

Researchers' Report 2013

Country Profile: Lithuania



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1. Key data

National R&D intensity target

“Lithuania's R&D intensity substantially increased in 2011 to reach 0.92% of GDP, after five years of relative stagnation at around 0.8%. However, this is still less than half of Lithuania's R&D intensity target of 1.9% for 2020. Most of this increase in 2011 took place in the public sector and is due to progress in implementing R&D-related projects financed with EU Structural Funds. The business sector finances only about 28% of total R&D expenditure, one of the lowest shares of business funding in the EU. The economic crisis severely hit the national R&D budget which has been cut by half nominally between 2007 (EUR 95.7 million) and 2010 (EUR 47 million). It slightly increased in 2011 and was planned to increase in 2012-2013. Overall, the share of the R&D budget in total government expenditure has dramatically declined from 1.09% in 2004 to 0.43% in 2010.

Continuity in public funding of R&D has been ensured by Structural Funds, with EUR 1511 million (22.3%) of ERDF funds earmarked for research, innovation, ICT and entrepreneurship for the period 2007-2013, and with a good absorption rate. In 2011-2012, Lithuania simplified the use of Structural Funds in favour of RTDI. Lithuania also benefited by about EUR 33.8 million from the EU FP7 for 280 Lithuanian participants from 2007 to early 2012. There was a good success rate for Lithuanian applicants (19.4% vs. 21.5% for the EU). Additional government support for investment in R&D and in new technologies is provided through R&D tax incentives - in place since 2008.

After some progress in the early 2000s, business R&D intensity has hardly changed between 2006 (0.22%) and 2011 (0.24%). Business financing of R&D was seriously affected by the economic crisis, decreasing by 11% in nominal terms between 2007 and 2009. It increased again by 3% in 2010 and by another 11% in 2011, i.e. just above the 2007 level. Business R&D has been most affected in the services sector with a decrease of 30% in nominal terms between 2008 and 2009. On the other hand it increased in the manufacturing sector by 13% between the same two years¹. Professional, scientific and technical activities, human health and social work activities, and financial and insurance activities are the most affected services sectors. Among manufacturing sectors, R&D expenditure in wood, paper and printing increased by a factor of 4.8 and also increased in food products, beverages and tobacco, pharmaceuticals, and in computer, electronic and optical products, but decreased by more than 40% in fabricated metal products”.²

Key indicators measuring the country's research performance

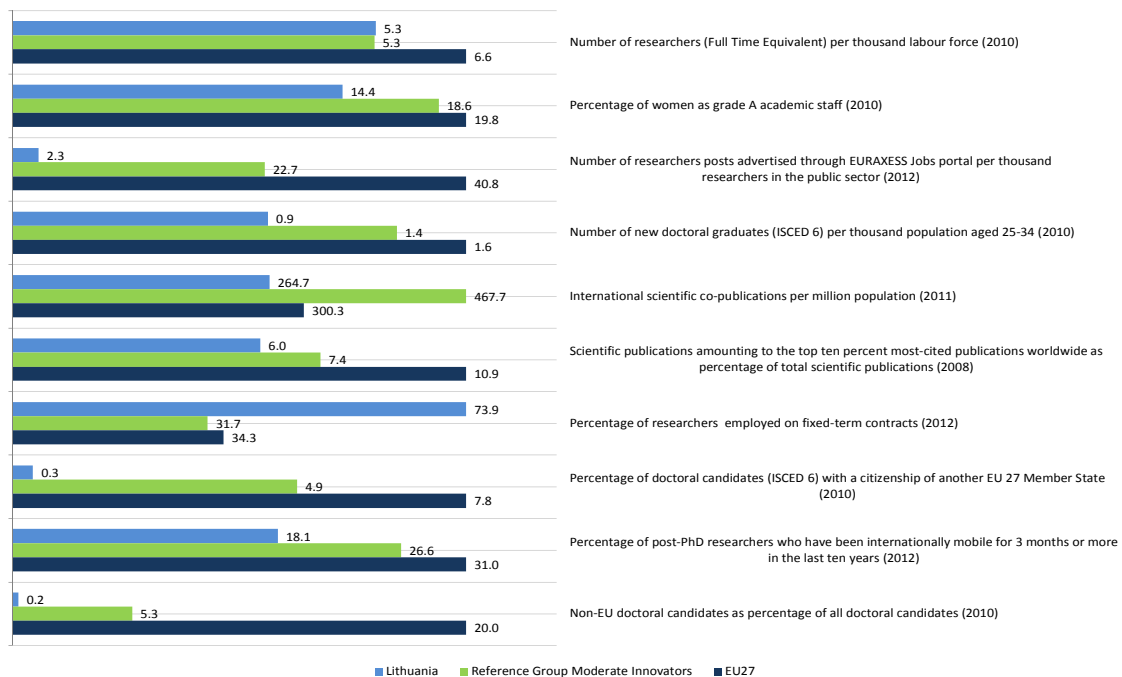
The figure below presents key indicators measuring Lithuania's performance on aspects of an open labour market for researchers against a reference group and the EU-27 average³.

