



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS



ANNUAL REPORT No 5
on the implementation of
the Norwegian Financial Mechanism
in the Republic of Slovenia

Implementation period: **October 2009–September 2010**
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Prepared by: **National Focal Point
Government Office of the Republic of Slovenia
for Development and European Affairs**

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Glossary of Acronyms

AEP	Active Employment Policy
ASD	Autistic spectrum disorder
BSO	Budgetary Supervision Office
CF	Cohesion Fund
CMEPIUS	Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational and Training Programmes
EEA	European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EU	European Union
FMO	Financial Mechanism Office
FMs	Norwegian Financial Mechanism and EEA Financial Mechanism
GOEA	Government Office for European Affairs
GODEA	Government Office for Development and European Affairs
GOSP	Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEAP	National Environment Action Programme
NDP	National Development Programme
NFP	National Focal Point (Government Office for Development and European Affairs)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NRP	Plan of development programmes (Načrt razvojnih programov)
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework
OP ESF	Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for 2007–2013
OP RD	Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013
OP ROPI	Operational programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013
PA	Paying Authority (Ministry of Finance)
PCR	Project Completion Report
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
PIR	Project Implementation Report
REC	Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe
R&D	Research and Development
SDS	Slovenia's Development Strategy
SORS	Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia

PREFACE

The purpose of the Annual Report on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism in the Republic of Slovenia is to give comprehensive information on the implementation during the period under review. The Annual Report should provide an overview of the implementation of the mechanism and compile information which the National Focal Point has received from all interested bodies throughout the implementation period until 4 October 2010.

The present Annual Report is in compliance with the Beneficiary State monitoring and reporting guidelines on the Norwegian Financial Mechanism.

The reported period starts on 10 September 2009 and covers the period until 4 October 2010. The Annual Report includes the following issues:

- Background information
- Status of implementation of individual projects
- Status of implementation of MoU Annex C funds
- An assessment of the effects of the projects on the bilateral relations between the EEA EFTA States and Slovenia
- An assessment of the impact of projects and funds on the cross-cutting issues
- Indicative implementation plan for the following year
- Tentative audit plan for the following year
- Overview of audits

1 BACKGROUND

Relevant legislation and documents

The Republic of Slovenia became an EU Member State on 1 May 2004 after signing the Treaty of Accession to the European Union on 14 April 2003. Every new Member State of the European Union must file an application for the accession to the EEA Agreement. Slovenia filed the application on 20 December 2002. Negotiations on the EEA enlargement between the delegations of Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, the current Member States and the new Member States of the European Union were opened on 9 January 2003 and concluded by initialling the Agreement on 3 July 2003.

On 12 May 2005, a Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism for the period 2004–2009 between the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Slovenia (MoU) was signed. Under the Agreement, Protocol 38 – on the EEA Financial Mechanism, the EEA EFTA countries undertake to contribute to economically weaker countries in the European Economic Area. The estimated amount allocated for the Republic of Slovenia is 6,120,000 EUR for the period 2004–2009 under the EEA Financial Mechanism.

On 20 April 2005, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Slovenia on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2004–2009 established in accordance with the Agreement of 14 October 2003 between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Community on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period 2004–2009. The estimated amount allocated for the Republic of Slovenia for the period 2004–2009 for the Norwegian Financial Mechanism was EUR 12,474,000.

Implementation arrangements

1.2.1 National Focal Point

The National Focal Point (NFP) for the Norwegian Financial Mechanism is the Government Office for Development and European Affairs (GODEA). The GODEA was established under the ordinance on the establishment, which was adopted by the Government at its regular session on 18 December 2008. It was formed by merging two former offices – the Government Office for Growth and the Government Office for European Affairs (GOEA). The NFP has the overall responsibility for the management of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism's activities in the Republic of Slovenia as described in the MoU and the Rules of Procedures, including the overall responsibility for the use of funds, financial control and audit.

At its 94th regular session on 26 August 2010, the Government adopted a decision that the Norwegian Financial Mechanism would be transferred from the GODEA to the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy as of 1 October 2010. Later, at its 100th

regular session on 28 September 2010, the Government adopted a decision that this transfer would be postponed to 1 December 2010.

The division of responsibilities within the NFP is, as follows:

Table 1: Division of responsibilities within the NFP

<i>Name and position</i>	<i>Working area</i>
Mr Andrej Engelman , Deputy Director – Head of Development and Technical Assistance Department	National Focal Point
Ms Hermina Golob , Secretary, Development and Technical Assistance Department	Contact person, preparation of open calls and selection procedures, coordinator of 17 individual projects and the Technical Assistance Fund, monitoring, annual reports and meetings, state aid, public relations, implementation
Ms Mojca Mehikić , Secretary, Development and Technical Assistance Department	Coordinator of 5 individual projects and the Fund for Technical Experts, cooperation among educational and research institutions, monitoring, irregularities, audit, annual reports and meetings, public relations, implementation
Mr Peter Ješovnik , Secretary, Development and Technical Assistance Department	Coordinator of the NGO Fund
Development and Technical Assistance Department: Ms Vanja Černivec , Controller Ms Silvija Jakopovič , Controller Ms Andreja Malik , Controller	IMPLEMENTATION
Ms Brigita Plavec , Secretary, Head of Financial Unit	National Budget
Ms Marjeta Žnidaršič , Financial Officer, Financial Unit	National Budget
Ms Maruška Zvonar , Head of the Main Office	Archiving

1.2.2 Intermediate Bodies

On the basis of an agreement with the FMO, the NFP delegated some tasks related to project preparation and implementation to Intermediate Bodies. Their tasks and responsibilities are defined in detail in a legal act, agreement or memorandum of understanding between the Intermediate Body and the NFP.

The NFP has two Intermediary Bodies:

1. Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, Country Office Slovenia (REC), for the implementation of the NGO Fund;
2. Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational and Training Programmes (CMEPIUS) for the Fund for cooperation among educational and research institutions.

1.2.3 Paying Authority

Further provisions on financial flows, the Paying Authority and financial management were elaborated in an agreement between the FMO and the NFP and confirmed by the EFTA States and the Republic of Slovenia by signing an exchange of letters between the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the NFP on 16 December 2005, following the approval of the Paying Authority. The agreement contains provisions on the role of the National Fund and the Central Finance and Contracting Unit. The agreement puts in place an efficient payment system ensuring that funds from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism are being used efficiently and correctly and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management. The system ensures that the processing of payment claims is independent from other entities or agencies involved in the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. On 14 August 2009, the Paying Authority issued a revised version of Guidelines of the Paying Authority for claims financed from the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, with annexes.

With validity from 2nd August 2010, the Guidelines of the Paying Authority for claims have been changed by an agreement with the National Focal Point, so that the Paying Authority in general does not receive the copies of invoices and proof of payment but only the data on the expenditure claimed (except by a separate request).

1.2.4 Auditing

Internal Audit: the main duties of Internal Audit within each of the institutions are:

- to conduct internal audits of each institution involved (the GODEA and the Ministry of Finance);
- to advise the Minister or the head of institution on the matters from its own field of operation.

