



WSIS+10: OVERALL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WSIS OUTCOMES

WSIS 10 Year Country Report by LITHUNIA

Section I: Executive Summary Introduction

Country at a Glance - Factsheet on various developments and ICT indicators including achievement of national targets for connectivity and access in the use of ICTs in promoting the objectives of the Geneva Plan of Action

The Lithuanian Information Society Development Programme 2011–2019 (hereinafter referred to as “Programme”) has been drafted bearing in mind that information society development is a dynamic and rapidly changing process in numerous areas of public and State activities, and successful involvement of the public sector in the promotion of the positive and minimisation of the negative effects of this process would be a significant contribution to the sustainable development of an information society.

With world’s leading ICT infrastructure and an impressive list of significant European and global records, Lithuania is becoming the Northern Europe Service Hub:

- EU’s greatest mobile penetration of 147%
- World’s No. 1 in the number of mobile telephone subscribers per 100 population - 3.4 million of Lithuanians use almost 5 million active SIM cards
- Global leader in mobile e-signature
- Biggest number of smartphone users in the Baltic States
- 13 out of the 20 largest IT companies in the Baltic States are based in Lithuania
- Lithuania was ranked 34th and was ahead of Hungary, Latvia, Slovakia, Poland, Bulgaria and many others in Digital Economy
- Rankings 2010 by the Economist Intelligence Unit

Internet

- Europe’s speediest and world’s 2nd speediest Internet
- World’s 6th and Europe’s No. 1 fiber broadband penetration (23%)
- Europe’s greatest fiber optic density
- Europe’s densest network of public Internet access points (875)
- 50% of the Lithuanian population use e-banking and 86% declare their income tax online
- EDGE technology, 3G mobile communications infrastructure,

- WiMAX 4G Internet

The official information from the Official Statistics portal declares the usage of ICT:

<i>ICT sector</i> 2008	2009	2010	2011*		
IT sektoriaus produkcija, mln. Lt	5563,3	4734,3	4940,8	4499,5	Output of the ICT sector, LTL mill.
dalis bendroje produkcijoje, %	3,6	4,5	4,1	3,3	percentage share in total output
IT sektoriaus pridėtinė vertė, mln. Lt	2180,5	2072,8	2088,9	2360,1	Value added of the ICT sector, LTL mill.
dalis bendroje pridėtinėje vertėje, %	2,2	2,5	2,4	2,5	percentage share in the gross value added
dalis BVP, %	1,9	2,3	2,2	2,2	percentage share in GDP
IT prekių importas, mln. Lt	3548,3	1783,0	2588,9	2972,1	Imports of ICT goods, LTL mill.
IT prekių dalis importe, %	4,9	3,9	4,2	3,8	percentage share of ICT goods in imports
IT prekių eksportas, mln. Lt	2351,0	1059,8	1551,3	1721,6	Exports of ICT goods, LTL mill.
IT prekių dalis eksporte, %	4,2	2,6	2,9	2,5	percentage share of ICT goods in exports
<i>Use of ICT in enterprises, per cent 2009</i>	2010	2011	2012		
Įmonės, naudojančios kompiuterius	96,1	96,9	98,1	99,7	Computer use in enterprises
Įmonės,	95,0	96,2	98,1	99,7	Enterprise

naudojančios internetą įmonės, naudojančios plačiajuosį internetą	57,7	81,1	94,9	99,3	<i>s with the Internet</i>
įmonės, turinčios interneto svetaines arba tinklalapius	61,7	65,2	67,7	71,2	<i>Enterprises with the broadband Internet</i>
					<i>Enterprises with websites or web pages</i>

