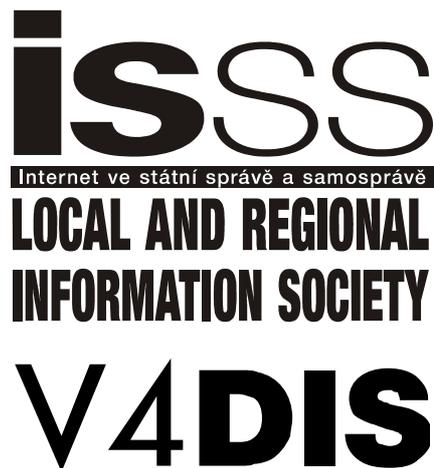Internet in Public Administration and Local Government

Local and Regional Information Society

Visegrad Group for Developing Information Society

www.isss.cz

Evaluation and responses
2006

ISSS
Internet ve státní správě a samosprávě
LOCAL AND REGIONAL
INFORMATION SOCIETY
V4DIS

Prague, Hradec Králové, 2–4 April 2006

Contents

Introduction

The ninth edition of the ISSS/LORIS/V4DIS conference took place on 3–4 April at the Aldis Congress Centre in Hradec Králové. Despite the tense flood situation during those days, it has once again confirmed the unique position of this distinct national and international forum for politicians, public administration representatives, specialists and suppliers of information and communication technologies and solutions. Over the two days of the conference, the number of registered participants again exceeded two thousand. Within the conference programme, in six halls there were some 250 lectures and presentations, while more than a hundred exhibitors introduced their products, solutions and services for public administration. The conference was also attended by a host of top political dignitaries. Two months before the elections in the Czech Republic, the strongest political parties presented their plans and intentions in the area of public administration informisation.

The ninth edition of the ISSS/LORIS conference took place under the auspices of the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Jiří Paroubek, and the Minister of Informatics of the CR, Dana Bérová. Over the two days, a number of other distinguished guests appeared in Hradec Králové – speeches at the gala opening were given by the Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, Přemysl Sobotka, who this year assumed the auspices over the international V4 DIS (Visegrad Four for Developing Information Society) conference, and three ministers of the Government of the CR – the Deputy Prime Minister for the Economy, Jiří Havel; the Minister for Regional Development, Radko Martínek; and the Minister of Informatics, Dana Bérová; as well as the Slovak Minister of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications, Pavol Prokopovič. Other dignitaries were also among the conference guests – the President of the Supreme Control Office, František Dohnal; the regional administrators Evžen Tošenovský and Miloš Vystrčil; the Chairman of the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic, Oldřich Vlasák; Lord Mayors, Mayors, representatives of unions and associations, and many others. Among the foreign guests attending the Hradec Králové meeting were Christian Rupp from Austria, responsible for e-government development; the Chairman of TeleCities, Chris Newby from Liverpool; and important delegations from Visegrad countries.

The V4 DIS conference, which was held within ISSS/LORIS for the third time in a row, had alongside the traditional issues of e-government and electronic services for citizens of V4 countries another key items on its agenda. Great interest was aroused by gender issues and equal opportunities for women in access to ICT and availability of electronic services provided by public administration. Another extremely interesting topic discussed at V4 DIS was the role of information technologies in tourism, the role of national and regional tourism portals, and the importance of internet promotion of town and municipalities in the tourism sector.

Přemysl Sobotka, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the CR, who assumed the personal auspices over the V4 DIS conference, evaluated the meeting in the following words: "It is not only that this event is at the present time by right considered the most important meeting of its kind, not only in the new EU member states, but primarily the fact that the issues discussed here are closely connected with what we have become used to calling e-government or e-state. The special significance of this conference also rests in the fact that exchange of experience takes place at the level of countries that have common historical experience, similar economic potentials, as well as the same duration of membership of the European Union and, consequently similar problems in some spheres of their activities. Hence, I believe that the participants in this forum will jointly find procedures for projecting new applications of information and communication technologies in public administration."

The numerous delegations from Visegrad Four countries included, for example, Mr István Szabó, Ambassador of Hungary to the Czech Republic; Mrs Márta Nagy-Rothengass, the present Head of Unit in DG INFSO; Stanislav Borek, Polish chargé d'affaires; Professor Andrzej Janicki from the Alfa-Omega Foundation; Mr Ladislav Balek, Slovak Ambassador to the CR; Mr Pavol Prokopovič, Minister of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications of the Slovak Republic; Mr Ferdinand Vitek, Chairman of the Union of Towns of Slovakia and Mayor of Nitra; and René Kubášek, Deputy Executive Director of the Visegrad Fund.

