



NACIONĀLAIS  
ATTĪSTĪBAS  
PLĀNS 2020



EIROPAS SAVIENĪBA  
Eiropas Sociālais  
fonds

IEGULDĪJUMS TAVĀ NĀKOTNĒ

# Housing First Latvia Pilot (ESF)



LATVIJAS  
UNIVERSITĀTE



**Kārlis Lakševics**

**University of Latvia | Safege Baltic**

**02-06-23**

# Contents



**Project inception**



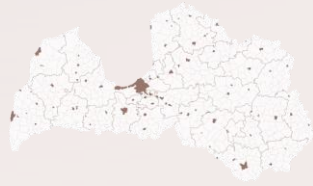
**Funding coverage**



**Local service design**



**Results so far**



## Context

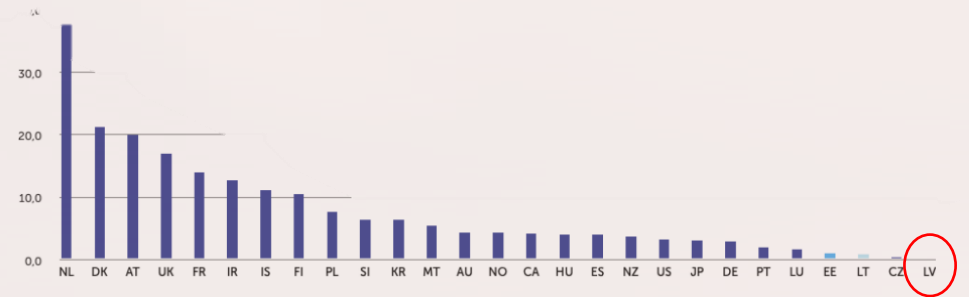
Owner 83,2% | Tenant 16,8%

Low share of **social housing**

GMI until this year: **EUR 109**

Homelessness as % of total population (2017): **0,35%\***

**Shelter use increased** until Covid-19





## Project inception



Emerged from signing the **Lisbon Declaration**

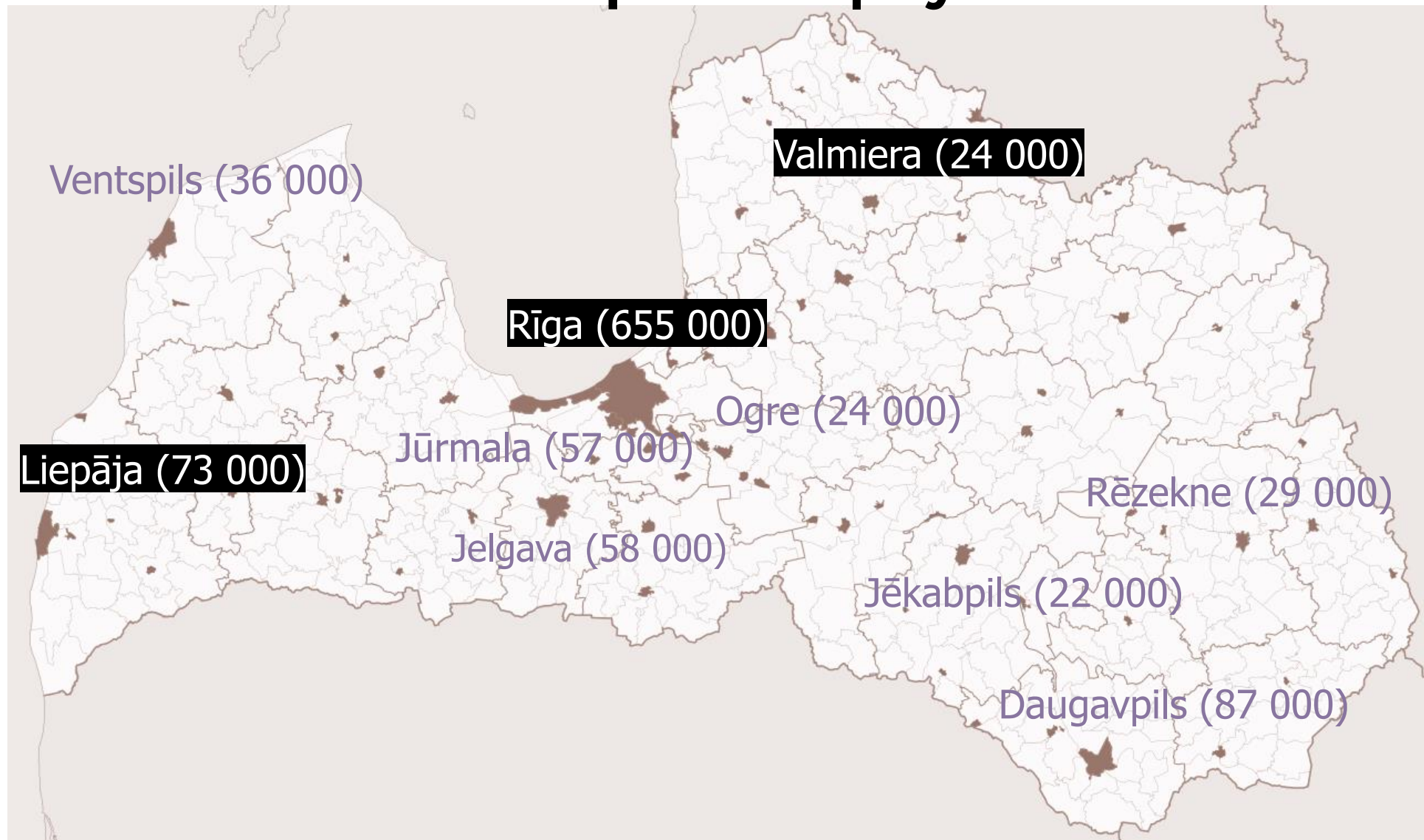


But **unrelated to local homelessness reduction strategy**



Planned as a **local innovation and strategy changer** since services mostly used staircase model

# 3 municipalities | 1 year



## What the project funding includes?



**Service design, delivery and evaluation**



**Municipal housing unit allocation**



**2/3 Exchange visits (Finland, Denmark)**



**3/3 Service design thinking workshops**



**Weekly multi-stakeholder meetings**

# Selection of housing units

Initial target: 100  
EUR 3000 per unit

City	Housing	Units so far
Rīga	Private rental housing*	25
Liepāja	Public housing	10
Valmiera	Public housing	10

\*Co-funded by the Riga City Council

# Pilot participants

<b>Total participants</b>	<b>49*</b>
Average age	54,4
Gender	Men 22 Women 23
Ethnicity	Latvian 21 Russian 22 Other 2
