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EU LIFE Programme project
"Optimising the Governance and Management of the Natura 2000 Protected Areas Network in Latvia"
(LIFE19 IPE/LV/000010 LIFE-IP LatViaNature)

Nature Conservation Agency Republic of Latvia

Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development Republic of Latvia

LIFE-IP LatViaNature

Nature Conservation Agency of Latvia
Inga Pikšena, Project Coordinator
Liene Zilvere, Cartographer – Nature Expert

23/04/2026

Nature Conservation Agency Republic of Latvia

Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development Republic of Latvia

LATVIJAS VALSTS MEŽI
PLANTS · WOOD · RECREATION

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Latvijas Dabas fonds

Pasaules Dabas Fonds
WWF
in association with

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DAUGAVPILS UNIVERSITY

VIDZEME UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

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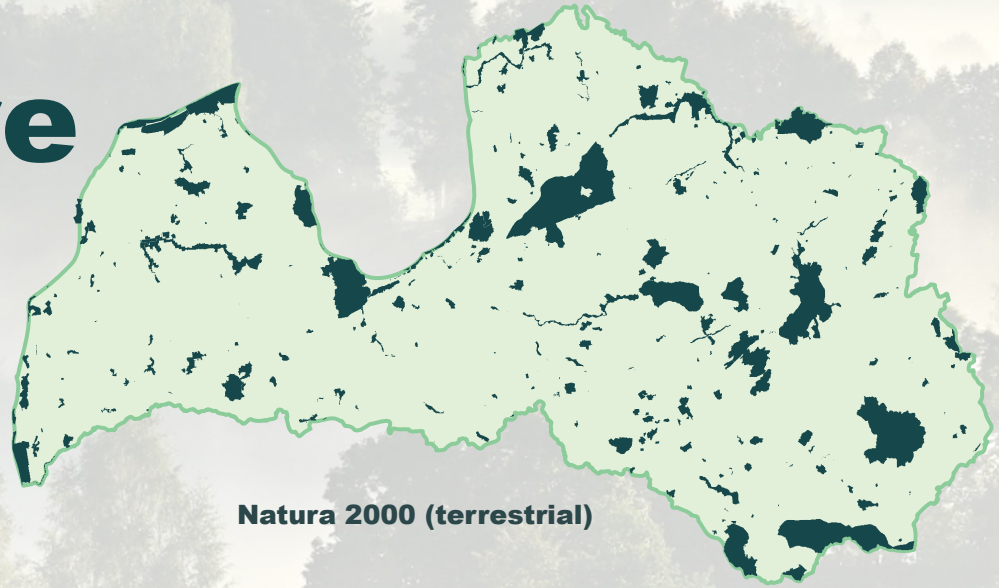
- with the main goal to improve the conservation status of habitats and species of EU importance
- by ensuring implementation of the Prioritised Action Frame work (PAF) for Natura 2000 in Latvia



Natura 2000 (terrestrial)

Duration: **2020 – 2028**
Total budget: **19 484 173 €**
EU LIFE cofunding: **11 690 504 € (60%)**
Complementary funding: **>114 M €**

