



Prospects for Farmers' Support:
Advisory Services in European AKIS

AKIS and advisory services in Lithuania

Report for the AKIS inventory (WP3) of the PRO AKIS project

April 2014

Author:

Prof. Habil. Dr. J. Ramanauskas

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jan Žukovskis

ALEKSANDRAS STULGINSKIS UNIVERSITY (Lithuania)



Contact: Jan.Zukovskis@asu.lt

This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 311994

Please reference this report as follows:

Ramanauskas J., Zukowskis J. (2014): AKIS and advisory services in Lithuania. Report for the AKIS inventory (WP3) of the PRO AKIS project. Online resource: www.proakis.eu/publicationsandevents/pubs

Executive summary

The main aim of the report is to provide a comprehensive description of the Agricultural Knowledge and Information System (AKIS) in Lithuania, with a particular focus on agricultural advisory services. The description includes history, policy, funding, advisory methods and a section on how the Farm Advisory System (FAS) was implemented.

This report represents an output of the PRO AKIS project (Prospects for Farmers' Support: Advisory Services in the European Agricultural Knowledge and Information Systems'). It is one of 27 country reports that were produced in 2013 by project partners and subcontractors for compiling an inventory of Agricultural Knowledge and Information Systems. AKIS describe the exchange of knowledge and supporting services between many diverse actors from the first, second or third sector in rural areas. AKIS provide farmers with relevant knowledge and networks around innovations in agriculture. Findings from the 27 country reports were presented at three regional workshops across Europe in February (in Copenhagen and Paris) and March 2014 (in Krakow), discussed with stakeholders and experts, and feedback integrated in the reports.

The agricultural sector in the Lithuania produces mostly commodity products for the internal market as well for export. For example 30% (2011) of all production of crops was exported. About 8.6% of civilian employees in 2011 were engaged in this sector. The small farms are the most dominate type (up to 10 ha/farm) with about 81%, 15% (10-50 ha/farm), 2% (50-100 ha/farm) and 1.5% (more than 100 ha/farm), 13.02% of all holders of agricultural holdings (natural persons) have been persons under 40 years of age, 42.88% – persons from 41 to 60 years, while 44.10% – over 60 years.

The main consulting organisations in the agriculture sector are: Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (about 260 accredited consultants working in 47 regional offices), Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (49 accredited consultants). research and consultation institutions do not play a small role in this field. The largest of these is Aleksandras Stulginskis University (39 accredited consultants). Private consulting organisations unionise in the “Association of Rural Development and Business Consultations” (about 14 organisations). Advisory activities are currently being carried out by accredited advisory agencies of “The Centre for the LEADER Program and Agricultural Training Methodology”. Accreditation is granted for three years and three advisory sectors.

The state finances the advisory services provided by Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (CARL) and partly (about 13%) by Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (LAAS). LAAS receives 87% funding from the private sector when paying for services. Private consultants do not get support from the state. Farmers are getting support for consultations.

The main clients for consultations are: medium and small commercial farms, young farmers agricultural producers groups, sometimes big farms applying for consultations. The main topics of advice depend on the clients, but in general: plant and animal production, cross compliance, book keeping, taxes, business diversification. The main methods of advice provision are: individual and groups discussion, each time in different farms.

The Farm Advisory System (FAS) in Lithuania is not unified, as one organisation with one goal and distribution of functions. It works as an aggregate system of different institutions, which work in consultation and knowledge transformation fields.

Table of contents

Executive summary	3
List of Acronyms.....	5
List of Tables.....	5
1. Main structural characteristics of agricultural sector	7
2. Characteristic of AKIS	11
2.1 AKIS description.....	11
2.2 AKIS diagram	13
3. History of advisory system.....	14
4. The agricultural advisory service(s).....	15
4.1 Overview of all service suppliers	15
4.2 Public policy, funding schemes, financing mechanisms.....	15
4.3 Methods and Human resources	16
4.4 Clients and topics / contents.....	17
4.5 Linkages with other AKIS actors / knowledge flows	18
4.6 Programming and planning of advisory work.....	18
5. Characteristic of Farm Advisory System	19
5.1 Organisations forming FAS	20
5.2 Evaluation of implementation of FAS	20
6. Summary and conclusions.....	21
6.1 Summary and conclusions on section 1-3	21
6.2 Summary and conclusions on section 4-5	21
7. Acknowledgement of partners, information sources, gaps etc, reflection on methodology	22
8. References	23
9. Appendices	29

List of Acronyms

AKIS	Agricultural Knowledge and Information Systems
AWU	Annual work unit
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CC	Cross Compliance
EIP	European Innovation Partnership
ESU	European size units
FAS	Farm Advisory System
FBO	Farmer-Based Organisation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
LEADER	Links between the rural economy and development actions
LSU	Livestock unit
MOARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
R&D	Research & Development
RDP	Rural Development Programme
SMEs	Small and Medium Size Enterprises
SMFs	Small and Medium Size Farms
SMR	Statutory Management Requirements
UAA	Utilised agricultural area
ARDBA	Association of Rural Development and Business Advisors (Lithuania)
ASU	Aleksandras Stulginskis University (Lithuania)
AVDBC	The Association of Village Development and Business Consultations (Lithuania)
CARL	Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania
FTCIS	Farmer's Training and Consulting Information Centre (Lithuania)
LAAS	Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service
LIAE	Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics

List of Tables

Table 1. Number and structure of agricultural holdings (hectares, ESU)	7
Table 2. Number of holdings by standard output size classes, 2010 (1 000 holdings)	7
Table 3. Economic size of holding in European size units (ESU) (2009) – number of holdings in the FADN field of observation.....	7
Table 4. Number of holdings by age of manager, 2010.....	7
Table 5. Utilised agriculture area (UAA) by size of the holding (UAA) (ha), 2010	7

Table 6. Average UAA per holding	8
Table 7. Farm labour force, 2010	8
Table 8. Agricultural labour input, 2000-2011	8
Table 9. Output value at producer prices of the agricultural industry, 2000-2011	9
Table 10. Harvested production of some of the main crops (2012).....	9
Table 11. Cereal yield (in tonnes per hectare)	9
Table 12. Harvested production of some fruits, vegetables (1000 tonnes) and vineyard (1000 ha), 2011	9
Table 13. Livestock units by type of livestock (1 000 LSU)	9
Table 14. Collection of milk and dairy production, 2010-2011 (1 000 tonnes).....	9
Table 15. Share of holdings and area with organic farming, 2010	10
Table 16. Ammonia (NH ₃) emissions (EEA)	10
Table 17. Overview of organisations creating the AKIS in Lithuania.....	12
Table 18. List of the most important publications on AKIS	23

1. Main structural characteristics of agricultural sector

Total population (2012) – 2 979 000 people.

Agriculture's contribution to employment (percentage of civilian employment) (2011) – 8.6%

GDP per capita (2012) – 9557 EUR / capita.

Agriculture's contribution to GDP (percentage of agriculture in GDP) (2011) – 4.0%

Number and distribution of agricultural holdings (hectares, ESU) (2013) – size of arable land: 2 829 000 ha.

Table 1. Number and structure of agricultural holdings (hectares, ESU)

<10 ha	10-50 ha	50-100 ha	>100 ha	Average (ha/unit)
161 007	29 629	4 007	2 994	14,19

Table 2. Number of holdings by standard output size classes, 2010 (1 000 holdings)

Total	0 €	< 2000 €	2000-3999 €	4000-4999 €	8000-14999 €	15000-24999 €	25000-49999 €	50000-99999 €	100000 - 249999 €	250000 - 499999 €	> 500000 €
199.9	3.2	96.8	46.5	27.1	12.2	5.7	4.6	2.2	1.1	0.3	0.2

Number of agricultural holdings receiving direct payments (2011) – 199 242 units.

Number of FADN holdings (2011) – 199 242 units.

Accountancy results by type of farming - (number of holdings in the sample) (2009) – 1098 units.

Table 3. Economic size of holding in European size units (ESU) (2009) – number of holdings in the FADN field of observation

Number of holdings					
Total	< 8 ESU	8-16 ESU	16-40 ESU	40-100 ESU	> 100 ESU
39 600	31 030	4 540	2 610	910	510

Number and structure of age of agricultural holders

Table 4. Number of holdings by age of manager, 2010

Total	Less than 35 years	From 35 to 44 years	From 45 to 54 years	From 55 to 64 years	65 years or over
199 910	11 710	32 150	48 930	37 680	69 440

Land used:

Land in holdings (2013) – 2 829 008 ha

The total area declared (2010) – 2 742 560 ha

Table 5. Utilised agriculture area (UAA) by size of the holding (UAA) (ha), 2010

Total	0-0,9 ha	1-2 ha	2-4,9 ha	5-9,9 ha	10-19,9 ha	20-29,9 ha	30-49,9 ha	50-99,9 ha	>100 ha
2 742 560	0	46 590	266 010	276 810	296 010	160 600	228 090	328 410	1140040

Table 6. Average UAA per holding

Year	Number of holdings	Utilised agriculture area (UAA) [ha]	Average UAA per holding [ha]
2010	199 910	2742560	13.72
2013	199 242	2829008	14.15

Farm labour force:

Based on the data of January 1, 2013, 13.02% of all holders of agricultural holdings (natural persons) have been persons under 40 years of age, 42.88% – persons from 41 to 60 years of age, while 44.10% - over 60 years of age.

