

**STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL  
SCHEME IN LITHUANIA  
FROM 2023/2024 TO 2028/2029 SCHOOL YEAR**

**DATE OF ADOPTION: MAY 2023**

**Amended on.....<sup>2</sup>**



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## 1. ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION

Article 23(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 (hereafter, the basic act) and Article 2(1)(a) of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/39 (hereafter, implementing regulation)

National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Regional	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## 2. NEEDS AND RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

### 2.1. Identified needs

The evaluation report showed that parents are not sufficiently familiar with the school scheme and its activities. Therefore, the objectives for 2023-2029 include a further objective related to raising awareness on sustainable agriculture and lifestyles, environmental impact and combating food waste. The strategy foresees that at least one accompanying educational activity should be family-oriented, involving parents.

- Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(b) of the implementing regulation

Identified needs and objectives for the 2023-2029 period:

- increase children's intake of fruit and vegetables and milk and milk products in educational establishments;
- increase children's awareness of the benefits of fruit and vegetables and milk and milk products and of the benefits of a healthy diet;
- raise children's awareness of food production, sustainable agriculture and lifestyles, the impact on the environment and the fight against food waste.

### 2.2. Objectives and indicators

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(c) of the implementing regulation

General objective(s)	Impact indicator(s)	Specific objective(s)	Result Indicator(s)	Output Indicator(s)
<b>1. Increase the proportion of fruit and vegetables and milk and milk products in children's diet</b>	<p>Percentual change in fruit / vegetables and milk consumption.</p> <p>The target is to increase the average consumption of fruit/vegetables/milk by 1%. The report of scheme evaluation showed that 83,6-80,5% of all children</p>	The recommended amount of fruit / vegetables and milk is consumed by 70-85% of all target children	<p>80 % of children participating in the school scheme per school year on total number of children in the target group</p> <p>85 % of educational establishments participating in the school scheme per school year on total</p>	<p>200.000 children participating in the school scheme per school year</p> <p>1.200 of educational establishments participating in the school scheme per school year</p> <p>Expenditure on distribution of</p>

	eat fruit and vegetables and 75,9% of all children consume milk and milk products every day at least one or several times a day. This target relates to children 1-10 years old.		number of schools in the target group	products per school year
<b>2. To raise children's awareness about the positive health effects of the consumption of fruit and vegetables and milk and milk products.</b>	An increasing number of children will understand how many portions of fruit/vegetables/ milk per day they must consume and the health benefits of the given products.	The target is to have 70% of all children aware that all people must consume fruit/ vegetables/ milk 2-5 times a day.	100% of children involved in accompanying educational measures per school year on total number of children in the school scheme	200.000 children participating in accompanying educational measures per school year Expenditure on educational measures per school year

Consumption of fruit and vegetables remains relatively high, but consumption of milk and dairy products is on the decline. This may be related to the high level of information that livestock production is a major contributor to climate change and that a shift towards higher consumption of plant products is needed. The objective of the school scheme is therefore to maintain the current level of consumption and to increase it by 1%.

It should be noted that the school scheme is complementary to the child feeding policy in Lithuania. Children in educational institutions must be fed in accordance with the description of the procedure for the organisation of children's meals approved by the Ministry of Health (Order No V-964 of the Minister of Health of 11 November 2011), according to which children must be provided with a vegetable or a fruit every day during meals. Therefore, the impact indicators of the school scheme cover the overall outcome of the child nutrition policy.

Note. The declining number of participating schools is linked to the general decline in the number of schools (especially in the regions, schools are closing due to low number of children).

### 2.3. Baseline

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(d) of the implementing regulation

The results of the implementation of school scheme in 2017-2023 showed that:83.6% of pupils in classes 1-4 eat fruit at least several times a day and 80.5% eat vegetables at least several times a day. 75.9% of pupils in classes 1-4 consume milk and milk products at least once a day, and 33.8% consume them 2 or more times.

Educational activities were carried out in more than 1,440 educational establishments, involving around 230 000 children. These measures helped children to understand what a healthy diet is and why they should avoid products high in added sugars, salts and fats. The results of the questionnaire survey showed that around 47% of pupils usually choose fruit or vegetables for snacks, 44% of pupils expressed a desire to eat more fruit, 33% vegetables and 27% milk or dairy products.

The results of the 2019-2020 survey on school-age children's eating habits, actual diet and physical activity patterns show that around 20-39% of school-age children consume unhealthy foods on a daily basis (one or more times a day).

