

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED IN THE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW REPORT OF
KLAIPĖDA UNIVERSITY**

Expert recommendation	Actions taken by the higher education institution to implement the recommendation	Change that has occurred or is expected (detail how the planned actions have helped or will help implement the recommendation, provide evidence of the results achieved)
<i>For the Management Area</i>		
<p>The University should complete the task recommended in the 2012 institutional review to design and implement a comprehensive Risk Register and Risk Assessment Plan to cover all strategic activities and operations; further, each Faculty and Institute should undertake the same activity at their level.</p>	<p>Completed actions: On August 3, 2021, <i>Internal Control Policy at Klaipėda University</i> was approved by the Rector’s Order No. 1-179. On August 3, 2021, the <i>Description of the Procedure for the Implementation of the Internal Control Policy at Klaipėda University</i> with the attached implementation plan for identifying and mitigating risk factors was approved by the Rector’s Order No. 1-180. Working group and areas of responsibility for the internal control assurance at Klaipėda University were approved by the Rector’s Order No. 1-040 of December 7, 2021, <i>On the Appointment of Persons Responsible for the Internal Control Policy and its Implementation at Klaipėda University</i> In January 2022, Risk Assessment Register was prepared. <i>The Heads of Departments are Responsible for the Implementation of the Risk Management Plan.</i> On January 3, 2022, the position of a Corruption Prevention Officer was introduced, who, while managing corruption risk at the University, determines the probability of corruption in a specific area of activity. The assessment of risk factors was conducted, and a report was prepared by March 1, 2023. The assessment of risk factors was conducted, and a report was prepared by March 1, 2024. An annual Management Value Analysis is conducted, and a plan of measures is prepared. On February 21, 2023, the <i>Recast of the Internal Control Policy at Klaipėda University</i> was approved by the Rector’s Order No. 1-132. On May 7, 2024, the <i>Composition of the Strategic Plan</i></p>	<p>In order to implement the recommendation, the <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule</i>, approved by the University Council Resolution No. 9N-89 of November 15, 2021, provided for the development of an internal control system and the start of its implementation by the end of the second quarter of 2022. The implementation of the following measure helped to identify the main risk areas: <i>Strategic Risk, Reputational Risk, Compliance Risk, Corruption Risk, Financial Risk, IT Risk, Personnel Risk, Student Risk, Governance and Process Risk, Study Management Risk, Research Management Risk, Tangible Asset and Real Estate Asset Management Risk, Sustainability and Social Responsibility Risk, External Factors and Other Risks.</i> Risk monitoring and assessment allowed to assess areas that require urgent risk management actions, areas where continuous risk monitoring and management are necessary, and which risks do not pose a threat. By taking into account the identified internal risks, changes that improved the carried-out activities were made: 1. In 2021, a document management system was introduced, a public procurement module was launched, and the public procurement process is carried out electronically. Control over the implementation of the public procurement plan and the use of funds in the departments is being ensured. 2. On July 8, 2021, the <i>Description of the Procedure for the Remuneration of KU Employees</i> with annexes was updated by the Klaipėda University Council Resolution No. 9N-85. The annual performance evaluation of the administration and service staff began to be implemented (3 Annex form). 3. Study feedback data has begun to be systematised in a centralized manner, while data values are entered into the process</p>