The interest on the part of domestic participants in the ninth edition of the ISSS/LORIS/V4DIS conference yet again surpassed the expectations of the organisers and, similarly to the previous year, the capacity of the Aldis Congress Centre was virtually utilised to the full. All those who participate in developement of e-Government on local, regional, state and European level wanted to use the unique opportunity for meeting colleagues, exchanging experience and gaining the necessary know-how. Compared with last year, there was an increased interest in presentation of newly implemented solutions, transfer of experience among individual authorities and workplaces, as well as new possibilities of solutions to various agendas and processes. Also present were more than one hundred exhibiting suppliers of ICT and various special solutions for the public administration area.

The possibility of using their own stand or place for presentation was used by the creators of several projects receiving prizes in the EuroCrest and other competitions, Golden Crest, Biblioweb and Geoapplication of the Year.

RNDr. Tomáš Renčín
Conference Executive Director

Profile and objectives

ISSS - Internet in state Administration and Local Government

Character: National conference

Number of editions: 9 Prague, March 1998
Hradec Králové, March 1999–2004
Hradec Králové, April 2005–2006

Target group: Representatives and employees of public administration and local governments from the Czech Republic and abroad, IT specialists, business subjects operating in the area of information and communication technologies

Focus and objectives:
- Role of the Ministry of Informatics in the development of public administration IS
- Financing support and development of information society
- Role of informatics in regions, towns and municipalities
- eGovernment
- Public administration portal
- eLearning in public administration
- Communication infrastructure in public administration
- Issues of digitalisation of TV and radio broadcasting
- Security of information systems
- Forms of public administration's communication with citizens and the media
- Equal opportunities of women in access to ICT
- Geographic information systems for local governments and public administration
- Electronisation in the new administrative procedure code
- Role of ICT in tourism
- Websites of towns and municipalities
- Exchange of experience

LORIS - Local and Regional Information Society

Character:	International conference

Lecturers:
- Chris Newby – TeleCities, City of Liverpool
- Dave Carter – MDDA, City of Manchester
- Ronald de Bruin – ENISA
- Achim Klabunde – European Commission
- Andrzej Janicki – Alfa-Omega Foundation
- Pedro Cabrera Hermida – Federation of Tourism and Hotel-keeping of the Canary Islands
- Christian Rupp – Federal Chancellery of the Federal Republic of Austria
- Wim van't Hof – Ministry of the Economy of the Netherlands
- and others

Target group:
- European associations of towns and municipalities and European networks
- Representatives of public administration and parliaments from Central Europe and other European countries
- ICT specialists

Focus and objectives:
- eStrategy of associations and towns
- Support for IT and electronic services in public administration
- Evaluation of the progress made in the development of electronic public administration
- Exchange of best practices from on-line services provided by public administration through websites of municipalities
- Support for participation of towns and municipalities of Central, Eastern and South-east Europe in projects co-financed by the European Commission
- Working seminars and round tables

V4DIS - Visegrad for Developing Information Society

Character: International conference of V isegrad Countries

Lecturers:
- Dana Bérová – Minister of Informatics of the CR
- István Szabó – Ambassador of Hungary to the CR
- Ladislav Ballek – Ambassador of Slovakia to the CR
- Stanislav Borek – Charge d'affaires of Poland in the CR
- Radko Martínek – Minister for Regional Development of the CR
- Pavol Prokopovič – Minister of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications of the Slovak Republic
- Márta Nagy-Rothengass – European Commission
- Miroslav Kukučka – Governmental commissioner of the Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications of the SR
- Erich Pacola, Slovak Environmental Agency
- Andrzej Janicki – Alfa-Omega Foundation
- Orsolay Liptay – Association of Hungarian NetWomen
- Peter Druga – ITAPA
- Ivan Smolák – Siemens PSE
- Martin Berčík – Bernolákovo
- Juraj Hlatký – Matúš Kingdom
- Arpád Takács – Communications Research Institute
- and others

Target group
- Representatives of towns and municipalities of Visegrad Four countries
- Representatives of public administration and parliaments of V4 countries
- Representatives of self-governing bodies of V4 countries
- IT specialists

Focus and objectives:

- Use of ICT in tourism for promotion of destinations and development of services on offer
- Gender issues in ICT
- Presentation of state information and communication policy of Visegrad Four countries, exchange of experience
- Exchange of best practices from on-line services provided by public administration through websites of municipalities of Visegrad Four countries
- Support for joint action when involving municipalities and towns of Visegrad Four countries in projects co-financed by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank
- Evaluation of the progress made in development of electronic public administration
- Departmental meetings of representatives of ministries of the interior and other public administration authorities of V4 countries

Organisers and partners

Auspices

- Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the CR, Přemysl Sobotka
- Prime Minister of the CR, Jiří Paroubek
- Minister of Informatics of the CR, Dana Bérová
- Association of Regions of the Czech Republic

Main organiser

- Triada, spol. s r. o.

