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**Plan for Work with the Diaspora for 2021-2023**

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# List of abbreviations

MoD - Ministry of Defense

ALA - American Latvian Association

AppLV - Association “With world experience in Latvia”

MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

RTSD - Road Traffic Safety Directorate

CEC - Central Election Commission

DAB - Diaspora Advisory Board

DV - Central Board of the Organization "Daugavas Vanagi"

ELA - European Latvian Association

MoE - Ministry of Economics

ESF - European Union funding

FCMC - Financial and Capital Market Commission

MoF - Ministry of Finance

FIA - Financial Industry Association

MoI - Ministry of the Interior

SEQS - State Education Quality Service

MoES - Ministry of Education and Science

LNCI - Association “Latvian National Council in Ireland”

MoC - Ministry of Culture

LFANZ - Latvian Federation of Australia and New Zealand

ALDD - Association of Latvian Doctors and Dentists

LI - Latvian Institute

LIDA - Latvian Investment and Development Agency

MoW - Ministry of Welfare

NAL - National Archives of Latvia

NLL - National Library of Latvia

LNCC - Latvian National Cultural Center

LALG - Association “Latvian Association of Local Governments”

UoL DMRC - University of Latvia Diaspora and Migration Research Center

LLA - Latvian Language Agency

LSRTC - Latvian State Radio and Television Center

CoM - Cabinet of Ministers

NEMC - National Electronic Media Council

NCC - National Cinema Center

SEA - State Employment Agency

NGOs - Non-governmental organizations

WFFL - World Federation of Free Latvians

OCMA - Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs

SIF - Society Integration Fund

MoT - Ministry of Transport

MoJ - Ministry of Justice

MoEPRD - Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

SBF - State budget financing

NCE - National Centre for Education

SC - State Chancellery

MoH - Ministry of Health

SRDA - State Regional Development Agency

# I Summary of the plan

The Plan for Work with the Diaspora for 2021-2023 (hereinafter - the Plan) is a policy planning document developed in accordance with Section 6(2)(1)(c) of the Diaspora Law and in compliance with the tasks set out in Articles 106 and 165 of the Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 210 "On the Government Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Intended Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers Led by Arturs Krišjānis Kariņš" issued on 7 May 2019 and the tasks set out in Paragraphs 105, 139, 143, 203, 406, 407 of the Parliament (Saeima) Declaration of 2 July 2020 "National Development Plan of Latvia for 2021-2027 (NDP2027)". The aim of the plan is to promote a unified approach to the implementation of diaspora policy, determining the priority areas, goals and results to be achieved by the policy implemented by Latvian public administration institutions. The plan includes descriptions of the measures to be implemented by public administration institutions and information on the necessary state funding for their implementation in 2021–2023.

The Diaspora Law (adopted on 1 November 2018), which entered into force on 1 January 2019, sets out the goals, tasks and main lines of action in this policy area. Current policy planning documents in the field of diaspora policy, which are valid until the end of 2020, are the Guidelines on National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy (2012-2018) (approved by the Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 542 of 20 October 2011, Minutes No. 58 § 21) and the National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy Implementation Plan for 2019-2020 (approved by the Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 345 of 18 July 2018, Minutes No. 33 § 49). These documents partly cover diaspora policy initiatives, mainly covering the responsibilities of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Culture. Other separate initiatives, which are considered to be part of the diaspora policy, have been addressed in other planning documents, for example, in the Guidelines on Promoting Exports of Latvian Goods and Services and Attracting Foreign Investments for 2013-2019 (approved by the Cabinet of Ministers Order of 17 June 2013 No.249 (Minutes No. 32 § 63)), which set the task "to develop and implement a strategy for attracting the Latvian diaspora for the implementation of LIDA functions and to strengthen LIDA capacity to provide the function".

The MoF, as the institution responsible for the development of the diaspora policy planning document, public administration institutions, state capital companies, diaspora organizations involved in the development of the Plan, as well as other institutions and associations that ensure the implementation of diaspora policy: Ministry of Defense, Central Election Commission, Road Traffic Safety Directorate, Ministry of Economics, Financial and Capital Market Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Interior, State Education Quality Service, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Culture, Latvian Institute, Latvian Investment and Development Agency, Ministry of Welfare, National Archives of Latvia, National Library of Latvia, Latvian National Cultural Center, Latvian Language Agency, Latvian State Radio and Television Center, National Electronic Media Council, National Cinema Center, State Employment Agency, Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, Social Integration Fund, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Justice, University of Latvia Diaspora and Migration Research Center, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, National Centre for Education, State Regional Development Agency, State Chancellery, Ministry of Health, Kurzeme, Latgale, Riga, Vidzeme, Zemgale planning regions, as well as non-governmental organizations: American Latvian Association, Association with World Experience in Latvia, Association "Laiks BL", Association "Latvians in the World - Museum and Research Center", Association "Latvian Union of Local Governments", European Latvian Association, Financial Industry Association, Association for Organizing 3x3 Meetings of Multigenerational Families Seminar "Three Times Three", Association "Latvian National Council in Ireland", Latvian Federation of Australia and New Zealand, Association of Latvian Doctors and Dentists, Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Outside Latvia, Daugava Vanagi Central Board, World Federation of Free Latvians, World Latvian Youth Seminar 2x2 organizer "Foundation 2x2" , portal Baltic-Ireland.ie.

The Plan is the first cross-sectoral policy planning document[[1]](#footnote-1) developed to achieve the diaspora policy objectives set out in the Diaspora Law, which summarizes the tasks of all institutions related to diaspora issues, results to be achieved and performance indicators, as well as implementation deadlines and the required funding. The Plan summarizes and builds on the initiatives that have been implemented so far and continue to be implemented by the state, NGOs and diaspora organizations, as well as outlines the tasks and priorities set by the dynamic development of the diaspora and global challenges. **According to the data from a study conducted by UoL DMRC in 2020[[2]](#footnote-2), the number of Latvian citizens and former citizens abroad at the beginning of 2019 was 292 thousand, but at the beginning of 2020** - **about 300 thousand. Including persons of Latvian origin and their descendants in the USA, Australia, Canada and some European countries, at the beginning of 2020, the size of the diaspora is approximately 373 thousand people.**

In the context of demographic challenges, the high proportion of compatriots living abroad and the rapid assimilation processes identified in research, without a purposeful diaspora policy, our nation will become not only smaller, but also weaker in its dispersion**. Therefore, diaspora policy is critically important today, emphasizing its most important priorities** - **networking, maintaining the Latvian language, identity and Latvianness, attracting youth and more active involvement of the diaspora in the Latvian economy, which, among other things, creates reasonable preconditions for return migration.**

The Diaspora Law provides for the establishment of the DAB, an advisory body. Since its establishment in May 2019, the DAB has been promoting the coherent development of diaspora policy and the setting of its annual priorities, as well as the implementation and evaluation of diaspora policy. In order to evaluate the measures taken so far and the results achieved by the diaspora policy, as well as to agree on the tasks to be included in the Plan for the next three years, the MoFA, on the recommendation of the DAB, established five thematic working groups in which representatives of the diaspora were also actively involved:

1. strengthening of the Latvian identity and sense of belonging to Latvia in the diaspora, research, preservation and development of the Latvian language and culture outside Latvia;
2. promotion of civic and political participation of the diaspora;
3. involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science, public administration;
4. support for remigration;
5. media and information.

The work of the working groups took place from November 2019 to June 2020 and the opinions and conclusions expressed in them have been taken into account when developing the Plan. The draft plan was supported at the DAB meeting on 17 July 2020 and the activities included in the plan have been structured in accordance with the four directions of action specified in the Diaspora Law and the tasks included therein:

1. Strengthening of Latvian identity and sense of belonging to Latvia, preservation of Latvian language and culture outside Latvia;
2. Promoting civic and political participation of the diaspora;
3. Involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science;
4. Support for remigration.

Strengthening the diaspora's Latvian identity and sense of belonging to Latvia, preservation of the Latvian language and culture outside Latvia

The plan for the next three years includes activities and challenges already under way and new initiatives driven by both the needs of the diaspora and global developments. In the conditions of the spread of the global pandemic and its containment, the transition to digital and distance learning methods becomes a priority, which is an essential precondition for continuing learning of the Latvian language. The MoES envisages the provision of support for the improvement of the professional skills of diaspora teachers and educators as an important task, incl. to provide an interactive diaspora education platform for the education of diaspora teachers on the www.maciunmacies.lv website, as well as to increase the number of children in online classes on the Classflow platform and to increase the number of users of e-LAIPA self-study tool for young people and adults.

Being aware that learning of the Latvian language is a priority for the preservation of the Latvian identity, the implementation of the language learning projects included in the Plan is the most financially intensive. The state budget provides funding of almost 1.1 million euros annually for these and other measures aimed at preserving the Latvian language in the diaspora[[3]](#footnote-3).

Preserving culture and its values in the diaspora is no less important. Traditionally, many choirs, dance, folklore, theatre and other amateur groups operate in the diaspora's home countries. Since 2019, a new measure has been created, within the framework of which financial support is provided to diaspora amateur groups. In turn, support for the organization of Song Festivals, cultural festivals, workshops and seminars has been provided for a long time.

In order to maintain the sustainability of the Song and Dance Festival traditions, the Plan envisages providing methodological support for the organization of master classes for choir and dance ensemble leaders, wherein it is planned to provide methodological support to at least 80 amateur group leaders every year. With support from the state, the participation of diaspora groups in the Latvian Song and Dance Festival will be ensured, for which financial support in the amount of 285,000 euros is planned for 2023.

Already now, the MoC and the NAL, in cooperation with diaspora organizations, carry out regular work in identifying and researching the materials of the diaspora archives, thinking about ensuring information and availability of these materials, including their possible transfer to Latvia. The plan also envisages intensifying work on the diaspora - identification, preservation, compilation and digitization of material (documentary) and historical heritage, which will enable the creation of digital collections and diaspora material heritage for research and educational purposes on the diaspora experience, contribution to Latvia and the formation of a Latvian identity outside Latvia.

State support in the amount of almost 800,000 euros per year is envisaged for the implementation of the cultural heritage preservation measures included in the plan*.*

The MoFA will continue to fund joint projects of up to 100 embassies and diaspora organizations aimed at strengthening the diaspora's connection with Latvia, involving more than 15,000 members of the diaspora in almost 30 countries around the world. The Plan provides for funding of EUR 158,000 annually for the implementation of such projects.

Promoting civic and political participation in the diaspora

The Diaspora Law identifies the promotion of civic and political participation of the diaspora as one of the most important goals of diaspora policy, supporting and creating favourable conditions for the political and civic involvement of the diaspora. Although according to the research conducted by the UoL DMRC in 2019, only 11% of members of the diaspora are involved in diaspora organizations[[4]](#footnote-4), while a significantly larger number of people participate in the events organized by them and benefit from the activities of the organization. It is expected that under the conditions of the crisis caused by COVID-19, when the opportunity to travel freely and come to Latvia has disappeared, people's desire to maintain contact with compatriots by participating in diaspora organizations could increase. With the establishment of the DAB, an effective consultative cooperation platform has been established to ensure the widest possible representation of the diaspora in the development of laws and regulations, as well as in decision-making important for the development of diaspora policy.

The plan for the next three years includes a number of important challenges in this direction. One of the most important challenges will continue to be the expanding of opportunities for diaspora involvement in the development of policy planning documents and regulatory enactments. Through the Legislation Portal developed by the SC, diaspora organizations will have the opportunity to participate in the development of legislation at an early stage, as well as ensure transparency in the process of promoting, coordinating and approving legislation.

The implementation of the Diaspora Law and the fulfilment of the tasks specified in Paragraph 12 of its Transitional Provisions will promote the participation of diaspora with the right to vote in elections, improve awareness of voting opportunities abroad and improve the availability of elections, including local government elections. In order to ensure the possibility for the diaspora representatives with the right to vote to participate in the 2021 local government elections, the goal has been set to make the necessary changes in legislation. We expect that at least 50,000 voters abroad will be active and participate in the 2022 Saeima elections.

