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ANNEX 18

## **ANNEX**

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**Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the  
European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions**

**State of the Digital Decade 2025: Keep building the EU's sovereignty and digital future**

{ SWD(2025) 290 final } - { SWD(2025) 291 final } - { SWD(2025) 292 final } -  
{ SWD(2025) 293 final } - { SWD(2025) 294 final } - { SWD(2025) 295 final }

# SHORT COUNTRY REPORTS 2025

Lithuania

## Executive summary

Lithuania benefits from excellent 5G coverage and a dynamic start-up ecosystem but continues to face challenges in expanding fixed Very High-Capacity Networks (VHCN) coverage, particularly in rural areas. The country is positioning itself as a niche player in semiconductor and quantum-related technologies, leveraging its strong laser industry.

Lithuania shows a high level of ambition in its contribution to the Digital Decade having set 12 national targets, 92% of which are aligned with the EU 2030 targets. The country is following its trajectories moderately well with 71% of them being on track (on the basis of the 2024 trajectories defined for 7 KPIs out of 8 analysed). Lithuania addressed 25% of the 8 recommendations issued by the Commission in 2024 by making some changes through new measures.

Lithuania demonstrates strong performance in mobile connectivity, with near universal 5G coverage and continued infrastructure investment. However, fixed broadband deployment remains uneven, particularly in rural areas. SME adoption of advanced digital technologies such as cloud, AI, and data analytics continues to lag despite targeted support schemes. The start-up ecosystem is growing, though scale-up activity and access to private capital remain modest. In 2024, Lithuania maintained high digital public service availability, supported by centralised platforms and a mature eHealth system. Digital skills development is supported through national programmes focused on vulnerable and underrepresented groups. On sustainability, the country is piloting digital tools for climate action through startup funding and cleantech initiatives, though a comprehensive green-digital strategy has yet to emerge. In Lithuania cybersecurity is a strategic priority, reinforced by the national programme and the implementation of 5G Toolbox.

Digital Decade KPI <sup>(1)</sup>	Lithuania				EU		Digital Decade target by 2030	
	DESI 2024 (year 2023)	DESI 2025 (year 2024)	Annual progress	National trajectory 2024 (3)	DESI 2025	Annual progress	LT	EU
Fixed Very High Capacity Network (VHCN) coverage	78.1%	78.3%	0.3%	84.0%	82.5%	4.9%	98.0%	100%
Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) coverage	78.1%	78.3%	0.3%	-	69.2%	8.4%	-	-
Overall 5G coverage	98.9%	99.7%	0.9%	92.0%	94.3%	5.9%	100.0%	100%
Edge Nodes (estimate)	5	10	100.0%	-	2257	90.5%	-	10000
SMEs with at least a basic level of digital intensity (2)	-	66.3%	2.0%	-	72.9%	2.8%	90.0%	90%
Cloud	33.6%	-	-	-	-	-	75.0%	75%
Artificial Intelligence	4.9%	8.8%	80.2%	12.0%	13.5%	67.2%	75.0%	75%
Data analytics	40.5%	-	-	-	-	-	75.0%	75%
AI or Cloud or Data analytics	53.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	75%
Unicorns	3	3	0.0%	3	286	4.4%	6	500
At least basic digital skills	52.9%	-	-	-	-	-	80.0%	80%
ICT specialists	4.9%	5.3%	8.2%	5.3%	5.0%	4.2%	6.9%	~10%
eID scheme notification		Yes						
Digital public services for citizens	86.7	87.9	1.3%	86.0	82.3	3.6%	100.0	100
Digital public services for businesses	95.9	92.5	-3.6%	95.0	86.2	0.9%	100.0	100
Access to e-Health records	95.4	95.4	0.0%	100.0	82.7	4.5%	100.0	100

(1) See the methodological note for the description of the indicators and other metrics

(2) DESI 2025 reports the version 4 of the Digital Intensity Index, that is comparable with the DII value from DESI 2023 (referring to year 2022) for the calculation of the annual progress. It is not comparable to the national trajectory that is based on version 3 of the index.

(3) National trajectory value if present in the national roadmap and if the indicator was measured in DESI2025 (year 2024)

According to the 2025 special Eurobarometer on ‘the Digital Decade’, 77% of Lithuanian citizens consider that the digitalisation of daily public and private services is making their lives easier. On the action of the public authorities, 90% consider it important to counter and mitigate the issue of fake news and disinformation online. And on competitiveness, 79% consider it important to ensure that European companies can grow and become ‘European Champions’ capable of competing globally.

## A competitive, sovereign, and resilient EU based on technological leadership

In 2024, Lithuania reinforced its position as a regional frontrunner in mobile connectivity, reaching near-universal 5G coverage across households. However, fixed Very High-Capacity Network (VHCN) deployment, particularly fibre in rural areas, continues to require targeted public investment. Two major state-funded projects, supported by the RRF and ERDF, are underway to expand VHCN infrastructure, with over 2 000 km of fibre and 60 new towers planned. To accelerate enterprise digitalisation, Lithuania scaled up support through Measure VST-1. (‘To encourage the digitalisation of businesses’) notably relying on digital vouchers for SMEs, accelerators, and the national network of EDIHs. However, adoption of AI, cloud, and data analytics remains uneven, with surveys highlighting procedural complexity and lack of digital awareness. The country deepened its role in emerging technologies through the GreenTech Hub and laser-based contributions to semiconductors and quantum, as well as its commitment to the ALT-EDIC. Cybersecurity was significantly strengthened with the full transposition of NIS2, a national programme focused on 5G network trustworthiness, and growing investment in public sector cyber resilience.