¹ Data from Eurostat, Business R&D expenditure (BERD) by economic activity based on the 'main activity' of the firm

² European Commission (2013), “Research and Innovation performance in EU Member States and Associated countries. Innovation Union progress at country level 2013”

³ The values refer to 2012 or the latest year available

Figure 1: Key indicators – Lithuania



Source: Deloitte

Data: Eurostat, SHE Figures, EURAXESS Jobs Portal, UNESCO OECD Eurostat education survey, Innovation Union Scoreboard 2013, MORE2

Notes: Based on their average innovation performance across 25 indicators, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain show a performance below that of the EU-27. These countries are the Moderate innovators⁴.

Stock of researchers

The table below presents the stock of researchers by Head Count (HC) and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) and in relation to the active labour force.

Table 1: Human resources – Stock of researchers

Indicator	Lithuania	EU Average/Total
Head Count per 1 000 active labour force (2010)	8.69	10.17
Head Count (2010)	14 056	2 435 487
FTE per 1 000 active labour force (2010)	5.31	6.64
Full time equivalent (FTE) (2010)	8 600	1 589 140

Source: Deloitte

Data: Eurostat

2. National strategies

The Lithuanian Government has put in place a set of measures aimed at training researchers to meet its R&D targets and at promoting attractive employment conditions in public research institutions. The table below presents key programmes and initiatives intended to implement the strategic objectives to train enough researchers to reach Lithuania's R&D targets, to promote attractive working conditions, and to address gender and dual career issues.

Table 2: National strategies

Measure	Description
Law on Higher Education and Research (2009)	Adopted in April 2009, the Law on Higher Education and Research marked the start of a systematic restructuring of Lithuania's higher education and scientific research system. Against the backdrop of global competition and national modernisation objectives, the Lithuanian Government initiated a systemic reform based on the following principles:

⁴ European Commission (2013), "Innovation Union Scoreboard 2013"

Measure	Description
	- Encouraging competition as the main driving force for achieving progress in the higher education sector; - Implementing a new financing method primarily targeting top-performing students (and not the Higher Education Institutions); - Strengthening colleges and revamping the student system in general; - Enhancing universities' autonomy; and - Encouraging a competitive research system.
Lithuanian Innovation Strategy for the Years 2010-2020 (2010)	The Lithuanian Innovation Strategy for the Years 2010-2020 offers a vision, sets objectives and defines concrete results to be achieved in the field of Lithuanian innovation up to the year 2020. The Strategy aims at mobilising and managing State resources more efficiently so as to create a competitive knowledge economy. The strategy calls, amongst others, for: - Building a creative society and creating conditions for the development of entrepreneurship and innovation; - Strengthening the knowledge base by developing integrated science, studies and business centres on an international scale; - Creating an education and higher education system which promotes creativity and innovation; - Developing effective mechanisms of business and science cooperation and promoting schemes for supporting joint business and science projects; and - Strengthening interaction among science, studies and business.
National Development Programme for Higher Education and R&D for the years 2013-2020 (2012)	The strategic goal of the National Development Programme for Higher Education and R&D for the years 2013-2020 is to identify the main directions for the development of Higher Education and R&D, which would foster sustainable societal development, strengthen the competitiveness of the country and correspond to the main provisions of Lithuania's Progress strategy 'Lithuania 2030' and the European Commission Communication: EUROPE 2020 - A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The Programme calls, amongst others, for: - Creating an environment conducive to a capable and creative person becoming a highly professional specialist; - Generating new knowledge and creating an environment for the integration of research, business and culture to strengthen the advantages of the country; and - Ensuring the functioning of the higher education and R&D system based on data, evidence, professionalism and trust.