Cooperation on the programme part of ISSS/LORIS/V4DIS

- Ministry of Informatics
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry for Regional Development
- Ministry of the Environment
- CENIA
- Czech Association for Geoinformation – CAGI
- Association for Information Society – SPIS

Guarantors of the V4DIS and LORIS conference

- City of Hradec Králové
- Association of the Czech @
- Municipality and Finance magazine
- City of Prague
- Vysočina Region
- Hradec Králové Region
- University of Hradec Králové
- UMS – Union of Towns of Slovakia
- ZMOS – Union of Towns and Communities of Slovak Republic
- TÖOSZ – Hungarian National Association of Local Municipalities
- Alfa – Omega foundations (PL)

General partner

- Česká spořitelna, a. s.

Main partners

- Česká pošta
- GTS Novera
- IBM
- Microsoft
- Siemens Business Services
- Unisys

Main specialist partner

- Český Telecom, a.s.

Partners

- AutoCont
- Eurotel
- Hewlett-Packard
- ICZ
- Novell
- Oracle
- Symantec
- T-Systems Pragonet

Sponsor

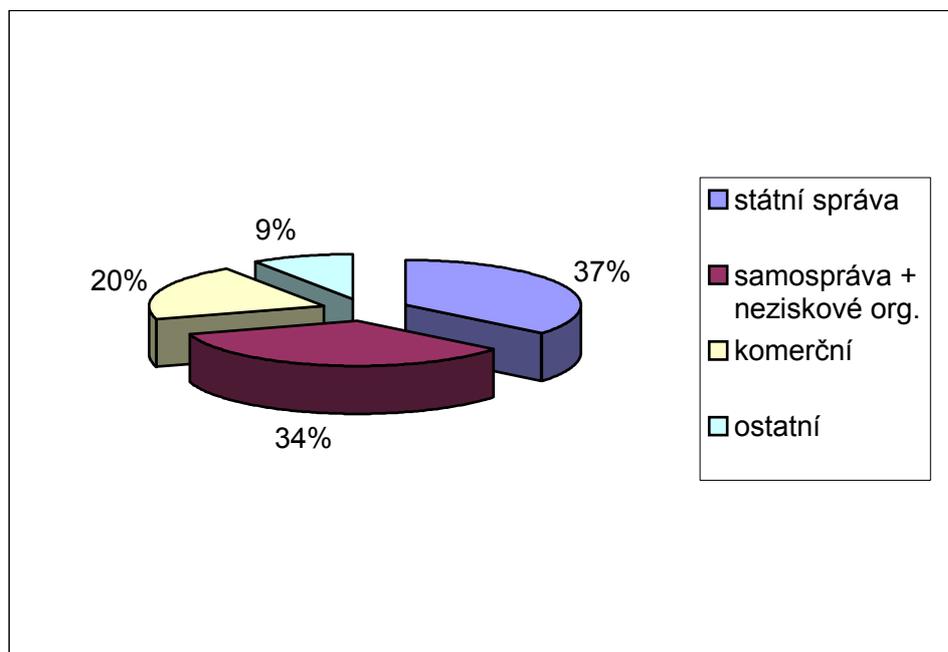- International Visegrad Fund

Media partners

- BIZ
- Business World
- Click
- Convergence
- C.O.T. Business
- Computerworld
- ČTK
- Czech Radio Hradec Králové
- Deník veřejné správy
- Egovernment
- GEOinformace
- Hospodářské noviny
- Chief Information Officer
- CHIP
- Inside
- PVS
- Počítač pro každého
- IT Systems
- Moderní obec
- Obec & finance
- Obecné noviny
- Professional Computing
- Technologies & Prosperity
- TÖÖSZ
- Upgrade IT
- Verejná správa - Slovakia
- Veřejná správa – Czech rep.

