



AREI

Development Strategy of the Institute of Agricultural Resources and Economics (AREI) 2024–2030 (AREI 2030)

AREI STRATEGY 2030

LONG-TERM AND MID-TERM GOALS OF THE AREI:

In science and research — to carry out research relevant to the national economy and that offers sustainable solutions for the socio-economic development of Latvia and Europe:

- To develop and strengthen the research capacities in the priority research areas
- To increase interdisciplinary research
- To improve the research methods and quality
- To attract young and prospective Latvian and international scientists
- To expand the visibility of international research results

In knowledge transfer and cooperation — to become an internationally recognised and significant knowledge institution for the bioeconomy industries in Latvia:

- To develop and strengthen knowledge transfer to companies and organisations in the industry
- To expand and strengthen cooperation with research partners abroad
- To increase the public access to information about the AREI research results and their applicability, including open access databases
- To increase the visibility and appreciation in the international and Latvian scientific and public environment

In the improvement of governance — to ensure efficient governance:

- To improve resource management and structure implementing effective cooperation and governance mechanisms and incentive systems
- To create and maintain favourable conditions to attract researchers and highly qualified staff and to ensure continuity of knowledge
- To diversify sources of finance and increase the amount of attracted funding
- To ensure the development and efficient use of research infrastructure
- To expand the use of information technologies and digital solutions in research and governance

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

- 1. Productive and diverse (field) crops** — research and maintenance of genetic resources of field crops, selection for organic and integrated farming system.
- 2. Production of sustainable agricultural technology and raw materials** — agritechnologies and their efficiency, solutions for effective interaction between agritechnologies and environment, sustainability of environmental resources (agroecology), research in organic farming.
- 3. Sustainability of rural area and development of bioeconomy** — socio-economic modelling of rural area, analysis of the common agricultural policy, assessment of public benefits, development of solutions for the development and competitiveness of bioeconomy sectors, bioregional development, and urban agriculture research.

Vision

The Institute of Agricultural Resources and Economics is a significant and well-known research centre for sustainable development of the bioeconomy and the national economy in Latvia and Europe.

Mission

To develop nationally and internationally significant applied and basic research in agriculture and food circulation to provide new knowledge for sustainable solutions for the development of bioeconomy industries and rural areas.

Values

High research quality. Support and cooperation. Openness to new ideas and diversity of opinions. Sustainability. Accountability. Creativity. Growth. Excellence in science. Integrity. Determination.

INDICES

	2024.	2027.	2030.
Number of publications included in the Scopus and Web of Science databases (n-2)	25	29	33
Q1 and Q2 publications included in the Scopus and Web of Science databases where the AREA scientists are the leading authors (n-2)	9	12	15
Registered varieties and patents, number	55	55	55
Revenue from high-grade seeds and royalties, thous. EUR	400	500	650
Number of popular science publications and activities (TV interviews and other public media), on average per year	40	50	60
Funding of the AREI, thous. EUR	8 000	10 000	12 000

AREI WORK

AREI AREI is a Latvian scientific institutions that carries out applied and fundamental research of sustainable solutions for a balanced socio-economic development of Latvian and European bioeconomy sectors and rural areas and for improvement of the quality of life. The Institute is a derivative public entity operating under the supervision of the Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies (LBTU). The governing and decision-making authorities are the Assembly of Scientists, the Scientific Council and the Director of the Institute.

Scientific departments of the AREI: Department of Field Crop Selection and Agroecology the divisions of which are located in Priekuļi, Dižstende and Viļāni; Department of Bioeconomy. The research department is supported by the following structural units: administration and Technology Transfer Centre in Riga, research centres in Priekuļi and Dižstende.



more about AREI here:
<https://www.arei.lv>

KEY INDICES OF THE AREI SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OPERATIONS FROM 2018 to 2022

- Scientific staff — **66 people or 49 FTE** (full time equivalent on average per year)
- Leading scientists – 20, researchers – 24, scientific assistants – 28 (average number per year)
- Education level of the scientific staff – **43% doctoral degree**, 48% master's degree, 9% bachelor's degree or second level professional education
- Research funding: In **2018: EUR 2.23 million, in 2022: EUR 4.45 million**
- Total number of scientific publications: 215, including in **99 articles the AREI researchers are the leading** (first and / or second) **authors**
- In 2020–2022, the **AREI researchers were the leading authors of 13 out of 57 Q1 and Q2 level scientific articles**
- The number of publications in issues indexed by the Scopus and Web of Science databases: **63%** of the total number
- Average number of projects per year in the process of implementation: **92** out of which 33% are contract research funded by Latvian and foreign private companies and 15% by publicly funded research for companies and their organisations
- More than **40 foreign partners–research institutions from 21 countries**
- Involvement in **11 international organisations, consortia, and networks**
- Participation at **266 national and 249 international scientific and knowledge transfer events**
- In cooperation with partners, the AREI has organised **3 international scientific events that were attended by 600 participants from 35 countries**

AREI IN NUMBERS AND FACTS IN 2022

- Total balance sheet value of infrastructure: EUR 6.57 million
- Key sources of revenue for research: Funding provided by Latvian and EU public institutions: EUR 2.87 million; operating income: EUR 1.14 million; other revenue: EUR 0.44 million
- Funding for applied research: 82%; for fundamental research: 6%
- Partners in Latvia: 11 universities and research institutes, 14 associations of companies and organisations.
- Concluded and maintained licence contracts on the rights to use varieties: 121
- The managed space of land: 500 ha, including 51 ha for certified organic farming research
- Key research infrastructure: grain technology and agrochemistry laboratory for grain and plant biomass analyses and agrochemical parameters of soil; equipment for remote research technologies; pre-selection laboratory greenhouse complex; equipment for chemical and express analyses, molecular biological studies, maintenance and multiplication of potato genetic resources in vitro.

PARTICIPATION IN NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS:

- Involvement of the AREI researchers in the expert status at the working groups established by the Ministry of Agriculture
- Involvement in the development of the Latvian Action Plan for Development of Organic Farming 2023–2030
- One of the founders of the first Bioregion in Latvia in 2023 and its participant