

**MEASURES AND RESULTS ACHIEVED OF THE NATIONAL REPORT  
2006-2008**

Tasks	Measures	Results
<b>PRIORITY 1. PROMOTE INVOLVEMENT IN THE LABOUR MARKET</b>		
1.1. Increase employment and involvement of the population in the labour market	1.1.1. Develop an action group to achieve reconciliation of labour supply and demand and to help job-seekers – long-term unemployed, employed persons, persons who are inactive in the labour market – to choose a suitable profession and find a job meeting their needs.	<p>The Job Opportunities Programme intended to the long-term unemployed has been revised and complemented with 46 new tasks;</p> <p>12 new informal education programmes intended to familiarise with professions have been developed and 5 programmes have been updated; 27 informative programmes (including 2 for own business undertakers) and 25 programmes for knowledge and skills updating have been prepared;</p> <p>In 2007 labour market training centres trained 4040 long-term unemployed persons, while 5720 of those received consultations at the territorial offices;</p> <p>16 projects are being implemented to develop computer literacy skills for 65,500 Lithuanian residents of working age;</p> <p>1,700 long-term unemployed persons participated in the motivation programme for learning and choosing of profession, whereas 2,500 long-term unemployed acquired qualification.</p> <p>Over 95 per cent of the unemployed newly registered with the Lithuanian Labour Exchange have been provided with consultation services;</p> <p>2,100 of the unskilled youth were involved in the programmes for familiarisation with professions.</p>
	1.1.2. Built up entrepreneurship of the population, improve environment favourable for establishment and development of small and medium businesses, improve female opportunities, particularly in rural areas, to undertake and develop business.	<p>In accordance with the Law on Support for Employment of 2006 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2006, No. 73-2762), two new measures of active labour market policy have been introduced to support individual employment: support of creation of self-employment job by the disabled and support for employment of a first employee of the former unemployed, who established a micro enterprise within 3 years.</p> <p>In 2006 entrepreneurship competences were awarded to 4400 job-seekers,</p>

		including 2,300 women and 1,800 rural residents. In 2007 entrepreneurship competences were granted to 4800 job-seekers, including 2,900 women and 2,300 rural residents.
	1.1.3. Pay greater regard to promotion of youth entrepreneurship and plan respective measures for individual target groups.	870 young persons obtained basic skills in entrepreneurship and other 290 persons participated in business administration programmes. Decision No. 339 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 2 April 2008 approved the National Programme for Education and Promotion of Youth Entrepreneurship 2008-2012 ( <i>The Official Gazette</i> , 2008, No. 46-1728).
	1.1.4. Seek streamlined agricultural and rural development, develop activities alternative to agriculture. Improve professional skills of farmers and other rural residents whose activities are related to agriculture, forestry or activity alternative to agriculture, enhance their abilities to participate in the rural development process.	In 2006 36 training courses were arranged from the funds of the Special Country Support Programme, and over 1,100 participants were trained. In 2007 55 training courses were arranged and nearly 1,600 participants were trained; In 2006 national support was being provided for the activities of rural communities and local activity groups under the Special Country Support Programme. LTL 3 m and LTL 6 m were respectively allocated from the national budget in 2006 and 2007, whereas LTL 7 m is planned in the national budget of 2008. In the Lithuanian country there currently operate over 1,300 rural communities and 46 local activity groups; In 2006-2007 7,651 jobs were preserved and 2,779 jobs were additionally created in the sphere of agriculture; The number of rural tourism homesteads grew by 2.5 times in 2006-2007 and currently exceeds 500; In the rural areas there operate 7,547 small and medium enterprises involved in various businesses and creating new jobs; LTL 951.6 m was allocated for improvement of quality of living and promotion of employment of the population in rural areas in 2007 – 2013, including LTL 267.1 m for measure “Transition to Non-agricultural Activities”, LTL 284.1 m for measure “Encouragement of Rural Tourism Activities”, and LTL 337.3 m for measure “Support for Creation and Development of Business”. LTL 473 m was allocated for measures “Implementation of the Leader Method”.
	1.1.5. Reconcile flexibility of the labour market with safety of employment in order to secure growth of employment and quality of living.	Of 11,700 employed through grants, 9,700, or 83 per cent comprise those who are employed under the contracts with employers for an indefinite period; Former unemployed (who have established micro enterprises within 3 years) created 13 jobs for employment of the unemployed; Recent innovations which have been introduced for the employers include orders for labour fairs and suggestions to record the need for measures of the active labour market policy.

	<p>1.1.6. Promote social partnership, develop social dialogue and alter conventional stereotypes with regard to the role of a man and a woman in the economic activities of the country, ensuring gender equality in the labour market.</p>	<p>In cooperation with Vilnius University 2 trainings were organised in 2007 for social partners on the stereotypes with regard to gender roles. 50 participants attended the events.</p> <p>In cooperation with the Women's Issues Information Centre 4 seminars were arranged in 2006-2007 for social partners on application of flexible employment forms in cases of men and women with children. 86 participants attended the events.</p> <p>In cooperation with the Women's Issues Information Centre 4 seminars were arranged in 2006-2007 for social partners to introduce the Methodology of Assessment of Jobs and Positions, which was approved at the sitting of the Tripartite Council of the Republic of Lithuania on 7 December 2004. 84 participants attended the events.</p> <p>In cooperation with Kaunas Women's Employment Information Centre 2 round table discussions were arranged in 2007 on the role of social partners in implementation of equal opportunities of women and men in the labour market. 30 participants attended the events.</p>
<p>1.2. Improve the social range – increase employment of the unemployed, persons who reconcile family and labour obligations, the disabled, elderly persons and other persons who are difficult to integrate in the labour market</p>	<p>1.2.1. Support involvement of the most socially vulnerable groups of persons in the labour market and their employment.</p>	<p>700 unemployed persons participated in the programmes for updating of occupational knowledge and/or practical skills necessary when seeking a job; Through grants there were employed 9,500 employable persons aged over 50; pregnant women, by the choice of the family the mother or father (foster father), custodian, guardian of a child, who is actually raising a child under 8 or a disabled child under 18 (recognised a disabled child by 1 July 2005); All applicants who have left imprisonment institutions were provided with the prison services motivating employment. 24 such persons acquired professional qualification and 13 of them got employed;</p> <p>Projects for local employment initiatives were implemented in 31 municipal territories and 373 new jobs were created. Of the realised projects, 38 projects were implemented in the country, consequently creating 177 jobs (48 per cent of the total jobs created). 19 created jobs were taken by the disabled as a result of prioritisation with respect to employment of the disabled;</p> <p>1,150 of the disabled with 44-55 per cent of working capacity and 1,050 of the disabled with up to 40 per cent of working capacity were employed through grants. 11 social enterprises of the disabled were established. 87 new jobs were created and 20 jobs were adjusted for the disabled in the social enterprises. Jobs were adjusted for 52 disabled persons in 4 enterprises. 44 disabled persons established self-employment jobs and 300 disabled persons were employed for the jobs established or adjusted specially to that effect;</p>

		<p>140 women aged over 50 were trained according to 4 modules, a database was built up, jobs are being sought, women are provided consultations while getting employed;</p> <p>Job-seekers as well as the persons who reconcile labour and family obligations are enabled to draw up a CV in the Lithuanian and English languages and download and save the entered information in their computers. Registration of the unemployed is adjusted for trips to remote locations.</p>
	1.2.2. Extend participation of the disabled in the measures of the active labour market policy by increasing their activity in order to improve use of opportunities in the labour market and to help them secure a better quality of living.	During 2007 44 disabled persons with recognised working capacity of up to 40 per cent received financial support for creation of a self-employment job. The disabled mainly established the jobs of sellers (6), drivers (5), jewellers, accountants and car repairers (3 each).
	1.2.3. Improve integration of immigrants, as well as the persons affected by psycho-active substances, persons at social risk and persons experiencing social exclusion in the labour market and society, enabling persons at social risk to integrate in the labour market, providing necessary social services and struggling against their discrimination in the labour market.	<p>In 2006 65,800 persons at social risk (additionally supported in the labour market) were employed and 67,300 persons were engaged in the measures of the active labour market policy.</p> <p>In 2007 66,100 persons at social risk (additionally supported in the labour market) were employed and 70,300 persons were engaged in the measures of the active labour market policy.</p>
<b>PRIORITY 2. IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESSIBILITY OF QUALITY SERVICES</b>		
<b>Measures for Improvement of Quality of Social Services and Development of Their Progressive Forms</b>		
2.1. Enhance quality of social services, above all develop their progressive forms, and improve their accessibility. Reduce regional differences in	2.1.1. Develop a general mechanism of social care standards, quality assessment and control for all suppliers of social services, irrespective of their subordination (municipalities, NGOs, etc.).	Social care standards were approved in 2007.
	2.1.2. Activate and support social work	In 2007 and 2008 respectively 556 and other 56.6 jobs were created for social

provision of social services.	with families at social risk and in need by increasing the number of social workers in municipalities for work with families at social risk, encouraging emergence of new labour forms and developing qualification of such workers.	workers to work with families at social risk. To that effect LTL 8,041,100 and LTL 13,489,200 were allocated respectively in 2007 and 2008. In 2007 554 social workers who provide social care to families at social risk participated in training.
	2.1.3. Develop progressive forms of supply of social services in the society by building up a network of social services in municipalities and regions and ensuring provision of social services for the most vulnerable groups of persons through preparation and implementation of the Social Services Infrastructure Development Programme 2007-2009.	Social Services Infrastructure Development Programme 2007-2009 was approved on 12 October 2006. In 2007 within the framework of the programme 32 social services development projects were funded in 26 municipalities, 77 new jobs were or will be created in the nearest future, provision of social services is or will be launched in the nearest future for 2,890 customers a month. Funding is planned for 41 project in 2008.
	2.1.4. Support psychological help services that provide good quality psychological hotline services – pay for telephone calls of residents who call psychological help services that are rendered the 800 <sup>th</sup> service and partially compensate costs of their administration from the budgetary funds of the Republic of Lithuania.	10 services provided psychological help by phone in 2007. Free psychological hotlines were accessible in average 15 hours a day, and some services operate 24 hours a day. In 2007 all the psychological help services answered 262,000 calls.
	2.1.5. Develop social day care for persons who require continuous care at home by encouraging activities of NGOs providing such services.	Pursuant to the Law on Social Services as of 1 January 2007 ( <i>The Official Gazette</i> , 2006, No. 17-589) municipalities are allocated special targeted grants from the national budget for organisation of social care of persons with severe disability. LTL 13,484 m was allocated in 2007. The funds are being used also for provision of social day care at home to individuals with severe disability. In 2006 and 2007 respectively 14 and 15 NGOs provided child care services to 445 children; 35 NGOs provides services to 857 old persons and adults with disability.