	<p><i>Implementation Committee</i> was approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-392. The Committee will prepare the Klaipėda University Activity Plan for 2025-2026.</p> <p>Further planned actions: to update the composition of the working group for the internal control assurance by December 31, 2024; to conduct an analysis of the results of internal control monitoring and prepare the Klaipėda University Activity Plan for 2025-2026 by March 1, 2025.</p>	<p>measurement and monitoring indicator table.</p> <p>4. Organizational structure changes have been made in one of the departments of the Service Centre – the Botanical Garden. In accordance with the conclusions of the 2022-2023 internal audits, the regulations of the Botanical Garden have been updated and the Head of the Botanical Garden has been appointed with established responsibilities by the order of the Rector.</p> <p>5. To ensure the environmental protection management control, the Environmental Protection and Occupational Safety and Health Management Program has been established, the implementation of the occupational safety and health measures, approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-016 of September 19, 2022, is being carried out.</p>
<p>The University acknowledges that there are deficiencies in data collection and monitoring of graduate careers and employment destinations and that responsibility is currently decentralised. The Panel recommends that responsibility and oversight of these matters should be centralised under the authority of a Vice Rector, with qualitative and quantitative data collected and analysed for the purpose of annual reporting to Senate. This must result in an annual action plan to secure more effective monitoring and oversight of graduate employment destinations.</p>	<p>Completed actions: In order to improve the quality of studies, Klaipėda University has been conducting centralized monitoring of graduate career since 2021. The monitoring of the Klaipėda University graduates is carried out in accordance with the <i>Description of the Procedure for the Organization of Klaipėda University Graduate Monitoring</i> approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-177 of July 29, 2021.</p> <p>On February 12, 2021, Klaipėda University signed the Joint Activity Agreement <i>On the Career Guidance for Students in Higher Education Institutions and the Implementation and Development of Graduate Career Monitoring</i> No. (1.79 E) SU-570 and became a member of the CMIS (Career Management Information System) Consortium and remained so until the termination of the Consortium Joint Activity Agreement on July 20, 2024, by mutual agreement of the Consortium members. From February 2021 to July 2024, Klaipėda University used a tool to monitor graduate career – Career Management Information System (CMIS). CMIS is a national information system for higher education institutions, the purpose of which is to help students and graduates (5 years after graduation) independently manage their personal careers. CMIS system, which has been operating since 2015, collects and constantly updates objective data from the State Social Insurance Fund Board under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour (SODRA) and the Student Register, which are used to monitor graduate careers. Until July</p>	<p>In order to implement the recommendation, the <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule</i> provided for the development and implementation of a graduate monitoring system by the end of 2022. We are pleased that the system has been created and is being implemented, the collected data on graduates allow to prepare and submit reports, assess the quality of studies based on the opinions of graduates. However, difficulties related to insufficient feedback from graduates, who have completed their studies several years ago, are faced.</p>

	<p>2024, graduate career monitoring surveys were carried out with the help of the CMIS information system 12 months, 3 and 5 years after graduation.</p> <p>Since July 2024, graduate career monitoring surveys have been conducted through the <i>LimeSurvey</i> survey system. Graduate career monitoring surveys are carried out 6 months, 12 months, 3 and 5 years after graduation. Surveys are in Lithuanian and English. Data collected during the surveys are systematized and used to prepare reports on the graduate career monitoring.</p> <p>Reports on the Klaipėda University graduate career monitoring have been prepared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 graduate career monitoring report; • 2021 graduate career monitoring report; • 2022 graduate career monitoring report. <p>In parallel, graduate employment and career are monitored in EMIS – Education Information Management System.</p> <p>Further planned actions:</p> <p>It is planned to further improve the graduate monitoring system and its implementation. In 2025, it is planned to review and update graduate questionnaires. Representatives of the University Alumni will be invited to participate in this process. The Vice-Rector for Studies and the Head of the Office of Studies are responsible for the implementation and improvement of the graduate system, while the functions of administering the graduate system are assigned to the Senior Specialist of the Office of Studies.</p>	
For the Quality Assurance Area		
<p>A Quality Manual typically should include instructions on procedures. Though the manual contains information on higher level principles and obligations, particularly as this relates to ISO standards and management processes, it falls short on describing processes and procedures for the assurance and improvement of the quality of</p>	<p>Completed actions:</p> <p>On September 3, 2021, the updated Klaipėda University Quality Manual (4th edition) was approved by the Rector’s Order No. 1-003. The Quality Manual was improved and supplemented with Annexes 2 and 3 in accordance with <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan</i> approved by the Klaipėda University Senate Resolution No. 11-1 of October 21, 2021. The list of process activities in Annex 2 has been supplemented with legal acts and other regulatory documents that correspond to the process description. Annex 3 contains a list of process indicators measured by Klaipėda University. The Indicator Monitoring Plan was approved by the</p>	<p>After the institutional evaluation, having approved the <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule</i>, it was planned to update and supplement the Quality Manual by the end of 2021. The following measure has been implemented, and the improvement continues. The currently ongoing Internal Study Quality Assessment allows to review the processes. It is sought that the created Internal Study Quality Assessment system would actually work and there would be support in the insurance of study quality and accountability.</p> <p>In the autumn 2024, when updating the <i>Study Regulations</i>, there was an opportunity to discuss and define the kind of the Internal</p>

