

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN BIOECONOMY INDUSTRIES IN LATVIA

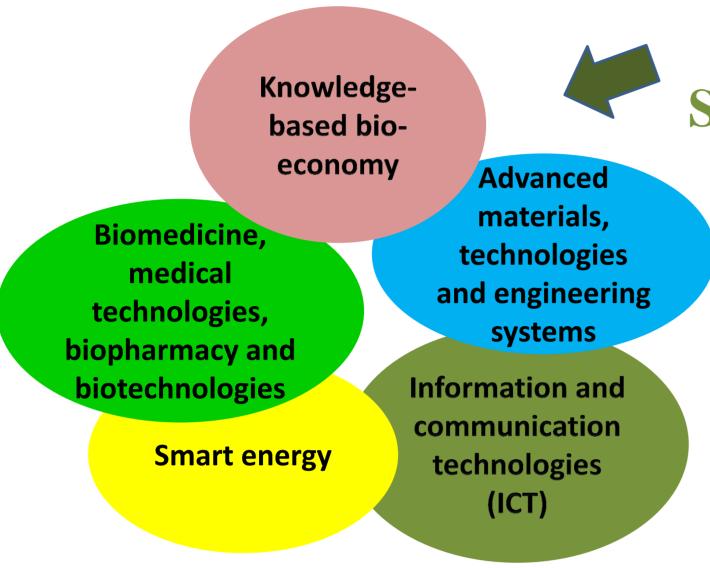


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INTRODUCTION

The research aim is to identify the proportion of the bioeconomy in the economy of Latvia, based on the number of enterprises in municipality level. The specific research tasks are as follows: 1) to identify the number of enterprises engaged in the bioeconomy in 2017; 2) to calculate the proportions of bioeconomy enterprises in the total enterprises in the municipalities of Latvia; 3) to analyse the situation in accordance to the tendencies of the innovative entrepreneurship as one of the RIS3 overall goals.

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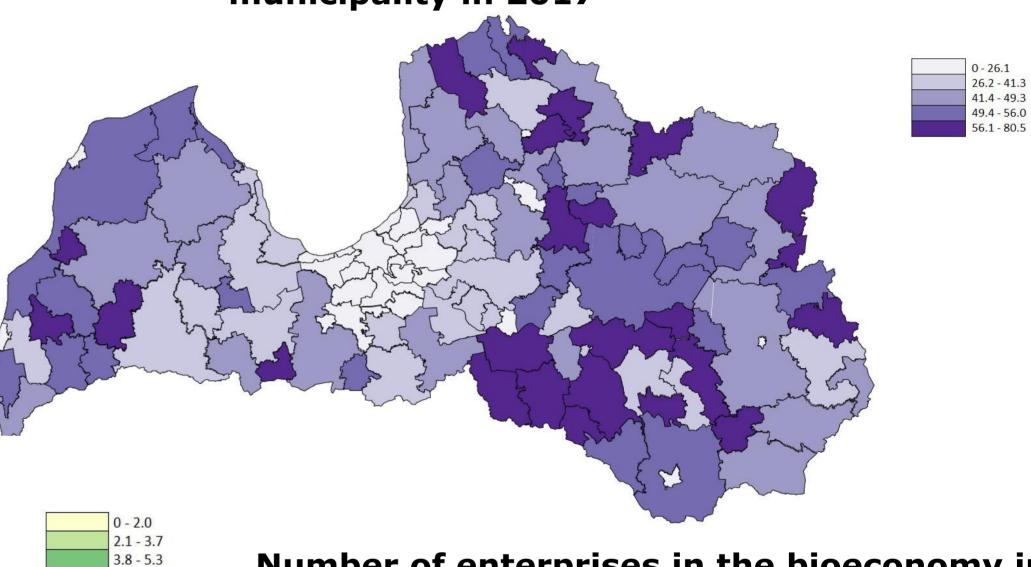


SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGY

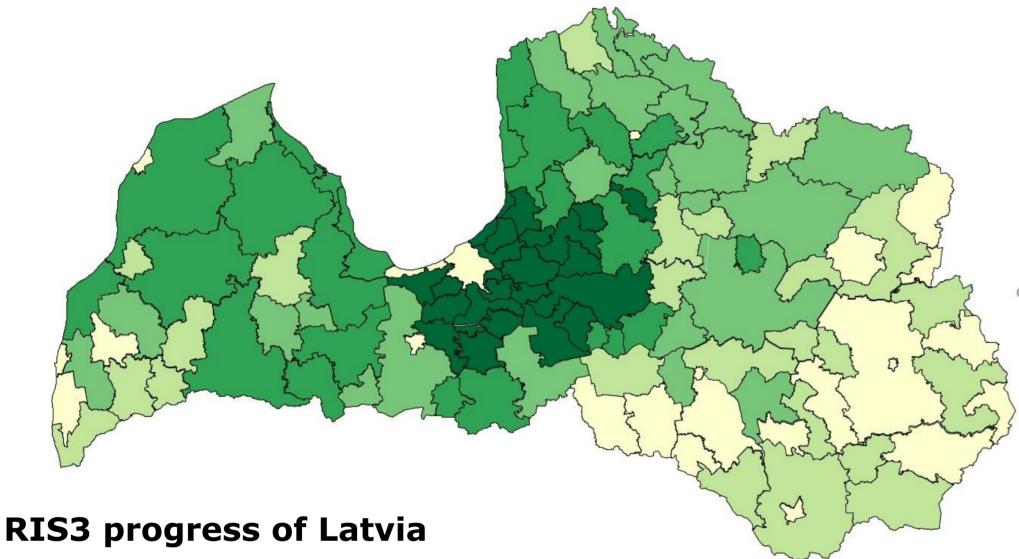
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Strategy of economic transformation towards higher added value and more efficient use of resources. It is a balanced and complementary support tool kit to strengthen innovation capacity of Latvian economy.

Proportion of bioeconomy enterprises in the total enterprises in a municipality in 2017



Share of innovative enterprises in the total number of enterprises in municipalities, 2016, %



Number of enterprises in the bioeconomy in 2014 and 2017

| Year | In total |
|------|----------|
| 2014 | 24830 |
| 2017 | 27040 |

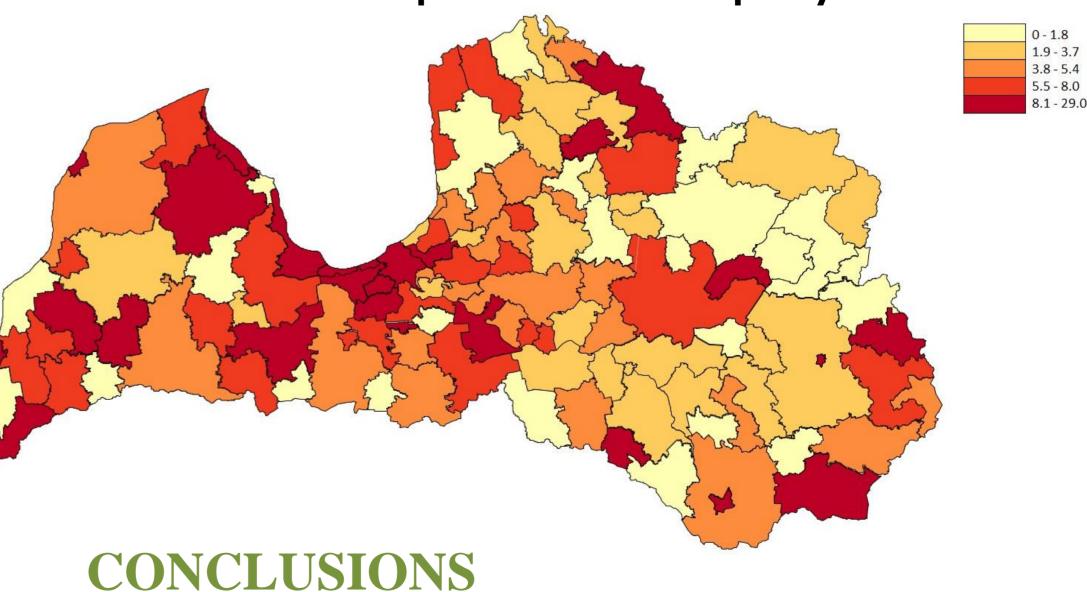
2013 2017 2017 RIS3 overall goals 2020 **Progress** Real Base value **Planned** 1,5 Investment in R&D (% from GDP) 0,60 51.6% 0.62 Position in the EU Innovation as planned Modest modest follower modest **Union Scoreboard Efficiency in the processing** 29 000 20 126 24 500 22 339 91,2% industry (EUR per employee) Private sector investments in R&D 21,8 20,1% 43.7% 46 48 (% of total investments) Proportion of innovative companies (% of all companies) Proportion of high-technology and medium-technology sectors in the 31 23,8 27 31,6 117% export of Latvian gods (%) The number of R&D personnel 7000 5593 88.4% 6300 5570 (public, private) A smaller number of stronger

30

22

73.3%

Proportion of foreign-invested bioeconomy enterprises in the total enterprises in a municipality in 2017



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The progress towards the innovation is insufficient and there is high possibility that in 2020 the planned goals will not be achieved, and Latvia will score low on the European innovation scoreboard threatening sustainable development and economical growth.

The low level and monocentric trend of innovations in Latvia shows that there are significant weaknesses in the existing innovation system. The municipalities with the emphasis on bioeconomy have low levels of innovation. Strengthening the innovation capacity will improve the situation about monocentric development in Latvia. Also the regional policy must be priority in next policy planning period to stabilise the uneven development and foster balanced and more harmonised development of regions and country at all.