PHASE 1
August 1, 2020 – December 31, 2022

PHASE 2
January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2024

PHASE 3
January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026

Today

PHASE 4
January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2028

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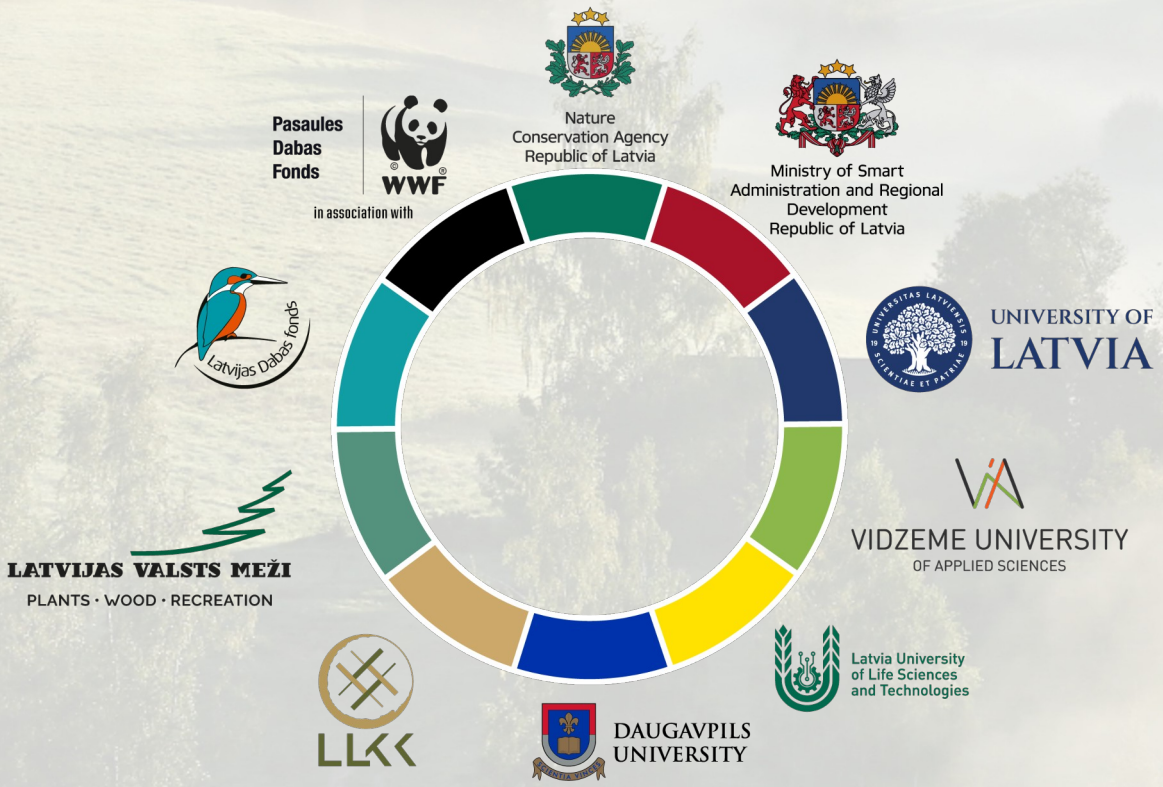
Project partnership



Public bodies (2):

1. Nature Conservation Agency (Coordinating beneficiary)
2. Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development

Educational organizations (4):

3. University of Latvia
4. Daugavpils University
5. Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences
6. Latvia University of Life Sciences and technologies

Enterprises (2):

7. JSC "Latvia's state forests"
8. Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre

NGOs (2):

9. Latvian Fund for Nature
10. Pasaules dabas fonds

The core of the Project

- Comprehensive, knowledge-based, sustainable nature management planning
- Focus on forest and grassland habitats, invasive alien species
- Compensation mechanisms and voluntary involvement in biodiversity conservation
- Linking biodiversity and business
- Creation of a modern, centralized data portal for the nature conservation sector
- Increasing the administrative capacity and supporting long-term inter-sectoral collaboration
- Raising awareness on nature conservation issues
- Comprehensive involvement of stakeholders in all stages of the project (surveys and regular discussions in consulting committees)

