Standard Summary Project Fiche
Project Number LT 01/07/02
Twinning Number LT 2001/IB/JH/02

1. Basic Information

1.1. Désirée No.

1.2. Title
Strengthening the Capacity of Lithuania’s Judiciary

1.3. Sector
Justice and Home Affairs/Reinforcement of Administrative and Judicial Capacity

1.4. Location
Lithuania, Ministry of Justice, Department of Courts at the Ministry of Justice

2. Objectives

2.1. Overall Objective
The overall objective of this € 2.2 million institution building and investment project, which has a national co-financing contribution of € 0.4 million, is Lithuania’s judiciary operating in full compliance with the Acquis.

2.2. Project Purpose
- Lithuanian judges apply Community law in the area of judicial co-operation in criminal and civil matters competently.
- The Lithuanian courts system operates efficiently.

2.3. Accession Partnership and NPAA Priorities
The project is reflecting both short-term justice and home affairs priorities and medium-term priorities concerning the reinforcement of administrative and judicial capacity as stated in the Accession Partnership of December 1999.

The project is also reflecting key NPAA priorities concerning the role of the judiciary in the fields of democracy and the rule of law. The improvement of the qualification of Lithuanian judges and the computerisation of courts are dealt with in chapter 1.2 of the May 2000 NPAA.

3. Description

3.1. Background and Justification
In the Regular Report of October 1999, the Commission stated that further efforts would be necessary to reduce the backlog of court cases in Lithuania. An indicator of this backlog, which clearly emphasises the need of more cost-effective case handling, is that the case-load of the judges have increased by almost 40% in the period of 1995-1999.

According to the Regular Report, computerisation of courts needs to be introduced and proper documentation centres established. Computerisation would facilitate the use of simple, yet effective key-numbers to follow up the activities of the courts. Examples of such key-numbers are the average costs of various kinds of cases and - from the citizens' perspective - the average time they need to wait for a decision from a court. Also, the changes in the average number of balanced cases per judge can im-
mediately be seen and measures can be taken if needed. Computerised courts also give a foundation for making case law available to the citizens.

Other areas that still need attention are the fight against corruption and continued reform of the judiciary.

3.2. Linked Activities

Since 1999, Lithuania has accelerated the reform of its judiciary. Three lines of action have been pursued, namely the development of the national legal system, a systematic strengthening of the courts’ administration, and the training of judges, bailiffs and other court staff. All three have benefited from international support.

The training of Lithuanian judges has been particularly important. In 1999 alone, 119 different training courses on different subjects of law were conducted at the Judicial Training Centre, training some 2,800 participants. The training work has been or is being assisted by TAIEX, the ADACS programme of the Council of Europe, a range of bilateral agencies, and the following Phare interventions:

- The project Support for European Integration in Lithuania (SEIL), which provided Phare support to the development of an overall training strategy for the Lithuanian judiciary.
- The horizontal Phare programme no. ZZ9910.02.01 on Developing Judicial Co-operation in Criminal Matters in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, which is assisting the Baltic States in formulating National Action Plans (NAP) and in international judicial co-operation concerning penal matters. Improvement of legislation, institutional reforms and training are foreseen to adopt practices and standards in line with the Acquis.
- A 1998 Twinning Project (LI/IB/JH/01) with Germany and Sweden, which is completed. The project has provided Lithuania’s judges with training in the main subject areas required by Lithuania’s EU accession.
- A 2000 Twinning Project (LT 2000/IB/FI/01) foresees training of all judges, who are involved in hearing on bankruptcy cases.

Serious attention has also been given to professional training in a project with the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation. Some 30 judges of different Courts were trained during the second half of 1999 alone.

In the line of strengthening the courts’ administration, the data processing capacity of the Lithuanian court system has been enhanced in the field of court statistics by a 1999-2001 bilateral project with Sweden (a co-operation of the Department of Courts at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania and the Swedish National Courts Administration). This project, in which a pre-study is going on, can be expected to continue in 2001 partly as a bridging project to the now proposed PHARE-project. Activities planned in 2001 are:

- evaluation of the present systems and of the technical environment in the courts;
- preparatory work of an IT-strategy for the courts;
- planning of a pilot project as a basis for the continued work.