Namų ūkiai, turintys asmeninį kompiuterį, interneto prieigą, procentais

<i>Households having a PC, Internet access, per cent</i>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
Kompiuterį						
Iš viso	42,0	48,0	52,2	53,8	55,8	57,0
Mieste	52,5	54,1	59,5	61,3	63,5	64,1
Kaime	23,6	34,5	37,3	39,0	40,8	43,2
						<i>Urban areas</i>
						<i>Rural areas</i>
Interneto prieigą						
Iš viso	40,3	47,1	54,7	54,9	55,8	55,2
Mieste	50,4	53,5	61,5	62,2	63,6	62,8
Kaime	22,6	33,0	40,8	40,7	40,5	40,4
						<i>Urban areas</i>
						<i>Rural areas</i>

WSIS and MDG Implementation at National Level, including national ICT strategies towards and beyond 2015

Financial mechanisms in place for meeting the challenges of ICT for development

The purpose of the Programme is to define the priorities, objectives and tasks of information society development in order to maximise the social and economic advantages provided by information and communication technologies (hereinafter referred to as "ICT"), primarily the internet as a very important instrument for economic and social activities, the use of which allows one to provide or receive services, work, access entertainment, communicate and freely express opinions.

The Programme is in compliance with the objectives set out in the Communication from the European Commission of 19 May 2010 to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "A Digital Agenda for Europe" (COM (2010) 245 final) and aligned with the Communication from the

European Commission of 3 March 2010 "A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth" (COM (2010) 2020 final).

The Programme treats the information society as an open, educated and constantly learning society whose members use the ICTs effectively in all areas of activities.

The strategic objective of the Programme is to improve the quality of life for the Lithuanian residents as well as the business environment for companies through the use of the opportunities created by the ICTs and to increase the percentage of internet users in Lithuania to at least 85 by the year 2019. The information society must be developed on the basis of the following priorities:

1. enhancement of the Lithuanian residents' ability to use the ICTs;
2. development of the electronic content and services and promotion of use thereof;
3. development of the ICT infrastructure.

Information society development covers horizontal processes in a large number of sectors of the economy and public administration, thus the Programme shall be implemented in line with the Plan of Programme implementation measures coordinated with the public authorities and bodies responsible for the implementation of the Programme's tasks (hereinafter referred to as "competent authorities"), which shall be approved by the Minister of Transport and Communications.

Section II: Reporting on Each Action line C1 to C11

C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development

The Programme treats the information society as an open, educated and constantly learning society whose members use the ICTs effectively in all areas of activities.

The strategic objective of the Programme is to improve the quality of life for the Lithuanian residents as well as the business environment for companies through the use of the opportunities created by the ICTs and to increase the percentage of internet users in Lithuania to at least 85 by the year 2019. The information society must be developed on the basis of the following priorities: enhancement of the Lithuanian residents' ability to use the ICTs, development of the electronic content and services and promotion of use thereof, development of the ICT infrastructure

C2. Information and communication infrastructure

According to the Programme the development of the ICT infrastructure is one of the key priorities;

The task is to ensure a geographically consistent development of broadband electronic communication networks throughout the national territory and to promote the use of electronic communication services;

to ensure the development of the broadband electronic communication networks in the areas where the market has failed to ensure this infrastructure development and service provision;

to upgrade the public internet access infrastructure of libraries;

to encourage competition on the broadband electronic communications market, to enhance the effectiveness of market regulation, and to make efforts to provide all Lithuanian residents with access to the internet at a speed higher than 30 Mbps by the year 2020.

C3. Access to information and knowledge

to establish flexible learning conditions of a new quality in order to enable personalised life-long teaching and learning in the cyberspace.

C4. Capacity building

to enable the target groups of the Lithuanian population that until now, for different reasons, have not used computers and the internet and have had no need for them, to gain the

required knowledge and apply it in various areas of activity;
to reduce the inconsistency between the demand and supply of ICT specialists with the aim to achieve the average of ICT sector employees in the European Union.

C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

to maximise the transfer of public and administrative services into the electronic medium, thus ensuring integrated reorganisation of service provision, to achieve centralised provision of services, and to encourage public sector authorities to procure the ICT resources as services

C6. Enabling environment

The objective is to ensure the safety and reliability of the cyberspace, to increase public and business confidence in the cyberspace;

to develop and support a common infrastructure of public authorities and bodies that would guarantee reliable personal identification and verification in the cyberspace;

to create an infrastructure for the management of electronic documents, thus ensuring the authenticity, integrity and preservation of electronic documents.

