



MINISTRY OF SCIENCE  
AND INFORMATION SOCIETY TECHNOLOGIES

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MINISTER

# **INFORMATION SOCIETY IN POLAND**

## **HOW FAR ARE WE?**

**XV ECONOMIC FORUM**

**KRYNICA, SEPTEMBER 2005**



**Our views on further Information Society developments fully agrees with the EC I2010 initiative, including the interpretation of „I”:**

- **I stands for the Information Space**  
creation of open and stable markets for electronic communication services and emerging digital economy
- **I stands for the Innovation and Investment in IST**  
deployment of IST-based services in ways that bring practical benefits to citizens while raising the pace of innovation in products and services
- **I stands for the Inclusion and a better quality of life information society**  
should by 2010 become an open, transparent and accessible knowledge society

An additional meaning of “I” we suggest:  
**I stands for the Interchange (i.e. cooperation)**



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## NATIONAL IST COORDINATION

### **December 2001**

Change of law on Government Administration Chapters:  
new Chapter “Information Society Technologies” introduced

### **July 2002**

Minister of Science (at the Office of the State Committee for  
Scientific Research - KBN) to coordinate IST Chapter activities

### **April 2003**

KBN transformed into the Ministry of Science and Information  
Society Technologies responsible for IST activities

(close co-operation and coordination of specific actions with Ministry of  
Infrastructure, Ministry of Interior and Administration and others – a key  
challenge)



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**MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND INFORMATION  
SOCIETY TECHNOLOGIES**  
as the national IS coordinator

**Minister of Science and Information Society Technologies  
responsible for:**

- IT infrastructure, networks and systems in administration
- Establishing IT standards in administration
- Supervising and supporting IT projects in public central and local administration
- General and vocational education in IST
- Active support for Information Society development in Poland
- International cooperation within the IT sector and participation in the EU programs

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## e-POLAND STRATEGY

January 2004

### **e-Poland – Strategy for the development of Information Society in Poland for the years 2004-2006**

#### **Strategic goals**

- contribution to knowledge-based economy development
- improvement in citizens' quality of life

#### **Main objectives of the strategy**

- provide affordable, fast and secure Internet access to all citizens and businesses
- develop useful on-line content and services
- achieve widespread IST literacy

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**Actions taken today (2004-2006) fundamental for fast social development and economy growth in 2007-2013**

- IST implementation is a key factor – no time for mistakes today
- Postponing ambitious IST projects (due to „other necessities”) will cause negative consequences in the future
- Need for active R&D support – many new IST technologies may very soon greatly affect the society
- Importance of IST implementation in public administration (Need for organizational changes and the new legal frameworks - IST Implementation Act, pan European initiatives)



### **Act on IST implementation in public administration entities**

- Voted 17 II 2005 almost unanimously
- In force since 21 VII 2005
- The „Constitution” for Information Society development and Knowledge-Based Economy
- Horizontal law (requires changes in many legal acts)

### **This law is crucial for**

- Standardization and interoperability of public administration systems (minimal standards/interoperability frameworks)
- Front and back office integration of public administration systems
- Gives citizens and business the right to contact public authorities electronically
- Supervising and supporting IT projects in public central and local administration
- Multiannual Strategic Plan of IT implementation (horizontal and sectoral projects) in Poland (in the 2007-2013 National Development Plan context)



- **Technological neutrality** of IT systems used by the public sector as a general rule in the act
- **Standardization and interoperability of Public Administration systems:** Sets the **minimum requirements for IT systems** used for:
  - fulfillment of public administration tasks
  - public registers
  - electronic exchange of data between public entities
- Introduces **The National interoperability framework** for public sector IT systems, in order to facilitate seamless communication both among public bodies and between government and citizens and businesses
- Allows for supervising and financial support for IST project in public central and local administration



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## MULTIANNUAL IST DEVELOPMENT PLAN

### **MULTIANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR IST DEVELOPMENT** validated every 5 years, which sets:

- ❖ priorities for the development of IT systems,
- ❖ all sectoral and horizontal IST projects,
- ❖ action plan for the information society education,
- ❖ public tasks that will have to be provided electronically.