Years homeless	10+ 14 4-9 11 1-3 10 0-1 9

\*Demographic data used for 45



# Pilot support staff



Focus on ICT, but mostly working in teams of 2  
1 or more home visits per week

Social workers (case management)	5
Social mentors	10

Involvement of municipal project managers  
In Riga, service provider also conducts apartment search and contracting  
Additional funding for designers/evaluating researchers

## Housing sustainment rate

First clients received apartments at the end of September

**46/49** remain housed

1 death

1 voluntarily ended the service

1 contract was ended by service provider

## Other results

- Benefit and disability status claiming
- NGO engagement
- Mediating institutional exchanges
- Debt service
- General practitioner claiming
- Job consultations
- Work with addictions

Integration of Housing First and broader social service infrastructure - a two-way process

# Current concerns

- 1 Improving public **housing quality**
- 2 Improving **inter-institutional cooperation**
- 3 Introducing **additional support and ACT**



# Current challenges



Housing is a human right



Choice and control for service users



Separation of housing and treatment



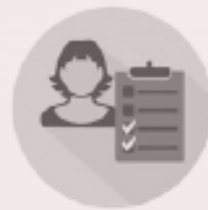
Recovery orientation



Harm reduction



Active engagement without coercion



Person-centred planning



Flexible Support for as Long as is Required

## Broader concerns

**6** Municipal and national **homelessness reduction strategies**

**7** Municipal and national **data collection**

**8** Funding for further **innovation and system change**

**Keep in touch!**

karlis.laksevics@lu.lv