

# INTENSE

Environmental Science Dept.  
Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences  
University of Latvia (UL)

ERASMUS Program  
Kick-off meeting  
Vienna, Austria  
**26.03.2018.**

## Science-based higher education:

- UL was established in 1919 after establishing independent state – **Republic of Latvia**
- 15,000 students, 13 faculties and 20 research institutes with 50 research fields – 4 classical study areas:
  - nature sciences,
  - social sciences,
  - humanities and
  - education sciences.
- **130 academic and professional study programs**
- each year, University researchers are involved in around:
  - 900 projects,
  - 1,000 international scientific conferences,
  - 700 published peer-reviewed research papers.

- Research and academic studies:
  - geography,
  - geology,
  - **environmental science.**
- being implemented via academic:
  - **bachelor,**
  - **master** and
  - **doctoral** study programs,
  - and professional master programme on **spatial development planning.**

## Environmental Science Dept: major directions of research

- a) **climate** change studies;
- b) biogeochemistry, environmental contamination in Latvia;
- c) environmental functions and planning of **landscapes; soil science**
- d) composition of **surface waters** of Latvia;
- e) studies on **natural resources** of Latvia;
- f) **air pollution**, modelling;
- g) **environmental engineering** applications
- h) **sustainability and environmental governance research** –  
**multi- and trans-disciplinary** (stakeholders incl.) studies of **socio-ecological systems** (SES), covering both and complementary:
  - a) nature studies and
  - b) socio-economic, management studies.

## UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Coastal Development: coastal R&D projects:

- Environmental biodiversity and sustainable governance – SUSTINNO, National Research Program, 2014-2017
- Innovative technologies for safer European coasts – THESEUS, FP7, 2009-2013.
- Baltic environment, food and health: from habits to awareness – FOODWEB, Interreg 2011-2013.
- Communicating the Baltic: Environmental awareness in the Baltic Sea Region – COBWEB, Interreg 2009- 2011.
- Advanced Techniques for the Evaluation of Sustainability Assessment Tools - Sustainability A-Test: FP6, 2005-2007
- Evaluation Model for the Sustainable Development of European Coastal Zones - DEDUCE, Interreg, 2005-2007
- Coastal Sustainability as a Challenge - COASTSUST, Interreg, 2005-2007
- Integration of spatial environmental information across different themes, scales, resolutions – ENVIFACILITATE, LIFE-Environment, 2005-2007.

## Research key words:

- Sustainability Governance and
- Indicator Systems, Public Monitoring (Citizen Science)
- Environmental Policy, Planning and Management
- Cross-Sectorial and Multi-Instrumental Approaches
- Collaboration Communication – information, education, participation and behaviour
- Sustainable coastal governance, resilience development and
- ICZM for local municipalities
- Municipal Climate Change Adaptation Governance and its integration into Municipal Planning

# Project Core Team – Latvia:

- **Raimonds Ernsteins** (Prof., PhD 1995, Habil.PhD 1999)  
UNESCO Chairholder in Sustainable Coastal Development,  
Expert in environmental **governance and communication, coastal planning/management,**  
Director of Environmental Governance PHD sub-program (2002-2010)  
Director of Environmental Governance Master studies program (1993-2013)  
Director of Environmental Pedagogy Master studies program (1995-2001)
- **Māris Kļaviņš** (Prof., PhD 1996, Habil. PhD)  
Expert in environmental chemistry, **water** resource studies  
Director of Environmental Science PHD program  
Director of Environmental Science Master studies program ()
- **Ivars Kudrenickis** (Asoc. Prof., PhD 1998)  
Expert in **energy/renewable** resources planning, climate mitigation/municipal  
planning and sustainability indicators.
- **Iveta Steinberga** (Asoc. Prof., PhD 2007)  
Expert in **air pollution, environmental modelling** and statistical analysis.  
Director of Environmental Science Bachelor studies program
- **Janis Lapinskis** (Lead researcher, PhD 2010)  
Expert in **coastal geological processes and climate change** impact on  
coasts/protection.

**Creditpoints: 144** (A – mandatory, B – optional courses)

**Full-time:** 6 semesters/3 years) + part-time (8 semesters/4 years)

**Specialization directions (Environmental Science sub-branches):**

- 1- Environmental chemistry and eco-toxicology;
- 2- Nature protection;
- 3- Environmental engineering;
- 4- Environmental governance.

**Degrees** (research spec.):

Dr.chem.

Dr.geogr.

Dr.biol.

Dr.oec.





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