



RIMGAUDAS ŠPOKAS

Rimgaudas Špokas is the Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, Lithuania. The Agency has numerous responsibilities relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment. Its key objective is to manage and provide information on the status of the environment of Lithuania (air and water quality, pollution levels, etc.), to implement environmental regulation of economic activities and to ensure sustainable use of natural resources.

Rimgaudas Špokas is a graduate of Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania) with MSc Civil Engineering, majoring in Water Management. Prior to his appointment Director of the Environmental Protection Agency in January 2019, R. Špokas has had an extensive experience in the environment protection field. He worked in the Ministry of the Environment of Lithuania and held positions of the Head of Department for Municipal Services and later on – the Head of Department of Water Management. His main responsibilities included legislation drafting, investment need planning and assessment, policy making and coordination in the areas of water, waste water, municipal waste and other services of general interest.

The experience of Rimgaudas Špokas in the public sector includes his work at the National Control Commission for Prices and Energy as the Head of Water Department. In this position, Rimgaudas Špokas was responsible for the regulation of water prices, surveillance of investment efficiency and the development of pricing methodology for the national water sector. Later, Rimgaudas Špokas headed the State Energy Inspectorate under the Ministry of Energy where he was charged with tasks to carry out surveillance and control of the national energy sector.

In addition, Rimgaudas Špokas has direct experience of in institutional building for EU water acquis – he was a member Member of the EU working group (2001-2003) responsible for the drafting the Guidance document on the implementation of cost recovery principle in water sector - Article 9 and annex III of Water Framework Directive. In the capacity of the private consultant, he drafted an ex-ante report on the effectiveness of the use of program funds in the energy, waste

water and water sectors in Lithuania (2007-2013), acted as a TAIEX expert in the discussions on water prices in the Balkans region and participated in project preparation and consultations for projects in water sector in the Balkans, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.