Participation

Number of ISSS/LORIS/V4DIS 2006 participants	**2,151**
Public administration	773
Local governments and non-profit sphere	737
Commercial sphere	439
Other	202

Structure of the ISSS/LORIS/V4DIS 2006 conference participants

Participants from abroad

The conference was attended by participants from 11 countries (including the Czech Republic)

Belgium, Hungary, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Austria, Romania, Slovakia, United Kingdom, Spain

Evaluation

The evaluation of the most interesting blocks given below issues from the statistical data gathered by the organisers.

Blocks evaluated as the most interesting

- The official conference opening and debate of top representatives of political parties
- Public administration portal
- V4DIS - e-Government
- Data sharing, delivery, registers
- V4DIS - ICT and equal opportunitties for women and men
- Electronic registry, administrative procedure code and file service
- Security of information systems II
- V4DIS – e-Tourism
- Security of information systems I
- Digitalisation

They said at the conference

…I assumed the auspices over the international V4DIS conference out of plain interest in information technologies. This issue is connected with the manner of the state's communication with citizens…

> *Přemysl Sobotka, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic*

…the ISSS conference is a prestigious forum which year by year has increased its level. I am pleased that you have invited us to this meeting as a partner….

Pavel Prokopovič, Minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic

…making information accessible to citizens is not merely an empty gesture, but the everyday work of all of us … the internet provides increased possibilities for communication between public administration and the population…

> *Jiří Havel, Deputy Prime Minister of the Czech Republic*

…I am convinced that there exists the political will among all parties for higher implementation of information technologies (mere declaratory support does not suffice… we must improve cooperation with the regions, in which ideas for information technology originate…

> *Dana Bérová, Minister of Informatics*

…we are still overloaded with agenda solutions we do not tackle by means of information technology … we do not yet know how to use information technology and this technology does not offer us a solution…

> *Evžen Tošenovský, Chairman of the Association of Regions, Administrator of the Moravia-Silesia Region*

…the ISSS conference is a place for solving information that will be used by the population the conference is about communication…

> *Miloš Vystrčil, Administrator of the Vysočina Region*

…information technology functions as a good servant…

> *František Dohnal, President of the Supreme Control Office of the CR*

…information technologies set the world in motion … the conference must help find the proper way of promoting our towns and municipalities as regards tourism. Therefore, we extend the ISSS/V4DIS with a new theme: "IT in public administration and tourism"…

> *Radko Martínek, Minister for Regional Development of the CR*

…information technology development is a Visegrad theme…
René Kubášek, Deputy Executive Director of IVF

…I was highly intrigued by the information of Mr Christian Rupp from the Federal Chancellery of Austria responsible for e-government development, who said that in Austria within four years it has been implanted at all levels. … it is necessary to make a clear political decision in this respect in our country too and to get e-government at all levels of public administration and local governments into a position that would save tonnes of paper…
Oldřich Vlasák, Chairman of the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the CR

…for me, e-government is a priority in improving the effectiveness of public administration … we have prepared a bill on e-government (inspired by Austria), which should be one of the first tasks of the new government…
Mirek Topolánek, leader of the Civic Democratic Party

Competition winners

EuroCrest

Announcement of the results of the EuroCrest competition for the best websites of towns, municipalities and regions in Europe was part of the programme of the gala social evening of the ninth edition of the Internet in Public Administration and Local Government conference in Hradec Králové.

The announcer of the fourth edition of the EuroCrest competition is the association Sdružení Zlatý erb. This year it took place under the auspices of Přemysl Sobotka, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, within the V4DIS conference. The EuroCrest competition issues from experience gained during organisation of the Golden Crest competition held in the Czech Republic, while taking account of consultations of specialists from the European Union.

EuroCrest, similarly to Golden Crest, aims to award extraordinary projects, support mutual exchange of experience and praise the endeavour of representatives of local governments and municipal authorities to effectively use information technologies in order to improve the quality and accessibility of public administration services. In this way, the organisers want to contribute to accelerating the development of services of European public administration institutions.

This year's winners of the EuroCrest competition were the official websites of the cities: Poznan (Poland) – www.city.poznan.pl, Constanta (Romania) – www.primaria-constanta.ro and Bratislava (Slovakia) – www.bratislava.sk, and the official website of the city quarter Prague 12 (www.praha12.cz).