The SIF will continue to administer a diaspora NGO co-financing program to promote diaspora civic participation. The program envisages receiving support in the open project competition for ensuring the core business and strengthening the operational capacity of diaspora organizations in Latvia and abroad, for establishing diaspora and other NGOs, youth organizations, attracting new members, networking and maintaining ties with Latvia. Funding of up to € 200,000 per year is planned for the next three years to provide such support.

Communication with the diaspora is important for the promotion of civic and political participation, as well as for the strengthening of the diaspora's ties with Latvia. For this purpose, the coverage of diaspora and remigration topics in the Latvian and diaspora media is provided. In the media support programmes implemented by SIF and NEMC, the Plan envisages funding in the amount of 78,000 euros annually. At the same time, in order to promote the active involvement of the diaspora in refuting the fake news and disinformation spread in the media of its home countries, the SC in cooperation with the MoFA plans to organize several webinars on topical issues related to strategic communication and decreasing disinformation.

Involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science

Latvia is interested in creating mutually enhancing synergies with the diaspora, involving it in economic activities and creating common long-term goals for cooperation with the diaspora; therefore, the involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science and networking is set as one of the important priorities for the next three years.

LIDA is a leading institution that implements purposeful involvement of the diaspora in the national economy. In the plan for the next three years, the current directions of co-operation with the diaspora are support for Latvian companies in export markets, attraction of investments, establishment and expansion of companies in Latvia, innovation and science commercialization projects (in co-operation with MoES), and attraction of tourism flows to Latvia.

The plan to support LIDA activities in the involvement of the diaspora in the Latvian economy, including in the promotion of entrepreneurship and increasing the competitiveness of Latvian companies, funding in the amount of 235,000 euros will be provided, the distribution of which at the level of tasks and activities will be reflected in the annual action plan prepared by the LIDA, according to the current situation.

The World Latvian Economic and Innovations Forum (WLEIF) organized by the WFFL with the support of the MoFA will continue, which will enable entrepreneurs and professionals from Latvia and the diaspora business world to discuss and offer the best solutions to support the Latvian economy. On 19 November 2020, the WLEIF took place for the seventh time, this time on a digital platform.

In 2021, it is planned to create a website ResearchLatvia, which will provide information on research programmes and job opportunities in Latvia for diaspora researchers and students. ESF funds will be mobilized to provide these measures.

The MoES will continue to identify diaspora scientists and promote communication to strengthen cooperation between the science diaspora and Latvia. Strengthening cooperation with the science diaspora is one of the goals of the Ministry of Education and Science on the way to the international competitiveness of Latvian science, knowledge transfer, and international mobility. In 2023, it is planned to organize the 5th World Congress of Latvian Scientists.

Support for remigration

Taking into account the demographic challenges, especially in the regions of Latvia, support for remigration is a significant contribution to the further development of the country. In January and February 2020, the Foreign Ministry's assessment of the potential impact of diaspora policy on remigration did not identify any other measures (other than those mentioned in this plan) that would have a positive impact on remigration. Diaspora organizations were also invited to submit proposals for remigration support measures. One proposal for a measure was received - concerning an additional address. At the same time, MoEPRD conducted a survey of remigrants who had contacted the regional remigration coordinators, they in turn provided an opinion on the improvement of existing regional remigration support measures.

The plan provides for the preparation of at least 1,500 personalized offers for remigrants each year for the next three years, as well as funding for remigration support in the amount of EUR 200,000. In the case of remigration, it is economic considerations that are particularly important (well-paid jobs and business opportunities, as well as the availability of information about them). Therefore, the regional remigration support measures implemented by the MoEPRD also provide support for entrepreneurship and employment. The MoW in cooperation with the SEA, through attracting EU funds, plans to provide information to potential remigrants about vacancies and the labour market in Latvia, implementing support measures for the promotion and integration of remigrants into the labour market. Information on the coordination of social systems when changing the country of residence, access to housing, services for families with children, etc. is also important. Information is provided by regional remigration coordinators when preparing personalized offers.

In order to ensure the successful integration of remigrant children into the Latvian education system, Latvian language training courses are implemented under the supervision of the SIF in order to promote the integration of adult remigrants and their family members into Latvian society. There are plans to train 150 people every year, with funding of up to 34,000 euros annually for this purpose.

In order to ensure the formulation of diaspora policies and priorities, for several years, the MoFA has been successfully cooperating with the UoL DMRC, which has accumulated an extensive knowledge base on the situation and needs of the diaspora and remigrants. The Centre's research helps to develop research-based policies in the field of diaspora and remigration, which in turn are reflected in the Plan. The MoFA will continue to identify current needs for research in 2021-2023, which will be previously discussed with state institutions and NGOs. In order to provide an opportunity to identify the needs of diaspora youth in the field of education and to develop a policy in the field of education based on research conclusions, the UoL DMRC with the support of the MoFA in 2020 conducted a study, "Attracting diaspora youth to educational institutions in Latvia".

Aware of the importance of remigration in the long-term development of the country, the MoEPRD plans to support employers in creating new jobs for remigrants. The plan envisages 400,000 euros annually for this task. Moreover, by attracting ESF funds, work on the development of the unified state and local government portal, www.latvija.lv, will be continued until the end of 2022, providing up-to-date information on the services rendered by the state and local governments to persons who plan to return to Latvia.

The task for the next three years will be to move towards ensuring the most favourable conditions for those families who have decided to return to Latvia. In 2021, the implementation of the Diaspora Law and the fulfilment of all tasks specified in Paragraph 12 of its Transitional Provisions must be implemented, which envisages a number of changes in regulatory enactments with the aim of facilitating the remigration process and reducing bureaucratic obstacles.

# II Description of the current situation

## Strengthening the Latvian identity and sense of belonging to Latvia, preservation of the Latvian language and culture outside Latvia

Strengthening the Latvian identity of the diaspora is one of the basic goals set by the Diaspora Law. One of its most important components is related to the preservation of the Latvian language in the diaspora. Since 2006, the activities of Latvian language teachers in the Russian Federation have been financed. Currently, teachers are active in five places: Moscow Latvian Cultural Society, Moscow Latvian School, Archlatvian Secondary School in Maxim Gorky village, Bashkortostan, for several years in Omsk and Krasnoyarsk, Skype distance learning lessons are taught by a teacher from Latvia – to adults and children, members of local Latvian associations. Since 2013, systematic support has been provided to the operation of Latvian diaspora weekend schools and summer secondary schools in other countries, as well as to the organization of various educational events to promote the learning and use of the Latvian language. Every year, the Latvian Language Agency organizes a competition for Latvian diaspora weekend schools and summer secondary schools to administer funding in Europe and the world. For example, in 2019, 58 diaspora schools in Europe, the USA, Canada, Australia, and South Africa received funding. The funding is intended to cover the costs of renting school premises, insurance, teaching aids and materials, the purchase of technical equipment, as well as teachers' travel expenses to diaspora teachers' courses in Latvia and host countries. Latvian education for teenagers and young people in the world is provided by diaspora summer schools - in the USA, there are Garezers and Kursa summer secondary schools, in Australia - Anna Ziedare's summer secondary school, in Europe there are several, including the European Summer School, supported by Latvia through the Ministry of Education and Science.

The undeniable contribution of the diaspora representatives is the opportunities to master the Latvian language programme at universities in the diaspora's home countries, for example, Germany, the USA and Sweden. The experience of these universities shows that Latvian language learners and people mastering Latvian eventually become informal ambassadors of Latvia. Currently, financial support from Latvia for learning of the Latvian language and culture is provided to nine foreign lectureships and study programmes – to University of Washington (Seattle, USA), Charles University in Prague (Prague, Czech Republic), Masaryk University in Brno (Czech Republic), University of Tartu (Tartu, Estonia), University of Helsinki (Helsinki, Finland), University of Warsaw (Warsaw, Poland), one university in South Korea, co-funding for a lecturer at the Beijing University of Foreign Languages (Beijing, China) and Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest (Budapest, Hungary). Educational events for the teaching staff of these universities are supported, research and projects are implemented, teaching materials are developed.

The LLA has developed a wide range of teaching and methodological materials for the diaspora, which are available on the website at www.maciunmacies.lv, as well as organizing the education and improvement of diaspora teachers in seminars, courses and master classes both in Latvia and in the host countries.

Camps are considered by experts to be one of the most effective measures for strengthening the Latvian identity of children and young people, and this is especially proven by the long-term experience of the exile diaspora. Cooperation and friendship are formed in the camps, they help to learn the language, and the attraction to Latvia is formed and strengthened. Camps are the basis for future cooperation potential and possible facilitation of remigration. The camps take place both in the diaspora's home countries and in Latvia. Latvia provides support for identity preservation measures established by the diaspora, in which people living outside Latvia and in Latvia participate. Initiatives developed in the diaspora are supported, for example, a 2x2 camp for young people from Latvia and the diaspora, as well as a 3x3 meeting of multigenerational families. With the growing interest in 3x3 meetings, the number of multi-generational family meetings held outside Latvia has increased from five in 2014 to eight (in Europe - four, in the USA - three, in Australia - one) in 2019. Also in Latvia, two 3x3 family gatherings take place every year, but the total number of participants in all gatherings per year has already exceeded 1.4 thousand people. In 2015, after a break of several years, the organization of an annual 2x2 youth seminar in Latvia was resumed (all the previous ones had mostly taken place in the USA and elsewhere since 1964), and 70-100 young Latvians from Latvia and other countries (in similar proportions) participate in the event. In 2013, the SIF started administering a program to strengthen the connection of diaspora children with Latvia, in particular, to master the Latvian language, culture and history. Within the framework of the program, Latvian NGOs selected through a competition organize joint summer camps for Latvian and diaspora children in Latvia - every summer, ten to eleven week-long camps bring together an average of four hundred children aged 16-18, half of whom live in Latvia and the other half - beyond its borders.

Thanks to the successful cooperation between the Ministry of Education and Science and diaspora organizations, it is possible to test Latvian language proficiency in the diaspora's home countries and obtain an official language proficiency certificate. Taking into account the modern technical possibilities, in recent years, Latvian language learning has also begun in a distance learning environment - children have the opportunity to study online on the Classflow platform; moreover, an online self-learning tool for young people and adults, "e-LAIPA", has been developed. Young diaspora adults have the opportunity to receive support for two weeks of intensive study of the Latvian language and culture at the Latvian Language and Culture Summer School organized by the University of Latvia.

There are many choirs, dance, folklore, theater and other amateur groups in the diaspora's home countries. In the middle of the 20th century, song days, song festivals or culture days regularly took place in almost all countries where larger Latvian communities were formed, gathering hundreds of participants and thousands of spectators. Latvian culture, traditions, history and events and events organized for studying and mastering purposes are important elements for the formation and strengthening of Latvian identity. For several years now, support has been provided for diaspora projects aimed at strengthening the sense of belonging of Latvians living outside Latvia.

Support for diaspora organizations to ensure the sustainability of the Song and Dance Festival tradition and the availability of Latvian culture in the diaspora's home countries has been provided since 2015. Within the framework of this activity, support is provided for sustaining (through organization and holding of events) of the diaspora song festival tradition in different parts of the world (e.g., European Latvian Culture Festival, US East and West Coast Song Festival, Canadian Song Festival, Latvian Culture Days in Australia, Latvian Culture Days in Great Britain), as well as master classes and seminars. Every year, an average of five events or series of events (such as theatre and concert tours) are supported, during which Latvian professional artists perform in diaspora centers.

Methodological support for the learning of the common repertoire to participate in the Song and Dance Festival in Latvia has been provided by LNCC since 2012, organizing master classes and seminars for diaspora choir conductors and dance group leaders in Latvia and home countries, as well as, for example, introducing amateur groups to the traditions of making and wearing folk costumes or making folk musical instruments in separate seminars. In 2018, a project was launched to support the operation of diaspora amateur groups, providing support for various practical needs (e.g., the rent of premises, insurance, production and purchase of costume materials and musical instruments). 84 diaspora amateur groups participated in the 2018 Song and Dance Festival.

An important activity related to the preservation and learning of Latvian diaspora culture is support for the preservation and exhibiting of Latvian diaspora art in Latvia, which has been implemented since 2015. It provides a permanent exhibition in Cēsis and at least two seasonal and traveling exhibitions in other parts of Latvia.

