

# Investment possibilities in Lithuania: Advantages & Opportunities

## Lithuania: in the Center of Europe



#### **Facts and Figures**

**Size:** 65,300 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 3.2 million

Capital: Vilnius

Lithuanian

Official language: (One of the oldest languages in the world,

originating from Sanskrit)

Dominant foreign English, Russian,

languages: German, Polish

Currency: Lithuanian litas (LTL)

Pegged to the EUR at 3.45 LTL/1EUR since 2002

Real GDP growth:

**2012E** • 2.4% - 3%<sup>1</sup>

**2011** • 5.9%

Inflation:

• **2012E**<sup>1</sup> • 2.9%

**2011** • 4.1%

North
Atlantic ocean

SWEDEN
FINLAND
110 million
Baltic Sea
Region
population
North
Sea
LITHUMNA

RELAND
UNITED NETHERLANDS
KINGDOM
BELGIUM GERMANY
FOLAND
LUXEMBOURG CZECH REP.
340 million
LUXEMBOURG CZECH REP.
340 million
ROMANIA
Western European
HUNGARY
FRANCE population
TTALY

BULGARIA

BIOCK SEA

TURKEY

Mediterranean
Sea

Source: Statistics Lithuania

Source 1: Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania, 2012

Source 2: Bank of Lithuania, 2012 Source 3: European Commission, 2012 Source 4: International Monetary Fund, 2012

## **Key Milestones**















## **Strong Growth and Promising Future**

- One of the most dynamic economies in the EU:
  - average real GDP growth from 1995 to 2007 was 9.8% per year
  - average real GDP growth from 1995 to 2011 was 4.5% per year
- GDP per capita has doubled since the EU accession:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest projected GDP growth in the EU<sup>2</sup>
  - 4th in the World for real GDP growth per capita4
- GDP share of the private sector changed from ~0% to more than 80% in the last 20 years
- Transformation from command economy to free market:
  - 11<sup>th</sup> freest economy in Europe and 23<sup>rd</sup> freest economy in the World<sup>3</sup>
  - 27<sup>th</sup> out of 183 World's economies in the ease of doing business<sup>5</sup>

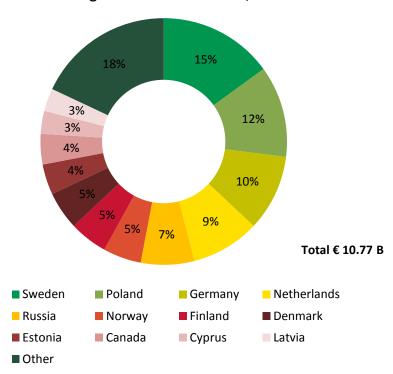
#### Remarkable Leap<sup>1</sup>

	1995	2011
GDP (€ bn)	5.1	32.2
GDP per capita (€)	1,397	9,952
Cumulative FDI (€ m)	266	10,762
FDI per capita (€)	72	3,346

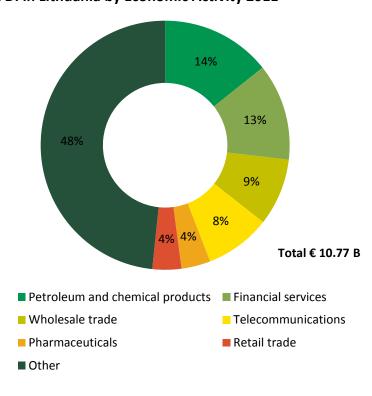
#### FDI in Lithuania



#### **TOP Investing Countries in Lithuania, 2011**



#### FDI in Lithuania by Economic Activity 2011\*



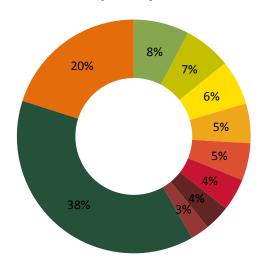
<sup>\*</sup>Broken down by NACE 2-digit level

