

# Policy Recommendations – Lithuania

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## Generation 0101 – Intellectual Output O2

Policy Level:

National

Policy Issue:

Digital Literacy

Recommendations:

Digital skills as transversal skills for life and employment should be promoted in formal and non- formal education and training environments as a key tool for young people education and further employment perspectives. IT skills should be combined with communication and working competencies, including critical thinking, problem solving skills, creativity, communication, civic competencies and cultural expression.

Rationale:

*What:*

Digital literacy is a complex set of 21st century literacy practices covering computer literacy, network literacy, information literacy and social media literacy; a means of enhancing inclusion, knowledge, skills and critical attitudes to information, culture and co-operation and a mechanism for all people to access, create and innovate.

*Why:*

With the rapid rise of digital technology and its increasing use in business, education and culture, it is important to ensure everyone can understand and engage with digital skills. Digital literacy is vital for economic growth and job creation. 45 per cent of enterprises in Lithuania faced difficulties seeking employees with sufficient ICT skills (2014). Half of youth assess their ICT knowledge as insufficient in the key productivity areas. Promoting digital technologies can be a key driver of competitiveness and innovation in the media, information, and communication technology sectors.

*Who:*

National Digital Coalition in Lithuania as a whole including its' particular members such as responsible for education policies and implementation government institutions, formal and non-formal vocational training organizations, associations and NGO's.

*Where:*

Youth ICT literacy related activities can be carried out in both formal and non-formal educational organisations, NGOs and public libraries, PIAPs as well as in the strategic planning level institutions.

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*How:*

The following recommendations are based on current ICT sector analysis in Lithuania.

**1. Young people have to be informed on ICT skills necessary to fulfil work tasks** in most job places and have ability to access resources to obtain/improve them. Develop the necessary ICT knowledge for jobs standards, make opportunities and tools for youth to discover their readiness for work, use them in career guidance activities. Develop and promote ICT knowledge recognition and certification models.

**2. Formal education must focus into ICT productivity skills according market needs, not in technology only.** Update ICT education program for schools as well as computer literacy standard focusing on necessary ICT skills in the labour market. Encourage education system subjects to know labour market needs as well as co-operate with the employers more closely.

**3. More support must be given to non-formal training organizations that ensure filling gaps in ICT skills** and encourage formal vocational institutions to contribute to this life-long learning process providing open courses. Encourage to use widely mass forms of training courses as distance education and MOOC. Develop and implement fast ICT specialists training and re-training models.

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