35,580 holders of agricultural holdings or 18.0% of all holders of agricultural holdings (natural persons) received the minimum vocational education, vocational, advanced vocational education and training or higher education in agriculture (according to the data of July 1, 2012, 36719 holders of agricultural holdings and 17.5% respectively). 12% of them belonged to holders of agricultural holdings with higher university education, 4% received higher non-university education, 32% had advanced vocational education and training, 22% acquired vocational education and 30% were provided with minimum vocational education.

Table 7. Farm labour force, 2010

Family labour force	Regular non family labour force	Family labour force	Regular non family labour force	Non family non regular labour force	Labour force directly employed by the holding
1000 pers.	1000 pers.	1000 AWU	1000 AWU	1000 AWU	1000 AWU
338.2	27.9	119.9	24.0	3.0	146.8

Table 8. Agricultural labour input, 2000-2011

Country	2000	2005	2011	2011/2010
	1000 AWU	1000 AWU	1000 AWU	%
LITHUANIA	187	174	142	99,2

Agricultural output and gross value added:

Table 9. Output value at producer prices of the agricultural industry, 2000-2011

2000	2005	2011	2000	2011
mln €	mln €	mln €	% of EU-27	% of EU-27
1 140	1 433	2 401	0,4	0,6

Production of crops

Table 10. Harvested production of some of the main crops (2012)

Cereals total (incl. rice)	Fields peas	Sugar beet	Rape	Sunflower	Common wheat	Barley	Grain maize	Rye and maslin	Rice
3 225.9	19.3	877.8	484.3	0.0	1 869	760	57	85	0

Table 11. Cereal yield (in tonnes per hectare)

2009	2010	2012
3.5	2.7	3.9

Production of vegetables

Table 12. Harvested production of some fruits, vegetables (1000 tonnes) and vineyard (1000 ha), 2011

Tomatoes	Carrots	Onions	Apples	Peaches	Oranges	Vineyard total
15	64	21	44	0	0	0

Additional information:

Harvest of: Vegetables – 315.0 thousand tons; Potato – 587.7 thousand tons; Fruit and berries - 63,4 thousand tons. Sugar produced 100.6 thousand tons (2012).

Number of livestock:

Table 13. Livestock units by type of livestock (1 000 LSU)

Year	Total livestock	Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Poultry	Other LSU
2010	900.1	576.5	6.5	1.7	201.1	90.7	23.7

Animal production (milk, dairy products, cattle meat, pig meat, sheep meat)

Table 14. Collection of milk and dairy production, 2010-2011 (1 000 tonnes)

Cow's milk production on farms 2010	Cows' milk 2011	Other species 2011	Drinking milk 2011	Cream for Direct Consum. 2011	Milk Powder 2011	Butter 2011	Cheese 2011
1733	1317	-	91	2	17	11	103

Additional information: Cow's milk production on farms – 1 786 400 tons; Meat production 217 200 tons; Eggs 773.7 mln. units (2012).

Number of organic holdings

Table 15. Share of holdings and area with organic farming, 2010

Holdings doing organic farming	Area with certified organic farming	Organic producers	Organic area	
% of total	% of total	(1000)	(1000 ha)	% of total UAA
1.11	3.76	64.5	143.6	5.2

Number of producer groups (2012): 1 group, 5 members.

Used of chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides)

Plant protection products sold to consumers (t, in terms of pure ingredient): 2060 t

Fertilizer consumption (kilograms per hectare of arable land) 2009: 51.99

Pesticide use (most recent) by country (2000): 0.2 kg

Percentage of rural areas in surveyed country (2009)

Agricultural land (% of land area): **42.91**

Table 16. Ammonia (NH₃) emissions (EEA)

Ammonia emissions from agriculture		
1990	2010	change 1990-2010
kilotonnes	kilotonnes	%
83	30	-64,3

Area under management practices potentially supporting biodiversity (EEA):

- in 2005: 2.3
- in 2010: 5.2

Gross Nitrogen Balance 2000-2008 (kg N per ha agricultural land):

- in 2001: 77
- in 2004: 91
- in 2008: 97

2. Characteristic of AKIS

2.1 AKIS description

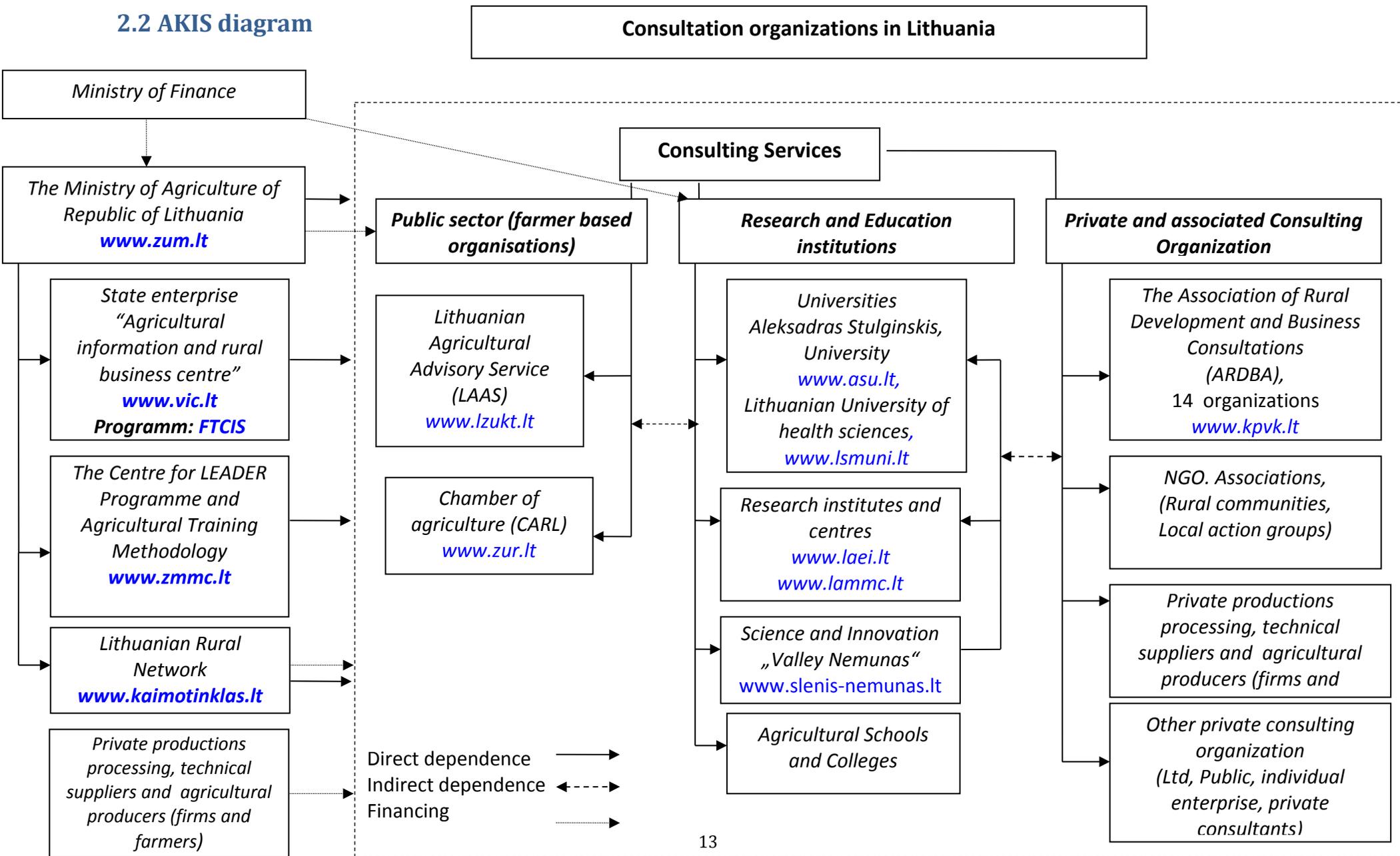
The ability to gain and use knowledge has considerable significance for economic competitiveness. In order to gain and use knowledge, there should be necessary access and opportunities to use information and communication technologies, effective education systems concentrating scientists and farmers, as well as economic and institutional environment which increases the use of knowledge, when creating new competitive products and services. In recent years, Lithuania has achieved progress in several fields of knowledge economy: at first, in the areas of economic and institutional regime improvement and the creation of information and communication technology infrastructure.

