

The NGO sector in Latgale.

**How large?
How powerful? How
prepared for crises?**



PROVIDUS
CENTRE FOR PUBLIC POLICY

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Information about the Study

Goal of the Study

The aim of this study was to identify the resilience of society in the Latgale region – nine Latgale local governments¹, assessing the size of the NGO sector, its capacity to operate, its readiness to take the initiative in crises, as well as assessing the contribution of municipalities to strengthening the NGO sector, including by involving local governments in decision-making.

Methods

The study is based on the following data:

- analysis of statistics on the NGO sector in cooperation with Lursoft, as well as using data provided by the State Revenue Service;
- focus groups with representatives of Latgale NGOs², 40 Latgale NGOs were involved in the focus groups, one of the focus groups was held in person in Daugavpils, and the rest were held online;
- interviews with experts in various fields³;
- interviews with representatives of NGOs⁴;
- interviews with local government leaders⁵;
- survey of administrators and librarians of local governments of Latgale⁶;
- analysis of information received from local governments for the study⁷.

Abbreviations used:

NGO(s) – non-governmental organisation(s) – used in the context of the study to refer to associations and foundations.

PBO – public benefit organisations;

SRS – State Revenue Service;

SEA – State Employment Agency

SIF – Society Integration Foundation.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following for their cooperation in the development of this study: Lursoft IT SIA, all associations and foundations that participated in the study development process as well as the focus groups and interviews, representatives of local governments who filled in the survey and provided information, chairpersons of Ludza and Augšdaugava Local Government Councils for their time during the interviews.

The study is carried out with the support of the German Embassy in Riga within the project “Civil Society in Latgale: Mapping Existing Civic Engagement Practices and Strengthening Social Resilience”.

¹ Augšdaugava Municipality, Balvi Municipality, Daugavpils State City, Krāslava Municipality, Livāni Municipality, Ludza Municipality, Preiļi Municipality, Rēzekne State City, Rēzekne Municipality.

² In total, 6 focus groups were held (5 remotely, 1 in person (Daugavpils)), involving 40 representatives of different NGOs in Latgale.

³ Interview on the role of society in civil protection; Interview with a disinformation expert.

⁴ Interview with the head of the South Latgale NGO Centre; Interview with the head of the South Latgale Committee of the Latvian Red Cross; Discussion with the heads of the Latgale Local Partnerships.

⁵ Interviews with the leaders of Ludza, Augšdaugava and Balvi Municipalities.

⁶ The Google Forms platform was used for the survey, addressing all heads of local government administrations, library heads in Latgale local governments, and 94 responses were received in total.

⁷ Responses to requests for information on the funding provided by local governments to NGOs, as well as on different forms of cooperation.

Introduction

The previous study by Providus focused on the assessment of local governments' practices in public participation, looking in depth at whether local governments sufficiently involve their citizens in development planning⁸, whether local governments use innovative methods⁹, as well as local governments' experience in working with Inhabitant Councils¹⁰. In researching these issues, we have noticed that the full picture often lacks more detailed data on the NGO sector in the regions – how big it is, what capacity it has, and what areas it works in. We often meet isolated active organisations, which creates the risk of falling into a kind of trap that the organisations we meet reflect the overall situation in the municipality or region.

This study is a close-up of one of Latvia's regions – Latgale and the nine local governments that comprise it. There are several reasons why Latgale is chosen. First of all, because of its geographical location, the public involvement of Latgale is an important issue not only from the point of view of social cohesion but much more broadly, as an issue of social resilience, which is important to assess when thinking about how to strengthen national security. Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine shows the strain that local authorities are under in terms of public security, civil protection and the provision of humanitarian assistance. This experience shows that local authorities need a helping hand from local communities. It also demonstrates that working on community mobilisation and cohesion is not a minor, low-priority thing to be done in a favourable budgetary situation, but an important long-term investment that makes local communities more resilient to different types of crises.

The second reason was related to the lack of information about the overall situation of the NGO sector in Latgale. This study allows us to continue to get a more complete picture of the Latgale region from a public involvement perspective. In 2022, we have analysed in more depth the activities of Inhabitant Councils in one of the Latgale local governments – Rēzekne Municipality. This local government, despite its almost unique experience with Inhabitant Councils, had one of the lowest involvement rates in Latvia in the last local government elections. During frequent visits to Latgale to interview local activists and local government, NGOs were rarely mentioned. This led to a desire to find out what is happening with the NGO sector, not only in Rēzekne Municipality but in Latgale as a whole.

The study consists of two parts. In the first part, data describing the NGO sector in Latgale are analysed in order to assess the size, capacity and areas of activity of the NGO sector. Local governments' role in strengthening the NGO sector is also examined. The second part is devoted to a particularly topical issue at the moment – the resilience of society in crises. In this chapter, the data on the NGO sector is complemented by an assessment of the NGO experience – whether and how NGOs in Latgale have responded to the recent crises – the war in Ukraine and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The study concludes with a number of recommendations – for the NGO sector itself, for local governments and for state institutions – to strengthen the resilience of society in the region. The annex to the study contains data on each of the nine local governments in Latgale: how many NGOs are registered in each municipality, in which areas they operate, which organisations are the strongest financially, as well as the amount of funding provided by local governments to associations and foundations registered in the municipality.

⁸ Research "Civic Involvement in the Preparation of Municipal Planning Documents: Evaluation of Local Government Practice in Latvia": <https://providus.lv/raksti/petijums-sabiedribas-lidzdaliba-pasvaldibu-attistibas-planosanas-dokumentu-izstrade-latvijas-pasvaldibu-prakses-izvertejums/>

⁹ Report "Examples of Civic Involvement in the Municipalities of Latvia": <https://providus.lv/petijumi/parskats-iedzivotaju-iesaistes-piemeri-latvijas-pasvaldibas/>

¹⁰ The results of the research were presented at the conference "Inhabitant Councils in Latvia": <https://providus.lv/raksti/aicinam-uz-konferenci-iedzivotaju-padomes-latvija/>

Main Conclusions

A Small NGO sector. About 7% of all Latvian associations and foundations are registered in Latgale, or just over 2000 NGOs, and their density is similarly low in all nine local governments. Of the registered organisations, the number that are actually active is significantly lower. According to various indicators describing NGOs, interviews and focus groups, the number of organisations that are more or less active on a daily basis is at least half the number of those that are currently registered in the Register of Associations and Foundations and have not liquidated their activities. The NGO sector as a whole is therefore very small in terms of the number of NGOs.

NGO capacity is low. The ability of NGOs to be active, to take leadership, to be an active participant in civil society, to see the needs of the wider community and to adapt quickly to them depends on the capacity of the NGO – whether the organisation has the resources necessary for its core activities – permanent funding to cover day-to-day costs and at least one or more employees. In the study it was found that the NGO sector in Latgale is rather impoverished – administrative capacity is low, only 8% of all NGOs are able to employ at least one employee, but even in these cases the employees are not always permanently employed. Less than half of the registered organisations show financial activity, i.e., they have revenues. The capacity of NGOs at their current level is largely sustained by state and local government grants, and some organisations also have economic activities (most often sports clubs, recreational, entertainment and cultural NGOs). The low capacity is accompanied by a rather non-transparent revenue structure, and the information provided in the annual reports shows that the largest part of the NGOs' revenue is "Other revenue", which prevents a more precise identification of the most important financial sources that actually sustain the NGOs' activities.

Local government funding is important but not sufficient. Every year, local governments financially support the activities of NGOs by co-financing projects, or by covering the costs of NGOs in the form of project competitions for the implementation of various activities; sometimes local governments cover transport costs to an important NGO event, or provide premises for free use. The data provided by the local governments show that a large number of them support churches of different traditional denominations, mostly for various repairs or for organising religious festivals, which shows that religious organisations play an important role in the region. At the same time, this funding is not aimed at building the capacity of NGOs; it covers small costs for projects or events but does not make NGOs more viable in the long term.

Local governments do not involve the NGO sector enough in their activities. According to the study, local governments do not consult the local NGO sector sufficiently and do not appreciate the important and therefore strengthening role that organised civil society plays in local communities. Local governments do not consult local organised civil society in permanent formats – advisory commissions and councils. NGO representatives acknowledge that they are largely not involved in local government decision-making. Only in a few cases have NGOs been asked for their opinion on the matter of local government competence, and consulted on what solution would be more appropriate. In general, the representatives of the most active NGOs have no experience of involvement in local government decision-making.

The capacity of the NGO sector to refocus in crises is very low, but the role of NGOs is increasing in providing different types of support in the later stages of crises. NGO representatives interviewed for the study acknowledged that the NGO sector in Latgale has not been active in crisis situations – NGOs were not involved in providing assistance during the pandemic and did not engage in activities during the early days of the war, when many refugees from Ukraine were arriving in Latvia. Various reasons were given, e.g., NGOs do not have the capacity to carry out any other, additional activities; proactive measures taken by the local government that made it unnecessary for NGOs to get involved; high level of ethnic tensions in the context of the Ukraine crisis, which made them choose to provide assistance personally rather than through their own activities, etc. Examples where organisations get involved in other crisis-related issues as the crisis enters the next phase were mentioned more frequently, e.g., supporting the integration of Ukrainian civilians into the local community through various solidarity building activities,

organising camps for Ukrainian children, etc. It is important that additional funding was available for such activities – from the local government, and from the Society Integration Foundation.

Those working in the NGO sector are highly motivated to continue their work. Although the NGO sector in the Latgale region is currently impoverished, NGO activists in the focus groups confirm that they are highly motivated to continue working in the NGO sector and believe that they are doing important work for society. NGOs can rely on other NGOs both for advice and for joint activities. NGOs are willing to cooperate with the local government if the capacity of the NGO allows it.

The capacity of NGOs in the Latgale region needs to be strengthened. The capacity of the NGO sector in the Latgale region is one of the important investment objectives to promote the resilience of society in the region. Local government resources are not sufficient for this, and increasing them substantially would create other risks, namely that NGOs would be highly dependent on local political power. NGOs need to be able to successfully fulfil their multiple roles, including providing public oversight of local government activities. At present, NGO capacity is severely impoverished, but there are no solutions to strengthen it locally, hence the need to introduce national support programmes for the region, especially in the light of geopolitical considerations.

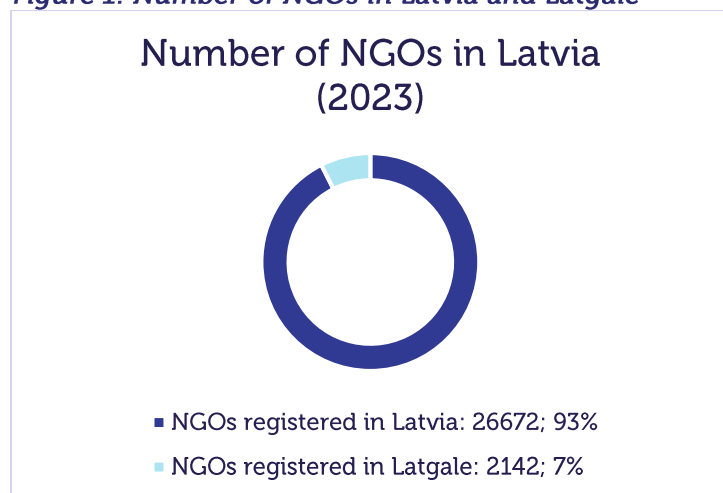
1. What is the NGO Sector in Latgale?

1.1. Number of NGOs and Areas of Activity

The NGO Sector in Latgale Accounts for Only 7% of All NGOs in Latvia

According to the Register of Associations and Foundations, at the beginning of August 2023, there were 2142 registered associations and foundations (hereinafter – NGOs) in nine local governments of Latgale (about 26.7 thousand in total in Latvia)¹¹, which is 7% of all Latvian NGOs (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Number of NGOs in Latvia and Latgale



Source: Data on NGOs not liquidated in Latgale as of 02.08.2023 compiled by Lursoft IT and data on unliquidated NGOs in Latvia as of 16.10.2023.

The most NGOs are registered in the largest city in Latgale – Daugavpils (663 NGOs), and the least – in the smallest local government – Līvāni Municipality (88 NGOs). The density of NGOs in the region, measured as the number of NGOs per population, is consistently low at around 0.008 NGOs per capita. The lowest number of NGOs is found in Ludza Municipality, where there are 0.006 NGOs per capita.

Table 1. Basic Data on NGOs in the Latgale Region

Local government	Number of NGOs	Number of PBOs	NGOs with PBO status (%)	Number of NGOs per capita
Augšdaugava Municipality	208	7	3.4	0.007
Balvi Municipality	193	5	2.6	0.010
Daugavpils	663	54	8.1	0.007
Krāslava Municipality	161	8	5	0.007
Līvāni Municipality	88	5	5.7	0.008
Ludza Municipality	148	7	4.7	0.006

¹¹ Statistics compiled by Lursoft IT, data on the number of registered NGOs not liquidated in Latvia as of 02.08.2023.

Preiļi Municipality	164	9	5.5	0.009
Rēzekne	212	18	8.5	0.007
Rēzekne Municipality	305	12	3.9	0.010
Total	2142	125	5.8	0.008

Source: Data compiled by Providus using information provided by Lursoft IT SIA. To determine the density of NGOs, the data on the population of local governments as of 01.07.2022 were used.

Few Public Benefit Organisations

A very small proportion, or less than 6% of all NGOs registered in Latgale, have the status of a public benefit organisation (hereinafter – PBO). According to the data collected by the Civic Alliance – Latvia, Latgale has the lowest number of public benefit organisations compared to other regions of Latvia¹². For example, out of 193 registered NGOs, only 5 are public benefit associations in Balvi Municipality. Similarly, in Augšdaugava Municipality, only 3% of NGOs have public benefit status, while in Rēzekne Municipality only 4% of NGOs have such status (Table 1).