In 2012, Latvian diaspora centres and weekend schools participated in the project "Jury for Children, Youth and Parents" implemented by the NLL to stimulate students' creative writing and other self-expression. In 2012, 39 diaspora weekend schools in 19 diaspora host countries participated in this activity, but in 2019 there were 57 schools in 24 countries in all parts of the world.

With the entry into force of the Diaspora Law, work has also been intensified on ensuring the identification, preservation, acquisition, digitization and public communication of the historical diaspora (exile and other waves of emigration) material (documentary) and historical heritage. Preservation of diaspora historical heritage - documents about Latvia and Latvians abroad - includes preservation of diaspora archives and creation of digital collection, transfer of public employees and other important private libraries and archives to Latvia, as well as the study of the history of various emigration waves and the life stories of the diaspora Latvians, creating a collection of the diaspora's material heritage for research and educational purposes, educating the public about the diaspora experience, contribution to Latvia and formation of Latvian identity outside Latvia.

## Promoting civic and political participation of the diaspora

The Diaspora Law sets the goal of supporting and promoting the political and civic involvement of the diaspora. Diaspora organizations play an important role in establishing diaspora cooperation with Latvia. Although it is estimated that only 11% of diaspora members are involved in diaspora organizations,[[5]](#footnote-5) a significantly larger number of people participate and benefit from the activities they organize. For several years now, funds have been available to diaspora organizations to strengthen their activities through a competition organized by the SIF. In 2015, the SIF started administering a diaspora NGO co-financing program to promote diaspora civic participation. Within this framework, non-governmental organizations representing the interests of the diaspora registered in Latvia and abroad receive support for ensuring their core business and strengthening their operational capacity. Among the supported activities are also events organized by the diaspora organizations themselves, including activities for attracting new members and establishing youth organizations, as well as measures that promote mutual cooperation between diaspora communities to strengthen civil society and strengthen the diaspora's connection with Latvia. 15-17 (mainly European) diaspora organizations receive support under the program every year. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in co-operation with embassies and diaspora organizations, also implements an average of 100 smaller-scale projects a year aimed at strengthening the diaspora's ties with Latvia, involving an average of over 15,000 diaspora representatives in almost 30 countries around the world. Activities in the fields of culture, education, science, economy, sports and other areas, communication promotion measures, as well as other activities that would promote the self-organization of the diaspora, strengthening the Latvian identity and maintaining ties with Latvia, which cannot be implemented within other programmes, are supported.

With the establishment of the DAB in 2019, a consultative mechanism has been established to ensure diaspora representation in the drafting of laws and regulations, as well as in decision-making important for the development of the diaspora policy. This intersectoral Plan has also been produced on the recommendation of the DAB in working groups organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the involvement of the state, local governments and non-governmental organizations, mainly diaspora organizations.

In order to ensure the representation of the point of view of the part of the diaspora unrepresented in diaspora organizations, the MoFA has been cooperating with the UoL DMRC for several years. The Centre's research helps to develop research-based policies in the field of diaspora and remigration policy.

The opportunity to participate in elections is of great importance in maintaining the ties of Latvian citizens living abroad with the Latvian state. The planned amendments to laws and other regulatory enactments will further promote the opportunities of the diaspora with the right to vote to participate in the Saeima and European Parliament elections, as well as the referendums; it will also provide the opportunity for citizens permanently residing abroad to participate in local elections.

In order to strengthen communication with the diaspora, the coverage of diaspora and remigration topics in the Latvian media and support for diaspora media activities is promoted, for which support is provided in the media support programmes implemented by SIF and NEMC. An important and necessary element for maintaining the connection of the diaspora with Latvia, receiving and transmitting information about what is happening in the diaspora and in Latvia, is the Latvian media (public media and commercial media), as well as media and information exchange platforms created and maintained by the diaspora. The Latvian social media, being aware of the importance of the diaspora in processes taking place in Latvia, include content in their programmes that is interesting for the Latvian society and the diaspora. Since 2017, support has been provided for the coverage of diaspora issues in Latvian commercial media.

## Involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science

Since the restoration of the country's independence, co-operation with the Latvian diaspora has become more diverse, including the interaction in the circulation of intellectual potential. Every citizen of Latvia is a value and in the conditions of globalization can participate in the formation of Latvia, no matter where in the world they live. Even when abroad, it is possible to maintain ties with Latvia and find new mutually complementary forms of co-operation. One of the goals of the Diaspora Law is to promote the involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science, as well as in public administration.

Latvia is interested in creating mutually improving synergies with the diaspora, involving it in economic activities and creating common long-term goals for cooperation with the diaspora. Those living abroad bring new ideas, values and practices to Latvia, Latvia benefits from professionals with global experience.

LIDA is the main institution that promotes economic relations with the diaspora. Current directions of cooperation with the diaspora are support for Latvian companies in export markets, attraction of investments, establishment and expansion of companies in Latvia, innovation and science commercialization projects (in cooperation with the MoES), attraction of tourism flows to Latvia. Diaspora members can use the specific knowledge gained in their home countries or industry to support the entry of Latvian companies into the market of their home country, for example, by sharing experience, business contacts, recommendations on differences in business culture, etc. Possible involvement of the diaspora in the promotion of Latvia as a tourist destination, in cooperation with the tour operators of the host country, provision of consultations on attracting investors or mentoring for business development in Latvia, as well as other opportunities. In order to inform the diaspora members about the possibilities of cooperation with Latvia, in 2019 LIDA implemented more than 50 activities with the involvement of the diaspora, which took place in 13 different countries. Communication with young students from the diaspora is important to inform them about job, internship or business opportunities in Latvia.

Latvia's partner in the implementation of this priority is diaspora organizations. A traditional example of networking among diaspora entrepreneurs and professionals is the World Latvian Economic and Innovations Forum organized by the WFFL and supported by the MoFA, which brings together representatives of Latvia and the diaspora business world from many countries. In 2019, this took place for the fifth time. In May 2019, a business conference, Spotlight Latvia, was held in Denver, USA, on the initiative of the Latvian diaspora in the USA, which brought together entrepreneurs from Latvia and America, including representatives of the diaspora. In such cooperation platforms, Latvian companies have the opportunity to establish contacts with other countries in similar business areas through the diaspora and to develop export or other cooperation opportunities. In 2019, the ELA, with the support of Latvian institutions, implemented several forums for networking and cooperation between diaspora and Latvian professionals in Europe, for example, in the field of medical professionals and creative industries, which promotes mutual networking and knowledge transfer.

It is also possible for scientists abroad to establish cooperation with Latvian companies, universities, scientific and state institutions, including the transfer of knowledge to business and the development of competitive ideas. The World Congress of Latvian Scientists, which has taken place 4 times, has become a tradition. In order to identify the Latvian diaspora abroad, a study of Latvian diaspora researchers abroad has been conducted, as a result of which a database has been created with more than 600 diaspora scientists who would like to contribute to Latvia's development, even though their professional careers are being built abroad. The MoES implements measures to strengthen cooperation networks and improve communication on opportunities for participation and cooperation of diaspora scientists with Latvian institutions. Networking allows diaspora researchers with experience in their field to be involved in both joint projects and policy-making. Strengthening cooperation with the science diaspora is one of the goals of the Ministry of Education and Science on the way to the international competitiveness of Latvian science, knowledge transfer and international mobility. The MoES develops further proposals for network expansion, as well as communication measures to strengthen cooperation between the science diaspora and Latvia.

## Support for remigration

One of the main goals of the Diaspora Law is to ensure favorable conditions for remigration - several support measures are provided for those who wish to return to Latvia. This is especially important given the current demographic situation - depopulation or population decline, which is one of Latvia's biggest challenges. In the period from 2000 to 2019, the population decreased the most in the Latgale statistical region - by 32.5%, while in other regions the population over this period decreased from 17.5% (Riga statistical region) to 27.3% (Vidzeme statistical region). The statistical region of Pierīga (the territory adjacent to Riga) is the only one where the population has increased during this period - by 3.5%. Consequently, it can be concluded that the problems of depopulation affect the future of Latvia's regions the most. This, in turn, confirms that regional development support measures must have the effect of increasing the population of the regions.

In 2019, the total number of immigrants in Latvia was 11,223 people, of which 46% or 5,114 people were remigrants. In the period from 2013 to 2019, the total number of immigrants in Latvia was 68,536 people, of whom 38,857 were remigrants (on average in one year - 9,791 immigrants, of whom 5,551 were remigrants)[[6]](#footnote-6). Although total immigration is growing year by year, the increase in immigration is the smallest part of the improvement in the migration balance - the largest part is the decrease in emigration. This means that remigration is not a process taking place by itself and there must be specific support measures to promote remigration.

Taking into account the demographic challenges, especially in the regions, in March 2018, the MoEPRD and the planning regions started to implement regional remigration support measures, under which potential remigrants have the opportunity to receive consultations, through regional remigration coordinators, on issues related to return to a specific region and municipality. The regional approach makes it possible to prepare personalized offers on employment and education opportunities, residence, a package of social services in the particular municipality according to the needs and interests of the remigrant. Economic considerations - job or business opportunities - are one of the most important issues in the case of remigration. Access to information on jobs, employment and/or entrepreneurship, coordination of social systems when changing the country of residence is especially important for people who want to return to Latvia. Therefore, regional remigration support measures also provide support for entrepreneurship and employment. In total, several thousand people have received consultations during two years; with the support of coordinators, 1,765 persons have returned to Latvia from March 2018 to September 2020.

In addition to regional remigration support schemes, the SEA and LIDA undertake measures to address potential remigrants by organizing online career days, providing information and counselling, participating in events organized by the diaspora, etc.

When families return to Latvia, one of the topical issues is the belief in the successful integration of children into the Latvian education system. The Latvian language skills of children who have returned to Latvia after living abroad are often insufficient to enable them to join Latvian educational institutions. In order to help remigrant children and their families to learn Latvian faster, the LLA has developed a methodology and recommendations for school teachers. Adults are also offered the opportunity to learn Latvian - under the supervision of the SIF, language training courses are implemented to promote the integration of remigrants and their family members in Latvia.

The adoption of the Diaspora Law has facilitated the preparation of amendments to a number of other laws to reduce bureaucratic barriers and set out specific support measures for remigrants. Amendments to the Law on Declaration of Residence, the Law on Maternity and Sickness Insurance, the Law on State Social Insurance, and the Law on Electronic Media have been adopted.

