# researchLatvia\*

Value Through Knowledge

### EU Just Transition Fund Peat Research Platform

#### 24/05/2024

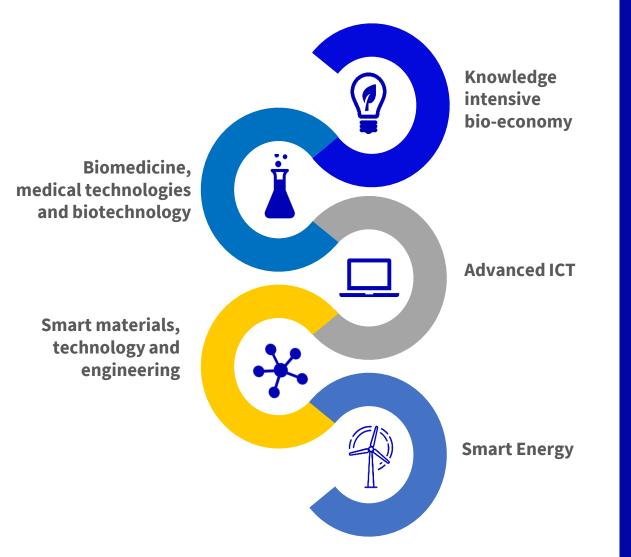
#### **Edvards Francis Kuks**

Head of RIS3 Unit Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia



### **Key Facts About Research in Latvia**

#### **SMART SPECIALISATION AREAS**



#### LARGEST RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS





Rīga Stradiņš university





### Finance

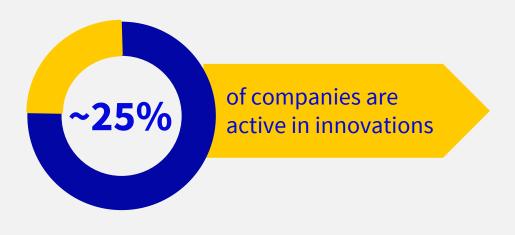
### **Research environment**



In 2022, 0.75% of GDP were invested in R&D



22 state funded research institutions





(7050 in FTE), ~20 % work in the industry (2021)

## Main Policy Priorities in R&D for 2021-2027

2

3



1.5% R&D % of GDP

Sufficient public support, emerging private R&D investments

# At least 8000 research personnel (in FTE)

Sustainable growth of R&D human capital needed to foster economic transformations and excellent higher education

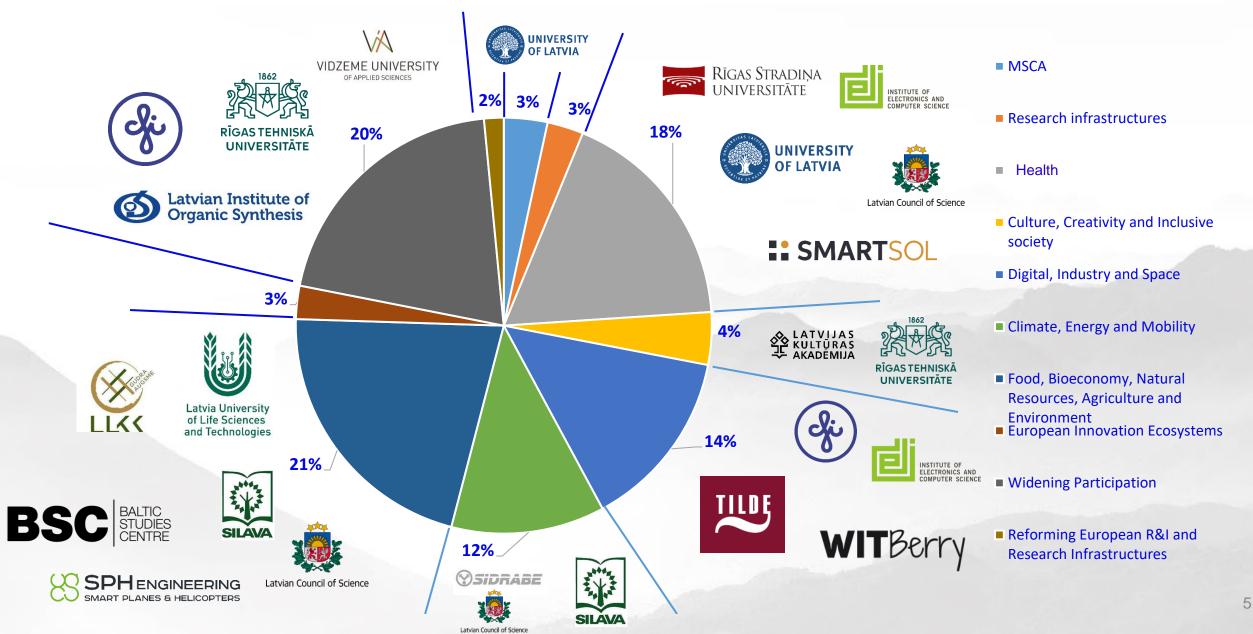
# Diverse and competitive research system

