

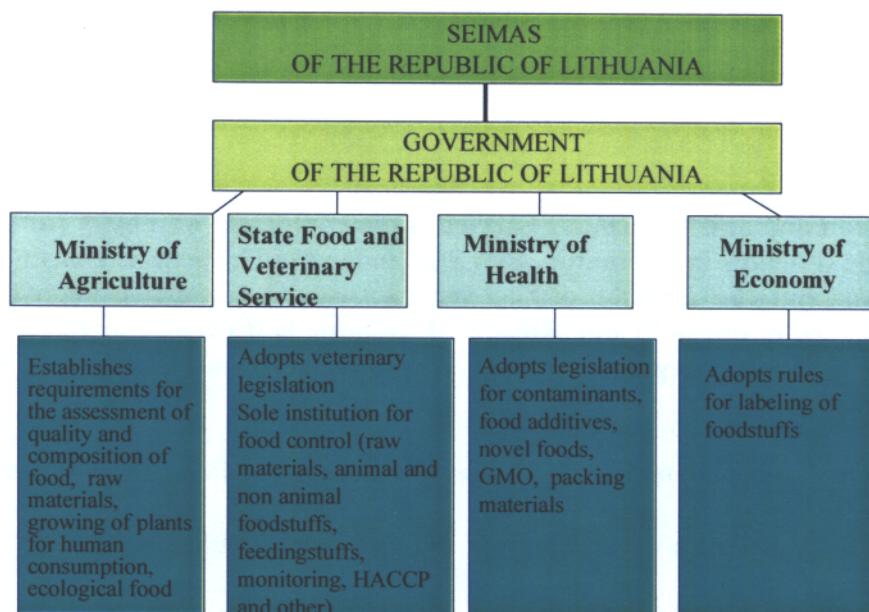
## ANNEX I

### STATE FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICE OF LITHUANIA

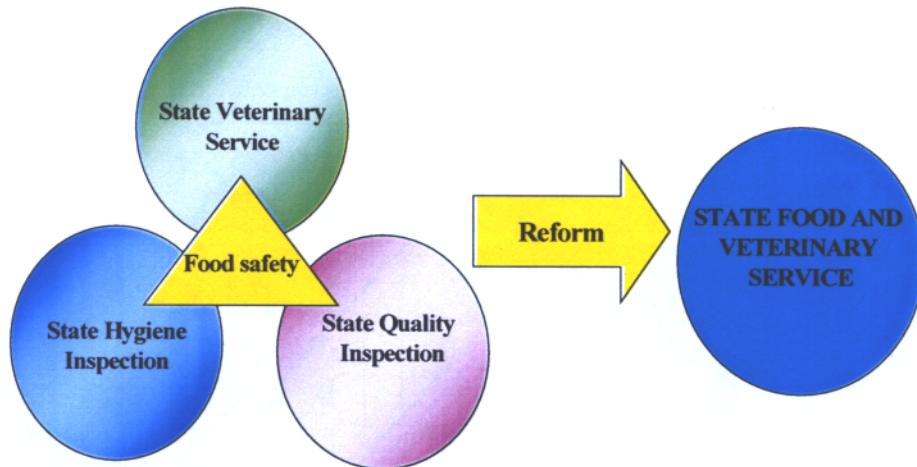
**The State Food and Veterinary Service is the competent authority for public health and animal health in Lithuania. SFVS is under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the director of the Service, who is the Chief Veterinary Officer, reports directly to the Prime Minister. Lithuania is divided into 10 counties and 34 districts. SFVS has regional units in all the counties and districts. SFVS has 1380 employees.**

The Law on Veterinary Activities was adopted in 1991. In 1999, with the aim to establish legal basis for transposition of EU veterinary legislation the Law Amending the Law on a Veterinary Activities was adopted. This law forms a legal basis for the veterinary control to be performed during the process of preparation of animal origin products, animal disease control, execution of animal registration and identification.