The working group for the governance improvement of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania has been formed. Its purpose is the development of functions and further activity of the institutions and companies that are assigned to the Ministry and its governable area, saving the opportunities of scale economies, merging to the centralisation of general functions, the improvement of the country governance in the governable areas of the Ministry and the governance in the Ministry, in the institutions and companies under its control.

Table 17. Overview of organisations creating the AKIS in Lithuania

Provision of service				Source of financing								
Status of the organisation	Type of organisation	Number of organisations	Number of advisors	Public funds			Farmers			Private	NGO	Other (specify)
				EU funds	National funds	Regional funds	Farmers' levies	Farmers' contribution	Billing services	Other products (inputs, outputs)	foundation	
Public sector	The Centre for LEADER Programme and Agricultural Training Methodology	1	-	X	X	X						
Research and Education	Aleksandras Stulginskis University	1	39	X	X				X	X	X	
	Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics	1	-	X	X				X	X	X	
	Colleges	6	24	X	X				X	X	X	
Private sector	Upstream industries								X	X		
	Downstream industries								X	X		
	Independent consultant	19	19	X	X		X		X		X	
	Private agricultural advice company								X	X		
	Farmers' owned advice company								X	X		
	Other private consulting organization	119	119	X			X		X	X	X	
Farmer based organisations	Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service	1	257	X	X		X		X	X		
	Chamber of Agriculture	1	59	X	X			X			X	
	The Association of Village Development and Business Consultations	14	42	X	X			X	X	X	X	
NGO	Other associations							X	X	X	X	

2.2 AKIS diagram



3. History of advisory system

Before the Second World War, Lithuanian farmers were advised by the Chamber of Agriculture and Central Alliance of Lithuanian Milk Processing Companies 'Pienocentras'. Mostly they advised on how to develop the dairy industry.

In the Soviet Union, there was no advisory system because there were no farmers and so nobody needed advice. The planning system solved the problems of advising the big farms.

At present, the advisory system consists of the private, public (state) and farmer based organisations: the Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (hereinafter as 'LAAS') and the Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter as 'CARL'). The farmer has a possibility to choose the most acceptable and attractive advisory institution because the Ministry of Agriculture in 2013 has accredited about 44 state and private advisory organisations that can provide advisory services.

Some of private advisory institutions merged into the Association of Rural Development and Business Advisors (ARDBA), the members of which can be only professional and experienced organisations in the consulting of agricultural holdings. Farms are advised by commercial companies that sell manure, chemical plant protection, and agricultural machinery.

When Lithuania had regained its independence and the kolkhozy fell apart, many citizens recovered their proprietorship and started farming without any experience or agrarian knowledge. Many poor rural peasants were not good at modern profitable agricultural production. The Alliance of Lithuanian Farmers, the Association of Agricultural Companies, in association with the Ministry of Agriculture became the founders of LAAS, analysed different variations of how the first Lithuanian institution for farmers' training should look.

On June 1, 1993, in cooperation with Danish Agriculture Advisory Centre, according to EU Economic and Social Support Programme for Eastern and Central Europe PHARE, a public institution, Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (LAAS), was established. LAAS was governed by the consumers: farmers and agricultural holdings, having subdivisions in all Lithuania.

At first, the budget of LAAS was LTL 2.5 m, while in 2012 it was 10 times more – LTL 26 m. Currently 87% of revenue are the assets for provided service. In the future, there is a plan to finance their activity by themselves. Today LAAS personnel consists of about 370 employees: 52% of them work at regional offices, who finished studies at Aleksandras Stulginskis University, 23% of them studied at Kaunas University of Technology, 13% of them were Vilnius University students, others studied at colleges and received higher non-university education. LAAS aims to support farmers, to understand and comply with the EU requirements for environment, society and animal protection, animal welfare, good agrarian and environmental protection condition and to help them avoid the costs of financial agricultural payments due to noncompliance of complex support requirements in farms. Such a system allows every farmer the option to appeal and receive necessary pieces of advice.

The Association of Village Development and Business Consultations (AVDBC) was established on the 17th October 2006. The main aim of its activity is to coordinate the activity of association members, to represent and defend their interests.

4. The agricultural advisory service(s)

4.1 Overview of all service suppliers

Agricultural Advisory services suppliers listed in the **Appendix 1**: List and contact of organisations forming AKIS.

4.2 Public policy, funding schemes, financing mechanisms

The main objective which aimed at implementing the CAP (and advisory as well) policy is to implement a sustainable model of agriculture that connects the coordination of economic and social objectives, ecosystem management, and market orientation. Agricultural development must meet the farmers', consumers', taxpayers' interests, as well as follow international rules. The policy framework and support for its implementation orient farmers towards making changes, and facilitating this process requires knowledge, information, and advisory services.

Strategic agriculture and rural development documents include the provision on agricultural advisory services. Being an instrument of the state policy, it has to provide information to agricultural operators, help assess the situation and expectations, understand the essence of the problems, choose the right solution for economic development, investment, participation in support programs, environment protection, animal welfare and implementation of other requirements. National and EU funds support, granted to advisory activities, partially offset farmers' funds, which they should use to get the necessary advice.

Political provisions conduct advisory activities directly and indirectly, i.e., through the changing farmers' needs: changes in the content of the services and the emergence of new services. In recent years, the advisory service has launched some new services to farmers: crop area measurement using GPS devices; evaluation and design of manure storages; development of environmental design for a construction project; preparation of tender documents, etc. to reflect this situation.

Advisory activities are currently being carried out by accredited advisory agencies of "The Centre for the LEADER Programme and Agricultural Training Methodology". Accreditation is granted for three years and three advisory sectors. The legal status of accredited institutions varies. There are 13 public agencies, the Chamber of Agriculture, 6 scientific and educational institutions, 4 associations, 14 private limited liability companies and 1 sole proprietorship. Territorial distribution of these institutions is uneven: 18 institutions are located in Vilnius, 10 in Kaunas, 2 have a nationwide network, and the remaining 9 are located in other cities of the country.

Does the state finance agricultural advisory services?

The state finances advisory services provided by Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (CARL) and partly (about 13%) by Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (LAAS). LAAS receives 87% of its funding from the private sector when paying for services.

Advisory services are financed from a variety of sources:

- 1) private advisors are paid for the documents they prepare for the EU and national support (based on individual projects), for advice on fertilizers, accounting management and other;

- 2) advisors from Universities are hired under individual projects financed by private funds, associations and the structural funds.
- 3) private advisors are paid by farmers themselves.

At which level? (national/regional/provincial?)

The state mostly provides funding at the national level: under individual advisory projects (e.g., conducting seminars in municipalities of the country).

With which procedures? (subvention/competitive calls)

Most of the time, funding goes to seminars and the procedures for conducting courses. The Ministry of Agriculture calls for tenders involving various (usually big) individual advisory organisations and their partners (ASU, LIAE, LAAS, Advisors Associations), who are usually awarded the contracts.

On what themes?

The most frequently funded advisory topics are the following:

Agricultural accounting management;

Issues of requirements for management, good agricultural and environmental conditions (cross-compliance) and work safety;

Drafting of business plans and other documentation for the EU support;

Seminars: Economic activity planning and funding opportunities; Farm establishment of the young farmers; Support for rural communities.

For what target groups?

Target groups of advisory services: farmers, agricultural companies, cooperatives, community-based organisations (public bodies and associations).

4.3 Methods and Human resources

The biggest consulting organisation Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service 257 accredited consultants (as of 4th May 2013). Second in size by the number of accredited consultants is the Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania – 49 accredited consultants, third – Aleksandras Stulginskis University – 39 consultants. Consultants are being accredited in the Lithuania Ministry of Agriculture (specifically The Centre for “Leader” programme and agricultural training and methodology). The average number of consultants from other accredited organisations is 2-3 consultants. However, not all training and consulting services (for example: creation of business plan) require accreditation. Private organisations and individual consultants operate in the market without having accreditation.

One of the more advanced consulting methods is discussion groups which are created in different regions of the country. One such group usually consists of 15-20 farmers. Group meetings are being held 8-10 times a year. Each time meetings take place on a different farm, therefore farmers get a chance to receive useful advice not only from the consultant but also from his colleagues.

One of the best discussion groups results from farmers beginning to share their experiences and consult each other.

Discussions are organised and led by a consultant who has to not only be able to maintain a discussion, but to have an excellent knowledge of his field – if, for example, the group of farmers specialises in dairy farming and become interested in the issue of preparing animal feeds, the consultant has to be able to answer all questions related to this field and to provide all the necessary consultation.

4.4 Clients and topics / contents

The main clients for consultations – large and and medium commercial farms (10 -100 ha), as well as small commercial farms (1-5 ha, semi-subsistence farms) and agricultural producers groups (cooperatives and agricultural companies).