Source: Deloitte

3. Women in the research profession

Measures supporting women researchers in top-level positions

In 2010, the percentage of women grade A academic staff was 14.4% in Lithuania compared with 18.6% among the Innovation Union reference group and the EU average of 19.8%⁵.

In June 2008, the Ministry of Education and Science adopted a Strategy for the Implementation of Equal Opportunities for Men and Women in R&D. The main purpose of the Strategy is to increase the number of female researchers in physics, technology and in high-level positions. Gender mainstreaming tools and a monitoring system are being developed in the period 2008-13. In addition, the Strategy calls for a review and possible amendments to the law with the aim of introducing additional finance tools for female scientists. Moreover, recommendations are to be drawn up with the aim of implementing gender mainstreaming tools in research and in higher education institutions.

In line with this Strategy, the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences in January 2011 started a two-year project entitled Equal Opportunities in Research (LYMOS). The project aims to:

- Analyse the general aspects of legal Acts in the field of R&D and draw up recommendations for improvement;
- Develop a set of gender mainstreaming tools and issue recommendations to institutions which could be used in the management of human resources;
- Create a monitoring and evaluation system dedicated to gender issues in Lithuanian R&D and introduce it into the existing system;

⁵ See Figure 1 "Key indicators – Lithuania"

- Create and test financial support measures for young female researchers in support of their return to work after maternity leave; support female researchers with access to grants, participation in conferences, summer schools and short-term visits abroad.

Each year, the Minister of Science and Education officially approves the number of doctoral graduates based on a distribution by field of science. In 2009-11, the number of female students grew in all fields of science (Humanities, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Biomedical Sciences and Engineering). Based on this positive development, the Lithuanian Government does not see a need for the introduction of any additional measures aimed at increasing the number of female students taking science to an advanced level.

Measures to ensure a representative gender balance

In Lithuania, there are no quotas or national targets set to ensure a representative gender balance for researchers.

Maternity leave

Female researchers in Lithuania enjoy a number of rights enabling them to interrupt or to extend their contract in the framework of maternity leave. However, in most cases, it is not possible to extend the duration of a project due to maternity leave⁶.

The employer would have to find another researcher to replace the one on maternity leave. For instance, projects financed by the EU Structural Funds have very strict deadlines and thus, they cannot be extended.

Researchers employed under an employment contract have the right to go on maternity leave for up to three years⁷.

4. Open, transparent and merit-based recruitment

Recruitment system

Job vacancies are published on dedicated websites (Research Council of Lithuania) and newspapers as well as on the EURAXESS Jobs portal. It is a statutory requirement to publish job vacancies online.

Open recruitment in institutions

The table below presents information on open recruitment in higher education and public research institutions.