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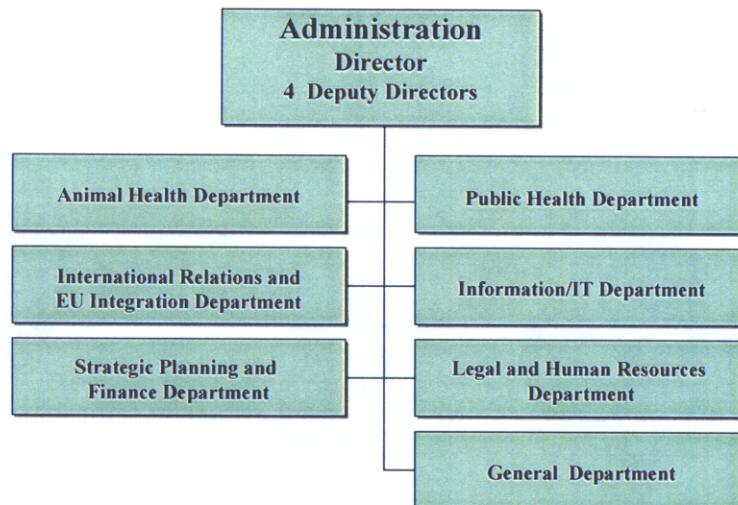


On 4 May 2000, the Lithuanian Government adopted the Resolution on the re-organisation of market surveillance institutions. State Veterinary Service, State Hygiene Inspection under the Ministry of Health and State Quality Inspection under the State Consumer Rights Protection Service were reorganised into the State Food and Veterinary Service and Non-food Inspectorate. The new market surveillance institutions have been operating since 1 July 2000. State Food and Veterinary Service has overtaken all functions of former State Veterinary Service and subordinate veterinary institutions.



The State Food and Veterinary Service (the central competent authority) has a central administration, divided into 6 departments. SFVS has 1380 employees (67 at the headquarters, 427 at the County SFVS, 518 at the District SFVS, 71 at the City SFVS, 297 in other institutions).

**STATE FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICE  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA  
(HEADQUARTERS)**



**The main tasks of the State Food and Veterinary Service are as follow:**

- to safeguard the interests of the consumers, to ensure that the food supplied on the internal market and intended for export complies with the requirements for safety, labeling and other mandatory indicators established by the legal acts;
- to ensure veterinary and hygiene control at all the stages of food handling (from rearing plants and animals intended for food to supply of the food to consumers);
- to prevent the introduction onto the territory of the country of contagious animal diseases, to arrange protection of animals from contagious diseases and the eradication of disease focuses, to ensure the welfare of animals;
- to promote the integration of Lithuania into the European Union in food and veterinary fields.

**Animal Health Department** is responsible for drafting legal documents on animal health, animal welfare, veterinary pharmaceutical activities and arranges veterinary preventive and control measures against infectious animal diseases, invasive diseases, and provides for their control.

**Public Health Department** is responsible for drafting of the legal acts regulating public health issues including food safety, quality and other mandatory requirements, arranges veterinary, food safety and hygiene control on all the stages of food handling, ensures that the food placed on the internal market and intended for export complies with the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

**International Relations and EU Integration Department** is responsible for the integration of the Republic of Lithuania into the European Union (EU) in the veterinary and food safety sector. The main tasks of the Department are to develop and implement the EU accession strategy, to harmonise the Lithuanian veterinary legislation with the EU legal acts, to maintain relationship with international organizations and foreign countries.

**Information and IT Department** is responsible for policy issues in the field of information, public relations, dissemination of the information within the framework of the SFVS and abroad, including the Internet. Drafts legal documents on information issues and information systems, including the system of registration and identification and veterinary surveillance of animals; ensures and coordinates the functioning of the system.

**Strategy Planning and Finance Department** develops strategic plans for the activities of SFVS, drafts the budget, ensures optimal use of the available and planned financial and material resources for the operation of SFVS and subordinate institutions.

**Law and Human Resources Department** ensures the compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania in the activities of the SFVS and the subordinate institutions, the implementation of the laws of the Republic of Lithuania, resolutions of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and other legal acts regulating the state service, work relations and social guarantees, aims that the legislation prepared in the SFVS and subordinate institutions is not at variance with the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and of the European Union, and with other legal acts, manages the staff register.

