

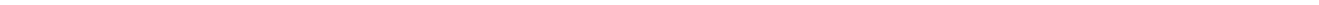
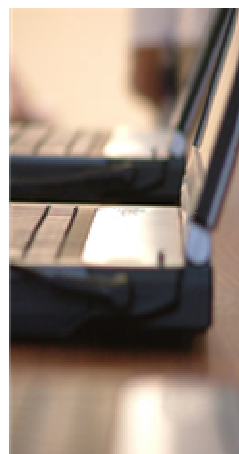
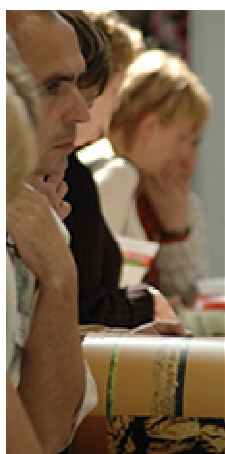


ŠIUOLAIKINIŲ DIDAKTIKŲ CENTRAS  
Modern Didactics Center

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2009

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# ABOUT MODERN DIDACTICS CENTER

Modern Didactics Center is non-profit, non-governmental organization for continuing adult education and in-service training. Modern Didactics Center was established in 1999 as inter-university centre by an initiative of Vilnius Pedagogical University and the Open Society Fund-Lithuania.

## Joint owners

Open Society Fund-Lithuania  
Vilnius Pedagogical University

## Mission

To propose and implement innovations in education, and to support education reform and integration into European Union by continual monitoring, study and analysis of the situation in general education and the needs of Lithuanian schools for change and innovation.






## Aims

- To encourage and to support the initiatives by the academic community designed to bring about changes in higher education and teacher training and foster democracy and cooperation.
- To encourage and support communication and cooperation between institutions of higher education and secondary schools.
- To develop inter-university connections to encouraging openness, tolerance and collegial communication between educators.

## Activities

- Preparation and dissemination of in-service training programs for adults in various professions.
- In-service training courses for primary and secondary school and university teachers.
- Planning and implementation of local and international projects.
- Workshops and conferences on pressing educational problems.
- Consultation and expertise services.
- Publishing.

## Membership

	Informal Lithuania Association of Development Education	since 2000
	Association of Teacher Education in Europe, ATEE	since 2000
	Lithuanian Association of Adults Education	since 2000
	Association „New Connections“	since 2003
	International RWCT Consortium	since 2004
	National network of Anna Lindh Foundation	since 2009

## Main events in 2009

On 29 January Vilnius Pedagogical University delegated its right of joint owner to Open Society Fund-Lithuania.

In February Modern Didactics Center moved to the new office at Didžioji Street.

On 15 May the cooperation agreement with Vilnius Pedagogical University was signed for organizing students' practical training at Modern Didactics Center.

On 22 December the cooperation agreement between Modern Didactics Center and Mykolas Romeris University was signed. Agreement aims to promote mutual cooperation, exchanging views on educational policy, educational and professional development issues, discussing training of educators. Modern Didactics Center will provide university professors assistance in the elaboration and implementation of training programs, student educational programs and practice methodologies. Modern Didactics Center staff will be invited to attend the University conferences, training seminars and studies. Promoting inter-institutional cooperation, special attention will be paid to the general international and national project preparation and implementation, to development of joint scientific and applied research, to cooperation in the field of educational innovation diffusion, as well as the joined applied social and educational activities are estimated.



# MANAGEMENT

According to the statute of Modern Didactics Center the main bodies of administration are the following: general meeting of joint owners, the board of the Center, and director of the Center.

Resolutions of general meeting of joint owners are obligatory for the board, Centre's director and staff.

The board regulates Center's activities. The board consists of 9 members – 4 members are delegated by joint owner Vilnius Pedagogical University, 5 members are delegated by joint owner Open Society Fund-Lithuania.

The general meeting of joint owners appoints the head of the board and other board members for the period of 5 years.

The board is accountable to the general meeting of joint owners.