There is No Precise Data on the Areas in which NGOs Operate

The Associations and Foundations Law does not oblige NGOs to indicate their field of activity; this is a voluntary choice of the NGO. Therefore, a complete picture of the fields of activity of the NGO sector in Latgale is currently absent due to a lack of data. Only 7% of all registered NGOs have indicated their field of activity¹³. Among them, the most frequently mentioned activities are sports club, housing management or activities of other membership organisations n.e.c. (Table 2).

Table 2. The Five Most Frequently Mentioned Fields of Activity of NGOs

Name of the NGO's field of activity listed as the first field of activity	Number of organisations
Sports club	23
Housing management	15
Association or foundation n.e.c.	11
Other cultural activities	9
Education	8

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

However, the statistical classification of economic activities (NACE) shows that almost half of all NGOs, or 45%, reported "Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.", probably because the organisations do not have the correct NACE code for their activities in the existing NACE classification or for some reason could not find the correct NACE code¹⁴. However, among those organisations that have identified a NACE code for their activity, organisations that are united in one field or sector, such as hunting clubs or sports organisations, are more frequent (see Table 3).

¹² Data collected by the Civic Alliance – Latvia "NGO Sector Monitoring 2023": https://nvo.lv/uploads/nvo_sektora_monitorings_2023_fin.pdf

¹³ The indication of the field of activity of an NGO is currently voluntary.

¹⁴ The lack of such data for all NGOs in Latvia makes it impossible to assess not only the fields of activity of the NGO sector but also the contribution of NGOs to the economy. The problem is described in more detail in this study: "Study. Problems and solutions for the classification of Latvian associations and foundations", 2021. https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NVO_petijums.pdf

Table 3. Classification of NGOs by NACE Code

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs with the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	956
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	169
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	128
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	113
93.19	Other sports activities	94

Source: Data compiled by Providus.

Two Rural Territories in Latgale Do Not Have Any Associations or Foundations.

Most of the associations and foundations are concentrated in the centre of the municipality. Out of all the rural territories in Latgale region, only one association or foundation is registered in 12 rural territories, while in two rural territories – Vārkava rural territory in Preiļi Municipality and Nīcgale rural territory in Augšdaugava Municipality – no associations or foundations are registered.

1.2. Statistics versus Reality: How Many of the Registered NGOs are Actually Active?

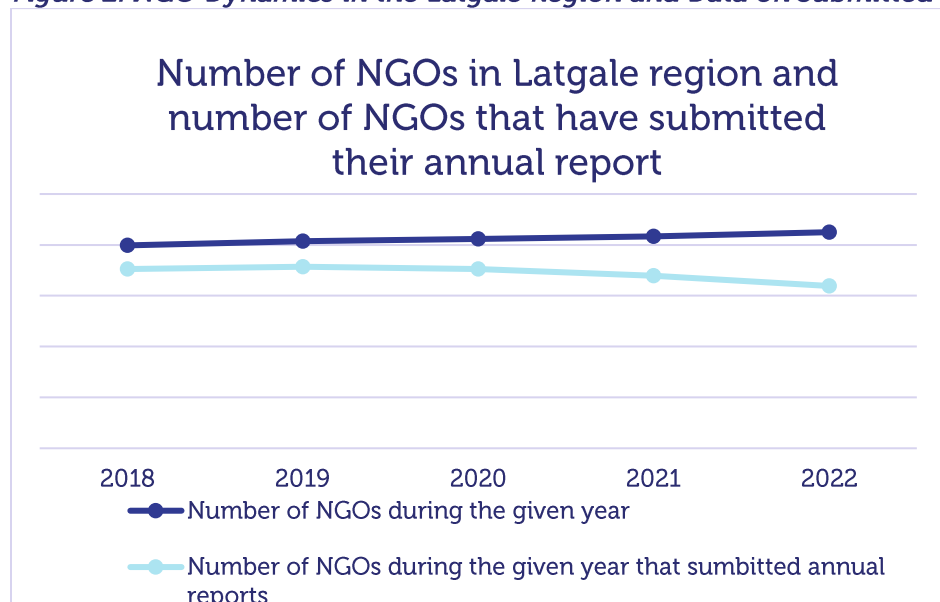
The number of registered NGOs in itself captures the number of organisations that were registered and not dissolved at the time of this study. That is to say, these organisations continue to exist legally today, but it is difficult to determine how many of these organisations are actually active.

A Quarter of NGOs Do Not Submit an Annual Report

The data show that the total number of registered organisations has increased over the last five years. On average, 84% of all NGOs prepare and submit Annual Reports. However, in 2022, a decline can be observed: only 75% of the NGOs that have not been dissolved submitted annual reports (Figure 2)¹⁵. Failure to submit an annual report is usually one of the signs that an organisation is no longer active.

¹⁵ Providus calculations based on Lursoft IT data.

Figure 2. NGO Dynamics in the Latgale Region and Data on Submitted NGO Annual Reports



Source: Information compiled by Providus using Lursoft IT statistics.

Most of the NGOs Have No Revenue

The fact that the number of active NGOs could be even lower is also indicated by other data: only 38% of NGOs that have submitted their activity report to the SRS report financial activity, i.e., they have revenues (Figure 3). There are two main explanations for this: some of the organisations are completely voluntary; some of the organisations continue to exist formally – in compliance with the legal requirement to submit an annual report – but do not actually continue their activities.

NGO Activists Only Recognise a Small Proportion of Registered NGOs

Focus group participants were asked about the number of NGOs they had heard about in their local government; most often, each focus group participant could name on average 5–7 organisations in their local government. In a pilot run in four local governments, the most influential NGOs that most often have to deal with other NGOs on a daily basis (most often coordinating project funding) were asked to tick the NGOs they had heard of or were well known to be active in the last few years, out of all the NGOs registered in the local government. On average, about 1/3 of the NGOs not liquidated were identified in this way¹⁶.

The Actual Number of NGOs – Less than Half

The experience of collecting information during the research confirms that the true number of NGOs is significantly lower than the official statistics. According to various data and focus groups, it could be less than half of the officially registered organisations. Why is that? Several explanations were given in the focus groups. The most common was that many of the organisations were set up to apply for certain funding programmes (LEADER) or local government tenders and after the implementation of the project did not actually continue their activities. The second most common reason given was that the liquidation process is time-consuming and complicated, so they formally continue to submit an annual report but do not actually carry out their activities. The third most frequently cited reason was that some of the organisations' work is depleted when the leader, the individual enthusiast, leaves the organisation, because the organisations are largely dependent on the enthusiasm of individuals¹⁷.

¹⁶ From the list of 161 NGOs in Krāslava, 52% of NGOs were identified, from the list of 208 NGOs in Augšdaugava Municipality, 33% of NGOs were identified as still active, in Rēzekne State City 27%, and in Rēzekne Municipality 21% of NGOs.

¹⁷ Such conclusions were expressed both in focus groups with the most active NGOs and in interviews with individual NGOs carrying out various NGO-related activities in the region.

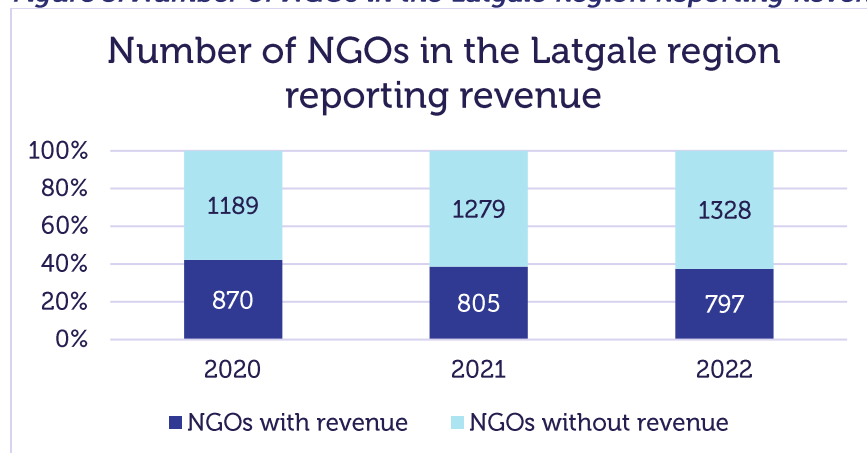
1.3. Capacity of NGOs in the Latgale Region

The data show that the capacity of the NGO sector is generally very low. The number of organisations with revenue is decreasing, as is the number of organisations that can hire an employee. Most organisations operate on a voluntary basis, sometimes with a temporary employee through a project. Important support is provided by the subsidised workplaces programme of the SEA, which has helped a number of NGOs to employ people and to improve their workplaces to an extent.

The Number of NGOs with Revenue is Gradually Decreasing

To be active, organisations need funding to pay for premises to run the organisation, to cover costs, and to hire at least one or two employees. Data show that the administrative capacity of organisations is relatively low and continues to decline. As mentioned above, only 38% of all NGOs registered in the Latgale region had revenue in 2022. Over the last three years, there has been a trend that the number of organisations with revenues has been gradually decreasing, despite the fact that the overall number of NGOs in Latgale has slightly increased.

Figure 3. Number of NGOs in the Latgale Region Reporting Revenue



Source: Information compiled by Providus using Lursoft IT statistics on NGO annual reports.

The information provided in the annual reports of the organisations shows that the total revenue of the NGO sector in Latgale is around EUR 13 million annually (see Chart 3). A bigger breakthrough is observed in 2020; the most plausible explanation for this could be related to the fact that the LEADER programming period and the use of these funds is coming to an end¹⁸, but this assumption was not analysed in depth in the study.

¹⁸ LEADER funding programming period 2014–2020.

Figure 4. Total Revenues of NGOs in the Latgale Region (EUR Million)



Source: Providus data compiled from Lursoft IT data on NGO annual reports.

Disclaimer: the data on NGO revenues in 2020 does not include the EUR 35 957 290 revenue reported in the annual report of one NGO, as Providus researchers did not obtain any other evidence to prove that the organisation has reported the correct information in its annual report.

Three Main Sources of Revenue: State and Local Government Support, Economic Activity and “Other Revenue” or Undefined Revenue

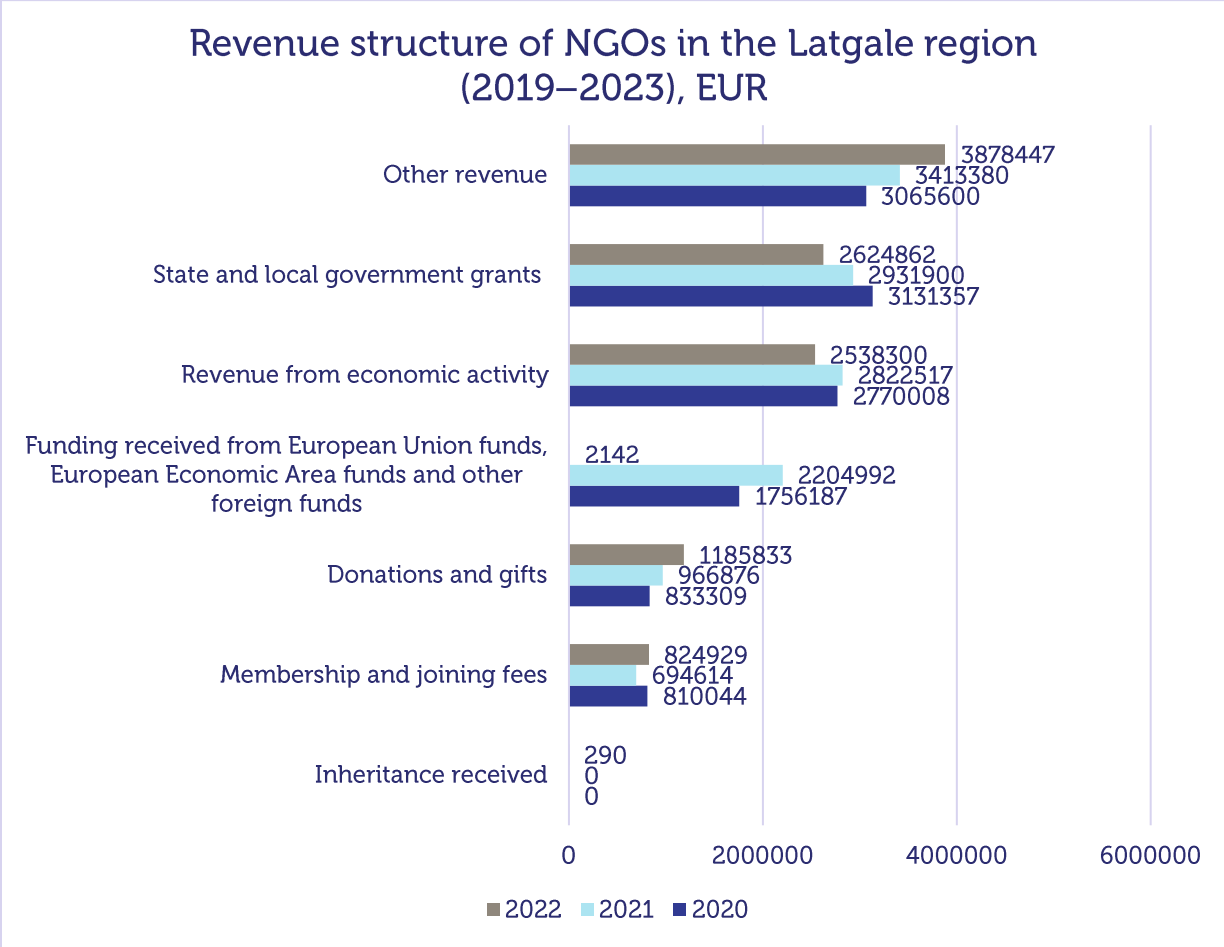
A more detailed analysis of the revenue structure shows that the three most important revenue categories are: revenue from economic activity, state and local government grants and “Other revenue”, while membership and joining fees or donations do not account for a significant share of revenue (Figure 5). The economic revenue is largely linked to the NGO’s activity profile; as mentioned above, a significant proportion of the NGOs reported NACE classification codes related to sport or hunting club activities, entertainment and recreation.