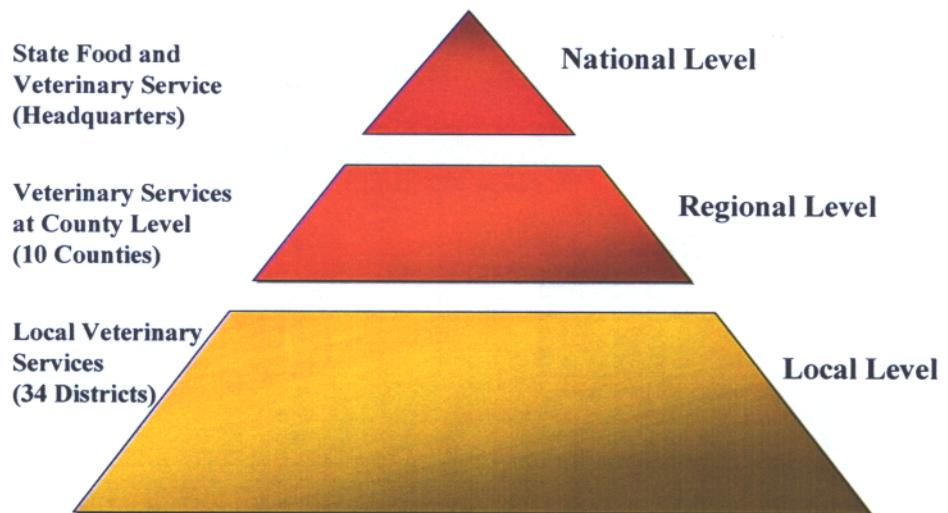
### **Principle of a pyramid**

Throughout the country, food and animal health surveillance and control is carried out by 10 county food and veterinary services which are divided into smaller subdivisions in accordance with the administrative division of the country: 4 city and 34 district state food and veterinary services.

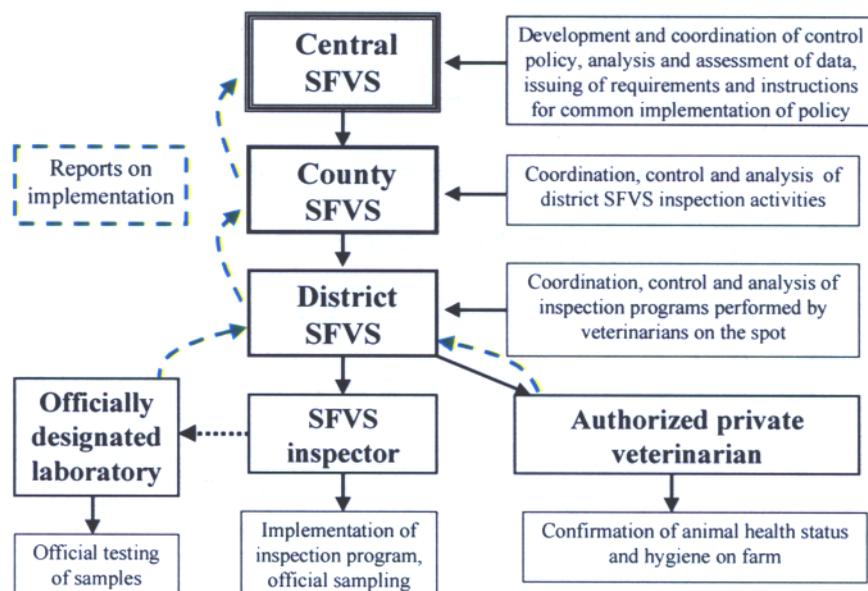
The structure of the SFVS of Lithuania is based on the principle of a pyramid topped by the headquarters at the national level, county SFVS – at the regional level and district SFVS – at the local level.

The central service is responsible for the development and coordination of control policy, analysis and assesment of data, establishment of priorities. County service is responsible for the development of inspection programs, organization, control and audit of district services activities. District service is responsible for the control on the implementation of inspection programes. Private veterinarian performs clinical examination of animal health, diagnoses the diseases, checks the compliance with animal welfare requirements

and reports to the district service. Veterinary inspector performs the inspection on spot and reports to the district service on a regular basis.