## Board

### Head of the board

prof. habil. dr. Rimantas ŽELVYS  
Vilnius Pedagogical University, Vice-Rector for Science

### Board members

doc. dr. Vytautas BERNOTAS  
Vilnius Pedagogical University, Vice-Rector for Studies

Mindaugas BRIEDIS  
Vilnius Pedagogical University, Vice-director of Social Communication Institute

Virginija BŪDIENĖ  
Chief adviser of the president of the Republic of Lithuania in the field of education, science, culture and NGO, Education Policy Center of Vilnius University, Director

dr. Kęstutis KAMINSKAS  
Office of the Education, Science and Culture Committee of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Head

Jolanta KNYVIENĖ  
Vilnius Simonas Daukantas basic school, Principal

doc. dr. Giedrė KVIESKIENĖ  
Vilnius Pedagogical University, Director of Social Communication Institute

Virginijus SAVUKYNAS  
National Lithuanian Radio and Television, Editor in Chief of Online Service

doc. dr. Loreta ŽADEIKAITĖ  
Ministry of Education and Science, Head of Lower and Upper Secondary Education Division

## Staff

Daiva PENKAUSKIENĖ, director  
Lina GRINYTĖ, project coordinator  
Asta NAVICKAITĖ, program coordinator  
Asta MATONYTĖ, program and project coordinators assistant  
Jurgita BALAIŠIENĖ, administrator

## Qualification improvement of the staff

Each year Modern Didactics Center's staff members improving their qualification participating in various events: conferences, seminars, trainings, open lessons, study visits and ctr.

- 1 **Lina Grinytė**  
Seminar about subsidy of Norway financial mechanisms and EEE and Norway financial mechanisms  
2009-01-21, Vilnius (Lithuania)

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- 2 **Daiva Penkauskienė**  
Meeting of EC experts "Education and Training 2010 cluster "Teachers and Trainers"  
2009-03-23, 2009-06-04, Brussels (Belgium)

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- 3 **Jurgita Balaišienė**  
Presentation of the international project „EFFECT / Education for the future European citizen by tutoring”  
2009-03-31, Vilnius (Lithuania)

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- 4 **Daiva Penkauskienė**  
Meeting of education centres „Functions of education centres in the teachers qualification improvement system”  
2009-04-16, Kaunas (Lithuania)

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- 5 **Daiva Penkauskienė**  
Discussion „Early language education: experience, lessons, challenges“  
2009-06-19, Vilnius (Lithuania)

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- 6 **Asta Matonytė**  
Development education summer school „YOUTH ACT Recognizing, motivating, engaging young people as actors in development education, campaigning, advocacy“  
2009-06-21/28, Cheile Gradistei (Romania)

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- 7 **Daiva Penkauskienė, Lina Grinytė**  
PLA workshop „Practical classroom training within initial teacher education“  
2009-10-05/09, Vilnius (Lithuania)

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- 8 **Daiva Penkauskienė**  
Presentation of the project „Time of leaders“  
2009-11-26, Vilnius (Lithuania)

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# MAIN ACTIVITIES

## Projects and programs

### MIS / Docente Europeo: Move'in Science<sup>2</sup>

ES Socrates Comenius program project No. 134648–2007–IT–COMENIUS–CM



Lifelong Learning Programme

**Duration** – 2008-2009

**Supported by** – European Commission

**Applicant** – SISIS University of Palermo (Italia)

**Coordinator** – association SEND (Italy)

**Partners:** Modern Didactics Center (Lithuania), Comenius University Bratislava (Slovakia), Ruhr University Bochum (Germany), Andrei Saguna University (Romania), University College Artevelde (Belgium)

**Grant** – 26.822,88 €, **contribution** – 16.868,84 €

#### Short description

The Project proposal is build on the need to develop competences and knowledge in the educational field of the initial teacher education of secondary school teachers of science and technology areas with specific reference to the PCK (Pedagogical Content Knowledge) methodology. The general aim of the project is to weigh on initial teacher education and in-service teaching of the scientific and technological areas so to make more attractive the perspective of scientific careers on the so called “hard subjects” for new generations.

There have been developed in partner institutions didactic modules of physics, mathematics, and computer science programs, which have been tested and evaluated during student exchange (mobility practices) during the 2009 spring semester. 58 students participated in the mobility. Students continuously monitored and assessed the progress of practice: they evaluate their satisfaction with mobility program, involvement into activities, possibilities to develop their as future teachers competences, preparation for lessons and lesson teaching, experience, gained during lessons observation at school and participation in scientific experiments.

During the Project there is elaborated the Handbook including pedagogical materials for the PCK development.

The project contributed to enhance the idea of International co-operation among education institutions and mobility of Science and technology prospective teachers, improving initial teacher education for secondary school and allowing for a better and more motivated teaching/learning in Science and Technology areas. Improving the quality of teaching these subjects so to make learning more attractive and improving the dissemination of the project outcomes through the publication of a Comenius seminar.