State and local government support is very important for the NGOs’ activities, as these grants account for the second most significant part of the total revenue of the Latgale region associations. Over a three-year period, this support has been gradually decreasing.

However, the largest revenue category in the NGOs’ revenue structure is “Other revenue”, which raises legitimate questions about the type of revenue reported by NGOs in this category, since, according to the laws and regulations, this category should include various types of revenue, which are usually a minor part of revenue, such as insurance reimbursements, interest payments on securities, differences after foreign currency translation, as well as funding received in the reporting year from various sources, not reported above¹⁹. As “Other revenue” is the most significant part of the revenue structure, it is difficult to assess how the activities of NGOs in the Latgale region are mainly financed.

¹⁹ Cabinet Regulation No. 439 “Regulations on annual accounts of associations, foundations and trade unions and keeping of accounts in the simple entry system” states that the item “Other revenue” shall indicate: cash receipts from insurance indemnities received, compensation, sale of fixed assets, other long-term investments or current assets and other cash receipts from sources of financing not prohibited by laws and regulations, such as interest payments on securities, if they are not attributable to economic activity; the positive difference resulting from the conversion of receivable balances payable in a foreign currency and foreign currency balances from that foreign currency into euro, and the negative difference resulting from the conversion of payable balances payable in a foreign currency from that foreign currency into euro; financing received during the year from the State and local government, other organisations, legal entities and individuals other than those mentioned above.

Figure 5. Revenue Structure of NGOs in the Latgale Region, EUR



Source: Information compiled by Providus based on Lursoft IT data from NGO annual reports.

Disclaimer: the data on NGO revenues in 2020 does not include the EUR 35 957 290 revenue reported in the annual report of one NGO, as Providus researchers did not obtain any other evidence to prove that the organisation has reported the correct information in its annual report.

Only 8% of NGOs Have a Paid Workforce

In the last three years, only 8.2% of all NGOs had a paid workforce. It should be noted that some of these employees are only employed for the duration of the projects and some of the employees are recruited through the SEA support programme for the unemployed. The latter was noted as a particularly important form of support by several NGOs in the focus groups. In general, most of the NGOs represented in the focus groups, which are most active in the local government, do not have any permanently employed workforce. Employment figures (see Table 4) for the last three years show that the number of NGOs as employers is decreasing, but the average number of employees is slightly increasing. Although some NGOs manage to increase the number of employees, it can be concluded that overall the administrative capacity of NGOs in this respect is decreasing: the number of organisations able to employ a workforce is slowly decreasing.

Table 4. Employment Figures in the NGO Sector

Year	Number of NGOs not liquidated	Average number of employers (NGOs)	Average number of employees
2022	2125	164 (7.7%)	706
2021	2084	174 (8.3%)	628
2020	2059	178 (8.6%)	585

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA and information provided by the SRS on the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022.

NGO Activists Confirm that There Is a Lack of Funding and Administrative Capacity

The most active NGOs invited to the focus groups were asked about the main challenges in their organisations' activities. The most frequently mentioned challenge was the lack of funding, as well as low capacity – organisations operate on a project basis, which means that there is no permanent workforce, and it is difficult to plan long-term activities. Most often, organisations are run by activists, combined with paid work elsewhere, so there is limited time to devote to social activities. Activists also note that it is difficult to mobilise local people and that members of organisations often tend to be passive. The most frequently cited challenges and strengths are summarised in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Challenges and Positive Features of NGO Work Mentioned in Focus Groups

<p>Main challenges in NGO work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • having to combine NGO work with paid work elsewhere, little time to devote to NGO activities; • low motivation of citizens to get involved in local activities; • the organisation is held together by one or a few enthusiasts; if these enthusiasts stop working, the NGO's work also ends; • the border is not an attractive place for new businesses and NGOs to form; • no permanent funding, no permanent paid workforce – capacity is generally very low; • very complex project language for organisations to successfully prepare a project application; • lack of knowledge on how organisations work, for example, how to complete an annual report on their own; • due to the unpredictability of funding, organisations do not plan their activities for the long term. They live from project to project; • public benefit status – too many bureaucratic requirements compared to the advantages of the status; • some organisations find it difficult to cover the costs of renting premises themselves; others are given free use of them by the local government; • members do not play a significant role in the day-to-day activities of the NGO, it is difficult to get together more often than for a general meeting; • lack of experience exchange activities with other NGOs in the local government, neighbouring local governments.
<p>Strengths of NGOs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the majority of focus group participants confirm that they are highly motivated to continue working in NGOs for the foreseeable future; • the very important support that can be obtained through the State Employment Agency programme with subsidised jobs for NGOs has made it possible to hire a workforce, at least temporarily, and to involve representatives of various marginalised groups;

- organisations rely on each other for help or advice when needed;
- organisations that more often demonstrated administrative capacity were better organised, most often working in the field of social assistance, and support for people with special needs. They were more likely than organisations in other fields to have experience of working with the local government, which tends to use them in its own activities, and in consultation.

Source: According to information gathered by Providus from focus groups with representatives of NGOs, a total of 40 representatives of Latgale NGOs participated in the focus groups.

The NGO Sector is Impoverished, but What Gives Us Hope?

As the information collected in this chapter shows, the NGO sector in Latgale is relatively small, the sector suffers from weak administrative capacity, only a small number of organisations show any financial activity, and very few of the organisations can afford to hire a workforce. Although the NGO sector is currently impoverished in general, NGO activists in the focus groups confirm that they are highly motivated to continue working in associations. NGO activists say that they find their work meaningful. They recognise that they can rely on other organisations that they can refer to for advice when needed. Among the NGOs that participated in the focus groups, it could be observed that those working in the social field were the most administratively stable: they were more likely than others to have at least one or more paid employees, to have the capacity to cover the costs of premises, and to play a more public role by getting involved in the work of local governments (Figure 6).

2. The Role of Local Governments in Strengthening the NGO Sector in the Latgale Region

The role of local governments in activating local communities and bringing society together has not yet been clearly recognised and strengthened. The Local Government Law does not oblige, but also does not prevent local governments from financially supporting NGOs in their territory. It is a voluntary initiative of local governments whether to support local NGOs and to what extent. The role of local governments in the development of the NGO sector is not limited to the provision of funding. The sustainability of NGO activities is closely linked to whether local governments recognise NGOs as important players and listen to their views when taking decisions on issues that concern the NGO sphere of activity. NGOs have been set up for a variety of purposes, from narrow interest groups of members (e.g., hunting clubs or home-makers' associations, etc.) to representing the interests of different groups in society (e.g., children, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, neighbourhood communities, etc.). These organisations cannot represent their interests in local areas without a sufficiently open, cooperative local government that values the contribution that NGOs make to the local community and to local development in general. In summary, financial and material support from local authorities, as well as joint cooperation with NGOs, are both very important factors for the development and strengthening of NGOs.

2.1. Financial Support of Latgale Local Governments to Local NGOs

Local Government Funding is Small but Very Important

As mentioned above, local government and State funding is a very important form of support for the operation and activities of NGOs. Data from the Annual Reports show that local government and State grants to local associations together account for about 20% of their revenues and are the second most important revenue item when looking at the overall financial performance of the NGO sector. Most of the financial support provided by local governments is small and targeted at covering the costs of various activities or supporting the NGO's operation in general. In some cases, local NGOs manage to attract funding for projects where co-financing is required, and in these cases it is also crucial that the local government provides the necessary funds for co-financing.

For the purposes of the study, information was requested from all 9 Latgale local governments on the financial and other types of support they have provided to NGOs in the last two years. The data collected (see Table 5) shows the absolute amount of funding provided by the local governments (EUR) and the share of this funding in the total expenditure of the local government. The aggregated data reflect the situation in 2022, when local governments were operating within their new territorial boundaries following the administrative reform.

The most frequent justification for the funding granted to NGOs by the local government is related to funding awarded in project competitions, co-financing of projects awarded to NGOs; funding for covering costs (participation in events, transport costs, etc.). In addition to financial support, several local governments support NGOs by providing the free use of local government premises (Rēzekne State City, Preiļi Municipality, Krāslava Municipality, Rēzekne Municipality, Balvi Municipality) and publish information on NGO activities on their websites.

Table 5. Funding Allocated by Latgale Local Governments to Local NGOs (2022)

Local government	Total revenue of NGOs, EUR	Local government funding to NGOs, EUR	Share of local government funding to NGOs in total local government budget expenditure (%)	Number of NGOs receiving local government funding	% of all NGOs receiving local government funding	% of total NGO revenues from the local government
Augšdaugava Municipality	882 271	17 226.45	0.04	17	8.3	2.0
Balvi Municipality	1 714 439	16 251.25	0.05	16	8.3	0.9
Daugavpils	5 345 902	89 722.7	0.07	96	14.6	1.7
Krāslava Municipality	531 411	60 098.96	0.17	25	15.8	11.3
Līvāni Municipality	362 018	38 175	0.24	11	12.6	10.5
Ludza Municipality	698 697	3899.78	0.01	17	11.7	0.6
Preiļi Municipality	1 231 725	15 532.09	0.06	8	4.9	1.3
Rēzekne	1 561 831	150 444.54	0.29	43	20.1	9.6
Rēzekne Municipality	1 309 571	61 335.83	0.14	29	9.6	4.7

Source: Information compiled by Providus from data provided by local governments to Providus. Data on Daugavpils local government support to NGOs taken from the local government's 2022 public report. Local governments were asked to provide information on all types of financial support granted to NGOs in the given year.

In general, it is difficult to assess in the study whether the funding allocated by local governments to the NGO sector is high or low, as there are no benchmarks for what it should optimally be, so local governments can only be compared within the region; there is no data on what the overall situation is in Latvia. As can be seen from Table 4, local governments differ in their approach to supporting the NGO sector. The smallest financial contribution to the NGO sector is made by Ludza Municipality, which allocates only 0.01% of the total local government budget expenditure, or just under EUR 4000, to 17 NGOs. NGOs in Augšdaugava Municipality and Balvi Municipality, as well as in Preiļi Municipality, also receive relatively little local government support.

The Largest Local Government Contribution to the NGO Sector is in Rēzekne State City

The most generous support to the NGO sector is provided by the local government of Rēzekne State City, with a disbursement of just over EUR 150 000 in 2022. This local government has the widest range of supported NGOs, with about 1/5 of the city's registered NGOs receiving local government funding.

The funding provided by the local governments of Rēzekne, Krāslava and Ludza to the NGO sector has the highest impact on the total NGO revenues, accounting for around 10–11% of the total NGO revenues. Thus, in these three local governments, the activities of the NGO sector are more closely linked to the local government.

In Augšdaugava, Five Organisations Account for a Significant Share of Funding

In 2022, the Augšdaugava Municipality government supported associations and foundations with around 17 thousand euros, but a little more than half of this amount was received by five organisations to ensure their activities (the associations "Volejbola klubs LOTOS", Ilūkste and Daugavpils Municipality Disabled

Persons' Association "Ildra", Daugavpils District Basketball Club "Grozis" and Association "Dvietes vīnogas", Daugavpils Latvian Society), while the remaining funding was granted as co-financing for the implementation of projects of other organisations, supporting a total of 17 NGOs.

Preiļi Municipality Government Only Supports a Few NGOs

The lowest number – only 8 NGOs (163 NGOs registered in Preiļi Municipality) have received financial support from the Preiļi Municipality government in 2022. However, it should be noted that out of a little more than 15 thousand euros, the majority, or 10 thousand euros, has been allocated to the Cross-Regional Fund of Mid Latgale as funding for the small grant project competition "Citizens shape their environment".

In Krāslava and Līvāni, the Local Government Funding of NGOs Has a Greater Impact on the Total Revenues of NGOs

The Krāslava Municipality, Līvāni Municipality governments and local government of Rēzekne State City have a significantly greater impact on the NGO sector, as their funding for associations and foundations is the largest; this funding is allocated to a relatively wide range of NGOs and, in terms of the structure of NGOs' own revenues, the beneficiary NGOs receive a significant share of this support (for example, the funding received by the Krāslava NGOs from the local government represents 11.3% of the total NGO revenues). Thus, it can be said that if this source of revenue were to decline, it would be more likely to have a significant impact on NGO activity in the respective local governments.

Significant Support from Local Governments to Religious Organisations

The information provided by local governments on the supported associations and foundations shows that a significant part of the funding from this basket is allocated by local governments to religious organisations (Table 6). In Ludza Municipality, religious organisations receive as much as 79% of this funding – approximately 15 thousand euros in 2022; moreover, one of the two advisory councils in Ludza is the Advisory Council for Traditional Denominations, so churches play a particularly important role. In Balvi Municipality, the funding for congregations of religious denominations is just over 20 thousand euros per year (56% of NGO funding). The local government of Rēzekne State City also provides significant funding to religious organisations (the largest churches of traditional denominations receive around 20 thousand euros each year). The justification for the allocation of funding most often indicates that these funds are allocated for various costs related to repairs and for the organisation of religious events.