# III Measures to be taken, outcomes and performance indicators

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| *Purpose of the plan* | | | *The aim of the plan is to strengthen the national identity of the diaspora and belonging to Latvia; to promote the connection of the diaspora with the culture, economy, national economy and science of Latvia, to ensure favorable conditions for remigration, to support the civic and political participation of the diaspora* | | | | | |
| *Policy outcome and performance indicator* | | | *The national identity of the diaspora, belonging to Latvia has been strengthened, the involvement of the diaspora in the social processes taking place in Latvia has been increased, as well as favorable conditions for remigration have been ensured.* | | | | | |
| ***1st Line of Action*: *Strengthening of Latvian identity and belonging to Latvia, preservation of the Latvian language and culture outside Latvia*** | | | | | | | | |
| *Eligible policy planning documents:* | | | *Project "State Language Policy Guidelines for 2021-2027";*  *project "Guidelines for the Development of a Cohesive and Active Civic Society for 2021-2027";*  *"Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2021-2027" (currently under development) and cultural sector development strategies* | | | | | |
| *Policy goal: To strengthen the Latvian identity of the diaspora and belonging to Latvia, to promote the preservation of the Latvian language and culture in the diaspora* | | | | | | | | |
| *Policy outcomes and performance indicators:* | | | *1) Latvian language skills are preserved in various target groups of the diaspora, especially for children and young people - in the group with the highest risk of assimilation. Indicator: children attending Latvian schools involved in diaspora schools: in 2023 - 13% (source: data of the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Latvia and the LLA data);*  *2) creative and age-appropriate language learning tools improved and developed - distance learning opportunities, self-study opportunities and their accessibility to the diaspora;*  *3) increased support for diaspora educators in the development of their professional competence and methodology. Indicator: number of persons attending professional development events for diaspora educators (co-financed by the State budget) / 215 persons per year (2023);*  *4) national identity, culture and traditions in the diaspora preserved;*  *5) cultural and historical heritage of the diaspora preserved.* | | | | | |
| **No.** | **Task/measure** | **Operational output** | | **Performance indicator** | **Institution in charge** | **Co-responsible institutions and other implementers** | **Deadline** | **Required annual budget (indicative) and source of funding** | |
| *1.1. To promote the preservation of the Latvian language in the diaspora* | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.1. | Provide support for weekend schools, summer secondary schools | Support is provided for learning the Latvian language and culture in weekend schools and summer secondary schools | | At least 55 diaspora weekend schools and summer secondary schools with 2000 diaspora children and young people have received financial support | MOES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 166 000 SBF | |
| Teachers' activities are provided in 5 location among the Eastern diaspora (8 teacher places), 2 of them - remotely (Skype lessons) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 42 000 SBF | |
| Latvian teachers (27 teachers) sent to Garezers, Kursa and Anna Ziedare' summer secondary school | MoES |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 106 049 SBF | |
| 1.1.2. | Development and availability of methodological teaching aids for the diaspora | Development and availability of teaching, informative and methodological materials, educational research, availability of digital cultural resources (including the Latvian cultural canon, etc.), digital Latvian language learning resources, incl. development and improvement of the language corpus for the diaspora and development of teaching aids for level C. | | Number of users of digital Latvian language learning resources in the diaspora:  2021 - 35,000;  2022 - 36,000;  2023 - 37,000. | MoES | LLA, KM | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 178 528 SBF | |
| 1.1.3. | Support for other non-formal education activities, especially for children and young people | Supported the organization of diaspora educational events and remigration events, incl. camps and youth exchange programmes in Latvia and abroad | | Supported the organization of 6 educational camps for diaspora children and youth in Latvia and abroad, incl. thematic language learning camps | MoES | ELA, ĪLNP | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 54 224 SBF | |
| At least 12 educational events have been funded to promote the learning and use of the Latvian language in the diaspora. Co-financing for travel expenses to Latvian and host country diaspora teacher courses for at least 40 diaspora teachers has been provided. Total number of participants in the event: 300 | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 60 000 SBF | |
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| Two (2) exchange events, a series of competitions for diaspora children and remigrants (100 participants in total) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 15 381 SBF | |
| In co-operation with the University of Latvia, a Latvian language and culture summer school for diaspora youth has been organized, and organization of a Latvian language and culture summer school co-financed (4 groups, 58 participants in total) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 10 000 SBF | |
| 1.1.4. | Develop a roadmap for diaspora weekend schools and other non-formal education activities, incl. short-term visits to Latvian schools | Taking into account the diverse needs of the diaspora, individual programmes and support materials for teachers, camp organizers and parents have been developed in cooperation with diaspora educators, based on the Diaspora educational guidelines. | | Individual programmes, methodological materials and educational events for teachers to implement the content of diaspora education guidelines have been developed. A seminar organized for diaspora teachers and Latvian teachers working in diaspora schools (annually). Development and improvement of sample programmes for the diaspora in four content areas of the Latvian education guidelines (2 programmes per year). Latvian language learning for the whole family and thematic camp programmes | MoES | NCE, diaspora organizations | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 52 000 SBF | |
| 1.1.5. | Coordinate and provide support for counseling and professional development of diaspora teachers and educators | Systematic support for the professional development of diaspora educators, incl. organized development and implementation of a professional development study programme for diaspora teachers in Latvian universities and provision of an interactive diaspora education platform for the education of diaspora teachers on the website www.maciunmacies.lv | | Methodology courses for diaspora teachers organized in Latvia (a three-day camp, 50 diaspora teachers trained) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 24 000 SBF | |
| Methodological courses and master classes organized abroad for diaspora teachers, informational seminars abroad for diaspora parents (at least 2 methodology courses, 2 master classes and 2 informative seminars, trained 65 teachers, 30 parents) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 36 680 SBF | |
| Diaspora school cooperation project, “School bridges” (2 events organized) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 4 350 SBF | |
| Distance learning courses (3 groups) for diaspora and Latvian teachers, educated 12 teachers to work in the LLA.classflow.lv environment | MoeS | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 9 440 SBF | |
| Implementation of a diaspora distance learning programme in Latvian higher education institutions | MoES |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 38 800 SBF | |
| Organization of diaspora educators' forums, conferences, seminars | MoES |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 13 389 SBF | |
| Support for teachers for inclusion of remigrant children in the Latvian education system: master classes, seminars, courses (80 teachers trained) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 6 200 SBF | |
| The Diaspora Education Platform provides advisory support to diaspora teachers and parents, incl. current issues of diaspora education, exchange of experience and materials of diaspora schools, information about educators, educational institutions and organizations that have experience in educating diaspora and remigrant children and youth | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 14 072 SBF | |
| 1.1.6. | Involve diaspora children and youth in distance learning programmes in Latvian schools and universities and evaluate the possibilities of organizing short-term visits of diaspora children and youth in Latvian schools | Support provided for learning Latvian as a home language and as a foreign language in ClassFlow (distance learning) environment for diaspora children and adolescents | | 200 people trained annually | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 198 938 SBF | |
| Diaspora children and youth visits to Latvian educational institutions have been organized | | Diaspora children and young people who have made short-term visits to Latvian educational institutions (5-10 persons per school year) | MoES | diaspora organizations, Latvian educational institutions | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 14 224 SBF | |
| 1.1.7. | Ensure official language proficiency tests and their availability to the diaspora | Official language proficiency tests (OLPT) in the diaspora's home countries are provided | | Diagnostic tests and examinations developed for the diaspora (2 test sets), OLPT for an average of 100 persons in the diaspora (according to the request) | MoES | NCE | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 53 000 SBF | |
| 1.1.8. | Support for joint diaspora and Latvian children's camps | Every year, at least 10 projects for organizing joint camps for diaspora and Latvian children are supported | | 10 projects have been implemented, the number of event participants - about 400 in total | MoC | SIF | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 156 516 SBF | |
| *1.2. To strengthen the membership of the diaspora in Latvia, to preserve the national identity and to promote a common awareness of cultural and historical values in the diaspora* | | | | | | | | | |
| *1.2.1. To support the preservation of Latvian identity* | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2.1.1. | To support the availability of professional culture and art for the diaspora - concerts, guest performances, meetings with culture (literature, art, etc.) professionals and other similar measures | Organize guest performances, concerts, etc. cultural activities in the diaspora's home countries | | Every year, 7 events (including series of events) with an average of 80 participants per event are supported | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021.gadā – 30 000,  no 2022.gada – 40 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.1.2. | To support the continuity of established traditions in the diaspora and the cooperation program for multi-generation families (3x3) | To provide support for organizing 3x3 gatherings of multi-generation families in Latvia and abroad | | Every year at least 8 meetings are supported in Latvia, Europe, the USA and Australia with an average of 120 participants in one meeting, incl. supporting the travel expenses of teachers / lecturers for meetings outside Latvia, as well as participants from Russia in meetings in Latvia | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021.gadā – 70 000,  no 2022.gada – 80 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.1.3. | To support the cooperation programmes of the youth (2x2) camp established in the diaspora to promote the continuity of national traditions | To provide support for the organization of 2x2 seminars for the diaspora and Latvian youth | | Every year, 2 youth camps with an average of 70 participants in one camp are supported | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021 – 7 000,  starting with 2022 – 20 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.1.4. | Involvement of diaspora children in the Reading Promotion Programme "Jury for Children, Youth and Parents" | To promote the reading skills of diaspora children in Latvian | | Every year, the programme involves at least 55 diaspora community centers from 20 different diaspora host countries  Sets of children’s books purchased and delivered to diaspora community centers for reading | MoC | NLL | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021– 44 121, starting with 2022 - 44 321 SBF | |
| 1.2.1.5. | To provide an opportunity to show Latvian films (feature films, animations and documentaries) in diaspora centers | To provide an opportunity to show Latvian films to diaspora communities and society | | Every year, there is an opportunity for screenings of 100 films | MoC | NCC | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | Starting with 2022 – 30 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.1.6. | Contribution of diaspora musicians to Latvian musical talent master classes | To support international master classes in Latvia for young Latvian musicians led by outstanding musicians and teachers from the Latvian diaspora and Latvia | | Every year, master classes for young Latvian musicians with an average of 80 participants in one master class camp are supported. | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | Starting with 2022 – 15 000 SBF | |
| *1.2.2. To promote the preservation of intangible cultural heritage in the diaspora* | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2.2.1. | Support for Latvians abroad to ensure the continuity of the Song and Dance Festival process | To provide support for the organization and running of events related to the sustainability of the Song and Dance Festival tradition | | Support is provided for the organization and running of at least two large and two small scale events each year | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 40 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.2.2. | Methodological support for the activities of Latvian diaspora amateur groups in their host countries and discussions on cultural issues | To prepare leaders of choirs and dance groups in seminars and master classes, as well as to hold discussions on cultural issues in the diaspora | | Methodological support is provided annually to the leaders of 80 choirs and dance groups | MoC | LNCC | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021– 35 000,  Starting with 2022 39 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.2.3. | Targeted measures to support the activities of diaspora amateur groups and to ensure the sustainability of the dance festival tradition | Activities supported of diaspora amateur groups (choirs, dance and folklore groups, amateur theaters, ensembles, etc.) representing various industries in the diaspora's home countries | | 56 groups supported | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 84 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.2.4. | To support diaspora members during the Latvian Song and Dance Festival in Latvia | To provide support for accommodation and catering of diaspora amateur groups during the Overall Latvian Song and Dance Festival | | Support provided for the accommodation of 1,500 members of the diaspora and the catering of 2,500 members | MoC |  | 2023.g. | 285 000 SBF (event takes place every 5 years) | |
| *1.2.3. To promote the preservation of material cultural and historical heritage* | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2.3.1. | Preservation of diaspora archives and intangible cultural heritage - identification, research, digitization, move to Latvia | Identification of the archives and intangible cultural heritage of the Latvian diaspora, research and preservation of the documentary and cultural heritage contained therein and public access thereto | | Business trips to identify documents, annually digitized 50,000 document pages, advanced archives and NLL digital platforms | MoC | LNA, NLL | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021– 40 576,  Starting with 2022 45 576 SBF | |
| 1.2.3.2. | Events for the preservation and exhibition of Latvian diaspora art in Latvia | A permanent, in-depth and comprehensive insight into the development of Latvian diaspora art through the availability of collections of original works by Latvian diaspora artists in Latvia is provided | | Visual works of art have been exhibited and are available to the public in rooms available and suitable for the exhibition of works of art | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021 – 12 000,  Starting with 2022 – 15 000 SBF | |
| 1.2.3.3. | Identification, acquisition and communication to the public of the material cultural and historical heritage of the diaspora | To create a collection of material heritage of the diaspora for research and educational purposes | | An annual exhibition / educational programme and public events on the diverse experience of the diaspora | MoC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 30 000 SBF | |

