

Hungarian Information Society Strategy

Equal Opportunities Part Strategy

Programme plan for helping social groups in a disadvantaged position from the aspect of the information society catch up in the interest of the elimination of the digital divide



New economy – new inequalities

Social inequality when an individual or social group had no access to sufficient resources was merely treated as a poverty problem in the past, while poverty itself was regarded primarily as a distribution problem.

The resource to be examined from the aspect of the equal opportunities strategy is, however, not material or financial but a special kind of thing: information. Access to information is not a poverty problem and not a mere problem of distribution.

Today's inequalities and the reproduction of these inequalities are based on the social division of labour and the present structure of work which are, in turn, based on inequalities in power and knowledge.



Cohesion is a social value

With our accession to the European Union, we shall become a full member of the community which regards social and economic **cohesion** as one of its core values. HISS views the reinforcement of this value as a top priority, primarily in its information society aspects.



Situation in Hungary

„Digital social division”

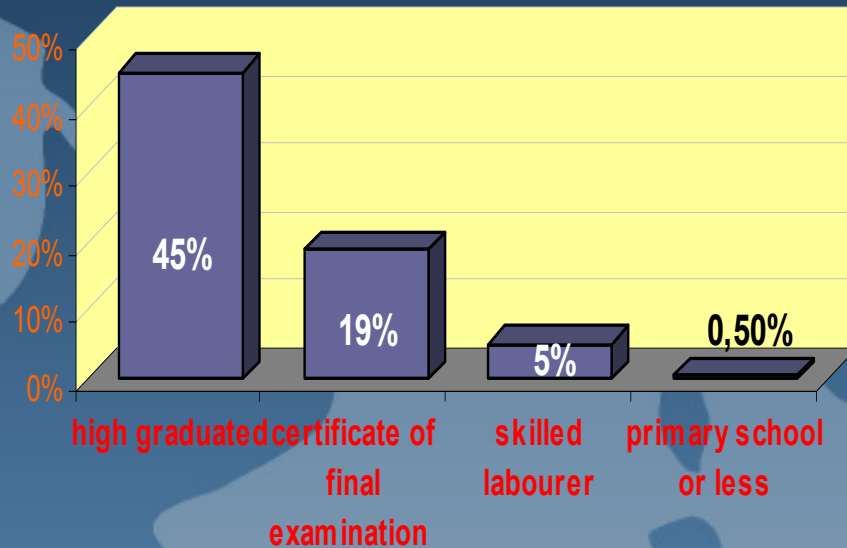
As regards access to and the use of computers and the Internet in Hungary, the most typical digital divides are, in addition to the traditional difference inducing factors, business activity, age, place of residence and ethnic affiliation.



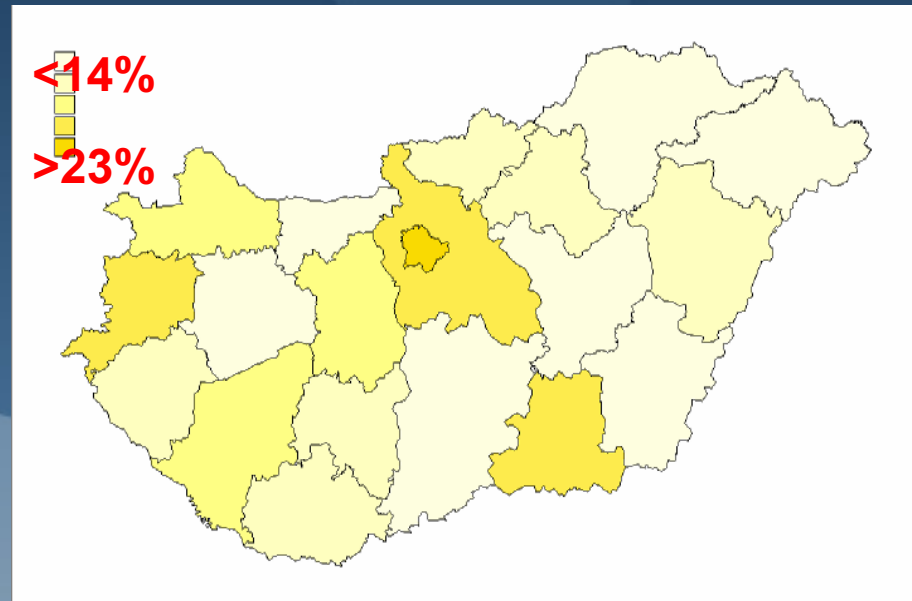
Situation in Hungary

„Digital social division”

Education and use of the Internet



Extent of use of Internet (work place, community and home combined)



The strategy distinguishes three target areas for providing equal opportunities:

- equal territorial opportunities,
- equal social opportunities,
- equal regional opportunities.