Table 3: Open recruitment in higher education and public research institutions

Do institutions in the country currently have policies to ...?	Yes/No	Description
– publish job vacancies on relevant national online platforms	Yes	It is a legal obligation.
– publish job vacancies on relevant Europe-wide online platforms (e.g. EURAXESS)	Yes	Legal obligation for positions of heads of public research institutes.
– publish job vacancies in English	Yes	Legal obligation for positions of heads of public research institutes.
– systematically establish selection panels	Yes	It is a legal obligation.
– establish clear rules for the composition of selection panels (e.g. number and role of members, inclusion of foreign experts, gender balance, etc.)	Yes	A recruitment commission which evaluates candidates for the position of teaching staff members and research staff members must be set up in accordance with the procedure laid down by higher education and research institutions. Not less than one-third of the members of the recruitment commission must be persons who do not work in this higher education and research institution. When making arrangements for a

⁶ Maternity leave can be extended; however, research projects cannot be extended, due to the strict deadlines (especially those financed via EU Structural Funds)

⁷ If researcher is unemployed, he/she is eligible for social allowances and benefits available to officially unemployed persons

Do institutions in the country currently have policies to ...?	Yes/No	Description
		competition to fill the position of the chief research staff member or professor, at least one international expert must be on the recruitment commission.
– publish the composition of a selection panel (obliging the recruiting institution)	Yes	-
– publish the selection criteria together with job advert	Yes	-
– regulate a minimum time period between vacancy publication and the deadline for applying	Yes	It is a legal obligation – at least 3 months.
– place the burden of proof on the employer to prove that the recruitment procedure was open and transparent	Yes	-
– offer applicants the right to receive adequate feedback	Yes	-
– offer applicants the right to appeal	Yes	-

Source: Deloitte

EURAXESS Services Network

In 2012, the number of researcher posts advertised through the EURAXESS Jobs portal per thousand researchers in the public sector was 2.3 in Lithuania compared with 22.7 among the Innovation Union reference group and an EU average of 40.8⁸.

The EURAXESS Centre and the portal are fully operational and are managed by the Research Council of Lithuania. The platform provides administrative assistance and information on pensions, working conditions, tax, migration issues, etc.

5. Education and training

Measures to attract and train young people to become researchers

The table below summarises key measures aimed at training and at attracting young people to become interested in science and ultimately for them to pursue a research career.

Table 4: Human Resources - Key programmes and Initiatives

Measure	Description
National Higher Education Programme (2007-13)	The National Higher Education Programme (2007-13) supports the development of students' and professors' skills and competencies. Moreover, the Programme provides financial support for the development of Lithuania's research infrastructure with a dedicated budget of EUR 221.28 million.
Post-doc internship implementation in Lithuania (2009-2015)	This competition-based programme supports researchers in taking-up a post-doc position. In addition, it encourages researchers to work in an institution other than their own. Researchers from abroad are also eligible to participate. The overall budget of the programme is EUR 10.3 million. A total of 150 post-doc grants have been already granted. In 2009-2013, a total of 200 post-doc grants have been granted.
Promotion of Students' Scientific Activities (ongoing)	This Research Council of Lithuania programme encourages young people to gain practical (work) experience while working in a research institution. Designed for Bachelor, Master's students and doctoral candidates, the programme aims to raise young people's interest in pursuing a career in research. The programme is competition-based and aims at attracting top-performing candidates.
Researchers' Career Programme (Structural Funds Programme for the years 2007-13) (2007-13)	The Researchers' Career Programme (EUR 182.5 million for the period 2007-2013) contains a set of measures aimed at raising young people's interest in pursuing a research career by offering attractive working conditions and clear career prospects at all career stages. The implementation of the Researchers' Career Programme contains the following measures: - Support to scientists and researchers in their (scientific) activities (global

⁸ See Figure 1 "Key indicators – Lithuania"

Measure	Description
	grant); - Promotion of top-performing international researchers; - Promotion of scientists', researchers' and students' mobility and research activities; - Improvement of researchers' qualifications and competencies (science databases, e-documents); - Activities strengthening R&D thematic networks and associations; - Improvement of R&D quality and training of experts; - State aid for highly-skilled staff employed in companies; - Dissemination of knowledge of science and technology among students; and - Developing a (research) infrastructure designed for dissemination of knowledge about research, technologies and innovation.
Scholarship Support (ongoing)	Every student in Lithuania can apply for scholarship support on a competitive basis.
Student Vouchers (ongoing)	State funding for Bachelor studies is provided in the form of student vouchers to the best entrants applying to universities and colleges ⁹ . Student vouchers are awarded to incoming students based on their secondary education graduation results. Each year, two voucher quotas are established - one for colleges and one for universities.