@ Czech

Within the programme of a gala meeting on the eve of the opening of the international ISSS 2006 conference in Hradec Králové, the results of the @ Czech competition were announced. This year, the prize was awarded to two public administration subjects that have significantly contributed to information society development – "Subcommittee for information systems in public administration of the Committee for public administration, regional development and the environment of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR" and the "Ministry of Informatics of the CR". The Český zavináč association decided to praise in 2006 the two subjects for successful exertion of essential extension of places authorised to issue verified abstracts from official registers and databases into the proposed amendatory act on information systems in public administration.

The prize was taken over by Dana Bérová for the Ministry of Informatics of the CR and Tom Zajíček for the Subcommittee for information systems in public administration of the Committee for public administration, regional development and the environment of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR.

Golden Crest

The prizes of the eighth edition of the Golden Crest competition (http://zlatyerb.obce.cz) for the best websites and electronic services of towns and municipalities were awarded at the ISSS conference on Monday, April 3, 2006.

Best website of a town

1st place	Děčín	http://www.mudecin.cz
2nd place	Tišnov	http://www.tisnov.cz
3rd place	Bechyně	http://www.mestobechyne.cz

Best website of a municipality

1st place	Tlumačov (Zlín Region, Zlín district)	http://www.tlumacov.cz
2nd place	Okříšky (Vysočina Region, Třebíč district)	http://www.okrisky.cz
3rd place	Jiřetín pod Bukovou (Liberec Region, Jablonec nad Nisou district)	http://www.jiretinpb.cz

Best electronic service

1st place	Most: Citizens' e-orders at a town council http://registrace.mumost.cz
2nd place	České Budějovice: On-line transmissions from city council sessions http://www.c-budejovice.cz
3rd place	Brandýs nad Labem-Stará Boleslav: On-line system of attending to clients at the transport-administrative agendas department http://www.brandysko.cz

Furthermore, the following special prizes were awarded

- The special prize of the Minister of the Interior, František Bublan, for the best barrier-free access to websites within the Golden Crest competition was awarded to Jiřetín pod Bukovou (www.jiretinpb.cz) from the Liberec Region, Jablonec nad Nisou district.
- The special prize of the Minister for Regional Development, Radko Martínek, for the best tourism presentation on websites within the Golden Crest competition was awarded to the Liberec Region (www.liberecky-kraj.cz).
- The special prize of Microsoft within the Golden Crest competition was awarded
  - in the category of towns: to Rokycany (www.rokycany.cz)
  - in the category of municipalities: to Velké Žernoseky (http://mesta.municipalities.cz/velkezernoseky).
- The prize of the public conferred by the association BMI within the Golden Crest competition was awarded to Němčovice (www.nemcovice.cz) from the Plzeň Region, Rokycany district.

- The special prize of the professional jury of the Golden Crest competition was awarded to the Central Bohemia Region (www.kr-stredocesky.cz).

Last year's Golden Crest winner, the city quarter Prague 12, received an award in the Eurocrest competition for the best European local government websites.

The Golden Crest competition is announced by the association Sdružení Zlatý erb under the auspices of the Ministry of Informatics of the CR, the Ministry of the Interior of the CR and the Ministry for Regional Development of the CR. Regional rounds are announced by the regions of the Czech Republic. The competition is organised in cooperation with the portal Towns and Municipalities Online and the ISSS conference. The competition is part of the initiatives within the March – Internet Month campaign.

Evaluated in the regional rounds were more than 484 websites of towns, municipalities and electronic services (a 7% increase as against the previous year). Almost 100 jurors participated in the evaluation. The competition recorded a significant growth in the number of votes of citizens, internet users, who support their favourite for the **Prize of the public** by sending a nomination card from the portal Towns and Municipalities On-line (http://mesta.obce.cz). Some 5,500 valid votes of the public were sent (a 30% increase).

A survey of all competitors in individual regional rounds, terms, composition of juries and photographs from the handing over of the prizes can be found on the competition's website http://zlatyerb.obce.cz. The competition is credited with its openness in accordance with the law on free access to information – all point ratings of all jurors are made public.

ISSS/LORIS/V4DIS 2007

Venue:	Hradec Králové, Aldis Congress Centre
Date:	1–3 April 2007
Character of the event:	International conference
Main theme:	**Informisation of public administration**
Expected number of participants:	**2,000 from 20 countries**
Organiser:	Triada, spol. s r. o.
Conference Executive Director:	RNDr. Tomáš Renčín tel. : 284 001 284 e-mail: rencin@isss.cz
Secretariat of the conference:	U svobodárny 12/1110 190 00 Praha 9 tel. : 284 001 284 fax: 284 818 027 e-mail: isss@isss.cz http://www.isss.cz