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| ***2nd Line of Action*: *Promoting civic and political participation in the diaspora*** | | | | | | | |
| *Eligible policy planning documents:* | | | *Project "Guidelines for the Development of a Cohesive and Active Civil Society for 2021-2027";*  *National Security Concept;*  *Digital Transformation Guidelines for 2021-2027 (currently under development);*  *Guidelines for the Development of Public Administration for 2021-2027* | | | | |
| *Policy goal: To promote the political and civic participation of the diaspora in what is happening in Latvia in order to strengthen the sense of belonging of the diaspora to Latvia and increase co-responsibility for the development of the state and society.* | | | | | | | |
| *Policy outcomes and performance indicators:* | | | *1) The diaspora participates in the development and implementation of diaspora policy;*  *2) Strengthened capacity of diaspora organizations, increased activity of diaspora organizations and the number of organized events and initiatives;*  *3) The number of registered representatives of the diaspora with the right to vote has increased in the local government elections of 2021 and the Saeima elections in 2022 - 50,000 every year;*  *4) The availability of public services for the diaspora has increased* | | | | |
| **No.** | **Task/measure** | **Operational output** | **Performance indicator** | **Institution in charge** | **Co-responsible institutions and other implementers** | **Deadline** | **Required annual budget (indicative) and source of funding** |
| *2.1. To promote civic and political participation of the diaspora* | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1. | Ensure the involvement of the diaspora in the development of policy planning documents and regulatory enactments (especially those related to the diaspora) | Improved understanding of diaspora involvement in policy planning and regulation development and diaspora impact assessment in public institutions | 1) a network established for communication between the State (MoFA in cooperation with the SC) and diaspora representatives (organizations, experts, etc.) has been established.);  2) information gathered about the areas of interest to the diaspora and current issues (MoFA through the Diaspora Advisory Board);  3) the plans submitted by the ministries regarding the draft legislation planned and new policy planning documents have been compiled annually and the representatives of the diaspora have been informed about them so that the stakeholders can be involved in the process of their development (MoFA); 4) training content prepared for public administration employees on the diaspora aspect and involvement in the process of drafting legislation and development planning, as well as ensuring its inclusion in the courses organized by the SAS, including information in relevant methodological materials (MoFA in cooperation with SAS); 5) once a year, a seminar on co-operation between the diaspora and public administration organized to provide information on issues relevant to the diaspora and to discuss the directions of co-operation, inviting policy planners and representatives of legal services and representatives of the diaspora to the seminar (MoFA in cooperation with SC); 6) the inclusion of the diaspora aspect in the process of drafting legislation in the LP portal ensured (SC) | SC/MoFA | Other public institutions | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 1,000 SBF |
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| 2.1.2. | Ensure the functioning of the Diaspora Advisory Board | The development of a coherent diaspora policy and the setting of annual priorities has been promoted, as well as the implementation and evaluation of diaspora policy has been facilitated | At least 4 meetings a year | MoFA | MoE/MOES/MoC/SC/MoI/MoW/ NEMC /SIF/Saeima/ MoEPRD / Diaspora organizations and LALG | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 3,300 SBF |
| 2.1.3. | To promote the involvement of the diaspora with the right to vote in elections by improving the availability of elections and awareness of voting opportunities abroad | Changes have been introduced in accordance with the amendments to the Saeima Election Law, the European Parliament Election Law, the Law On National Referendum, Legislative Initiative and European Citizens' Initiative and the Voter Register Law. A voter register for Saeima elections and referendums has been introduced. Measures have been taken to inform voters abroad about voting opportunities abroad | 2020 local government elections:  1) a service has been introduced to electronically register for voting by post and receive election materials;  2) informative materials prepared and distributed on the CVK website, social networks on 1 topic - voting procedure abroad.  2022 Saeima elections:  1) 50,000 voters taken part in elections abroad;  2) a possibility improved and facilitated to register for postal voting from abroad;  3) informative materials prepared and distributed (various formats, channels) on 3 topics - postal voting procedure, voting procedure abroad, invitation to participate in elections | CEC | MoFA | According to the election preparation calendar | 2021 - 13 000 SBF; 2022 - further election years 20 000 SBF |
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| *2.2. To promote the self-organization of the diaspora and to support the activities of diaspora organizations* | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.1. | To support the activities of diaspora organizations | The capacity of diaspora organizations has been strengthened, the activity of diaspora organizations and the number of organized events and initiatives has increased | At least 15 projects in the field of the diaspora civic participation implemented each year in at least 10 countries | MoC | SIF |  | 199 022 SBF |
| 2.2.2. | To support cooperation projects with the diaspora in order to promote diaspora investment in Latvia, incl. for embassy cooperation with the diaspora | Activities supported in the fields of culture, education, science, economy, sports and other areas, measures to promote communication, as well as other activities promoting the self-organization of the diaspora, strengthening the Latvian identity and maintaining ties with Latvia | Approximately 100 projects per year implemented on a competitive basis, involving approximately 16,000 members of the diaspora | MoFA | Diplomatic missions of the Republic of Latvia, diaspora organizations, NGOs, etc. |  | 158 938 SBF |
| 2.2.3. | To promote an active involvement of the Latvian diaspora in refuting fake news and disinformation against Latvia spread by the media in host countries | Strategic communication has been carried out so that the society of the diaspora's host countries acquires a better understanding of the hostile narratives and misinformation against Latvia, of who is behind it and for what purpose | Three webinars on topical issues related to Latvia's strategic communication and reduction of disinformation | SC | MoFA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | Within the existing SBF |
| *2.3. Improving communication / information flow in the diaspora and between Latvia and the diaspora, support for diaspora media* | | | | | | | |
| 2.3.1. | Creating and broadcasting public service content on diaspora and remigration topics in commercial electronic media | Tenders announced for the public service remit for diaspora media and local media (in local media on remigration topics) | 1 competition announced, at least 2 projects supported | NEMC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 38 000 SBF |
| 2.3.2. | Within the framework of the Media Support Fund, support for the diaspora media and the Latvian media for the creation of socially important content for the diaspora and the strengthening of the national cultural space in the Latvian language | The creation supported of socially significant and high-quality content for the diaspora audience both in the diaspora media and in the media in Latvia, thus preserving the diaspora's connection with Latvia, its culture, media space | 4 projects supported (at least two diaspora media projects and two Latvian media projects) | MoC | SIF | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 40 000 SBF |
| 2.3.3. | Ensuring the availability of public electronic media programmes and services throughout the territory of Latvia, as well as in the diaspora's home countries | Creating and broadcasting public service content (public service remit) on diaspora and remigration topics | Content quality assessments within the content management system of public electronic media.  State LLC "Latvian television": on average 45 content units per year;  State LLC "Latvian Radio":  at least 45 programmes "Global Latvian" (as well as at least 50 repetitions),  at least 50 shows "How are you doing there" (as well as at least 50 repetitions) | NEMC |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 0  SBF in  2021;  805 979 SBF in 2022; 650 979 SBF in 2023 |
| *2.4. Support research on diaspora and remigration for further policy making* | | | | | | | |
| 2.4.1. | To support the activities of the Diaspora and Migration Research Center of the University of Latvia | A center of excellence supported for research-based policy-making in the field of diaspora and remigration policy | 1-3 studies per year | MoFA | UoL DMRC | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 23 000 SBF |
| *2.5.* *To improve the availability of services provided by Latvian public institutions to the diaspora* | | | | | | | |
| 2.5.1. | Evaluate the possibilities to develop amendments to the Law on Identity Documents by setting a shorter transition period for mandatory identity cards (eID cards) for Latvian citizens who have provided information about their place of residence abroad in accordance with the Population Register Law. To promote the availability of the means of electronic identity verification and electronic signature included in the identity card (eID card) by increasing the activation rate of certificates included in identity cards, in order to expand access to e-services provided by the state and use of e-signatures for those Latvian nationals who have provided information regarding their place of residence abroad | An assessment has been made of:  1) the usefulness of developing amendments to the Law on Identity Documents, setting a shorter transition period for identity card (eID card) to become mandatory for LV citizens living abroad;  2) target groups in the diaspora who need e-services provided by the state the most;  3) the most appropriate length of the transition period;  4) the necessary procedures for simplifying the acquisition of an identity card (eID card) and increasing the proportion of activation of certificates to be included therein | Draft “Amendments to the Law on Identity Documents” have been prepared or other recommendations have been developed to promote the use of identity cards (eID cards) and e-signatures among the diaspora. | MoIA | MoFA | February 2021 | Within the existing SBF |
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| *2.6. Involvement of the diaspora in the implementation and development of comprehensive defense* | | | | | | | |
| 2.6.1. | Promoting diaspora involvement in the implementation and development of comprehensive national defense. | Possibilities for defining the role of the diaspora and involvement in the framework of comprehensive national defense have been evaluated | Meetings with representatives of diaspora organizations organized to discuss possible involvement of diaspora organizations (for example, involvement of diaspora organizations in the development of the AiM booklet on possible support of Latvian citizens abroad for strengthening national defense in crisis situations (AiM 72h booklet project extension)) | AiM | MoFA, Diaspora organizations | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | Within the existing SBF |

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| ***3rd Line of Action*: *Involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy and science*** | | | | | | | |
| *Eligible policy planning documents:* | | | *National Industrial Policy Guidelines for 2021-2027 (currently under development);*  *Operational strategy of the Ministry of Economics for 2020-2022;*  *Tourism marketing strategy for 2018-2023;*  *Information report "Strategy for Latvia to Mitigate the Consequences of the Covid-19 Crisis"* | | | | |
| *Policy objective: To strengthen links with diaspora entrepreneurs, scientists and other professionals, promoting interaction in the circulation of intellectual potential and involvement of the diaspora in the development of the Latvian economy* | | | | | | | |
| *Policy outcomes and performance indicators:* | | | *1) The diaspora is provided with information on the opportunities for economic cooperation of the diaspora with Latvia;*  *2) Active involvement of diaspora professionals in projects that promote the development of the Latvian economy;*  *3) A database of diaspora scientists has been identified and maintained, using it for the socio-economic (business competitiveness and commercialization of knowledge) development of science and Latvia;*  *4) Implemented knowledge transfer between the diaspora and Latvia* | | | | |
| **No.** | **Task/measure** | **Operational output** | **Performance indicator** | **Institution in charge** | **Co-responsible institutions and other implementers** | **Deadline** | **Required annual budget (indicative) and source of funding** |
| *3.1. To promote economic cooperation with the diaspora and the involvement of the diaspora in attracting investment, export development, innovation and diaspora tourism* | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.1. | Ensuring the succession of the World Latvian Economic and Innovation Forum | Entrepreneurs and professionals of the Latvian diaspora have been identified and their involvement in the development of the Latvian economy has been promoted | Organized 1-2 events a year. The minimum number of participants is 900, including 500 face-to-face and 400 remotely. Distribution: 30% diaspora and 70% local audience. | MoFA | WFFL | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 40 000 SBF |
| 3.1.2. | Involvement of the diaspora in Latvian business and increasing the competitiveness of Latvian companies | Involvement of members of the diaspora in the implementation of LIDA delegated functions (promotion of export, investment attraction, tourism, entrepreneurship and innovation development), as well as cooperation with diaspora in work with creative industries, sports and social entrepreneurship issues | 1) Diaspora audience (150,000 persons) addressed electronically on the possibility to get involved in the promotion of the Latvian economy;  2) 30 themed events organized with the involvement of the diaspora in three directions - export promotion, investment attraction, entrepreneurship;  3) Participation in 15 events for the diaspora or remigrants, at which the audience is informed about Latvia's export promotion, investment attraction, entrepreneurship and its opportunities in Latvia, as well as about job opportunities in Latvia; 4) 40 projects have been launched to promote Latvia's exports and attract investment with the involvement of diaspora professionals;  5) Representatives of the diaspora have been provided with 6 training placements with the units of the MoE and LIDA | EM | LIDA, Diaspora organizations, other public administration institutions, NGOs | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 235 000 SBF[[7]](#footnote-7) |
| 3.1.3. | Involvement of the diaspora in the promotion of Latvian exports and attraction of investments | EM | LIDA, Diaspora organizations, other public administration institutions, NGOs | Annually (until 31.12.2023) |
| 3.1.4. | Involvement of the diaspora in the promotion of Latvian tourism industry exports | EM | LIDA, Diaspora organizations, other public administration institutions, NGOs | Annually (until 31.12.2023) |
| 3.1.5. | Informing and involving diaspora students and young people in business and the labor market in Latvia | MoE | LIDA, SEA, MoEPRD (other public administration institutions), diaspora organizations, NGOs | Annually (until 31.12.2023) |
| *3.2. To develop cooperation of diaspora researchers with Latvian researchers and scientific institutions, as well as innovative entrepreneurs* | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.1. | Maintain a cooperation platform with the scientific diaspora for the implementation of joint research and development activities and expansion of cooperation opportunities | 1) Expanding the diaspora network and providing communication, including the involvement of diaspora researchers in the development of policy recommendations;  2) Identification of the situation and opinions of international cooperation of Latvian researchers and scientific institutions (including with researchers in the diaspora), as well as a database for the integration of the cooperation network; 3) Identifying opinions on priority support instruments and their architectures for strengthening collaboration with researchers in the diaspora | A study implemented by the Diaspora and Migration Research Center of the University of Latvia | MoES | UoL DMRC | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | ESF |
| 3.2.2. | Informing diaspora researchers and students about research program competitions and job opportunities in Latvia | Development and circulation of communication materials, in cooperation with Latvian and foreign economic and diplomatic missions.  Creation of the ResearchLatvia website and ensuring the availability of information | 1) Annual materials on up-to-date information in digital and print formats made available to embassies and diaspora organizations in the five priority countries with which cooperation agreements have been concluded;  2) Website ResearchLatvia has been developed and popularized, where information is available for diaspora researchers and students | MoES | LIDA, Latvian diplomatic missions, diaspora organizations, sectoral organizations, other social partners. | 1) Annually (until 31.12.2023) 2) 4th quarter of 2021 | ESF |
| 3.2.3. | To organize networking events of the science diaspora in the countries where the largest number of researchers of Latvian origin is concentrated (United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, USA) | Networking activities of the science diaspora have been implemented for Latvian scientists, diaspora scientists and professionals of innovative companies in Great Britain, Sweden and Germany. Thematically focused hackathons, match-making events to strengthen focused collaboration groups and preparation of joint project applications | 1) Networking and thematically focused activities are systematically implemented with the aim of strengthening focused cooperation groups - at least 5 per year in each country;  2) preparation of joint research project applications or cooperation of diaspora researchers / professors with scientific institutions in Latvia - 5 | MOES | LIDA, diaspora organizations (with which cooperation agreements have been concluded), Latvian diplomatic missions | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | ESF |
| 3.2.4. | Organization of the Fifth World Congress of Latvian Scientists | Fifth World Congress of Latvian Scientists organized | 800 scientists are involved, including at least 70 members of the diaspora | MoES | LIDA, Latvian diplomatic missions, diaspora organizations, sectoral organizations, other social partners | 2023 | ESF |