3.3. Results

- Approximately 40 trainers trained for the application of Acquis in the area of judicial co-operation in criminal and civil matters including legal and regulatory needs, operational procedures, and technical demands.
• Approximately 100 prosecutors trained in the area of judicial co-operation in criminal matters (extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of sentenced persons, transfer of proceedings, etc.).
• The Lithuanian legislation in the field of judicial co-operation in criminal and civil matters is compatible with Acquis in this field.
• Computerised courts administration system in place and operational.
• At least one person in each court has been given extensive training on the IT-systems operated and of the administration of these systems.

3.4. Activities

The project will be carried out with one twinning operation and one technical assistance contract, plus an appropriate number of supply contracts.

3.4.1. Twinning and Training Package

Guaranteed results/Expected outputs:
The twinning arrangement will provide the framework for the professional implementation of the whole project. It will build on the results of the 1998 Twinning Project with Sweden and Germany. Similarly, the results of the project of training of judges and the development of the judicial co-operation in criminal matters in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will be taken into account.

The following output is expected:
• A programme for the training of Lithuanian judges and prosecutors in Acquis-related subjects in place. The concerned Lithuanian authorities would be able to operate the programme without external support.
• Draft legislation for the fields of judicial co-operation in criminal and civil matters is fully compatible with the Acquis in this field.

Scope of the twinning (task of the PAAs)
The PAA will assist in:
• Developing the training programme for Lithuanian judges and prosecutors focusing on training in judicial co-operation in civil and criminal matters
• Carrying out the training programme including advising on institutional, organisational and procedural issues
• Organising legislative expertise on draft legislation as well as on legislation in force, with the view of its compatibility with Acquis in the area of judicial cooperation in civil as well as in criminal matters.

Required inputs:
The twinning institution has to be experienced in advising institutions charged with the training of judges and prosecutors and in managing change. It should be well acquainted with the reforms that are being carried out in the accession countries, especially in the topics concerned. The twinning institution must be closely linked to, or even be within the structures of the governmental administration of a EU member state.

There will be one Pre-Accession Adviser. PAA will spend the time specified in the Technical Covenant necessary for implementation of its tasks at the Lithuanian Ministry of Justice. The PAA will start as soon as possible, but not later than in the third quarter of 2002.

PAA will possess the following qualifications:
• Strong administrative skills;
• Good knowledge of the judicial co-operation Acquis in the area of criminal and civil matters;
• Experience of working with the practical administration and implementation of the Acquis in the area of judicial co-operation in criminal and civil matters will be an advantage;
• Experience in training of judges and prosecutors in judicial fields will be an advantage;
• Fluency in English (written and spoken).

Short and medium term experts
A pool of experts for about 25 person/months will support the project. Their profiles will include proven skills in the following fields:
• Training needs analyses;
• Co-ordination of training schemes covering both judicial subjects and data processing;
• Training trainers in the application of Acquis in the area of judicial co-operation in criminal and civil matters: legal and regulatory needs, operational procedures, data processing, etc.;
• Training of prosecutors in application of Acquis in the area of judicial co-operation in criminal matters;
• Making legislative expertise of the draft Lithuanian legislation as well as on legislation in force with the view of its compatibility with Acquis in the area of Judicial Co-operation in criminal and civil matters;
• Information technology concerning court activities.

Other services will include interpretation and translation, and documentation including the printing and circulation of operating manuals and other documents produced by the project.

Operating environment of the twinning
The new Lithuanian Law on Courts, which will determine the operating environment for the project, is expected to be enacted by Seimas by the end of 2001. The Law will re-establish the present Department of Courts as an independent institution. Notwithstanding, the Ministry of Justice will be the Lithuanian twinning partner in this project until that date.

The Lithuanian Twinning partner will make office accommodation and the usual office equipment permanently available to the project. The Lithuanian Twinning partner will also contribute to covering the expenses of local travel of participants of the seminars, and, as far as possible, expenses of seminars in Lithuania.