Consulting topics:

- Questions related to agrarian environment protection and farming in protected areas;
- Training of plant protection consultants;
- Basics in ecological farming;
- Planning of the economic activity and financial opportunities;
- Usage of the fumigation products;
- Assurance of the livestock health and milk quality;
- Settlement of the new farmers;
- Stimulation of rural tourism;
- Reduction of cows' morbidity of mastitis and milk quality improvement;
- Development of requirements for complex support and competences of environmental protection;
- Cooperatives in the farming;
- Issues related to the implementationthe of the LEADER project;
- Forestry;
- Support to the rural communities;
- Quality expert of the fresh fruits and vegetables;
- Basics in farming;
- Issues related to the bookkeeping of the agricultural activities;
- Questions related to the management, requirements of good agrarian and environmental condition and work safety requirements;
- Questions related to the business plans and other documentation necessary to receive ES support;
- Perspectives and actuality of informing, training and consulting of farmers within the period of the year 2014-2020;
- Accounting of the farming and foods sales by using cash registers;
- Development of competences in accounting taxes for agricultural activity and declaration of income;
- Analysis of the agricultural area activity subject's (farmer, agricultural company) activity.

4.5 Linkages with other AKIS actors / knowledge flows

Movement of knowledge flows-knowledge from the consultant to the consultative: farmer, company, accumulation of knowledge and its effective usage. Farmers are constantly faced with new requirements and this requires the consultants to continuously improve their knowledge by using computational and communication networks. Knowledge flows connect the collection and accumulation of data from various sources, their creative evaluation and spread.

Relations among individual AKIS participants exist, however it could be said that they are not always coordinated and/or synchronized. Most of the surveyed consultants stated that institutions constituting the AKIS system, in most cases, act on their own, compete against one another, act to in a way to obtain more benefit for themselves than for the benefit of the agricultural subjects.

4.6 Programming and planning of advisory work

Planning of advisory work is done in a coordinated manner and individually. Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (MARL) prepares annual strategic planning documentation and the advisory organizations such as Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Services (LAAS) and Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (CARL) also follow the annual strategic plans in their programming documents. For example, from the year 2012 a new map of interactive teaching courses, seminars and other informational events designed for farmers was launched in the website of CARL. Individual consultants do not have such plans, their activity (advisory services) depends on whether they get funding while participating in and winning project bids.

5. Characteristic of Farm Advisory System

Most of the surveyed people were not familiar with the concept of “Farming advisory system” (FAS).

It was mentioned in the press that a directive regarding the establishment of FAS was provided to the Republic of Lithuania only as a “recommendation” and therefore the establishment of FAS was not being implemented.

We think that FAS in Lithuania can be related to the Farmers' Training and Consulting Information System (FTCIS or lith. ŽMIKIS). FTCIS – is an information system which collects data about the acquisition of farmers' qualifications, their improvements and their consulting.

The legal basis for the establishment of FTCIS are legally binding acts and FTCIS is being established for its implementation.

EC Council regulations are the regulations of Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania. The performance of this system is based on the edict of the 15th October, 2004 No. T-131 from the director of the Information Society Development Committee under the Government of Lithuanian Republic “Regarding the ratification of the methodical documentation for the creation of state's information systems” and on the edict No. 3D-724 “Regulations for the farmers training and consulting information system” ratified on the 30th September 2011 by the Lithuanian Minister of Agriculture.

Aims of the FTCIS:

- to create a united system of individuals related to agricultural and forest activities, training and consulting accounting, control and information processing.
- To assure an effective coordination and monitoring of the farmers' training and consulting events.
- To assure the availability of farmers training and consulting services, the spread of agricultural technology innovations and knowledge in various Lithuanian regions.

The structure of FTCIS:

FTCIS governor – The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania.

FTCIS manager – state enterprise Centre of Rural Business and Agricultural Information.

FTCIS data providers:

- National Paying Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture (hereinafter – Agency) provides the data of the Agricultural Support Administration Information System (hereinafter – ASAIS).
- FTCIS manager provides the data of the Centre of Rural Business and Agricultural Information ;
- The state enterprise Centre of Registers (hereinafter – Center of Registers) provides full and partial register data sets of the Address Register of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter – Address Register).

- FTCIS data recipients;
- FTCIS governor;
- Agency;
- institutions of training and consulting;
- participants at the events;
- institutions performing scientific and statistical research on behalf of the FTCIS governor.

5.1 Organisations forming FAS

Advisory activities, which are aimed at farmers and other rural residents, are carried out by advisory institutions and other institutions (see Chart 2.2) providing various information to agricultural entities, which are accredited by the Ministry of Agriculture. Some advisory institutions seek to provide farmers with complex advisory services, however, the majority of them are oriented towards the preparation of business projects and economic consulting.

5.2 Evaluation of implementation of FAS

The main functions of FTCIS (Lithuanian ŽMIKIS) are as follows:

- Electronic registration and/or editing of event data;
- Event participant's registration verification via direct memory access; whether the registered person is the owner, partner, member of the owner's family, hired worker or the owner's authorized person of the agricultural holding, which is included in the Agricultural and Rural Business Register of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as the Agricultural and Rural Business Register);
- Printing of preliminary and complete lists of event participants;
- Participant's event registration and/or access to participant's event history, event participation list and received advisory services;
- Processing, systematization and storage of entered data and their presentation to data recipients.

FTCIS consists of the following logical databases:

- projects, which are being implemented and were implemented in accordance with the Measure *Vocational Training and Information Activities* of the Lithuanian Rural Development Programme for 2007–2013;
- advisory services, which were provided and are being provided in accordance with the Measure *The Use of Advisory Services* of the Lithuanian Rural Development Programme for 2007–2013;
- advisory projects, which are being implemented in accordance with the Measure *The Supply of Technical Support (in the Form of Advisory Services) within the Agricultural Sector* of the Rural Support Programme.

6. Summary and conclusions

6.1 Summary and conclusions on section 1-3

The main concern is that the European Commission, which implements the new Common Agricultural Policy, seeks to noticeably reduce the budget for experts who are advisory group participants (07/2013 Session Material of COPA-COGECA). We think that it is appropriate to appoint experts participating in advisory groups to fill vacant seats by way of elections. Since the country develops cooperation at a slow pace and has only one registered group of fruit and vegetable producers, we propose to make a contribution by creating a new framework for the Common Agricultural Policy, to focus on the activities of this particular area and to allocate funds to them (especially taking into consideration that growers of other produce can also establish producers' organisations). Issues concerning the enhancement of environmental protection and the regulations describing the establishment and performance of producers' organisations will require exceptional attention of advisors.

6.2 Summary and conclusions on section 4-5

Strengths and Characterization

Lithuania has achieved progress in several areas of knowledge economy: primarily in the fields of economics and institutional regime improvement and information and communication technology framework creation. Currently, an advisory system consisting of private, national (public) and farmer organisations is available: Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service and Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania. Farmers are provided with an opportunity to select the most acceptable and attractive advisory institutions, as over 40 national and private organisations, which can supply advisory services, were accredited by the Ministry of Agriculture. Since the state provides financial support for advisory services, farmers can upgrade their qualifications at a low cost.

Consultations are provided on private farms or 1- 3 day free of charge seminars are available locally (in municipalities).

Drawbacks and Gaps

It is necessary to note that advisory programmes do not sufficiently address the impact of climate change on agricultural activities.

Due to the poor notification of seminars farmers often fail to participate in seminars and field days.

The uniform preparation, qualification upgrade and assessment system of advisors do not receive adequate attention. Therefore, it is recommended to provide financial support for their preparation and qualification upgrade and to carry out research into the feedback between their qualification and training.

So far the Internet has not gained popularity among farmers as a consultation tool.

7. Acknowledgement of partners, information sources, gaps etc, reflection on methodology

We would like to thank the partners from the Lithuanian agricultural advisory service (Mrs. Asta Sakickienė and Mrs. Ingrida Babenskienė), the Centre for LEADER Programme and Agricultural Training Methodology (Mr. Alvydas Grigaliunas), the Association of Village Development and Business Consultations (Mr. Gediminas Radzevičius), Chamber of Agriculture (Mrs. Sonata Kisielienė), Aleksandras Stulginskis University (Dean of Economic and Management Faculty Mrs. Astrida Slavickienė), and representatives of the Agricultural Science and Technology Park in ASU (Mr. Rimantas Čiūtas).