**Website** <http://www.mis.unipa.it/project/index.html>

## NORD+ Senior golden examples



**Duration** – 2008-2010

**Supported by** – Nordic Councils of Ministers, Nordplus program

**Coordinator** – Pirkanmaa Westcome, Adult Education Unit (Finland)

**Partners:** Modern Didactics Center (Lithuania), Secretary General Folkeuniversitetet, Adult Education Association (Norway), Norwegian Association for Distance and Flexible Education (Norway), Centre for Lifelong Learning in the Westfjords (Iceland)

**Grant** – 10.904,27 €, **contribution** – 3.634,42 €

### Short description

The aim of the project is to map out available statistics on training of seniors (over 55 years old) in the partner countries, including e.g. participation in training, staying at work, retirement age, what kind of training they participate in, what are the topics of training, which kinds of adult education organisations exist in different countries, policies for the training of seniors. The partners will write a report on the basis of this information, where the results are analysed and divided by countries and by ages.

Besides the existing statistics, the project will concentrate on collecting information on the methods used in the training of seniors, their positive and negative aspects, and the learning methods seniors prefer to use. For this purpose, the partners together planned and created a questionnaire, which examines such questions as gender, age, still working or retired, needs and interests regarding training, barriers of participation in training, learning styles, reasons of participation in training, which kind of information of training best reaches the seniors, best places and times for training, spare time activities.

In each country 15 seniors filled in the questionnaire. In the target group there were persons both in employment and retired, and both active participants in training and those who do not participate, for one reason or another.

The results of the questionnaire will be first analysed by the partners in each country, and then they will be compared with each other. The aim is, on the basis of the results, to prepare advice and recommendations for the training of seniors – best methods and contents, ways to exclude the barriers of participation, and ways of motivation for training and lifelong learning. Then each partner organisation will plan, market and arrange a pilot course. After that the pilot courses and the functionality of the models will be evaluated on account of the jointly given criteria. The results – best practices – will be compiled into a publication, which will be disseminated, for instance in seminars organised in partner countries in the end of the project.

**Website** [http://www.sdcentras.lt/en/proj\\_gold.htm](http://www.sdcentras.lt/en/proj_gold.htm)



## MOT-E / From best motivation to best education



**Duration** – 2008-2009

**Supported by** – Nordic Councils of Ministers, Nordplus program

**Coordinator** – CIRIUS agency (Denmark)

**Partners:** Modern Didactics Center (Lithuania), Pirkanmaa Westcome, Adult Education Unit (Finland), Sudurnes Comprehensive College (Iceland), Sudurnes Life-long Learning Centre (Iceland)

**Grant** – 5.270,21 €

### Short description

Project aimed to reach adults with low participation in life long learning process (LLP) (formal and non-formal), invite them to participate in any kind of learning activities proposed by project partners using variety of social advertisement marketing tools and improving content and forms of learning services.

Objectives:

- To analyze and map in-countries situation towards project target group: reasons for not participating, marketing strategies applied in partner countries, most popular programs and learning forms.
- To analyze and test different social advertisement marketing tools in order to attract as many as possible adult learners not participating (or poor participating) in LLP.
- To improve and develop adult education programs (content and forms of delivery).
- To create and maintain in-country network to support project.
- To disseminate project ideas from the very beginning of its start.

Target groups: institutions working in adult education area, adult learners not participating or poor participating in LLP.

Project was developed as preparatory action of partner organizations coming together to develop full proposal for Nordplus programme. The project focused on investigations on adult motivation and needs for education (existing situation in Iceland, Finland and Lithuania) and creating (or adapting) of relevant methodology and tools for established motivation and development of adult education.

Partners met in Vilnius (Lithuania) on 6-9 October 2008, shared their experiences in adult education, especially working with less motivated and advanced groups. Partners visited adult education centre in Vilnius, get acquainted with teaching and learning practices. Partners researched materials on adults motivation and intentions to learn, discussed effective methodologies and strategies, that could be applied working with disadvantaged groups. At the end of the meeting they developed general scheme and draft proposal for the next call of proposals.

Project results:

- Participating organizations had opportunity to share their experiences on adult education teaching and learning, to share and compare, and to develop together methodology of investigation.
- Strong partnership relations were built.
- Prepared project and full application for Nordplus Adult programme.