Budget Supervision Office (BSO): is an independent office in the framework of the Ministry of Finance, responsible for the audit of national and EU funds, as well as funds from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, with no responsibilities for the implementation and management. It is responsible for the overall strategy of the financial control for all funds, annual audit plans and the approval of audit programmes and quality control of audits executed.

Annex 8 includes a short overview of audits carried out by the Internal Audit and audits carried out by the BSO in 2010.

Court of Audit of the Republic of Slovenia: is the highest body for supervising state accounts, the state budget and all public spending in Slovenia. It is independent in the performance of its duties and bound by the Constitution and law. The Court of Audit Act also stipulates that the acts under which the Court of Audit exercises its powers of audit cannot be challenged before the courts or other state bodies.

1.2.5 Monitoring Committee

“Nomination of members of the Monitoring Committee for the EEA and Norwegian grants” was adopted by the Government at its 178th regular session on 17 July 2008 (Government Decision No. 50102-13/2008/4). New Government was appointed after the parliamentary elections in October 2008. The NFP requested the relevant institutions (Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy, Centre for Information Service, Co-operation and Development of NGOs and Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia) to submit the changes of members.

The Monitoring Committee is responsible for monitoring the course and manner of a project’s progress in the framework of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. The Monitoring Committee's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- periodical review of the progress of projects;
- examination and approval of periodical reports, the use of financial resources and
- ensuring that the NFP is fully informed about the progress of projects.

The 1st monitoring meeting of the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism Monitoring Committee for the period 2004–2009 took place on 20 October 2009 at the premises of the NFP. The representatives of the following institutions participated in the meeting as members of the Committee:

- Ministry of Finance, Paying Authority
- Ministry of Culture,
- Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning,
- Ministry of Health,
- Ministry of Education and Sport,
- Ministry of the Interior,
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia,
- Association of non-governmental organizations and independent creators in the field of culture and art.

The representatives of the Royal Norwegian Embassy attended the meeting as observers. The meeting was chaired by the National Focal Point.

The members of the Monitoring Committee were acquainted with the draft Annual Reports for the period September 2008–September 2009. The drafts were adopted as final versions. The information on new mechanisms was presented and discussed by the members of the Monitoring Committee.

1.2.6 Steering Committee

The Steering Committee has been appointed and chaired by the NFP. It is an advisory body to the NFP regarding the identification, development and selections of proposals. The Steering Committee's task is to deliver opinions and recommendations to the NFP on which projects should be forwarded to the FMO. The Steering Committee concluded its work with the last open call in 2008.

Priority areas

Priority and focus areas are specified in Annex B to the MoU on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism:

- Protection of the environment, including the human environment, through, *inter alia*, the reduction of pollution and the promotion of renewable energy;
- Promotion of sustainable development;
- Conservation of European cultural heritage;
- Human resource development through, *inter alia*, promotion of education and training, strengthening of administrative or public service capacities of local government or its institutions and the democratic processes that support it;
- Health and childcare;
- Academic research;
- Regional policy and cross-border activities;
- Implementation of the Schengen *Acquis* and the Judiciary;
- Technical Assistance.

The NFP agreed with the donors that, due to the limited financial allocation to the Republic of Slovenia, there would be no programmes (groups of projects) and seed-money-facility type of assistance. In view of simplifying the administrative procedures, individual projects can only be submitted as complete project applications.

In Annex C to the MoU on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, special attention is also given to the financing assistance for:

1. NGO Fund;
2. Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions and Technical Expert Fund;
3. Technical Assistance Fund.

Cross-cutting issues

The cross-cutting issues such as environmental sustainability, economic sustainability, social dialogue, gender equality and good governance are considered to be of crucial importance for the balanced economic and social development of the Republic of Slovenia and this is reflected in all relevant national policy documents.

Within the published open calls for proposals, the applicants have been guided to follow and take into account the relevant guidelines developed by the donor countries and the FMO.

Already at an early stage in the selection of individual projects and projects under the NGO Fund, the cross-cutting issues were very important criteria observed by evaluators. Also the actual project selection processes have been undertaken in a highly transparent and participatory manner, including the representatives of governmental, non-governmental and private sector institutions.

Detailed information on cross-cutting issues is provided in Chapter 4.

Financial breakdown

The committed amount for the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism totals 17,370,925 EUR, as shown in the table below.

Table 2: Breakdown of committed funds for the Republic of Slovenia, totalling 17,370,925 EUR

Type of grant	Committed amount in EUR
Individual projects	14,206,166
NGO Fund	1,458,050
Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions (incl. Technical Expert Fund)	1,298,205
Technical Assistance Fund	408,504
TOTAL	17,370,925

For the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, the total net amount of the allocation for the period 2004–2009 is 11,850,300 EUR. 3% of this amount have been set aside for the purposes of external monitoring and appraisal activities performed by the FMO.

The total amount of committed funds for the Norwegian Financial Mechanism is 11,613,282 EUR, out of which:

- 10,247,054 EUR for individual projects;
- 729,025 EUR for the NGO Fund;
- 432,951 EUR for the Technical Expert Fund, Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions;
- 204,252 EUR for the Technical Assistance Fund.

2 IMPLEMENTATION – overview of open calls 2004–2009

The below analysis concerns both financial mechanisms, the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. An analysis of the portfolio of individual projects and funds is provided in Chapter 4.

2.1 Individual projects

Following the approval of the FMO, the NFP agreed to have continuous open calls for submission of individual project applications. During this reporting period, the selection of all individual projects was completed. With the approval of the Technical Expert Fund and Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions on 2 April 2009, all allocated funds for Republic of Slovenia were committed.

The deadlines for submission of applications for individual projects were:

- 30 September 2005 for the 2004 and 2005 allocation;
- 5 May 2006 for the 2006 allocation;
- 11 May 2007 for the 2007 allocation;
- 9 May 2008 for the 2008 allocation.

In Table 3 below, the received applications are presented according to priorities and requested amounts from the EEA Grants:

