

Latvia



BASIC COUNTRY INFORMATION

Population (est. in millions)	2.3
Area (sq. km)	64,589
GDP/capita (USD)	7,200
GDP (% of real growth)	5.5
Unemployment rate (%)	7.8
Average monthly wage (USD)	279*
Inflation rate (%)	2.7

Source: The World Factbook 2001
* National Bank of Latvia

Administrative Bodies Responsible for Environmental Protection

Ministries

■ MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Peldu str. 25
1494 Riga, Latvia
Tel: (371-7) 026-400
Fax: (371-7) 820-442
Web: www.gov.lv

Minister

Vladimirs Makarovs

Statistics

2000 Budget

Approximately 8 million Latvian lats (Approx. EUR 14 million)

Number of Employees

120

History

Date Current Structure Established

Summer 1993

Ministry's Previous Name

Environmental Protection Committee

Key Responsibilities

- coordination of environmental protection activities
- development and implementation of national environmental policy
- providing the regulatory basis for environmental protection
- promoting comprehensive and sustainable development in accordance with available resources and needs of the community
- implementation of government policy on territorial planning and development of infrastructure for urban areas, housing and tourism
- implementation policy and strategy in the areas of architecture, building, production of building materials, housing, municipal services, and regional development

Key Contacts

Vladimirs Makarovs, Minister
Tel: (371-7) 026-400

Guntis Pukitis, State Secretary
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Roland Bebris, Director
Environmental Protection Department
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E-mail: bebris@varam.gov.lv

Ilona Jepsena, Director
Nature Protection Department
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E-mail: daba@varam.gov.lv

Ivars Gaters, Director
Department of Regional Development
Tel: (371-7) 026-477
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Vija Geme, Director
Building Department
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Zigfrids Bruvers, Director
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Edgars Purins, Director
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Administration Department
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Budget and Finance Division
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Maris Klismets, Head
Division of European Integration
Tel: (371-7) 026-496
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Aira Andriksone, Head
Tourism Division
Tel: (371-7) 026-492
E-mail: tourism@varam.gov.lv

■ NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

Latvian Environmental Protection Fund

Pils str. 17
1050 Riga, Latvia
Valdis Kapralis, Executive Director
Tel: (371-7) 503-322
Fax: (371-7) 503-304

Latvian Environmental Investment Fund

Pils str. 6
1050 Riga, Latvia
Tel: (371-7) 503-707
Fax: (371-7) 503-747
E-mail: kristine@lvif.lv
Web: www.lvif.lv

■ SUB-NATIONAL STRUCTURES

8 Regional Environmental Boards

■ MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Division of rural economy and environmental development

Republikas sq. 2
1081 Riga, Latvia
Tel: (371-7) 027-010
Fax: (371-7) 027-250
Web: www.zm.gov.lv

Key Responsibilities

- formulation of strategies and drafting of legislation on environmentally friendly methods of agriculture

Department of Forest Policy and Strategy

Janis Birgelis, Director
Tel: (371-7) 027-477
E-mail: Janis.Birgelis@mezi.zm.gov.lv

Department of Forest Resources and Forest Economy

Valdis Lidaka, Director
Tel: (371-7) 027-101
Fax: (371-7) 027-094
E-mail: Valdis.Lidaka@mezi.zm.gov.lv

Department of Agricultural Strategy

Rigonda Lerhe, Director
Tel: (371-7) 027-338
E-mail: Rigonda.Lerhe@zm.gov.lv

■ MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

Department of Strategic Planning

Gogola str. 3
1743 Riga, Latvia
Tel: (371-7) 226-922
Fax: (371-7) 217-180
E-mail: satmin@sam.gov.lv

Key Responsibilities

- drafting of legislation on environment protection, transport and transit of hazardous materials

■ MINISTRY OF WELFARE

Department of Environmental Health

Skolas Str. 28
1010 Riga, Latvia
Tel: (371-7) 021-600
Gita Rutina, Director
Tel: (371-7) 021-585
Fax: (371-7) 021-589
Web: www.lm.gov.lv

Key Responsibilities

- formulation of national environmental health state policy and strategy
- drafting of legislation in the environmental health sector

Environmental Monitoring

Administrative Bodies Responsible for Environmental Monitoring

■ LATVIAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

(under supervision of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development)