One in five children said they choose unhealthy snacks, one in four children said they drink a variety of fizzy and/or sugary drinks, and 39.3% consume sweets (sweets, chocolates, waffles with spread, pastries with cream or icing, cakes, etc.) on a daily basis (one or more times per day).

Based on the results of the evaluation of school scheme, it can be concluded that children still do not eat enough fruit and vegetables and milk. The children's diet and eating habits should be given more attention by encouraging the consumption of more healthy products, both as main meals and snacks.

In accordance with the Healthy Eating Guidelines prepared by the Center for Health Education and Prevention, each child must consume daily 5 portions of fruit and vegetables, 2-3 portions of milk and dairy products. The aim is for the school scheme to contribute to the achievement of these established fruit and vegetable consumption guidelines and to educate children about the importance of healthy eating and sustainable consumption.

A vision for the school scheme and children's nutritional education is to ensure that each child understands the benefits healthy eating and is able to differentiate and choose health-friendly products, understands the importance of fruit, vegetables and milk in the diet.

### 3. BUDGET

#### 3.1. Union aid for the school scheme

Article 23a of the basic act and Article 2(1)(e) of the implementing regulation

EU aid for the school scheme (in EUR)	Period 1/8/2023 to 31/7/2029		
	School fruit and vegetables	School milk	Common elements if applicable
Distribution of school fruit and vegetables/school milk	4 468 269	6 196 273	
Accompanying educational measures			1 277 191
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity <sup>4</sup>			830 174
Total	4 468 269	6 196 273	2 107 364
Overall total	12 771 906		

The distribution of budget is indicative.

If the costs related to accompanying educational measures and information turn out to be lower than the budgeted above, the leftover funds will be used to finance the distribution of products.

3.2. National aid granted, in addition to Union aid, to finance the school scheme	
Article 23a(6) of the basic act and Article 2(2)(d) of the implementing regulation	
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, amount (in national currency)	Milk/milk products <sup>6</sup>

	<b>Fruit/vegetables</b>	Milk/milk products other than Annex V	Annex V products
Supply/distribution	6 000 000	7 644 000	
Accompanying educational measures			
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity			
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 644 000</b>		

The following amount may be allocated from the national budget every year:

- until 1 000 thous. EUR for distribution of fruit and vegetables;
- until 1 274 thous. EUR for distribution of milk and milk products.

The above-mentioned amounts of support are preliminary. The definitive amount of support is established by the order of the Minister of Agriculture every year, taking into account the possibilities of the national budget.

The support from national budget is provided only for the distribution of products (fruit, vegetables and milk). This will allow to distribute more fruit, vegetables, milk and milk products. All products are distributed free of charge.

The exact amount of aid will be fixed by order of the Minister for Agriculture before the start of each school year.

<b>3.3. Existing national schemes</b>	
Article 23a(5) of the basic act and Article 2(2)(e) of the implementing regulation	
<b>No</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### **4. TARGET GROUP/S**

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(f) of the implementing regulation

School level	Age range of children	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Nurseries		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-schools	1,0-6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Primary	6-10	x	x
Secondary		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments

## 5. LIST OF PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER THE SCHOOL SCHEME

Article 23(9) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(g) of the implementing regulation

### 5.1. Fruit and vegetables

#### 5.1.1. Fresh fruit and vegetables and fresh products of the banana sector - Article 23(3)(a) of the basic act

Apricots, cherries, peaches, nectarines, plums	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carrots, turnips, salad beetroot, salsify, celeriac, radishes and other edible roots	x
Apples, pears, quinces	x	Cabbages, cauliflowers and other edible brassicas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bananas	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Berries	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cucumbers, gherkins	
Figs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lettuces, chicory and other leaf vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lentils, peas, other pulses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melons, watermelons	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tomatoes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Citrus fruit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other vegetables: please specify <sup>8</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tropical fruit <sup>9</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	.....	
Other fruit: please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>		
.....			