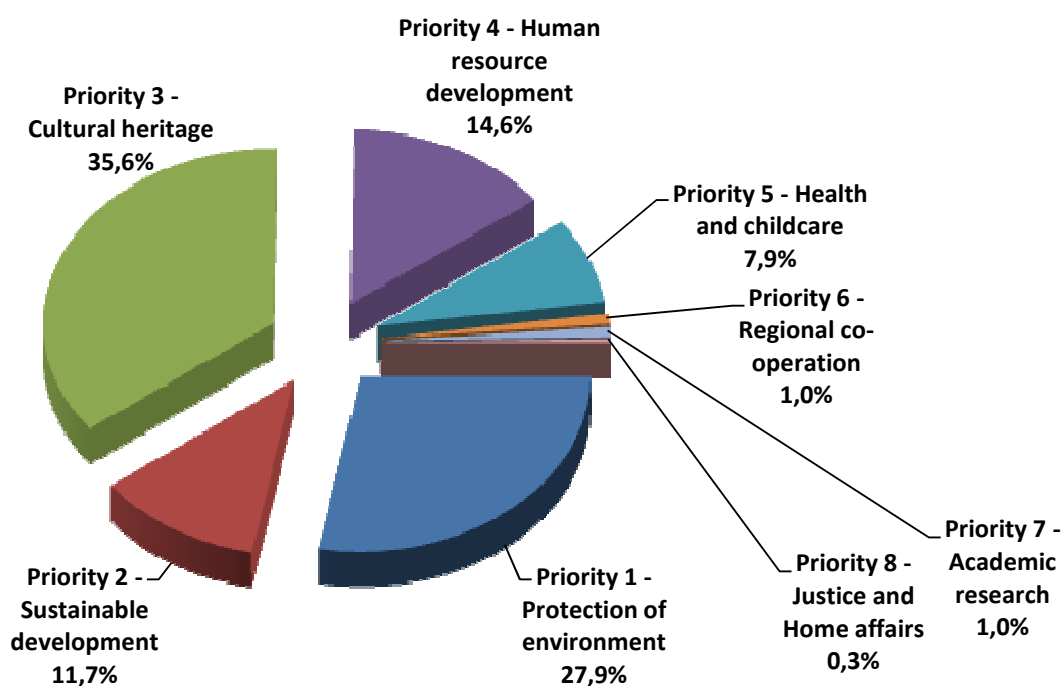
1. Protection of the environment, including the human environment, through, *inter alia*, the reduction of pollution and the promotion of renewable energy;
2. Promotion of sustainable development;
3. Conservation of European cultural heritage;
4. Human resource development through, *inter alia*, promotion of education and training, strengthening of administrative or public service capacities of local government or its institutions and the democratic processes that support it;
5. Health and childcare;
6. Academic research;
7. Regional policy and cross-border activities;
8. Implementation of the Schengen *Acquis* and the Judiciary.

The applicants showed considerable interest in the field covered by Priority No. 3: Conservation of European cultural heritage (35.6% of all received applications) and Priority No. 1: Protection of the environment (27.9% of all received applications). Almost no interest was manifested in the field covered by Priorities No. 6, 7 and 8.

Table 3: Individual project applications received by priorities

Publication year	No. of applications received	Total amount of received in M€	PRIORITY							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2005	41	47.70	16	5	14	2	4	0	0	0
2006	101	66.25	33	7	36	19	6	0	0	0
2007	110	60.89	28	13	40	15	11	1	1	1
2008	63	32.19	11	12	22	10	4	2	2	0
TOTAL	315	207.03	88	37	112	46	25	3	3	1
%	100%		27.9	11.7	35.6	14.6	7.9	1	1	0.3

Chart 1: Individual projects applications received by priorities



After evaluating the received applications, the majority of projects were selected in the fields covered by Priorities No. 3 and No. 5, followed by Priorities No. 1 and No. 2. The data on the selected projects, according to priorities in terms of number of projects and allocations of funds, is presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Individual projects selected by priority

	Selected projects	PRIORITY				
		1	2	3	4	5
Approved projects	22	3	4	9	1	5
%	100	13.6	18.2	40.9	4.5	22.7
TOTAL value in EUR	14,206,166	1,430,926	2,790,683	6,413,543	497,364	3,073,650
%	100	10.1	19.6	45.1	3.5	21.6

List of selected individual projects by priorities is attached in Annex 1.

Chart 2: Selected individual projects by priority

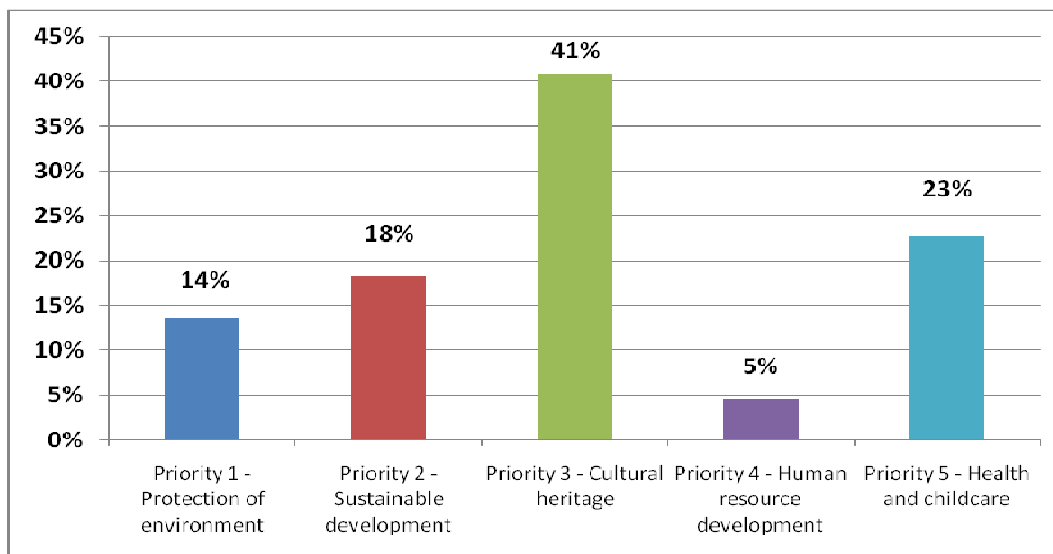
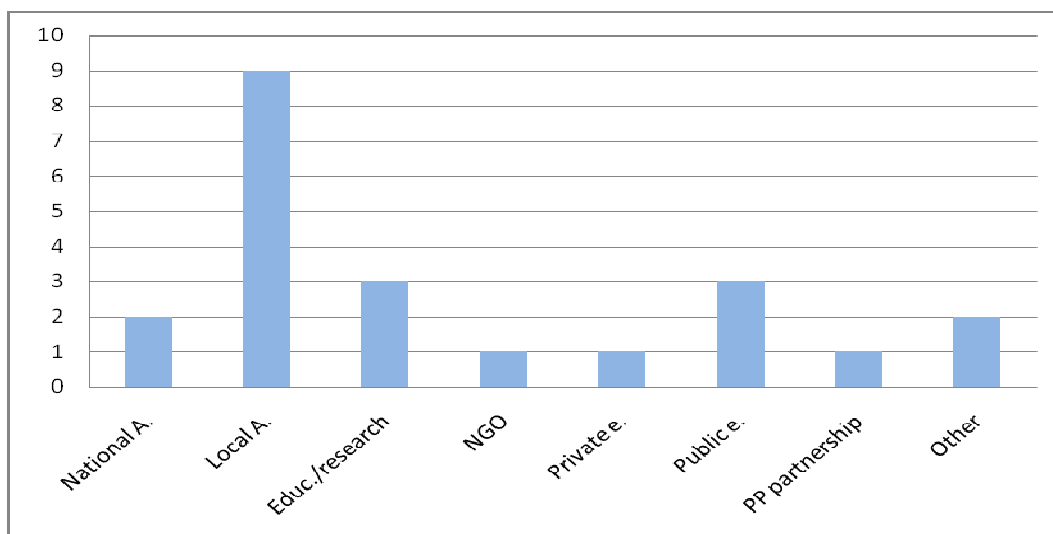
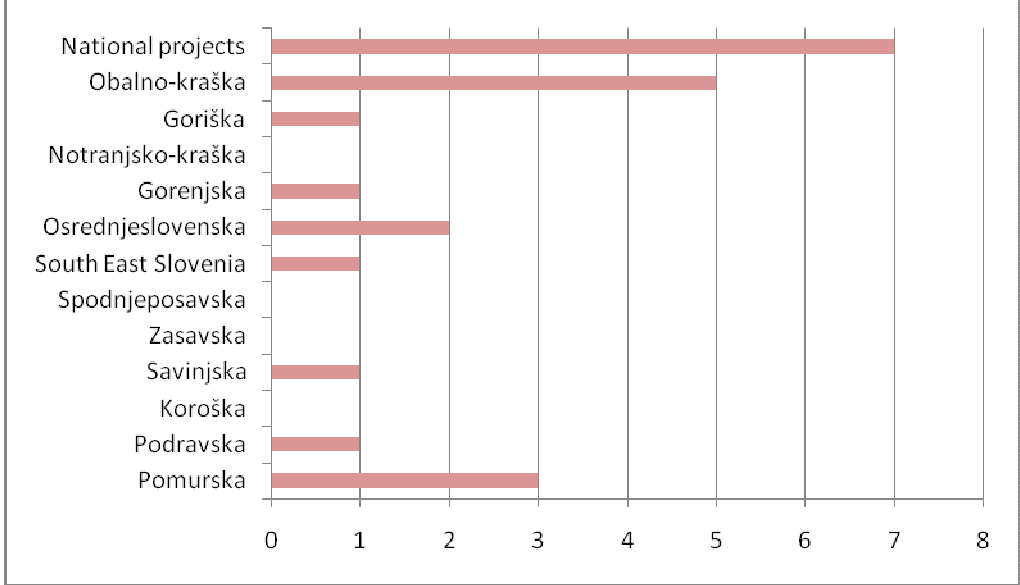