Source: Deloitte

The number of doctorates awarded (HEI and Research Institutes) in the fields of Humanities, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Biomedical Sciences and Engineering increased from 397 in 2009 to 442 in 2012. Based on a relatively high number of doctoral graduates, the Lithuanian Government has not introduced any measures aimed at increasing the number of doctorates graduated in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) specifically.

Doctoral graduates by gender

In the last five years, the number of doctoral graduates has experienced steady growth in Lithuania. Figures have increased from 12 013 doctoral graduates in 2006 to 14 201 doctoral graduates in 2011. Generally, the ratio of women doctoral graduates is higher than that of men. The table below shows the number of doctoral graduates in Lithuania by gender as a ratio of the total cohort population.

Table 5: Doctoral graduates by gender

Indicator	Lithuania	EU Average
New doctoral graduates (ISCED 6) per 1 000 population aged 25-34 (2010)	0.9	1.5
Graduates (ISCED 6) per 1 000 of the female population aged 25-34 (2010)	1.0	1.4
Graduates (ISCED 6) per 1 000 of the male population aged 25-34 (2010)	0.7	1.6

Source: Deloitte

Data: Eurostat

Funding of doctoral candidates

In Lithuania, State funding is available to full-time, part-time and extramural doctoral candidates based on their performance. Most doctoral candidates benefit from state funding. In 2011, out of a total of 2 632 doctoral candidates in universities, 2 388 received scholarships.

Based on competition, universities and research institutes can apply for funding for doctoral candidates with the Research Council of Lithuania where one third of funding is allocated on a competitive basis (two thirds is for core funding). The total amount of funding available amounted to EUR 29 million in 2009 and EUR 43 million in 2010.

Doctoral candidates who demonstrate excellent academic achievements may apply for an extra scholarship (promotional scholarship) from the Research Council of Lithuania. The Research Council of Lithuania annually grants scholarships for doctoral candidates to carry out R&D activities and produce scientific publications. In addition, the Council supports them travelling to foreign higher education and research institutions and centres. In 2012, 488 scholarships were granted to doctoral candidates.

⁹ Colleges are professionally oriented higher education institutions

Measures to increase the quality of doctoral training

The Regulation on Doctoral Training (2010)¹⁰ paved the way for a new approach to PhD training in Lithuania. The right to provide doctoral training is granted by the Minister of Education and Science. Universities and research institutes enjoy a joint right to train PhDs. Coordination between universities and research institutes increases the quality of doctoral training, and fosters openness and transparency in the research system. At least every three years, the Research Council of Lithuania carries out quality and efficiency assessments of the doctoral training. As a general rule, researchers are encouraged to spend time abroad during their PhD.

Skills agenda for researchers

The Lithuanian Government has not introduced any horizontal measures in support of a 'Skills Agenda'. However, existing and planned programmes/initiatives (Structural Funds programmes) provide specific training activities aimed at improving researchers' skills, e.g. in communication, IPR, career management and entrepreneurship training (for more information on programmes/initiatives in support of lifelong learning for researchers, see chapter 2 "National strategies" and chapter 7 "Collaboration between academia and industry").

6. Working conditions

Measures to improve researchers' funding opportunities

The Law on Higher Education and Research (2009) implies significant changes in research funding. Before the reform, the majority of public funds were awarded to scientific institutions without competition. In 2012, almost half of the allocations for science in Lithuania were distributed via competitive funding programmes.

The Research Council of Lithuania became the principal national institution providing competitive funding for research activities in Lithuania. The Council started implementing the competitive R&D funding in 2009, focusing on financing high-level research projects. In 2012, the annual budget of the Council for competitive funding of research activities amounted to LTL 100 million (some EUR 29 million).