learning and teaching, and the student experience, or procedures for the ongoing monitoring and review of study programmes. Though it lists the main headings from Part 1 of the ESG, it does not describe any processes or procedures on how these guidelines are used and implemented. Therefore, the Quality Manual should be reviewed, revised, and updated to include the university's procedures for the assurance of academic quality.

Rector's Order No. 1-069 of January 20, 2022, *On the Approval of the Process Indicators of the Klaipėda University Integrated Quality Management System and the Development of a Monitoring Plan*.

In 2023, all internal documents regulating the study process have been systematized in the Study Regulations by areas: *Organization of Academic Staff Work, Student Support, Admission to Studies, Study Process, Study Fees, International Students, Study Regulations and Amendments, Preparation for the Next Study Year, Development, Evaluation of Study Programmes, etc.*

In 2023, another employee position was introduced in the Office of Studies, for which the administration of study quality assurance has been directly assigned.

In the spring of 2024, the composition of the *Klaipėda University Study Quality Committee* and the regulations of the following committee were updated. Through the joint work of the mentioned committee, Office of Studies and University departments, the *Study regulations* were updated in the autumn of 2024 and specified the Internal Study Quality Assurance System. The internal study quality assurance levels were reviewed and updated.

Further planned actions:

In October–December 2024, an internal study quality evaluation is being conducted with the help of external experts. The conclusions are being waited for, on the basis of which the *Quality Manual* will be updated in 2025. The following update will also be carried out due to the expected structural changes of Klaipėda University.

Study Quality Assurance System we wanted. The following allowed to review and update the internal study quality assurance at the following levels: University, faculty/institute, study field, study programme and course unit, covering all activities through planning, implementation, assessment, and improvement.

The absence of a formal written and archived annual report for each study programme, and the reliance on a three-yearly self-assessment, is inadequate for the assurance of academic quality. It is recommended that all study programmes (or groups of cognate programmes or study fields) complete such a report. This should take account of the ESG guidance on the internal

Completed actions:

Taking the following recommendation into account, internal quality assurance measures for study programmes were developed and began to be implemented.

On June 28, 2022, the Senate approved the *Description of the Procedure for Quality Assurance of the Klaipėda University Study Programmes*, which is an integral part of the University's internal study quality assurance system that includes annual quality assessment of study programmes and quality improvement based on the assessment results.

In 2023, an internal annual quality assessment of study programmes was carried out, the results of which were discussed in

The *Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule* provided for the preparation and implementation of the Internal Quality Assurance Measures for Study Programmes. The following measure has been prepared and implemented, and it is sought to further improve the following process. The processes of collecting, systematizing, and submitting data necessary for monitoring, are being reviewed. It should be admitted that the process of the *Internal Quality Assurance of Klaipėda University Study Programmes* required reviewing and the implemented study programmes had to be evaluated annually in order to monitor the necessary indicators for the qualitative implementation of the study programme.