Straumes str. 2
2015 Jurmala, Latvia
Ilze Kirstuka, Director
Tel: (371-7) 811-492
E-mail: Ilze.Kirstuka@vdc.lv
Web: www.vdc.lv

Statistics

Number of Employees
75

Languages

Latvian, English, German

Publications

English
Latvian State of the Environment (Annual Report)

History

Date of Establishment
October 1, 2000

Establishing Act

Order No. 111 of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, September 29, 2000

Key Responsibilities

- preparation and publication of report State of the Environment in Latvia
- consulting on various environmental issues
- obtaining information on environmental quality

Monitoring Responsibilities (by sector)

■ AGRICULTURAL RUN-OFF

Agricultural University of Latvia

Akademijas Str. 19
3001 Jelgava, Latvia
Viesturs Jansons
Tel: (371-30) 29-908
Fax: (371-30) 22-180

■ AIR

State Hydrometeorological Agency

Environmental Quality Division
Maskavas Str. 165
1019 Riga, Latvia
Iraida Lulko, Head
Tel: (371-7) 144-390
Fax: (371-7) 145-154

Activities

- atmospheric air pollution: measurements of SO₂, CO, NO₂, phenol, formaldehyde, heavy metals in aerosols, NH₃, hydrocarbons, benzopyrens, HCl in 9 cities
- chemistry of precipitation: measurements of Ca, Na, K, NH₄⁺, SO₄²⁻, Cl, NO₃⁻, PO₄³⁻, pH, Cd, Cu, Zn at 22 points in Latvia
- snow chemistry: measurements of Ca, Na, K, NH₄⁺, SO₄²⁻, Cl, NO₃⁻, pH, conductivity at 54 points in Latvia

Publications*Local Language*

Latvian State of Environmental Quality — Annual Report

Latvian Environmental Agency

Division of Air Analyses

Guntis Jansons

Tel: (371-7) 751-843

E-mail: Guntis.Jansons@rdc.lv

■ AMBIENT GAMMA-RADIATION**Latvian Environment Agency**

Division of Radiation Measurements

Straumes Str. 2

2015 Jurmala, Latvia

Visvaldis Graveris

Tel: (371-7) 754-916

Fax: (371-7) 764-439

E-mail: Visvaldis.Graveris@vdc.lv

Web: www.vdc.lv

Latvian Environment Agency

Division of Emissions

Straumes Str. 2

2015 Jurmala, Latvia

Ilze Kirstuka, Director

Tel: (371-7) 811-492

Fax: (371-2) 764-439

■ FORESTS**Institute of Forest Management**

Riga Str. 113

2169 Salaspils, Latvia

Armands Berkis, Director

Tel: (371-2) 942-942

Fax: (371-2) 901-363

Madis Sipols, Executive Director

Tel: (371-2) 942-388

E-mail: regina@vmi.lv

Activities

- regional forest monitoring
- monitoring defoliation and discoloration of coniferous needles and deciduous leaves at 398 points in Latvia

Publications*Local language*

Annual Report for the Latvian Environment Agency

English

Forest Conditions in Europe (Latvian Chapter) — Annual Report

State Forest Service

Division of Environmental Protection

Liene Ziedina

Tel: (371-7) 222-820

Web: www.vmd.gov.lv

■ PUBLIC HEALTH**National Environmental Health Center
(under supervision of Ministry of Welfare)**

Klijanu Str. 7

1012 Riga, Latvia

Imants Rezebergs, Director

Tel: (371-7) 379-231

Fax: (371-7) 339-006

■ SOIL**State Land Service**

11. Nov. Krastmala Str. 31

1484 Riga, Latvia

Guntis Grube, Director

Tel: (371-7) 038-600

Web: www.vzd.gov.lv

Activities

(performed together with the Agricultural University of Latvia)

- agricultural land monitoring: measurements of pH, organic matter, P₂O₅, K₂O, ect.; physical parameters, heavy metals (Cu, Ni, Pb, Cr, Zn, Cd), radiation, residues of pesticides, biological parameters