	<p>2.1.6. Improve the Social Support Information System (SSIS): accumulate and analyse information on socially vulnerable families, composition and earnings of the families, social benefits and services provided thereto by the state.</p>	<p>The following improvement tasks were completed with respect to the SSIS in 2007-2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– improvement of the module for child rights protection registration, development of new reporting modules;</li> <li>– development of the new multifunctional social services registration module taking into consideration requests of municipalities;</li> <li>– upon change of conditions of provision of free meals to pupils, update of the module for support to pupils, development of a unified system of registration logs for free meals for pupils;</li> <li>- update of the software of the central SSIS database and of the connection system of the municipal databases;</li> <li>- development of the subsystem for data exchange between SSIS and other information systems and registers of the country;</li> <li>- build-up of web page <a href="http://www.socialiniszemelapis.lt">www.socialiniszemelapis.lt</a> (<a href="http://www.socialmap.lt">www.socialmap.lt</a>), which contains annual statistical information on social indexes of municipalities and quarterly information from the SSIS on social services provided in municipalities, benefits, child rights protect, support for the disabled.</li> </ul>
	<p>2.1.7. Develop and promote voluntary activities: motivate and train volunteers, prepare methodological measures to attract and train volunteers, create a portal with a database on accomplishment of voluntary activities.</p>	<p>Paragraph 1 of Article 4 of the Law on Social Services that took effect on 1 July 2006 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2006, No. 17-589) sets forth that social services shall be managed, allocated and rendered on the basis of the cooperation principle, the essence of which is mutual cooperation and help between an individual, family, society and other institutions. According to the data of the Department of Statistics to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2007 social services were provided by 178 volunteers at home and by 2,442 volunteers at day centres, whereas in 2006 volunteers numbered 1,712; in 2007 and 2006 social services were provided in care institutions for old persons by respectively 30 and 72 volunteers; in 2007 and 2006 the number of volunteers respectively made 30 and 3 at care institutions for adults with disability and respectively 130 and 85 at child care homes.</p> <p>There functions the webpage of Public Institution Sotas (Volunteers of Social Service) - <a href="http://www.sotas.org">www.sotas.org</a>.</p> <p>In 2005–2006 25,857 pupils attended first aid training under the 8 hours programme conducted by volunteer instructors of first aid training;</p> <p>In 2006–2007 27,839 pupils attended first aid training under the 8 hours programme conducted by volunteer instructors of first aid training;</p> <p>HIV/AIDS prevention project I HAVE ANOTHER LIFESTYLE. HOW ABOUT YOU? was implemented in 2007. During the seminar 10 local groups of the</p>

		<p>Lithuanian Red Cross Society each comprised of 2 members (Anykščiai, Kazlų Rūda, Utena, Alytus, Šiauliai, Mažeikiai, Vilnius District, Kaunas, Pagėgiai, Telšiai) trained 297 youth volunteers, who conducted seminars for pupils of 68 local schools, and as a result 1,308 pupils were trained.</p> <p>Each year 3,000 youth volunteers participate at the event of AIDS day. In the background of the ribbon, glimmering with the hope, youth volunteers of the Lithuanian Red Cross Society distribute various informative material: brochures, flyers, stickers, postcards, condoms.</p> <p>Bicycle march “Towards Humanity” took place in 2007. A grant in the amount of EUR 2,300 was received from the International Committee of the Red Cross. 20 young volunteers from different Lithuanian towns visited 10 towns and townships disseminating the ideas of humanity;</p> <p>In 2008 the Lithuanian Red Cross Society received funding in the amount of LTL 102,000 from EMPRESS CHOKEN FUND for conducting of training of youth volunteers (trafficking in persons). During the seminar 80 volunteer leaders were trained to pursue educative activities among the youth. 9,600 young persons will be trained in education institutions, video “Trafficking in Persons” will be shot, youth volunteers will take part in painting competition “Open Your Eyes”.</p> <p>Volunteers of the Lithuanian Red Cross Society join campaigns organised on the national scale: food bank campaigns, annual fund raising campaign for the Day of Hunger, campaign in commemoration of HIV/AIDS Day.</p>
<b>Measures for Adjustment of Social Services for Specific Groups of Receivers</b>		
<p>2.2. Improve and better adjust provision of social services to the following groups of receivers: the disabled, elderly persons, victims of trafficking in persons, victims of violence against women in families, persons released for imprisonment institutions, aliens</p>	<p>2.2.1. Pursue and develop rehabilitation of the disabled; adjust social services according to their needs; adjust public physical environment, dwelling and living surroundings, information environment; develop education activities for the disabled; increase employment of the disabled, educate the society to make it better perceive the needs of the disabled, ensure accessibility of culture, sports, recreation for the disabled</p>	<p>In 2007 12 psychosocial rehabilitation projects were funded: psychosocial rehabilitation services were provided by operating services, ambulatory psychological help was provided at home and in groups, in psychological seminars and classes. While pursuing the projects, support was rendered to 76 psychosocial help services, activity rooms for persons with mental disability and persons with mental disorder (2,438 disabled persons received the services, including 500 disabled children), through the activities of 303 psychosocial help groups help was rendered to 5,730 disabled persons, including 47 disabled children and family members and close persons of 629 disabled persons. There functioned 3 mobile mutual help groups, and 218 disabled persons received the services. Psychological services in operative psychosocial help services, centres, psychological support groups were provided to 1,031 disabled person, including 35 disabled children and family members and close persons of 314 disabled, while psychological help services at home, during classes and seminars were</p>

<p>provided asylum in the Republic of Lithuania</p>		<p>supplied to 4,030 disabled persons, including 84 disabled children and family members and close persons of 875 disabled persons. 290 specialists directly working with the disabled (social workers, psychologists, nurses of general care, doctors, etc.), including 5 disabled persons, improved their qualification. Continuous transport services were provided to 30 disabled and 1,460 disabled persons received one-time transport services.</p> <p>16 projects of self-dependent living skills development have been funded: development of self-dependent living skills was pursued in institutions, camps, training seminars, courses, mutual help groups, residence places of the disabled, driving courses were arranged for the disabled. While implementing the projects there were arranged 89 self-dependent living skills development camps, camps-seminars, training seminars (3,041 disabled persons, including 279 disabled children attended the events). There were held 12 nursing care training courses for the close persons and guardians of individuals with severe disability, in which there participated 345 nursing persons – close persons of the disabled and 345 disabled persons, 2 driving courses for the disabled, which were completed by 27 disabled persons. 423 disabled persons were involved in the activities of 30 mutual help groups. 232 disabled persons were trained in self-dependent living skills at institutions and 1,334 disabled individuals were trained at their residence places. There operated a school for the persons suffering from diabetes (training on the issues of prevention of complications), which was attended by approximately 2,000 diabetics, including 126 disabled children. Support was granted to 75 services of development of self-dependent living skills for persons with mental disorder, activity rooms and activities of services for mental patients, wherein self-dependent living skills were developed and services received by 1,094 disabled persons. Services for resuming of biosocial functions have been provided to 2,400 disabled persons. 262 specialists directly working with the disabled (social workers, social workers assistants) improved their qualification.</p>
	<p>2.2.2. Pursue self-dependence and social integration of the disabled by satisfying special needs of the disabled and adjusting dwelling and its surroundings to the disabled</p>	<p>In 2007 measures of financial support were provided to the disabled studying at higher schools – financial support was granted at higher schools to 952 disabled students by paying for their studies and allocating funds to satisfy their special needs.</p> <p>While implementing the Programme for Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability 2007-2011 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2006, No. 73-2782) the following legal acts necessary for realisation of the Programme for Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability 2007-2011 have been draw up: “Basic Requirements for adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability”, “Methodology for</p>



		<p>Assessment of Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability”, “Description of the Procedure of Funding of Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability” (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2006, No. 17-589), “Description of Procedure of Conclusion of Funding Contracts for Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability”, “Standard Regulations of the Commission on Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability”. Commissions on Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability were formed of the delegated representatives of associations of the disabled on the municipal level.</p> <p>The Programme for Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability was implemented by 48 administrations of district and city municipalities (Klaipėda City Municipality Administration returned a part of the funds transferred for implementation of the Programme for Adjustment of Dwelling, failing to accomplish the Programme). While pursuing the Programme, 270 dwellings were adjusted for the needs of the disabled, including 127 dwellings for persons with particularly distinct disorders of mobility and self-service, 118 dwelling for persons with distinct disorders of mobility and self-service and 25 dwellings for persons with average disorders of mobility and self-service.</p> <p>While implementing the Programme for Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability 2007-2011, 270 dwelling were adjusted for the needs of the disabled, the planned result being achieved by 71 per cent (380 dwellings were intended to be accommodated to meet the needs of the disabled), however the general demand for adjustment of dwelling was met in 2007 by 50 per cent (the demand was planned to be satisfied by 30 per cent). Funds intended for implementation of the Programme are transferred on the basis of the applications submitted by municipal administrations. According to the Description of the Procedure of Funding of Adjustment of Dwelling for Persons with Disability approved by Order No. A1-111 of the Minister of Social Security and Labour of 19 April 2007 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 47-1822), costs of adjustment of dwelling are compensated from the national and municipal budgets in parts: for persons with particularly distinct and distinct disorders of mobility and self-service – 80 per cent from the funds of the national budget and 20 per cent from the funds of the municipal budget; for persons with average disorders of mobility and self-service – 50 per cent from the funds of the national budget and 50 per cent from the funds of the municipal budget. On the basis of the submitted applications municipalities adjusted 245 dwellings (of 270 adjusted dwellings) for persons with particularly distinct and distinct disorders of mobility and self-service, where the part of the funds from the national budget makes 80 per cent of the funds required for</p>
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		<p>adjustment of dwelling. In 2007 construction prices drastically grew up, public procurement procedures for construction work were delayed in municipalities, therefore a part of municipalities failed to accomplish planned adjustment work and thus returned a part of the funds intended for implementation of the Programme (21 district and city municipality returned a part of the funds, while, Klaipėda City Municipality altogether failed to implement the Programme for Adjustment of Dwelling).</p> <p>In the total number of persons who require adjustment of dwelling persons to whom dwelling was accommodated make 50 per cent, while the planned result has been achieved by 167 per cent (the percentage of persons to whom dwelling is accommodated in the total number of persons requiring adjustment of dwelling was planned to make 30 per cent. On 1 July 2007 there were 540 persons who met the basic requirements of adjustment of dwelling for persons with disability and qualified as persons requiring adjustment of dwelling).</p>
	<p>2.2.3. Develop infrastructure of ambulatory social services designated for persons with severe disability or with mental disability, children (families) at social risk by promoting return of members of the families of such persons to the labour market.</p>	<p>While implementing measure 1.5 of the SPD, in 2004-2006 support in the amount of LTL 65.68 m was allocated for accomplishment of 33 projects of development of infrastructure of ambulatory social services.</p>
	<p>2.2.4. Enhance the system for determination and satisfaction of special needs.</p>	<p>Order No. A1-214/V-346 of the Minister of Social Security and Labour and the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania of 28 June 2008 changed the procedure of determination of the needs for compensation of costs special continuous nursing, continuous care (help), purchase and technical maintenance of a motor vehicle and compensation of transport costs, providing for the appeal procedure, cancelling submission of certain documents and allowing in individual cases determination of special needs at the retroactive date. Furthermore, the Order made the criteria for determination of special needs more precise in order to ensure uniform application of the said criteria when determining special needs for the persons of both working and pension age.</p> <p>More and more persons are enabled to satisfy their special needs and receive measures of technical support. The circle of beneficiaries has been expanded so that such measures are now also provided to the persons with auditory and sight disabilities. The procedure of determination and satisfying of such needs has been improved. During 2007 35,833 pcs. of technical support measures (hereinafter</p>