<p>evaluation of study programmes, where it is expected that an annual evaluation should be undertaken of programme content in the light of recent research; needs of society; progression and drop-out; student assessment methods; student feedback; the learning environment; and student support services.</p>	<p>departments/centres, Study Field Committees, Dean's Offices, Rectorate and Senate. Preparations for the 2024 annual internal assessment are being carried out.</p> <p>Further planned actions: The <i>Klaipėda University Study Quality Committee</i> plans to review the <i>Description of the Procedure for Quality Assurance of the Klaipėda University Study Programmes</i> by taking into account observations made during the implementation of the following process. It is planned to update this description in the first quarter of 2025.</p>	
<p>Procedures are in place to collect student feedback through using student surveys and there are mechanisms to discuss and analyse this, but it is recommended that mechanisms should be put in place for systematically informing class groups or all students as appropriate of actions taken or planned to 'close the feedback loop' in response to the issues raised in the feedback provided.</p>	<p>Completed actions: The feedback process has been reviewed and completed: <i>1) A process for informing students about the survey being conducted has been developed.</i> In accordance with the <i>Description of the Procedure for the Organization of Study Feedback at Klaipėda University</i>, approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-041 of November 20, 2019, Klaipėda University carried out student surveys via the <i>LimeSurvey</i> system after each semester: survey on the course unit, survey on practical trainings, survey on reasons for study termination, (future) graduate survey in Lithuanian and English. Links to surveys are sent to students by responsible employees appointed by faculties/institutes. <i>2) A process for informing university teachers has been developed.</i> Preparation of a data summary. After student surveys in the <i>LimeSurvey</i> system, the results are exported, processed, and presented to university teachers in a clear, easy-to-understand excel form. The tables contain a summary of the evaluations of the course unit questionnaire questions with a rating and overall average, as well as the student's opinion, if the student left a comment. Moreover, a feedback report of the whole faculty is prepared and shared with university teachers, showing student engagement percentages and survey averages. Results are compared with the results in previous years. Informing by email. Faculty vice-deans for studies receive feedback evaluations and a general faculty report from the appointed responsible employees. During the dean's office meeting, the student</p>	<p>The <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule</i> provided for the assurance of the implementation of the full study feedback process. The assessment of the problems raised by the experts allowed to state that the measure was implemented by preparing processes for informing students, university teachers and departments about feedback. It can be seen that there is still room for improvement in this process; thus, during the last half of the year, a lot of attention is being devoted to its improvement. It is sought that each student is motivated to fill out feedback questionnaires. We are communicating with representatives of the Student Union and looking for the best solutions.</p>

feedback report is presented and the results obtained are analysed. Heads of departments receive student feedback results concerning teachers of the department and a general faculty report by email. Each university teacher individually receives a notification about the new survey results by email. Results are discussed during the department meeting, and if necessary, individual sessions are held with university teachers.

Such a process not only effectively informs university teachers about the results of student surveys, but also encourages continuous professional development based on the student feedback.

3) Process how students are informed.

The responsible employee appointed at the faculty/institute sends the feedback report to the chairperson of the faculty student union to share the feedback report with the students of the faculty/institute, indicating the percentage of student activity and the average survey scores. Feedback results are compared with the results in previous years.

Further planned actions:

It is planned to continue to improve the feedback process. The results are planned to be made available through the University virtual learning environment “Moodle”, where university teachers could view survey data related to the course units they teach.

If survey results indicate certain areas where a university teacher can improve (i.e., communication or teaching methods), special training or consultations with colleagues or a mentor will be recommended.

A special website section on the University intranet shall be created, where reviews or reports on survey results and decisions made by the university would be published.

By email: a responsible employee appointed by the faculty/institute will send a feedback report to students by email, informing about the main trends and actions that the University plans to take based on the results.

More attention will be paid to the centralized organization of meetings or forums with students, where the survey results would be discussed, and changes would be presented.

The process of informing students about further actions taken by the University based on the results of the surveys will be improved.