Chart 3: Individual projects by type of project promoter



As regards to the type of project promoters, the data in Chart 3 show that the majority of selected project promoters are Local Authorities, followed by Education/research institutions and Public Enterprises.

Chart 4: Individual projects by regions (NUTS III level)



As regards to the spread of projects among regions, it should be noted that in the Republic of Slovenia there are only 12 statistical regions on the NUTS III level. Projects have been classified according to target groups location and not the origin of project promoters. The Tables in Annex 2 show that all projects are equally spread across Slovenia with exception of the Obalno-kraška region where 5 projects (23%) are implemented. 7 projects (32%) are national projects because they target the whole Slovenian population. Almost half of the projects from priority sector No. 3 (Conservation of European cultural heritage) are located in the Obalno-kraška region and 80% of national projects are within Priority sector No. 5 (Health and childcare).

2.2 NGO Fund

The purpose of the NGO Fund in Slovenia is to provide institutional capacity building support to NGOs working in the priority sectors of the Financial Mechanisms, with the overall objective to increase solidarity, create opportunities and support cooperation at the international level between the NGOs in Slovenia and the donor countries. The completed Fund includes the following activities: provide sub-projects grants, fund management and publicity.

The Intermediary is the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, Country Office Slovenia.

Annex 3 contains a list of selected sub-projects for the NGO Fund.

The total amount allocated to the NGO Block Grant is 1,715,353 EUR (85%), from which 1,458,050 EUR was allocated from the Financial Mechanisms and 257,303 EUR (15%) from the National Budget of the Republic of Slovenia.

The Norwegian Financial Mechanism is contributing 729,025 EUR for the NGO Block Grant, which represents 42.5% of the committed funds.

The NGO Fund strengthens the civil society in Slovenia and supports activities within the following thematic areas:

- Protection of the environment and sustainable development;
- Development of human resources, through promotion of democratic and civil society processes, including sub-projects on topics such as non-discrimination, anti-racism, advocacy, awareness raising, human rights, gender equality, rights-based approaches, empowerment, monitoring, reporting, etc.;
- Cultural heritage conservation;
- Health and child care.

The Fund supports “people-to-people” and “soft” project activities, such as education and training, organization of conferences, seminars and other practical activities; public participation and the promotion of good governance, exchange of good practices and bilateral cooperation.

Minimum and maximum grant amounts per a sub-project:

- minimum: € 10,000,
- maximum: € 50,000.

Duration of sub-projects

- minimum duration of sub-projects is 12 months,
- maximum duration of sub-projects is 18 months.

Open call 1:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| - Launched on | 1 February 2008 |
| - Amount available | 857,700 EUR |
| - Deadline for the appl. | 2 April 2008 |
| - Applications received | 74 |
| - Approved projects | 19 |
| - The selection rate | 25.7% |
| - Partners from the donor states | 8 |

Open call 2:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Launched on | 11 July 2008 |
| - Amount available | 874,124 EUR |
| - Deadline for the appl. | 2 October 2008 |
| - Applications received | 112 |
| - Approved projects | 21 |
| - The selection rate | 18.7% |
| - Partners from the donor states | 7 |

Status of implementation

In 2010, the implementation of the NGO Fund was completely in accordance with the plan. The sub-projects were in the intensive implementation process, majority of them being concluded in September 2010. The Focal Point and the Intermediary carried out the monitoring of the implementation of the sub-projects through reviewing their reports and through site visits. A permanent contact point was provided for beneficiaries, media and other interested parties, and the assistance has been provided to the sub-project implementers with the preparation of their reports.

2.3 Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions

The purpose of the Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions (Scholarship Fund) is to contribute to the development of the Slovenian educational system in respect of lifelong learning and vocational training, with the objective of furthering the achievement of the aims of the Copenhagen, Bologna and Lisbon processes in respect of vocational training, higher education and lifelong learning in Slovenia. The Slovenian Scholarship Fund provides financing for sub-projects based on cooperation between institutions active in the aforementioned processes in Slovenia and the EEA states – Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; therefore, it encourages institutional cooperation in transnational partnerships and implements two-way mobility projects between the EEA states and Slovenia in the field of education with the specifically targeted tertiary education and research to enhance internationalisation of higher education and research in Slovenia as well as in the EEA countries.

The Intermediary for the Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions is the Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational and Training Programmes.

The total amount allocated to the Scholarship Fund is 1,442,450 EUR, from which 1,298,205 EUR was allocated from the Financial Mechanisms and 144,245 EUR from the National Budget of the Republic of Slovenia. The amount of 114,543 EUR is allocated for the management of the fund, including monitoring, financial control and publicity / information activities and 1,327,907 EUR for the funding of sub-projects for individual mobility (70%), study visits (15%) and exchange of experts (15%).

The Norwegian Financial Mechanism is contributing 432,951 EUR to the Fund, which represents 30.01% of the committed funds.