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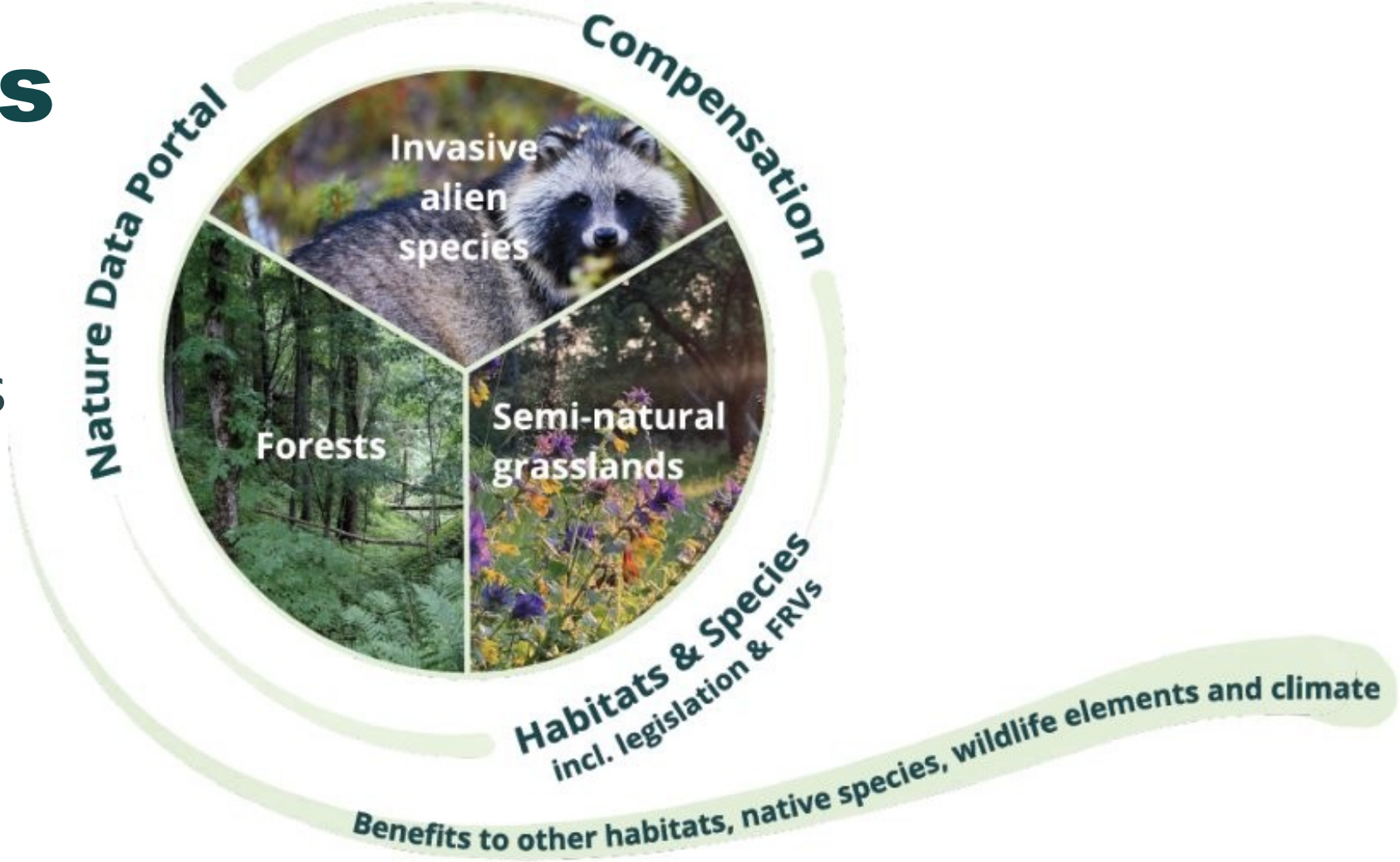