The feedback questionnaire is planned to be reviewed, as students

	<p>avoid answering surveys due to a long list of questions.</p> <p>It is planned that the capabilities of the <i>LimeSurvey</i> system will be reviewed together with a responsible IT specialist, so that we can export feedback data in a more structured way, presented in charts, etc.</p>	
<p>The University is currently revising its Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy and this is to be welcomed. The opportunity should be taken to comprehensively address the needs and entitlements of all students (learners) and staff irrespective of gender, disability, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, family status, religion or nationality. The revised policy should cover all academic and administrative activities and behaviours.</p>	<p>Completed actions: On September 9, 2021, the <i>Description of the Procedure for the Implementation of the Policy on Ensuring the Psychological Security of the Staff at Klaipėda University</i> was approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-006. Klaipėda University reviewed the <i>Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy</i> and updated it: on May 4, 2022, the updated <i>Gender Equality Plan</i> was approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-129; on January 24, 2024, the <i>Gender Equality Plan</i> for the period 2024-2030 was updated again by the Rector's Order No. 1-178. on October 27, 2022, the <i>Klaipėda University Violence and Harassment Prevention Policy</i> was approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-054. in June 2024, a working group was formed to prepare the <i>Disability and Inclusion Policy at Klaipėda University</i>. <i>The Disability and Inclusion Policy at Klaipėda University</i> has been prepared and is currently being coordinated with the University departments.</p> <p>Further planned actions: <i>The Disability and Inclusion Policy at Klaipėda University</i> is to be approved by the Rector's order at the end of November 2024. Presentations of the following policy to the University community are to be organized.</p>	<p>The <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule</i> provided for the following measure, and it is sought to implement it. These are particularly important policies, the updating and/or development of which allows for the creation of an inclusive environment at the University, both for students and university teachers. The <i>Disability and Inclusion Policy at Klaipėda University</i> will ensure an environment of equality and non-discrimination and a culture of diversity, thus increasing the accessibility of the study and work environment, properly adapting learning and working conditions for all members of the community. During the development of the following policy, systematic working group meetings as well as a trip to Vytautas Magnus University were arranged, which allowed to use the knowledge and best practice of this university and, following that good practice to develop the <i>Disability and Inclusion Policy at Klaipėda University</i>.</p>
<p>The Panel recommends that the University undertakes a comprehensive review of the efficiency and effectiveness of centralised student support. This review should consider the benefits of establishing a single 'One Stop Shop' for all student</p>	<p>Completed actions: The 'One Stop Shop' principle has been implemented, centralizing support provided to students. All students can receive this in a single place in the Office of Studies in the Rectorate building. Students can consult with specialists in various fields in a single place, thus they do not need to apply and go to different faculties, institutes or dormitory administration. Students can receive consultations regarding admission, career,</p>	<p>The <i>Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule</i> provided for the installation of the 'One Stop Shop' principle in the student support system. The following measure has been introduced and it is sought to improve it. The introduction of a full-time position to perform these functions has also proven successful. The implementation of the following recommendation allowed to review the assistance and support system at the University and to optimize it, making it more</p>

support services, including: careers advice and internships; careers and graduate monitoring and tracking; academic counselling; soft skills training; international mobility and advice for foreign students; psychological counselling and welfare; and scholarships.

foreign exchange programmes, financial, social, psychological, and spiritual support, fill out an application for dormitory accommodation, etc. in a single place.

The ‘One Stop Shop’ principle is currently applied at Klaipėda University when serving foreign students. Providing services and counselling to foreign students is concentrated on one floor of a separate university building, where all specialists related to the internationalization of studies, international mobility, internships, admission, selection, counselling, and integration of foreign students work.

On the internal MANO_KU intranet, students have access to all information about academic support, career, foreign exchange programmes, financial, social, psychological, and spiritual support, can fill out an application for accommodation in a dormitory, etc.

The English version of the University’s website has been reviewed together with integration specialists and the Communication and Marketing Office and optimized so that to provide information to applicants and students in the most accessible and understandable way possible.

In the spring of 2024, the *Student Collaboration Space*, which is open 24/7, was opened on the University campus. There students can find different zones in a seemingly open space: workplaces, conference and meeting space, recreation, games, virtual library, etc.

Further planned actions:

In order to effectively and efficiently improve the ‘One Stop Shop’ principle at the University, it is planned to use the best practices of other higher education institutions, consultations and field trips to them.