The Department of Courts, the General Prosecutor Office, and the Training Centre for Prosecutors will assist the Ministry of Justice in organising seminars devoted to judges and prosecutors.

3.4.2. Technical Assistance Component Technical assistance will assist the beneficiary in preparation of the technical specifications and tender documents for investment component (court computerisation).
The company will provide an experienced IT/IS specialist(s), who will possess knowledge in data processing and communication equipment. The expert(s) will assist Lithuanian authorities in preparing Tender Dossier, shall participate in the tender procedures up to the signature of the supply contract, participate and if necessary provide assistance in testing procedures, by the end of the project ensure that system is effectively operational.

The supply of Technical Assistance will not require a permanent presence of expert(s).

### 3.4.3. Investment Component

The investment component will comprise the following elements:

- Procurement of hardware (servers, backup systems, uninterruptable power supply systems, server operation systems) that is necessary for building information exchange network;
- Procurement of applications for:
  - Registration information about cases (civil, criminal, administrative) being heard;
  - Automated courts statistical system;
  - Preparation and registration outgoing and incoming court documents;
  - Search, exchange, retrieval information in state registries (registry of legal acts, registry of persons, enterprises, etc.), databases of other law enforcement institutions (e.g. police, prosecutors and etc.) and state institutions;
  - Search and exchange information with courts of higher and lower instance;
  - Search on established practice produced by the Supreme Court of Lithuania;
- Procurement of communication equipment for connecting computers into local area networks (LAN) in each court and interconnecting of LANs into corporate network of courts system. When connecting the computers of the court system into corporate network, it is very important to ensure the safety of the data stored in databases and transmitted over the network as these datum are often related to private persons or is the data of state registers. The laws of the Republic of Lithuania regulate the protection of this datum and other legal acts. Therefore, it is planned to create a closed corporate network of the court system with one gateway to the Internet protected against outside break-ins by firewall.
- Training of judges and other court staff to improve their habit to work with computers and with developed applications.

The results of the investment component are specified in annex 5. Specifications are based on existing technologies. When preparing the tenders documents the technologies and equipment available at that moment will be taken into account.

### 4. Institutional Framework

The Ministry of Justice will be the overall co-ordinator of the project. The Ministry will set up practical arrangements for managing and steering the project.

According to Lithuanian Law, the Minister of Justice shall arrange for the improvement of the qualification of judges. In 1997, the Training Centre for Lithuania Judges has been established to provide continuous training for judges.

The current Law on Courts charges the Ministry of Justice also with providing finance and equipment to district courts, county courts, and the Court of Appeal. In June
1998, the Government established the Department of Courts at the Ministry of Justice to carry out these assignments. The Department employed a staff of 44 persons until January 1, 2001 when the Department was re-organised and activities concerning the bailiff offices were excluded. The Department employs a staff of 17 persons today. The staff will be increased again after the new edition of the Law of Courts will take place. The Ministry of Justice assisted by the Department of Courts organises and coordinates the training of judges. Other principal tasks of the Department include:

- Planning the location of court institutions and the number of judges in courts;
- Implementing the organisational measures concerning the supervision of the administration of courts.

The General Prosecutor’s Office is responsible for the training of prosecutors. The Training Centre for prosecutors was established in 1994. It is fully functional and suitable for prosecutors training sessions foreseen in this project.

Concerning the investment component of the project, the Ministry of Justice will be the technical supervisor and the owner of the assets after project completion (See paragraph 12 “Conditionality”). The Lithuanian side obligates itself to cover future running costs of the purchased equipment. To this effect, adequate allocations will be made in the budget of the Ministry of Justice and other institutions, responsible for administration of courts.

5. **Budget (in € million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Components</th>
<th>Investment Support</th>
<th>Institution Building</th>
<th>Total Phare (I + IB)</th>
<th>National Co-financing*</th>
<th>IFI</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twinning and Training Package</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<td>2.2</td>
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</table>

*) The national co-financing part is included in the state investment programme for the year 2001-2003 in the section of the Ministry of Justice. The creation of the information system of courts is given first priority.

