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| Publisher: The Cabinet Form: order**Number: 502.**Accepted: 09.08.2023**Enters into force: 09.08.2023** | Published:**Latvijas Vēstnesis, 153,**10.08.2023**OP number: 2023/153.27** |

# The Cabinet Order No. 502

Riga, 9 August 2023 (minutes No 38 70. §)

On the State Research Programme "Research and Sustainable Use of Local Resources for the Development of Latvia" for 2023-2025

1. In accordance with Section 13, Paragraph 2, Clause 3 of the Law on Scientific Activity, and on the basis of Paragraph 4 of the Cabinet Decision No. 560 of 4 September 2018, "Procedures for the Implementation of State Research Programme Projects", approve the state research programme “Research and Sustainable Use of Local Resources for the Development of Latvia" for 2023-2025 (hereinafter - the Programme).
2. To designate the Ministry of Agriculture as the responsible authority for the implementation of the Programme.
3. The total funding for the Programme for the period from 2023 to 2025 shall be EUR 5 000 000, including  [EUR 1 000 000 for 2023, EUR 2 000 000 for 2024 and EUR 2 000 000 for 2025.The Programme is financed by resources allocated from the State budget to the Ministry of Education and Science for the state budget sub-programme 05.12.00 "State research programmes"](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/301438%23p4).
4. The overarching objective of the Programme is to use natural resources sustainably and rationally, increasing their added value in a changing environment.
5. The overarching objective is to be achieved through the following two sub-programmes:
	1. "Sustainable use of agricultural, including fisheries, resources for the production of safe, quality and healthy food in Latvia", which aims to increase the knowledge base on sustainable use of agricultural resources in the production, processing and control of quality food raw materials and products in Latvia, to provide consumers with healthy and safe food products of local origin, promoting the growth and competitiveness of the agriculture and food sectors;
	2. “Innovative forest management and new forest services, products and technologies for Latvia’s growth”, which aims to ensure the sustainability of forestry and the rational use of Latvia’s forest resources to produce globally competitive products while preserving biodiversity and the social importance of forests for future generations.
6. In order to achieve the objectives of the sub-programme "Sustainable use of agricultural, including fisheries, resources for safe, quality and healthy food production in Latvia", the following thematic objectives have been identified:
	1. development of sustainable, quality and competitive agricultural production in an environmentally friendly agricultural sector;
	2. the social and economic impact of the European Green Deal on Latvian agriculture and rural space, as well as the creation of new knowledge for the development of a sustainable bio-economy and rural space; developing new knowledge, approaches and methods to promote safe and quality food and feed chains and to improve animal health, welfare and protection and reduce risks to public health and the environment, in line with the 'one health' principle, while promoting the development of technological solutions and new products for the production of high quality and competitive food products;
	3. implementing an integrated approach to ensure sustainable exploitation of inland waters for fisheries productivity and high quality ecosystem services.
7. In order to achieve the objectives of the sub-programme "Innovative forest management and new forest services, products and technologies for Latvia's growth", the following thematic objectives have been identified:
	1. developing forest management practices, improving forest productivity and capacity to play a long-term role in climate change mitigation, enhancing the integration of biodiversity values and facilitating the production of a range of forest ecosystem products and services in a changing environment;
	2. analysis and development of recommendations on the socio-economic aspects, including public benefits, of the development of multi-purpose forest management, new forest services, products and technologies;
	3. development of a circular forest bio-economy, as well as the development of innovative technologies and products for using local forest resources to produce competitive and sustainable products, promoting the rational use of wood and developing wood construction in line with the Green Deal.
8. To identify the following common (horizontal) objectives for the implementation of the Programme:
	1. building and developing interdisciplinary and inclusive teams of internationally competitive researchers using world-renowned research methods and technologies;
	2. developing cooperation between research teams and professionals from relevant sectors of the economy
	3. developing international research cooperation, including through international networks and consortia and project applications to European Union funds and other international research programmes;
	4. develop innovative solutions and promote their wider use
	5. making research results publicly available, including publishing results in open access journals and depositing newly generated research data in research data repositories, promoting data re-usability in line with the FAIR principles (findability, accessibility, interoperability, re-usability);
	6. promote publicity and communication activities to inform the public and ensure the visibility and dissemination of the results of the Programme, thereby involving the relevant target groups and promoting knowledge transfer, understanding of the role and contribution of research in addressing issues of societal relevance.
9. To identify the following results to be achieved during the implementation of the Programme:
	1. new technologies and products developed
	2. publication of scientific articles in journals listed in the Web of Science or SCOPUS databases;
	3. promoting policy change based on new knowledge, for example by advising sectoral policy-makers and preparing recommendations and guidelines;
	4. strengthening the education process by involving faculty in research and integrating research into the study process, especially at doctoral level, and by involving doctoral students, PhD candidates and young researchers in the projects implemented by the Programme.
10. The implementation of the Programme may be extended for up to one year without additional funding if it is necessary to consolidate and publicise the results of the Programme and its projects.

Prime Minister, Acting for the Minister for Foreign Affairs *A. K. Kariņš*

Minister for Agriculture *D. Šmits*

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