Table 6. Funding of Latgale Local Governments to Religious Organisations in 2022 (EUR)

	Funding of local governments to religious organisations, EUR (2022)
Augšdaugava Municipality	No data
Balvi Municipality	20 498.95
Daugavpils State City	No data
Krāslava Municipality	8135
Līvāni Municipality	5000
Ludza Municipality	15 015.06
Preiļi Municipality	12 049.63
Rēzekne Municipality	23 347.50
Rēzekne State City	81 400

Source: Provided information compiled from responses of local governments.

Participants of the NGO focus group in Ludza Municipality and Balvi Municipality confirmed that some of the churches are very active members of society and that the church plays an important role, organising various events related to community solidarity. As one of the focus group participants pointed out, church representatives in their municipality would be among those who would respond if someone needed support²⁰. The study did not analyse the activity of churches in building community resilience separately, but the data from the study shows that churches have such a role and it would be useful to analyse it in more depth.

2.2. Cooperation between Local Governments and Local NGOs

The performance of the NGO sector is influenced not only by the availability of funding but also by whether local authorities and the community recognise and value the importance of association and use it in local government work. The study analysed the practice of local governments – whether they involve local NGOs in their activities and decision-making and to what extent.

The NGO Sector is Not an Important Cooperation Partner for Local Governments

Out of more than 2 thousand registered associations and foundations, 41 NGOs are involved in permanent consultative formats (consultative councils, commissions) in all 9 Latgale local governments, and half of these organisations are involved in commissions of the local government of Rēzekne State City (Figure 4).

Advisory Councils are a mechanism where NGOs play a relatively larger role, as usually in this format the primary objective of the local government is to receive the opinion of certain groups of society. Therefore, the composition of an Advisory Council is mainly composed of NGO representatives. The data show that this format is used very little by local governments. In the reformed Augšdaugava Municipality, no advisory councils have been established, but there is also no information on whether the advisory councils previously established in Daugavpils Municipality government – the Advisory Council of Nature Park “Daugavas loki” and the Entrepreneurs’ Council – continue their work. In Līvāni Municipality, the Līvāni Municipality Youth Council Board operates in a format equivalent to the Advisory Council. Two historically established advisory councils are active in Ludza Municipality, one bringing together local entrepreneurs and the other representatives of traditional religious denominations. It should be noted that the study did not assess the functioning of these councils in detail – how often they meet and what issues they address.

Commissions operate on a different basis, with local government staff as their core members, with a minority of local councillors and members of the public. Their task is to address specific issues within the competence of the local government, involving various institutions and members of the public in the process.

Public representatives are more involved in the commissions than in the various advisory councils. Rēzekne State City is particularly active in this respect, with around 19 NGO representatives volunteering on at least 10 of its commissions. Moreover, one of the commissions of the local government is the Commission for Work with Non-Governmental and Public Organisations. In general, in the local governments, representatives of the public are involved in the Hunting Coordination Commissions, Election Commissions, and Administrative Commissions.

Inhabitant Councils are consultative bodies of local governments, in which citizens of local communities can represent the interests of their territory to the local government, e.g., within a rural territory, representatives of the Inhabitant Council take care of defending the interests of the local territory – by addressing the management of the rural territory administration or the municipality council. The functioning of these councils is currently regulated by Section 58 of the Local Government Law. In the Latgale region, three local governments have Inhabitant Councils – Līvāni Municipality, Rēzekne Municipality and Preiļi Municipality, but only the Inhabitant Advisory Council of Preiļi Municipality

²⁰ Focus group with representatives of NGOs from Balvi Municipality and Līvāni Municipality, 29.09.2023.

government has been established in accordance with the new Local Government Law and are just starting its activities. In Rēzekne (Inhabitant Advisory Councils) and Līvāni (Inhabitant Boards), they were established more than ten years ago.

Not NGOs, but Local Inhabitants – the Practice of Daugavpils and Līvāni Local Governments

The Daugavpils and Līvāni municipality governments indicate that they mostly involve local people in their work, not NGOs. The local government of Daugavpils has not yet established consultative formats to regularly consult civil society, although 663 NGOs were registered in the local government in mid-2023. In its response to Providus, Daugavpils Municipality Council indicated that representatives of inhabitants are involved in at least 7 commissions. It is not known how the local government, which has a population of approximately 89 000, selected the individual representatives of the society and what views they represent – their personal views or the interests of a particular social group.

The local government of Līvāni uses a similar approach – involving local people rather than organised civil society. There are 88 registered NGOs in the local government, but the local government does not have permanent consultative mechanisms with organised civil society; the local government involves local residents directly – membership of commissions is open to applications, and any resident of the local government can nominate a candidate for a commission member position.

The Opinion of NGOs is Not Important for the Local Government of Krāslava at the Moment

In the region, the local government of Krāslava should be particularly noted for its failure to see the need for closer cooperation with local civil society and for not having established any consultative mechanisms at the time of writing the study.

NGOs: Local Government Support is Important but NGO Involvement is Weak

Focus group participants often rated local government funding as important or even crucial for an organisation to be able to carry out its activities. At the same time, however, NGO representatives had no experience to share on broader cooperation with the local government, i.e., examples of NGOs being involved in the development and discussion of local government decisions, including participation in committee work. Only in a few cases (mostly social NGOs) was there some experience of cooperation.

One such organisation shared a positive experience in the focus group: *“We are involved by the local government because we work with special children and sometimes the local government asks for our opinion on what the most acute needs of these children that the local government should address are. They also ask for opinions on health projects – where the local government should target funding.”*²¹

The most prevalent opinion was that the local government very rarely involves civil society organisations in its work, and that the focus group participants have no experience with participation in local government committees or council meetings.

To illustrate, here are some quotes from the focus groups:

*“The local government supports us financially when we ask, but we as associations are not perceived by the local government as local leaders who are worth asking for something. Involvement takes place in various consultations, but it is formal.”*²²

²¹ NGO focus group of Rēzekne State City and Rēzekne Municipality, 21.09.2023.

²² NGO focus group of Krāslava Municipality and Augšdaugava Municipality, 28.09.2023.

*"I have a feeling that maybe some organisations are also involved, but the local government is not interested in the activities of our organisation. Some get involved, but others may also go out of business on the periphery."*²³

"We have been active for two years. We are active. But I don't feel that the local government is particularly interested in what we are doing. Maybe there is a lack of communication from us, but in general I don't feel supported by the local government on a daily basis. For example, the local government staff don't "follow" or "like" our Facebook posts, even though we are very active on social media. They don't really come to events either. For example, there was an exhibition of Ukrainian children's drawings, and the local government management came to that, but just those who were left came to ours."

Summarising the data on the extent to which local governments contribute to the NGO sector through their activities, it can be concluded that local governments mainly do this through funding, which is very important for organisations. On the other hand, however, local governments do not consult local organised civil society very much, i.e., NGOs do not receive confirmation from local authorities that their activities are generally relevant and that their experience is useful to the local government. These are not conditions conducive to community building.

Table 7. Advisory formats of Latgale local governments with local NGOs

	Local government	Number of advisory councils with the involvement of NGOs or other activists	Number of commissions with NGOs or other community representatives	Inhabitant councils	Number of associations involved	Notes
1	Augšdaugava Municipality	2	1	0	5	No information on whether the councils established in Daugavpils Municipality (before ATR) continue to work in the new municipality.
2	Balvi Municipality	0	4	0	6	The response of the local authority mentions that several commissions have public representatives, but it could not be identified on which commissions.

²³ NGO focus group of Ludza Municipality and Balvi Municipality, 29.09.2023.

3	Daugavpils State City	0	7	0	0*	The local authority states that the commissions are run by the inhabitants of the city and not by NGOs. * In total, 33 inhabitants of the city are involved in the 9 commissions (including the Election Commission and the Administrative Commission).
4	Krāslava Municipality	0	0	0	0	The local government has no permanent consultative mechanisms. Response from the local authority: "[NGOs] are not involved, but are invited when necessary."
5	Līvāni Municipality	1	7	4	0**	Līvāni Municipality government has local government commissions, which include representatives of the local community. The response from the local government indicates one council and several commissions, which are mainly composed of local residents rather than NGOs. The local government has inhabitant boards, which are composed of local inhabitants together with other local government staff. **At least 23 residents are

						involved in the community.
6	Ludza Municipality	2	2	0	1	There are two advisory councils in Ludza Municipality: the Entrepreneurs' Advisory Council, composed of 9 entrepreneurs; the Council for Traditional Denominations with 4 representatives of religious organisations. The work of the two commissions involves representatives of the public: the Hunting Coordination Commission and the Administrative Commission.
7	Preiļi Municipality	0	4	14	7	6 associations are involved in the Youth Advisory Commission of Preiļi Municipality Government, and one association is involved in the Agricultural Land Transactions Commission. Two local residents are involved in the Election Commission and one resident in the Administrative Commission (not representing NGOs). The Inhabitant Advisory Councils of Preiļi Municipality were

						established in 2023 under Section 58 of the Local Governments Law.
8	Rēzekne Municipality	0	2	30	3	The only advisory commission where representatives of associations are involved is the Hunting Coordination Council, which is composed of three representatives of associations. The Environmental Protection Council includes two representatives of the public: an individual merchant and a farm owner.
9	Rēzekne State City	0	10	0	19	The local government listed 10 commissions with NGO representatives, but did not disclose the names, indicating that these people have not been officially delegated to represent their NGO on a specific commission.

Source: Information compiled by Providus from responses of local government to requests for information.

3. The Role of the NGO Sector in Building Social Resilience

Crises, regardless of their scale, fall heavily on the shoulders of local authorities, as most often the provision of assistance takes place locally, closer to the inhabitants. About a year ago, local governments had to update their Civil Protection Plans to include actions in the event of a military threat or war²⁴. Local governments have Civil Protection Commissions. Based on the practice of the local governments, only one of them – Balvi Municipality – has a non-governmental organisation – the Balvi Branch of the Latvian Red Cross – involved in the Civil Protection Commission.

It is well known that in the event of crises, the capacity of the responsible institutions to act is crucial, but the resilience of the local community is also an essential element. In recent years, the concept of community resilience has been invoked more and more frequently, in the general sense of the capacity of a community to cope with different types of crises. There are no clearly defined characteristics by which to assess the level of resilience of a society, but the most common ways of assessing resilience are to analyse societal processes such as community cohesion, solidarity, trust in peers and in state and local government institutions, a sense of belonging to a community and an active civil society.

The main focus of this study was to map the NGO sector as a whole, but within the focus groups, taking into account the Latgale region's border with aggressor countries – Russia, Belarus, it was important to identify how Latgale's civil society has reacted to crises so far and what lessons can be learnt to strengthen the social resilience of local communities now and in the near future.

3.1. What is the Role of NGOs in Building Social Resilience?

The creation of an NGO is in itself one of the signs that a certain group in society is trusting each other, building solidarity around a certain goal. NGO activity is linked to the ability to take a leadership role in addressing certain issues, to develop a capacity for cooperation with peers, members, volunteers, state and local government authorities, etc. Therefore, the role of NGOs in building social resilience is very important, for example:

- activating local communities, building a social support network, which creates a greater sense of security for each person that they will be able to get help and support from the community when needed;
- NGOs are involved in learning many important skills – cooperation skills, working with inhabitants, communication skills, channels, etc., which are important skills in crises;
- NGOs help to reach a wider group of people because they work with local people, volunteers and members on a daily basis; NGOs have skills in coordinating and engaging such groups;
- NGOs know the local community well – it helps to identify groups in need of assistance who, for whatever reason, have not been identified by the State or local government or are reaching them late;
- NGOs can be a useful channel of communication; local community leaders are recognisable and their views are more trusted.

This list is not exhaustive, but it shows that the day-to-day activities of NGOs, which are aimed at achieving the objectives of the association or foundation itself, play a very important role in crises, making societies more prepared for shocks, more resilient to misinformation, and more cohesive in helping each other.

²⁴ On 17 October 2022, amendments to the Civil Protection and Disaster Management Law came into force, requiring local governments to develop a more comprehensive Civil Protection Plan, covering not only civil disasters but also national emergencies, terrorist attacks, military invasions or war.

3.2. Readiness of NGOs in the Latgale Region to Engage During Crises

In the study, focus group participants were asked about their experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine – whether and how these crises (or local level shocks) affected their activities – whether organisations redirected some of their activities to support war refugees, local people in need during the pandemic, or the local government, which is the main centre of responsibility during these crises. The issue of hosting Ukrainian civilians was the most frequently commented in the focus groups; situations of NGO involvement in the pandemic response were very rarely recalled.

Out of a total of 40 NGOs from the Latgale region reached in the focus groups, only two organisations were involved in individual support activities – the Latvian Red Cross in providing assistance to Ukrainian civilians in the border area and the Latgale Region Partnership in information exchange and coordination in the very first days of the war. The absolute majority of representatives of NGOs admitted that their organisations were not involved in these crises but many activists were involved as individuals.

Examples were more often given of organisations getting involved in other crisis-related issues that needed to be addressed as the crisis entered its next phase, when Ukrainian civilians had already found a home in Latvian local governments, for example by supporting their integration into the local community through various solidarity-building activities. Given the fact that large-scale crises do not usually end quickly, but rather require support over a long period of time, such NGO experiences are generally a good indication that NGOs can provide important support in protracted crises.

Based on the results of the focus groups, it can be concluded that the responsiveness of NGOs in the early stages of a crisis is very low. The role of NGOs increases in the later stages of crises, when it is necessary to provide various support measures to improve the living conditions of Ukrainian refugees, or integration measures.