8. References

Table 18. List of the most important publications on AKIS

Nr	Sources	Summary (ENG):
1	Kania J., Drygas M., Kutkowska B., Kalinowski J. 2011. System transferu wiedzy dla sektora rolnospożywczego - oczekiwane kierunki rozwoju (Knowledge transfer system for agri-food sector – expected directions). Polish Journal of Agronomy No. 7. Instytut Uprawy Nawożenia i Gleboznawstwa - PIB w Pulawach. 22-28.	The article attempts to assess the system of agricultural knowledge and information in Poland, with particular emphasis on its role in the development of agricultural and rural innovation and opportunities for its improvement. The starting point in assessing theoretical considerations were made by the authors on the basis of a literature review, relating to the different definitions of agricultural knowledge systems and other functional networks in the world and models of extension. The analysis allowed the formulation of conclusions and recommendations. In the opinion of the authors in Poland is not yet a well-functioning system of Agricultural Knowledge and Information. Despite the existence in the system of most of the specified institutions and organisations, the lack of mutual and real linkages prevents their interaction with, and functioning as a system. This also makes the creation of agricultural knowledge is often done in isolation from the needs and expectations of its customers. These institutions operate in dispersion or complete isolation from one another and often conduct fragmented and uncomprehensive research. Obtained results are worse than expected despite the fact that they have quantitatively and qualitatively high intellectual potential.
2	Ališauskas, Kęstutis; Remeika, Dainius ; Stravinskaitė, Jurgita. 2011. Žemdirbių konsultavimas aplinkosaugos klausimais (Agricultural consulting in environmental matters). Kaimo raidos kryptys žinių visuomenėje: mokslo darbai. Šiauliai: VšĮ Šiaulių universiteto leidykla, nr. 2: 4-osios Jono Prano Aleksos tarptautinės mokslinės konferencijos "Šiuolaikinio kaimo vizija" medžiaga, p. 199-206. Prieiga per internetą: http://www.su.lt/bylos/mokslo_leidiniai/Kaimas/leidinys_kpkzv2011.pdf	The aim of this study is to determine how the integrated environmental requirements are satisfied at farms. Based on examination of scientific literature and other sources of information, the role of compliance with environmental requirements at farms is resented and agriculture is related to sustainable development. It deals with the advantages of fulfilment of integrated environmental requirements. The Šiauliai region farmers' opinion about integrated environmental requirements in terms of satisfaction measures and their benefits are presented. During consultations the farmers are supplied with information that may help to determine the real economic situation of the farm, understand the essence of problems, choose the right solution for economic development, investment and participation in support programmes, and fulfilment of environmental protection, animal welfare and other obligations.
3	Atkočiūnienė, Vilma. 2010. Žemės ūkio konsultavimo metodų tinkamumo vertinimas. (The evaluation of suitability of agricultural consulting methods). Vadybos mokslas ir studijos - kaimo verslų ir jų infrastruktūros plėtrai = Management theory and studies for rural business and infrastructure development: mokslo darbai / Lietuvos žemės ūkio universitetas. Akademija. Vol. 23(4), p. 5-15. http://vadyba.asu.lt/23/5.pdf	The empirical research model has been chosen to investigate the approval of using the agricultural Consulting methods in Marijampolė region. Two questionnaires for the consultants and the farmers with simpler questions have been chosen. The aim of the empirical method was to find out which methods were the most suitable for the respondents, what was the opinion of the farmers about these methods and to know if the consultants pay attention to the farmers' needs. The paper upon analyzing agriculture consultation methods applied in Marijampolė region according to the prepared methodology relevance of agriculture consultation methods has been calculated. Recommendations for the improvement of agriculture consultation methods have been presented for the methods at the lowest relevance level. With respect to these recommendations consultants could improve the relevance level and this would directly influence the success of the consultation too.

4	<p>Perkumienė, Dalia; Perkumas, Aidanas. 2010. Konsultantų ir klientų bendravimo veiksniai žemės ūkio konsultavimo įmonėse. (Elements of communication of consultants and clients in agricultural consulting companies). Vadybos mokslas ir studijos - kaimo verslų ir jų infrastruktūros plėtrai = Management theory and studies for rural business and infrastructure development: mokslo darbai / Lietuvos žemės ūkio universitetas. Akademija. Vol. 23(4), p. 85-93.</p> <p>http://vadyba.asu.lt/23/85.pdf</p>	<p>The relation between consultants and their clients are miscellaneous and very complex during the consulting process. Factors that make an influence on business relationships can be evaluated by looking at the objects of business communication. The main aspect of such relationship is transfer of information and its assimilation. Peculiarities of interpersonal communication show the intellectual or emotional distance. The feeling of comfort during the communication process and efficiency of consultation depends on them. This article's research concentrates on the influence of the main factors to interpersonal and business relations between consultants and clients. Efficiency of relationships between consultants and clients and success of consulting depends from different factors: from education of consultants and clients, from their knowledge and other skills, also from consultants' experience.</p>
5	<p>Atkočiūnienė, Vilma; Mičiulienė, Rita. 2007. Ūkininkų ir kitų kaimo gyventojų mokymo ir konsultavimo paslaugų atitikimas besimokančiųjų poreikiams. (The fulfilment of learners needs of consulting and training services of agriculturists and other rural residents) Vadybos mokslas ir studijos - kaimo verslų ir jų infrastruktūros plėtrai = Management theory and studies for rural business and infrastructure development: mokslo darbai / Lietuvos žemės ūkio universitetas. Akademija. Vol. 11(4), p. 15-18.</p> <p>http://vadyba.asu.lt/11/15.pdf</p>	<p>Although investments into development of human capital in the rural districts are considered valuable, and special measures are implemented within the European structural funds, there is a lack of scientific and empirical data allowing evaluation of the effectiveness of continued training and consulting provided for the farmers and other rural residents. Evaluation of how the consulting and training services meet the educational demand of the farmers as well as evaluation of classes' quality is provided in the paper. Summing-up: it was emphasised that training topics were in line with the learner's interests and farming type; short courses and learning groups are the most acceptable methods for farmers, and specialised training centres are considered to be the best place for studies in rural areas; personal features of lecturers are more appreciable than their pedagogical abilities, therefore the farmers remained dissatisfied with pedagogical interaction.</p>
6	<p>Adamonienė, Rūta; Šilingienė, Violeta. 2006. Užsakovų konsultavimo paslaugų teikimo ypatumai žemės ūkyje. (Peculiarities of consulting outsourcing in agriculture) Vadybos mokslas ir studijos - kaimo verslų ir jų infrastruktūros plėtrai = Management theory and studies for rural business and infrastructure development: tarptautinės mokslinės konferencijos straipsnių rinkinys / Nr. 1(7). Akademija, p. 16-19.</p> <p>http://vadyba.asu.lt/7/16.pdf</p>	<p>By regularly using the services of external specialists and within favourable business conditions it is possible to significantly improve the quality of the service of clients and reduce the expenditures of organisations' activity. The decision to use outsourcing can be the fatal factor for the increase of an enterprises' competitive ability. The conception of outsourcing as well as its sprawling reasons are discussed in the article. The results of the research of the consulting outsourcing in agriculture are also presented in the article.</p>

7	<p>Dabkevičius, Zenonas. 2003. Žemės ūkio mokslų ir konsultavimo sistemų bendradarbiavimas Lietuvai integruojantis į Europos Sąjungą. (Cooperation agricultural sciences and advisory systems in context of the integration of lithuania into the european union) Tarptautinės konferencijos "Konsultavimo sistemų plėtra integruojantis į Europos Sąjungą" pranešimai. Vilnius, p. 34-40.</p>	<p>One of the most important tasks for agricultural education institutions to meet the challenges of scientific research and experimental development for Lithuanian agriculture modernization. This paper describes the agricultural advisory system institutions in Lithuania before accession to Eurpan union. It was the identified facilities which can be attributed to the advisory system elements. It also describes the functions of the authorities, and address the challenges. Concrete proposals on how to further develop and improve the science and advisory institutions are submitted in the end of article.</p>
8	<p>Narušytė, Vanda Elena. 2003. Konsultavimo plėtros svarba žemdirbių švietimui. (Consulting the importance of development of education of farmers) Tarptautinės konferencijos "Konsultavimo sistemų plėtra integruojantis į Europos Sąjungą" pranešimai. Vilnius, p. 28-33.</p>	<p>The report discusses, in detail, consulting, agricultural research and higher education and training institutions, the Chamber of Agriculture educational and consulting business objectives, goals, targets, the financing of the activities, indicating what activities will be supported from the European Structural Funds, after accession to the Community, advising, how to activate farmers and rural residents counselling and improving its quality.</p>
9	<p>Civinskas, Remigijus ; Lurušonytė, Erika. 2012. Konsultavimas Europos Sąjungos struktūrinės paramos administravimo procesuose Lietuvoje (Consultation in the processes of the administration of european union structural funds in lithuania)</p> <p>Organizacijų vadyba : sisteminiai tyrimai. Nr. 62, p. 25-40. Prieiga per internetą: http://etalpykla.lituanistikadb.lt/fedora/objects/LT-LDB-0001:J.04-2012-1367187175590/datastreams/D.S.002.0.01.ARTIC/content</p>	<p>Upon joining the European Union, Lithuania received a possibility to use the support programmes offered to the member states. The EU Structural Funds could be considered to be one of the most important support programmes. The results of the qualitative research show that the advisors and consulting firms that take part in the EU structural support administration processes in Lithuania may distort the nature of the use of the EU structural support. The advisors are business representatives whose activities are difficult to control. They prioritize their own benefits (higher profit margins). As they disregard the direct needs of their customers, the benefits from the EU structural support funds granted to the applicants may be smaller than the profit made by the advisors and consulting firms. Also, to ensure their own interests and to guarantee success for their prepared projects, the advisors and consulting firms keep informal relationships with the representatives of the project implementation institutions, politicians and other stakeholders, due to which the integrity of the adoption of the EU support funds is distorted.</p>
10	<p>Ratkevičienė, Valentina; Milčius, Leonas. 2003. Kaimo žmonių mokymosi poreikis ir sociologinės jo tenkinimo galimybės. (Rural people's learning needs and to satisfy the sociological possibilities) Pedagogika. Nr. 66, p. 23-30.</p> <p>Prieiga per internetą: http://etalpykla.lituanistikadb.lt/fedora/objects/LT-LDB-0001:J.04-2003-1367156530183/datastreams/D.S.002.0.01.ARTIC/content</p>	<p>In the article country folk educational and the professional readiness perfection problem in the context of integration in the ES were analysed. According to social research of the country people we see: farmers and other country folk professional knowledge demand, respondents suggestions and requests of educational perfection means, the place of education, educational sumptuary payments. There is also detectable country people opinion about the main problems in Lithuanian country nowadays.</p>