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| ***4th Line of Action*: *Support for remigration*** | | | | | | | |
| *Eligible policy planning documents:* | | | *Regional policy guidelines for 2021-2027* | | | | |
| *Policy objective: To provide favorable conditions for remigration* | | | | | | | |
| *Policy outcomes and performance indicators:* | | | *1) The diaspora is provided with information on work and life opportunities when returning to permanent residence in Latvia;*  *2) Individual support has been provided to diaspora members who are considering the possibility or have decided to return and work in Latvia;*  *3) Provided practical support for the integration of remigrants in Latvia;*  *4) Simplified administrative procedures in the remigration process;*  *5) 16,500 remigrants have returned to Latvia in 3 years (5,500 remigrants every year) (indicator according to CSB data).* | | | | |
| **No.** | **Task/measure** | **Operational output** | **Performance indicator** | **Institution in charge** | **Co-responsible institutions and other implementers** | **Deadline** | **Required annual budget (indicative) and source of funding** |
| *4.1. To promote the availability of information to the diaspora about remigration and job opportunities in Latvia* | | | | | | | |
| 4.1.1. | To promote the availability of information to the diaspora about job and business opportunities in Latvia | Information on vacancies and the labor market situation in Latvia is provided;  Support measures have been implemented to promote the employment and integration of remigrants into the labor market in Latvia | 2 online (European Job Days platform) work and career days in Latvia per year; systematic dissemination of useful information to the audience of Latvian citizens living abroad on the social network Facebook account EURES Latvia; Improvement of the section “Want to return to Latvia” of the SEA website, which offers information on SEA and EURES support in remigration; EURES consultations (practical questions about administrative procedures when returning to Latvia, looking for a job, coordination of the social system, etc.), incl. EURES advice online; Improvement and popularization of the SEA CV and vacancy portal, improvement of remote services; representation of the SEA in events organized by Latvian diaspora organizations, diplomatic missions of the Republic of Latvia in support of Latvian citizens; cooperation with state and local government institutions, as well as private cooperation partners (Latvia Works, Your Move) | MoW | SEA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | ESF |
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| 4.1.2. | Provide information support and customized advice on employment, housing, education and other remigration issues through a network of regional remigration coordinators | Personalized information offers prepared for potential remigrants and remigrants; with the support of coordinators, persons have returned to Latvia after a long stay abroad | At least 1,500 personalized offers prepared per year; in the period from 2021 to 2023, not less than 1,750 persons have returned to live in Latvia with the support of coordinators | MoEPRD, Planning Regions | Local governments | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 221 765[[8]](#footnote-8) SBF |
| 4.1.3. | Provide an opportunity to register one additional address in Latvia in addition to the address of residence abroad | In accordance with the adopted amendments to the Residence Declaration Law, changes have been made in the Population Register (Register of Natural Persons) and in the e-services of the related Infrastructure of the Interoperator of National Information Systems (latvija.lv) | Opportunity has been created for diaspora representatives to register one additional address in Latvia in addition to the address of residence abroad, in order to facilitate preparations related to the desire to return to permanent residence in Latvia. | MoIA | SRDA | 1 July 2021 |  |
| 4.1.4. | To develop the unified state and local government portal, www.latvija.lv, providing up-to-date information on the services provided by the state and local governments, which is important for those who plan to return to Latvia | An easy-to-understand, accessible and up-to-date description of life situations is provided in one place for www.latvija.lv users both in the life situation "What must citizens observe abroad?" and "Return and relocation to life in Latvia" | Number of unique views of the life situation “What must Latvian citizens observe abroad?” and “Return and relocation to life in Latvia” per year on the portal www.latvija.lv: 1,500. | MoEPRD | SRDA | 2022.gads 4.ceturksnis | ESF |
| *4.2. Services and support for the integration of diaspora representatives in Latvia* | | | | | | | |
| 4.2.1. | Implementation of regional remigration support measures | New employment opportunities have been created in the regions, incl. new jobs have been created, providing the preconditions for remigration | At least 50 new jobs have been created | VARAM | Planning regions | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 421 764[[9]](#footnote-9) SBF |
| 4.2.2. | To promote support for the acquisition of the Latvian language by remigrants and their family members | Persons who have learned the Latvian language (number per year) and who have increased the level of proficiency in the official language by one degree | 150 people trained per year | SIF |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 34 149 SBF |
| 4.2.3. | To promote the inclusion of minor remigrants in the Latvian education system and the sociolinguistic integration of remigrant families | 4.2.3.1. Amendments to Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 591 "Procedures by which learners are admitted to general education programmes, special educational institutions and special pre-school education groups and deregistered from them, as well as moved to the next grade" | It is planned that the amended regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers will stipulate that a state-funded support measure for compulsory basic education to be implemented during one to two school years shall be determined for a student who has previously studied in Latvia or for a student of another country who has not previously acquired education in Latvia - for the improvement of Latvian language skills and subjects "Latvian language" or "Literature", or "Latvian language and literature" and other subjects | MoES |  | 2021 | Within the existing SBF |
| 4.2.3.2. A cycle of measures to support the integration of remigrant families has been implemented | 1) Organized camps for remigrant families (October 2022, October/November 2023) In addition to learning about integration and language topics, the camp will promote the understanding of local and remigrant children, participants - 30 people. 2) Development of informative guides for remigrants - 2 guides (on-line version); support in teacher work and work with parents - the total number of users is 4,000 people; 3) Online Latvian language lessons for remigrant pupils or pupils whose families are going to remigrate (Latvian language learning is provided in the Classflow (distance learning) environment for remigrant children and adolescents - in 2022 and 2023, Latvian language learning support provided to 100 pupils) | MoES | LLA | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | 2021 – 0 SBF; 2022 - 100 136 SBF 2023 - 88 636 SBF |
| *4.3. Reducing administrative barriers for remigrants* | | | | | | | |
| 4.3.1. | Improve the process of recognition of professional qualifications for faster integration of remigrant members of the diaspora into the labor market | Proposals developed and advanced for the draft law “Amendments to the Law On Regulated Professions and Recognition of Professional Qualifications" | The amendments will shorten the deadline for taking a decision on the recognition of professional qualifications in cases where the applicant is a diaspora member who has obtained their professional qualifications in a Member State of the European Union, a European Free Trade Association Member State, a North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Australia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, New Zealand or in a country with which the Republic of Latvia has signed an agreement on the recognition of dual citizenship | MoES |  | 2021 | No fiscal impact |
| 4.3.2. | Implement a measure to attract diaspora children and young people in the field of vocational and higher education in Latvia | 1) Using the platform "StudyinLatvia", together with higher education institutions to implement measures for young people of the diaspora to attract them to study in Latvia in Latvian or English; 2) Regular and systematic exchange of information is essential to ensure successful cooperation with the diaspora in the field of vocational education export; 3) Obtain as accurate information as possible about the interest and potential of diaspora youth to get involved in Latvian vocational education processes; 4) For those interested in acquiring vocational education programmes, including also for learners in the diaspora, it is possible to use portal World of Professions, http://www.profesijupasaule.lv/ and NIID, http://www.niid.lv /; 5) It is planned to amend regulatory enactments (Amendments to the Law on Higher Education Institutions and the Law on Education will be made, where a delegation for the development of new Cabinet Regulations will be established) so that higher education institutions that meet certain conditions can recognize educational diplomas for starting or continuing studies | 1) The platform "StudyinLatvia" maintains information about studies in Latvia in Latvian and English; 2) MoES campaign to promote and popularize vocational education, also attracting young people from the diaspora. The campaign will contribute to raising the awareness of young people in the diaspora; 3) The issue of identifying diaspora stakeholders and systematic implementation of this process has been addressed. A survey and research has been carried out in order to plan and carry out further targeted measures for the participation of diaspora youth in the Latvian vocational education system;  4) Information for the diaspora about vocational education programmes on the portals World of Professions, http://www.profesijupasaule.lv/ and NIID, http://www.niid.lv/; 5) Higher education institutions recognize foreign education diplomas for the commencement or continuation of studies; 6) MoES organizes motivating and explanatory events for Latvian educational institutions on the involvement of diaspora children and youth in educational processes in Latvia | MoES |  | Annually (until 31.12.2023) | Within the existing SBF |
|
| 4.3.3. | Develop other proposals for the application of an additional address to facilitate the remigration process | Administrative barriers in the remigration process have been reduced | 1) During the drafting of a law on funeral services and maintenance of cemeteries, a proposal has been evaluated to enable the members of the diaspora to refer to their additional address when applying for a plot in a cemetery; 2) Options to facilitate access to financial services for the diaspora have been explored; 3) Possibilities to recognize certificates of foreign doctors of diaspora children about the child's health condition, which are intended for registration of children for admission to a general education institution or pre-school institution in Latvia, incl. options for using an additional address in these processes | 1) MoEPRD  2) MoF 3) MoES | 2) FCMC, FLA 3) MoH | 1) 2023; 2) 2021 3) February 2021 | No fiscal impact |
| 4.3.4. | Review and adaptation of the repatriation programme to Diaspora Law | Analysis of possible overlap of Repatriation and Diaspora laws to ensure a level playing field for all remigrant groups | Proposals for amendments to the draft law(s) have been developed | MoFA | MoIA | 2021 | No fiscal impact |

# IV Territorial perspective

Not applicable

# V Impact assessment on the state local government budget

## Summary of the state and local government budget financing necessary for the implementation of the tasks included in the plan