		<p>referred to as TSM) were purchased and distributed among the disabled, including 23,693 pcs. for the adults, 525 pcs. for children, 55 pcs. of power wheelchairs, 9,644 pcs. of sight and hearing TSM. The aforementioned measures are also repaired (2,621 pcs. TSM have been repaired and adjusted). In order to make provision accessible on a greater scale, 3 new regional offices of the Technical Support Centre for the Disabled were opened in Panevėžys, Telšiai and Marijampolė Counties (totally 9 regional offices of the Centre were opened in 2004-2007 (in Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai, Alytus, Utena, Panevėžys, Telšiai and Marijampolė Counties)). In 2008 a regional office of the Technical Support Centre for the Disabled will be opened in Tauragė County, the range of TSM compensated by the state will be extended, high-quality active-type wheelchairs and various sight and hearing TSM will be purchased, there will be more information provided with brochures being published on the procedure of purchase and compensation of individual TSM. LTL 7.5 m is allocated in 2008 for implementation of the entire programme.</p>
	<p>2.2.5. Support a specialised rehabilitation programme intended for minors who have suffered from trafficking in persons. Train and upgrade social workers, social pedagogues employed in municipalities and NGOs in the sphere of social assistance for victims of trafficking in persons. Support projects of state authorities and NGOs intended for social support and protection of victims of trafficking in persons and their reintegration in the society.</p>	<p>In 2006 the Social Analysis and Consultations Centre carried out survey “Analysis of the Situation of the Minors, Who Became Victims of Trafficking in Persons, in Lithuania and Outlines of the Rehabilitation Programme Intended for Minors Who Have Suffered from Trafficking in Persons”. Conclusions of the survey present the dynamics and tendencies of the growing number of persons who became victims of trafficking in persons, provide an assessment of services supplied to such persons, give an analysis of the current modern practice of rehabilitation of minors, who have suffered from trafficking in persons, applied by the EU countries; identify the extent of the problem in Lithuania; draws up the outlines of the typical action programme intended for rehabilitation of minors, who have suffered from trafficking in persons, on the national scale;</p> <p>In 2006 1 seminar was organised for improvement of qualification of social workers in the field of trafficking in persons. 46 persons attended the event. 2 training seminars, arranged in 2007, were attended by 67 persons. During the seminars there were considered the ways of solution of social problems in families, provision of information at child care homes and education institutions, provision of psychological help; there were discussed the aspects of reintegration of victims of trafficking in persons, legal aspects and aspects of return of victims from abroad; there were presented activities in the field of control of trafficking in persons and trafficking in persons prevention activities in at care homes and other education institutions;</p> <p>13 projects intended for social assistance for victims of trafficking in persons,</p>

		<p>their protection and return to the society were funded in 2006. 90 victims of trafficking in persons acquired general and/or professional education, 122 persons got integrated in the labour market and 149 victims of trafficking in persons returned to the society. Funding of LTL 455,000 was allocated from the national budget for implementation of the projects.</p> <p>13 projects were funded in 2007. 137 victims of trafficking in persons returned to the society, 79 victims got integrated in the labour market, 48 persons acquired general and/or professional education and 174 victims of trafficking in persons received other social assistance.</p> <p>In 2008 funding from the national budget for 15 organisation projects amounted to LTL 400,000.</p>
	<p>2.2.6. Support organisation projects intended for social rehabilitation of convicts and persons released from imprisonment institutions and their integration in the society. Accumulate data about the number of persons, who returned from the imprisonment institutions on the municipal level, analyse their needs for help. Improve qualification of municipal and NGOs social workers, upgrade them for work with convicts and persons released from imprisonment institutions.</p>	<p>In 2007 62 female convicts took part in professional training. 32 women participated in programme “Development of Social Values and Motivation of Convicts”, 4 individual consultations were given. 3 days’ (24 hours) practical seminars “Active Job Seeking and Preparation for Life Changes” were conducted for persons about to be released from imprisonment institutions. 34 convicts received consultations during 2007.</p> <p>In 2007, during project “Development of Social and Professional Skills of Convicts When Integrating in the Labour Market” 36 specialists were trained who are to work during the project with convicts; 4 programmes for psychological consultation of convicts were developed; 12 programmes of professional training of convicts were adapted; 326 convicted persons acquired professional qualification; 430 convicts received psychological and professional consultations; one stationary professional orientation terminal was installed in each house of correction engaged in the project (4 pcs.); a training guide intended for work with convicts was prepared and published (265 copies); 1700 brochure sets dedicated to convicts and their family members were published; information was actively disseminated; web page of the project has been developed; information on the project was publicized.</p> <p>Project “Programme of Professional Training “Assessment and Situation Management”” was targeted at specialists working in the field of rehabilitation of offenders.</p> <p>Project “EQUAL – Towards Open Door” was targeted at former prisoners.</p> <p>There have been approved 97 programmes of labour market professional training designated for social workers and 35 programmes for professional development of social workers’ assistants. In 2007 totally 4,167 social workers and their assistants</p>

		participated in various trainings.
	2.2.7. Support projects of NGOs that provide social assistance to victims of violence in family and projects intended for work with violators.	<p>In 2006 partial support was granted for 20 projects, the majority of which were put forward by female NGOs. LTL 80,000 was allocated for their funding. In 2006 in the projects there were engaged 1,245 persons suffering from violence in family (33 men and 1,212 women), including 191 person, who was provided temporary sanctuary. While pursuing the projects for victims of violence in family there were provided 722 hours of psychological help services, 240 hours of legal advice, and 1,997 hours of services of social workers.</p> <p>In 2007 complex help and various services were rendered to 1,838 women who have suffered violence. 21 organisation project was supported by allocating LTL 500,000 from the national budget. 152 violators were provided individual consultations and group therapy (6 organisation projects were allocated LTL 100,000). In 2007 activities of 13 female NGOs which operate in the field of minimisation of violence against women received support through allocation of LTL 400,000.</p> <p>In 2008 29 NGOs providing complex assistance for victims of violence in family were supported with LTL 500,000. Activities of 19 female NGOs which operate in the field of minimisation of violence against women received support through allocation of LTL 400,000. 9 organisation projects intended to promote male crisis centres and form self-help groups for violators were supported with LTL 100,000.</p>
<b>Measures Increasing Efficiency of Provision of State-guaranteed Legal Aid for The Population</b>		
2.3. Enhance efficiency of provision of the state-guaranteed legal aid for the population and develop provision of information within the communities reducing social tension arising from the lack of legal or any other information and ignorance of own rights	2.3.1. Ensure adequate provision of information to the public on the state-guaranteed legal aid in all municipalities	<p>Methodology of Provision of Information to the Public on the State-guaranteed Legal Aid (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 19-730) was approved in 2007.</p> <p>The number of persons who made use of the state-guaranteed legal aid increased in 2007. In 2007, as compared with 2006, the number of persons who received primary legal aid went up by 19 per cent (2006 – 30,636, 2007 – 36,365), whereas the number of persons provided with secondary legal aid rose by 7.26 per cent (2006 – 40,271, 2007 – 43,193).</p>
	2.3.2. Extend the circle of persons entitled to receive secondary legal aid; draft legal acts requisite to that effect.	The Law Amending the Law on the State-guaranteed Legal Aid of the Republic of Lithuania ( <i>The Official Gazette</i> , 2008, No. 50-1841), was adopted in 2008 with the view of extending the circle of persons entitled to secondary legal aid.
	2.3.3 Ensure persons exposed to social exclusion, particularly the unemployed, and asylum seekers the right to gratuitous comprehensive information and consultations, improve accessibility	Quality of living of single persons exposed to social exclusion and their integration in the society have been enhanced. Qualified nursing at home is ensured for single diseased persons in social exclusion by providing psychological and social assistance. Single, old, diseased and socially supportable persons are continuously provided care and nursing at home.