Activities under the Scholarship Fund are:

Eligible activities	Actions	Duration
a) Individual mobility	Student mobility for studies	1 – 12 months
	Student mobility for training (work placement)	2 weeks – 5 months
	Staff mobility for teaching	1 – 4 weeks
	Staff mobility for training	1 – 4 weeks
	Staff mobility for research	1 – 6 months
	Preparatory visits	2 – 5 days
b) Study visits (groups)		3 – 5 days
c) Exchange of experts		3 days – 2 weeks

Status of implementation

First open call for selection of sub-projects:

- Launched on **19 June 2009**
- Amount available **1,327,907 EUR**
- Deadline for the appl. **31 August 2009**
- Planned contracts signature **October 2009**

Second open call for selection of sub-projects:

- Launched on **2 October 2010**
- Deadline for submission of appl. **10 December 2009**
- Opening of proposals **14 December 2009**
- Approval of projects **February 2010**
- Signing contracts with end recipients **April–May2010**
- Deadline for completion of projects **31 December 2010**

In the framework of the two implemented open calls, 803,576 EUR (first call published in July 2009) and 443,646.50 EUR (second call published in November 2009) were committed to 124 selected individual sub-projects. The eligibility period for project activities lasts until 31 December 2010.

In the first call published in July 2009, 64 proposals for sub-projects were submitted and all 64 were awarded, which means that the selection rate at the first call was 100%. In the second call published in November 2009, 60 out of the 66 proposals for sub-projects submitted were awarded, meaning a slightly lower selection rate of 90.9%. 6 projects were rejected due to formal or technical reasons or the withdrawal of applications by the applicants.

Until 4 October 2010, only 25 projects out of 124 were finished and their final reports submitted. The Intermediary analysed and closed 8 final reports, while 17 final reports are in the process of completion.

The Tables below contain some general statistical data on the type, state of mobility and number of participants for all 124 projects.

Table 5: Sub-projects sorted by action (124 sub-projects)

ACTION	Total
Exchange of experts	2
Individual mobility: Preparatory visit	23
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for research	32
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for teaching assignments	11
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for training	15
Individual mobility: Student mobility for studies	14
Individual mobility: Student mobility for work placement	9
Study visit	18
Grand Total	124

In the framework of 124 sub-projects, 481 persons were granted participation in various actions co-financed by the Scholarship Fund. Below is a Table which specifies the number of individual mobilities into a specific country:

Table 6: Number of individual mobilities into a specific country (124 sub-projects)

ACTION	Kingdom of Norway	Republic of Iceland	Principality of Liechtenstein	Republic of Slovenia	TOTAL
Exchange of experts				2	2
Individual mobility: Preparatory visit	22	8	2		32
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for research	38	5		10	53
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for teaching assignments	35	11	2		48
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for training	38	51	2		91
Individual mobility: Student mobility for studies	60	19	4		83
Individual mobility: Student mobility for work placement	34	18	3		55
Study visit	81	20		16	117
Grand Total	308	132	13	28	481

Table 7: Grants awarded to different actions

ACTION	1st Call	2nd Call	Grand Total
Exchange of experts		2,412.00 €	2,412.00 €
Individual mobility: Preparatory visit	22,275.00 €	20,410.00 €	42,685.00 €
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for research	82,260.00 €	50,260.00 €	132,520.00 €
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for teaching assignments	70,591.00 €	18,056.00 €	88,647.00 €
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for training	89,330.00 €	66,407.00 €	155,737.00 €
Individual mobility: Student mobility for studies	347,910.00 €	86,550.00 €	434,460.00 €
Individual mobility: Student mobility for work placement	160,430.00 €	76,520.00 €	236,950.00 €
Study visit	30,780.00 €	123,031.50 €	153,811.50 €
Grand Total	803,576.00 €	443,646.50 €	1,247,222.50 €

Table 8: Grants awarded to different actions by the donor Mechanism

ACTION	EGP (59.99%)	NOR (30.01%)	SLO (10%)	Total grants awarded
Exchange of experts	1,446.96 €	723.84 €	241.20 €	2,412.00 €
Individual mobility: Preparatory visit	25,606.73 €	12,809.77 €	4,268.50 €	42,685.00 €
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for research	79,498.75 €	39,769.25 €	13,252.00 €	132,520.00 €
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for teaching assignments	53,179.34 €	26,602.96 €	8,864.70 €	88,647.00 €
Individual mobility: Staff mobility for training	93,426.63 €	46,736.67 €	15,573.70 €	155,737.00 €
Individual mobility: Student mobility for studies	260,632.55 €	130,381.45 €	43,446.00 €	434,460.00 €
Individual mobility: Student mobility for work placement	142,146.31 €	71,108.70 €	23,695.00 €	236,950.00 €
Study visit	92,271.52 €	46,158.83 €	15,381.15 €	153,811.50 €
Grand Total	748,208.78 €	374,291.47 €	124,722.25 €	1,247,222.50 €

2.4 Technical Assistance Fund

Pursuant to the provisions laid down in Annex C to the MoU on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism and the EEA Financial Mechanism in Slovenia, the Technical Assistance Fund has been established in order to provide the assistance to the NFP and the PA in conducting the tasks related to the fulfilment of obligations set up by the Memoranda of Understanding.

The Grant Agreement for the Technical Assistance was signed on 5 May 2007.

The following activities and expenditures are financed from the Technical Assistance Fund:

1. Promotion seminars for the implementation of selected individual projects and public presentation of the results of the Financial Mechanisms;
2. Annual meetings with the EFTA states, held once a year;
3. Activities of the Monitoring Committee meetings;
4. Activities of the Steering Committee for the appraisal of received applications within open calls for individual projects in the years 2007 and 2008;
5. Meetings with the FMO and/or donors, for approximately 15 visits of the FMO and/or donors per year;
6. Activities related to audits and the on-the-spot checks;
7. Employment in the NFP.

The total amount allocated to the Technical Assistance Fund for the NFP and the Ministry of Finance is 514,100 EUR, from which 408,504 EUR were allocated from the Financial Mechanisms and 105,596 EUR from the National Budget of Slovenia.

The Norwegian Financial Mechanism is contributing 204,252 EUR to the Technical Assistance Fund, which represents 39.73% of the committed funds.

Status of implementation

On 27 January 2010, the FMO approved the prolongation of SI0023 TA until the end of October 2011. The Focal Point will send to the FMO a request for another prolongation until the end of December 2011, for the following reasons:

1. **Human resources for the finalisation of the programme 2004–2009**

At the operational level, the FP's human resources engaged in the finalisation of the current programme 2004–2009 consist of:

Mrs Hermina Golob – contact person, coordinator of 17 projects, Technical Assistance Fund, annual meeting, monitoring, etc.

Mrs Mojca Mehikič – coordinator of 5 projects and the Scholarship Fund, annual meeting, monitoring, irregularities, etc.