Average diversity of fresh fruit products envisaged by the strategy, per establishment for one school year:		Average diversity of fresh vegetable products envisaged by the strategy, per establishment for one school year:	
1-6 products	x	1-3 products	x
7-14 products	<input type="checkbox"/>	3-6 products	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 14	<input type="checkbox"/>	7-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
		> 10	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 5.1.2. Processed fruit and vegetable products – Article 23(4)(a) of the basic act

Products distributed under the school scheme		Added salt		Added fat		Comments (optional)
		No	Yes	No	Yes	
Fruit juices	x					



Fruit purées, compotes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	
Jams, marmalades	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Dried fruits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Vegetable juices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Other: please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Vegetable-fruit juice mixture	x	x			x			

## 5.2. Milk and milk products

### 5.2.1. Milk - Article 23(3)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Drinking milk and lactose-free versions	x
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### 5.2.2. Milk products - Article 23(4)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Products distributed under the school scheme		Added salt			Added fat			Comments (optional)
		No	Yes		No	Yes		
Cheese and curd	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	1,7 g/100 g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	
Plain yoghurt	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fermented or acidified milk products without added sugar, flavouring, fruits, nuts or cocoa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			

### 5.2.3. Milk products - Annex V to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Products to be distributed under the school scheme		Added salt			Added fat			Added sugar
		No	Yes		No	Yes		
Category I (milk component $\geq 90\%$ ). Fermented milk products without fruit juice, naturally flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	%
Category I (milk component $\geq 90\%$ ). Fermented milk products with fruit juice, naturally flavoured or non- flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		%

Category I (milk component ≥90%). Milk- based drinks with cocoa, with fruit juice or naturally flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		%
Category II (milk component ≥75%). Fermented or non-fermented milk products with fruit, naturally flavoured or non- flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		%

### 5.3. Prioritisation of fresh fruit and vegetables and drinking milk

Article 23(3) of the basic act

As concerns the fruit and vegetables part, the Strategy foresees the distribution of apples, pears and carrots. And once a month, fruit or vegetable juice (or a mixture of these juices) will be given. In April-May, if there is a shortage of carrots on the market, it will be possible to provide children with a vegetable-fruit juice mixture with more than 50 % vegetable (carrot, pumpkin, beetroot) juice instead of carrots.

As regards the milk component, the Strategy foresees that dairy products can be distributed up to three times a week to children, of which two times must be drinking milk.

### 5.4. Scheme products & other agricultural products in the educational measures

Article 23(7) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(g) of the implementing regulation

<b>Scheme products</b>		
<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>
x	Please list the products: bananas, kiwis, citrus fruits, grapes and various fresh vegetables, fruit and vegetable purees, oil, honey	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other agricultural products</b>		
<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>
x	Please list the products: olive oil, honey	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>5.5. Criteria for the choice of products distributed under the school scheme and any priorities for the choice of those products</b>	
Article 23(11) of the basic act and Article 2(2)(a) of the implementing regulation	
Health considerations	x
Environmental considerations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seasonality	<input type="checkbox"/>
Variety of products	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of local or regional produce	x
Any comments – including e.g. on the required quality of products	
<b>Any priority/ies for the choice of products:</b>	
Local or regional purchasing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments	
Organic products	x
Any comments	
Short supply chains	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments	
Environmental benefits (please specify: <i>e.g. food miles, packaging ...</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments	
Products recognised under the quality schemes established by Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments	
Fair-trade	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments	
<i>National Quality Scheme</i> . Products are produced using less fertilizers, plant protection products, applying crop rotation and other environment friendly crop cultivation techniques. Product specifications were approved by the Order No 3D-351 of the Minister of Agriculture on 20 May 2022	x

## 6. ACCOMPANYING EDUCATIONAL MEASURES

Article 23(10) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(j) of the implementing regulation

<b>Title</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Description</b>
School gardens	Make children aware of the origin/growing process	Reconnection of children to agriculture	Setting up and maintenance of a school garden. The children and teachers are involved in this process.
Visits to farms/ farmers' markets/dairies.	Make children aware of the origin/ growing process, production of milk products	Reconnection of children to agriculture, local food chains, sustainable production.	Familiarizing e children with the cultivation of fruit and vegetables, the production of milk and (or) other products, the way of production or product from farm to fork

Tasting classes/cooking workshop	Helping children to realize practically what kind of food is good for health and that healthy food is tasty, to teach children to make healthy snacks	Healthy eating habits, food waste	The activities would introduce children to different types of fruit and vegetables and teach them how to make healthy snacks.
Lessons or other forms of activity: games, competitions et etc.	Explaining the importance of healthy eating habits, agriculture and reducing food waste	Reconnection of children to agriculture, healthy eating habits, organic production, sustainable production, food waste	Training materials and examples of various forms of activities (games, puzzles, quizzes, etc.) are being prepared in order to interactively introduce children to sustainable agriculture, combat food waste, and involve them in solving problems in agriculture
Training courses, seminars, conferences	To educate children and educational communities on healthy eating, sustainable agriculture, local food supply chains, sustainable food consumption	Healthy eating habits, organic production, sustainable production, local food chains, food waste, other	Developing materials and interactive activities for children and families on sustainable agriculture and sustainable consumption, with a view to changing eating and dietary planning habits in families

## 7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### 7.1. Price of school fruit and vegetables/milk

Article 2(2) of Delegated Regulation 2017/40.