Several reasons have been given for the lack of a significant role of NGOs in the early stages of crisis response, the most common of which are analysed below.

- *NGOs are not able to adapt quickly to the challenges of crises, but are an important provider of support as crises become more protracted*

The most active NGOs in each local government were identified for participation in the focus groups. The representatives of the organisations were asked whether they had changed their activities in the crises of recent years, and whether they had engaged in activities that help to overcome the crises. There was generally silence in the focus groups at this point, with most organisations not having experience to share of examples where they had been actively involved in responding. Only two organisations – the Balvi Branch of the Latvian Red Cross (helping to host Ukrainian refugees) and the Partnership Network, brought together by the Latvian Rural Forum (involved in the early days of the war, helping to coordinate local government assistance to Ukrainian civilians). These organisations were joined by the Daugavpils branch of the Latvian Red Cross, who admitted in an interview that they had already been involved with the first buses of Ukrainian war refugees and were also active in a number of projects aimed at supporting Ukrainian civilians in the Latgale region²⁵.

From the reactions and responses given it can be understood that organisations are rarely aware of their role in civil society in crisis situations. Examples of activities appear at later stages of crises. As the war drags on and the State and local governments provide funding for support programmes, the role of NGOs also increases significantly: in the focus groups, representatives of organisations mentioned several examples where they have been actively involved, for example in various consolidation activities for the integration of Ukrainian civilians, raising support to improve living conditions, organising camps, weaving protection nets, etc.

²⁵ Interview with the head of the Daugavpils Branch of the Latvian Red Cross, 13.10.2023.

Organisation from Līvāni Municipality: *"We have not done anything as an organisation, but we are privately involved. As an organisation we have done something to improve the general mood. For example, after the pandemic we wanted to keep the young people well, so that they wouldn't get depressed; we organised a boat trip to cheer them up."*

Organisation from Līvāni Municipality: *"I hadn't thought about it at all. We helped individually, but as an organisation we didn't act."*

Organisation from Ludza Municipality: *"We do things individually, but not as an organisation. It's not that we don't sympathise, just not as an association."*

Organisation from Preiļi Municipality: *"We ran a LEADER project where we targeted teachers and those affected by Covid-19 – we organised events for them to improve their emotional and physical health. Because these groups were having a really hard time."*

Organisation from Rēzekne State City: *"We did everything last summer – we organised children's camps, and different workshops for mums."*

Organisation from Rēzekne Municipality: *"We organised children's camps. It's completely different when you see those children, when you see the horrors of war. I'm a sports teacher and that's what I can do; that's what the local government funded."*

- *The local government is already taking action; NGOs do not feel the need to get involved*

Several organisations in the focus groups indicated that they did not see the need to take action, as it was evident that the local government was already providing assistance. In two cases the argument was that Riga organisations were already doing this [referring to "Tavi draugi" and "Gribu palīdzēt bēgļiem"] and in another case that they did not want to disturb the local government and other activists who were already providing assistance and were stronger in this area.

Organisation from Balvi Municipality: *"If an invitation were to be received from the local government, we would definitely respond, but otherwise we didn't do anything ourselves, no."*

Organisation from Krāslava Municipality: *"We didn't get involved as an organisation because we didn't see the need. I think if the local government asked, we would get involved and do something for the cause."*

Organisation from Līvāni: *"In crisis situations our local government is very active; you could say that the local government takes the lead in such situations."*

The fact that organisations are passive in taking the initiative in crisis situations was also noticed by one of the local government leaders, who asked rhetorically: *"Organisations come to the local government for help, but when the local government needs help, where are the organisations?"*²⁶ The other leader of a local government also admitted in an interview that he/she had not noticed any NGOs getting involved in the last major crises²⁷.

- *NGOs do not have the capacity to react quickly to crises*

Only a small number of registered NGOs have an employed workforce; many do not have permanent funding for their activities and operate mainly on a project basis. It was therefore often mentioned that organisations do not intervene in crises because they simply do not have the capacity to do so. Being

²⁶ Interview with a head of a local government along the border, 13.10.2023.

²⁷ Interview with a head of a local government along the border, 14.10.2023.

more active requires all kinds of resources, not only funding but also time, which is something that local activists lack in order to take on the role of organising and delivering support.

Organisation from Balvi Municipality: *"We haven't taken on that kind of activity because it's very serious, hard work and if someone knows how to do it well, we don't want to get in the middle and get in the way."*

Organisation from Augšdaugava Municipality: *"We don't have the capacity to do something like that. We can barely do our own thing anyway, we just don't have the resources for this. We just can't do everything, the focus has to be on what you can do."*

Organisation from Līvāni Municipality: *"We are just a few activists. Time is not unlimited, everyone has to do what they can. When there are projects, we work, and when there are no projects, we do nothing. We don't plan ahead at all, because what can we plan if there is no stable funding. So in a crisis like this we can't just switch, we don't have the resources."*

Organisation from Daugavpils State City: *"Organisations simply don't have the capacity, thus they are not and cannot always be proactive."*

- *NGO activities can be seen as provocative*

In several focus groups, representatives of NGOs acknowledged that tensions can be felt in society at the moment and that the issue of assistance to Ukrainian refugees is sensitive. For this reason, organisations do not get involved, but activists get involved and help individually and know other people who are personally involved.

Organisation from Krāslava Municipality: *"Many NGO people get involved, just not as associations, but as individuals, personally. Because it's very sensitive."*

Organisation from Augšdaugava Municipality: *"On our side it's too sensitive an issue to engage in these activities openly, we just don't want to escalate the situation. Now it is very difficult to involve Russian-speakers in general in the activities of our organisation, because they are really very scared of how they will be perceived. There is a "fifth column", but it is certainly not all Russians. We had an experience where we had a very difficult time getting locals to participate in a project activity, but afterwards they told us that they were very pleasantly surprised that anyone spoke to them at all and treated them politely."*

Organisation from Krāslava Municipality: *"Latgalian are so closed off, but if there is a situation like this, the "X hour", I think they will definitely stand up and defend themselves. People are ready to take action. But I have to admit that the "fifth column" is also active, and very open."*

3.3. Assessment of Local Government Employees on NGO Activities and Their Role in Crises

It should be noted that there have been other changes in local governance in general in recent years, which affect the relationship between the local government and its inhabitants. In particular, larger local governments were elected in the 2021 local government elections. One of the risks identified in the design of the reform was the "periphery effect", i.e., that those living in more remote areas may feel forgotten, may find it more difficult to access local government services, and may feel that the link between the local government and its inhabitants is weakening as the distance to the local council increases. The 2021 local government elections showed that this risk is indeed high, with a record-low turnout of only 34%. The Latgale region did not stand out in this respect against the background of Latvia as a whole, but it should

be noted that in two municipalities – Rēzekne and Augšdaugava – participation was particularly low (Table 8).

Table 8: Participation in the Parliamentary (14th Saeima, 2022) and Local Government (2021) Elections in Latgale

	2022 parliamentary elections (%)	2021 local government elections (%)
Augšdaugava Municipality	52.2	28.6
Balvi Municipality	56.0	41.0
Daugavpils State City	59.0	31.1
Krāslava Municipality	54.1	33.7
Līvāni Municipality	61.0	34.6
Ludza Municipality	53.6	37.7
Preiļi Municipality	60.6	45.4
Rēzekne State City	67.2	31.2
Rēzekne Municipality	50.1	25.9
Total in Latvia	59.4	34.0

Source: CEC data compiled by Providus.

There is no data on how the administrative reform has affected the mood of local inhabitants and their trust in local authorities. However, this study sought to find out how the situation is perceived by the local government employees who are most in contact with the local population in the rural territories on a daily basis, by conducting a survey of these employees. The survey was addressed to the heads of local government administrations and library staff of all rural territories in the Latgale region. 94 responses were received.

Local Government Staff Generally Recognise the Role of NGOs as Important, but Find it More Difficult to Assess Their Role in Crises

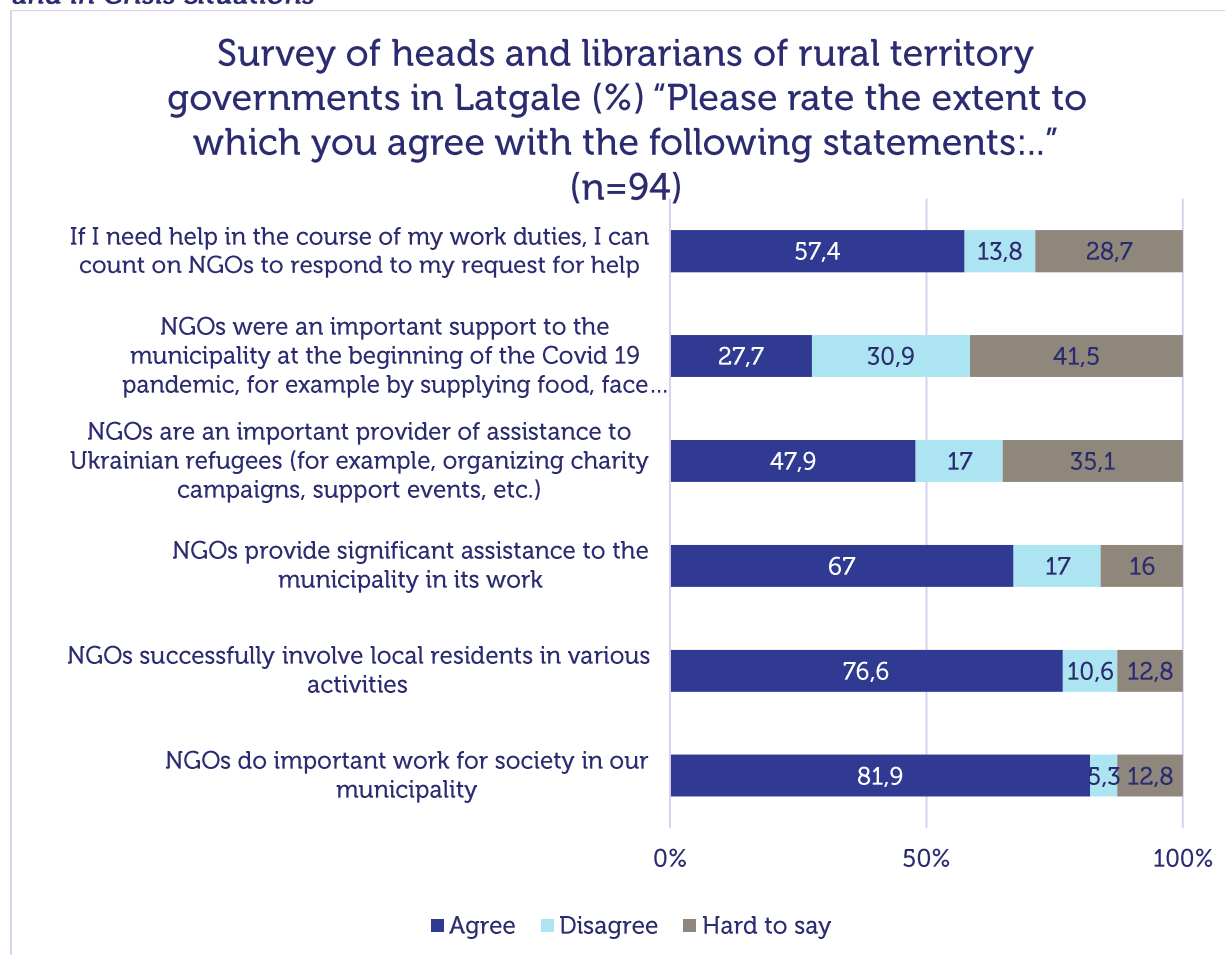
While local government representatives generally recognise the importance of NGOs, they cannot clearly assess whether NGOs have played an important role in the recent crises. This is particularly difficult to assess in the case of the Covid-19 pandemic, where according to local government staff, inhabitants have been more active in helping each other; NGO activity has not been very visible in this respect. More NGO activity has been observed in the context of the war in Ukraine, in the provision of assistance to Ukrainian refugees, with 48% of respondents considering NGO assistance in this matter to be important (Figure 7). These survey data reflect the situation that emerged in the focus groups to some extent, i.e., that NGOs relatively rarely play a visible role in crisis situations, which makes it difficult for the heads of rural territory administrations and librarians to assess. Participants in the NGO focus groups themselves admitted that they more often acted as individuals than as representatives of NGOs.

Local Government Staff are Cautious about Supporting NGOs

It is worrying that local government staff are not sure whether NGOs would come to their aid if there was a need and they had to ask for help. Opinions are split down the middle: 57% think that NGOs can be relied on, while a third find it difficult to assess and a further 14% think that NGOs will not help (Figure 7). These data show that there is a cautious attitude among local government staff about whether the NGO sector can be relied upon in various difficult situations. It should be noted that in an interview, one of the heads of local governments openly admitted this, justifying his/her caution on security grounds, saying that when

it comes to dealing with crises, the reins of control should remain in the hands of the local government, and the less various members of society are involved, the more predictable the outcome will be²⁸.

Figure 7. How do Staff in Rural Territory Governments Assess the Role of the NGO Sector in Local Life and in Crisis Situations



Source: Providus survey results. The survey was only conducted on Google Forms. The survey questions were sent to all heads of rural territory governments and heads of libraries in 9 Latgale local governments. A total of 94 responses were received. The survey was conducted from 5–13 October (2023).