The period of 2011–2012 was of utmost importance for the establishment of a new model of funding, including the main programmes managed by the Council (e.g. the Global Grant Scheme, National Research Programmes, the National Development Programme for Lithuanian Studies 2009-2015 and projects carried out by researchers groups)¹¹.

Remuneration

In 2009, a government decree was introduced to reduce differences between researchers' salaries. Universities are autonomous in stipulating salaries for their academic and scientific staff. In addition, the Lithuanian Government has put in place a programme¹² aimed at increasing researchers' salaries. However, the Programme was put on hold as a result of austerity measures introduced by Government during the financial and economic crisis. Currently, the State budget does not allow for an increase in researchers' salaries.

Competitive funding schemes offer top-performing researchers the possibility of improving their salaries. On average, researchers' salaries have increased in the last years. Minimum salaries (as for other professions) are regulated by law in Lithuania.

For further information, see the new country profile on remuneration of researchers from the MORE2 study (forthcoming, on the EURAXESS website).

Researchers' Statute

Lithuanian law does not provide for an official researchers' 'statute'. However, certain rights and obligations are defined by university statutes, the rules and regulations of research institutes, and by the Law on Higher Education and Research (2009) which can be considered the main legal Act granting certain rights to researchers.

¹¹ Bye-laws For Research Doctoral Training, approved by Resolution No 561 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, 12 May 2010

¹² 'Increase of Wages in Higher Education and Research Institutions' (2009-2011)

‘European Charter for Researchers’ & ‘Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers’

The implementation of the ‘European Charter for Researchers’ as well as the ‘Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers’ is not actively promoted as a government programme. However, both the Rectors’ Conference and the Conference of Directors of Research Institutes have signed the ‘Charter & Code’.

Autonomy of institutions

Following a reform of State Universities, professional boards composed of university and public representatives are free to consider and approve strategic decisions and to appoint directors. Moreover, all State Universities and colleges are granted freedom in decision-making, the right to own property and to manage property entrusted to them by the State.

Career development

The Researchers’ Career Programme aims to raise young people’s interest in pursuing a researcher career by offering attractive working conditions and clear career prospects. Among others, the Programme supports scientists and researchers in their (scientific) activities. Moreover, it promotes the mobility of top-performing international researchers. For more information on the Researchers’ Career Programme, see chapter 2 “National strategies”.

Shift from core to project-based funding

The shift from core to project-based funding has had a positive impact on researchers’ working conditions. In 2012, the ratio of core to project-based funding was 65:35. The competitive system has led to an improvement in researchers’ (scientific) performance. Moreover, the shift has enabled investment in an improved research infrastructure.

Social security benefits (sickness, unemployment, old-age)

Publicly-funded fellowships provide health insurance while pension contributions are not covered. All PhD students working under employment contracts¹³ enjoy social security benefits. The Law on Pensions for Researchers provides a pension scheme for researchers who have been employed in the research profession for at least ten years.

7. Collaboration between academia and industry

The Ministry of Education and Science has signed 15 agreements with Lithuanian partners (associations, companies, various institutions and higher education institutions) in support of the provision of incentives for students to gain (work) experience in an enterprise. As part of this programme for the period 2011-2013 (budget EUR 5.14 million), student internship models are developed in companies and institutions. Conditions are set for students to be able to carry out an internship in various economic sectors.

In order to encourage companies to employ (more) scientists, in 2010, the Ministry of Higher Education and Science allocated EUR 17.4 million in support of ‘State aid for highly qualified persons’ employment in enterprises’ for the period 2010-2013. Funds are allocated for no more than three years to one company and per employed person. The financial support covers salaries, participants’ travel expenses, and participation in events. However, the interest from enterprises was insufficient as of the end of 2011. The Ministry of Education and Science made EUR 939 348 available for projects implemented in 2012. The activity is managed by the European Social Fund Agency.

The Ministry of Education and Science has adopted a ‘High technology development programme’ for 2011-2013 (EUR 3.62 million). The programme aims to boost the development of hi-tech with scientific potential to enable the creation of new competitive products.