Latvian Environment Agency

Division of Water and Soil

Una Fogele

Tel: (371-7) 751-409

E-mail: Una.Fogele@vdc.lv

■ ECOSYSTEMS**University of Latvia — Institute of Biology**

Miera Str. 3

2169 Salaspils, Latvia

Viesturs Melecis, Director

Tel: (371-2) 944-988

Fax: (371-9) 345-412

E-mail: biolog@tesla.sal.lv

8 Regional Environmental Boards**■ WATER – LAKES****Latvian Environment Agency**

Straumes Str. 2

2015 Jurmala, Latvia

Sandra Poikane

Tel: (371-7) 774-916

E-mail: sandra.poikane@vdc.lv

State Hydrometeorological Agency

Maskavas Str. 165

1019 Riga, Latvia

Iraida Lulko

E-mail: epoc@meteo.lv

■ WATER – MARINE ENVIRONMENT**Institute of Aquatic Ecology — University of Latvia**

Miera Str. 3

2169 Salaspils, Latvia

Andris Andrusaitis, Director

Tel: (371-2) 945-405

Fax: (371-2) 945-442

E-mail: andris@hydro.edu.lv

Activities

- Baltic Sea monitoring: measurements of water clarity (sechi disk), salinity, O₂, H₂S, BOD, nutrients, oil hydrocarbons, NH₄⁺, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, PO₄⁻³; detergents, heavy metals, biological parameters, at 37 points in the Riga Gulf and the Baltic Sea
- pollution in Riga Gulf sediments: measurements of heavy metals and elements (Hg, As, Cu, Pb, Cd, Ni, Co, Cr, Zn, Mn, Fe, Se, F, Mo, B), oil hydrocarbons, NH₄⁺, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻ at 170 points in the Riga Gulf

Publications*English*

Regular Data Set for the Helsinki Commission

■ WATER – RIVERS

State Hydrometeorological Agency

Environmental Quality Division

Iraida Lulko, Director

Fax: (371-7) 145-154

E-mail: epoc@meteo.lv

Activities

- chemistry of rivers: measurements of pH, BOD, COD, colour, odour, water clarity (sechi disk), suspended solids, dissolved matters, phenols, oil products, detergents, heavy metals, nutrients, pesticides at 72 points in Latvia

Latvian Environment Agency

Division of Water and Soil

Una Fogeles

Tel: (371-7) 751-409

E-mail: Una.Fogeles@vdc.lv

■ WATER – GROUNDWATER

State Geological Survey

Eksporta Str. 5

1010 Riga, Latvia

Rudite Anikejeva, Director

Inga Gavena, Councillor

Tel: (371-2) 732-0379

Fax: (371-2) 333-218

Natalia Levina, Leading Specialist

Tel: (371-7) 320-357

Activities

- underground water quality and regime: level, measurements of O₂, COD, BOD, N_{tot}, NH₄⁺, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, PO₄, SiO₂, Mg₂⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, at 96 sampling points

■ WILDLIFE

Ornithological Laboratory, Institute of Biology

Miera Str. 3

2169 Salaspils, Latvia

Janis Viksne

Tel: (371-2) 945-437

Fax: (371-9) 345-412

Latvian Fisheries Research Institute

Daugavgrivas Str. 6

1007 Riga, Latvia

Maris Vitinsh, Director

Tel: (371-7) 612-409

Fax: (371-7) 616-946

Administrative Bodies Responsible for Public Access to Environmental Information

■ MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Peldu Str. 25

1494 Riga, Latvia

Tel: (371-7) 026-400

Fax: (371-7) 820-442

Web: www.gov.lv

■ LATVIAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Straumes Str. 2

2015 Jurmala, Latvia

Ilze Kirstuka, Director

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Fax: (371-7) 811-494

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Web: www.vde.lv

Administrative Bodies Responsible for Enforcement and Control of Environmental Regulations

■ MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Environmental Protection Department

Peldu Str. 25
1494 Riga, Latvia
Rolands Debris, Director
Tel: (371-7) 026-501
Fax: (371-7) 820-442

Department of Regional Development

Ivars Gaters, Director
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E-mail: ivars@varam.gov.lv

Building Department

Vija Geme, Director
Tel: (371-7) 026-461
Fax: (371-7) 820-442

Department of Nature Protection

Ilona Jepsena, Director
Tel: (371-7) 026-517
E-mail: daba@varam.gov.lv

■ REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARDS AND NATURE RESERVE DIRECTORATES

See Annex I

■ STATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT BUREAU

Rupniecibas Str. 25
1045 Riga, Latvia
Janis Avotins, Director
Tel: (371-7) 321-173
Fax: (371-7) 321-049
E-mail: janis@vvi.gov.lv