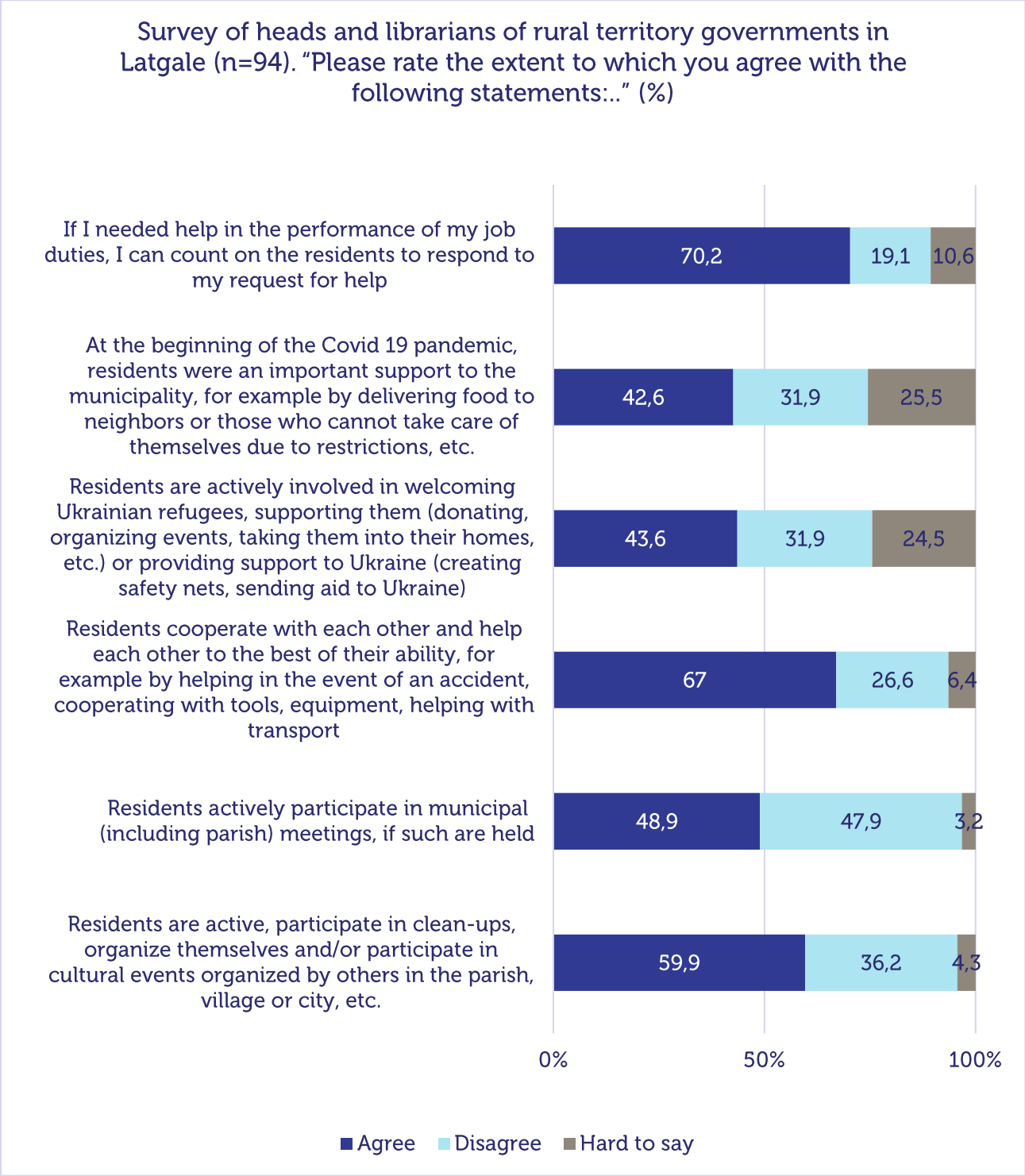
In Times of Crisis, Trust Can be Placed in Local People

The survey data show that, in general, rural territory staff trust and rely on local people who will come to their aid if the need arises. 70% of the rural territory administrators and librarians surveyed agree (Figure 8). The survey responses show that local government staff rely more on local people than NGOs. However, it should be noted that about one fifth of local government staff are not prepared to rely on local people.

From the point of view of community resilience, it is positive that representatives of local governments, who are closest to the population in the rural territories on a daily basis, generally appreciate that most people are willing to help each other. 67% of respondents agree that people cooperate and help each other, although there are differences of opinion on how active residents are in local community life.

²⁸ Interview with the head of Augšdaugava Municipality, 13.10.2023.

Figure 8. How do Rural Territory Government Staff Rate the Participation and Willingness to Help of Local Residents



Source: Providus survey results. The survey was only conducted on Google Forms. The survey questions were sent to all heads of rural territory governments and heads of libraries in 9 Latgale local governments. A total of 94 responses were received. The survey was conducted from 5–13 October (2023).

4. What is Not Represented by the Data or What Does the Country Know about the NGO sector?

For the study it was necessary to obtain data on the NGO sector in Latgale, both the number of registered NGOs and basic data on NGO activities – financial situation, number of employees, areas of activity, etc. For the purposes of the study, in cooperation with Lursoft IT SIA, we used data from the Register of Associations and Foundations, NGO annual reports, as well as information provided by the State Revenue Service, which we requested separately for the purposes of the study. In the course of the data analysis, we concluded that the annual reports prepared and submitted by NGOs generally do not provide accurate and usable information on the activities of associations and foundations and cannot be relied upon. Taking into account the experience gained during the research process, we considered it important to add a section on how little information and reliable data the State currently has on the activities of the NGO sector, not only in Latgale but in Latvia as a whole. Below are some of the key issues where accurate data is lacking.

How Many NGOs are Active in Latgale (and Latvia)?

The State has information on currently not liquidated associations and foundations, but this does not mean that all these associations are actually functioning. The data mentioned in the focus groups, as well as other data, show that the number of organisations that are still active is significantly lower. In some municipalities – Balvi and Preiļi – representatives of NGOs themselves recently audited the list of registered associations and foundations in the municipality, identifying all registered organisations and checking whether they are still active. However, in other municipalities no such “audit” has been carried out, so the true number of NGOs cannot be assessed. An up-to-date list of organisations, their fields of activity and contacts would be a useful resource for local governments, but so far local governments have not prioritised the benefits of cooperation with the NGO sector. In the first chapter of this study, some considerations on the true number of NGOs were mentioned. A similar problem applies not only to the Latgale region, but to the whole of Latvia.

Recommendations:

- 1) Local governments should have an up-to-date list of NGOs registered in the municipality, information on the areas in which NGOs operate and contact details. This would make it easier for local governments to consult organised civil society.
- 2) We encourage the responsible State institutions to periodically survey/identify registered and not liquidated associations and foundations, asking them to assess their own activities – whether they continue their activities, continue their activities to a limited extent, do not continue their activities but have not yet been liquidated, or are planning to liquidate their association in the near future²⁹.

How Much Revenue Does the NGO Sector Generate?

When analysing the information on revenues, and the number of employees in the annual reports of NGOs, there were a number of cases where inaccurate information was apparently provided, such as some cases where the NGO sector has uncharacteristically high revenues (e.g., a house management association registered in one of the rural territories of Balvi Municipality with revenues of 36 million euros), or where the overall revenue structure of the sector is not clear. In particular, the annual reports do not give a true picture of the types of revenue received by the associations and foundations, as the largest share of revenue is accounted for by “Other revenue”. According to the Cabinet Regulation, only very specific types

²⁹ It should be noted that the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia has prepared amendments to the Associations and Foundations Law, providing for the possibility for the Register of Enterprises to exclude from the register those associations and foundations whose activities are no longer active (e.g., annual reports have not been submitted, data on the terms of office of the Board have not been updated, etc.), which could address this problem. The amendments have been submitted to the Parliament and are expected to enter into force in 2025. The amendments are important and their implementation will help to understand the true picture of how many associations and foundations are active and functioning in Latvia.

of revenue can be reported under "Other revenue"³⁰, so it is not clear what type of revenue NGOs report in this section of the annual report and why this revenue is so large. This situation does not allow for a qualitative assessment of the sources of NGO revenues, or a clear picture of the financial situation of the NGOs, in order to further conclude what kind of intervention would be needed to strengthen the capacity of the NGOs.

Recommendations:

- 1) Provide periodic training to NGOs on the preparation of the annual reports and the content of the information to be included in the annual reports, and advice on the information to be provided.
- 2) In-depth study of the type of revenue that NGOs report in the "Other revenue" category of the annual report – whether this is due to a lack of understanding of how to complete the annual report or other reasons, such as large categories of revenue that, when reported in this way, do not meet the disclosure objective and, accordingly, should be clarified to get a more accurate picture of the NGO's revenue structure.

How Many People are Employed in the NGO Sector?

The annual reports do not give a true picture of the number of employees in associations and foundations. A comparison of the data on the number of employees obtained from the annual reports and the information provided by the State Revenue Service shows that the information on the number of employees included in the annual reports is not correct. According to the data provided by the organisations in the Annual Reports for 2022, the NGO sector in the Latgale region employed 5829 employees, among which one of the associations employed 2300 employees. Such figures are not typical for the NGO sector, therefore information was requested from the State Revenue Service to verify the accuracy of the data, assuming that the data should reflect a more accurate picture of the number of employees, taking into account the payment of taxes. The data provided by the State Revenue Service show that in 2022, the associations and foundations registered in the nine Latgale local governments had 706 employees, i.e., at least eight times less than the organisations themselves report in their annual reports.

Recommendation: improve the annual reporting system, which "automatically" reads information on the number of employees from the State Revenue Service. This facilitates the preparation of the annual reports, as the data on the organisations' employees is already available to the State. If this is not done, a random assessment of the annual reports and correction of errors should be carried out, with the aim of improving the quality of the information provided in the annual reports.

How Much Funding is Spent through NGOs to Perform Functions Delegated by the State or Local Governments?

It is not possible to obtain information from the annual reports on how much funding NGOs receive for the performance of functions delegated by the State or local governments. Revenue received in the exercise of a function delegated by the State or a local government is shown in the category "Grants and subsidies received"³¹, together with other payments from the State or local government budget. However,

³⁰ According to Cabinet Regulation No. 439 "Regulations on annual accounts of associations, foundations and trade unions and keeping of accounts in the simple entry system", the item "Other revenue" indicates, for example, cash receipts from insurance indemnities received, compensation, sale of fixed assets, other long-term investments or current assets and other cash receipts from sources of financing not prohibited by laws and regulations, such as interest payments on securities, if they are not attributable to economic activity; the positive difference resulting from the conversion of receivable balances payable in a foreign currency and foreign currency balances from that foreign currency into euro, and the negative difference resulting from the conversion of payable balances payable in a foreign currency from that foreign currency into euro; financing received during the year from the State and local government, and other organisations, legal entities and individuals other than those mentioned above.

³¹ According to Cabinet Regulation No. 439 "Regulations on annual accounts of associations, foundations and trade unions and keeping of accounts in the simple entry system", the item "Grants and subsidies received" indicates the funding received in the accounting year from the State or local government budget for the performance of functions assigned by the State or local government, as well as funds received from the State or local government budget for project implementation and non-reimbursable subsidies.

in order to assess the extent to which NGOs are (also in financial terms) carrying out tasks assigned to them by the local government or the State, it would be necessary to distinguish these receipts from other payments from the State or local government budget.

Recommendation: In the category "Grants and subsidies received", a sub-section should be added under "State or local government budget funding received for the performance of functions delegated by the State or local government", in which NGOs will be able to indicate the revenue generated by the performance of a task delegated by the State or local government.

In Which Areas do NGOs Operate in Latgale?

Most NGOs in Latgale do not indicate their field of activity, nor is this currently required by law. However, when selecting a NACE code, they choose 94.99 "Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.". Therefore, at present, both classifications do not provide a clear picture of the areas in which the NGO sector operates and do not allow for a precise assessment of the contribution of the NGO sector to the economy. This problem was already identified a few years ago in the circle of responsible institutions and currently amendments to the Associations and Foundations Law as well as to Cabinet Regulation No. 779 "Regulations on Classification of Associations and Foundations" have been drafted, obliging all NGOs to indicate their field (or several) of activity. At the time of writing, these amendments have not yet been adopted by the Parliament.

Recommendation: once the amendments to the legislation have entered into force, NGOs should be educated and informed on how to correctly identify their field of activity (also in cases where NGOs operate in different fields) and how to make a record of the registration of the field of activity (and changes in the field of activity), so that the State gets a sufficiently accurate picture of what the NGO sector is, not only in Latgale but throughout Latvia.

Recommendations

By collecting and analysing data on the NGO sector in Latgale, as well as by identifying the experience of NGOs, we would like to conclude this study by highlighting a number of recommendations that would be important to make local civil society stronger in its daily work, as well as to strengthen the resilience of society in times of crisis.

For the NGO sector in Latgale:

- 1) **To work more actively with inhabitants and be more visible in the local community.** In the focus groups, representatives of NGOs acknowledged that the public is not active and does not want to be involved in NGO work or activities. The role of NGOs is to be a civil society facilitator, to activate and unite the local population. Therefore, NGOs need to explain their activities more to the local population and highlight their activities so that the local population understands the NGOs' activities, is ready to respond to NGO initiatives, participate in activities and observe from the NGOs what opportunities there are for local communities to make improvements that are important to them or for the local government to take recommendations into account.
- 2) **To educate and inform local government employees of NGO activities.** The research data (interviews with heads of local governments, survey data) show that councillors of local governments do not know the NGO sector and are not aware of its capacities and competencies. In order to bridge the gap between the NGO sector and local government and to promote cooperation, organisations working in the NGO sector need to explain themselves more, get involved in local government activities and come up with initiatives in areas that are important to them. Such information sharing will not only promote cooperation but also help local governments to better understand the activities of the organisations, identify experts to turn to for advice and guidance in the case of need.
- 3) **Regular exchange of experience, networking events for organisations to share experience, exchange contacts, create joint initiatives, projects, as well as consult on the preparation and submission of annual reports, opportunities for cooperation with local authorities, etc.**
The experience of the focus groups shows that there is a lack of such cooperation among NGOs. On several occasions during the focus groups, organisations started to look for common ground, to inquire about other experiences – even within the same municipality.

