**Retroactive recognition of a previous period**

1. SIA “Sertifikācijas un testēšanas centrs” considers the issue Retroactive recognition of a previous period only after the conclusion with an agreement with the Operator for the provision of certification services.
2. Conditions for reducing the transition period, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) No 2021/1698 Article 24:

* if the operator can provide evidence that the land is a natural or agricultural area that has not been treated for a period of at least three years with products or substances not permitted for use in organic production.

1. The checks that the CB provides for the retroactive recognition of a prior period In order for a prior period to be recognized retroactively as part of the transition period for the purposes of Article 10(3)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, the supervisory authority must first ensure that the operator provided the following documents confirming that the lands on the plots were natural or agricultural land that had not been treated or contaminated for at least three years with products or substances not allowed for organic production in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848:
   1. The request for a reduction in the transition period and the necessary attached documents are submitted to the CB in advance, so that it is possible to complete all the formally necessary procedures before the start of cultivation (conclusion of the contract, payment, consideration of the request, planning of inspection work, verification and sampling);
   2. The operator fills in the form ANN-F-BL-085 - **APPLICATION** for permission to reduce the transitional period in accordance with Regulation No. 2021/1698 article 24;
   3. Attaches maps clearly identifying each parcel covered by the application for retroactive recognition and information on the total area of ​​those parcels and, where applicable, the nature and extent of current production, as well as the geolocation coordinates of the parcels, the boundaries of neighboring fields, the type of activity and the manner of farming on neighboring fields, products produced in neighboring fields;
   4. The operator attaches documents confirming his right to use land plots;
   5. The operator conducts and attaches a risk analysis for the land plots covered by the request, taking into account all agronomic and agrotechnical measures, potentially hazardous factors from neighboring economic activities. The risk analysis period is at least three years prior to the date of submission of the current request and up to and including the date of submission of the current request;
   6. The operator shall attach a statement that the land has not been treated with products that are not permitted for use in organic farming for at least three years prior to the date of the current request. If during these three years, land plots were in use by another business entity, then such a statement is attached from him;
   7. Field history for the past three years from the date of the current request (for each parcel covered by the current request)
2. Evaluation of the submitted documents::
   1. The CB, based on documentary evidence, will conduct a detailed risk analysis to assess whether the land covered by the application for retroactive recognition has not been treated for at least three years with products or substances not allowed for organic production and which take into account the total area covered demand, and the cultural practices carried out during this period on each plot covered by demand.
   2. The CB evaluates the submitted documents and decides on the possibility of reducing the transition period; \
   3. CB forms a package of documents for verification;
3. Scheduling the inspection:
   1. The senior expert / chief expert, on the basis of the received request to reduce the transition period and the attached documents, after assessing the risks, draws up a work assignment and issues it to the expert;
   2. The check is scheduled before the operator starts cultivation.
4. Inspection, in addition to standard inspection procedures, without fail includes::
   1. Inspection by an expert of all land plots that are subject to a request for a reduction in the transition period, take photographs with fields;
   2. Takes soil and/or plant samples from each site in accordance with the results of the risk analysis, including those sites that are at risk of contamination;
   3. Prepares an inspection report in one of the official languages of the Union, including photographs of the land.
5. Evaluation of documents, adoption of the Decision and preparation of the final written report, which includes the rationale for why the previous period can be retrospectively recognized as part of the transition period::
   1. The senior expert / chief expert evaluates the documents based on the results of the check;
   2. The senior expert / chief expert evaluates the results of soil laboratory tests;
   3. The final written report stated:

7.3.1. the initial period, which is considered the initial period of organic production in ach relevant plot;

7.3.2 the total area of parcels subject to retroactive period recognition.

1. Decision :

8.1. CB decides on shortening / not shortening the transition period

8.2. The CB sends the decision to the Operator.

1. The CB shall immediately notify the Commission, Member States and the accreditation body of each retroactive recognition granted.
2. The CB shall issue a final written report as specified in paragraph 7.3 for each retroactive recognition granted.

11. The control body shall keep Risk analysis documents for at least 5 years.