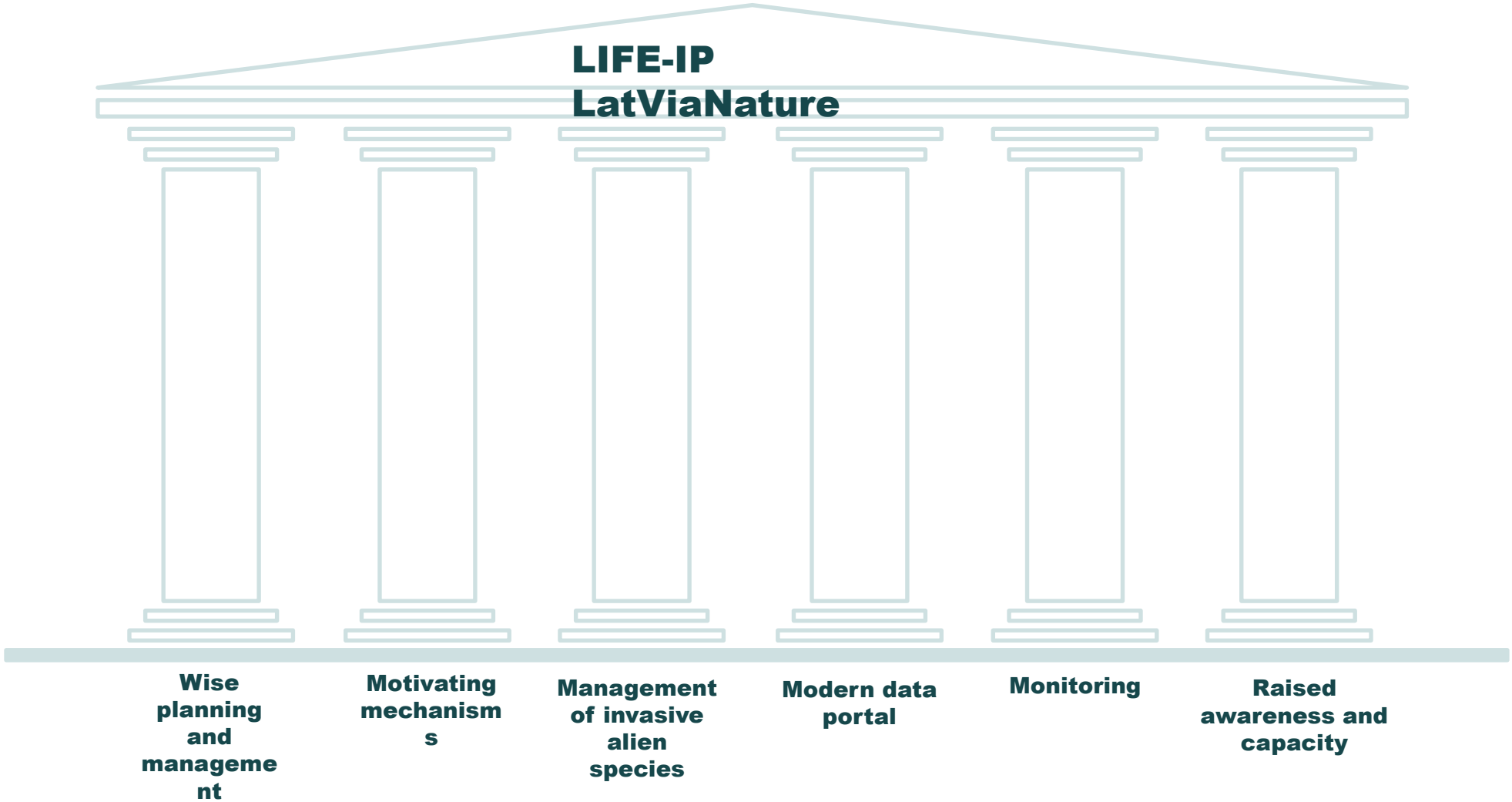
The two 3s