	<p>of information sources, and secure more effective protection of their rights.</p>	<p>In 2006 59 nurses (45 job positions) were continuously nursing up to 800 wards, including disabled persons which make nearly 50 per cent, in 27 towns (Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai, Kuršėnai, Panevėžys, Alytus, Marijampolė, Tauragė, Telšiai, Utena, Akmenė, Anykščiai, Ignalina, Jonava, Joniškis, Kėdainiai, Kretinga, Kupiškis, Mažeikiai, Pagėgiai, Raseiniai, Skuodas, Šilutė, Visaginas, Ukmergė, Vilkaviškis.). In 2007 55 nurses (44 job positions) continuously attended up to 700 wards in 27 towns, while in 2008 the same number of wards in 27 towns were continuously visited by 48 nurses (41 job position).</p> <p>Project funded by the European Refugee Fund (ERF) “Social Activation at the Alien Registration Centre” was implemented in 2006. The following results have been achieved: 88 hours of consultations of a social worker were provided to 49 asylum seekers; a playground was equipped for the children of asylum seekers, office equipment and furniture were purchased for arrangement of computer courses, there was provided an access to internet; computer courses were organised; a sports hall was fitted up for asylum seekers, a job position was created for a teacher of physical culture, the library of the Aliens Registration Centre (ARC) was renewed; furniture and equipment were purchased for 2 restrooms, ARC household appliances were replaced; craftwork classes were arranged for 40 asylum applicants; trips to various Lithuanian towns were organised for 72 asylum seekers; trips to Vilnius were arranged for 28 children of asylum seekers; humanitarian aid with clothing, hygiene means, food packages was provided to 85 asylum seekers.</p> <p>Project funded by the ERF “Consolidated Aid for Social Integration of Aliens Granted Asylum” was also realised in 2006. The following results have been achieved: premises were rented and inventory purchased for pursuance of the day centre activities; three full-time workers were employed at the day centre (one social workers and 2 refugee advisors) to provide aliens granted asylum (AGA) with social assistance; 8 hours of group consultations and 80 hours of individual consultations were provided; there was arranged training in the Lithuanian language (81 hour), the English language (81 hour) and IT (81 hour). Courses of the Lithuanian and English languages were attended by 43 persons, whereas 15 persons opted for IT courses. 15 AGA were provided with 34 hours of individual consultations on the legal issues of social integration, 6 seminars of 4 hours each were arranged on the legal issues of social integration, which were attended by 37 AGA. 21 woman participated in female refugees meetings; trips were arranged for 34 refugee children and teenagers; 15 children attended courses of the Chechen language of 81 hours; 3 events were organised with the local community;</p>
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		<p>subscription was made for periodicals in the Lithuanian, Russian and English languages. Two weeks' courses (60 academic hours) were arranged for 10 refugee communities' members.</p> <p>Following the Procedure of Social Integration of Aliens Granted Asylum approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2006 1 supervisor of social integration of the Lithuanian Red Cross assisted refugees in integration in the Lithuanian society. 44 refugees got integrated during 2006.</p> <p>The following results of the project of legal aid to refugees of the Lithuanian Red Cross Society were achieved in 2006: lawyers of the project paid visit to the Aliens Registration Centre 53 times where they provided legal advice on the issues of the asylum procedure for 308 asylum seekers temporarily residing there. In 2006 lawyers paid visit to the Refugee Reception Centre in Rukla 11 times and provided legal advice on the matters of the asylum procedure to 21 asylum seeker and refugee, at the Committee of the Lithuanian Red Cross Centre lawyers delivered 154 legal consultations on the issues of the asylum procedure and social integration to visiting asylum seekers and refugees.</p> <p>In 2006 lawyers participated at inquires of 9 minor and 4 major asylum seekers at the Aliens Registration Centre, Refugee Reception Centre and Vilnius City Migration Service. During 2006 lawyers drew up 87 applications/complaints/appeals for courts and represented asylum seekers in 139 court hearings.</p> <p>The project of the initiative EQUAL "In Corpore" of the European Communities was pursued in 2006-2007, during which period classes of the Lithuanian language were conducted to 94 asylum seekers, legal advice was provided to 124 persons, consultations of a social pedagogue were given to 50 asylum seekers' children and their families, 89 women received psychological consultations; information brochures on Lithuania were published for asylum seekers (in the Russian and English languages). 3 cultural events were arranged for the local community together with asylum seekers; 6 educative seminars were delivered to the public; 2 cultural get-together parties "Open the Door" were held in Pabradė, information brochures on asylum seekers "The Unknown: The Things We Are Unaware of Asylum Seekers" were published to the society, there was shot documentary "Stranger among Insiders".</p> <p>Project funded by ERF "Complex Aid at the Aliens Registration Centre" was realised in 2007 (in cooperation with Vilnius Episcopate Caritas and Aliens Registration Centre). The following results were achieved: 1,127 consultations of social workers were provided to 102 asylum seekers; 208 hours of psychological</p>
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		<p>consultations were given to 40 asylum seekers; 12 social events were arranged for asylum seekers; 135 asylum seekers received humanitarian aid with clothing, hygiene means, food packages, pharmaceuticals; 40 persons received medical services; at the Aliens Registration Centre a cable TV was installed, wardrobes were bought for the rooms, the library of ARC was renewed, sporting goods and toys for children were purchased.</p> <p>Project funded by the European Refugees Fund “Consolidated Aid for Aliens Granted Asylum 2” was accomplished in 2007, during which period the following results were achieved: premises of Kaunas Refugees Day Centre and 4 job positions (of one administrator, one social worker and 2 refugees advisors) were preserved; 290 social consultations were provided to 61 AGA; 50 hours of individual psychological consultations were provided to 35 AGA; 36 hours of individual legal advice were provided to 16 AGA; 6 four hour seminars, arranged on the legal issues of social integration, were attended by 47 AGA; 120 hours course of the Lithuanian language was organised for 25 AGA; 80 hours IT training was delivered to 38 AGA; 120 hours course of the Chechen language for children was attended by 24 children; extra classes arranged for AGA children at the Day Centre were attended by 30 children; 6 festivals and 6 meetings with the local community were arranged for the members of the refugees’ community; 12 trips to theatres, museums, the Zoo were organised for AGA children; internet access was provided at Kaunas Day Centre, subscription was made for periodicals in the Lithuanian, Russian and English languages; 12 AGA families received financial support; a Guide of Social Work with AGA was issued for social integration supervisors (100 copies); 10 days’ courses were arranged for ten leaders of the AGA communities; 2 days seminar held on the issues of refugee image formation was attended by 10 participants; information articles on the image of AGA community – 15 articles – were prepared for print.</p> <p>In 2007 one supervisor of social integration of the Lithuanian Red Cross helped refugees to get integrated in the Lithuanian society. In 2007 the Lithuanian Red Cross integrated 43 aliens granted asylum (9 families and 6 single persons).</p> <p>The following results of the project of legal aid of the Lithuanian Red Cross to refugees were achieved in 2007: lawyers/lawyer’s assistants cooperating with the Lithuanian Red Cross visited the Aliens Registration Centre 56 times and provided legal advice to 328 asylum seekers; paid visit to Refugee Reception Centre at Rukla 13 times and provided legal advice to 63 asylum seekers and refugees; visited Kaunas Refugees Day Centre 4 times and provided legal advice to 44 asylum seekers and refugees; at Vilnius Secretariat of the Lithuanian Red</p>
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		<p>Cross Society 195 legal consultations were provided to visiting asylum seekers and refugees on the issues of the asylum procedure and social integration. 4 legal consultations were also provided to aliens who submitted applications for asylum at Vilnius City Migration Service. During 2007 lawyers/lawyer's assistants drew up 109 applications/complaints/appeals for courts and represented asylum seekers at 115 court hearings.</p>
	<p>2.3.4. Support to NGO activities – provision free social information and consultations to socially excluded persons.</p>	<p>While implementing Measure 2.2.1 “Support to NGO Activities – Provision of Free Social Information and Consultations to Socially Excluded Persons” within the framework of the Measures for Reduction of Poverty and Social Exclusion 2007–2008 approved by Decision No. 46 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 17 January 2007 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 8-328), in 2007 NGOs, which provide free social information and consultations to socially excluded persons, were selected by way of competition to improve accessibility of information to such persons thus promoting their social integration.</p> <p>Upon assessment of applications and related documents, submitted for competition for Support of Activities of NGOs Providing Free Social Information and Consultations to Socially Excluded Persons in 2007, it emerged that association “Lithuanian Citizens Advice Union” and association “Lithuanian Catholic Women’s Society” meet the requirements and won the competition. LTL 49,900 and LTL 18,000 were respectively allocated to support activities of association “Lithuanian Citizens Advice Union” and association “Lithuanian Catholic Women’s Society”.</p> <p>Association “Lithuanian Citizens Advice Union” delivered 4,150 consultations to socially excluded persons, updated information material and issued a number of publications.</p> <p>Association “Lithuanian Catholic Women’s Society” arranged 5 seminars and developed a web site (<a href="http://www.lkms.lt">www.lkms.lt</a>).</p>
	<p>2.3.5. Further activities of the Lithuanian Citizens Advice Union and periodically update information system on the basis of which advice is given to the population</p>	<p>The social legal information system of the Lithuanian Citizens Advice Union designed for advisors has been updated (<a href="http://www.lgps.w3.lt">www.lgps.w3.lt</a>).</p>
<b>Measures for Activation of Involvement in Cultural Life</b>		
<p>2.4. Activate involvement of all persons, regardless of</p>	<p>2.4.1. Support projects of ethnical and regional culture through the Programme of Preservation and Development of</p>	<p>In 2006 50 cultural projects were partially funded within the framework of the National Programme for Development of Ethnical Culture, whereas within the Programme for Development of Regional Culture funding was granted for 60</p>

<p>their social status, income or nationality, in cultural, sports and self-education activities</p>	<p>Cultural Traditions and Amateur Artistic Activities.</p>	<p>projects. In 2007 partial funding is planned respectively for 50 and 350 projects. In 2006 there were formed 19 children ensembles in Lithuania, while 9 new adult and 29 children folklore ensembles were formed in 2007. In 2007 partial funding was provided for 131 project related to cultural education of children. 120 such projects are planned to be funded in 2008.</p>
	<p>2.4.2. Improve accessibility of services provided by libraries, theatres and other cultural centres for individuals with disability.</p>	<p>Publication of 12 books in Braille was funded in 2007, and publication of more 10 such books is planned to be funded in 2008. Access for the disabled was assured in four cultural objects in 2007.</p>
	<p>2.4.3. Arrange as much as possible sports events for persons with disability and encourage their participation in the events of healthy people.</p>	<p>There were held 72 national championships of the disabled, 6 international tournaments, 9 other sports events for the disabled, numbering 4,900 of the disabled participants. 121 disabled person was involved in the national sports events of healthy people. 110 Lithuanian disabled sportsmen participated in 5 games: Winter Games of the Deaf, World Special Olympic Games (games of persons with mental disability), IBSA Adult and Youth Games (games of persons with sight disability), IWAS Games (games of persons with mobility disability), 3 World and 9 European Championships, wherein they won 11 gold, 8 silver and 8 bronze medals. Lithuanian national deaf men's basketball team became the world champion and for the first time in the history of the deaf sports won the gold medals in team sports. Lithuanian blind goalball team became the European champion. The results of the competition of the best sports club of the disabled were summarised, and 4 sports clubs of the disabled received sports equipment. National grants (LTL 100,000) were paid to 26 disabled sportsmen. In accordance with Decision No. 927 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 16 August 2000 "Concerning Motivation of Sportsmen, their Coaches, Doctors, Masseurs and Scientists" money awards (LTL 380,000) were paid to 27 sportsmen and 15 coaches, doctors and other team members. 26 disabled sportsmen won the right to participate in Beijing Paralympic Games. In 2007 LTL 1.9 m was allocated for sports of the disabled from the Fund for Support of Physical Culture and Sports of the Department of Physical Education and Sports under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, whereas over LTL 2.2 m is planned to be allocated in 2008. In 2007 LTL 1.5 m was allocated for sports of the disabled from the Department of the Affairs of the Disabled Persons under the Ministry of Social Security and</p>

		Labour, while over LTL 1.6 m is planned to be allocated in 2008. First Lithuanian Games of the Disabled with the participation of over 600 various disabled sportsmen were realised in 2008.
	2.4.4. Support NGO projects devoted to creation of a versatile non-stereotypical image of women and men by mass media means.	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture partially funded only one such project - the project initiated by Public Institution Center for Equality Advancement "Image of a Woman in the Lithuanian Historical Art".
<b>Measures for Improvement of Access to and Quality of Health Care Services</b>		
2.5. To strengthen mental health, to promote social environment favourable for an individual, to develop the feeling of community and solidarity in the society. To rally various sectors and strengthen their interaction in the area of HIV and AIDS and addictive disorders.	2.5.1. To prepare drafts of the Resolution of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania on the Strategy of Mental Health and its implementation programme.	<p>To strengthen mental health of the public, the Mental Health Strategy was approved by the Resolution No X-1070 of 3 April 2007 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 42-1572). It envisages increasing the accessibility to mental health care services to the public, modernising the in-patient psychiatric services following the EU requirements, establishing the Crisis Intervention Centres, etc. The health care of children and youth remains further to be an important priority. In 2007 an amount of LTL 7.9 million from the budget of the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund was allocated for health care in schools.</p> <p>The Lithuanian strategy pays great attention not only to the assistance for patients suffering from mental disorders and members of their families but also to the prevention of mental disorders and public mental health problems. The goal of the strategy is to develop such mental health care system in Lithuania that would help to strengthen the mental health of the public in an effective and rational way and following modern scientific knowledge and values, to provide a versatile aid to the persons with mental and behaviour disorders and their families. The Strategy underlines that a lot of different institutions must rally for joint work (Children's Rights Ombudsman Institutions, police, rescue services, social security, education, law enforcement and others).</p> <p>In July 2007 an interdepartmental working group was set up (29 members) to prepare the Programme for Implementation of the Mental Health Strategy for 2008-2010. The working group comprises representatives from the ministries of health, social security and labour, justice, interior as well as non-governmental organisations, Prisons Department under the Ministry of Justice, the Council for the Affairs of the Disabled, Children's Rights Ombudsman Institutions and other.</p>
	2.5.2. To implement the draft National Programme for Prevention and Control	In 2007, the Ministry of Health allocated LTL 450,000 for the implementation of the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis for 2007-

