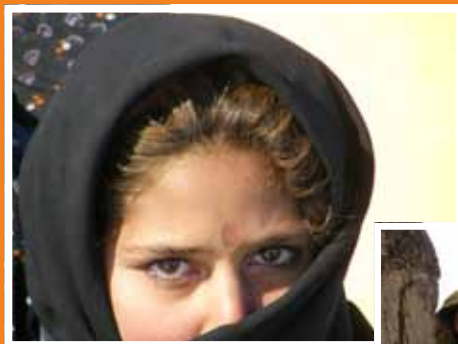




Lithuanian Development Cooperation Policy

2009



Lithuania - a short way from successful recipient to considerate donor.



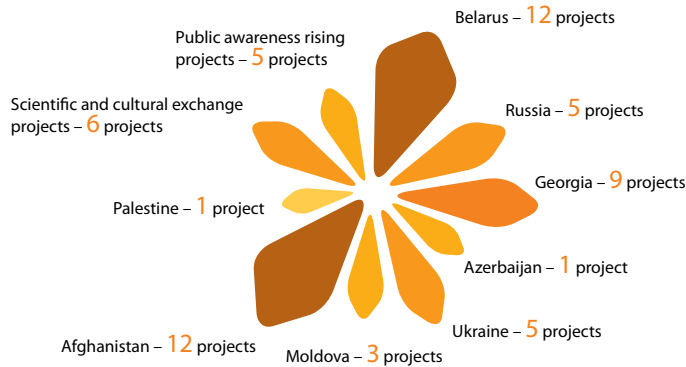
Lithuania's development cooperation is concentrated in those areas where we have a comparative advantage because of recent history: experience in democratic reform, strengthening of civil society and establishing a properly functioning market economy.

The decision of the Government of Lithuania on policy provisions of development cooperation in 2006-2010 (June 8, 2006) establishes the priority areas of cooperation:

- Promotion of democracy and human rights
- Good governance and rule of law
- Sustainable development
- Education
- Protection of cultural heritage

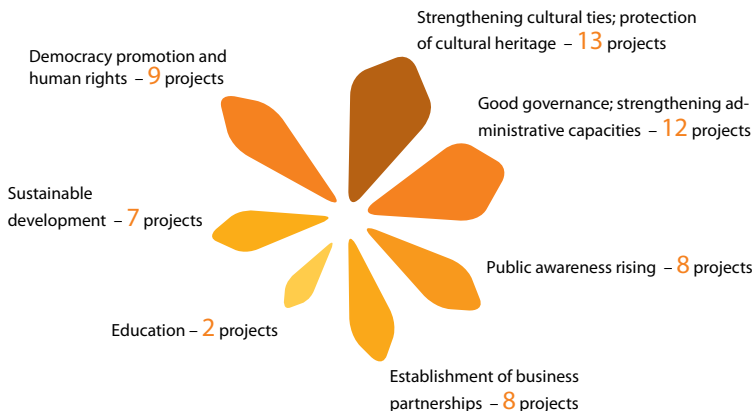
Besides, cooperation with NGOs in the fields of development education and public awareness rising is one of the priorities of Lithuania's Development Policy.

Lithuanian development cooperation projects by partner country 2009



In 2009 Lithuania implemented development cooperation projects mainly in Afghanistan (Province of Ghor), Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Also, with regard to the political priorities of the European Union, in 2009 bilateral and trilateral support was provided to Russia, Azerbaijan and Palestine.

Lithuanian development cooperation projects by priority sector 2009



Since 2005 Lithuania has been leading a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) of Ghor province in Afghanistan. Lithuania's main objective is to help Afghanistan become a secure, democratic and self-sufficient state.

Since 2006 in the province of Ghor Lithuania has been implementing development and reconstruction projects in the sectors of infrastructure, good governance, education, administrative capacity building, agriculture, healthcare and others.

Lithuania invites all partners to consider financial contribution to the capacity building, healthcare and sustainable social and economical development projects in Afghanistan (construction of Children Care Centre, Airport, reconstruction of Hospital and others).

Healthcare and sustainable social and economical development

The province of Ghor continues to have some of the most alarming health indicators. There is only one 70-bed hospital in the whole province of Ghor without reanimation, operation rooms, ambulance cars, equipment, heating nor water-supply. Lithuania finances the preparation of the technical project of the *Reception Room of the Hospital*, which is a precondition for the subsequent construction works.

The aim of the project *Children Care Center* of Chaghcharan is to design a new functional and inexpensive building for Chaghcharan children day care centre, capable of attending about 130 children.



Good governance and rule of law

The project *Public Administration reform of the Province of Ghor* aims to support the implementation of Public Administration Reform program in the province through delivery of training programs in fields of Management, English Language and Computer Basics for the purpose of building capacities of the governmental civil servants.

Education, protection of cultural heritage

The Province of Ghor less than 200 schools cover more than 1000 villages – it is one of the lowest indicators in Afghanistan. During the period of 2006-2008 Lithuania financed construction of 19 schools. 2600 books in *dari* and *pashtu* languages as well as computers and furniture were provided by Lithuania to the first public library in Chaghcharan. The children literature section of the library will be enriched by a series of books of Lithuanian fairytales in *dari* language, encouraging the young Afghans' interest in different cultures.

Since 2007, the first ever archaeological expeditions in the province of Ghor have revealed more than 20 unknown heritage objects.