Success on the international stage (e.g. Horizon Europe), active participation in European partnerships

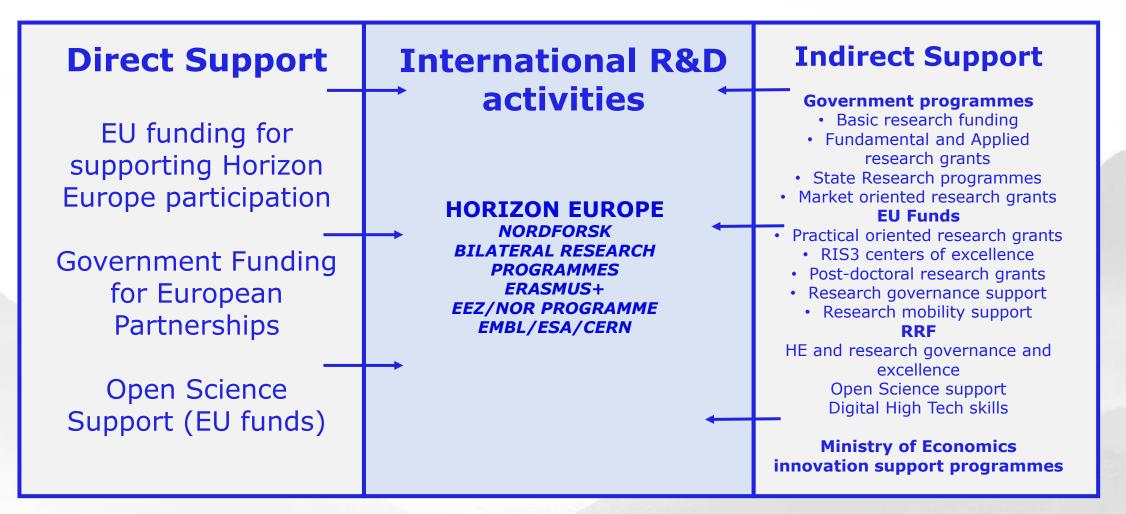


Supporting the **mobility of researchers** has a direct impact on increasing of international collaboration & scientific excellence

### Horizon Europe – positive start for Latvian institutions



### National R&D programmes and their links with international programmes



#### **JTF Peat Research Platform**

#### **SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES:**

- Establishment of a research platform and centre of excellence for sustainable use of natural resources, contributing to the transition towards climate neutrality
- 2) Support for 5 thematic objectives supporting the sustainable use of natural resources

#### INDICATORS [until 31.12.2029]

Scientific<br/>publications<br/>(WoS, Scopus<br/>and ERIH+) -<br/>50Companies<br/>collaborating<br/>with research<br/>institutions -<br/>5Further<br/>project<br/>proposal<br/>submissions -<br/>3

FUNDING

#### **5 981 103 EUR**, Incl. JTF 5 083 937 EUR Provisional limits on planned costs:

Staff

20%

25%

55%

Infrastructure (devices and equipment)

Applied research (5 thematic objectives)

Support directed towards activities within Vidzeme, Latgale, Kurzeme and Zemgale regions (outside the Riga metropolitan area) Activities and solutions targeted toward Vidzeme, Latgale, Kurzeme and Zemgale (outside Riga area)

Project proposal must contain All research universities in the consortia must disseminate results, results must be available to all research universities (incl. outside the consortia)

Results integrated at all levels of study, including encouraging post-doctoral research

Collaboration with at least 5 companies to define research needs, results publicly available to all

### **Open call for proposals**

One project will be supported, with the following conditions:

#### Lead institution

A scientific institution that has received a score of 4 in the 2019 International Evaluation of Scientific Institutions

#### OR

A research university (key players with broad resources) Ensuring high scientific quality

# At least three consortia members, including

At least 2 research universities AND

1 scientific institution, which received a score of 4 in the 2019 International Evaluation of Scientific Institutions

Ensures thematic and regional coverage

#### **Thematic scope**

Support for non-commercial research activities

Thematic objectives (5): developing research for the sustainable use of natural resources and climate neutrality in the peat sector:

Improving Latvia's GHG inventory and monitoring methods

Technologies and solutions for reducing GHG- and carbon-intensive peat extraction, and solutions for recultivation activities, including pilot projects

Studies on GHG emissions and CO2 sequestration in the peat sector

Socio-economic assessment and development of future scenarios for the future use of reclaimed peat extraction sites

New technologies and products directed at reducing GHG and peat substrate alternatives

### **Upcoming opportunities: NordForsk Sustainable Forestry**

Existing research project themes in national programmes: *forest ecosystems, forest management, forest ecology*  Topics of interest: *impact of climate change on forestry, resilience of forests against impact of climatic changes, sustainable forestry and supply of wood, forest ecology, forest phytopathology and mycology* 

Support for participation in NordForsk calls available through Latvian Council of Science Future NordForsk calls can be suggested if supported by 3 states (including 1 NordForsk member)



# Thank you!