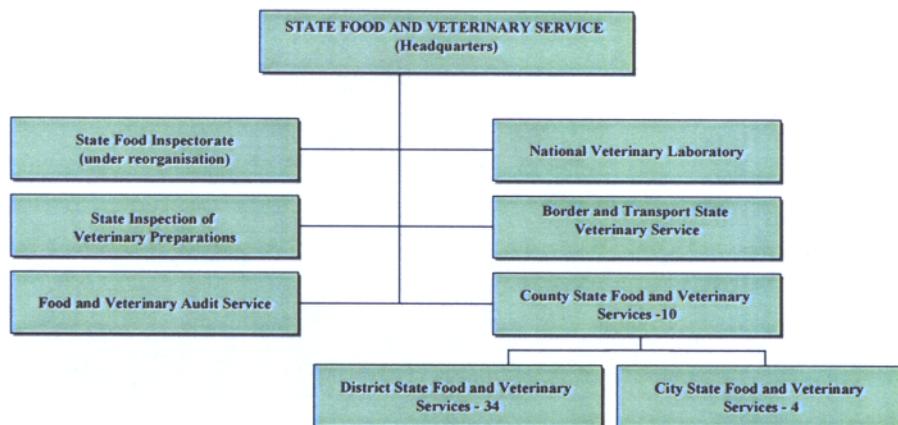


**Veterinary Control system**



The following entities are under the direct control of the Central Administration

### STATE FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA



#### **Border and Transport State Veterinary Service**

The tasks of the Border and Transport State Veterinary Service are to protect the country from the introduction of contagious animal diseases, to prohibit the import of low quality products and raw materials of animal origin, feedingstuffs and medicines, which could be hazardous for public health. The Service arranges the activities of the border veterinary posts, controls the transported goods subject to veterinary supervision, conducts registration of the importers of foodstuffs and tackles other issues under its responsibility.

At present, 18 border veterinary posts and 30 checking points operate at the border of the Republic of Lithuania. Border veterinary posts employ 4-5 border veterinarians each, depending on the capacity of the border post. The posts function round the clock.

The national programmes for the integration of the Republic of Lithuania into the EU provide for the establishment of 9 long-term border veterinary posts, which are being reconstructed in order to meet the EU requirements.

### **National Veterinary Laboratory**

The National Veterinary Laboratory is the central laboratory of the State Food and Veterinary Service. The National Laboratory has nine subsidiaries, i.e. the laboratories of the county SFVS.

The main tasks of the Laboratory are to safeguard the health of consumers, prevent the spread of animal diseases, improve the health condition and welfare of animals.

In the year 2000, the Food Control Laboratory of the National Veterinary Laboratory was accredited by the German Accreditation Agency (DAP) in accordance with EN 45001 standard. Also, the Laboratory has been accredited according to the Russian standard Gost-R.

The National Veterinary Laboratory provides technical guidance to the county SFVS laboratories, carries out control on the activities and the quality of the tests performed by these laboratories, organizes proficiency testing schemes.

### **Lithuanian State Inspection of Veterinary Preparations**

The Inspection ensures that only high quality and safe veterinary medicines, medicinal substances, biologicals, diagnostics, feed additives, premixes, medicated feedingstuffs,

pet food, body care and hygiene products for animals, biocides, are used in Lithuania. Contributes to the integration of Lithuania into the EU in the field of veterinary pharmacy.

#### **County, city, and district SFVS**

The territory of Lithuania is divided into ten counties (Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Panevėžys, Šiauliai, Alytus, Marijampolė, Telšiai, Utena and Tauragė), each of which covers from three to six districts. The regional State Food and Veterinary Services are based in all ten counties, four cities – Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, and Palanga, and 34 districts of the country.

#### **Food and Veterinary Audit Service**

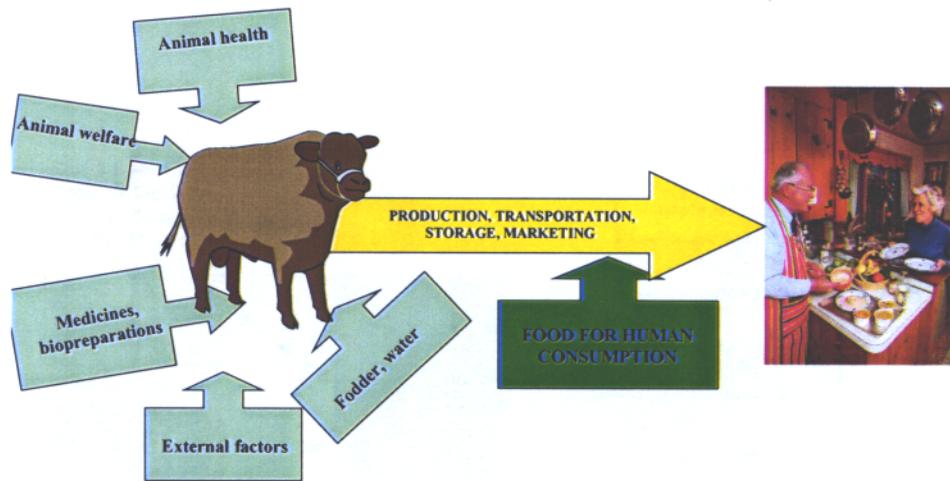
The task of the Food and Veterinary Audit Service is to increase the performance effectiveness of the Service and to ensure the control of public funds.