The internal MANO_KU intranet is constantly updated to provide students and university teachers with the most relevant information.

student-friendly. Moreover, the introduction of the following measure has also improved internal communication between employees.

For the Studies and Research (Art) Area

While noting that some arrangements are in place to mitigate and to react to the problem of student retention and drop-out, which is highest amongst first cycle and first year

Completed actions:

In the development of measures to reduce student dropout and their introduction in the student support system, the following preventive factors are carried out:

1. Representatives of the Student Union and young curators, whose functions are approved in the *Regulations of the Activities of*

The *Klaipėda University Performance Improvement Plan-Schedule* provided for the development of measures to reduce student dropout and its installation in the student support system. The following is a truly relevant recommendation, because the problem of dropout really exists. Therefore, it is sought to discuss preventive measures at various levels: administration,

student cohorts, it is recommended that additional proactive and preventative mechanisms are also needed to strengthen coordination between study programmes and central student support services. This should include targeted support for first cycle students through a comprehensive first semester programme of induction, study skills, tracking, academic counselling, and focus group discussions.

First-Year Student Curators at Klaipėda University approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-291 of July 5, 2023, communicate with those who have just enrolled. This is a second-year or older student who supervises first-year students. A young curator is appointed for each study programme.

2. The first introductory lecture is organized for students of all study programmes, during which the study process, services, and possible support at the University, are presented.

3. After the general introductory lecture, introductory lectures are organized in the faculties, during which the Faculty administration introduces the employees (dean, vice-deans, study specialists, administrator, heads of departments, department study coordinators) and areas of their responsibilities, explains the types of questions that students can address the Faculty staff. Information is shared. Later, meetings in the departments are organized.

4. Curators are appointed for groups of first-cycle students. The following is regulated by the *Regulations of the Activities of First-Year Student Curators at Klaipėda University* approved by the Rector's Order No. 1-291 of July 5, 2023, which provides for the appointment of the curator (department teacher). Curators consult students, maintain contact with them, provide information about the study programme, elective course units, study system, the procedure of examination sessions, appeals, disputes, the structure of the University, familiarize with the lecture schedule, etc.

5. During the first lecture, each university teacher announces to the students the curriculum of the course unit that indicates the main topics and their content, independent work tasks, literature, deadlines and assessment methods, final assessment tasks and assessment methods. Each semester, the Department draws up a consultation schedule of university teachers, which is published on the faculty/institute website.

6. Meetings with younger curators and curators.

7. Academic, social, psychological, and spiritual support is provided.

Further planned actions:

Starting this year, meetings with first-year students in the middle of the semester started to be held in order to assess student adaptation,

departments, *Study Quality Committee*, and the Senate as well as to search for the best and most effective measures. The assessment of the dropout rate of first cycle first-year students (in 2021 – 22%, in 2022 – 17%, in 2023 – 17%) allowed to see that it remains similar; we would like to reduce it to at least 15 %.