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Task/measure | Budgetary source | Code and name of the budget program (sub-program) | Medium Term Budget Framework Law | | | Additional funding required | | | | | Year of implementation of the measure (if the implementation of the measure is terminated) |
| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | in the subsequent period until the completion of the measure (if the implementation of the measure is terminated) | thereafter annually (if the measure is not terminated) |
|  |  | **Total financing for the implementation of the plan** |  | **3 075 426** | **3 071 626** | **3 071 626** | **0** | **1 007 115** | **1 105 615** |  | **820 615** |  |
|  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 08. Society Integration Fund |  | 34 149 | 34 149 | 34 149 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 03.00.00 "Remigration support measures" | 34 149 | 34 149 | 34 149 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs |  | 226 238 | 226 238 | 226 238 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 97.00.00 "Sector management and policy planning" | 226 238 | 226 238 | 226 238 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 12. Ministry of Economics |  | 235 000 | 235 000 | 235 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 28.00.00 "Implementation of foreign economic policy" | 235 000 | 235 000 | 235 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 14.Ministry of the Interior |  |  |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 11.01.00 "Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs" |  |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 15. Ministry of Education and Science |  | 1 097 275 | 1 097 275 | 1 097 275 | 0 | 100 136 | 88 636 |  | 88 636 |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 1 097 275 | 1 097 275 | 1 097 275 | 0 | 100 136 | 88 636 |  | 88 636 |  |
|  |  | 21. Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development |  | 643 529 | 643 529 | 643 529 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 30.00.00 "National development assistance instruments" | 43 529 | 43 529 | 43 529 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 31.00.00 "Support for planning regions" | 600 000 | 600 000 | 600 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 22.Ministry of Culture |  | 788 235 | 797 435 | 797 435 | 0 | 81 000 | 366 000 |  | 81 000 |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 788 235 | 797 435 | 797 435 | 0 | 81 000 | 366 000 |  | 81 000 |  |
|  |  | 35.Central Election Commission |  | 13 000 |  |  | 0 | 20 000 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 02.00.00 "Saeima elections" |  |  |  |  | 20 000 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 03.00.00 "Local government elections" | 13 000 |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 47.Radio and television  National Electronic Media Council |  | 38 000 | 38 000 | 38 000 | 0 | 805 979 | 650 979 |  | 650 979 |  |
|  |  |  | including: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" |  |  |  | 0 | 435000 | 280 000 |  | 280 000 |  |
|  |  |  | 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" |  |  |  | 0 | 223 400 | 223 400 |  | 223 400 |  |
|  |  |  | 02.00.00 “Production and distribution of Latvian Radio programmes" |  |  |  | 0 | 147 579 | 147 579 |  | 147 579 |  |
|  |  |  | 04.00.00 "Commercial television and radio" | 38 000 | 38 000 | 38 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| 1st line of action | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.1. | Provide support for weekend schools, summer secondary schools | 15. Ministry of Education and Science | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 314 049 | 314 049 | 314 049 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 1.1.2. | Development and availability of methodological teaching aids for the diaspora | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 178 528 | 178 528 | 178 528 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.1.3. | Support for other non-formal education activities, especially for children and young people | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 139 605 | 139 605 | 139 605 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 1.1.4. | Develop a roadmap for diaspora weekend schools and other non-formal education activities, incl. short-term visits to Latvian schools | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 52 000 | 52 000 | 52 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.1.5. | Coordinate and provide support for counselling and professional development of diaspora teachers and educators | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 146 931 | 146 931 | 146 931 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 1.1.6. | Involve diaspora children and youth in distance learning programmes in Latvian schools and universities and evaluate the possibilities of organizing short-term visits of diaspora children and youth in Latvian schools | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 213 162 | 213 162 | 213 162 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 1.1.7. | To ensure official language proficiency tests and their availability to the diaspora | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 53 000 | 53 000 | 53 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.1.8. | Support for joint diaspora and Latvian children's camps | 22.Ministry of Culture | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 156 516 | 156 516 | 156 516 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.1.1. | To support the availability of professional culture and art for the diaspora - concerts, guest performances, meetings with cultural (literature, art, etc.) professionals and similar measures | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 30 000 | 30 000 | 30 000 | 0 | 10 000 | 10 000 |  | 10 000 |  |
| 1.2.1.2. | To support the succession of established traditions in the diaspora and the cooperation program for multigenerational families (3x3) | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 70 000 | 70 000 | 70 000 | 0 | 10 000 | 10 000 |  | 10 000 |  |
| 1.2.1.3. | To support youth (2x2) camps established in the diaspora to promote the succession of national traditions | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 7 000 | 7 000 | 7 000 | 0 | 13 000 | 13 000 |  | 13 000 |  |
| 1.2.1.4. | Involvement of Diaspora Children in the Reading Promotion Program "Jury for Children, Youth and Parents" | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 44 121 | 44 321 | 44 321 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.1.5. | To provide an opportunity to screen Latvian films (feature films, animations and documentaries) in diaspora centres | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" |  |  |  | 0 | 30 000 | 30 000 |  | 30 000 |  |
| 1.2.1.6. | Contribution of diaspora musicians to master classes of Latvian musical talents | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" |  |  |  | 0 | 15 000 | 15 000 |  | 15 000 |  |
| 1.2.2.1. | Support for Latvians abroad to ensure the continuity of the Song and Dance Festival | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 40 000 | 40 000 | 40 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.2.2. | Methodological support for the activities of Latvian diaspora amateur groups in their home countries and discussions on cultural issues | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 35 000 | 39 000 | 39 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.2.3. | Targeted measures to support the activities of diaspora amateur groups and to ensure the sustainability of the dance festival tradition | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 84 000 | 84 000 | 84 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.2.4. | To support diaspora members during the Latvian Song and Dance Festival in Latvia | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" |  |  |  |  |  | 285 000 |  |  | 2023 |
| 1.2.3.1. | Preservation of diaspora archives and intangible cultural heritage - identification, research, digitization, move to Latvia | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 40 576 | 45 576 | 45 576 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.3.2. | Events for the preservation and exhibition of Latvian diaspora art in Latvia | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 12 000 | 12 000 | 12 000 | 0 | 3 000 | 3 000 |  | 3 000 |  |
| 1.2.3.3. | Identification, acquisition and communication to the public of the material cultural and historical heritage of the diaspora | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 30 000 | 30 000 | 30 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| 2nd line of action | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1. | Ensure the involvement of the diaspora in the development of policy planning documents and regulatory enactments (especially those related to the diaspora) | 11.Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 97.00.00 "Sector management and policy planning" | 1 000 | 1 000 | 1 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 2.1.2. | Ensure the functioning of the Diaspora Advisory Board | 11.Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 97.00.00 "Sector management and policy planning" | 3 300 | 3 300 | 3 300 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.1.3. | To promote the involvement of the diaspora with the right to vote in elections by improving the availability of elections and awareness of voting opportunities abroad | 35.Central Election Commission | 03.00.00 "Local government elections" | 13 000 |  |  | 0 |  |  |  | 20000 euro in election years |  |
| 02.00.00 "Saeima elections" |  |  |  |  | 20 000 |  |  |  |
| 2.2.1. | To support the activities of diaspora organizations | 22.Ministry of Culture | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 199 022 | 199 022 | 199 022 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.2.2. | To support cooperation projects with the diaspora, to promote diaspora investment in Latvia, including embassy cooperation with the diaspora | 11.Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 97.00.00 "Sector management and policy planning" | 158 938 | 158 938 | 158 938 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.3.1. | Creating and broadcasting a public service content (public service remit) on diaspora and remigration topics in commercial electronic media | 47. Radio and television   National Electronic Media Council | 04.00.00 "Commercial television and radio" | 38 000 | 38 000 | 38 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.3.2. | Within the framework of the Media Support Fund, support for the diaspora media and the Latvian media for the creation of socially important content for the diaspora and the strengthening of the national cultural space in the Latvian language | 22.Ministry of Culture | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 40 000 | 40 000 | 40 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.3.3. | Ensuring the availability of public electronic media programmes and services throughout the territory of Latvia, as well as in the host countries of the diaspora | 47. Radio and television   National Electronic Media Council | 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" |  |  |  | 0 | 435 000 | 280 000 |  | 280 000 |  |
| 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" |  |  |  | 0 | 223 400 | 223 400 |  | 223 400 |  |
| 02.00.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" |  |  |  | 0 | 147 579 | 147 579 |  | 147 579 |  |
| 2.4.1. | To support the activities of the Diaspora and Migration Research Center of the University of Latvia | 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 97.00.00 "Sector management and policy planning" | 23 000 | 23 000 | 23 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| 3rd line of action | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.1. | Ensuring the continuity of the World Latvian Economic and Innovation Forum | 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 97.00.00 "Sector management and policy planning" | 40 000 | 40 000 | 40 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1.2. | Involvement of the diaspora in Latvian business and increasing the competitiveness of Latvian companies | 12. Ministry of Economics | 28.00.00. "Implementation of foreign economic policy" | 235 000 | 235 000 | 235 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1.3. | Involvement of the diaspora in export promotion and investment attraction |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1.4. | Involvement of the diaspora in the promotion of Latvian tourism industry exports |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1.5. | Informing and involving diaspora students and young people in business and the labour market in Latvia |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4th line of action | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1.2. | Provide information support and customized advice on employment, housing, education and other remigration issues through a network of regional remigration coordinators | 21.Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development | 31.00.00 "Support for planning regions" | 200 000 | 200 000 | 200 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30.00.00 "National development assistance instruments" | 21 765 | 21 765 | 21 765 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.1.3. | To provide an opportunity to register one additional address in Latvia in addition to the address of residence abroad | 14.Ministry of the Interior | 11.01.00 "Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs" |  |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  | 2 021 |
| 4.2.1. | Implementation of regional remigration support measures | 21.Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development | 31.00.00 "Support for planning regions" | 400 000 | 400 000 | 400 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30.00.00 "National development assistance instruments" | 21 764 | 21 764 | 21 764 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.2.2. | To promote support for the acquisition of the Latvian language by remigrants and their family members | 08. Society Integration Fund | 03.00.00 "Remigration support measures" | 34 149 | 34 149 | 34 149 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.2.3.2. | A cycle of measures to support the integration of remigrant families has been implemented | 15.Ministry of Education and Science | 04.00.00  "Official language policy and administration" |  |  |  | 0 | 100 136 | 88 636 |  | 88 636 |  |

Ministries and other responsible institutions must ensure the implementation of the measures provided for in the plan in 2021 within the limits of the allocated state budget funds. The issue of allocating additional state budget funds for the implementation of the measures set out in the plan in 2022 shall be further considered by the Cabinet of Ministers in the process of preparation and review of the annual draft state budget law and the medium-term budget framework law together with the proposals submitted by all ministries and central state institutions for priority measures in accordance with the financial possibilities of the state budget.

If, during the implementation of the measures specified in the 2021-2023 plan, a situation arises when it is not possible to implement any of the measures provided for in the plan or some funding for the implementation of the respective measure remains unused, the responsible institution shall decide on the use of available funding in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The measures included in the plan will be assessed in the context of Section 5 of the Business Support Control Law, and the planned business support measures in accordance with the Business Support Control Law will be submitted to the Ministry of Finance. In the implementation of projects, beneficiaries and cooperation partners, where applicable, shall involve service providers and suppliers of goods in accordance with the public procurement regulation, through implementing an open, transparent, non-discriminatory and competitive tender procedure.