For local governments of Latgale:

- 4) **Periodically update the list of associations and foundations registered in the local government** in order to identify in which areas NGOs are active and in which areas society is more passive. This would help to identify whether the activation of certain groups of society requires the initiative of the local government, e.g., by setting up NGO project competitions. Such a list is necessary to build closer cooperation with the local population.
- 5) **Assess the procedure for allocating funding to NGOs in the local government – whether it is based on a strategy**, i.e., whether the local government has a plan for what it wants to achieve, or whether it is a historically inherited procedure where there is no clear justification for why one or another organisation is allocated funding. Local governments should assess which areas have the most active populations and what can be done to activate these communities.
- 6) **Establish a dialogue with local NGOs in the form of permanent cooperation.** Currently, local governments are very passive in involving local NGOs, which gives many of them the impression that their activities are not important to the local government, and that NGOs expect the local government to take the initiative. Such dialogue is important to bring local communities together and also stimulate the NGO sector.
- 7) **Local governments should involve local NGOs in civil protection training** so that organised civil society is trained on its role in crises, understands how crisis management is done at the local government and State level and thus assesses its own capacities to contribute to crisis management. At present, there is no such awareness among NGOs of their role.

For State institutions:

- 8) **Support programmes should be developed to strengthen the capacity of the NGO sector in Latgale.** Data on the NGO sector in Latgale show that the NGO sector is weak and its capacity is gradually decreasing. Local government funding is low and does not achieve the goal of building stable, administratively capable NGOs, but covers individual, often small, costs of activities.
- 9) **The quality of data on the NGO sector needs to be improved** in order to get an accurate picture of how big civil society really is, its financial turnover, number of employees, areas of activity, to assess the contribution of the NGO sector to the economy and to assess the level of public participation and solidarity.

Annex 1: Augšdaugava Municipality in Numbers

Augšdaugava Municipality: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	208	
2022	203	142
2021	199	158
2022	198	166

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Augšdaugava Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural Territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Augšdaugava Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Medumi Rural Territory	38
Kalkūne Rural Territory	19
Viški Rural Territory	18
Bebrene Rural Territory	14
Līksna Rural Territory	13
Ilūkste Town	13
Demene Rural Territory	9
Ambēļi Rural Territory	8
Vabole Rural Territory	7
Skrudaliena Rural Territory	7
Kalupe Rural Territory	7
Tabore Rural Territory	5
Svente Rural Territory	5
Subate Town	5
Medumi Rural Territory	5
Dviete Rural Territory	5
Dubna Rural Territory	5
Šēdere Rural Territory	4
Saliena Rural Territory	4
Eglaine Rural Territory	4
Pilskalne Rural Territory	3
Laucesa Rural Territory	3
Vecsaliena Rural Territory	2
Maļinova Rural Territory	2
Biķernieki Rural Territory	2
Prode Rural Territory	1
Nīcgale Rural Territory	0

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Augšdaugava Municipality: most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³²

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	102
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	12
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	12
93.19	Other sports activities	11
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	8
85.59	Other education n.e.c.	5

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Augšdaugava Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	204	63	882 271	8	27
2021	199	67	569 070	10	29
2020	198	77	602 779	11	34

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA.

Augšdaugava Municipality: 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
Railway sports club "Lokomotive"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	105 104
Association LgSC	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	98 126
"Miromida"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	90 781
Demene "Social Support Centre"	84.12	Regulation of the activities in providing health care, education, cultural services and other social services, excluding social security	75 865
Association "Aizbildnis"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	62 498

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Augšdaugava Municipality: Local Government Funding for Associations and Foundations 2021–2022 (data does not include support for religious organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	11 123
2022	17 226.45

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Augšdaugava Municipality government.

³² The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

Augšdaugava Municipality: 5 Largest Beneficiaries of Local Government Support in Augšdaugava Municipality in 2022

No.	Association	Amount of funding, EUR	Purpose of funding
1	Association "Volleyball club LOTOS"	3000	Co-financing for the activities of the association
2	Association "Association of Disabled Persons of Ilūkste and Daugavpils Municipality "Ildra""	2500	Co-financing for the activities of the association
3	Association "Daugavpils District Basketball Club "Grozs""	2000	Co-financing for the activities of the association
4-5	Association "Dvietes vīnogas"	1400	Co-financing for the implementation of a project
	Association "Latgale Region Firefighters and Rescuers Association"	1400	Co-financing for the activities of the association

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Augšdaugava Municipality government.

Annex 2: Balvi Municipality in Numbers

Balvi Municipality: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	193	
2022	198	155
2021	189	163
2020	189	176

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Balvi Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Balvi Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Balvi Town	71
Viļaka Town	18
Kubuli Rural Territory	15
Rugāji Rural Territory	13
Baltinava Rural Territory	8
Lazdukalns Rural Territory	8
Šķilbēni Rural Territory	8
Bērzkalne Rural Territory	6
Medņeva Rural Territory	6
Tilža Rural Territory	6
Balvi Rural Territory	5
Susāji Rural Territory	5
Žiguri Rural Territory	5
Bērzpils Rural Territory	4
Lazduleja Rural Territory	4
Briežuciems Rural Territory	3
Vīksna Rural Territory	3
Krišjāni Rural Territory	2
Kuprava Rural Territory	2
Vectilža Rural Territory	2
Vecumi Rural Territory	1

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Balvi Municipality: most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³³

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	102
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	14
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	14
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	9
93.19	Other sports activities	11
85.59	Other education n.e.c.	5

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Balvi Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	198	72	171 4439	16	66
2021	189	68	155 5577	17	73
2020	189	81	1 422 147 ³⁴	18	80

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA

Balvi Municipality: 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
Foundation "Latgale Regional Support Centre "Rasas pērles""	87.10	Residential nursing care activities	477 001
"Rural Family Doctors Association of Latvia"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	163 403
Association "FC Ziemeļaustrumi"	93.11	Operation of sports facilities	138 788
Association "Ritineitis"	93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	116 844
Association "Neatkarība Balt."	87.90	Other residential care activities	116 351

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

³³ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

³⁴ Note, the data on revenue in 2020 excludes data on the revenue of one organisation in the amount of EUR 35 957 290. Providus researchers found no other evidence to confirm that the organisation reported the revenue in the Annual Report.

Balvi Municipality: Funding Granted by the Local Government to Foundations and Associations (Except Religious Organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	11 796.52
2022	16 251.25

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Balvi Municipality government.

Balvi Municipality: 5 Organisations That Have Received the Most Funding from Balvi Municipality Government (2022)

No.	Association	Amount of funding, EUR	Purpose of funding
1	Tilža Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	5000	Funding for the renovation of the church building; Funding for the visitation of His Excellency Bishop J. Bulis of the Rēzekne-Aglona Diocese; Grant for the renovation of the church facade in 2022.
2	St Anne Roman Catholic Parish in Bērzi	4998.95	Grant for the renovation of the church floor in front of the main altar in 2022 and funding for the renovation of the church in 2022. As well as co-financing for a LEADER project.
3	Association "Kalmārs"	3124	Pre-financing for a project
4	Viļaka Sacred Heart of Jesus Roman Catholic Church	2300.00	Funding for church renovation works in 2022 and grant to Kuprava St Ignatius Roman Catholic Church by contract.
5	Balvi Holy Dormition Orthodox Church	2250	Grant for renovation of the church parish house in 2022
	Church of Most Holy Trinity, Balvi	2250	Grant for renovation of the parish house in 2022

Source: Providus compilation of information provided by the Balvi Municipality government.

Annex 3: Daugavpils State City in Numbers

Daugavpils: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	663	
2022	659	465
2021	641	488
2020	627	505

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Daugavpils: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³⁵

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	242
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	83
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	40
93.19	Other sports activities	36
85.59	Other education n.e.c.	21
85.52	Cultural education	17
85.60	Educational support activities	16
90.03	Artistic creation	14
93.11	Operation of sports facilities	12
68.32	Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	10
85.51	Sports and recreation education	10
90.01	Performing arts	10

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Daugavpils: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	659	257	5 345 902	55	336
2021	641	256	5 723 842	55	228
2020	627	279	5 415 703	56	178

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA

³⁵ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 10 or more organisations.

Daugavpils: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
Football Centre "Daugavpils"	93.12	Activities of sport clubs	613 893
"Electronic Communications Merchants Association"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	338 638
"Latgale Region Development Agency"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	311 348
Daugavpils University Lifelong Learning, Culture, and Science Communication Society "Intelekta parks"	85.60	Educational support activities	176 589
Latvian Union of Poles	93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	165 002

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Daugavpils: Local Government Funding for Associations and Foundations

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	99 919.26
2022	89 722.7

Source: Providus data compiled from annual reports of local governments.

Daugavpils: 5 Organisations with the Most Local Government Support.

No.	Name of the association	Amount of local government funding, EUR
1	Association of disabled people with mobility impairments "Ilgas"	9556.59
2	Association of People with Disabilities "MĒS KOPĀ SPĒKS"	7890.6
3	Association "Daugavpils City Society of Disabled People"	4922.99
4	Association "Daugavpils Society of the Blind"	1751.76
5	Latgale Water Sports Centre "DINABURG"	1000
	Association "Daugavpils Parachute Sports Club"	1000
	Association "D and D"	1000
	Intellectual Games Club "Ērudīti"	1000

Annex 4: Krāslava Municipality in Numbers

Krāslava Municipality: Number of NGOs

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	161	
2022	158	120
2021	155	130
2020	152	126

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Krāslava Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural Territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Krāslava Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Krāslava Town	59
Dagda Town	19
Ezernieki Rural Territory	11
Andrupene Rural Territory	7
Ūdrīši Rural Territory	7
Indra Rural Territory	5
Izvalta Rural Territory	5
Dagda Rural Territory	4
Kalnieši Rural Territory	4
Andzeļi Rural Territory	3
Asūne Rural Territory	3
Auleja Rural Territory	3
Bērziņi Rural Territory	3
Grāveri Rural Territory	3
Kaplava Rural Territory	3
Kastuļina Rural Territory	3
Konstantinova Rural Territory	3
Krāslava Rural Territory	3
Robežnieki Rural Territory	3
Šķaune Rural Territory	3
Kombuļi Rural Territory	2
Skaista Rural Territory	2
Šķeltova Rural Territory	2
Ķepova Rural Territory	1
Piedruja Rural Territory	1
Svariņi Rural Territory	1

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Krāslava Municipality: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³⁶

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	69
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	30
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	14
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	5

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Krāslava Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	158	66	531 411	9	16
2021	155	66	571 930	10	21
2020	152	74	475 895	10	21

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA

Krāslava Municipality: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
"Māja Daugavpils 17"	68.32	Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	13 365
Association of apartment owners "NIKO R"	68.32	Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	9742
Latvian Association for Social Adaptation	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	9190
"Pilādzītis klubs"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	8656
"Laimīgi Indrā"	85.52	Cultural education	7800
"Krāslava Town and District Volunteer Firefighters Association"	80.20	Security systems service activities	6694

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

³⁶ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

Krāslava Municipality: Funding Granted by the Local Government to Associations and Foundations (Except Religious Organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	40 358.71
2022	60 098.96

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Krāslava Municipality government.

Krāslava Municipality: 5 Organisations that Have Received the Most Funding from Local Government in 2022

No.	Association	Amount of funding, EUR	Purpose of funding
1	Basketball Club "Krāslava"	13 400	Teams to participate in the Regional Basketball League and organise sporting events
2	Association "Football Club "Krāslava""	12 368.9	For the organisation of training camps, participation in championships and tournaments, purchase of equipment, organisation of activities of the association; Co-financing of the project "Acquisition of an awning hangar to complete the infrastructure of the sports field"
3	Dagda Disabled People Brotherhood "NEMA" (PBO)	6500	For the activities of the association
4	Association "Krāslava Mothers' Club"	5978.74	For the organisation of the activities of association; Co-financing of the project "Creation of a playground at Lake Persteņa"; Co-financing of the project "Creation of a co-working space in Krāslava"
5	Dagda Orthodox Church of St Nicholas the Miracle Maker	5000	For insulation of the church facade

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Krāslava Municipality government.

Annex 5: Līvāni Municipality in Numbers

Līvāni Municipality: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	88	
2022	87	65
2021	83	71
2020	82	77

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Līvāni Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural Territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Līvāni Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Līvāni Town	53
Rudzāti Rural Territory	10
Rožupe Rural Territory	8
Jersika Rural Territory	7
Turki Rural Territory	6
Sutri Rural Territory	4

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Līvāni Municipality: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³⁷

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	41
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	10
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	5
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	5

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Līvāni Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	87	26	362 018	2	10
2021	83	28	378 048	3	18
2020	82	25	327 861	3	17

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and

³⁷ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA.

Līvāni Municipality: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
Association "Baltā māja"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	141 206
Cycling Club "Līvāni"	93.12	Activities of sport clubs	87 219
"Deju studija 27"	90.01	Performing arts	33 952
Association "Thematic Villages of Latgale"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	30 051
Basketball Club "Līvāni"	93.12	Activities of sport clubs	23 220

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Līvāni Municipality: Funding by the Local Government to Associations and Foundations (Except Religious Organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	37 707
2022	38 175

Source: Providus compilation of information provided by the Līvāni Municipality government.

