

TAI AND DEVELOPMENT  
**NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR LITHUANIA**

*Prepared by the  
Environmental center for administration and technology (ECAT)*

In the framework of the implementation of the project “TAI and Development”, partners have envisaged to create a brief strategy to influence international development donor decision-making of Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOF) in order to take into consideration the level of environmental access rights implementation in the recipient countries.

The current strategy is based on :

- Synthesis Report on “ Good Governance: Public participation Indicators in Thailand (national third TAI<sup>1</sup> assessment).
- Lithuanian Cooperation Policy Guidelines of the Republic of Lithuania for 2006-2010<sup>2</sup>.
- The findings of a roundtable meeting held on 14 July 2008 between ECAT, NGO and the representatives of the Lithuanian MOF.

The **main goal** of this strategy is to influence the Development Cooperation policy and to enhance its implementation taking into implementation environmental democracy issues.

Current Lithuanian development cooperation policy is based mainly on areas where it has a comparative advantage, for instance, in creating the rule of law, enhancement of democracy, protection of human rights, transition to the market economy and Euro-Atlantic integration, strengthening of administrative capacities and building civil society. This creates the opportunity to integrate environmental access issues into decision making criterions.

The following actions are proposed in order to achieve the goal of the strategy:

1. To disseminate the information about TAI assessment methodology and assessment results in Lithuania, GS and other countries.
2. To strengthen capacities in environmental access issues in MOF and NGO in donor and recipient countries.
3. In cooperation with National non Governmental Development Organization platform to prepare proposal for the review of the criterions for selection of the projects financed from international development aid of Lithuania in the light of environmental democracy.

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<sup>1</sup> The Access Initiative (TAI) is the network of civil society organizations working to ensure that citizens and communities have the access to information about government decisions, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice when their rights to information, participation, and a clean environment are violated..

<sup>2</sup> Government of the Republic of Lithuania, Resolution No 561 of 8 June 2006 on the Approval of the Development Co-operation Policy Guidelines of the Republic of Lithuania for 2006-2010.