



Latvia University
of Life Sciences
and Technologies

Nordic Association of Agriculture Science (NJF)
Continuous international scientific conference

“Challengers of Economics, Education and Society Development in the Nordic – Baltic Countries and beyond” organised by Section of Economy, Education and Society

Programme for the virtual seminar on November 3rd, 2021 (Wednesday)
12:00 to 13:30 Central European time (13:00 to 14:30 Eastern European time)

The link for joining the conference event presented at the end of this programme

Presentation 1

Title: **Digital economy and society index for the Latvia for the period 2014-2020**

Speaker: **Lilita Ābele**, Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

Author: Lilita Ābele, Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

Annotation: The digital skills of European citizens are assessed using the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI). DESI is a composite index published every year by the European Commission since 2014 and tracks the progress of EU countries in their digital competitiveness. The DESI is composed of five principal policy areas, which regroup 34 indicators overall. Five principal policy areas are as follows:

1. Connectivity;
2. Human capital;
3. Use of internet;
4. Integration of digital technology;
5. Digital public services (DESI, 2020).

The research was supported by the NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME “LATVIAN HERITAGE AND FUTURE CHALLENGES FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE STATE” project “CHALLENGES FOR THE LATVIAN STATE AND SOCIETY AND THE SOLUTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT; VPP-IZM-2018/1-0005”.



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Presentation 2

Title: Directions **and Opportunities for Sustainable Development of Latvia**

Speaker: **Baiba Rivza**, Latvia Academy of Sciences

Authors: Laura Jeroscenkova, Baiba Rivza, Peteris Rivza, Latvia Academy of Sciences

Annotation: The development of the knowledge-based economy as a segment of the national economy in the spatial environment of Latvia (state, regions, national cities and rural space / counties) is considered. At the same time, changes in the internal structure of the KBE segment have been analyzed. The study has identified several positive trends. First of all, KBE is a growing part of the Latvian economy, the number of companies, the number of employees and, most importantly, the economic result of the companies forming the segment - Net turnover. Secondly, the KBE segment in national cities is still larger than in the rest of the country, however, the expansion of the segment outside the big cities is growing quite rapidly and confirms that the "current" can also successfully expand outside the cities. Thirdly, in accordance with the tendency of the world and EU countries to maximally promote the development of knowledge-intensive services, these services are also developing very rapidly in Latvia, especially their first group, which is directly related to manufacturing business. Fourth, HT, MHT's business is increasingly expanding its economic activity to the processing of local natural resources (C20.C21 - includes the bioeconomy in general). It was also revealed that the problematic, as, for example, geographically / spatially, the KBE segment occupies a place in the economy quite differently - both in and around large cities and far from them. This means that further research should focus as much as possible on the extent to which this choice is determined by human, technological and natural environmental resources. Although HT, MHT's manufacturing share in KBE is generally growing linearly, it does not actually increase its share in this segment yet.

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