## Detailed calculation of the additional funding required for the implementation of the tasks included in the Plan

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| No. | Task/measure | Budgetary source | Code and name of the budget program (sub-program) | Necessary additional financing, euro | | | Calculation |
| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |  |
|  | | **Total financing for the implementation of the plan** |  | **0** | **1 007 115** | **1 105 615** |  |
| including: |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14.Ministry of the Interior |  | 0 |  |  |  |
|  | including: |  |  |  |  |
|  | 11.01.00 "Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs" | 0 |  |  |  |
| 15. Ministry of Education and Science |  | 0 | 100 136 | 88 636 |  |
|  | including: |  |  |  |  |
|  | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 0 | 100 136 | 88 636 |  |
| 22.Ministry of Culture |  | 0 | 81 000 | 366 000 |  |
|  | including: |  |  |  |  |
|  | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 81 000 | 366 000 |  |
| 35.Central Election Commission |  | 0 | 20000 |  |  |
|  | including: |  |  |  |  |
|  | 03.00.00 "Local government elections" | 0 |  |  |  |
|  | 02.00.00  "Saeima elections" |  | 20000 |  |  |
| 47. Radio and television   National Electronic Media Council |  | 0 | 805 979 | 650 979 |  |
|  | including: |  |  |  |  |
|  | 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" | 0 | 435 000 | 280 000 |  |
|  | 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" | 0 | 223 400 | 223 400 |  |
|  | 02.00.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" | 0 | 147 579 | 147 579 |  |
| **1st line of action** | | | | | | | |
| 1.2.1.1. | To support the availability of professional culture and art for the diaspora - concerts, guest performances, meetings with cultural (literature, art, etc.) professionals and similar measures | 22.Ministry of Culture | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 10 000 | 10 000 | Two events for the provision of Latvian professional culture events in diaspora centers -  10,000 euros = 2 events x 5,000 euros, incl. venue rental, sound and lighting costs, artists' accommodation and travel costs, administrative costs, etc. costs |
| 1.2.1.2. | To support programmes related to succession of national traditions and cooperation programmes for multi-generation families (3x3) | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 10 000 | 10 000 | For two additional multi-generation family gatherings outside Latvia (for example, in Europe, USA, Australia) -  10,000 euros = 2 camps x 5,000 euros, incl. venue rental, catering costs for participants, administrative costs, etc. costs |
| 1.2.1.3. | To support youth (2x2) camps living in Latvia and abroad to promote the succession of national traditions | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 13 000 | 13 000 | Organization of two additional seminars for young people in Latvia and/or outside Latvia -  13,000 euros = 2 seminars x 6,500 euros, incl. venue rental, catering costs for participants, lecturers' travel expenses, administrative costs, etc. costs |
| 1.2.1.5. | To provide an opportunity to show Latvian films (feature films, animations and documentaries) in diaspora centers | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 30 000 | 30 000 | Opportunity to show Latvian films in diaspora centers -  30,000 euro = 100 sessions x 300 euro (public performance fee) |
| 1.2.1.6. | Contribution of diaspora musicians to master classes of Latvian musical talents | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 15 000 | 15 000 | Master classes established by diaspora musicians in teaching new musical talents of Latvia and the diaspora -  15,000 euros, incl. venue rental, catering costs for participants, lecturers' travel expenses, administrative costs, etc. costs |
| 1.2.2.4. | To support diaspora members during the Latvian Song and Dance Festival in Latvia | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" |  |  | 285 000 | Support for the participation of diaspora amateur groups (choirs, dances, theatre and folklore) (accommodation and catering) during the Latvian Song and Dance Festival in Riga - 285,000 euros, incl. -  - 135,000 euros - 1,500 participants x 5 nights x 18 euros (price of dormitories per night)  - 150,000 euros - 2,500 participants x 5 days x 12 euros / day |
| 1.2.3.2. | Events for the preservation and exhibition of Latvian diaspora art in Latvia | 26.02.00 "Implementation of diaspora measures" | 0 | 3 000 | 3 000 | Support for organizing exhibitions of original works of diaspora artists in Latvia -  3,000 euros, incl. transportation, storage and exhibition of exhibits, seasonal and traveling exhibitions, publicity events |

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| **2nd line of action** | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.3. | To promote the involvement of the diaspora with the right to vote in elections by improving the availability of elections and awareness of voting opportunities abroad | 35.Central Election Commission | 03.00.00 "Local government elections" | 0 |  |  | Within the budget of the CEC |
| 2.3.3. | Ensuring the availability of public electronic media programmes and services throughout the territory of Latvia, as well as in the host countries of the diaspora | 47. Radio and television   National Electronic Media Council | 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" | 0 | 435 000 | 280 000 | It is planned to create additional content on LSM platform. In the LSM nursery section, as well as additional licensing activities (distribution rights) to ensure the distribution of both animation and independent producer content worldwide.  An entertaining educational section dedicated to children of the diaspora will be created in the nursery section of the LSM, with in-depth teaching of language, history, geography and other development-promoting subjects: 50,000 euros per year - creation of 1 additional editor's position: EUR 20,000; Creation of 3 educational and entertaining games per year: 15,000 euros; Creation of 5 short format video materials per year: 1,000 euros; Creation of 5 extended video format clips per year: 5,000 euros; Creation of content for parents of 100 children per year: 9,000 euros.  Creation of additional original content for the diaspora on the portal LSM: 50,000 euros per year - creation of 1 additional editor's position: 20,000 euros; EUR 5,000 staff salary fund for the development of content; 25,000 euros royalty fund for the development of content. A total of 600 content units are planned to be created per year.  Acquisition of licenses for worldwide distribution of animated films 60,000 euros per year - the average price for copyrights in the world - from 1,000 to 1,500 euros per hour. Approximately 40 hours per year can be purchased, planning to purchase the rights to 4 full-length animations and 2 animation series.  Acquisition of licenses for original content by other independent producers for worldwide distribution: 120,000 euros per year - 14 Latvian films per year, 7 feature films and 7 documentaries are planned;  Purchase of a server for hosting diaspora channel program materials and programme play-out: 155,000 euros (in 2022). |
| 03.01.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian television programmes" | 0 | 223 400 | 223 400 | It is planned to produce additional content units in cooperation with freelance correspondents of LTV News Service in Great Britain and Ireland, quarterly debate format broadcasts will be organized in the European diaspora's home countries; weekly news stories; quarterly stories of original content created, sending LTV content team on business trips to the diaspora's home countries. Successful and high-quality content availability on LSM and Replay platforms requires the use of the Content Delivery Network (CDN) service.  Additional information - creation of additional content units in cooperation with LTV News Service freelance correspondents in Great Britain 25,000 euros per year - 70 content units per year, average price per content unit with VAT in Great Britain 200 - 400 euros (variations are related to additional content creation costs - transport, etc.); creation of additional content units in cooperation with LTV News Service freelance correspondents in Ireland 25,000 euros per year - 50 content units per year, average price per content unit with VAT in Great Britain 300 - 500 euros (variations are related to additional content creation costs - transport, etc.).  At least two debates in the European diaspora's home countries 80,000 euros per year - 1 debate programme costs 20,000 euros. Provision of weekly stories 25,000 euros per year, quarterly stories with original content, sending LTV content team on business trips to the diaspora's home countries 20,000 euros per year. Successful and high-quality content availability on LSM and Replay platforms requires the use of the Content Delivery Network (CDN) service: 48,400 euros per year. |
| 02.00.00 "Production and distribution of Latvian Radio programmes" | 0 | 147 579 | 147 579 | The funding is intended for the production and accessibility of public procurement for the diaspora, provided that these costs are included in the total state budget grant to the public media - 1) original content, which includes travel expenses, freelance correspondence, additional weekly news production, in the home countries of the diaspora; 2) to ensure the availability of content on different platforms and programmes, taking into account the age and interests of listeners; 3) the purchase of licenses for the worldwide distribution of original content, thus ensuring the availability of the content in any home country of the diaspora; 4) providing multimedia solutions for Latvian Radio diaspora content. (In total each year from here on – 147,579 euros).  Additional information - Diaspora-themed content, multimedia content, production in Latvian Radio programmes (costs shown per year), business trips: Programmes in LR1 for diaspora audience "Global Latvian. 21st Century" to provide multimedia format (44 programmes in multimedia format\*, business trips) 35,188 euros and program "Ancestors and Descendants" (12 programmes\*, business trips) 13,446 euros, LR2 program "For Latvians in the world "(provision of additional content of 51 programmes\*) 7,800 euros, LR4 program programmes "Brexit: What Happens Next" (business trips, 5 reports, 2 programmes) 3,334 euros, "How are you here"? (52 programmes\*) 5,000 euros, LR5 "At your fingertips" (business trips, 12 programmes \*) 15,811 euros, New productions of the radio theatre in multimedia format (7 productions\*) 57 000 euros and additional News service content in all programmes of the Republic of Latvia: 10,000 euros (business trips, 4 comments, 4 interviews, 2 analytical pieces, 20 stories in Latvian, 12 stories in Russian\*).  \* The number of programmes will be specified by submitting the Public Order for the specific year, as well as in accordance with the changes in the law. |
| **4th line of action** | | | | | | | |
| 4.1.3. | To provide an opportunity to register one additional address in Latvia in addition to the address of residence abroad | 14.Ministry of the Interior |  | 0 |  |  | In order to ensure the inclusion and updating of data in the Population Register, to create interfaces for data transfer to external users (municipalities), 86 man-days are required (the amount is determined based on the amount of time, work and costs required to perform software development and improvement work). 86 man-days x 520 euros \* x VAT 21% = 54,112 euros. In order to adapt the e-service "Application for registration of residence abroad", 46 man-days are required (the amount is determined based on the amount of time, work and costs required for software development and improvement work previously performed). 46 man-days x 520 euros \* x VAT 21% = 28,944 euros.  The cost of one man-day is 520 euros (excluding VAT) (according to the EIS service). Total: EUR 54,112 + EUR 28,944 = EUR 83,056 - EUR 12,585 = EUR 70,471 Taking into account the progress of the draft law "Amendments to the Law on Declaration of Residence" (No. 337/Lp13) (the law was adopted by the Saeima on 17 June 2020, enters into force on 1 July 2021), funding in the amount of 12,585 euros (planned in the budget sub-programme of the Ministry of the Interior 11.01.00 "Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs") in 2021 can be directed to the improvement of the information system. Therefore, in 2021, additional funding in the amount of 70,471 euros is required. These expenditures are planned to be covered within the framework of the state budget funds provided by the Ministry of the Interior, if necessary, by reallocating appropriations between the budget programme (sub-programmes) of the Ministry of the Interior, measures and economic classification codes of expenditures. |
| 4.2.3.2. | A cycle of measures to support the integration of remigrant families has been implemented | 15.Ministry of Education and Science | 04.00.00 "Official language policy and administration" | 0 | 100 136 | 88 636 | 1) In 2022 and 2023. Remigrant families camp, 30 participants (catering, creative classes, excursion - 18,000 euros, remuneration for teachers, lecturers - 3,000 euros);  2) 2 guides. In 2022, a guide for remigrant families to be supplemented and posted on the website. A guide for educators working with remigrant families updated and posted on the website. Website (service contract 4,500 euros); authors, scientific and/or literary editor (copyright agreement 1,500 euros); publicity expenses (service contract 7,000 euros). In 2023, a guide for remigrant families to be supplemented and posted on the website. A guide for educators working with remigrant families to be updated and posted on the website. Authors, scientific and/or literary editor (copyright agreement 1,500 euros) 3) Every year on 2022-2023, 752 Latvian language lessons online prepared and conducted; 100 potential students diagnosed and 16 groups recruited; Education and professional development of 12 teachers (total 66,136 euros: services - 15,000 euros, remuneration - 51,136 euros) |

Minister of Foreign Affairs E. Rinkēvičs

1. Measures to support the diaspora were previously part of the National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy Guidelines for 2012-2018 and their implementation plans, as well as the National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy Plan for 2019-2020. In addition, for 2013-2015, the Cabinet of Ministers had approved as a separate diaspora planning document (05.03.2013 session minutes No. 13 § 29 and 18.06.2013. minutes No.35 § 5) the informative report “On Foreign Affairs cooperation of the Ministry with the Latvian diaspora in 2013-2015” developed by the MoFA. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Hazans, M. 2020. *Estimation of the size of the diaspora.* Riga: UoL Diaspora and Migration Research Center, p 56. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The amounts shown in the text do not reflect the entire amount of financing for the Plan, but only the most financially intensive items. See Sections III and V of the Plan for the full financial breakdown [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Mieriņa, I., Jansone, R. 2019. *Diaspora networking: practice of involvement and opportunities for cooperation*. Riga: UoL Diaspora and Migration Research Center, p 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Mieriņa, I., Jansone, R. 2019. *Diaspora networking: practice of involvement and opportunities for cooperation*. Riga: Riga: UoL Diaspora and Migration Research Center, p 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. [https://www.csb.gov.lv/lv/statistika/statistikas-temas/iedzivotaji/iedzivotaju-skaits/meklet-tema/2694-iedzivotaju-skaita-MoESainas-latvija-2019](https://www.csb.gov.lv/lv/statistika/statistikas-temas/iedzivotaji/iedzivotaju-skaits/meklet-tema/2694-iedzivotaju-skaita-izmainas-latvija-2019); The remigrants included in the CSB data are Latvian nationals who returned to Latvia after an absence of at least one year. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. “The distribution of funding at the level of tasks/activities will be reflected in the annual LIDA action plan, which has been prepared in accordance with the current situation” [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. EUR 200,000 is intended for the day-to-day work of the coordinators and EUR 21 765 for the maintenance and administration of the network of remigration coordinators [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. EUR 400 000 is for regional remigration support measures, while EUR 21 764 is for the implementation and administration of support measures [↑](#footnote-ref-9)