



E-government for LOW Socio-economic sTatus groups (ELOST)

Introduction

Dr. Tal Soffer

Tel Aviv University ➤

The Interdisciplinary Center for Technological Analysis and Forecasting (ICTAF) ➤





Background

Lisbon strategy

In 2000, the Lisbon strategy set the ambitious goal: to ensure that every citizen should have the appropriate skills needed to live and work in a new Information Society for all.

This means bringing the benefit of the Information Society **into all segments of the population**

Riga Declaration

In 2006 the EU Riga Declaration¹⁶² calls to halve the gap in Internet usage by 2010 for groups at risk of exclusion.

The ELOST project addresses these goals





The ELOST Vision

By the next decade, after the implementation of ELOST the use of e-Government among All will be as the use of the telephone today....The “bridge” over the digital divide will be sound.





ELOST Goal



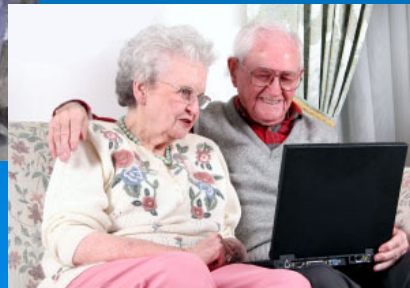
Policy measures that will increase the number of people from LSGs able to use e-Government services.

LSGs includes variety of segments such as: low income groups, low education level, unemployed people as well as ethnic minorities, immigrants etc'.



ELOST Research Postulation

There is wide gap between at risk groups / LSGs and the general population regarding Internet & e-Government use penetration



ELOST Activities:

- SoA review on the LSGs situation in European countries regarding e-Gov use.
- SoA review on policy measures regarding e-Gov
- Field survey of LSGs about their patterns of e-Gov use, their attitudes and the barriers they face
- Cross-national comparative assessment of e-Gov use by LSGs
- Foresight study on potential influence of emerging technologies
- Web-based interactive toolbox for knowledge sharing on policies and experiences regarding e-Gov and LSGs
- Policy design resulting in recommendations for inclusive e-Gov policy for LSGs.

Main outputs of ELOST

- e4: Interactive policy toolbox for e-Gov
- Detailed understanding of the current situation, including cross cultural analysis on LSGs and e-Government (attitudes, barriers and incentives) as well as existing policies and experience.
- Assessment of potential benefit of emerging technologies for LSGs and e-Gov.
- Policy plan and recommendations



ELOST – Main Contributions

- Providing indicators to better understand the categories of population-at-risk
- A web-based interactive toolbox on e-Government policy tools and programs – **e4 system** developed on the basis of Open Source Software (Media Wiki) for collaborative knowledge generation and interactive expert exchange, and an open source visualisation tool, TouchGraph. The e4 includes information on policy tools and programs regarding e-Government
- Detailed understanding of the current situation, including cross cultural analysis (attitudes, barriers and incentives) as well as existing policies and experience.
- Identifying "**attitudes**" as a major barrier to e-Gov usage and "change agents" as a major solution
- Targeted foresight study, assessing potential benefit of new technologies
- Inclusive Policy plan.





ELOST Website



e-Government for low socio-economic status groups

Objectives

Consortium

Work description

e-Government tools

Results

News

Contact

Members area

Links



News flash: The final ELOST workshop will take place in Brussels on March 11, 2008. The workshop will be titled 'E-Government and Social Inclusion: Barriers, Opportunities and Future Directions'. It aims to bring together scholars working in the area of e-Government and e-inclusion to discuss research findings and policy recommendations among themselves and with policy-makers and technology providers. (See the agenda).



e4 wiki



ELOST is an EC FP6 funded project
(IST FP6 – 027287)





Thank You!



Will we all talk to invisible computers everywhere in 2020?
Will digital divide disappear??

For more information please contact:
Tal Soffer, tsofer@eng.tau.ac.il
www.elost.org