	of Tuberculosis for 2007-2010.	<p>2010 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 62-2370). The following measures have been implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. “To provide social assistance for the patients subject to controlled out-patient tuberculosis treatment (food packages, reimbursement of costs associated with the travel to the personal health care institution and home, first priority drugs from tuberculosis prescribed for out-patient treatment, and compensation of the difference of the reference drug prices subject to reimbursement from the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund and retail prices)”. While implementing this measure the funds have been allocated for the drugs from tuberculosis, travel to see a doctor and food packages for socially supported patients.</li> <li>2. “To reimburse the transport costs to medical personnel for the travel to patients ill tuberculosis by public and/or personal transport as well as the travel costs of coordinators of the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis who pay care visits under the Order No 568 of 24 October 2001 of the Minister of Health Care “On the Approval of the Work Regulations of a Freelance Coordinator of the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis and the List of Freelance Coordinators” (<i>Official Gazette</i>, 2001, No 92-3222)“. Travel costs were covered to the specialists visiting patients with tuberculosis from the Republican University Hospital of Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases, Romainiai Tuberculosis Hospital, the branch of Kaunas Medical University Clinics, Klaipėda Tuberculosis Hospital, Telšiai County Hospital, Šiauliai County Tuberculosis and Pulmonary Hospital, Kelmė Hospital, Ukmergė Hospital and Šalčininkai District Municipality Hospital.</li> <li>3. “To supply the tuberculosis microscopic centres and bacteriology labs with necessary material, modern technologies and diagnostic environment (BACTEC 460 and BACTEC MGIT)”. The Republican University Hospital of Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases and the Kauno Medical University Clinic have acquired diagnostic reagents and medium seeking to perform sensitivity testing of TB mycobacterium for the first- and second-line drugs in a quick and effective way what enables to prevent the development of immunity to drugs and rational and timely drugs impact.</li> <li>4. “To supply the personal health care institutions providing tuberculosis diagnostic and treatment services, the pulmonary departments of university hospitals, tuberculosis microscopy centres and tuberculosis bacteriologic labs with bactericidal lamps, 3M Hepa Filters Respirators”. The Republican University Hospital of Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases purchased 2501 3M respirators with hepa filters. They were distributed to the personal health care</li> </ol>
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		<p>institutions providing services to the patients with tuberculosis and pulmonary diseases.</p> <p>5. "To organise seminars, conferences on the prevention and control of tuberculosis issues for family doctors, pulmonary doctors, nurses and other staff working with the patients with tuberculosis". The Republican University Hospital of Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases together with the Lithuanian AIDS Centre and the Vilnius University organised conference <i>Twofold Urgent Issues of HIV and Tuberculosis Infection in Lithuania</i> that was attended by 188 specialists in health care.</p> <p>6. "To take part in the international conferences, seminars on tuberculosis issues organised by the WHO, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease and others". Two specialists in health care took part in the conference (in Capetown) organised by the WHO, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease dedicated to multiple resistance against tuberculosis and twofold HIV/TB infection prevention and control.</p>
	<p>2.5.3. To implement the National HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Programme 2003-2008.</p>	<p>In 2007, for the implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Programme 2003-2008 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2003, No. 98-4399) the Ministry of Education and Science allocated LTL 30,000, the Military Medical Service of the Lithuanian Armed Forces – LTL 47,000, the Ministry of Interior – LTL 9,900, the Prisons Department at the Ministry of Justice – LTL 250,000. The following measure of the Programme has been implemented:</p> <p>1. "To educate and provide consultation to the illegal migrants, to prepare and publish the material about HIV/AIDS and thereto related infections in foreign languages dedicated to illegal migrants". 200 units of leaflets were prepared and published in English and Russian about the HIV/AIDS and thereto related infections at the Foreigners Registration Centre dedicated to illegal migrants.</p> <p>The Lithuanian AIDS Centre organised continuing sociological researches on the HIV distribution in the high risk groups to catch HIV. Anonymous research was conducted in Vilnius and Klaipėda. 573 injection drug users were inspected regarding HIV infection, 110 commercial sex workers, etc. The Ministry of Education and Science has carried out all the measures envisaged in the Action Plan for the Programme Implementation. Qualification improvement courses were organised for teachers where sex education to be taught in schools was discussed as well as the issues on sexual health of school children, prevention of HIV and thereto related infections. The aforementioned ministry has implemented the Programme Measures in cooperation with the Teacher Professional Development Centre, the Republican Technical Creativity House, and the</p>

		<p>Lithuanian AIDS Centre. The Prisons Department under the Ministry of Justice informed convicted persons about the HIV prevention. The Ministry of Interior organised epidemiologic testing of professional risk factors in the institutions of interior affairs. The Military Medical Service of the Lithuanian Armed Forces published two information bulletins for the health care institutions of soldiers about HIV and epidemiological situation in thereto related infections in the Lithuanian Armed Forces; organised lectures, special events, trained 12 per cent of military medicine workers of the total number of military medics who are able to provide consultations and information about HIV/AIDS.</p>
<p>2.6. To cooperate with the social security sector in solving the health and social problems, reducing social and economic differences in health and health care.</p>	<p>2.6.1. To prepare and approve the specification for procedure on general provision of nursing and social services.</p>	<p>Order No. V-558/A1-183 of 4 July 2007 of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania and the Minister of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania <i>On the Approval of Specification Procedure on General Provision of Nursing and Social Services (The Official Gazette, 2007, No. 76-3029)</i> seeks to improve the coordination of nursing and social services at the municipal level, to improve the cooperation among various institutions providing nursing or social care services to a person so as to satisfy the nursing and social services needs of a person (patient), regular complex aid of specialists and care as close as possible to his place of residence, i.e. to improve the accessibility to these services to the Lithuanian residents.</p>
<p>2.7. To encourage the establishment of community nursing homes. To legalise the fees for nursing services: to envisage higher fee for the care of severe ill persons, to promote voluntary support for these services, to collaborate with social sector. To expand home nursing services.</p>	<p>2.7.1. To prepare and approve the requirements for providing nursing services in the out-patient health care facilities and at home.</p>	<p>Home nursing services are being developed. The Order No V- 1026 of 14 December 2007 of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania <i>On the Approval of Requirements for Providing Nursing Services in the Out-Patient Health Care Facilities and Home (The Official Gazette, 2007, No. 137-5626)</i> aims at developing the provision of nursing service in the patient's home by improving the quality of patients life and preserving their self-support in living environment and promoting their self-care.</p> <p>The institutions proving primacy out-patient individual health care services are responsible for providing home nursing services, i.e. such institutions where a patient is prescribed. Family doctor and communal nurse organise the provision of home nursing services, i.e. family doctor prescribes diagnosis and nursing procedures while a communal nurse assesses the individual needs of a patient for nursing according to vital activities (e.g. maintenance of safe environment, i.e. if he is able or needs help of others for self-service, the need for additional facilities, etc.) and makes up and performs the individual nursing plan for a patient.</p> <p>If the need for special constant nursing is identified in the manner established by laws the persons would get home nursing services. There are over 30,000 of such</p>

		<p>persons in Lithuania.</p> <p>In 2007-12-20 and 2008-04-24, the Compulsory Health Insurance Council approved to reimburse the home nursing services by paying LTL 6.6 to every resident who has signed with the individual health care institution providing primary out-patient individual health care services. The amount of LTL 23 million is provided for the implementation of the project in 2008.</p> <p>There are 757 medical stations in Lithuania. Following the plans for the second phase of restructuring of health care institutions, the majority of municipalities plan to reduce the number of medical stations working irrationally and establish family doctor offices instead or purchase cars that will be used by communal nurses to visit patients at their homes who will obtain necessary aid in time – it is an introduction of mobile services.</p>
<p>2.8. To improve the qualification of specialists working with children in the area of violence prevention.</p>	<p>2.8.1. To arrange seminars to the specialists in health care on the prevention of violence against children.</p>	<p>In 2007, the Ministry of Health Care allocated LTL 10,000 for the implementation of the National Programme for 2005–2007 for Prevention of Violence Against Children and Aid to Children (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2005, No. 58-2021). The following measure was implemented:</p> <p>1. “To arrange seminars for health care specialists on the prevention of violence against children”. 13 author pieces of work have been prepared: “Violence at School”, “Symptoms of Compulsion Against Children”, “Peculiarities of Child’s Interview”, etc. This material is adapted to the seminars and transferred to the Child’s Development Centre, the subsidiary of Vilnius University Children Hospital (further the VUVL).</p>
<p><b>PRIORITY 3. TO LIQUIDATE THE POVERTY OF CHILDREN AND INCREASE THE SUPPORT TO FAMILIES</b></p>		

<p>3.1. To liquidate the poverty of children and social exclusion</p>	<p>3.1.1. To ensure the accessibility to complex services (nursery education, day centres, health and social, family counselling) to all children by the place of living of the family by paying special attention to rural areas and pre-school children. To prepare a national programme for complex aid to parents before the birth of a child and afterwards until he starts attending school. The programme will be developed by implementing the approved Child's Welfare Policy Strategy.</p>	<p>A draft of the Programme for Complex Support to Family 2009-2012 is under elaboration.</p>
	<p>3.1.2. To pursue the National Programme on Children's Day Centres (started in 2002) that aims at promoting the establishment of non-fixed child day centres in communities where children from social risk families may receive additional services of education and development of social abilities, creating the opportunities for parents to visit these centres for non-formal education with a special attention to the expansion of these centres in rural areas.</p>	<p>5.1 million Litass was allocated in 2006 to support the projects on children day centres. The support was provided to 121 projects, during the implementation of which 4500 children from social risk families received social and development services and 2300 social risk families received the services for development of social abilities</p> <p>In 2007, LTL 7 million was allocated for children day centres projects. 151 projects received the support, during the implementation of which 5500 children from social risk families received social and development services and 2700 social risk families – the services of social abilities development.</p> <p>In 2008, LTL 9.5 million is allocated to support the children day centres projects. These funds will be used to support 169 projects that have been selected in a way of tender.</p> <p>The National Programme for 2007 of Children Day Centres (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 174-6441) is finished. The operation of children day centres is further developed and supported in implementing the Action Plan 2007-2012 for Reorganisation of Children Care System (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 118-4817).</p>
	<p>3.1.3. To finance the initiatives of youth and youth organisations with a priority to the projects initiated by socially vulnerable youth or dedicated to them.</p>	<p>In 2007, an amount of LTL 190,100 was allocated to support the initiatives of youth organisations and those working with them. Support was provided to 39 projects. 4000 youth took part in the projects.</p>