## Protecting and empowering EU people and society

Lithuania continues to perform strongly in digital public services, with high levels of availability for both citizens and businesses. Access to eHealth records remains among the highest in the EU, and ongoing reforms to the Electronic Health Services system aim to expand coverage and improve data interoperability. While ICT specialist employment rose in 2024, demographic pressures and reliance on foreign talent remain key structural challenges. Measures supporting talent development include vocational retraining, the Talent-Reach initiative, and Diaspora Youth Traineeships. On digital inclusion, Lithuania has significantly invested in programmes targeting older adults and vulnerable groups, including the national “No One Left Behind” campaign and education efforts led by NGOs and Universities of the Third Age. These are complemented by training initiatives under the roadmap, such as EdTech for teachers and skills development schemes for low-skilled adults, yet further acceleration is needed to reach the digital skills target by 2030.

## Leveraging digital transformation for a smart greening

Lithuania is at an early stage in aligning its digital and environmental transitions. While it lacks a fully integrated green-digital strategy, targeted efforts are emerging, particularly through support for startups developing climate-relevant digital solutions. Measure VST-3 ‘To encourage businesses to move towards a climate-neutral economy’ has enabled 170 startups to work on tools like AI-based smart housing systems and automated workflow platforms.

The GreenTech Hub is actively strengthening the cleantech ecosystem by guiding companies working on technologies such as smart grids, e-mobility, and IoT toward EDIH services. Further coordination is expected under the upcoming National Digital Agenda.

## National Digital Decade strategic roadmap

Lithuania submitted its initial national Digital Decade roadmap on 13 March 2024. At the time, digital policy lacked centralised coordination, with each ministry responsible for its own domain. In response to challenges identified while preparing the roadmap and the 2024 country report, the government adopted a resolution in July 2024 to establish a National Digital Agenda for 2026–2040. This new cross-cutting strategy aims to centralise governance, align funding, and address gaps in areas such as semiconductors and edge nodes. An in-depth analysis is being carried out in Q1-Q3 2025 to guide the Agenda's development. National authorities intend to adjust the roadmap at a later stage.

A total of 26 measures are part of Lithuania's national strategic roadmap with a budget of EUR 1.5 billion (1.9 % of Lithuania's GDP in 2024).

## Funding & projects for digital

Lithuania allocates 23% of its total recovery and resilience plan to digital (EUR 724 million)<sup>1</sup>. In addition, under cohesion policy, EUR 280 million, representing 4% of the country's total Cohesion policy funding, is dedicated to advancing Lithuania's digital transformation<sup>2</sup>. Lithuania is a member of the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC. Lithuania is also a participating state in the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (JU) and in the Chips JU.

The country has engaged with the Best Practice Accelerator<sup>3</sup> by its presence in the workshops.

## Digital Rights and Principles

According to a support study, Lithuania has been relatively active in implementing the [European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles](#), with 45 initiatives overall but no new initiatives launched in 2024. Lithuania is most active in the area of protection and empowerment of children and young people in the digital environment. Less activity has been identified with regards to a fair digital environment and a protected, safe and secure digital environment. Measures in the area of putting people at the centre of the digital transformation appear to have most impact on the ground, in contrast to those addressing safety, security and empowerment.

### Recommendations

- **SMEs:** Simplify access to SME digitalisation funding by reducing bureaucratic complexity, improving guidance, and targeting support to low-digital-intensity sectors.

<sup>1</sup> The share of financial allocations that contribute to digital objectives has been calculated using Annex VII to the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation. Last data update: 16 May 2025.

<sup>2</sup> This amount includes all investment specifically aimed at or substantially contributing to digital transformation in the 2021-2027 Cohesion policy programming period. The source funds are the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, and the Just Transition Fund.

<sup>3</sup> The Best Practice Accelerator (BPA) is a platform that enables Member States to share successful measures and challenges encountered in their efforts to meet their Digital Decade targets and objectives. Best practices are made available to Member States via the BPA Repository and showcased in regular workshops, currently focused on three thematic clusters: Digital Skills, Green IT, and the Uptake of Digital Technologies

- **AI:** Step up targeted support for the adoption of artificial intelligence, especially among SMEs, by raising awareness of business-relevant use cases, improving access to advisory services, and simplifying funding procedures.
- **ICT Specialists:** Scale efforts in relation to retraining programmes, and female participation in ICT.
- **Cybersecurity:** Continue work on cybersecurity to address evolving threats, particularly regarding citizens awareness.
- **VHCN:** Expand public support for VHCN deployment, notably in rural areas.
- **Green:** Adopt an integrated green-digital strategy with measurable targets, establish mechanisms to monitor environmental impacts, and scale up digital solutions that support climate goals.