The Plan will be coherent with the new **EUROPEAN INFORMATION SOCIETY 2010 – i2010** initiative with regards to:

- ❖ setting up information space,
- ❖ stimulating innovation through investments in R&D,
- ❖ enabling access to European Information Society.

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### Information Society Projects

- ❖ **IKONKA Project:** The network of public internet access points in public libraries 1534 in 11 regions (in 2006 all country > 2000 PIAPs)
- ❖ **Polish Internet Library:** The largest digital library in Poland with 25 350 digitalised entities (in 2006 > 30 000 entities)

### ICT infrastructure for science

- ❖ **PIONIER: Polish Optical Internet Network** – fast Internet for Polish Science (dedicated high speed fibre optic).
- ❖ **High speed computing centers** (Warsaw, Poznań, Gdańsk, Cracow) and GRID Computing Solution (based on OSS!)

### e-Government area

- ❖ **e-PUAP:** Integrated information platform supporting the provision of electronic public services for administration (**front-office**).
- ❖ **STAP:** Internal network of Polish Public Administration (**back-office**)
- ❖ **EWD-P:** European Information (U32) workflow for Polish Administration



## **PIONIER – Polish Optical Internet for e-Science (2001-2005)**

**Strategic aim:** build a countrywide optical network connecting all academic and metropolitan networks in Poland and provide scientists with access to advanced network infrastructure (including supercomputers).

### **PIONIER Network**

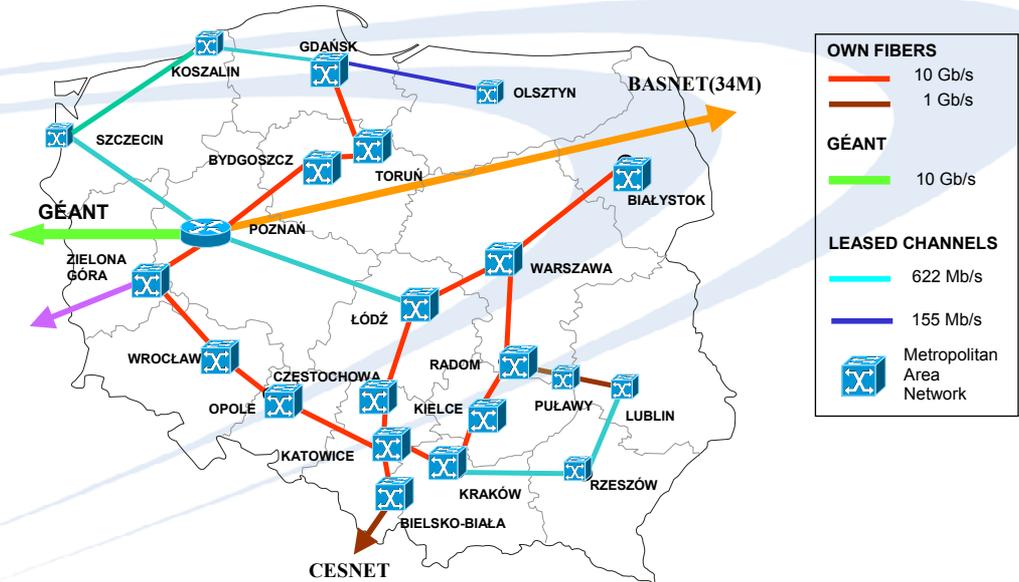
- 5 high performance computing centres (HPC),
- 22 metropolitan area networks (MAN) in main research centres
- over 700 academic units, including universities, institutes of Polish Academy of Sciences, hospitals, libraries, industrial R&D institutes
- about 3000 km length (optic fibres)

### **Plans**

- expand the PIONIER network across Poland (6000 km)
- provide new connections to neighbouring countries (Lithuania, Slovakia, Belarus, Ukraine).



