is considered as contributing to EUSBSR, if:

1. project corresponds and is relevant to policy areas, horizontal actions as well as flagship projects of the EUSBSR Action Plan;
2. international partner participates in implementation of project.



COOPERATION AREAS

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SAVE THE SEA

- To improve water quality
- To reduce negative impact to environment
- To ensure the quality of drinking water
- To manage waste



CONNECT THE REGION

- To modernize transport infrastructure
- To develop external and internal transport networks
- To promote energy efficiency



INCREASE PROSPERITY

- To promote entrepreneurship and competitiveness of SMEs
- To modernize R&D infrastructure
- To adapt to climate change
- To increase employment



RELEVANT POLICY AREAS TO LITHUANIA'S OP

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Energy

Educa-
tion

Transport

Hazards

Innovation

Secure



EUSBSR-FRIENDLY NATIONAL LEGISLATION PROVISIONS

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Operational Programme Administrative Rules

Transnational cooperation project is a project implemented with international partners.

Project Management and Financing Rules

Additional allocation for project and use of project savings are available for new actions carried out with international partners under transnational cooperation project.

Project actions (financed by the ERDF or Cohesion fund) can be carried out in the territory of other EU Member States if such costs do not exceed **15 percent of allocations for the OP priority axis**.

Project actions (financed by the ESF) can be carried out in the territory of non-EU Member States if such costs do not exceed **3 percent of ESF allocations for the OP**.

The requirement of **Monitoring Committee** approval.



EUSBSR IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

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Project selection criterion which gives a priority to projects contributing to the EUSBSR has been set up in case of 5 measures.

Benefits

- Stronger focus on EUSBSR

Challenges

- Limited number of measures



The requirement to identify whether projects under each measure contribute to the EUSBSR set out in Project financing conditions.

The requirement to identify project's value added to EUSBSR in application form.

Benefits

- Increased institutional & project managers' awareness

Challenges

- Complexity of measures



EU funds monitoring system includes a tag which identifies whether project contributes to the EUSBSR.

Benefits

- Eased monitoring
- Identified potential transnational cooperation areas

Challenges

- Limited number of transnational cooperation projects



COOPERATION-PROMOTING PLATFORMS



ERDF Managing Authorities Network

Participating countries – Sweden, Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland.

Coordinator – Sweden

Objective – to boost transnational cooperation under PA Innovation.

Sub-objectives – to implement pilot initiative *CleanTech* and to launch common call for application.

Focus – smart specialization strategies.

Baltic Sea Network for EAFRD

Participating countries – Estonia, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland and Sweden.

Coordinator – Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania

Objective – to boost transnational cooperation through EAFRD in order to better contribute to EUSBSR.



ESF Baltic Sea network

Participating countries – Sweden, Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Germany

Coordinator – Sweden and Germany


Objective – to develop a common understanding of the role of ESF in relation to the EUSBSR among ESF actors and stakeholders concerned

– to boost transnational cooperation through ESF in order better to contribute to EUSBSR and develop a stronger social dimension in the EUSBSR


Sub-objectives – to implement flagship projects and ESF transnational cooperation project by use of Common Framework

RESULTS

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26,9 % of implemented projects are considered as contributing to EUSBSR



2,3 % of 3 ESI funds (ERDF+CF+ESF)

Projects in the fields:



RDI



SMEs competitiveness



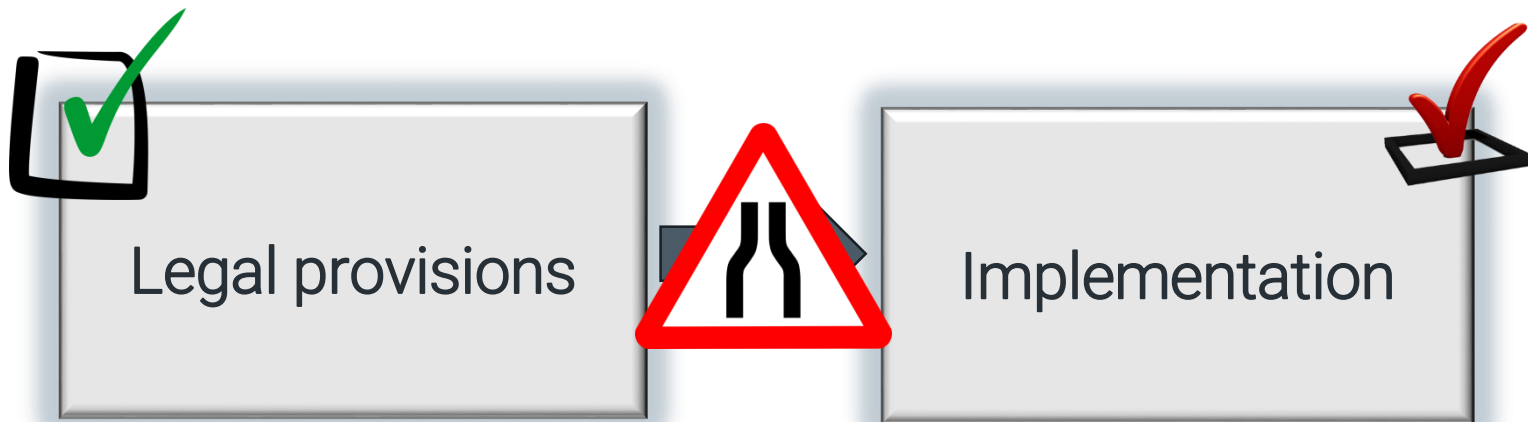
Energy



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

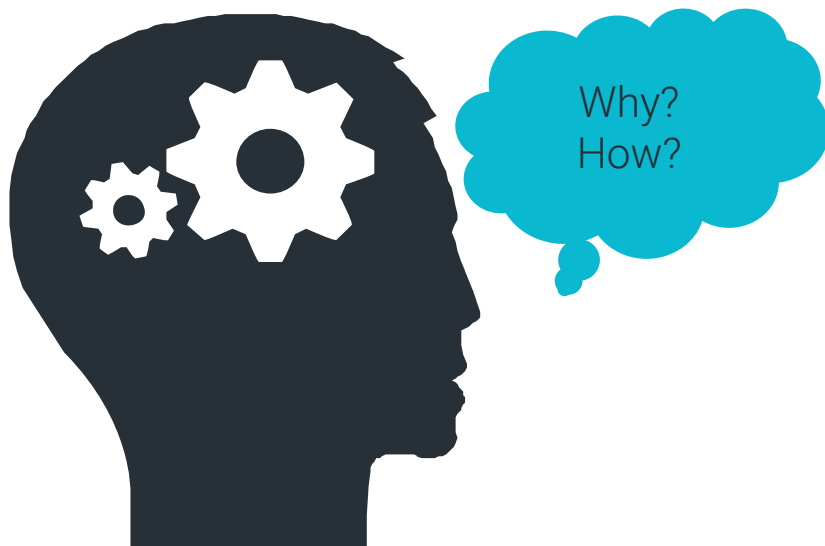
Conclusion

In Lithuania all legal provisions necessary to implement EUSBSR are in place, however, the volume of cooperation projects has not increased significantly.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

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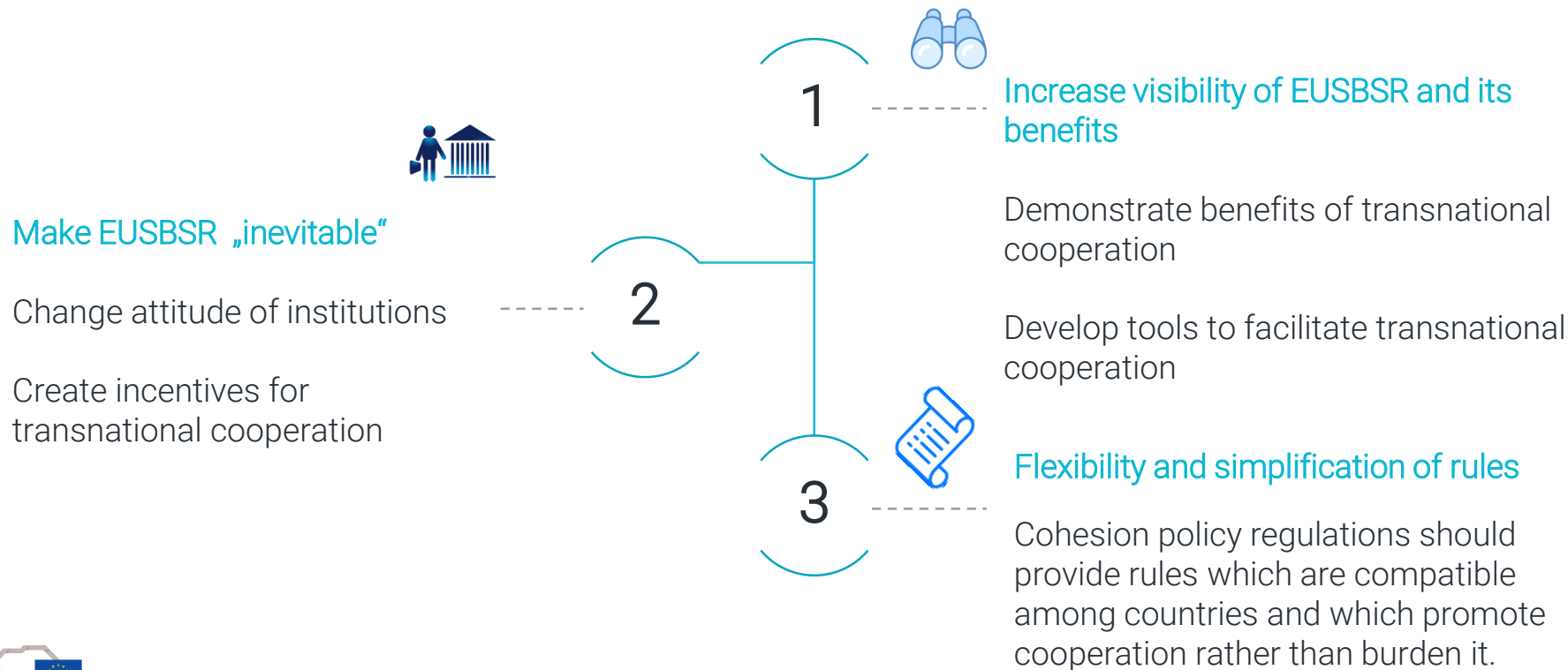
Bottlenecks

- EUSBSR and its benefits are well known at the political level but not within society
- Lack of institutional awareness
- Different implementation rules between countries



RECOMMENDATIONS

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Thank you

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