The Ministry of Education and Science has adopted an ‘Industrial biotechnology development programme for Lithuania’ for the period 2011-2013 (EUR 0.797 million). The programme aims to accelerate the development of the biotechnology industry in Lithuania.

Both programmes are implemented by the Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA).

¹³ Approximately 80-90% of PhDs have employment contracts

In 2011, the Ministry of Education and Science has allocated EUR 67 101 to support Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection (in 2011, the Ministry of Education and Science granted financial support for patent registration to 14 higher education and research institutions). Implemented by the Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA), the measure aims to encourage universities, research institutes and companies to protect their intellectual property. In addition, it encourages stakeholders to cooperate more closely in the development of innovative and competitive products.

8. Mobility and international attractiveness

In 2010, the percentage of doctoral candidates (ISCED 6) with citizenship of another EU-27 Member State was 0.3% in Lithuania compared with 4.9% among the Innovation Union reference group and an EU average of 7.8%¹⁴. In the same year, the percentage of non-EU doctoral candidates as a percentage of all doctoral candidates was 0.2% in Lithuania compared with 5.3% among the Innovation Union reference group and an EU average of 20.0%¹⁵.

Measures aimed at attracting and retaining 'leading' national, EU and third country researchers

The table below summarises key measures aimed at attracting and retaining leading national, EU and third-country researchers.

Table 6: Measures to attract and retain 'leading' national, EU and third country researchers

Measure	Objective
Brain Retain and Gain Strategy (2008-2013)	The objective of the Brain Retain Strategy is to attract national and third-country researchers to carry out their work in Lithuania. The strategy also aims at promoting communication and information exchange. It offers rewards to renowned researchers with Lithuanian roots.
Global Grant Measure (2009-2015)	Supported by the Research Council of Lithuania, the Programme aims at attracting national, EU and third-country researchers to Lithuania. Approximately EUR 0.5 million per project has been made available for three years. The total budget of the programme is around EUR 34.3 million.
Short Period Visits Programme (2009-2013)	As part of the Short Visits Programme, institutions can invite third-country researchers to Lithuania and send national researchers abroad. The total budget is around EUR 1 million.

Source: Deloitte

Inward mobility (funding)

Funding is in general open to all researchers, including third-country nationals. Applications for funding schemes must be submitted in Lithuanian, posing a language and administrative barrier for third-country nationals applying for funding schemes. There are several programmes (e.g. Global Grant), where the project proposals have to be submitted both in English and in Lithuanian.

Table 7: Measures to encourage outbound mobility

Measure	Description
Implementation of Postdoctoral internships in Lithuania (2009-2015) ¹⁶	This competition-based programme facilitates researchers in taking-up a post-doc position. In addition, it encourages researchers to work in an institution other than their own. Researchers' international mobility is also supported by this programme.

Source: Deloitte

Outbound mobility

As a general rule, researchers' mobility is supported in Lithuania. The table below summarises key programmes/initiatives in support of researchers' outbound mobility.

Table 8: Measures to encourage outbound mobility

Measure	Description
Sciex Programme (2009-2016)	Sciex is a promotion tool for research teams from all disciplines, consisting of team members from the new Member States and Switzerland. Sciex fellows of any age from new Member States pursue their research in cooperation with Swiss researchers in Swiss research institutions. Ideal working and framework conditions support the success

¹⁴ See Figure 1 "Key indicators – Lithuania"

¹⁵ Ibid

¹⁶ More information available at: <https://www.postdoc.lt/en/news>

Measure	Description
	of their research.

Source: Deloitte

Promotion of 'dual careers'

The Lithuanian Government and institutions do not actively promote policies/measures supporting researchers' dual careers.

Portability of national grants

As a general rule, funding is not portable. The Lithuanian Government has not put in place any specific measures supporting the portability of grants.

Access to cross-border grants

As a general rule, competition-based national research grants and research fellowships which are provided by the Research Council of Lithuania are open to non-residents from the EU and third countries, if they have a contract with the research institution in Lithuania.