- 3 focus groups
- 3 thematic blocks



Project pillars – 51 project actions



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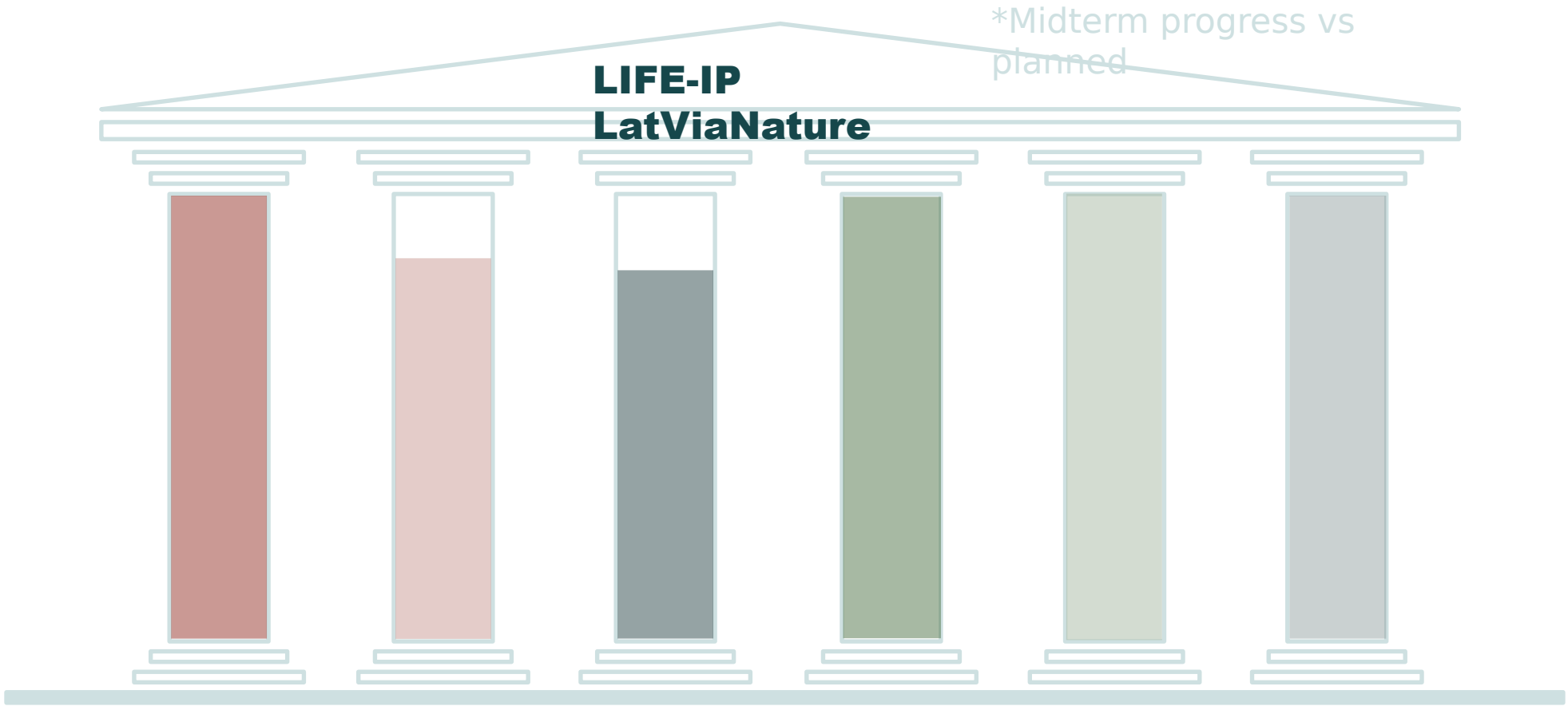
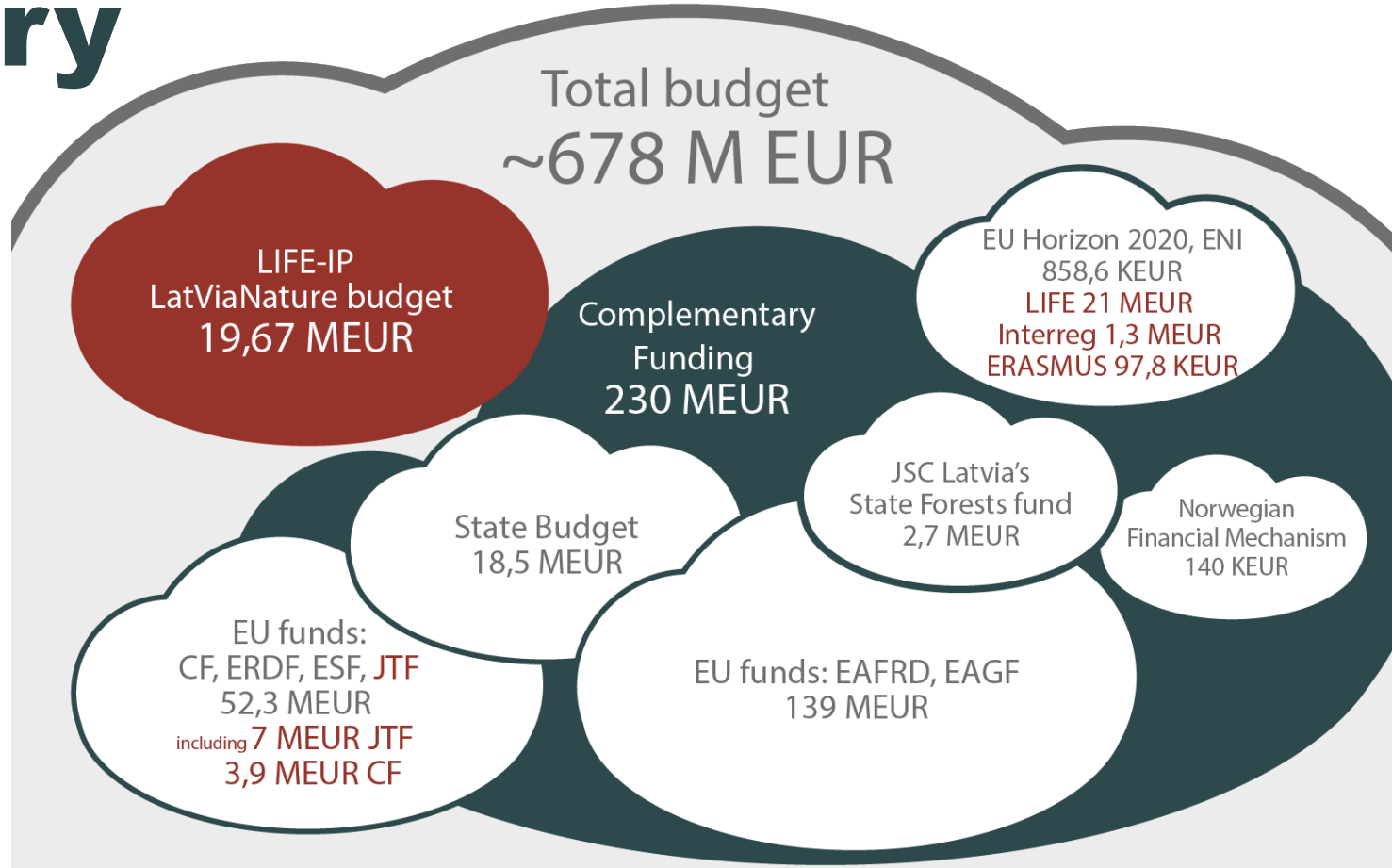