C7. ICT Applications:

- E-government

to inform the residents about access to the legal information published on the internet, to encourage them to submit comments and proposals on-line and thus influence government decisions.

- E-business

to promote the development of e-business;

to encourage small and medium businesses to adopt and use ICTs in order to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of their operations by way of financial assistance;

to create favourable conditions for e-business development, i.e. to revise legal documents and provide legal certainty that would increase consumer confidence, reduce national regulatory barriers and guarantee consumer rights protection.

- E-learning

to encourage the residents to use online public and administrative services, and to ensure the quality of data transmission and the infrastructure of functioning search systems, thus contributing to the development of e-democracy;

- E-health

To develop the e-health services for patients and medical personnel.

- E-employment

To develop the e-employment services suitable to the needs of employers and employees.

- E-environment

To encourage the sustainable growth through e-environment tools.

- E-agriculture

To develop e-agriculture services for educated users.

- E-science

To promote e-science services for the cooperation of scientists at national and international level.

- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content to employ the ICTs to promote the Lithuanian culture and language;

to digitise the Lithuanian cultural heritage and use that as a basis to create publicly accessible digital products, thus ensuring preservation and spread of digital content in the cyberspace;

to introduce Lithuanian language digital products in the ICTs with the aim to ensure full functioning of the Lithuanian language

- C9. Media

To promote the usage of modern technologies in searching media information for daily life.

- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society

To promote the responsibility and trust while using e-services.

- C11. International and regional cooperation

The international and regional cooperation between all stakeholders should be encouraged.

Section III: Profiles of Progress - Select Case Studies

Including rural Lithuania in the broadband world

The RAIN project will vastly improve access to broadband in rural areas, bringing coverage to 98% of the area, in doing so eliminating the digital divide, increasing social cohesion and contributing to economic growth with a more competitive rural sector.

Some 4 400 km of broadband cables will be laid, with network infrastructure and connection points installed. As a result, 660 000 citizens, 2 000 businesses and 9 000 public institutions will be ready to benefit from the powerful broadband tool.

Embracing the information society

The project beneficiary, the Ministry of Transport and Communication, signed a partnership agreement in 2009 with the non-profit public company Plačiajuostis internetas. The agreement covers cooperation during the preparation and implementation phase of the project and the subsequent management of the new infrastructure by Plačiajuostis internetas.

The issue at hand is that there are still wide differences in the availability of advanced information infrastructure across Lithuania. Rural areas are not an attractive option for commercial investments in broadband electronic communications infrastructure due to the relatively low number of potential subscribers, scattered villages, expensive construction work, and lack of broadband network infrastructure.

The project will therefore radically improve access to broadband services in rural areas, bringing benefits to individuals, businesses and a wide range of public institutions and services. The project will extend the broadband coverage to 98% of rural areas, provide a competitive environment for the delivery of broadband services, and connect major centres of knowledge in rural areas, notably schools, libraries and public internet centres, to broadband networks.

Healthy competition

Key features of the project include: open access: the developed infrastructure will be available to all service providers; technological neutrality – the selected technology will enable all potential network users to have free access to the resources of the network under development; and a competitive environment, with end-users free to choose their service provider and services. The technical solutions will also be long-term solutions, meeting the internet needs for at least 10 years. Furthermore, a total of 340 jobs will be directly created, 140 of which are long term (20 years).

Section IV: The Way Forward and the Vision Beyond 2015

The monitoring and evaluation of the future implementation of the WSIS process should consider not only quantitative methods but the qualitative as well. The evaluation of such processes may be done by the research within the method of experts insights.

The priority areas should remain the same issues only the development of the areas should be better discussed. For example, trust & security of personal or organizational information given in the internet remains still actual and evident issue to discuss and implement.