	<p>3.1.4. To pursue the Program for Support and Integration to the Society of Orphans and Children Deprived of the Care of Parents 2005 – 2008 with a main focus on the preparation of children living in the care institutions for independent life and on the creation of living conditions meeting children needs.</p>	<p>In 2006-2008 the tenders for selection of projects for the implementation of interdepartmental cooperation in municipalities by providing complex social, professional guidance and legal information services to children deprived of the care of parents. In 2006, support was provided to 6 projects (allocated LTL 74,050), in 2007 – 7 projects supported (allocated LTL 111,100), in 2008 – 5 projects supported (allocated LTL 115,880).</p> <p>In 2007, the Program for Development of Self-Living Skills of Orphans and Children Deprived of the Care of Parents was prepared and published.</p> <p>In 2007, guidelines for implementation of the Program for Development of Self-Living Skills of Orphans and Children Deprived of the Care of Parents were prepared and published,</p> <p>In 2007, methodical facilities were prepared and published: 1) about addictions, contagions and their prevention dedicated to the youth - “Protect Yourself”, 2) “Family, and Development of the Children Deprived of the Care of Parents” dedicated to the specialists working with children deprived of the care of parents and children themselves.</p> <p>Implementing the measure regarding the preparation of requirements for the organisation of child care a book “Quality of Children’s Social Care and its Assessment” was prepared and published in 2007.</p>
	<p>3.1.5. To prepare the Strategy for Reorganisation of Child Care System and action plan for its implementation, by solidifying the priority for child’s care in the family and institutional measures for children care system reorganisation aiming at the decentralisation of services for children. It is related to the reconstruction of state children institutional care system and social services for family and child development in municipalities and the measures oriented towards the work with social risk families raising children.</p>	<p>Resolution No 1193 of 31 October 2007 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania approved the Strategy for Reorganisation of Children Care System and Action Plan 2007-2012 for implementation of the Reorganisation Strategy of Child Care System (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No. 118-4817);</p> <p>Realising the measures for 2008 implementing the Action Plan 2007-2012 for the Implementation of the Reorganisation of Children Care System:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) a research of psychological and social welfare factors of the children whose parents departed from the Republic of Lithuania is being conducted;</li> <li>2) support is provided to 161 projects of child day centres (see measure 3.1.2);</li> <li>3) the tender for selection of projects is organised regarding the provision of complex services to a child and mother (father) in case of crisis situation;</li> <li>4) the tender was held for selection of projects regarding the search, preparation, selection, counselling of guardians (foster-parents) and adoptive parents and services for providing support to them; and 23 projects have been selected (in total 31 project was submitted).</li> </ol>

	<p>3.1.6. To supply pupils from low-income families with school supplies before the start of a school year.</p>	<p>In 2007, a new type of support for school children was legalised – providing with school supplies. In 2007, at the start of a new school year more than 57,000 (11%) school children were provided with school supplies who are learning under the pre-school or general education programs. An amount of LTL 8.9 million was spent for provision with school supplies. The amount up to LTL 156 was allocated for school supplies for one pupil. In 2008 it is planned that about 13 % of pupils will be provided with school supplies by allocating to one child the support of LTL 156. It is envisaged that LTL 11 million will be allocated from the state budget.</p>
	<p>3.1.7. To provide free meals at school for pupils from families with low income. To increase the amount allocated from the state budget for one pupil for free meals. To cater the pupils from the families with low income free of charge during summer holidays in day camps organised by schools.</p>	<p>In 2007, in average per month 83,000 (~17 per cent) pupils from the families with low income received free lunch in schools who are learning under the general or preschool education programs, breakfasts – about 25,000 (~5 per cent) and about 15,000 (~3 percent) of pupils received free catering in full-day summer camps as organised by schools. The amount of 54.7 million Litas was spent for free of charge catering for pupils (purchase of food), out of which 1.3 million Litas for pupils' catering in full-day summer camps as organised by schools. The amount allocated for one pupil for one day to acquire products was increased: amount for lunch – LTL 3.54 (before 1 January 2007 it was up to LTL 3), for breakfast – LTL 1.64 (before 1 January 2007 it was up to LTL 1.2), for catering in full-day summer camps as organised by schools – LTL 7.7 (before 1 January 2007 it was under LTL 7.5). Seeking to diminish the social exclusion and differentiation among specific groups of pupils it is planned that from September 2008 free lunch will be given to all pupils learning under the pre-school or primary education programmes (about 150,000 of children). An amount of 101 million Litas from the state budget is planned to be allocated for the catering of all pupils of primary school and pre-schools and children from the families with low income. In total, it is planned to provide free meals to more than 200,000 pupils in schools.</p>

	<p>3.1.8. To pass gradually on the payment of benefits to every child under 18 or older until he is learning at the full-time general education school.</p>	<p>From 1 September 2007 the payment of benefit to the families raising one or two children until they turn 12 is extended. 350,700 children in average per month received the benefit for a child during the year 2007, and the amount of LTL 286.1 million was spent for this benefit. During 2007, if compared to 2006, the number of benefits to child per month increased by 30,000 children (~9.4 per cent).</p> <p>From 1 January 2008 the payment of child benefit is extended to the families raising one or two children until they turn 18 and older who are attending full-time general education school. It is planned that about 700,000 of children will get the benefit in 2008. 525 million Litass is envisaged in the state budget for the payment of this benefit.</p>
<p>3.2. Seek to prevent families from falling in the group of social risk families and to increase the support to the families within this group.</p>	<p>3.2.1. To guarantee that all those who do not have sufficient funds for living and due to objective reasons are not able to obtain them at own efforts would receive the support to satisfy the minimum needs, however the support should not promote the unemployment; to increase the reimbursement of costs for house heating; to grant the right to get cash social assistance for more poor persons.</p>	<p>From 2006, the right to cash social assistance is granted to more people, the requirements were simplified that must be met by the persons wishing to get this assistance. Because of this reason the number of persons receiving the reimbursement in 2007, in comparison to 2006, increased by 4 per cent, from 96,000 to 100,000 persons.</p> <p>When calculating the amount for compensation of heating costs of a dwelling, it was started to apply 100 per cent, instead of 90 per cent, of the state supported income (further SSI) for a family or single person. Moreover, previously a family or a single resident had to pay for the heating of the dwelling the maximum of 25 per cent of the difference between his/her income and 90 per cent of the state supported income and now a family or a single resident has to pay for the heating of the dwelling the maximum of 20 per cent of the difference between his/her income and 100 per cent of the state supported income.</p> <p>During 2007, about 86 million Litass was spent for social assistance, compensation of heating and water costs of a dwelling. Out of this amount 52.4 million Litass was allocated for social assistance, 33.7 million Litass for compensations. In average, during one month in 2007, 36,600 people received social benefit (~1.1 per cent of permanent Lithuanian residents). In comparison to 2006, in average per month the number of persons receiving social benefit reduced from 37,900 in 2006 to 36,600 in 2007. The reduction in this number was influenced by a significant growth of residents; income (increased minimum monthly salary, average retirement pension, and average monthly wage), the reduction of the unemployment and migration of people. The amount of benefit to one person, however, in 2007, in comparison to 2006, increased by 24 per cent from LTL 96 to LTL 119.3.</p>

	<p>3.2.2. To grant the right to the municipalities to allocate up to 2 per cent of the state budget funds targeted to social assistance to use for the support of poor people under the decision of the municipality.</p>	<p>On 1 December 2006 a provision came into effect that grants the right to municipal administration at its own decision to use not more than 2 per cent of the state budget targeted to cash social assistance to use for providing cash social assistance to the families or single residents that do not meet the requirements specified in the Law on Cash Social Assistance for Low-income Families and Single Residents whose income is less than state supported income and the assistance is necessary for them. During 2007, about 0.5 million Litas was spent for cash social assistance allocated under the decision of municipality administration. In average about 1000 persons received the mentioned assistance per month.</p>
	<p>3.2.3. To ensure that the state allocated benefits for children from social risk families are used for their needs. To regulate legally the types for providing benefits in non-cash form for the families at social risk receiving cash social assistance.</p>	<p>The Law on Cash Social Assistance for Low-Income Families and Single Residents establishes that from 2006 the social assistance for families at social risk is provided in a non-cash form.</p>
	<p>3.2.4. To prepare the Three-Year Programme for Development of Social Housing Fund and submit it to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.</p>	<p>Annual growth of social housing fund (number of flats): in 2007 – 600; in 2008 – 650.</p>
	<p>3.2.5. To prepare a draft law on amending and supplementing the Law on the State Support of the Republic of Lithuania to Acquire or Rent a Dwelling and to Modernise Multi-Dwelling Houses: to provide for the compensation of some of the rent amount for the persons (families) with low income that are renting a dwelling in the private sector and are entitled to social housing.</p>	<p>A draft law on Article 11 (1) amending and supplementing the Law on State Support of the Republic of Lithuania to Acquire or Rent a Dwelling and to Modernise Multi-Dwelling Houses of the Republic of Lithuania is prepared and submitted for discussion to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. Article 11 (1) “Compensation of some rent of a dwelling for families and persons entitled to social housing and renting a dwelling that belongs to natural or private legal entities” regulates that 80 per cent of the difference between the rent of private and social housing rent shall be compensated from the state budget for the families and persons having the right to social housing and renting the dwelling that belongs to physical or legal entities.</p>

	<p>3.2.6. To reduce the violence against women in family on the state level in a consistent, complex and systematic way. To develop the National Strategy for Reducing Violence against Women and action plan for its implementation that will be started to be implemented from the beginning of 2007.</p>	<p>In 2006, the National Strategy for Reduction of Violence against Women was adopted and its implementation action plan for 2007–2009 was approved by the Resolution No 1330 of 22 December 2006 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (Official Gazette, 2006, No.144-5474). The goal of this strategy is to reduce the violence against women in families on the national level in a consistent, complex and systematic way. Priority trends of the strategy are as follows: improvement of the legislation in the area of reducing violence against women; analysis of the situation on violence against women in families; efficient prevention of the violence against women in family; provision of complex support to the victims of the violence against women in families; enforcement measures for violence; strengthening of institutional abilities.</p>
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	<p>3.2.7. To increase social insurance benefits that would increase the income of parents or their social guarantees raising children as well as the state assistance to children deprived of breadwinner.</p>	<p>In the period 2005-2008, the maternity (paternity) allowance of 2004 paid to one of the parents at the child's care leave before he turns one year old were increased from 70 per cent to 100 per cent of the compensated wage amount of an allowance recipient and the allowance paid until a child is two year old amounts to not more than 85 per cent of the compensated wage amount of the allowance recipient; from 1 July 2006, a new type of leave is legalised: paternity leave; and a new social insurance benefit type: it is a paternity social insurance benefit (paid until a child is one month and it makes 100 per cent of the recipient's compensated wage amount). Also many provisions are adopted that improve the situation of parents raising children. Because of the indicated changes and the growth of wages of the insured, the expenses of the State Social Insurance Fund for social insurance payments associated with maternity and paternity increased from 211 million Litas (in 2005) to 396 million Litas (in 2007), what means by 185 million Litas or nearly 88 percent, while an average maternity (paternity) social insurance allowance increased from LTL 708.18 (in 2005) to LTL 1370 (in 2007), i.e. nearly LTL 662 or 93 per cents.</p> <p>From 2007 the orphan's pensions from the state social insurance increased from 30 to 50 per cent of calculated amount of a deceased pension (if there are two orphans or more they are paid pensions amounting to 100 per cent of the deceased pension). Because of that the expenses from the State Social Insurance Fund for orphan's pensions increased from 61.5 million Litas (in 2006) to 91.7 million Litas (in 2007), what means by 30.2 million Litas or nearly 49 per cent, while an average pension for orphan increased from LTL 122.30 (in 2006) to LTL 194.71 (in 2007), i.e. by LTL 72.41 or 59 per cent.</p> <p>From 2008 it is envisaged to insure from the state budget one of the parents (or guardian of that child) raising a child at home who is under 3 years old and the disabled who are assigned the need for special constant care (full disability), nurses (one of the parents, guardian or carer) taking care of the disabled at home. In 2008, an amount of 117 million Litas is allocated from the state budget for the insurance of these persons.</p> <p>In 2006 the range of recipients of social insurance benefit in the case of death of the insured because of accident at work or professional illness is expanded.</p>
	<p>3.2.8. To support the poorest families and persons – to provide foodstuff to them from intervention stores.</p>	<p>In 2006, the food was distributed to poor families (247,082 persons) for the amount of LTL 8.6 million, in 2007 – LTL 11.3 million (266,240 persons). In 2008, it is intended to distribute foodstuff for the amount of 15.4 million Litas to the poorest persons.</p>