The Phare amount is binding as a maximum amount available for the project. The ratio between the Phare and national co-finance amounts is also binding and has to be applied to the final contract price. The national co-financing commitment is a tax-excluded net amount.

6. **Implementation Arrangements**

6.1. **Implementing Agency**

Contracting Authority for Twinning and Investment components will be CFCU.

**PAO:** Žilvinas Pajarskas, Head of the CFCU, Ministry of Finance

**Address:** J. Tumo-Vaižganto str. **Telephone:** +370 2 791487

**8*/2, 2600 Vilnius,** Fax: +370 2 225335
For the Twinning component
SPO: Darius Žilys, Director of the Department of International Law and European Integration (provisional SPO)
Address: Gedimino av. 30/1, LT-2600 Vilnius, Lithuania
Telephone: + 370 2 622 910
Fax: + 370 2 625 940
E-mail: Dzil@tic.lt

For the Investment and Technical Assistance Component of the Project
SPO: Romas Laurinavicius, Deputy director of the Department of Courts at the Ministry of Justice (provisional SPO)
Address: Gedimino av. 30/1, LT-2600 Vilnius, Lithuania
Telephone: + 370 2 624 138
Fax: + 370 2 226 489
E-mail: Romasl@teismai.lt

6.2. Twinning
The Ministry of Justice will be beneficiary institution of the twinning project. Operationally, the project will be attached to the Ministry of Justice. The Department of Courts, the General Prosecutor Office, and the Training Centre for Prosecutors will assist the Ministry of Justice in organising seminars devoted to judges and prosecutors.

6.3. Non-standard aspects
There are no non-standards aspects, PRAG rules and Twinning Manual will be applied in full to relevant contracts.

6.4. Contracts
There will be three tenders in this project: The Twinning Covenant has a value of 0.45 MEUR. The Technical Assistance contract for procurement has value of 0.15 MEUR. The expected cost of the supply contract(s) is 1.6 MEUR (including national co-financing of 0.4 MEUR).

7. Implementation Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Start of Tendering</th>
<th>Start of Project Activity</th>
<th>Project Completion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twinning</td>
<td>4Q/01</td>
<td>3Q/02</td>
<td>2Q/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TA for tender preparation and procurement</td>
<td>1Q/02</td>
<td>3Q/02</td>
<td>1Q/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>3Q/02</td>
<td>2Q/03</td>
<td>1Q/04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Equal Opportunity
All judges regardless of gender or other characteristics will be provided with training. Similarly, the implementation and operation of the informatics component will respect equal opportunity rules.
9. **Environment**

The project does not justify an environmental impact assessment. Environmental aspects (e.g. radiation video screens) shall be considered in the course of drafting the technical specification.

10. **Rates of Return**

The investment component of the project supports Institution Building activities that do not lend themselves to rates of return calculations.

11. **Investment Criteria**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11.1. Catalytic effect:</th>
<th>The project will finance activities that will help the Lithuanian judiciary to comply with the Acquis. Without Phare support, full compliance could be achieved only much later.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.2. Co-financing:</td>
<td>Lithuanian government institutions will contribute 25 percent of the cost of the investment component of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.3. Additionality:</td>
<td>No other financiers will be displaced by the Phare intervention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.4. Project readiness and size:</td>
<td>The necessary strategic studies have been completed. Preparation for Phare tendering and contracting can commence immediately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.5. Sustainability:</td>
<td>Relevant government policies ensure sustainability. All beneficiary institutions are in a position to operate the project and the procured equipment effectively in the long run. Funds for the operation will be provided by the central budget.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.6. Compliance with state aids provisions:</td>
<td>The investment will respect the state aids provisions of the Europe Agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.7. Contribution to National Development Plan:</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. **Conditionality and sequencing**

It is clear that establishment of computerised court system will require additional training of the personnel that it is supposed to perform functions using this newly established system. Therefore, it will be required that either the company that is the winner of the tender or the institution, which will be responsible for administration or management of the created computerised system, will have to provide basic training for personnel of the courts. The Lithuanian part commits itself to undertake the training of the personnel forking with created computerised system, in future if needed.