11	Janavičienė, Daiva. 2011. Kaimo vietovių bibliotekos reikšmė bendruomenėje. (Rural library value in the community). Kaimo raidos kryptys žinių visuomenėje. Nr. 2, p. 105-116.	
12	Anušauskas, Zenonas. 2010. Internetinė televizija - įgyvendinta kaimo bendruomenės idėja- (Internet television is implemented idea of rural community). Ekonomika ir vadyba: aktualijos ir perspektyvos. Nr. 3_2_19, p. 267-268. Prieiga per internetą: http://vddb.laba.lt/obj/LT-eLABa-0001:J.04-2010-ISSN_1648-9098.N_3_2_19.PG_267-268	This paper describes about the start and development of internet television and its impact for activities of rural societies. This is a good tool for these organisations for the dissemination of information and the ability to distribute their ideas.
13	Ziborova, Jelena. 2010. Informacinių technologijų naudojimo svarba Lietuvos kaimo plėtrai- (The importance of information technology for Lithuanian rural development). Ekonomika ir vadyba: aktualijos ir perspektyvos. Nr. 3_2_19, Šiaulių universiteto leidykla, p. 89-93. Prieiga per internetą: http://vddb.laba.lt/obj/LT-eLABa-0001:J.04-2010-ISSN_1648-9098.N_3_2_19.PG_89-93	<p>Recently, information technology is increasingly used not only in households but also the different organisations in the marketing management process. These information technologies in Lithuanian urbanized areas in the context of enlargement is of particular significance. Thus in urbanized areas, households may adopt a city economic advancement of the function, which gives sample opportunities for the development of rural and urban, as well as for foreign and domestic markets in the context of the dialogue. The author believes that the use of information technology urbanized areas, consumers and producers gives ample opportunities for the development of rural and urban, as well as foreign and domestic markets in the context of the dialogue. Lithuania does not specifically examined, as well as the purposes for which companies use different information technology tools (ITT).</p> <p>These problems were highlighted when the author of a study carried out a quantitative questionnaire survey on expert assistance. The study involved different areas of Lithuanian companies' marketing and management professionals. The study was conducted using stratified sampling. A general population study - enterprises operating in Lithuania, which was divided into one another and absolutely not-repeated- enough units can accommodate a whole strata. In this case, this was the distinguishing feature of the entity's activity. In each stratum selected for the sample unit used in a systematic probability sampling procedure. The results showed that the marketing Management purposes, the most traditional use of the media - print, not online. However, the ITT is usually used for e-mail. The Lithuanian company ITT uses its work to facilitate the goods and services in advertising, sales promotion, better customer service and develop closer relations with their support, but little use to improve the image. One-third of all respondents in the demand for goods and services increased, they began to ITT. However, even two-thirds of all Lithuanian companies ITT is only 0-10 percent funds. Proposed Lithuanian companies, which could affect rural development, management and marketing professionals to focus on the use of ITT as far as marketing, both in economic and management fields for more efficient management, increased demand and maintaining customer loyalty. Information technology tools for urbanized areas, the units provide an opportunity to compete with big business as a country, as well as regionally and internationally.</p>

14	<p>Šarlauskienė, Lina. 2012. Informacinių technologijų panaudojimo kaimo bibliotekose įtaka vystant kaimiškas vietas. (Impact of using of information technologies in rural libraries for development of rural areas). Lietuvos kaimo vietovių konkurencingumo stiprinimas: geroji patirtis: 40 metų link kaimo plėtros vadybos: 5-oji mokslinė - praktinė konferencija / Aleksandro Stulginskio universitetas. Akademija, p. 97-102.</p>	<p>This paper analyses best practices of the using information technologies in rural libraries. Research based on the National project "Libraries for Innovation" conducted by a representative of a comprehensive impact assessment study and other literature and statistics analysis. The aims of research to reveal the use of information technologies for rural libraries, impact on the development of rural areas. Results of this study show that rural libraries for rural populations is one of the most important providers of access to information technology.</p>
15	<p>Grudienė S., Gotberg K., Marijus Juozaitis A., M. ir kt. 2011. Švietimo konsultavimo modelis. (Education consulting model) Vilnius. http://www.lyderiulaikas.smm.lt/Atsisi%C5%B3sti%20failus:/article/843/426_%C5%A0VIETIMO%20KONSULTAVIMO%20MODELIS.pdf</p>	<p>The study carried out the theoretical justification of consultation process and also the consulting model was described (consultants identification, formation). Consulting implementation assumptions (demand creation, consultation (self-) initiation issues, self-referral consultation, counseling - support educational entity, professional development counseling, counseling (self) financing sources, consultants, co-operation and the supply of publicity, counseling (self-) organisation and operation of risk and its management and counselling (self) of the quality assurance).</p>
16	<p>Poviliūnas A., Beresnevičiūtė V., Dagtė V. ir kt. 2009. Konsultacinių švietimo paslaugų paklausos ir pasiūlos Lietuvoje ir užsienyje tyrimas. (The study of education consultancy demand and supply in Lithuania and abroad) http://www.lyderiulaikas.smm.lt/II</p>	<p>NGO "Centre for School Improvement" by education consultancy services and supply of Lithuania and abroad study. The review of the activity of educational counsellors was presented in this study. It summarizes the opinion about the education of experts and consultants of the consulting services in the field of education. Various models of other countries (Great Britain, Finland, Slovenia, Canada) are also discussed.</p>
17	<p>Konsultavimo paslaugos (Consultation servines) 2012. Informacinis leidinys Nr. 10. http://agrillife.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/LTFactSheet-10.pdf</p>	<p>Consulting services are designed to help farmers improve farm performance. In addition, they can help protect, preserve and improve soil resources. Under the common agricultural policy, the Member States must set up a farm advisory system. The yearbook provides advisory proposals take into account various soil degradation processes and focus on farming systems, rather than individual farming practices</p>
18	<p>Lietuvos žemės ūkis ir kaimo plėtra (Agriculture and rural development in Lithuania). 2005. Vilnius: Lithuanian institute of agrarian economics.</p>	<p>In this publication the agriculture and rural development indicators and their dynamics are presented. The Lithuanian agrarian sector in the context of CAP, competitiveness of the Lithuanian agricultural and food sector, structural changes in the agricultural and food sector, rural development, protection of the environment is analysed.</p>

