LITHUANIA'S NATURE RESTORATION PLAN: WHAT IT DOES FOR NATURE AND CLIMATE

2026 November 02

Gabija Tamulaitytė

gabija.tamulaityte@am.lt

Policy advisor

Ministry of Environment, Lithuania

Lithuania’s Nature Restoration Plan

- **164 measures across all ecosystem types**: land and freshwater, marine, urban, rivers, pollinators, farmland, forests;
- **Practical, existing measures to 2030;**
- **Strategic and phased** measures to 2040 and 2050;
- **Natura 2000 first**;
- Starting to track all the **new indicators** (butterfly, soil carbon, forest bird index, forest indicators, pollinators);
- **Knowledge gaps,** data collection, analysis before 2030;

Nature Restoration Plan Measures



Active restoration and management

- Restoration projects
- Stronger legal protection, including outside N2K
- Protection of re-established habitats
- Voluntary participation on private land



Passive restoration

- Natural recovery where possible (e.g. forest ecosystems)
- Old-growth forest protection



Incentives and enabling measures

- Support for nature-friendly land use
- Private protection agreements and private protected areas
- Compensation and tax incentives for alternatives to clear-cutting
- Training and civil society involvement
- Building professional expertise

64% of measures contribute to climate goals

- **28% have a direct and significant effect**: they store carbon, cut emissions or clearly help adaptation
- **36% contribute indirectly**: e.g. nature-friendly farming, monitoring and planning
- **36% are climate-neutral/positive:** pollution, underwater noise, bycatch, invasive species, rare species, knowledge gaps. No harm.

Peatlands and wetlands

rewetting stops emissions and holds water

Forests

keep carbon stocks, grow them, make stands more resilient

Farm soil

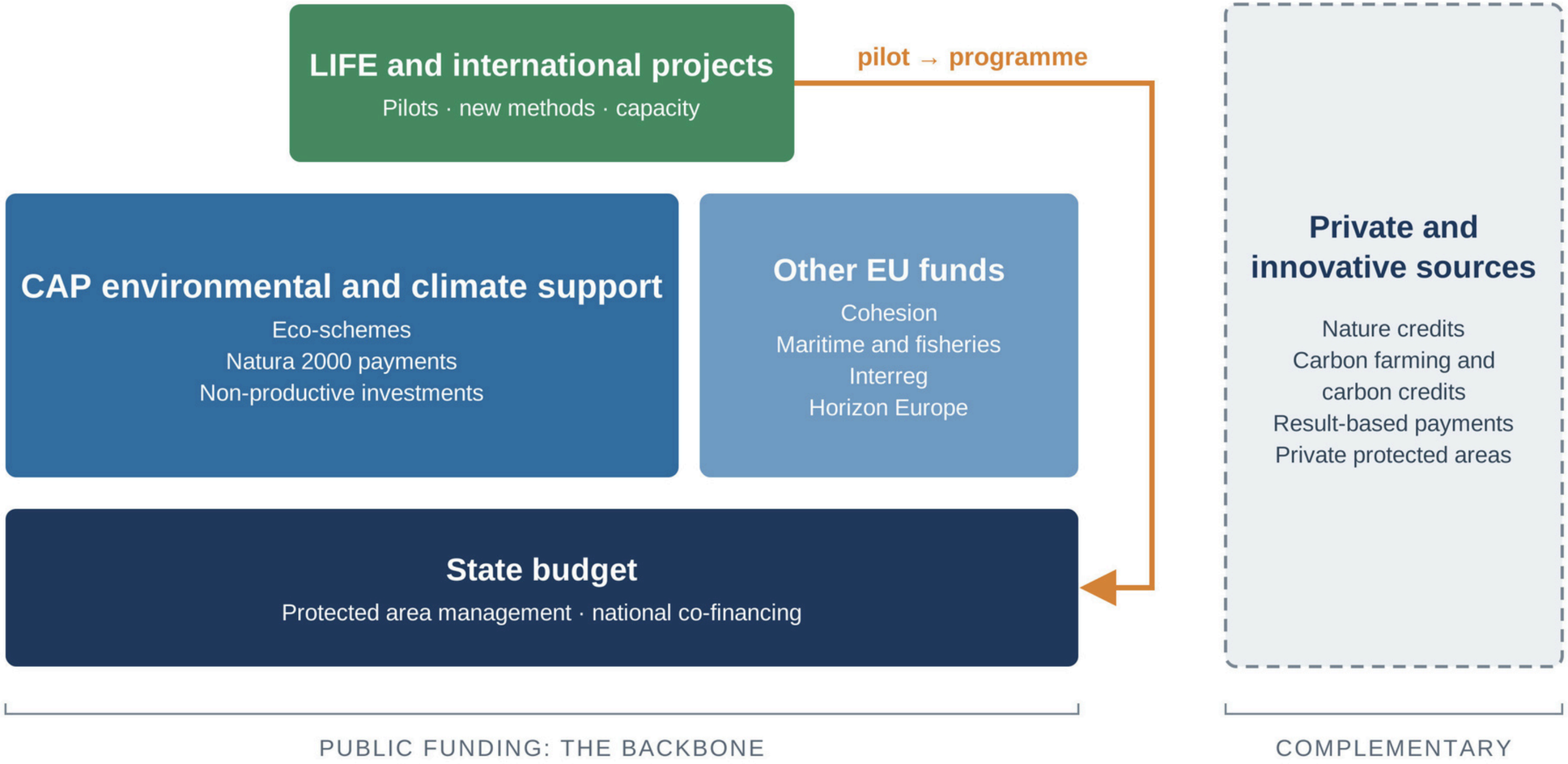
cover crops, no-till, arable and eroded land to grassland