Source: Statistics Lithuania

## **Lithuania's Exports**

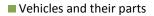


#### Lithuania's Exports by Sector, 2011



#### Total € 23,950 M

\*Excluding mineral products\*, total € 5,111 M



Plastics

Fertilizers

■ Wood

■ Other

#### ■ Machinery and mechanical appliances

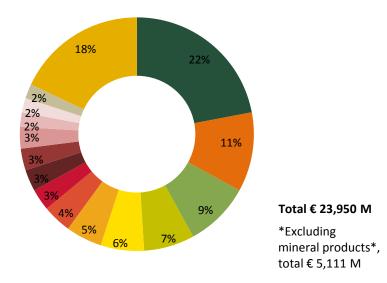
#### Furniture

■ Electrical machinery and equipment

#### ■ Dairy produce

Services

#### Lithuania's Top Export Partners, 2011





## **Global Presence in Lithuania**











































































#### Most Educated Talent Pool in the EU



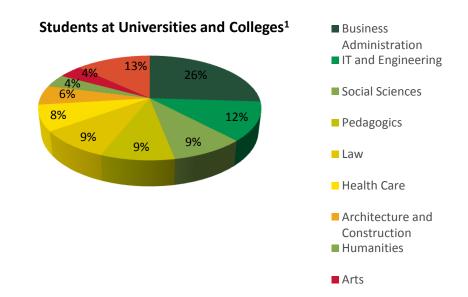
#### **Labour Pool:**

- 1.6 million
- 50% concentrated in the Vilnius capital city area

#### **Education:**

- 23 universities and 24 colleges
- 43,000 graduates per year
- 93% of population have secondary or higher education
- 34% of population have college degree or higher

- 1st in the World Competitiveness Rankings in literacy2
- 1st in the share of female labor force in the World<sup>2</sup>
- 1st in the EU for completion of secondary or higher education<sup>3</sup>
- 4<sup>th</sup> in the EU for share of graduates of total population<sup>3</sup>



Source 1: Statistics Lithuania

Source 2: IMD, World Competitiveness Rankings, 2012

Source 3: Eurostat, 2011 (female labour force, as percentage of total labour force (50,29%)





#### **Languages Spoken:**

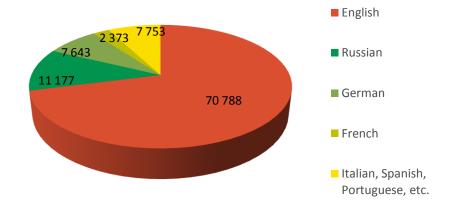
- 80% of population speaks Russian
- 38% of population speaks English
- 24% of population speaks Polish
- 14% of population speaks German
- Scandinavian languages are gaining popularity:
   5 universities and 1 college teach Danish, Swedish, Norwegian

- 5<sup>th</sup> in the EU for foreign languages knowledge<sup>1</sup>
- 7<sup>th</sup> in the EU for ability to speak at least 2 foreign languages<sup>1</sup>

#### **Foreign Languages Knowledge:**

- 92% of population speaks at least one foreign language (the EU-27 average is 54%)
- 52% of population speaks at least two foreign languages (the EU-27 average is 25%)

#### Students Studying Foreign Languages<sup>2</sup>



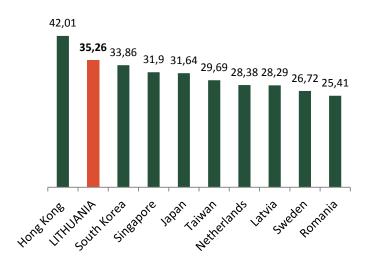
## **World Class ICT Infrastructure**



- 1st in the EU for Internet download and upload speed1
- 1st in Europe for density of network of public Internet access points (875)
- The capital city of Vilnius has the fastest Internet upload speed in the world<sup>4</sup>
- The most up-to-date ICT technologies (EDGE technology, 3G mobile communications infrastructure, mobile WiMAX 4G Internet etc.) fully implemented and functioning in the entire country
- 92% of financial operations are performed via e-banking