It is understood that for proper functioning of the system in future, the allocations of financial resources will be needed in order to sustain, support and further develop system. Therefore, the institution, that will responsible for management of the system, will have to secure fund for that purpose.

It is also obvious that without sufficient human resources neither implementation of this project nor sustainability of the created computerised system can be guaranteed. Therefore, the Lithuanian part must and will ensure that sufficient human resources are allocated for implementation of this project and for sustainability and support of the system, after completion of the project.

**Annexes to project Fiche**

1. Logical framework matrix in standard format
2. Detailed implementation chart
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule
4. Reference to feasibility/pre-feasibility studies
5. Specifications of investment
6. Description of situation as regards reforms in institutional framework
Annex 1

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project:</th>
<th>Programme Name:</th>
<th>Lithuania’s Judiciary</th>
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<td></td>
<td>PHARE AP 2001</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number: LT 01 07 02</td>
<td>Disbursement Period Expires 3Q 2004</td>
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<td>Contracting Period Expires 3Q 2003</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Budget: € 2.2 Million</td>
<td>Phare Budget: € 1.8 Million</td>
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</table>

**Programme Name:** PHARE AP 2001
**Number:** LT 01 07 02
**Lithuania’s Judiciary Contracting Period Expires 3Q 2003**
**Disbursement Period Expires 3Q 2004**

**Total Budget:** € 2.2 Million
**Phare Budget:** € 1.8 Million

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**Overall Objective**

Lithuania’s judiciary operates in full compliance with the Acquis

**Objectively Verifiable Indicators:**
- Improved rating in Regular Reports and Joint Assessment in all areas covered by the project

**Source of Verification**
- Government reports
- Commission reports

**Assumptions**
- Political will to join the European Union maintained

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**Project Purpose:**
- All Lithuanian judges apply Community law competently
- The Lithuanian courts system operates efficiently

**Objectively Verifiable Indicators:**
- Number of successful appeals similar or better than in comparable Member States
- Backlog of court rulings similar or less than in comparable Member States

**Source of Verification**
- Statistical data on the work of courts

**Assumptions**
- No resistance by the target group against operating an automated court data system

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**Results**

- The considerable number of Lithuanian judges fully conversant with relevant fields of Acquis.
- Informatics support system of the Lithuanian courts fully operational

**Objectively Verifiable Indicators:**
- The considerable number of Lithuanian judges passed throughout the training programme
- Corporate network of Lithuania courts system built

**Source of Verification:**
- Project reports of the stakeholders

**Assumptions**
- Training package produced by the twinning component found highly attractive by target group
- Appropriate physical infrastructure for the data processing system available

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**Activities**

- Twinning component covering the training of judges
- Supply contract covering the purchase of the courts informatics system

**Means:**
- € 1.8 million of Phare support to be matched by a co-finance contribution of € 0.4 million from the state budget

**Source of Verification:**
- Project reports of the stakeholders

**Assumptions**
- High quality project management
- All finance contributions available when required

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**Preconditions**

- High quality project management
- All finance contributions available when required
Annex 2

**Detailed Implementation Chart for the Project**

**Strengthening the Capacity of Lithuania's Judiciary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Twinning**
- **TA for tender preparation and procurement**
- **Supply**

![Diagram of Implementation Chart]

- **Design**
- **Tendering**
- **Implementation**
Annex 3

CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE (Phare Contribution only - € Million)

Strengthening the Capacity of Lithuania’s Judiciary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31/12</td>
<td>31/03</td>
<td>30/06</td>
<td>31/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting</td>
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<td>1.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total contracting (cumulative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twinning</td>
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<td>Equipment Supply</td>
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<td>0.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total disbursement (cumulative)</td>
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<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Reference to feasibility /pre-feasibility studies

Strengthening the Capacity of Lithuania’s Judiciary

First of all the general advantages of court’s computerisation have to be taken into account. Automated systems and the information network provide several advantages. First, working conditions in courts improve. Secondly, the whole system of courts solidifies. Thirdly, conditions for a closer co-operation and information exchange with foreign courts and other international institutions are established.