Mr Peter Ješovnik – coordinator of the NGO Fund

Mrs Marjeta Žnidaršič – financial issues

3 controllers employed until the **end of September 2011 from the funds available for SI0023 Technical Assistance.**

All employees, except one, will be transferred to a “new” Focal Point – the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy as of 1 December 2010.

2. Finalisation of projects and funds 2004–2009

Most on-going projects have the end eligibility date 30 April 2011, which means that the majority of controls will have to be carried out by the FP in the second half of 2011 and in the beginning of 2012. The last Project Interim Reports – PIRs – must namely be submitted to the FMO by the end of October 2011 at the latest, i.e. within 6 months after the end of eligibility period according to Grant Agreements. Since this is the only deadline and according to the past experiences some project promoters need longer periods to prepare their Interim Reports, some Interim Reports might even be checked in September or October 2011. After the approval of the last PIRs, the project promoters have to prepare Project Completion Reports – PCRs – with all relevant information and documentation on fulfilling conditions and specific post-completion conditions according to Grant Agreements and Implementation Contracts. This must be checked and confirmed by the NFP. Under the current Grant Agreements for SI0023 Technical Assistance, the three controllers can only be employed until the end of September 2011. A prolongation until April 2012 would enable the current employees under the Technical Assistance to perform the necessary controls of PIRs and PCRs.

Taking into consideration a possible exceptional extension of the eligibility date for other projects and funds, the activities for checking and approving PIRs and PCRs will be necessarily prolonged also after the abovementioned deadlines.

3. Other activities for the finalisation of the programme 2004–2009

In 2011, the FP will have to carry out the majority of communication activities (preparing and printing brochures, purchasing promotional materials, participating in the closure of projects and funds etc.), which have not been accomplished yet due to time constraints, lack of human resources and the prioritisation of disbursements for PIRs.

In autumn 2011, the FP must also organise the annual meeting with donor states, prior to which annual reports have to be prepared, site visits organised etc. In October 2011, the FP is planning to organise a closing conference with the participation of donor states, FMO, Ministry of Finance, all project promoters, intermediaries, final beneficiaries of the NGO Fund and the Scholarship Fund, high representatives of the government, members of the parliament and others. The closing conference will also represent a major media event dedicated to Financial Mechanisms 2004–2009.

In Slovenia the usual legal deadline for payment of an invoice is 30 days after receiving the invoice, therefore, all activities under the current Grant Agreement for Technical Assistance must be finished in September 2011. An extension of the eligible period would be crucial for the completion of all planned activities.

For all the above reasons, a prolongation of SI0023 until the end of April 2012 would enable the FP to successfully complete the 2004–2009 programme. Should the eligibility period be extended, the sustainability of the present human resources already experienced in running Financial Mechanisms 2004–2009 could be ensured.

3 IMPLEMENTATION – Summary of commitments and disbursements

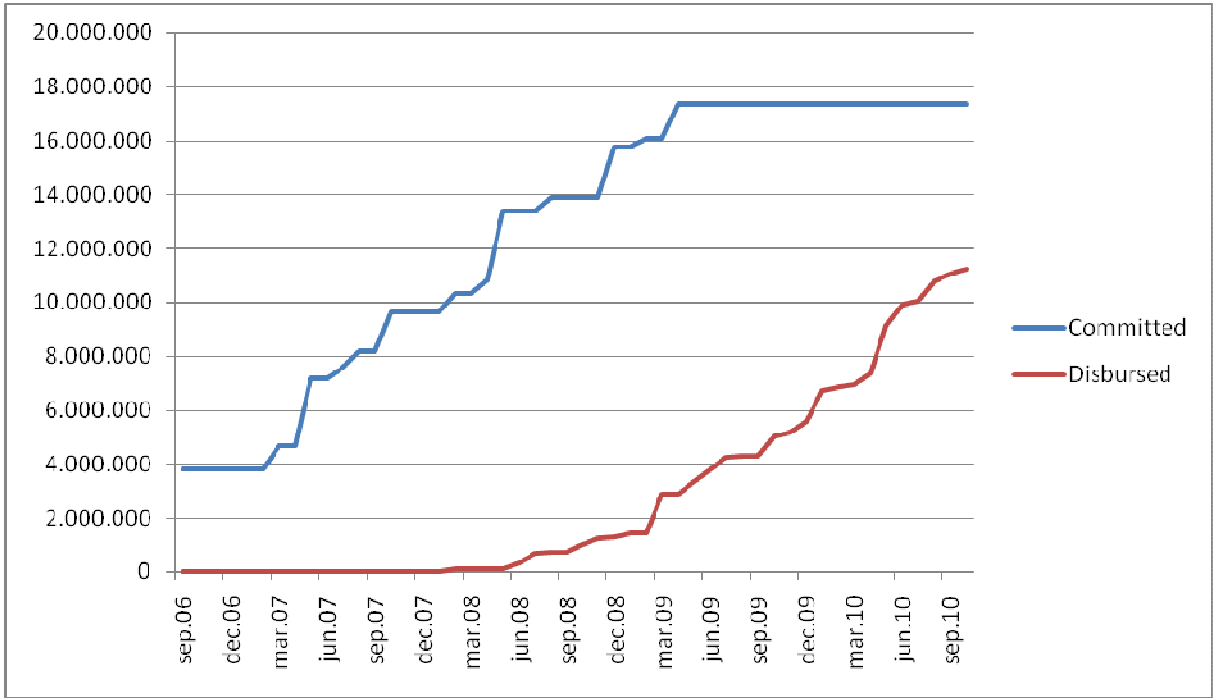
The summary of commitments and disbursements in the chart below shows the progress of the implementation of the EEA Grants and Norway Grants in the reporting period until 4 October 2010.

By the cut-off date of the report, 64.8 % of the committed funds have been disbursed.

Table 9: Summary of commitments and disbursements on 4 October 2010

	TOTAL	Norway Grants	EEA Grants
Committed	17,370,925	11,613,282	5,757,643
Disbursed	11,249,799	7,439,281	3,810,518

Chart 5: Commitments and disbursements of the EEA Grants and Norway Grants (by quarters in EUR)



In comparison with the last annual report (see tables below), when the disbursement on the cut-off date 9 September 2009 represented 24.8% of the committed funds, the disbursement on the cut-off date 4 October 2010 of this year’s report represents 64.8% of the committed funds. The NFP received claims amounting to 12,529,871 EUR, which represents 72.1% of the total committed funds. The NFP submitted to the Paying Authority

claims for 11,929,910 EUR, which represents 68.8% of the total committed funds and 95.2% of total claims received from project promoters. This means that the disbursed funds amounting to 11,249,799 EUR represent 89.8% of claims received from project promoters and 94.3% of claims submitted to the Paying Authority.

On the cut-off date of the report, 599,961 EUR claimed by project promoters in PIRs have not been checked yet by the NFP and 470,613 EUR have not been certified yet by the Ministry of Finance – Paying Authority.