**PRIORITY 4. REDUCTION OF SHORTCOMINGS IN EDUCATION AND SCIENCE**

**Measures To Ensure the Efficacy for Human Resources Development**

4.1. To ensure further efficiency for development of human resources.	4.1.1. To prepare a new version of the draft Law on Vocational Training and the drafts on strategy for reorganisation and development of vocational training system and action plan for its implementation that would make better conditions for further development of human resources.	On 1 January 2008 a new Law Amending the Law on Vocational Training came into effect.
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	<p>4.1.2. To pursue the Strategy for Life Long Learning and action plan for its implementation by rationalising the network for vocational training programmes seeking to ensure that each adult, a member of society, may access the state supported continuing learning.</p>	<p>During 2007, 65 new formal education programs providing some qualification were prepared. 15 education programs were prepared for persons with primary education, 2 specialised education programs for persons who had not been working for a long time, 14 education programs for the disabled. 6 double (parallel) education programs were prepared. 5 education programs were prepared after graduation of which the right to perform certain works is acquired. 25 education programs were updated and modified after the graduation of which the right is acquired to perform certain works, to train workers working with potentially dangerous facilities and performing dangerous works.</p> <p>177 non-formal education and training programs were prepared, out of which 12 programs are dedicated to older people, the development of their computer literacy, foreign language, cultural activities and social adaptation, and 10 programs for development of general abilities. 36 programs for persons with different disability were prepared. A fair amount of education programs are dedicated for the development of general competences, social integration and career planning.</p> <p>9 modules of professional qualification programs were prepared; 6 education programs dedicated to improvement of professional specialisation.</p> <p>In 2007, 1735 persons took qualification equivalency exams at the institutions providing labour market vocational training and acquired qualification under 32 labour market vocational training programs.</p> <p>When implementing the project “Development and Introduction of Vocational Guidance System”, three professional guidance programs (of 80, 100 and 120 hours) were prepared with a purpose to train the activity and independence in planning professional career for those “eliminated“ from education system.</p> <p>Projects under implementation: “Development of Distance Learning and its Integration into Traditional Learning Labour Market Training System”, “Creation and Introduction of Professional Guidance System”, “Improvement of the Lithuanian Labour Market Training and Counselling System Infrastructure by Modernising Regional Labour Market Training and Counselling Centres”.</p>
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	<p>4.1.3. To raise the level of professional guidance in general education secondary schools and gymnasiums: to develop and introduce a single professional information, counselling and guidance system for the entire territory of Lithuania.</p>	<p>Seeking to create and introduce in the entire territory of Lithuania a single professional information, counselling and guidance system, the Ministry of Education and Science during the reporting period has implemented the projects with a total budget of about 16 million Litas: “Creation and Development of Open Information, Counselling and Guidance System (AIKOS)” and “Creation and Introduction of Professional Guidance System” (POS). The implementation of these projects financed from the structural funds of the European Union aims at creating an open, integrated, non-commercial computer aided system and professional information infrastructure – network of AIKOS administration tools and professional information (PI) points. In addition, while implementing the projects consideration is taken to the national economic and social evolution perspectives and individual needs of each member in the society. Projects are dedicated to form professional information and counselling system that will help young people to choose demandable speciality. During the implementation of these projects in Lithuania 700 PI points are established (out of which 310 are already accredited), and in 2008 the delivery of necessary equipment is coming to an end, the points are equipped with standards prepared during the POS project implementation, methodical recommendations, education programs, methodologies; 1600 computerised working places were created with an access to Internet. There is an access in the points to the free use of the national education and labour market databases and other information stored in the computer media, listings, etc. qualified assistance is provided by trained professional advisors (2 specialists in each PI point), school psychologist and social workers are working there.</p>
	<p>4.1.4. To increase the access to professional counselling and training: to improve education system of the Lithuanian labour market.</p>	<p>The project “Improvement of the Lithuanian Labour Market Training and Counselling System Infrastructure by Modernising Regional Labour Market Training and Counselling Centres” is implemented. The specification for the accreditation procedure of the territorial labour market training and counselling services is prepared. At the end of 2007 decisions were made regarding the accreditation of training and counselling services.</p>

	4.1.5. To perform at least 6 researches of the needs of specialists in economy sector and prepare more than 100 new professional training standards	In January 2007, the Ministry of Education and Science approved the inclusion of the Vocational Training Program Module into the secondary education program and its specification procedure for its inclusion by continuing learning under the vocational training program. This document was prepared seeking to increase the opportunities for pupils in choosing the schools and programs of various types, i.e. conditions are created for pupils to acquire some abilities necessary for professional qualification even at the general education schools.
	4.1.6. To create an integral, common and transparent national qualification system.	The project “Creation of National Qualification System” is under implementation (project duration from March 2005 to February 2008).
	4.1.7. To include the issue on gender equality into the formal and non-formal education and organise the training for teachers on the issues on gender equality.	In 2007, the Ministry of Education and Science started to prepare the Strategy to Ensure Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in Education with a main goal to ensure the implementation of equal opportunities in the sector of education; The Ministry of Education and Science supported the educative seminar held on 27-28 November 2007 “Equality of Gender in Higher Education: Is Gender a Decisive Factor?” where students and teachers from higher schools participated. The seminar analysed the problems related to the assurance of gender equality in education and study institutions. The seminar “Equality of Gender in Higher Education: Is Gender a Decisive Factor?” lasted for two days and was organised by the Lithuanian Students Union and the Lithuanian Students Representation Unions in cooperation with the European Students Union.
<b>Measures to Ensure the Services of Primary and Preschool Education for Children Suffering Social Exclusion and from Social Risk Families</b>		

<p>4.2. To develop primary and preschool education with a special attention on ensuring that these services are provided to the children suffering from social exclusion and from the families at social risk</p>	<p>4.2.1. To prepare and implement the Programme for Development of Primary and Preschool Education.</p>	<p>On 19 September 2007 the Government of the Republic of Lithuania approved the Programme for 2007-2012 on Preschool Care and Education Development prepared by the Ministry of Education and Science. The aim of the Programme is to increase the accessibility to primary and preschool education, its quality and efficiency. The Programme envisages that nursery institutions will appear in Lithuania where children will be taken care of from the birth instead of one year as it is now. Pre-primary education is planned to be legalised as an independent function of municipalities, to expand the supply of pre-school and pre-primary education institutions, especially in rural areas. For that purpose it is envisaged to use the premises of renovated rural schools: they would become universal multifunctional centres where preschool, pre-primary, non-formal education of children may be organised, children care in day-time, non-formal education of adults, etc.</p> <p>In October 2007 the Ministry of Education and Science allocated 852,000 Litas for pre-school education and implementation of early learning programmes of foreign languages so as to acquire necessary commodities, also LTL 800,000 were allocated for the purpose of establishment of more than 90 pre-school tutors and more than 30 pre-school education teachers positions before December 2008 in thirty two municipal education institutions. The establishment of jobs and their maintenance will be financed by the ministry for four month and starting from January the municipalities have committed to maintain them.</p>
	<p>4.2.2. To prepare a model for living and education conditions for children from the birth until compulsory learning starts and its implementation.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education and Science in 2006 – 2007 prepared and improved the project for description of the model for living and education conditions for children from the birth until compulsory learning starts. The project intends to create a system of pedagogical information and counselling system for families, and to open at first the preschool education to the children suffering from social exclusion and from the families at social risk. Families at social risk and social exclusion lack the education and social services. It is also envisaged that seeking to protect the children at social risk group and suffering from social exclusion, the consistent efforts are required from various levels of management, different institutions and organisations by providing qualitative and complex assistance to the family and the child.</p>
<p><b>Measures of Implementation for Prevention of Non-Attendance of School</b></p>		

<p>4.3. To implement the prevention of non-attendance school in a successful and effective way.</p>	<p>4.3.1. To prepare complex and wide range measures covering the Programme To Return to School the Children Non-Attending School that would assure to achieve that the persons with at least secondary education would make at least 90 per cent of all youth of that age.</p>	<p>In November 2007 the Ministry of Education and Science prepared a draft Programme for Return to Schools of Children Non-Attending School that provides for the following main objectives: 1) to strengthen the responsibility of municipalities for education of the children living in their territory under the compulsory education programmes; 2) to coordinate the provision of education assistance, to increase its accessibility, to expand the provision of social services and assistance to families; 3) to improve the training of teachers and other specialists and their qualification; 4) to increase the responsibility of school and parents (guardians, caretakers) for children's learning under the compulsory education programs.</p>
	<p>4.3.2. To pursue the children and youth specialisation programme.</p>	<p>In 2007 the Ministry of Education and Science allocated over 10 million Litas for children's summer holidays and specialisation. The financing was allocated by implementing the tender for support to the Programme for Children's Specialisation. This year 132 national and international and 35 full-day summer camps won the financing. In addition, the financing was provided to about two thousand different camps for children in municipalities.</p>
<p align="center"><b>Measures to Ensure the Social Assistance to Pupils and Students who are Poor, Suffer Social Exclusion or are from Social Risk Families</b></p>		