- 1st in the World Competitiveness Rankings for communication technology<sup>2</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> in the EU for the share of fixed broadband lines equal to or above 30Mbps<sup>3</sup>

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Fastest Internet Download Speed Worldwide (Mb/s)<sup>1</sup>



Source 3: FFTH Council Europe

#### Home to World Leaders in IT





2<sup>nd</sup> biggest App store globally



3<sup>rd</sup> best-selling mobile application on the Mac App Store. Apple Design Award 2011



Mobile payment solution enables to make payments using a wide range of devices



1<sup>st</sup> commercial digital signature pilot for mobile in the World



MagicDraw UML – 1<sup>st</sup> Java based UML tool trusted by multinational businesses and NASA; distributed in more than 70 countries



No. 1 social network in Nigeria with 2.2 M+ registered users and 5 M+ registered users across the World, focusing on the mobile customers in emergent markets

- ICT sector accounts for 3.1% of GDP
- 4,200 IT students at 8 universities and 8 colleges
- 1,500 IT graduates each year
- 22,000 employed IT professionals
- 980 IT enterprises



## **Easy Access to both Eastern and Western Markets**

#### Advanced infrastructure

- 4 International Airports; it takes 2-3 hours to get to Lithuania from the major European cities
- Klaipeda State Seaport is the northern-most ice-free port in the Baltic Sea
- 4 intermodal logistic centres

#### **Reliable partners**

- Lithuanian truck fleet counts more than 30,000 vehicles. Logistics account for 13% of GDP.
- Safe & speedy deliveries are guaranteed by world renowned logistics companies (DHL, DB, Schenker, DSV, TNT, UPS, and other).
- Shuttle cargo train services:
  - "Saule": the connection between Lithuania and China. Deliveries arrive within 10 days.
  - "Viking": the route starting at the Ilyichevsk port (Ukraine), goes through Kyiv, Minsk, Vilnius and arrives at Klaipeda State Seaport in 55 hours.



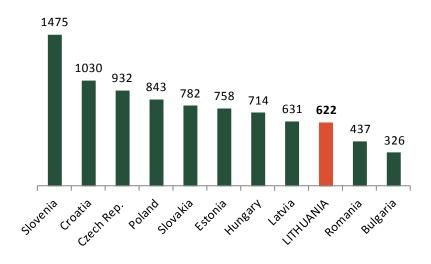




## **Cost-Effective Business Development Location**

- Labour costs are more than four times lower than the EU average<sup>1</sup>
- Real gross wages increased only by 2.9% in 2011<sup>2</sup>
- Slightly slower growth in real wages expected in 2012 (2.4%)<sup>2</sup>
- Employee turnover (international companies)<sup>3</sup>:
  - ~2% in production
  - ~8% in services

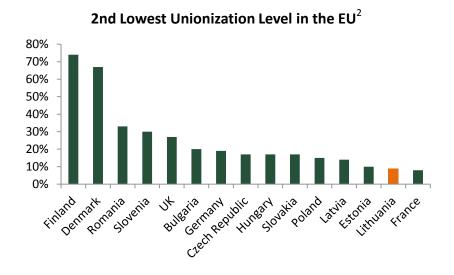
#### Average Monthly Gross Wages in EUR, 2011<sup>1</sup>

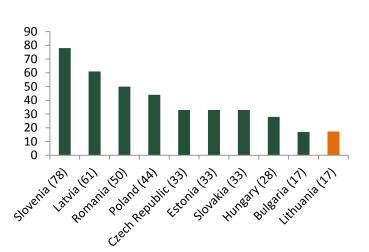


## Invest Lithuania

## One of The Most Flexible Labour Markets in CEE

- 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the EU by unionization level only 9% of the employed population are members of a trade union<sup>1</sup>
- One of the most flexible labour markets in CEE2:
  - the easiest to hire employees among EU members in CEE
  - 1st / 2nd most flexible wage determination among EU members in CEE
- 2<sup>nd</sup> among EU countries in CEE for efficiency of the legal framework for private businesses to settle disputes<sup>3</sup>