**Website** [http://www.sdcentras.lt/en/proj\\_mote.htm](http://www.sdcentras.lt/en/proj_mote.htm)

## Mobilizing action against corruption (MAAC) program in Armenia



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**Casals & Associates, Inc.**

**Duration** – 2009

**Supported by** – USAID (USA), Casals and Associates, Inc (USA)

**Coordinator** – Future is Yours Charitable Social NGO (Armenia)

**Partner / consultant** – Modern Didactics Center (Lithuania)

**Grant** – 18.164,34 €

### **Short description**

The goal of the program – is to reduce corruption and to stop manifestations of corruption in the Republic of Armenia by promoting and organizing anti-corruption education in the Armenian public schools.

The main activities of the program were developing an anti-corruption curriculum for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade high school students in Armenia, developing a draft anti-corruption course guidebook, realizing pilot courses on anti-corruption education, and training more than 1000 teachers of the public schools.

As a result of the implementation of this program, the capacity of schools to deliver anti-corruption courses was built and strengthened, and the awareness about corruption and anti-corruption in schools was increased.

Daiva Penkauskienė, director of Modern Didactics Center participated in the program as an expert and consultant. She analysed possibilities of anticorruption education programs implementation in Armenia, participated in development of teacher guidebook on anticorruption education and development of anticorruption education program. On 20-30 October Daiva Penkauskiene delivered trainings “Education against corruption” to program participants.



## Research

### Review of the Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking (RWCT) Program

OSI's Education Support Program (ESP), in charge of the Critical Thinking program, has decided to conduct a Critical Thinking Program Review (CTPR), a fact-finding exercise to document the impact of the RWCT program in the countries which have implemented the RWCT program. The review included all 28 countries that implemented the RWCT program with support from OSI in the period between 1997 and 2004. The review targeted two aspects: sustainability of the original RWCT Project outputs and outcomes and RWCT related developments that were initiated by in-country RWCT Program Directors and trainers. For data collection there were used document review, focus groups and interviews.

Evaluation target groups were RWCT Teachers, University faculties, RWCT Trainers, RWCT in-country program partners.

### Research of seniors' participation in training

Implementing the project "NORD+ Senior golden examples", research of training of seniors in Iceland, Norway and Lithuania. Project partners planned and created a questionnaire, which examines such questions as gender, age, still working or retired, needs and interests regarding training, barriers of participation in training, learning styles, reasons of participation in training, which kind of information of training best reaches the seniors, best places and times for training, spare time activities.

In each country 15 seniors filled in the questionnaire. In the target group there were persons both in employment and retired, and both active participants in training and those who do not participate, for one reason or another.

In Lithuania questionnaires was distributed in Trakai, Lazdijai, Pakruojis, Rietavas, Jurbarkas regions in Lithuania for 45 respondents. In focus groups participated 15 seniors: 7 from Vilnius town – actively participating in training and 8 from Trakai region – passively participating in training.

On the basis of the results there will be prepared advice and recommendations for the training of seniors – best methods and contents, ways to exclude the barriers of participation, and ways of motivation for training and lifelong learning.

### Research of pedagogical practice of students, participating in mobility program of the project "MIS / Docente Europeo: Move'in Science<sup>2</sup>"

Implementing the international project MIS / Docente Europeo: Move'in Science<sup>2</sup> there were organized mobility program for 4-week pedagogical practice in project partner countries (Italy, Lithuania, Belgium, Slovakia, Romania, Germany). Students continuously monitored and assessed the progress of practice: they evaluate their satisfaction with mobility program, involvement into activities, possibilities to develop their as future teachers competences, preparation for lessons and lesson teaching, experience, gained during lessons observation at school and participation in scientific experiments.



## In-service training

Modern Didactics Center elaborates in-service training programmes for qualification improvement of pedagogues and other groups of adults.

Most training programmes are developed for all subject teachers of general education working with children of all ages, class tutors, as well as for lecturers of high schools, colleges, universities, vocational school teachers, non-formal education specialists, school psychologists, special educators, social educators.

The lecturers are those of the Modern Didactics Center, teachers of secondary schools and lecturers from the universities who are experienced in adult education.

The participants get the Modern Didactics Center's certificates, recognized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania.

Since 2008 Modern Didactics Center is accredited adult education centre.

## Seminars

In 2009 14 seminars were organized and 346 participants have completed them.