Complementary funding

Planned budget for the implementation of the Priority Action Framework for Natura 2000 in Latvia (2021–2027)

4th Monitoring visit, August 2024



The aim is to maintain and restore, at a favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of EU importance, whilst taking account of economic, social and cultural requirements and regional and local characteristics.

EAFRD – European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EAGF – European agricultural guarantee fund
CF – Cohesion Fund
ERDF – European Regional Development Fund
ESF – European Social Fund
ENI – European Neighbourhood Instrument

The most important results of the IP itself

- Improved conservation status of habitats and species through wise planning and effective management (FRVs for 115 species and 59 habitats; management plans for 56 habitats)
- Improved Natura 2000 network
- Improved nature management planning system (testing 3 site management plans)
- Effective motivating mechanisms to support biodiversity on private lands (140)
- Effective system for control and management of invasive alien species (5 target species, >100 ha)
- Modern, centralized data portal for nature conservation sector
- Increased capacity of stakeholders, enhanced collaboration among governmental, non-governmental and scientific institutions
- Increased stakeholder involvement and awareness regarding nature conservation

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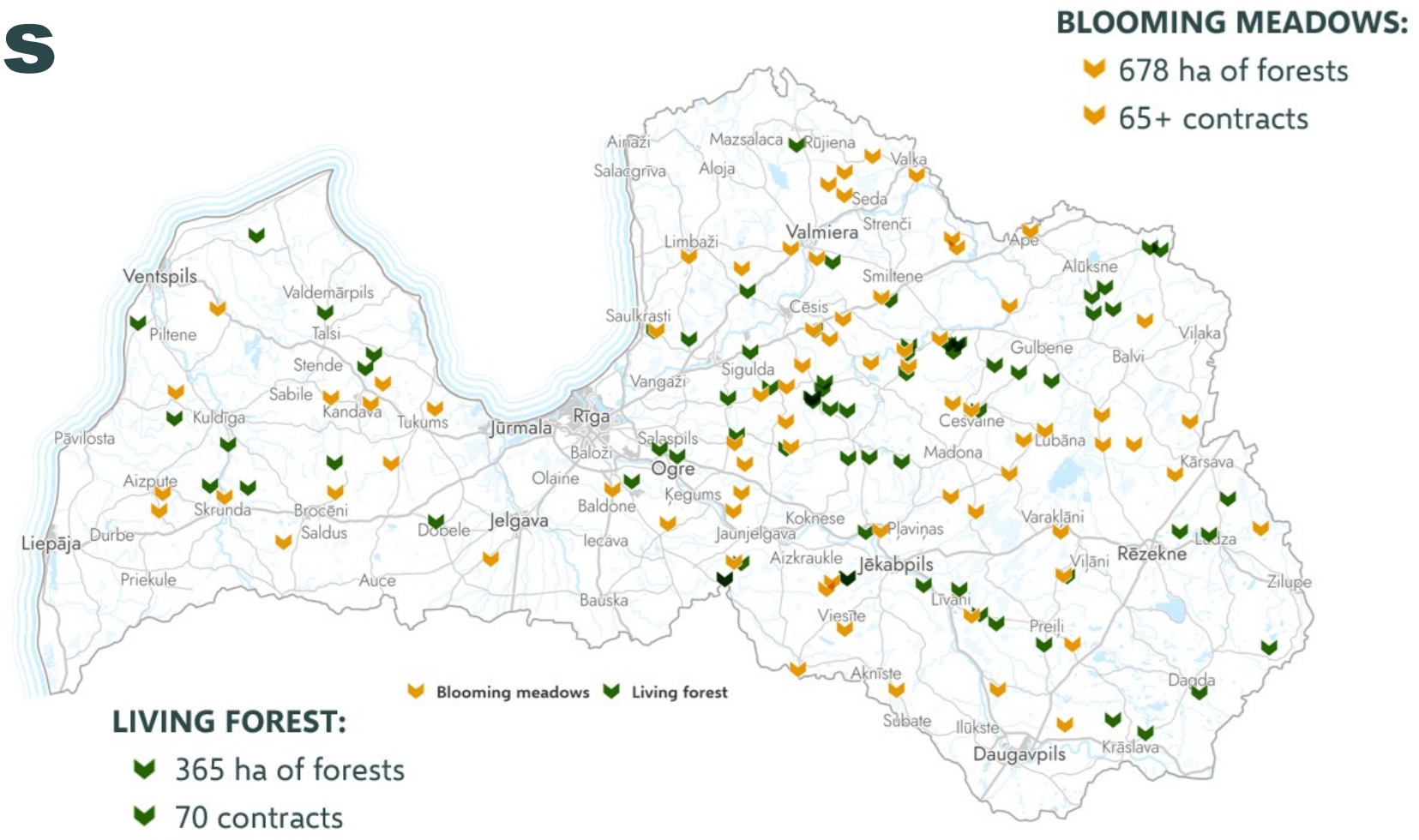
Stakeholder Engagement

Pilot programmes

- Private landonwners
- Voluntary cooperation
- 4 years (2023-2026)
- Consultative and financial support



Educational Campaigns

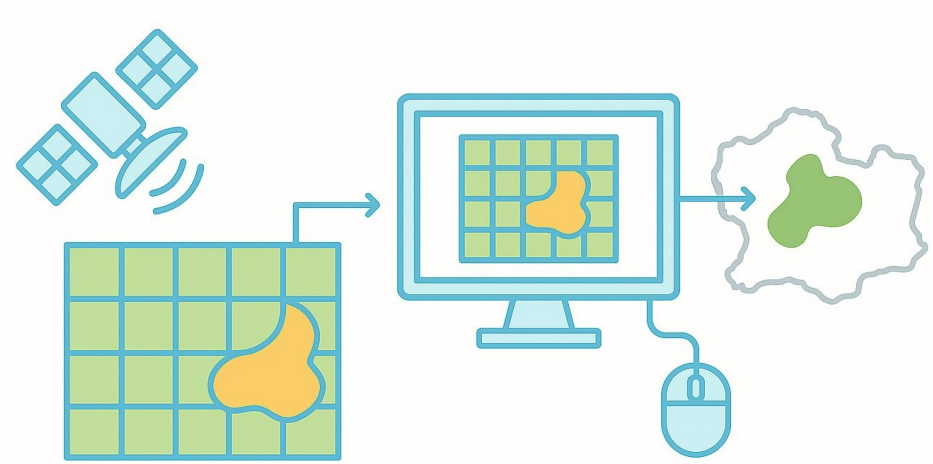
Stories of Old Polypore Mushroom:

https://youtu.be/oN3THgfeXng?si=t8LsoAb53ygPh5_x

Mobile nature education class

Remote sensing data analysis tools

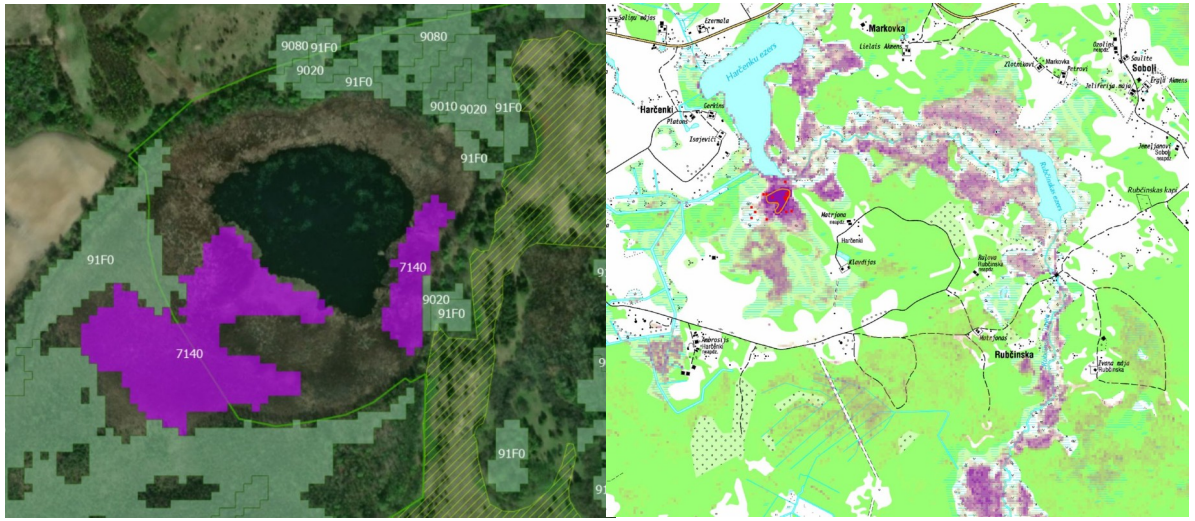
- The remote sensing data analysis tools developed for two key purposes:
  - Habitat classification
  - Detection of destroyed or damaged habitats



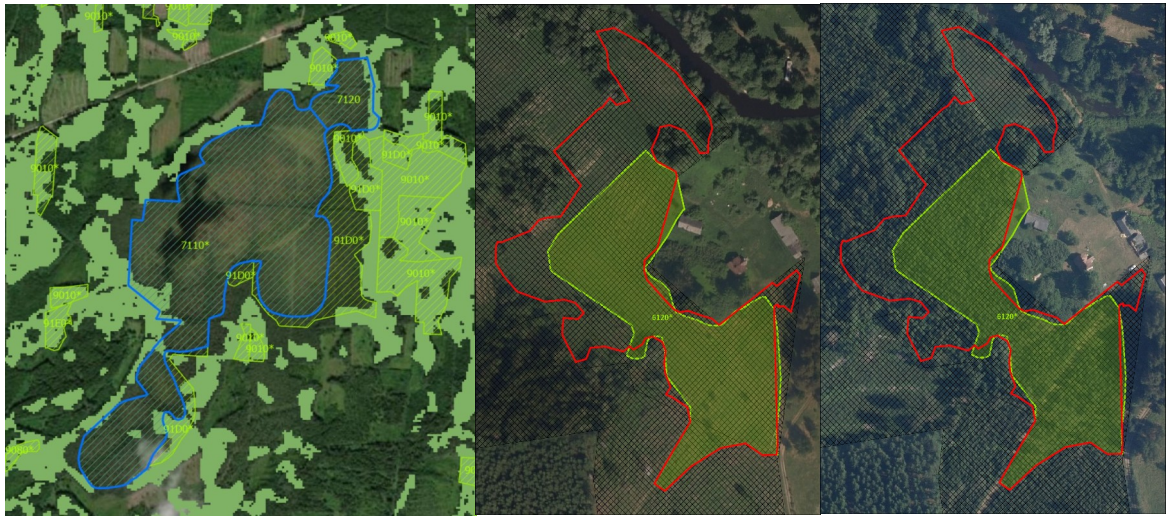
- The tools are command-line applications that require a conda environment and it includes:
  - pre-processing of Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 images;
  - pre-processing digital elevation model data;
  - a workflow that incorporates analysis of natural value data using three different methods;
  - interpretation of the results and accuracy assessment.

Remote sensing data analysis tools

Where and how are the data produced by the remote sensing tool used practically?



Identification of new natural values



Identify habitat of insufficient quality

detect natural values where vegetation changes are observed

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