Products are distributed for children free of charge

## 7.2. Frequency and duration of distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk and of accompanying educational measures

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(2)(b) of the implementing regulation

Envisaged frequency of distribution:

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Once per week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Twice per week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Three times per week	x	x
Four times per week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other : please specify <sup>13</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments: Up to three times per week, depending on the price level of the products and the current budget		

Envisaged duration of distribution:

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
≤ 2 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 2 and ≤ 4 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 4 and ≤ 12 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 12 and ≤ 24 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 24 and ≤ 36 weeks	x	x
Entire school year	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comment:		

Envisaged duration of accompanying educational measures during the school year:

The accompanying measures will be available throughout the year. It is up to each school to decide how and when to implement the accompanying measures. It is foreseen to prepare the special educational material and scenarios for different activities.

### 7.3. Timing of distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk

Article 23(8) – and 23a(8) of the basic act if supply in relation to the provision of other meals – of the basic act and Article 2(2)(b) of the implementing regulation

Envisaged timing of distribution during the day:

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Morning/morning break(s)	x	x
Lunchtime	x	x
Afternoon/afternoon break(s)	x	x

Comments:

It is recommended to distribute products during the special breaks (morning or afternoon breaks). In the absence of availability, the products may be distributed during lunchtime. In this case it must show that these products are supplied under the Scheme.

It is also recommended for educational establishments to have special places where healthy products could be served to children and the children could help themselves (to pour a glass of milk or yoghurt, or juice, or to take a piece of apple or other products).

### 7.4. Distribution of milk products in Annex V to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Article 23(5) of the basic act, Article 5(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1370/2013 ('the fixing regulation'), Article 2(2)(f) of the implementing regulation

No

Yes

### 7.5. Selection of suppliers

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(l) of the implementing regulation

Due to the distribution of products according to the School Scheme, suppliers can be: educational institutions or product suppliers, which are: milk and dairy product manufacturers, fruit and vegetable growers, wholesale companies, companies providing children's catering services in an educational

institution. If the educational institution does not participate independently as a product supplier, it selects the product suppliers by means of a public tender or by concluding a contract.

All companies wishing to supply products to children must be approved by the Rural Business and Markets Development Agency.

The companies that will implement information and educational measures and evaluate of the Scheme will be selected under public procurement procedures.

## **7.6. Eligible costs**

### **7.6.1. Reimbursement rules Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article (1)(i) of the implementing regulation**

Support for the product distributed is based on lump-sums (Eur per 100 kg/l).

The methodology of the calculation of support and the amount of support are set out by the Order No 3D-599 of the Minister of Agriculture of 21 September 2017. The amounts of support are fixed for one school year and set before the school year starts. The amount of support will be adjusted each year, taking into account changes in market prices for fruit / vegetables / dairy products.

The calculation of the amount of aid for fruit and vegetables products is based on the data of the Monthly Report on the Purchase of Vegetables, Champignons, Potatoes, Fruits and Berries from Lithuanian Producers (approved by the Order No 3D-393 of the Minister of Agriculture on 23 January 2008), with regard to correction coefficients for organic products and products produced under National Quality Scheme. The specific amount is set out for the entire school year.

The aid for the distribution of juice is calculated on the basis of the data of the juice producers' survey (no statistical data on fruit/ vegetables juice). The specific amount is set out for the entire school year.

The calculation of the amount of aid for milk and milk products is based on the data of the Monthly Report on the of production and sales of milk and other products PS-3, PS-1 (approved by the Order No 3D-416 of the Minister of Agriculture on 15 June 2009). The amount of support is equal to the average selling price of dairy products marketed in the Lithuanian market since June last year until May of the current year (a 12-month average price).

The applicants may apply for support for quantities that are verified by documentation approved (copies of invoices). The applicants may submit applications every month for the distribution of products.

The amount of aid for each applicant is calculated as follows: the number of children\*the portion size of distributed products \* the number of days in which products were distributed.

One portion of products are as follows:

- apple or pear (until 150 g); or 80-100 g carrot, or 125-150 ml juice of fruits or vegetables;
- milk portion's size: 125-150 ml of drinking milk per child and day; 125 g yoghurt, 40 g fresh or matured cheese.

