



Draft

**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS ŽEMĖS ŪKIO MINISTERIJA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

**MINUTES OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE OF THE RURAL
DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 2004 – 2006**

2005-07-29

2

No. _____

Vilnius

Chairman – the chairman of the monitoring committee, the Minister of Agriculture Kazimira Danutė Prunskienė;

Secretary – the chief specialist of the Unit for Rural Development and Structural support co-ordination Miglė Vaitkutė;

Attendants of the meeting:

MC members and members-alternates: Kazimira Danutė Prunskienė, Dalia Miniataitė, Audronė Žvirblienė, Remigijus Urbonas, Audrius Rudys, Valdas Rupšys, Genutė Staliūnienė, Jonas Sviderskis, Faustas Latėnas, Regina Sirusienė.

Representatives from the European Commission:

J. Loughheed – head of the Unit for Rural Development Programmes for Denmark, Lithuania and Poland.

Z. Peppiette – co-ordinator for Lithuania within the Unit for Rural Development Programmes for Denmark, Lithuania and Poland.

K. Kamsiukaitė – national expert-desk officer for Lithuania within the Unit for Rural Development Programmes for Denmark, Lithuania and Poland.

Others:

S. Rybokienė, Ž. Pluskus, T. Jackūnas – representatives from the National Paying Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture (NPA);

A. Grumadas, G. Česaris – representatives from the Ministry of Interior;

E. Petraitis – representative from the Ministry of Finance;

A. Basiulis – representative from the Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;

T. Tukačiauskas – representative from the Lithuanian Fund of Nature

Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture:

E. Počobut, B. Šatkovskis, J. Palionytė, J. Kundrotas.

Virginija Žoštautienė, Rasa Martinavičienė, Algima Gurina – Secretariat of the monitoring committee of the Rural Development plan for 2004 – 2006.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and introductory remarks. Approval of the agenda. Approval of the minutes of the first RDP Monitoring Committee meeting.

2. Review of the RDP implementation (information on the collection of applications, current state of play, problems encountered).

3. Information on RDP annual implementation report for 2004 (results of written procedure).

4. Information on European Rural Development Strategic Guidelines .

5. Assessment of the needs and closing of the MC.

1. Welcome and introductory remarks. Approval of the agenda. Approval of the minutes of the first RDP Monitoring Committee meeting.

DECISIONS TAKEN:

1. To approve the agenda of the 2nd MC meeting.

2. To approve the Minutes of the 1st Monitoring Committee of the Rural Development Plan for 2004 – 2006.

2. Review of the RDP implementation (information on collection of applications, current state of play, problems encountered).

Opinions expressed by:

Ž. Pliuskus, A. Rudys, K. Prunskienė, D. Miniataitė, J. Sviderskis, E. Petraitis, R. Sirusienė.

Ž. Pliuskus pointed out that most of the problems of the RDP successful implementation are of the technical: incorrectly filled in applications, incorrectly indicated bank account numbers, etc. He also stressed the low interest and low uptake of some measures, i.e. “Afforestation of agricultural land”, “Meeting standards” and “Support for semi-subsistence farms”.

K. Prunskienė mentioned that low interest of applicants is caused by the absence of vision and incomprehension how to shift from the subsistence farm to the economic viable farm. D.

Miniataitė underlined that in order to tackle these problems the Technical assistance measure will be activated with the aim to inform and train the potential beneficiaries how to fill in the applications properly.

R. Sirusienė expressed her anxiety about the project administration. According to her NPA prefers administering one large project instead of several small projects. In reply to that Ž. Pliuskus told that NPA administers projects according to the legal acts of Rural Development plan 2004 – 2006 implementation. Projects are to be ranked on the basis of requirements set for the projects and conclusions of the analysis are to be presented to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The chairman stressed the importance of the Rural Development measures and support, which shall serve for reducing the regional disparities and contribute to the social and cultural development.

The issues raised by the representative from the European Commission Mr Loughed on the rural development expenses spent for direct payments, the level of commitment implementation as from those approved by the European Council at the beginning of Programme implementation, and information accessibility were discussed.

3. Information on RDP annual implementation report for 2004 (results of written procedure).

The members of monitoring committee had no further comments on the RDP annual implementation report for 2004.

DECISION TAKEN:

To approve the RDP annual implementation report for 2004.

4. Information on European Rural Development Strategic Guidelines.

Presentation made by J. Loughed.

J. Loughed briefly introduced the main priorities for Rural Development 2007 – 2013.

5. Assessment of the needs and closing of the MC.

K. Prunskienė briefly reported on the future Lithuanian tasks and expectations for 2007 – 2013. Thus she concluded the meeting.

Chairman

Kazimira Danutė Prunskienė

Secretary of the MC

Miglė Vaitkutė