Summary of commitments and disbursements

(Annual Report No. 4; cut-off date 9 September 2009)

	Committed	Claims received from PP	Claims submitted to PA	Disbursed
Amount in EUR	17,370,925	6,315,444	5,216,333	4,316,487
% of committed		36.4	30.0	24.8
% of claims received from PP			82.6	68.3
% of claims submitted to PA				82.7

Summary of commitments and disbursements

(Annual Report No. 5; cut-off date 4 October 2010)

	Committed	Claims received from PP	Claims submitted to PA	Disbursed
Amount in EUR	17,370,925	12,529,871	11,929,910	11,249,799
% of committed		72.1	68.7	64.8
% of claims received from PP			95.2	89.8
% of claims submitted to PA				94.3

Annex 4 provides a detailed Status Report for the Republic of Slovenia on the cut-off date 4 October 2010, which includes data on the committed funds, according to dates and sources of grant, advance payments and the status of processing Project Interim Reports.

4 ASSESSMENT OF EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS

The assessment of the EEA and Norway Grants portfolio of individual projects and funds in the first 5-year period (2004–2009) of Financial Mechanisms in Slovenia was conducted by external experts, the Intermediaries and the NFP. In this chapter, the Norwegian Financial Mechanism and the EEA Financial Mechanism are referred to as FMs, while the Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions is referred to as the Scholarship Fund.

The resulting analysis has covered the following topics:

1. consistency of project objectives with national and EU strategic documents;
2. review of the planned and achieved results and their contribution to national, regional and local priorities;
3. assessment of individual projects within priority areas;
4. complementarities of projects and funds financed from the national budget and/or other EU funds, and
5. review of the project portfolio's and the funds' compliance with the cross-cutting issues.

It is important to note that the scope and methods of this analysis had clear limitations in terms of providing detailed and quantified results and conclusions, especially because of the time available for its preparation and also because of the small sample of projects. The review has relied on figures and data provided by the NFP, project promoters, and information in project files. At the time when the analysis was conducted, 45.45% or 10 projects were completed.

4.1 Consistency of projects and funds with national and EU strategic documents

The strategic documents setting development priorities in Slovenia that have to be considered when preparing a project proposal are the following:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy 2007–2013;
- Sectoral national strategies (spatial, transport, cultural, regional, environment protection, biotic diversity, etc.);
- Framework of Economic and Social Reforms to Increase Prosperity in Slovenia;
- Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia;
- Regional Development Programmes;
- Local Strategies;
- National Strategic Reference Framework;
- Operational Programmes:
 - Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013;
 - Operational Programme for Environmental and Transport Infrastructure 2007–2013;
 - Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for 2007–2013.

Framework of strategic documents in Slovenia

The first and most relevant strategic document at the national level is **Slovenia's Development Strategy (SDS)** adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on 23 June 2005. Slovenia's Development Strategy sets out the vision and objectives and defines five development priorities with action plans. The Development Strategy can be seen as an umbrella document of strategic development policies that has taken into account the existing development documents and integrated them into a coherent whole. The document sets the development objectives of the country as a whole. Therefore, the SDS does not focus solely on economic development but covers social, environmental, political, legal and cultural issues as well. By setting these objectives, it represents a Slovenian sustainable development strategy and at the same time a transposition of the Lisbon Strategy goals to the national environment.

The SDS has defined five key development priorities with set objectives:

1. A competitive economy and faster economic growth;
2. Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs;
3. An efficient and less costly state;
4. A modern social state and higher employment;
5. Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development.

The development priorities defined in the SDS also represent a framework for programmes and measures under the **National Development Programme (NDP)**, which is not the sole instrument for the implementation of the SDS, but covers all those development investment programmes and projects in Slovenia in the period 2007–2013 that are financed and co-financed from the national budget and municipal budgets. Thus, the development priorities of the NDP are identical to the five development priorities of the SDS.

Although Slovenia has only two territorial levels of government (national and municipal level), by 12 regional development programmes a strong linkage of municipal developmental priorities is presented. Consequently, the regional policy is mainly influenced by those two levels, especially national. The Promotion of Balanced Regional Development Act (2005) provided a systemic framework and, in all 12 development regions, regional development programmes for the period 2007–2013 were adopted, along with their implementation plans for the first three years of implementation.

In addition to the strategic development document, for most projects the financial framework and geographical location are important. Regarding the financial framework of the public finance, **the Plan of Development Programmes (Načrt razvojnih programov – NRP)** is the third part of the budget, which includes investment projects and programmes, state aid and expenses associated with the financing of common European policies and other grants. In the NRP, the budgetary expenditure relating to the development policy of the country is displayed in the form of specific projects or programmes.

As far as the implementation of cohesion policy is concerned, two levels of documents set the development priorities and objectives. The first is the **National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF)**, based on the strategic guidelines of the European Commission and prepared as a set of general national strategic priorities and related objectives for the benefit of cohesion policy. The NSRF includes all those programmes and projects that can be co-financed from the EU budget and meet the criteria from the new EU regulations in the field of cohesion policy for the period 2007–2013. In that respect, the NDP is the document for the implementation of the SDS in the field of development investment programmes and projects, and the NSRF is its subset where it is crucial to ensure a strategic approach with clear and consistent programmes and instruments. So the NSRF sets the same priorities as the SDS and the NDP.

The second level represents **Operational Programmes** that cover the period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2013. Both the Slovenia's National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) and the Operational Programmes (OPs) for the period 2007–2013 are in line with the relevant recommendations regarding cohesion policy and the Community spending targets for the Lisbon Strategy. In legal terms, the Operational Programme is the basis for the disbursement of EU funds.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Full participation in the European Higher Education and Research Area is the goal mentioned in the national strategic papers for each of the two fields (Resolution on the National Programme for Higher Education 2007–2010, Resolution on National Research and Development Programme 2006–2010). Mobility of students, academics and researchers is mentioned in both strategic papers as being of highest importance. The Slovenian Fund for co-operation among educational and research institutions, including the Technical Expert Fund, (Scholarship Fund) strongly complies with and supports the national strategies.

The strategic framework for priority areas of EEA and Norway Grants in 2005–2009 in Slovenia is presented in detail in Annex 4.

4.2 Review of the planned and achieved results of individual projects and their contribution to national, regional and local priorities

The consistency and compliance of individual project objectives with national and EU strategic documents and with regional and local documents is presented in **Annex 5: Consistency and compliance of project objectives with national and EU strategic documents and with regional and local documents.**

4.3 Assessment of individual projects by priorities

Due to the fact that no special and common monitoring system is in place or foreseen for the evaluation of indicators at the national level with regard to the implementation of different strategies, only a descriptive evaluation of individual projects can be presented and the logical framework with national, regional and local priorities can be given. In order to compare the results from the FMs with national, regional and local strategies and other projects, a reference database would have to be established enabling an in-depth evaluation of indicators, results and impacts achieved.

See detailed assessment in Annex 6: Assessment of individual projects within priority areas.

4.4 Complementarity of the EEA and Norway Grants with national and other EU funds

Most individual projects are funded only from the FMs funds and promoters' own resources, because of the relatively high funding rate (on average 73.38%). However, some promoters also receive financial means from other programmes. The additional funds have been available in cases where the project activities are of a broader scope than the one stated in the applications for FMs.