Rivers, cities and coasts

floodplains, urban trees and green space, dunes, mostly for adaptation

Lithuania's current financing architecture

- **Initial estimation: top-down, from funds already allocated, with growth projection**
- **After submission detailed cost estimation and long term analysis**



NbS generate multiple horizontal benefits, and should be considered a priority

50-60 % of finances could be shared between climate-nature by using nature based solutions

N2K in LT provides about €490 million a year in benefits, close to **four times its costs.**

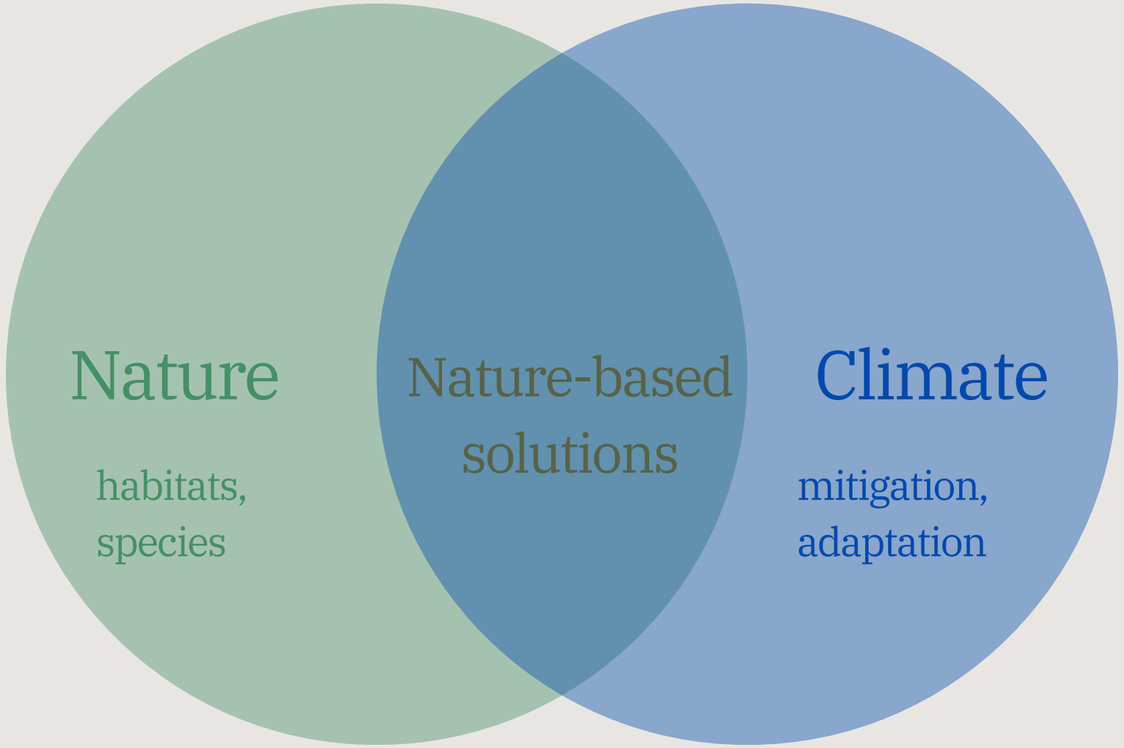
Additional value in avoided costs in LT: in the external EU border zone, Natura 2000 forests and wetlands also act as natural barriers, worth an estimated €380 million in avoided defence costs (one-off).

Socio-economic benefits of N2K (2025, €/year)

Value people place on keeping nature for future generations	**€140.4 m**
Recreation and visitors	**€117.4 m**
Clean drinking water	**€103.8 m**
Preventing soil erosion	**€51.6 m**
Carbon storage	**€49.1 m**
Mushrooms and berries	**€13.3 m**
Local products and services	**€6.4 m**
Water and flood regulation	**€6.0 m**
Hunting and recreational fishing	**€3.6 m**

BGI Consulting (2026). Natura 2000 Network Socio-economic Benefit Assessment Study. Commissioned by the State Service for Protected Areas, Lithuania; LIFE IP NATURALIT.

Two crises, one landscape: nature-based solutions work for both nature and climate.



THANK YOU

Gabija Tamulaitytė

gabija.tamulaityte@am.lt

Policy advisor

Ministry of Environment, Lithuania