In 2009, continuous project of Lithuanian scientists is concentrated on the promotion of protection of Afghanistan cultural valuables. The training for local Afghanistan heritage specialists was organized, visual material of Lithuanian archaeological missions and documentary photos of Ghor province were presented in the exhibitions in Afghanistan, Lithuania and other EU countries.



Belarus

The main objectives of Lithuania's Development Cooperation in Belarus are:

- Drawing Belarus closer to Europe through people-to-people contacts and cooperation between regions
- Strengthening civil society with a particular regard to youth

Lithuania-Belarus Regional Cooperation

The project *Development of Local-Self Government in Belarus* is aimed at sharing the Lithuania's experience with Belarus in the fields of establishment of associations of local and regional authorities, division of competence and interaction of State Administration departments and local authorities and management of finances of local self-governments.

The project *Strengthening the Business Partnership in Šiauliai and Gomel Regions* aims to promote favourable business environment in Belarus by motivating small and medium-size enterprises (SME), also by strengthening economic partnership and activating the regional cooperation between Šiauliai and Gomel areas.

Common Cultural-Historic Heritage

Building Bridges between Lithuanians and Belarusians seeks to highlight the European origins of Belarus and to strengthen the cultural relations between the two countries through music, living history, e.g. common Pagan folk traditions.



The project *Plain-Air of the Belarusian, Georgian, Ukrainian and Lithuanian artists* targets Belarusian intellectuals, as promoters of democratic ideas their societies. Group workshops of the four neighbouring countries give the unique possibility for the Belarusian artists to share their ideas and visions in the free and open environment.

European Humanities University

The European Humanities University (EHU) is a Belarusian university in exile closed by Belarusian authorities in 2004 and reopened in Vilnius in 2005. Lithuania has provided premises for the university and is making a yearly contribution to the EHU Trust Fund. Today EHU is providing university education for more than 2000 Belarusian students. As a complementary activity, the programme *Leadership Academy for Belarusians Students* and the *Lithuanian Language and Culture Studies* for EHU students, professors and staff members is being implemented. The programme aims to raise youth self-awareness and help the future leaders to embrace democratic values.



Georgia

Priority areas:

- Cooperation between regions;
- Good governance and the rule of law.

Support for the reconstruction of Georgia

Project *Strengthening competence and social capacities of Georgian municipalities: development of infrastructure and imparting Lithuanian regional practice* aims to develop the infrastructure in Georgia's regions. The project includes the renovation of youth art school in Khulo, youth cinema in Kobuleti, youth centre in Terjola and the supply of necessary equipment to Tsalenjikha youth centre.

Regional collaboration project offers tangible support in the development of Guria region via education of competencies of civil servants working at regional and local levels. Lithuanian regional and local government entities (specifically from Panevėžys region) share their skills in the preparation of projects in such areas as „green field“ investment, water supply and cleaning, hard waste utilization, school renovation, adaptation of territories and cultural objects for recreation and tourism, provision of social services.

At the beginning of August, 2008, military conflict between Georgia and Russia caused the ravage in broken buildings and lives of Georgian society: many people were killed, injured, forced to leave their homes. It is well-known, that 30-50 percent of trauma victims suffer from the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The main objectives of the project *Development of community mental health services in Georgia* is to introduce community mental health services in Gori and buffer zones and to promote the participatory approach for family members.



Strengthening of administrative capacity of state institutions

Administrative capacity strengthening project *PEGAS* is a targeted initiative to provide technical assistance in preparation of Georgian governance decentralisation strategy. The Georgian decentralisation reform initiators and strategic documentation drafters are consulted by Lithuanian experts and receive adequate training.

Lithuania implements projects supporting Moldova's efforts to deepen its integration with Europe.

European Integration Studies Centre (EISC), established a branch office in Chisinau in 2007 and from then on is providing Moldovan society with information about integration into the EU and passing Lithuanian experience to the Moldovan side. In 2009 *EISC* has arranged lectures by prominent Lithuanian experts in Moldavian towns of Cahul, Belci and Komrat.

Lithuanian Custom's Department implements a technical assistance project: helping Moldovan Customs to adjust national legal basis on valuation to EU legal acts and enhance the valuation control system taking into account the best experience and standards of EU Member States.



Priority areas:

- Support to integration with the EU;
- Cooperation between regions.

Ukraine's integration into European community

The project *Development of Ukrainian labour and social security system* contributes to the Ukrainian labour and social policy development. The experts from the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania share their best practices with the Ukrainian specialists in areas such as formation of labour inspection policy of Ukraine and preparation of Ukrainian specialists, who are working directly in the field of EU integration.



European Integration Studies Centre (EISC) with branch offices in Lviv and Donetsk, Lutsk, Kharkiv and Crimea region acts as a facilitator of transferring the knowledge on EU to the local population.

Cooperation between regions

In 2009 this cooperation is focused on regional business sector. Contacts between relevant Telšiai - Crimea, and Tauragė - Ternopilis institutions benefit the business environment in Ukrainian regions and enhance their capacity to cope with the economic crisis.

Promotion of Scientific Cooperation and Cultural Exchange

Scientific cooperation and Cultural exchange projects seek to promote cooperation among scientists of Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine in scientific research of the heritage of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and to develop a dialog-orientated consciousness of scientists and cultural activists.



The goal of such projects is enable the two partner countries to rediscover their European past and to promote a sense of community in this part of Europe.



LITHUANIAN
DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION

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