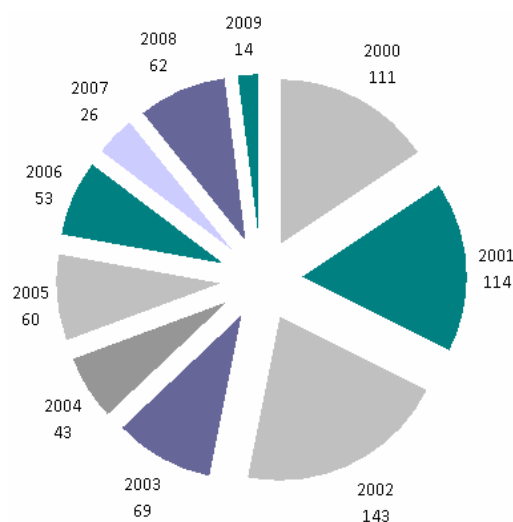
No.	Title of the seminar	No of seminars	Hours	Participants
1	Possibilities of anticorruption education at a school of general education	3	54	65
2	Cooperation with social partners	1	8	20
3	Working with text	1	6	20
4	Possibilities of career education at a school of general education	1	6	21
5	Critical thinking for successful future career	1	6	22
6	Learning stiles	2	18	73
7	Teaching stiles	1	6	28
8	Skills of creative thinking	1	8	20
9	Formation of organization image	1	6	37
10	Public relations and image building	1	8	20
11	Decision making	1	8	20
<b>Total:</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>346</b>

No.	Target groups of seminars	No of seminars	Hours	Participants
1	Teachers of basic and secondary education	3	18	60
2	School communities, school teams	6	42	180
3	Other (students, librarians, school administrators, municipality servants, mixed groups of participants)	5	74	106
<b>Total:</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>346</b>

No.	Lecturers of seminars	No of seminars	Hours	Participants
1	Modern Didactics Center staff	5	74	106
2	Teachers practitioners	2	12	39
3	Lecturers, scientists of Lithuania universities, other institutions of higher education and science	4	30	138
4	Specialists from ministries, municipalities, other public institutions	1	6	20
5	Specialists from NGO	2	12	43
<b>Total:</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>346</b>

### Comparative statistics

Year	No of seminars	No of participants
2000	111	2694
2001	114	3039
2002	143	4348
2003	69	1642
2004	43	1040
2005	60	1706
2006	53	1639
2007	26	573
2008	62	566
2009	14	134



### Organization of trainings

Modern Didactics Center has won competition to organize trainings for Anykščiai Child and Youth Employment Center staff and volunteers according the European Economic Area and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms subsidy scheme "Strengthening the NGO sector in Lithuania". On 28 October – 10 November Modern Didactics Center's lecturers conducted trainings „Skills of creative thinking”, “Decision making”, “Cooperation with social partners”, “Public relations and image building”.

### Development of in-service training programmes

#### Developed and accredited in-service training programmes in 2009

1. Entrepreneurship education
2. An effective helpers: scheduling, conduct of meetings, effective listening and disclosure
3. Teaching (learning) styles
4. Ethnic minority education (learning) needs and their satisfaction
5. Lithuanian education law: the powers, rights, duties, responsibilities

### Developed and accredited in-service training programmes with educational trips in 2009

1. Pupils' motivation system in Molėtai Gymnasium and education of good at physics children (trip to Ethno cosmology Center and Observatory)
2. Spiritual values. Writer Šatrijos Ragana – cultivator of values (trip to Židikai)
3. Experience of Mažeikiai „Žiburėlis“ primary school working with the program „Reading and writing for critical thinking" (lesson observation Mažeikiai „Žiburėlis“ primary school)
4. Nemunas Delta Regional Park (trip to the Nemunas Delta Regional Park)
5. Historical and cultural heritage of Klaipėda region and frontier zone (trip to Klaipeda region historical and cultural heritage sites)
6. Literary Šilutė (trip to Šilutė literary sites)
7. Building and development of school museum (visit to Šilutė first gymnasium museum)

### Cooperation in the field of in-service training

There were signed cooperation agreements with:

- Saku Gymnasium (Estonia) – for implementing in-service training programme „Resolution of conflicts by the effort of school community“.
- Zdruzenie Orava pre demokraciu vo vzdelavni (Slovakia) – for implementing in-service training programmes “Strategies of critical thinking lesson evaluation”, „Multicultural education in a democratic society”, "Experience of cooperative learning", "Project method in teaching process“, „Development of individual school programs", „Possibilities of anticorruption education at a school of general education“.