The aid must never exceed the cost of purchasing the products.

Entities that will implement information and educational measures will be selected under public procurement procedures and will be paid according to actual costs (invoices).

Amounts of support for the information and accompanying educational measures is based on invoices.

#### **7.6.2. Eligibility of certain costs**

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(2)(b) of the implementing regulation

The applicants are compensated for the cost of purchasing the products. Any additional costs which are incurred during the delivery of products to pupils (the cost of storage of products, the cost of distribution, salaries of the staff and other related costs) are not shown separately and are not compensated.

#### **7.7. Involvement of authorities and stakeholders**

Article 23(6) and (9) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(k) of the implementing regulation

The Ministry of Agriculture has involved the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the State Food and Veterinary Service in the discussion about the main tasks, the measures and the implementation of the strategy. All the above-mentioned institutions have expressed their support of the strategy.

The Ministry of Health has expressed its support of the products given to children. The products which are covered by the Scheme are consistent with the policy of pupils' nutrition in educational establishments.

The following stakeholders (public authorities and private stakeholders) are involved in the implementation of the school scheme: Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, Lithuanian Agriculture Council, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Ministry of Health, State Food and Veterinary Service and Rural Business and Markets Development Agency. A supervisory commission for the implementation of the Strategy has been set up by the order of the Minister of Agriculture.

The aim of the commission is to analyse the annual monitoring and evaluation reports of the Strategy and submit proposals to the Minister for Agriculture regarding any topics of relevance for the implementation of the school scheme (include products, funding, prioritisation criteria and accompanying measures, administrative questions) and other relevant questions related to the implementation of the Strategy and Scheme.



## 8.7. Authorities and stakeholders involved

			Complete Name	Involved in Planning	Involved in Implementation	Involved in Monitoring	Involved in Evaluation	Other (if yes, please specify)
Public authority/ Private stakeholder	Agriculture	Authority	Rural Business and Markets Development Agency	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
		Stakeholder	Association of Horticulture Association of vegetables growers Association of dairy farmers	Yes/No	No	Yes	No	
	Health and Nutrition	Authority	Ministry of Health State Food and Veterinary Service	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
		Stakeholder		Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	
	Education	Authority	Ministry of Education, Science and Sport	Yes	No	Yes	No	
		Stakeholder		Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	
	Other	Authority		Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	
		Stakeholder		Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	

## 7.8. Information and publicity

Article 23a(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)(m) of the implementing regulation

The information campaign will take place via the new website (<http://www.pienasvaisiai.lt> :articles, reports (broadcasts),social media and publications are planned to be issued), preparation and publishing of information material (preparation and distribution of brochures, leaflets, posters and other informative publications) and direct communication with the parties in question.

The website of the Market Regulation Agency contains information about the administration of the Scheme (<http://www.litfood.lt/paramos-priemones/pienas-vaikams/> ; <http://www.litfood.lt/paramos-priemones/vaisiai-mokykloms/>). The website describes the way the Scheme functions, who can apply for aid and how to do so.

Educational establishments receiving aid are required to display posters showing that they are participating in the EU's School Scheme.

## **7.9. Administrative and on-the-spot checks**

Article 2(2)(g) of the implementing regulation

Rural Business and Markets Development Agency is responsible for the administration of the Scheme on the following:

- approval of suppliers;
- registration of suppliers and educational establishments;
- coordination of the implementation of educational measures;
- administration of aid applications;
- administrative and on-the-spot checks of beneficiaries as provided for in Articles 9 and 10 of Regulation (EU) 2017/39, and controls on beneficiaries' compliance with the requirements set out in the National rules and EU school scheme regulations.

Payments for beneficiaries will be made by the National Paying Agency.

## **7.10. Monitoring and evaluation**

Article 2(2)(g) of the implementing regulation

Rural Business and Markets Development Agency supervises the Scheme annually by compiling the following information from the administrative systems:

- total amount paid out;
- total volume of vegetable/fruit/milk provided;
- number of schools that participate in the Scheme and share of schools in the Scheme as percentage of eligible schools;
- number of pupils at participating schools and share of children in the Scheme as percentage of target groups;
- consumption per pupil;
- the implementation of educational activities and information measures;
- number of pupils/schools that participate in educational activities.

Rural Business and Markets Development Agency provides the above-mentioned reports to the Supervisory Commission for the Implementation of the Strategy. The Market Regulation Agency is the authority responsible for supervising the Scheme and reporting to the Commission.

The companies that will evaluate the Scheme are selected under public procurement procedures by the Ministry of Agriculture.