19	Ramanauskas, J. 2013. Projektų vertinimas (Project Evaluation) Mokymo / metodinė priemonė. – Klaipėda: S. Jokužio leidykla. – 170 p. ISBN 978-9986-31-380-9.	Aim of the measure - to help farmers acquire skills to independently plan and evaluate investment projects. Before implementing any project, it is necessary to demonstrate that the project is beneficial and that it contributes to the EU's regional policy, since this depends on the amount of support received. Basically it should be evaluated in all impacts: financial, economic, social, environmental, but this methodological tool focuses on the financial evaluation of projects. The measure consists of two parts and accessories. The first section presents the theoretical knowledge of the projects, their management, planning and evaluation. The second part provides self task options. Before each task is presented a brief explanation of the performance. The financial calculation example submitted in supplements.
	Kadner K., Ramanauskas J., Padgurskas J. (1999). Bendraūkinis technikos naudojimas. Konsultanto žinynas. (The use of techniques in the farm. Consultant's Guide) Kaunas-Akademija: LŽŪU Leidybos centras.	A guide prepared by the consultant which can be useful as a teaching tool because it contains a lot of data on the use of technical tools, technical and economic characteristics of different tillage, seeding, plant care and harvesting process and supported by the most effective technology and machine uses.
20	Lietuvos žemės ūkio ministerijos (Lithuanian Ministry of Agriculture) Interneto puslapis. – http://www.zum.lt/	Farmers counselling and support issues
	Lietuvos žemės ūkio konsultavimo tarnybos (Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service) Interneto puslapis. – http://www.lzukt.lt	Consulting history, activities
21	Lietuvos žemės ūkio rūmų (Lithuanian Chamber of Agriculture) Interneto puslapis. – http://www.zur.lt/	Consulting history, activities
22	Kaimo bendruomeninių organizacijų narių konsultavimo ir mokymo kokybė ir mokymų poreikis 2007-2013 metais: tiriamojo darbo ataskaita / Lietuvos žemės ūkio universitetas; darbo vadovė Vilma Atkočiūnienė. Akademija, Kauno r. 2007.150 lap.	Rural community-based organisations to be consulted and the quality of education and training needs in 2007-2013: report of the research work / / Lithuanian University of Agriculture, Project manager Vilma Atkočiūnienė. Academy, Kaunas distr. The aim - to assess the rural community of member organisations and other rural residents counselling and new training needs in order to ensure the regional sustainability of and effective implementation of the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, strategic goals and objectives.

9. Appendices

9.1. Appendix 1: List and contact of organisations forming AKIS

*AVDBC-The Association of Village Development and Business Consultations

**Nr. of accredited consultants - Consultants are accredited in the Centre for LEADER Programme and Agricultural Training Methodology

Nr	Name of organisation (Lith)	Name of organisation	Member of AVDBC*	Address	Website	Nr. of accredited consultants**	Sector-1	Practice	Research	Q-ty
1.	Lietuvos žemės ūkio ministerija	The Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of Lithuania		Gedimino pr.19 (Lelevelio g.6), LT-01103 Vilnius	www.zum.lt		Public	Coordination		
2.	Programos "Leader" ir žemdirbių mokymo ir metodikos centras	The Centre for LEADER Programme and Agricultural Training Methodology		Universiteto g. 8A, LT-53341 Akademija, Kauno r.	www.zmmc.lt		Public	Coordination	Inteviu-SSI	1
3.	Lietuvos kaimo tinklas	Lithuanian Rural Network		Gedimino pr.19 (Lelevelio g.6), LT-01103 Vilnius	www.kaimotinklas.lt		Public	Coordination		
4.	Lietuvos agrarinės ekonomikos institutas	Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics		V. Kudirkos g. 18-2, LT-03105 Vilnius	www.laei.lt		Public	Research		
5.	Kaimo plėtros ir verslo konsultantų asociacija	The Association of Rural Development and Business Consultations		S. Konarskio 49-211, Vilnius LT-03123	www.kpvk.lt		Private	Asociation	Inteviu-SSI	1
6.	Mokslo, studijų ur verslo centras "Slėnis Nemunas"	Science, study and business center "Valley Nemunas"		Universiteto gt., 8a, Akademijos miestelis, Kauno r., LT-53341, Lietuva	www.slenis-nemunas.lt		Public	Asociation		
7.	Lietuvos žemės ūkio konsultavimo tarnyba	Lithuanian agricultural advisory service		Stoties g. 5, Akademija, LT-58343, Kėdainių r.	www.lzukt.lt	257	Public	Consultation	Anketa-Q	1
8.	Lietuvos žemės ūkio rūmai	Chamber of agriculture		K. Donelaičio g. 2, Kaunas, LT-44213	www.zur.lt	49	Public	Representation	Anketa-Q	1
9.	Aleksandro Stulginskio universitetas	Aleksandras Stulginskis University		Studentų g. 11, LT-53361 Akademija, Kauno r.	www.asu.lt	39	Public	Academic	Inteviu-SSI+ Anketa-Q	3
10.	Žemės ūkio mokslų ir technologijų parkas (ASU)	Agricultural science and technology park (ASU)		Universiteto g. 8a, Akademija, LT-53361 Kauno r.	http://mtp.asu.lt/?id=2486		Public	Academic	Inteviu-SSI	1

11.	Lietuvos agrarinių ir miškų mokslų centras	Lithuanian research centre for agriculture and forestry		Instituto al. 1, LT-58344, Akademija, Kėdainių r.	www.lammc.lt		Public	Research		
12.	Kauno miškų ir aplinkos inžinerijos kolegija	Kaunas Forestry and Environmental Engineering College		Liepų g 1, Girionys, LT 53101 Kauno r.	www.kmaik.lt	8	Public	Educational		
13.	VšĮ Alantos technologijos ir verslo mokykla	Alanta School of Technology and Business		Technikumo g. 2, Naujasodžio k., Alantos s., Molėtų r.	www.alantostvm.lt	6	Public	Educational		
14.	Klaipėdos valstybinė kolegija	Klaipeda State College		Jaunystės g. 1, LT-91274 Klaipėda	www.kvk.lt	3	Public	Educational		
15.	Vilniaus kolegija	Vilnius College		J. Jasinskio g. 15, LT-01111 Vilnius	www.viko.lt	3	Public	Educational		
16.	Ukmergės technologijų ir verslo mokykla	Ukmerge's Technology and Business School		Kauno 108, Ukmergė, LT-20115	www.ukvm.lt	2	Public	Educational		
17.	VšĮ Žemaitijos kolegija	PI Žemaitijos College		L. Ivinskio g. 5, LT-90311 Rietavas	www.zemko.lt	2	Public	Educational		
18.	Ukmergės rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Local action group of Ukmerge		Kauno g. 16A, LT-20114 Ukmergė	www.ukmergesvvg.lt	10	Private	Community-based		
19.	Asociacija Skuodo rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Association Skuodas district local action group		Vilniaus g. 13-217, LT-98112 Skuodas	www.skuodovvg.lt	4	Private	Community-based		
20.	Kėdainių rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Kedainiai local action group		Žeimių g. 15-309, LT-55158, Jonava	www.jonavosvvg.lt	3	Private	Community-based		
21.	Kupiškio r. vietos veiklos grupė	Kūpiškis local action group		Gedimino g. 27 (3 aukštas), 40115 Kupiškis	www.kvvg.lt	3	Private	Community-based		
22.	Panevėžio rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Panevežis local action group		Topolių al. 17, LT-35169, Panevėžys (registr. adr.) J. Žemgulio g. 46 (106 kab.), LT-35236 Panevėžys (buveinės adresas)	www.panvvg.lt	3	Private	Community-based		
23.	Asociacija Ignalinos rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Ignalina local action group		Ateities g. 23, LT-30121, Ignalina	www.irvvg.lt	2	Private	Community-based		
24.	Prienų rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Prienai district local action group		Kauno g. 2, Prienų m., Prienų sen., Prienų r. sav., LT-59147	www.prienuvvg.lt	1	Private	Community-based		

25.	Vilniaus rajono vietos veiklos grupė	Ignalina district local action group		Registracijos adresas: Rinktinės g. 50, Vilnius Buveinės adresas: Viršuliškių skg. 38, Vilnius	www.vrvvg.lt	1	Private	Community-based		
26.	Individuali veikla	Individual consultants			there is no	19	Private	Private person		
27.	UAB "SDG"	"SDG" JSC		Pramonės pr. 23, LT-51287 Kaunas	www.sdg.lt	8	Private	Joint Stock Company		
28.	UAB "Apskaitos sėkmė"	"Apskaitos sėkmė" ("Accounting Success") JSC		Lietuvininkų g. 10, Šilutės m., Šilutės sen., Šilutės r. sav., LT-99185	there is no	7	Private	Joint Stock Company		
29.	Molėtų r. Ekologinių ūkių bendruomenė "Gojelis"	Moletai district organic farming community "GOJELIS"		Naujasodžio k., Alantos sen., Molėtų r. sav., LT-33315	there is no	6	Private	Community-based		
30.	VšĮ "Rietavo verslo informacijos centras"	Rietavas Business Information Centre		Oginskių g. 8, 90311 Rietavas	www.rietavovic.lt	6	Private	Public institution		
31.	VšĮ Utenos regiono bendruomenės fondas	Utenos Region Community Foundation		Utenos m., Utenos sen., Utenos r. sav., LT-28153	there is no	4	Private	Public institution		
32.	VšĮ Zarasų verslo ir informacijos centras	Zarasai district Business and Information Centre		Sėlių a. 22, LT-32110 Zarasai	www.zarasai.lt/vic	4	Private	Public institution		
33.	UAB "Suvalkijos Feniksas"	"Suvalkijos Feniksas" JSC		Birutės g. 10, LT-71132 Šakiai	www.sfeniksas.lt	3	Private	Joint Stock Company		
34.	VšĮ "Agroanalitinis centras"	"Agroanalitinis centras" Public institution (PI)		K. Donelaičio g. 33-117 A, Kaunas LT - 44240, Žemaitijos g. 6-5, LT-01134 Vilnius	www.agroac.lt	3	Private	Public institution		
35.	VšĮ "Investicinių projektų grupė"	"Investment Projects Group" PI		V. Grinkevičiaus g. 4-8, Šiauliai	www.ipgprojektai.lt	3	Private	Public institution		
36.	VšĮ Anykščių verslo informacijos centras	"Anykščiai Business Information Centre" PI		Baranausko a. 2 LT-29132, Anykščiai	www.vicanyksčiai.lt	3	Private	Public institution		
37.	VšĮ Tęstinio mokymo ir konsultavimo centras	"Continuing Training and Consultancy Centre" PI		Vandžio galos pl. 44A-7A, Kaunas	there is no	3	Private	Public institution		
38.	VšĮ Utenos darbo rinkos mokymo centras	Utena Labour Market Training Centre		J. Basanavičiaus g. 90, LT-28212 Utena	www.udrnc.lt	3	Private	Public institution		
39.	UAB "Efektyvūs projektai"	"Effective Projects" JSC		Lietuvininkų g. 55, LT-99135 Šilutė	www.efektyvusprojektai.lt	2	Private	Joint Stock Company		
40.	UAB "Naujas ūkis"	"New Farm" JSC		Vytauto g. 17, LT-68299 Marijampolė	there is no	2	Private	Joint Stock Company		