Moreover as an organisation, a court faces several problems in the process of its work, which could be solved or reduced by a technological modernisation. The main of which are the following:

More focused attention to work

Upon computerisation of courts, workload of judges will reduce, i.e. they will be able to pay more attention to the performance of their direct duties, and less time will be spent on various bureaucratic procedures. Some case modules will even have a possibility to prompt a judge on application of laws. Record office employees of courts will also use software, which will help to optimise their work.

Conditions for a closer co-operation

Connecting to the global VIKT network and opportunities to access other international computer networks will lay preconditions for a closer co-operation with foreign partners. It makes it easier to gain international experience, i.e. to improve qualification for separate employees and to use it in judicial practice as well as for judicial co-operation.

Increase of external demand of information on courts

Legislative institutions, the Supreme Court of Lithuania and executive institutions, as well as the public are increasing their requests of information on courts. Courts seem to fail to meet such a growing demand, and the pressure to provide information, which is simply unavailable, rests on shoulders of judges and court staff. This tends to create unhealthy atmosphere in courts and forms unfavourable public opinion on courts.

Data vacuum

Court staff works and makes decisions based on information not knowing which parts of the case function in full and which in part. Furthermore, communication and information sharing among institutions is obstructed by absence of a global network. Only Ministry of Justice has an access to the VIKT network and the INTERNET. Courts have no access to any global networks. Data is communicated by electronic mail (cc-mail or e-mail). Therefore, the computerisation of courts would create preconditions for the setting up a various data bases and electronic documentation centres, containing legal information needed for judges and courts. The computerisation of courts would also create possibilities for judges to acknowledge with jurisprudence of various international judicial institutions (e.g. the Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg and etc.).
Moreover, computerisation of courts would allow for future unification of judicial practice in Lithuanian courts. The Supreme Court is only one court in Lithuania having a power to interpret legislation and to give compulsory interpretation to the courts on legal issue. Moreover, the Supreme Court creates uniform judicial practice by giving decisions in appeals on a cause of law. The decisions of the Supreme Court are stored in the electronic form in the database of Supreme Court, which could be acceded via INTERNET.

**Increasing of information accessibility**

The computer will allow an unlimited number of users to refer to the computer information in various ways and at the same time, even though the information is stored in one place. Automation will also facilitate data communication among the Ministry of Justice and institutions in communicating with domestic and foreign partners.

**Enhancement of organisational integration**

Most of court procedures depend on information. The computer will help integrate organisational elements of the system of court and Lithuanian courts, by disseminating the information among various units and divisions. These organisational units will become more independent and less isolated in functional terms, as they interact among themselves and depend on each other's operations.

**Improving qualification of court staff**

Court employees and judges who are trained and can work with various hardware and software equipment will acquire additional skills, which are vital in modern organisations. A computerised court, in fact, becomes a modern institution. In a sense there will be a continue training of judges by themselves.

**Overloaded staff**

The increasing workload makes court staff provide answers to the increasing number of inquiries, review case materials, archives of cases and other sources. Various systems of magazines and card-files prove unreliable, because sometimes information disappears, the search for information tends to result in procrastination and delays. Such situations generally entail poor work results and service quality (many pending cases, possibility to make mistakes), low motivation of staff and deteriorating work satisfaction. Therefore, courts will became more open to the public and computerisation would enhance publicity. Information concerning the work of judicial system easily accessible by the public should improve the public image of the court system and should increase the trust of media and citizens.