<p>4.4. To ensure social assistance for poor pupils and students or suffering from social exclusion.</p>	<p>4.4.1. To prepare and implement the Plan 2006-2010 for the Development of Higher Education System.</p>	<p>The Government of the Republic of Lithuania on 5 April 2006 adopted the Resolution No 335 (<i>Official Gazette</i>, 2006, No. 39-1394) and approved the Plan 2006 – 2010 on the Development of Higher Education System. When elaborating this draft resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Education and Science initiated a comprehensive analysis of the situation in the higher education system, the preparation of which was actively supported by representatives from different institutions (Science Council of Lithuania, conferences by Rectors of Lithuanian Universities, Lithuanian Colleges Directors conferences, Union of Students, Lithuanian Business Employers’ Confederation, etc.). Public considerations of the project were organised at the Ministry of Education and Science. The Plan for Development of Higher Education System was prepared taking into account the National Strategy on Long-Term Development, Long-Term Strategy for 2003–2012 for the Lithuanian Economy Development, Long-Term Strategy until 2015, implementation programme of the National Education Strategy, the Lisbon Strategy adopted in 2000 by the European Council and the National Programme for the Implementation of the Lisbon Strategy. The plan has been implemented in two stages. In the first stage (2006-2007) legal acts were prepared and adopted that are necessary for the implementation of the plan in an efficient, sustainable, responsible managerial way, targeted financing and rational use of resources to create the higher education system of good quality. In the second stage (2008–2010) the provisions of the plan were implemented on the basis of an amended legislation.</p>
	<p>4.4.2. To reform the legal acts regulating the financing of studies: to prepare the draft of corresponding resolutions of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.</p>	<p>In October 2007 the Ministry of Education and Science prepared a draft of the Law on Education and Studies and submitted it for discussion to the state institutions and social partners. It envisages reducing the state regulation of the number of students: the state would only identify the number of study places supported from the state budget and does not prescribe to an exact higher school. Such a principle would allow introducing a more flexible principle “funds follow a student”, that would induce the competition among higher schools and improvement of the quality of studies. The law proposes to renounce the state regulation of study fee: the higher school itself would specify study fee for those studying at own expense. This would create opportunities for higher schools in a more flexible way to react to the demand of studies, attract more foreign students. On the other hand, the new draft Law on Education and Science proposes to renounce the provisions under which only the State Education and Science Fund grants state loans. In such a way the legal basis would be created to attract private funds to the loan system.</p>

	<p>4.4.3. To prepare and implement the Programme for Renovation of Students Hostels of Higher Schools.</p>	<p>On 1 September 2006 the Government of the Republic of Lithuania adopted its Resolution No 843 (Official Gazette, 2006, No 94-3699) and approved the programme for renovation of students' dormitories of the state higher schools. The programme aims to renovate the majority of dormitories during 2006-2009 by improving living and hygienic conditions for students. It is envisaged to allocate 44 million Litas for renovation of dormitories out of which 40 million Litas will be state funds and 4 million Litas - own funds of higher schools.</p>
	<p>4.4.4. To pursue an investment programme 2006-2008 to supply schools with yellow busses and programme 2005-2008 for transportation of pupils with special needs - "Yellow Bus".</p>	<p>Seeking to improve the accessibility to education services for children living far from education institutions, especially in rural areas, and to ensure secure transportation of pupils to schools of general education with high and very high special education needs in 2007, the Ministry of Education and Science continued the implementation of the programme for supply of schools with yellow buses. In 2007 the Ministry of Education and Science procured in total 46 new Mercedes-Benz Sprinter yellow buses for municipal education institutions and 16 school buses will arrive later. About 6 million Litas was allocated for the procurement of yellow busses this year.</p>
<p><b>Measures for Development of Civic Society</b></p>		

<p>4.5. To educate civic society by making them ready and involving its members into an active movement combating the poverty and social exclusion.</p>	<p>4.5.1. Seeking to involve the non-governmental sector and society itself as wide as possible into the process reducing poverty and social exclusion, to prepare information regional seminars and training on the issues of social policy in cooperation with the state and non-state sectors on the national level.</p>	<p>Seeking to involve non-governmental organisations into an active work as wide as possible, ensuring the welfare of a child and improving the cooperation between the state and non-governmental sectors in this area the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on 10 November 2006 adopted Resolution No 1105 (<i>Official Gazette</i>, 2006, No. 123-4645) and changed the Action Plan 2005-2012 on Child's Welfare State Policy Strategy and its Implementation approved by the Resolution No 184 of 17 February 2005 (<i>Official Gazette</i>, 2005., 25-802) by supplementing it with a new item, which envisages "to allocate the funds for non-governmental organisations joining other non-governmental organisations working in the area of implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and representing their interests by selecting the projects in a way of tender in the manner established". While implementing this measure the Ministry of Social Security and Labour in 2007 in a way of tender financed the projects of non-governmental organisations working in the area of child's welfare and allocated for that purpose LTL 200,000.</p> <p>Implementing the Programme 2007-2009 for Youth Policy Development in Municipalities approved by the Resolution No 898 of 14 August 2007 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (<i>Official Gazette</i>, 2007, No 95-3825) the projects initiated by the youth from rural settlement neighbourhoods were financed as well as the projects promoting to start public activities, teaching and informing rural youth with less opportunities. An amount of LTL 100,000 was allocated to finance these projects.</p> <p>In 2007, the Civil Society Institute implemented the project <i>Lithuania without Poverty and Exclusion</i>. Events, meetings of expert groups were organised in 5 municipalities that were attended by NGO representatives, teachers, social workers, active people in the community, public and municipal servants. They discussed the problems of poverty and social exclusion, social policy, analysed the National Report about the social security and social scope strategies for 2006-2008. The project events aimed at involving as many society members as possible in the formation of policy on reducing poverty and social exclusion. Project experts in consultation with working groups analysed the situation on poverty and social exclusion in the regions; proposals were prepared how to improve the process for elaboration of both the national strategy and action plan and the implementation of measures.</p>
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	<p>4.5.2. To stimulate the activities and employment of older people in the community by emphasising life long learning. To form a positive image of older people in the society.</p>	<p>In 2007 a newspaper “Senjorų žodis” (Word of Senor) is published promoting good experience and providing required information. It analyses the problems and ways for their solution, disseminates good experience.</p> <p>In 2007, press releases were periodically prepared, articles for mass media and radio broadcasts about social security and labour urgent issues for older people, they also aim at formation of a favourable image of older people, educating the responsibility of the society for older people, children and youth perception about the contribution of older people to the public life.</p> <p>More than 40 reports were submitted to the mass media on the issues urgent to older people: about the increase of state supported income and base pension, quality of social services and their development, support to the organisations of older people, social care, fight against poverty and social exclusion measures and poverty and social exclusion reduction measures, reimbursement of not paid Sodra pensions in 2001-2002 for working pensioners, Sodra pensions taking into consideration the period-of-service and not recalculated pension increase, results mitigating the consequences of ageing of the population, Sodra widow’s pensions reform, the European Code of Social Security, etc. These reports were published in the website of the Ministry of Social security and Labour.</p> <p>Active cooperation was ensured with the publications dedicated to older people “Senjorų žodis” and “Lietuvos Bočiai”.</p> <p>In 2007, it is the third year in succession in Lithuania when the international day of older people is commemorated and the Ministry of Social Security and Labour initiates its inclusion in the list of commemorated days, by recognising the 1<sup>st</sup> of October the International Day of Older People. Both the mass media and the society are promoted to attract attention to this day so as to commemorate it in different forms and pay worthy respect to older people, promote the solidarity of generations.</p>
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	<p>4.5.3. To approve and implement the National Antidiscrimination Programme for 2006-2008 and to ensure the implementation of the provisions set forth in legal acts specifying the non-discrimination and equal opportunities despite the age, sex orientation, disability, racial or ethnical origin, religion or beliefs, to educate the tolerance of the society, to inform the society on equality and non-discrimination, protection measures of equal opportunities.</p>	<p>Implementing the National Anti-discrimination Programme for 2006-2008 (<i>The Official Gazette</i>, 2006, Nr. 100-3872) approved by the Resolution No 907 of 19 September 2006 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour has implemented the following implementing measures of the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) has conducted a research “Analysis of the Labour Laws Valid in Lithuania from the Point of View of Non-Discrimination” where proposals and recommendations for the improvement of legal acts are presented;</li> <li>b) prepared and printed articles about the discrimination manifestations and equal opportunities in the newspapers “Valstiečių laikraštis” and “Lietuvos rytas”. The articles were published on the occasion of the International Day of the Disabled and the Day of Human Rights. The information was also placed on the Internet site of the ministry;</li> <li>c) prepared and published 2,000 copies of publication “Different but Equal in the Society and Working Place” that was distributed for labour market institutions, education institutions and municipalities. The publication was prepared by the researchers group of the Vilnius University;</li> <li>d) information published on the Internet site of the ministry, distributed at the conferences dedicated to commemorate the international day of the disabled;</li> <li>e) together with the Lithuanian Labour Market Training Authority under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour organised two-day training for labour market institutions that were attended by about 70 representatives from labour market institutions. During the training the representatives from labour market institutions obtained knowledge about the forms of discrimination, equal opportunities to acquire profession and job;</li> <li>f) together with the Equal Opportunities Ombudsman Office organised training consisting of two parts for representatives from the trade unions and non-governmental organisations that were attended by about 60 persons. During the training, the knowledge about discrimination forms was delivered, the European Union and national legal acts preventing discrimination.</li> </ul> <p>At present a draft of the National Anti-discrimination Programme for 2009-2011 is in the process of elaboration.</p>
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	<p>4.5.4. To increase the opportunities of women to hold managing positions and participate in decision-making process of political economic decisions and stimulate women's motivation to take an active part in the public and political life.</p>	<p>In 2007, together with the Kaunas Women Employment Information Centre three seminars were arranged "Induce Women to Participate in Taking Economic and Political Decisions". 140 participants attended the seminars.</p> <p>In 2006-2007, together with the Kaunas Women Employment Information Centre five seminars were arranged from a seminar cycle "Equal Representation to Gender in Taking Decisions on the Local Self-Governance Level". 121 participants attended the seminars.</p>
	<p>4.5.5. To stimulate the cooperation of state and municipal institutions and non-governmental organisations assuring gender equality and to strengthen abilities of workers, civil servants, law and justice servants, law and justice officers, environmental specialists abilities to ensure equal opportunities of women and men.</p>	<p>In 2006, the qualification improvement training was organised for the officers and employees of the Ministry of Environment and its subordinate institutions on equal gender issues and round table discussions with the Equal Opportunities Ombudsman Office. 56 persons participated in the training. While improving the qualification of civil servants at the Ministry of Interior and its subordinate institutions on the issues of equal opportunities of women and men, 9 training courses were organised that were attended by 100 participants.</p> <p>In 2007, seeking to assess the actual situation of women and men the Ministry of Environment together with the Equal Opportunities Ombudsman Office 111 subordinate institutions prepared a questionnaire on the basis of which the data was collected by gender about the employees, managers, service penalties or employees having received bonuses, and employees left for child care or paternity leaves. 30 employees women from the Ministry of Transportation and 15 men took part in the seminar where various issues on gender equality were discussed: differences in work pay for men and women, vertical and horizontal segregation of labour market. 203 (142 women and 61 men) from the Ministry of Interior and its subordinate institutions participated in the conferences, seminars and qualification improvement training courses on equal opportunities of women and men.</p>

	<p>4.5.6. Seeking to attract the attention to poverty, exclusion and other urgent social problems to organise “Christian Social Week” by involving representatives from church, governing institutions and providers of social services.</p>	<p>The experience of the old Western European countries (Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, etc.) is absorbed in organising such Christian weeks, also the experience is shared with the representatives of these countries. More than 100 participants attended the event from 15 European Union states.</p> <p>The conference “Social Challenges to Lithuania” was held. Consequences of poverty, traditional Christian valuables, migration and other important problems were assessed, the input of each to reduce poverty and exclusion. The conference was attended by the representatives from the governing bodies, employers, churches; the actions of Christian organisations for the education of the society, development and development of social dialogue were discussed.</p> <p>It is envisaged to develop “Christian Social Week” so as it becomes a traditional event in Lithuania.</p>
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