Areas of action

- spreading IT skills among disadvantaged groups.
- providing target-specific, high-quality contents.
- broadening remote work system among disadvantaged groups
- setting up and operating a special mentor network
- formulating a normative subsidization system if possible
- expanding opportunities of access in communal or special individual forms.



Programmes

- It is desirable to manage the areas mentioned among the main objectives in a complex manner, primarily in the interest of the efficient operation of the support system, as part of an equal opportunities “umbrella” programme.
- Providing handicapped individuals with special devices, from local resources
- Supplying disadvantaged individuals with equipment through the re-distribution of used equipment
- Support for certain groups at a disadvantage from the aspect of the information society in the form of tax benefits on IT equipment.
- **Standardization of digital curricula**



Elements of the high-priority e-umbrella programme

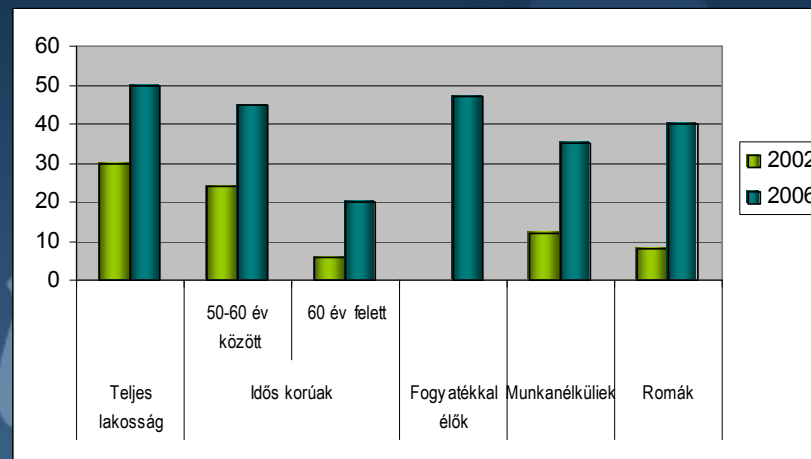
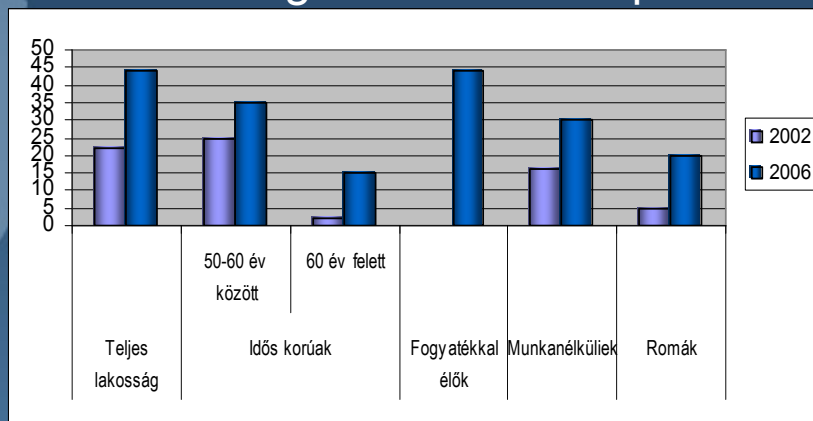
- Linking e-Hungary Points
- Linking curriculum development programme
- Extension of IT mentor programme
- Extension of remote work programme
- Electronic accounting and monitoring system
- Subsidiarity-based subsidization programme



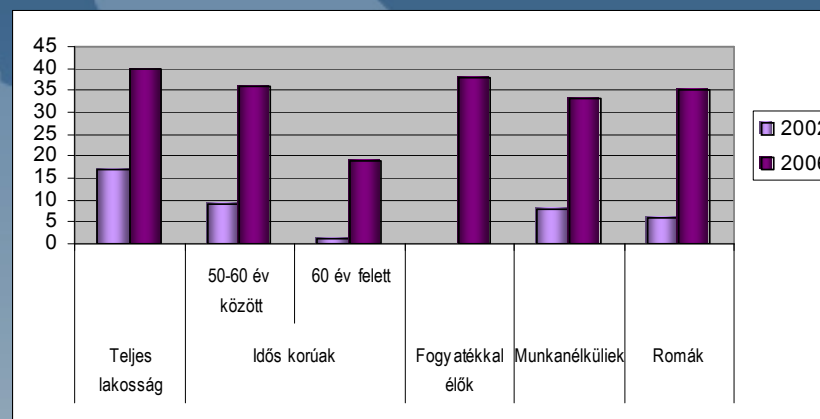
Objectives of the umbrella programme

PC users

Having access to computer



Internet users



Thank you for your kind attention