**More accurate statistics, research, control, recommendations**

Calculation is the strong asset of the computer operations. It may calculate and analyse the data in the way which, doing manually, would be very expensive and intensive labour demanding. On the basis of such information and data analyses, judicial procedures, their planning within the ministry and formation of policies throughout of the whole of Lithuania may be improved. Moreover, with extensive workload, daily duties overshadow reporting duties of courts.
Therefore, reports are produced with delays and they tend to be incomplete and sometimes incorrect. This, subsequently, reduces possibility to identify drawbacks of the system. Moreover, provision of information and statistical reports is very problematic. Internal processing of paperwork takes a lot of staffs’ time. Each out of 54 district courts has one computer which processes and sends, by e-mail, statistical information to the Ministry of Justice and receives legal acts from the CLI.

The measures mentioned above would allow for better administration of courts. The Ministry of Justice or other institutions dealing with court’s administration would have much clearer view on the ways and methods to be used to achieve more efficient administration.

**Increased efficiency**

Information stored in the computer makes it possible to perform functions and achieve results, which would prove impossible otherwise. Reorganisation of work through the use of modern hardware and software not only consolidates the work of courts, but will also exert a positive influence on the work of other law-enforcement institutions.

**Problems of management of the case processing system on the rise**

Due to the big number of cases, it is difficult to dissent complexity and individuality of cases. Hearing of cases may take up months, or sometimes years. Public dissatisfaction with the slow handling of cases grows, and that is sometimes ill-used by attorneys, police, prosecutors, as well as other concerned persons, through manipulations with drawbacks of the system.

**Repetitive entry of data**

With a case in a court, the need to include new names, to make entries of names, addresses and other data into various journals, cases and archives, and if the case is sent from one court division to another or from one court and to another court, increases. In the long term, and with the increasing number of cases, this paralyses the work of court staff. The work process becomes inefficient, time and attention expenditures.
Annex 5

Specifications of investment

LAN and LAN Internetworking installation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of institutions</th>
<th>Department of Courts</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Price (€)</th>
<th>Total for the purpose (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAN equipment (HUBs, cables, channels etc.) and installation works*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>68 (880PC)</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central server</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local servers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>5430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication equipment (Frame Relay routers or equivalent))</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>7,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewall (hardware and software)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - The evaluating the price of the LAN equipment and installation costs we estimate in our expert opinion that it will cost 255 EUR to link each computer in the LAN (including all the technical equipment and labour costs)

Developed software

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main modules for information registration</th>
<th>Creation costs, (€)</th>
<th>Distribution, training and maintenance costs, (€)</th>
<th>Total for the purpose, (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creation of databases on civil, criminal and administrative cases; creation of databases on defendant and convicted persons; creation of database of judicial practice; applications for work with mentioned databases; modules for information exchange between courts of different level; modules for search established practice in Supreme Court publications; modules for gathering and accounting statistical data; modules for preparation and registration of incoming and outgoing institutions documents</td>
<td>171,430</td>
<td>85,715</td>
<td>257,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total investment support: 1,592,160
Annex 6

Description of situation as regards reforms in institutional framework

The institutional arrangements described in section 3.4.1 will be confirmed by a separate memorandum of understanding.

The amendments to the Law on Courts, which concerned the powers of the Minister of Justice in administering courts are under preparation. The adoption of this law is planned in the course of this year. The draft law foresees substantial changes in the institutional set up of the administration of courts and judiciary in general. The draft law foresees reorganisation of the Courts Department into an independent institution called “Court’s Administration”, which might be assigned with responsibilities for shaping and implementation of policy for information technologies, measures of computer-technical and programming nature in the courts.

This authority will be completely independent from the executive power of the state. It is quite difficult to foreseen what could be exact set up of all institutional structure of the administration of courts. However, now the several possibilities are under discussion. One of them foresees that there will be Council of Judges and the Court Administration will perform a functions of secretariat. Another possibility foresees that there will be institution attached to the Supreme Court, which deals with court administration issues.

As it is mentioned in the decision of the Constitutional Court the questions related to training of judges and questions related to provisions of material-technical nature, which are of global and programic nature (e. g. courts computerisation and investments programme) are assigned with competence to the Ministry of Justice.

If an independent “Court’s Administration” is established under the new Law on Courts, this institution will be responsible for computerisation and information technologies in the court’s system, and will be the main beneficiary under this project for Technical Assistance component and Investment component.