

# **REGULATION OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

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# Water services

Organized extraction of water resources from the environment, drinking water quality improvement/purification, preparation, delivery to consumers; organized collection, treatment and discharge of used water into the environment.



# Stakeholders

Consumers

Water utilities

Self-government (municipalities)

National energy regulatory council

Consumer Rights Protection Authority

Ministry of Health

Food and Veterinary Service

Ministry of Environment

Government

Parliament

European Commission



*Good coordination and cooperation are key to the success of the water sector.*

# Main legislation

## – Law on Drinking Water Supply and Wastewater Management

The purpose of this law is to establish general requirements for the provision, organization and planning of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment services in order to avoid adverse effects on human health and the environment, ensure uninterrupted provision of services, ensure development of infrastructure in line with public needs and provide access to safety. and quality drinking water and wastewater treatment services.

## – Law on Drinking Water

This Law establishes the conditions for ensuring the safety and quality of drinking water supplied to the market, used in food enterprises and individually in private households by exercising the right of the population of the Republic of Lithuania to consume healthy and clean drinking water and receive information on its safety and quality.

# Competencies

- **Parliament, Government** – policy making;
- **Ministry of Environment** – policy making, coordination of financial support, coordination of other state and municipal institutions;
- **Ministry of Health** – policy making, setting public health, safety and quality requirements for drinking water;
- **Food and Veterinary Service** – state control of safety and quality of drinking water;

# Competencies

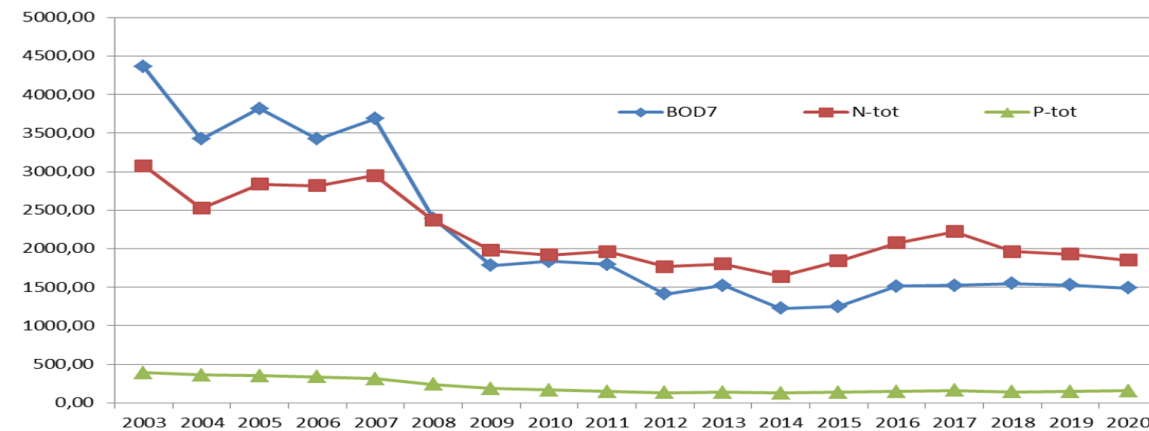
- **National energy regulatory council** – setting of water service prices, licensing of service providers, sanctions;
- **Self-government (municipalities)** – service provision planning, coordination of implementation of plans (owners of public water utilities (WU)), access to drinking water in public areas/buildings, inventory of IAS, territory planning (protection zones of watering places, infrastructure corridors);
- **Consumer Rights Protection Authority** - investigation of disputes and complaints.

# Main facts

- Water services market - closed (state monopoly);
- There is no competition within the country and between EU countries;
- 62 public WU are owned by the municipalities;
- Centralized systems – 82% (DW), 79% (WW);
- Total value of assets – 2,5 billion Euro (~ 46% subsidies);
- ~ 40% of assets calculated into tariffs;
- ~ 51% WU implement cost recovery principle;
- The biggest part in tariff – salaries, depreciation of assets, energy;
- Differences in price and quality – social inequality between urban and rural areas.

# Investments

Years	Cohesion Fund resources, mln. Eur	New / reconstructed wastewater treatment plant	New/ reconstructed drinking water treatment plant	New connections to wastewater collection systems, persons	New connections to drinking water supply systems, persons
2000-2006	485,4	47	17	104 806	91 088
2007-2013	569,0	110	16	122 825	76 017
2014-2020	310,9	59	85	30 819 63 563*	19 051 31 941*
Total	1 365,3	216	118	291 194 or 10 % LT	199 046 or 7 % LT



In the list of HELCOM Hot Spots 9 municipal WWTP's were designated in 1992. All of them deleted from the list since 2012

9/9

11,7%

In **2000**, only **11.7%** of urban wastewater was treated up to the set requirements

94%

In **2014**, the indicator reached almost 94% with the help of EU investments.

72%

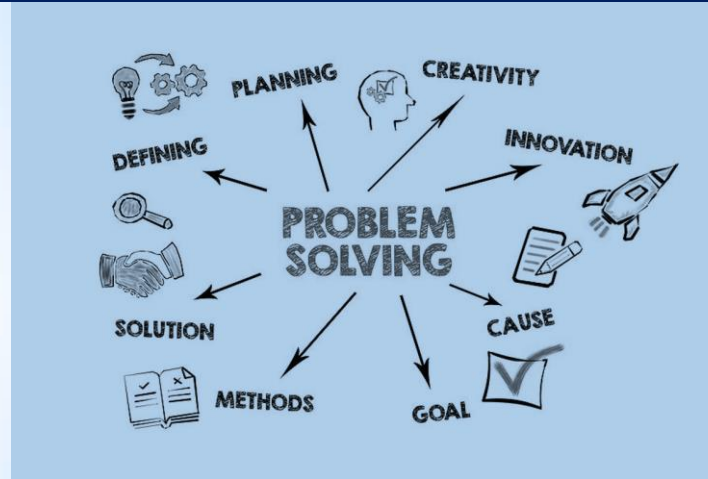
At **present**, this figure is around **72%**, mainly due to the inability to upgrade infrastructure to adapt to changing needs.

**Salmon** were found to spawn in **Vilnelė** River



# Challenges

- Cost recovery;
- Quality assurance of services;
- Sustainable operation of water utilities without subsidies;
- Services in rural areas;
- Pricing.



# Steps forward

- Amendments of legislation – transposition of recast UWWTD;
- Introduction of water sector monitoring model;
- Development of water services in small towns and rural areas;
- Further develop Individual Wastewater Management IS.



**Thank you for attention**



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