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**Latvija-Lietuva**

European Regional Development Fund



## **Brownfields in Latvia and Lithuania will be revitalised within the *Trans-form* project**

Association Euroregion "Country of Lakes" in cooperation with 4 municipalities in Latgale, 2 municipalities in Lithuania and the Joint Municipal Institution "Rēzekne Special Economic Zone Authority" has started implementation of the project "Transformations from Slum to Chic" (LLI-386) or Trans-form (acronym).

The project aims to rehabilitate brownfields owned by local governments, transforming them into attractive and sustainable areas. As a result of the restoration of the contaminated and brownfields of local governments, the Lūznava Manor park in Rēzekne District, Daugavpils Fortress, territory of former wastewater treatment plants on Kalna street in Krāslava in Latvia and Skaistkalnis park in Panevezys, Lithuania will experience transformations. In total 5,53 ha of territories will be revitalised and cleaned up. For example, in the framework of the project, the Daugavpils Fortress 4<sup>th</sup> basement inner yard is planned to be cleaned and revitalized through demolition of buildings and the improvement of the territory, while in Panevezys the transformation of the former aviation base area into art and green space for artists and residents is foreseen.

Development plans and action plans for the revitalization of pilot areas in Latvia and Lithuania will be developed both in the form of technical projects and the creation of 3D photogrammetric plans of cities and their industrial zones, or 3D maps and mobile applications, in order to follow the development of the city environment and its changes in a modern way. 3D city planning tools will be available to local government planning specialists, citizens, visitors, brownfields owners, entrepreneurs and other interested parties.

Relatively new is the concept of brownfields, which are most often attributed to the collapse of the Soviet system as a result abandoned, unused, contaminated sites, buildings and areas. It is expected that as a result of the project, pollution, waste and other environmental problems in municipalities that have been caused by degraded areas will be prevented in the vicinity of 4036 private and apartment households in Latgale and Aukštaitija. Their renewal is often hampered by the lack of knowledge and experience of municipalities and lack of awareness of the economic, social and environmental benefits of restoring degraded environment.

For the purpose of strengthening knowledge for the revitalization of brownfields, local government territories planning, construction specialists, lawyers and others involved in the project will take part in experience exchange trips in Latvia and Lithuania, while in the 3 study visits in the Czech Republic, Germany and the Netherlands examples of successful "transformation" of degraded territories of local governments will be considered. Theoretical training of specialists will take place, a methodical e-manual will be issued for the results of the project. Combining the experience of special economic zones in the management of industrial areas, the experience of local governments in managing rural and urban areas, the methodological manual will compile models of revitalization of the territories, legal and financial issues, practical methods and examples of best practices in planning and implementation of the promotion of sustainable restoration of territories.

Project Trans-form partners are Association Euroregion "Country of Lakes", Joint Municipal Institution "Rēzekne Special Economic Zone Authority", Rēzekne Municipality, Daugavpils City Council, Krāslava

Municipality Council, Panevezys City Municipality Administration, Visaginas Municipality Administration. The project is being implemented within the Interreg V-A Latvia-Lithuania Programme 2014-2020.

Total project size is 520 348,94 EUR. Out of them co-funding of European Regional Development Fund is 442 296,58 EUR. Project duration 24 months. Programme website [www.latlit.eu](http://www.latlit.eu).

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