# Organization of events

## Seminars

On 5-8 October 2009 Modern Didactics Center in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania organized PLA workshop "**Practical Classroom Training within Initial Teacher Education**". PLA meeting in Vilnius seek to analyze one aspect of teacher training – preparation for teacher's profession and meeting national as well as EU requirements for teacher's professional competences. Teaching practices at school served as binoculars to look at subject teachers training in Universities.

PLA discussed and shared policies and practices in initial teachers training concerning professional education in higher education institutions. PLA participants have been asked to present their own examples of professional training, for example: content of studies and their correspondence to the needs and requirements of education systems and schools, preparation for teaching in universities and practicing at schools, measurement of professional competences through preparation for teaching and practicing at schools and etc.

11 countries participated in this PLA: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, and United Kingdom.

## Discussions

On 19 June 2009 Modern Didactics Center in cooperation with Representation of European Commission in Lithuania organized discussion „**Early language education: experience, lessons, and challenges**". The aim of the discussion was to share experience of early language education, to discuss rising challenges and possibilities to unify attempts of different areas specialists, social groups and organizations for quality language education at the early stage of education.

Participants of the discussion was teachers of primary grades, native and foreign language teachers from secondary schools, school headmasters, parents, university lecturers, representatives of Ministry of Education and Science, NGOs, media.

## Visits

On 12-16 October 2009 m. Modern Didactics Center organized study visit for 13 teachers from various education institutions of Great Britain. Teachers have visited several Lithuanian primary and secondary schools in Vilnius and observed the process of education. The topic of the visit – "**Every Child Matters". Community Leadership**".

The visit was initiated and supported by Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (Great Britain).

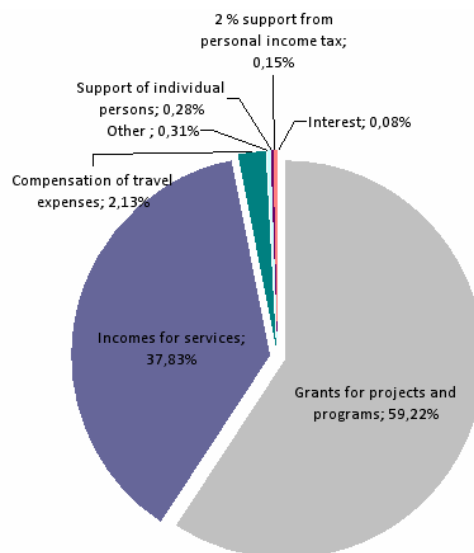
On 21-22 December 2009 Modern Didactics Center organized **visit of delegation of the representatives of the government of the Republic of Albania** to Lithuania. The delegation consisted of Minister of Education and Science Myqerem Tafaj, Director of the Minister's Office Edlira Late, Director of Budgetary Planning Directorate of the Ministry of Education and Science Mimoza Agolli, Adviser to the Prime Minister Bardhyl Musai, Rector of Tirana University Dhoris Kule, came into Lithuania to get acquainted with higher education reform and principles of education funding. Delegation visited ISM University of Management and Economics, Vilnius Pedagogical University, Vilnius Mykolas Romeris University, have a meeting with Minister of Education and Science Gintaras Steponavičius.

Modern Didactics Center has got funding to organize study visit to Lithuania under the theme "**CRED'o - Creative Education – Successful generation**" on 4-8 October 2010. Programme of the visit is announced at CEDEFOP (The European Centre for the Development and Vocational Training) study visits catalogue. The purpose of the visit – promoting creativity in training and education. Participants will get acquainted with the Lithuanian schools initiatives and experience in applying creativity techniques in formal and informal education.

# FINANCIAL INDICATORS

## Sources of revenue (I)

Grants for projects and programs	59,22%	61.323,45 €
Incomes for services	37,83%	39.177,36 €
Compensation of travel expenses	2,13%	2.204,40 €
Other	0,31%	317,88 €
Support of individual persons	0,28%	291,90 €
2 % support from personal income tax	0,15%	151,04 €
Interest	0,08%	85,40 €
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>103.551,43 €</b>



## Sources of revenue (II)

Private foreign institutions	74,25%	76.888,39 €
Private national institutions	11,93%	12.351,49 €
National state institutions	9,10%	9.419,35 €
Foreign state institutions	4,21%	4.363,87 €
Private persons	0,28%	291,90 €
2 % support from personal income tax	0,15%	151,04 €
Interest	0,08%	85,40 €
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>103.551,43 €</b>