Arnolds Luksevics, Deputy Director
Tel: (371-7) 321-173
E-mail: ivn@vvi.gov.lv
Web: www.varam.gov.lv/ivnvb

■ STATE FOREST SERVICE

13 Janvara Str. 15
1932 Riga, Latvia
Otto Zvagins, Director
Tel: (371-7) 226-600
Web: www.vmd.gov.lv

■ STATE ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTORATE

Rupniecibas Str. 25
1877 Riga, Latvia
Anda Busmane, Director
Tel: (371-7) 325-209
Fax: (371-7) 321-577
E-mail: anda@vvi.gov.lv
Web: www.vvi.vdc.lv

■ STATE CONSTRUCTION INSPECTORATE

K. Barona Str. 99
1012 Riga, Latvia
Leonids Jakobsons, Director
Tel: (371-2) 278-285
Fax: (371-2) 276-374
Web: www.varam.gov.lv/vbi

Annex I

Regional Environmental Boards and Nature Reserve Directorates

■ LIELRIGA ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Rupniecibas Str. 25
1045 Riga, Latvia
Raimonds Vejonis, Director
Tel: (371-7) 323-202
Fax: (371-7) 322-359
Web: www.lielrigasrvp.from.lv

■ JELGAVA REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Kazarmas Str. 17a
3007 Jelgava, Latvia
Margarita Ulande, Director
Tel: (371-30) 23-228
Fax: (371-30) 21-815
Web: www.jelgava.vdc.lv

■ VENTSPILS REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Darza Str. 2
3601 Ventspils, Latvia
Ilmars Sekacis, Director
Tel: (371-36) 26-903
Fax: (371-36) 23-375
E-mail: ventspilsrvp@vdc.lv
Web: www.ventspils.vdc.lv

■ LIEPAJA REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Jauna Ostmala 2
3400 Liepaja, Latvia
Leonids Zelenskis, Director
Tel: (371-34) 27-695
Fax: (371-34) 27-675
E-mail: lrvp@apollo.lv

■ VALMIERA REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

L. Paegles Str. 13
4200 Valmiera, Latvia
Inga Zudane, Director
Tel: (371-42) 22-593
Fax: (371-42) 24-489
E-mail: valmrvp@rdc.lv

■ MADONA REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Blaumana Str. 7
4801 Madona, Latvia
Jevgenijs Sobko, Director
Tel/Fax: (371-48) 23-774
E-mail: madonasrvp@rdc.lv

■ DAUGAVPILS REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Raina Str. 28
5400 Daugavpils, Latvia
Pavels Kacars, Director
Tel: (371-54) 23-606
Fax: (371-54) 23-219
E-mail: drvp@rdc.lv

■ REZEKNE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Zemnieku Str. 5
4600 Rezekne, Latvia
Janis Karro, Director
Tel: (371-46) 22-597
Fax: (371-46) 22-710

■ MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Voleru Str 2.
1007 Riga, Latvia
Guntis Drunka, Director
Tel: (371-2) 469-664
Fax: (371-2) 465-888
E-mail: juras-parvalde@vdc.lv
Web: www.jvp.vdc.lv

■ SLITERE NATIONAL PARK

Dakterlejas Str. 3-4
3270 Dundaga
Talsu raj., Latvia
Elmars Peterhofs, Director
Tel: (371-32) 42-542
Fax: (371-32) 42-505

■ TEICI STATE RESERVE

Aiviekstes Str. 3
4862 Laudona
Madonas raj., Latvia
Juris Jatnieks, Director
Tel: (371-48) 48-291
Fax: (371-48) 48-161
E-mail: teichi@madona.lv
Web: www.teici.lv

■ NORTH VIDZEME BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Rigas Str. 10a
4033 Salacgriva
Limbazu raj., Latvia
Sandra Berzina, Director
Tel: (371-40) 41-944
Fax: (371-40) 41-993
Web: www.biosfera.lv

■ KEMERI NATIONAL PARK

Meza Maja Kemerī
2012 Jurmala, Latvia
Linards Kaucis, Deputy Director
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Fax: (371-7) 765-040
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■ GAUJA NATIONAL PARK

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2150 Sigulda, Latvia
Janis Strautnieks, Director
Tel: (371-2) 974-006
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Annex II

Organisational Chart: Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development