## The current topology of the PIONIER network





### **STAP OBJECTIVES**

- **Secure, internal network of Polish public administration (means for internal administration systems like EWD-P)**
- **Back-office infrastructure for e-Government systems data exchange**
- **TESTA Network Local Domain**
- **Secure access to Internet (one-point-access)**

### **PLANNED ACTIONS**

- **2005-2006: launching of STAP in Warsaw (56 points)**
- **2006- : extension of STAP to cover all the regions**



### **INFRASTRUCTURE AREA** (Ministry of Infrastructure)

- National Broadband Strategy for years 2004-2006
- Polish Telecommunication Act (compatible with EU Directives)

### **ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN EU PROGRAMS**

- IST / 5 & 6 FP
- IDA II / IDAabc
- e-TEN, e-Safe and e-Content

### **OTHER IST PROJECTS**

- National Schengen Strategy (SIS II and VIS Systems)



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**NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
FOR YEARS 2007-2013  
AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY**

**Draft of National Development Plan for years 2007-2013  
was approved by Government in Jan. 2005**

**Minister of Science and Information Society Technologies  
responsible for a new Operational Program**

**SCIENCE, NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INFORMATION SOCIETY**

**with national actions focused on  
Information Society  
and Knowledge-Based Economy**

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**NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
FOR YEARS 2007-2013  
AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY**

**FOUR ACTIONS DEDICATED TO INFORMATION SOCIETY  
AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY DEVELOPMENT**

- ❖ **Innovative electronic economy**
- ❖ **Improvement of public access to e-Services**
- ❖ **Development of valuable digital content**
- ❖ **Education and training for digital literacy**

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## **INNOVATIVE ELECTRONIC ECONOMY**

**Innovative e-Business** - development of innovative e-Business services - with active implementation of on-going R&D projects

**Modern e-Government** - stimulation of development of innovative A2A, A2B and A2C e-Government services (especially in pan-European context) – administration front-office business process reengineering

**Access to public registers on-line** - administration back-office business process reengineering

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**IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC ACCESS TO e-SERVICES**

**Broadband for all:** stimulation of broadband access to Internet especially in digital divide regions

**IST infrastructure for science and development:** stimulation of IST R&D and participation of Polish institution in ERA

**Multichannel access to e-Services:** mobile platforms, access via IDTV, PDA, infokiosks, etc.

**DEVELOPMENT OF VALUABLE DIGITAL CONTENT**

Development of digital content (also for pan European/transborder services - multilingual),

Development of innovative digital content based services



## STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

### STRENGTHS

- **Fast and stable economy growth**
- **EU opportunities and strong international links**
- **IST quality of (selected) higher education institutions**
- **FDI**
- **Adequate action plans and legal regulations (compatible with EU initiatives)**
- **Growing awareness of IST significance**

### WEAKNESSES

- **Lack of appropriate innovation culture**
- **Digital divide**
- **Quality of political leadership in the area of new technologies**
- **Low R&D expenditures**



**Four pillars of a country's ability to succeed  
in fostering high impact IST development:**

- **Political leadership**
- **Effective governance at central and local level**
- **IST literacy and competencies**
- **Technologies**



- Are our e-initiatives integrated with our overall growth strategy?
- Is generating competitive advantage via e-initiatives one of top political priorities?
- Do we have an IST development and implementation vision (road map) in the 1-3 year time frame?
- Are we really attuned to the opportunities/threats enabled by IST?



- What are the e-initiative roles and responsibilities of each member of my team?
- Who has the final decision-making authority on e-initiatives?
- How are e-initiatives funded, including maintenance of the ongoing ones?
- Do we have effective way to incent e-initiatives?



**What should e-government be?**

- **Transformational**  
harnessing technology to change the way government works, rather than merely automate existing practices
- **Collaborative**  
solutions developed collectively and openly among public, private, nonprofit and research partners
- **Innovative, cost-effective and results-oriented**  
through strategic decisions that produce long-term efficiencies and savings
- **Easy to use and available to everyone any time**



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❖ Stronger emphasize IST development in the political agenda
- ❖ Mobilize funding of IST by shifting resources from less productive sectors. Promote various forms of venture capital availability
- ❖ Improve the administrative competence of central and local governments to better exploit EU funds
- ❖ Increase R&D spending in areas crucial for fast economy growth
- ❖ Improve innovation climate
- ❖ Promote IST education, including life long learning
- ❖ Improve administrative procedures to facilitate e-services development
- ❖ Improve coordinating capabilities of the ministry responsible for IST
- ❖ Support e-procurement