	<p>find out how they feel, and what kind of help they need. To systematically monitor attendance and midterm evaluations at the faculty level. To conduct periodic monitoring of student progress and assessment of achievements. To offer academic support based on the student's achievements, e.g., additional consultations individually or for groups of students when they are studying the most complex and traditionally worst-performed course units, apply individualized learning to students experiencing academic difficulties during their studies.</p>	
<p>There is good evidence of the University working with regional partners through conducting a variety of research projects. This can be strengthened in the area of applied research and knowledge transfer where a set of key performance indicators should be identified to ensure that the University formally measures and monitors the impact of research, particularly in the context of meeting the needs of regional stakeholders.</p>	<p>Completed actions: Since 2020, Klaipėda University has been using the ePovas project registration and monitoring system. From 2023, the following system has been also applied to the registration and monitoring of agreements with economic entities (R&D). The main performance indicators are provided for in the <i>Klaipėda University Development Strategy 2030</i>. Based on the following document, monitoring of indicators (including knowledge and technology transfer) and their impact on the region is carried out, and action plans are developed. During the reporting period, specialists of the Knowledge and Technology Transfer Group of the Science and Innovation Office actively participated in the project “Promotion of Activities of Centres of Excellence and Centres for Innovation and Technology Transfer” of the 2014-2020 European Union Funds Investment Operational Programme Priority 1 “Promotion of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation” measure 01.2.2-CPVA-K-703, which aimed to increase the scale of commercialization of knowledge and technology transfer in the Maritime Valley, contributing to the sustainable development of the blue economy in the region. One of the main results of the project: an entrepreneurial activity model has been created and implemented at KU and it emphasizes interactive relationships and synergic effects between various participants in the innovation ecosystem (academic, managerial staff, students, private and business entities, regional policy-making and implementing institutions), disseminating the created knowledge and exchanging good practices.</p> <p>Further planned actions:</p>	<p>An entrepreneurial activity model that encourages cooperation between participants of the ecosystem has been created.</p>

	<p>A team of entrepreneurs and researchers, in collaboration with representatives of the regional business, industry, and public sector, is preparing a list of services relevant to the region.</p>	
<p><i>For the Impact on Regional and National Development Area</i></p>		
<p>The University has made progress since the previous institutional review in the area of lifelong learning, nevertheless the Panel concurs with the view expressed by external stakeholders that opportunities should be explored to make improvements in this area. It is recommended that external stakeholders be consulted on their needs for credit-bearing short courses and training programmes in specialist areas required by business.</p>	<p>Completed actions: In 2022 and 2023, together with the Klaipėda University Centre for Continuing Studies, meetings with representatives of the Klaipėda Regional Association of Industrialists were initiated and the learning needs of business employees were discussed, relevant qualification improvement programmes and the possibilities of offering the following programmes were identified. As well as offering training programmes of individual business representatives conducting trainings, to pedagogues. Training programmes for business:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training programme topics (17) were prepared for business (but did not receive much interest). 2. Business representatives prepared training programmes (2) (groups were not formed, only individuals registered). 3. A training programme was created together with a company representative for the training of their own employees (started at the beginning of 2024, but the company stopped the programme, decided to postpone it for a later time, even though a service provision agreement was concluded). <p>Currently, the most successful way to attract business employees to training programmes is through the Individual Learning Accounts system Kursuok.lt, which is funded by the state. 9 training programmes have been prepared on Kursuok.lt, 8 of which are intended for business employees.</p> <p>Trainings for medical staff of a private clinic have been prepared.</p> <p>In the spring of 2024, a meeting with <i>Omega 365 Lithuania UAB</i> was organized and the possibilities of developing micromodules were discussed.</p> <p>In February 2024, the <i>Description of the Procedure for the Preparation, Accreditation, and Implementation of the Klaipėda University Study Micromodule</i> was approved, and establishes the processes of initiating, preparing, accrediting, and implementing the study micromodule and the procedure for issuing a certificate of completion.</p>	<p>The assessment of the implementation of the following recommendation and the actions taken allow to claim that the activity is being carried out, there is no major breakthrough for two reasons: the source of funding and gathering of groups. It can be seen that in the presence of funding there are those who want to study through the Kursuok.lt system. The <i>Description of the Procedure for the Preparation, Accreditation, and Implementation of the Klaipėda University Study Micromodule</i>, approved in February 2024, is also useful since it establishes the procedure and opportunities for preparing micromodules and obtaining microcredentials. We are discussing the implementation of the following process with business representatives and other social partners. The concept of lifelong learning is implemented in the Methodological STEAM Centre. Teachers' feedback on the activities carried out in the Centre and the camps is excellent.</p>

	<p>In the spring of 2024, after opening the Methodological STEAM Centre, trainings, camps for Lithuanian general education teachers, as well as activities for children, are organized.</p> <p>Further planned actions: In 2025, a joint conference for teachers in the field of IT technologies is planned together with business representatives.</p>	
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