Inspection of the county, city, district State Food and Veterinary Services and other institutions subordinate to the State Food and Veterinary Service is carried out according to the schedule.

#### **The reorganisation of market surveillance institutions has strengthened the consumer protection in Lithuania**

State Food and Veterinary Service is fully responsible for food safety “from stable to table”

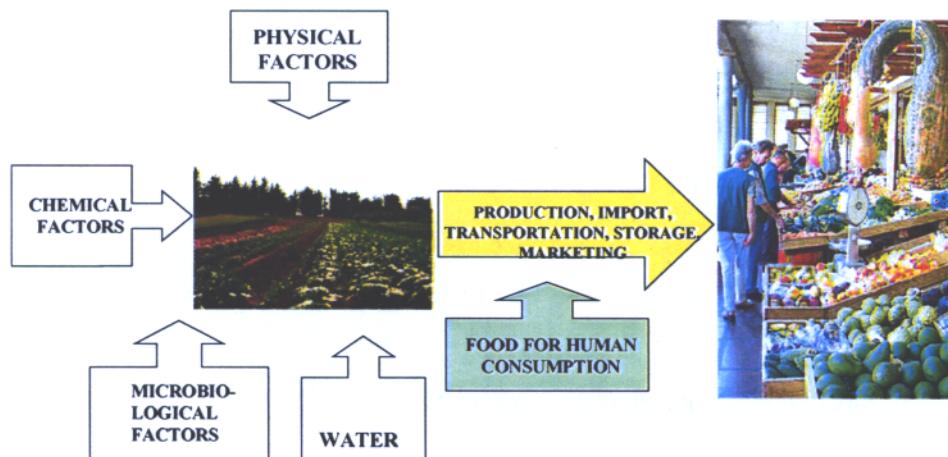
## FOOD CONTROL 'FROM STABLE TO TABLE'



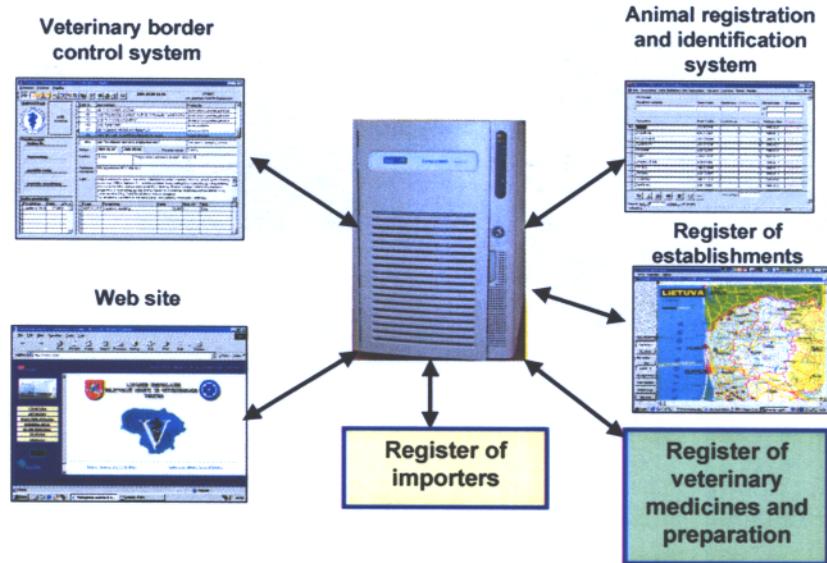
and "from field to fork"

## FOOD CONTROL

*"From field to fork"*



**SFVS has different kinds of information in one server at the SFVS**



### **The main principles for Veterinary Services**

- National competent authorities, with appropriate powers to operate veterinary legislation, ensure its proper implementation
- Clear structure of command
- Adequate budgets
- Skilled staff
- Capability to prevent and eradicate contagious animal diseases