First in CEE by Ease of Hiring Employees<sup>1</sup>

Source 1: L.Fulton, "Worker representation in Europe", Labour Research Department and ETUI, 2011

Source 2: Doing Business, 2012

Source 3: WEF Global Competitiveness Index ,2011



## **Business-Friendly Environment**

# Investment Incentives for foreign companies establishing new business (Invest LT+ program)

#### Incentives for investment into new technologies and R&D<sup>2</sup>

- R&D and experimental expansion expenses are fully deductible three times
- Very short depreciation periods and fast depreciation methods for equipment used for R&D activities
- Depreciation expenses may be set-off against licensing income
- Access to Interest and Royalties and Parent-Subsidiary directives
- Access to extensive Lithuanian Double Taxation Agreement Network

#### Tax Rate Snapshot<sup>1</sup>

Corporate profit tax	15 %
VAT	21 %
Dividends*	Up to 15%
Personal income tax	15%
Employee's social security tax	9%
Social security tax paid by the employer	Up to 31.18%
Real estate tax	Up to 1 %

<sup>\*</sup>Dividends may be exempt under certain conditions:

- 0% applies if investor holds at least 10% of voting shares in the company for at least 12 months
- 0% in Free Economic Zones



## **Special Territories for Business Development**

#### **Seven Special Economic Zones:**

- 0% corporate tax for the first 6 years
- 50% discount on corporate tax over the next 10 years
- 0% tax on dividends
- 0% tax on real estate

#### Four industrial parks:

- 12.4 49 ha of greenfield territory available
- All necessary physical infrastructure
- Municipal tax incentives





## **Science and Business Valleys**

In Lithuania there are developed 5 **Integrated Science, Studies and Business Centers (Valleys)** with a view to building up research, studies and knowledge economy clusters of international level, accelerating the development of knowledge society and consolidating the long- term foundation for the competitiveness of Lithuania's economy.

The Valleys are located in the three country's largest cities - Vilnius, Kaunas and Klaipėda:

- Santara and Sauletekis Valleys (Vilnius) biotechnologies, innovative medicine, biopharmacy, ecosystems, ICT, laser and lightechnologies, nanotechnologies, semiconductors technologies and electronics, civil engineering.
- Nemunas and Santaka Valleys (Kaunas) agro biotechnologies, bioenergy and forestry, food technologies, safety and wellness, sustainable chemistry and pharmacy, mechatronics, future energy and ICT.
- Maritime Valley (Klaipėda) maritime technologies and maritime environment.









#### Small is Beautiful: Great Place to Live



#### **Facts about Lithuania:**

- Among Top 10 least expensive European countries to live in<sup>1</sup>
- Among Top 40 countries of 221 countries in the World for the quality of life<sup>2</sup>
- 17<sup>th</sup> out of 132 countries in the Environmental Performance Index 2012<sup>3</sup>
- Vilnius 10<sup>th</sup> place in the World in Smart City rankings<sup>4</sup>

#### Rich cultural life and great recreational activities:

- 6 top quality golf courses, 4 ski resorts (incl. an indoor ski complex)
- 105 museums, 33 cinemas, 39 theatres
- Vilnius' Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is vibrant and pedestrian-friendly













Source 1: Mercer Cost of Living Index 2012

Source 2: Quality of Life index, International Living 2011

Source 3: Environmental Performance Index , Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy 2012  $\,$ 







Most Educated Talent Pool in the EU



Availability of Multilingual Employees



World Class ICT Infrastructure



Easy Access to both Eastern and Western Markets



Cost-Effective Business Development Location



One of The Most Flexible Labour Markets in CEE



**Business-Friendly Environment** 



Special Territories for Business Development



Science and Business Valleys



Small is Beautiful: Great Place to Live

## **One-Stop-Shop**



Information
Consultancy
Analysis
Search
Guidance
Networking
Assistance
Aftercare

#### **Contact information:**

Giedrė Urbonavičiūtė
Chief Project Manager
+370 5 262 74 38
giedre.urbonaviciute@investlithuania.com