41.	UAB "Verslo strategija ir projektai"	"Business Strategy and Projects" JSC		S. Konarskio g. 49-611, LT-03123 Vilnius	www.verslostrategija.lt	2	Private	Joint Stock Company		
42.	VšĮ Šiaulių regiono plėtros agentūra	"Šiauliai Regional Development Agency" PI		Vilniaus g. 100, Šiauliai	www.srpa.lt	2	Private	Public institution		
43.	VšĮ "Regiono plėtros projektai"	"Regional Development Projects" PI		Kaltanėnų g. 1, Švenčionys	there is no	2	Private	Public institution		
44.	VšĮ Panevėžio verslo konsultacinis centras	"Panevezys Business Consultation centre		J. Žemgulio g. 46, LT-35239 Panevėžys	www.pvkc.lt	2	Private	Public institution		
45.	VšĮ Plėtros ir informacijos centras	Centre od Development and Information		Neries krantinė 16, LT-48402 Kaunas	www.plice.info	2	Private	Public institution		
46.	VŠĮ "I4E/ Ekonominė verslo apsauga"	"I4E/ Economical business security"		V. Krėvės pr. 53 - 226, Kauno m., LT-50358	www.i4e.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
47.	IĮ "Vitkira"	"Vitkira" Individual enterprise		Saulėtekio g. 46-19, Pakruojis	there is no	1	Private	Private company		
48.	UAB "Minpenta"	"Minpenta" JSC		Kęstučio g. 22, LT-71132 Šakiai	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
49.	UAB "Agro finansai"	"Agro finansai" JSC		J. Basanavičiaus g. 47C, Kėdainiai	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
50.	UAB "Astiva"	"Astiva" JSC		Lakštučių k., Bartninkų sen., Vilkaviškio r. sav., LT-70365	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
51.	UAB "BK balansas"	"BK balansas" JSC		Vytauto g. 17, LT-68299 Marijampolė	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
52.	UAB "DK apskaita"	"DK paskaita" JSC		Želsva, 69193 Marijampolės sav.	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
53.	UAB "Ekspora"	"Ekspora" JSC		Didžioji g. 36, LT-57257 Kėdainiai	www.ekspora.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
54.	UAB "Eurotida"	"Eurotida" JSC		Žemių g. 57, Jonava	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
55.	UAB "Fitingas"	"Fitingas" JSC		Dariaus ir Girėno g. 38B, LT-90169 Plungė	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
56.	UAB "Investra"	"Investra" JSC	1	Veiverių g. 150, LT-46391 Kaunas	www.investra.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
57.	UAB "Konsultus"	"Konsultus" JSC		P. Cvirkos g. 6, Marijampolė, Marijampolės biuras; Raudondvario pl. 150, Kaunas, Kauno biuras	www.konsultus.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		

58.	UAB "Medstata"	"Medstata" JSC		Purienu skg. 2, Išorai, LT-55328 Jonavos r.	www.medstata.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
59.	VšĮ "Gerovės ekonomikos institutas"	"Welfare Economics Institute" PI		Santariškių g. 69-11, Vilnius	www.gerovesekonomika.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
60.	VšĮ "Konsultus mokymai"	"Konsultus teaching" PI		P. Cvirkos g. 6, Marijampolė, Marijampolės biuras; Raudondvario pl. 150, Kaunas, Kauno biuras	www.konsultus.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
61.	VšĮ "Progresum"	"Progresum" PI		Mindaugo g. 14B-51, LT-03225, Vilnius	www.progresum.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
62.	VšĮ "Vilties Žiedas"	"Ring of Hope" PI		Juozapavičiaus pr. 7C LT-45251 Kaunas	www.viltiesziedas.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
63.	VšĮ "Europos regioninės politikos institutas"	"European Regional Policy Institute" PI	1	S. Konarskio g. 49-612, LT-03123, Vilnius	www.erpi.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
64.	VšĮ Miško savininkų konsultacijų centras	"Forest Owners Advice Centre" PI		Topolių al. 17, LT-35169 Panevėžys	www.miskocentras.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
65.	VšĮ "Baltijos agroverslo institutas"	"Baltic Agribusiness Institute" PI	1	J. Jasinskio g. 12, LT-01112, Vilnius	www.bavi.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
66.	VšĮ " Nacionalinė regionų plėtros agentūra"	"National Regional Development Agency" PI		J.Tumo-Vaižganto g. 9/1-63a, LT-01108 Vilnius Šiaulių filialas Vilniaus g. 88, LT-76285 Šiauliai	www.nrda.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
67.	UAB „Mono projektas“	"Mono projects" JSC	1	Vytauto pr. 23, Kauno m., Kauno m. sav.	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
68.	UAB „Verslo projektų centras“	"Business Project Center" JSC	1	S.Konarskio 49-211, LT-03123, Vilnius	www.versloprojektai.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
69.	VšĮ „Investicijų plėtra“	" Development of Investment" PI	1	Žvejų g. 2, Klaipėda	there is no	1	Private	Public institution		
70.	UAB „IRI verslo konsultacijos“	"IRI business advice" JSC	1	Akademijos g. 2, LT-08412 Vilnius	www.irikonsultacijos.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
71.	UAB „Projektų plėtros biuras“	"Biuro of project development" JSC	1	Konstitucijos pr. 23,C korp.402, Vilnius LT-08105	www.ppb.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
72.	UAB „Octavus“	"Octavus" JSC	1	Jurbarko g. 2A-204, LT-47183 Kaunas	www.octavus.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
73.	UAB „Verslo strategija ir projektai“	"Business Strategy and Projects" ISC	1	S. Konarskio g. 49-611, LT-03123 Vilnius	www.verslostrategija.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		

74.	UAB „Verslo valdymo technologijų grupė“	"Business Management Technology Group" JSC		Pilėnų g. 5-26, LT-53351 Kaunas	www.vvtg.lt	1	Private	Joint Stock Company	Anketa-Q	1
75.	UAB „Litas1“	"Litas1" JSC	1	Rotušės g. 24A, Biržų m., LT-41138	there is no	1	Private	Joint Stock Company		
76.	VšĮ „Altervita“	"Altervita" JSC	1	Ramygalos g. 116-63, LT-36210 Panevėžys	www.altervita.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
77.	VšĮ "EVPA"	"EVPA" PI	1	Aušros g. 13A, Kužių mstl., Kužių sen., Šiaulių r.	www.evpa.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
78.	Nacionalinė agroverslo vystymo agentūra NAVA	National Agribusiness Development Agency	1	Teatro g. 9B-17, Vilnius	www.nava.lt	1	Private	Public institution		
	Iš viso:		14			515				9

- 9.2. Questionnaire: Anketa-LAAS.doc
- 9.3. Questionnaire: Anketa-CARL.doc
- 9.4. Questionnaire: Anketa-BMTG.doc
- 9.5. Questionnaire: Anketa-ASU.doc
- 9.6. SSI-CARL-Kisielene.doc
- 9.7. SSI-ASU-Ramanauskas.doc
- 9.8. SSI-ASOC-Radzevicius.doc
- 9.9. SSI-ASU-Slavickiene.doc
- 9.10. SSI-ASTP-Čiutas.doc