Līvāni Municipality: 5 NGOs – the Largest Beneficiaries of Local Government Support in 2022

No.	Name of the association	Amount of funding, EUR	Purpose
1.	Basketball Club "Līvāni", association	23 220	Co-financing for the basketball team "Līvānu stikls" to cover expenses for participation in championships and competitions
2.	Cross-Regional Fund of Mid Latgale, foundation	5050	Small grant to support the "Inhabitants shape their environment" project competition
3.	SKITS Martial arts sports club, association	3800	To cover utility bills
4.	Cycling Club "Līvāni", association	2359	Funding for maintenance of the active recreation park
5.	Latgale Region Tourism Association	1900	Co-financing for the achievement of the association's statutory objective – to promote the sustainable development of the tourism industry in the Latgale region and to implement marketing activities to promote the image of Latgale tourism in the local and international market

Source: Providus compilation of information provided by the Līvāni Municipality government.

Annex 6: Ludza Municipality in Numbers

Ludza Municipality: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	148	
2022	145	111
2021	145	120
2022	146	122

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Ludza Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural Territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Ludza Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Ludza Town	58
Kārsava Town	15
Cibla Rural Territory	12
Mežvidi Rural Territory	8
Malnava Rural Territory	7
Zvirgzdene Rural Territory	6
Isnauda Rural Territory	5
Cirma Rural Territory	4
Nirza Rural Territory	4
Pilda Rural Territory	3
Salnava Rural Territory	3
Zaļesje Rural Territory	3
Zilupe Town	3
Blonti Rural Territory	2
Brīgi Rural Territory	2
Istra Rural Territory	2
Mērdzene Rural Territory	2
Rundēni Rural Territory	2
Goliševa Rural Territory	1
Lauderi Rural Territory	1
Līdumnieki Rural Territory	1
Ņukši Rural Territory	1
Pasiene Rural Territory	1
Pureņi Rural Territory	1
Pušmucova Rural Territory	1

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Ludza Municipality: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³⁸

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	58
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	24
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	11
93.19	Other sports activities	9
81.10	Combined facilities support activities	7

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Ludza Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	145	62	698 697	9	22
2021	145	66	580 593	8	24
2020	146	68	528 270	10	28

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA

Ludza Municipality: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
Ludza District Partnership	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	107 943
Sports Club "LATGOLS"	93.12	Activities of sport clubs	69 495
"Ludza Town and District Volunteer Firefighters Association"	43.21	Electrical installation	62 073
Hunting Club "MĒRDZENE"	01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	46 326
"Latgolys Producentu Grupa"	93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	36 623

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Ludza Municipality: Funding by the Local Government to Associations and Foundations (Except Religious Organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	3466.61
2022	3899.78

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Ludza local government.

³⁸ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

Ludza Municipality: 5 Organisations that Have Received the Most Funding from Local Government in 2022

No.	Associations, beneficiaries	Funding received, EUR	Purpose of funding
1.	Kārsava Orthodox Church of Euphrosynia of the Heart of Polotsk	4150	Co-financing of the project "Preservation of the cultural values of the Kārsava Orthodox Church of Euphrosynia of the Heart of Polotsk and improvement of accommodation conditions for pilgrims"; Organisation of the parish event – Troitsa (Orthodox Holy Trinity Day)
2.	Malnava Roman Catholic Holy Mary Mother of Rosary Church	4150	For the continuation of the renovation of the historic centre of the church; For the organisation of a Christmas event
3.	Ludza Roman Virgin Mary's Assumption Catholic Church	3727	For the celebration of the Easter service; For the implementation of the project "Restoration of the organ of the Roman Virgin Mary's Assumption Catholic Church" in Ludza, Baznīcas iela 54; For the celebration of the Christmas service
4.	Pilda St Peter and St Paul Catholic Church	2398.7	Co-financing of the project "Restoration of the fence of the Pilda St Peter and St Paul Catholic Church" (advance payment)
5.	Kārsava Evangelic Lutheran Church	439.36	Co-financing of the project "Repair of the wall of the Kārsava Evangelic Lutheran Church", Vienības iela 72, Kārsava; For the organisation of a Christmas event; For the organisation of an event to celebrate the 150 th anniversary of the parish

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Ludza Municipality government.

Annex 7: Preiļi Municipality in Numbers

Preiļi Municipality: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	164	
2022	163	123
2021	163	143
2020	164	149

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA.

Preiļi Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural Territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Preiļi Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Preiļi Town	68
Aglona Rural Territory	23
Rožkalni Rural Territory	10
Aizkalne Rural Territory	9
Riebiņi Rural Territory	8
Stabulnieki Rural Territory	7
Pelēči Rural Territory	6
Silajāņi Rural Territory	5
Galēni Rural Territory	4
Preiļi Rural Territory	4
Sauna Rural Territory	4
Rušona Rural Territory	3
Sīļukalns Rural Territory	3
Upmala Rural Territory	3
Vārkava Rural Territory	0

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Preiļi Municipality: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)³⁹

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	80
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	14
68.32	Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	8
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	8
81.10	Combined facilities support activities	6
93.19	Other sports activities	6

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Preiļi Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	163	68	1 231 725	15	49
2021	163	70	1 243 818	15	54
2020	164	73	1 029 182	13	50

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA.

Preiļi Municipality: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
"Cross-Regional Fund of Mid Latgale"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	281 883
"Preiļi for educated Latvia"	85.20	Primary education	244 286
"Jaunie Spārni"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	67 550
Association "Marijas skola"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	60 219
Preiļi-Līvāni Partnership "KŪPĀ"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	57 454

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

³⁹ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

Preiļi Municipality: Funding by the Local Government to Associations and Foundations 2021–2022

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	<i>The local government did not provide information as the administrative reform has not yet been completed this year</i>
2022	15 532.09

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Preiļi Municipality government

Preiļi Municipality: 5 Organisations that Have Received the Highest Funding from Local Government in 2022

	Association, beneficiary	Funding allocated, EUR	Purpose
1	Cross-Regional Fund of Mid Latgale	10 000	Funding for the "Inhabitants shape their environment" small grant project competition.
2	Preiļi Holy Virgin Maria Ascension Roman Catholic Church	3000	Co-financing of the 1 st stage of the renovation of the walls of the prayer hall of the Roman Catholic parish church in Preiļi, in accordance with the contract.
3	Preiļi Old Believers Church	2916.53	Co-financing of 10% of the project "Renovation of the Preiļi Old Believers' House of Prayer", Phase 3.
4	Arendole Our Lady Roman Catholic Church	2911.18	Co-financing of the LEADER project "Replacement of the roof of the prayer house of the Arendole Our Lady Roman Catholic Church".
5	Association "Jaunie spāņi"	2830.5	Co-financing of the PR "Children and Youth Camp "Explore, Use and Grow – 2", Co-financing of the Children and Youth Camp "Explore, Use and Grow – 3".

Source: Data compiled by Providus from information provided by the Preiļi Municipality government.

Annex 8: Rēzekne Municipality Government in Numbers

Rēzekne Municipality: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	305	
2022	303	241
2021	296	245
2020	293	252

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne Municipality: Number of NGOs in Rural Territories and Towns

Rural territories/towns in Rēzekne Municipality	Number of NGOs in 2022
Viļāni Town	30
Malta Rural Territory	22
Vērēmi Rural Territory	22
Griškāni Rural Territory	18
Ozolaine Rural Territory	18
Nautrēni Rural Territory	16
Lūznava Rural Territory	14
Kaunata Rural Territory	13
Bērzgale Rural Territory	12
Sakstagals Rural Territory	12
Dricāni Rural Territory	11
Īleskalns Rural Territory	11
Mākoņkalns Rural Territory	11
Gaigalava Rural Territory	10
Feimaņi Rural Territory	9
Silmala Rural Territory	9
Audriņi Rural Territory	8
Lendži Rural Territory	8
Nagļi Rural Territory	8
Čornaja Rural Territory	7
Ozolmuiža Rural Territory	7
Rikava Rural Territory	6
Stoļerova Rural Territory	6
Dekšāre Rural Territory	4
Kantinieki Rural Territory	4
Viļāni Rural Territory	4
Puša Rural Territory	3

Sokolki Rural Territory	3
Stružāni Rural Territory	3

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne Municipality: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)⁴⁰

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	144
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	21
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	18
93.19	Other sports activities	13
85.59	Other education n.e.c.	10
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	9
85.60	Educational support activities	7
88.99	Other social work activities without accommodation n.e.c.	6
90.03	Artistic creation	6
96.09	Other personal service activities n.e.c.	6
85.52	Cultural education	5
93.11	Operation of sports facilities	5

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne Municipality: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	303	102	1 309 571	17	98
2021	296	101	1 051 603	22	98
2020	293	107	1 229 183	25	102

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne Municipality: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
"Cooperation Platform"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	327 869
Latvijas Finieris Foundation for Sustainable Development	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	114 640
"Latgale Region Tourism Association"	79.11	Travel agency activities	75 298

⁴⁰ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

"Rāzna National Park Association"	91.03	Operation of historical sites and buildings and similar visitor attractions	67 129
Educational and recreational association "OZOLAINE"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	61 660

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne Municipality: Funding Granted by the Local Government to Associations and Foundations (Except Religious Organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	53 382.2
2022	61 335.83

Source: Providus compilation of information provided by the Rēzekne Municipality government.

Rēzekne Municipality: 5 Organisations that Have Received the Most Funding from Local Government in 2022.

No.	Association, beneficiary	Funding, EUR	Purpose
1	Association of apartment owners "Muižiņa"	16 409.21	Co-financing, project implementation, for the energy efficiency of the residential building in Lapegle, Ozolmuiža Rural Territories, and for the improvement of the plots of land, replacement of windows and doors, renovation of the entrance paths.
2	St Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church of Viļāni	11 866	Co-financing for the construction works "Replacement of windows in the church building" and construction supervision for the object "Replacement of windows in the church building" of the St Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church of Viļāni.
4	Rāzna National Park Association	6650	Co-financing of the project "From Mākoņkalns to Liepukalns through the digital environment"; Co-financing of youth initiatives; Co-financing of the children's camp project "Get to know our Latvia" Co-financing of the youth camp and informal training project "Real adventure" Co-financing of the youth equipment purchase competition project "Hiking in nature to promote a healthy lifestyle"; project competition for the project "Safe and active summer".
3	Association LOBS	6200	Co-funding of the Youth Initiative Project Competition "Move2Change".
5	Holy Trinity Parish Catholic Church of Strūžāni	4532.5	Co-financing for the renovation of the ceiling and altar wall of the Holy Trinity Parish Catholic Church of Strūžāni; Co-financing for the insulation of the external walls of the Holy Trinity Parish Catholic Church of Strūžāni.

Source: Providus information gathered from the responses provided by the Rēzekne Municipality government.

Annex 9: Rēzekne State City in numbers

Rēzekne State City: Number of NGOs in the Municipality

Year	Number of NGOs in the Register of Associations and Foundations (active or not liquidated or suspended)	Number of NGOs that have submitted an annual report for the year
2023 (02.08.2023)	212	
2022	214	162
2021	212	168
2020	207	169

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne State City: Most Popular NGO Activity Codes According to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)⁴¹

NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Number of NGOs that selected the following NACE code
94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	110
93.12	Activities of sport clubs	18
01.70	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	7
85.60	Educational support activities	7
93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	6
94.12	Activities of professional membership organisations	6
93.19	Other sports activities	5

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne State City: Number of NGOs with Revenue and Employees

Year	Number of NGOs	Number of NGOs with revenue	Total revenue (EUR)	Number of NGOs with employees (average)	Number of employees (average)
2022	214	81	1 561 831	32	77
2021	212	80	1 359 798	34	83
2020	207	86	1 335 485	33	83

Source: Information on employment indicators from the State Revenue Service from the reports "Report on Mandatory State Social Insurance Contributions from the Income of Employees, Personal Income Tax and the State Fee for Business" – 2020 and "Report of the Employer" – 2021 and 2022 and information on the number of NGOs from Lursoft IT SIA.

Rēzekne State City: Top 5 Organisations Ranked by Revenue, 2022

Name of the NGO	NACE code	Explanation of NACE code	Amount of revenue (EUR)
Society of Latgalian Culture	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	51 271
Association of Disabled Persons and their Friends "Impulss"	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	45 781

⁴¹ The table below shows the NACE codes indicated by 5 or more organisations.

Rēzekne City Theatre-Studio "Joriks"	93.29	Other amusement and recreation activities	42 805
Latgale Apparatus Engineering Technological Centre	94.99	Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.	34 478
Publishing House of Latgale Culture Centre	58.11	Book publishing	27 766

Source: Information prepared by Providus using data provided by Lursoft IT SIA

Rēzekne State City: Funding Granted by the Local Government to Associations and Foundations (Excluding Religious Organisations)

Year	Amount of funding, EUR
2021	148 562.1
2022	150 844.54

Source: Providus data compiled from responses provided by the local government of Rēzekne State City.

Rēzekne State City: 5 Organisations that Have Received the Most Funding from Local Government (EUR)

No.	Association, beneficiary	2022
1	Sports association "Sports Club "Ezerzeme""	33 000
2	Cathedral of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Rēzekne	22 000
3	Rēzekne Old-Believers Cemetery Commune	22 000
4	Orthodox Church of the Birth of Holy Jesus' Mother, Rēzekne	22 000
5	Association "Rēzekne Society of Disabled Persons"	18 249

Source: Data compiled by Providus.