In some priority areas, support schemes comprising similar interventions as the FMs exist at the national level; however, the need for these types of interventions is immense and mostly all promoters are reporting that the FMs are filling a gap, thus enabling the projects to be completed earlier than expected or even making their implementation possible. According to the evaluation of project promoters, the FMs are a very well-managed programme despite some difficulties at the initial stage of the implementation process, when several projects started later than expected due to some delays.

Within the programming period 2004–2006 of the EU structural funds implementation in Slovenia, the ERDF funding did not cover the same priority areas as the FMs. In the framework of the new financial perspective 2007–2013, the Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials and the Operational Programme of Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development cover also the activities that are more or less similar to the priorities of the FMs; however, the FMs represent the complementarity to the national and EU programmes. The successful implementation of the first projects within the FMs has shown the need for grants in the area of culture, sustainable development, and health and childcare.

Especially for larger NGOs and small municipalities in Slovenia, the FMs offer opportunities to implement larger projects. The high rate of co-financing from the FMs contributes to the realisation of many projects that would otherwise remain just an idea as not sufficient co-financing can be ensured by project promoters through other national and EU aid schemes.

NGO FUND

The NGO Fund in Slovenia was set up with the overall aim to provide additional financial sources for supporting sub-projects of Slovenian NGOs which contribute to the achievement of the goals of the FMs.

The FMs were practically the only funding available specifically for NGOs in 2008, when the Fund was launched. It provided support for concrete NGO projects and covered the most urgent needs of the NGO sector. Recently, some other sources of funding have also become available.

The funding from the EU Structural Funds for the NGO sector in Slovenia mainly aims at strengthening the personnel structure and capacity of NGOs, strengthening the civil dialogue and improving public awareness of the importance of the NGO sector. In practice this implies support to the horizontal networks of NGOs at the national level, and area/content networks and junctures of NGOs at the regional level. Therefore, the NGO Fund has proved as a mechanism which also enabled the participation of small, grass root NGOs, offering them a possibility of co-financing their activities. It has been recognised as a “friendly” funding source since it provides pre-financing amounting to 50% of all eligible project costs.

4.5 Compliance with the cross-cutting issues

This chapter provides a review of the project portfolio compliance with the cross-cutting issues of the priority sectors. It also contains a presentation of project impact on employment and an example of how a project can contribute to bilateral relations.

The cross-cutting (i.e. sustainability, gender equality and good governance) objectives of the programme are quite broad; therefore, it has not been possible to estimate their impact on a quantitative level. However, the information obtained in project documents, estimations and project promoters’ responses can serve as a basis for presenting the aspects and scope of the sustainability effects of the funds and of individual projects from the environmental, economic and social aspect, gender mainstreaming effect and examples of good governance.

In the context of the assessment of individual projects regarding the cross-cutting issues, a special set of questions as presented in Annex 7 was prepared to get some general information from project promoters about their awareness of the impact their projects have on the cross-cutting issues.

The questionnaire and methodology used for the assessment of cross-cutting issues are presented in Annex 7.

4.5.1 Sustainable development

The analysis shows that the "environmental sustainable development" is characterised as being neutral to the majority of projects, while the economic and the social sustainable development seem to play a more significant role. The economic and the social development are indeed important aspects of projects, in many cases much more important than the environmental aspect. Additionally, the reasons for the relatively low rating of the importance of environmental aspects have more to do with the overall objective of the FMs, the general information known about the environment and the environment-related formal requirements already incorporated in the legislation (e.g. environmental impact assessment for interventions in space) than with the actual impact of the projects.

4.5.1.1 Environmental effects

In the case of the environment priority area and the sustainable development priority, all projects have a direct and very positive environmental effect.

Half of the evaluated individual projects have the environment dimension scored as their positive effect. The environmental improvements are primarily related to the reduction in consumption of coal and other fossil fuels; hence the environmental impact of the improved energy efficiency in buildings or changes in heating systems must be significant. All projects related to investment have direct environmental effects, especially those, where renovation and improvement of energy systems is one of the main results of the project.

Example SI0015 Energetically- Economical Kindergarten

How the cross-cutting issues have been taken into account within a project:

The passive standard used for renovation of a public building is a model of an environmentally friendly construction for other public institutions. Experts and other interested people come to see the project result as an example.

Example Scholarship Fund sub-project

Organisation: Eko-TCE Tehnološki center za aplikativno ekologijo d.o.o.

Action: Study visit to Norway

Eko-TCE Tehnološki center za aplikativno ekologijo d.o.o. visited several institutions and reuse centres in Norway, gaining information on how to establish such a reuse centre in Slovenia.

REUSE CENTER has gained importance because of the possibility of integration of, in particular, disadvantaged and young people into a business which enables the conversion of the stream of bulky waste from landfills toward reuse and recycling. Through the activities of "reuse" we can significantly contribute to reducing structural unemployment and enable faster integration into the labour market. REUSE CENTER can contribute to the promotion of craft occupations; therefore, it is intended to work closely with schools. From July 2009, the transition from local to regional landfills will be made, which will significantly increase the price of waste management. From a legislative point of view, untreated waste may not be disposed of; therefore, REUSE CENTER is an important upgrade in the system of waste treatment and reuse. As a result, 8–12% of waste that is classified as bulky waste, will not be dumped into overflowing landfills, simultaneously we will conserve natural resources and enable new employment. Therefore, REUSE CENTER has an important role in the development of social entrepreneurship.

4.5.1.2 Social effects

More than 80% of project promoters state that sustainable social development has positive impact and there is no doubt that the projects have had a significant impact on the social development of the municipality or town involved. It is interesting that of all three dimensions of sustainable development this dimension is ranked with the highest score in almost all priority areas.

In the framework of the FMs, 47 people have temporary employment and 42 new permanent jobs were created. Because of the implementation of projects, working conditions have improved for 390 people and 7369 people received training.

Example SI0004 Establishment of the Network of GPS stations and the European Spatial Reference System in Slovenia

How the cross-cutting issues have been taken into account within a project:

The project will have a significant impact on the achievement of sustainable development through the impact on policy formulation and monitoring of implementation in the field of spatial placement of the economy, infrastructure, human settlement within the carrying capacity of environment and natural resources (planning). Planning of sustainable development is possible only if the positioning and spatial factors are recorded in the database of spatial data, which must be mutually compatible. The introduction of satellite positioning techniques GPS provides fast, easy and mass recording areas for various reasons, environmental significance, and their definition in the space (Biodiversity, habitats, natural resources, etc.).

Important target group in the results of a project aimed at the educational and research institutions that are able to explore new technologies and training in new fields of geo-information science.

The project impact on the positive attitude towards sustainable development as it encourages and enables a more integrated approach to planning and verification of attainment of sustainable development.

Example SI0030 Protection of the environment – the task for all and everyone

How the cross-cutting issues have been taken into account within a project:

The project has a positive impact on behaviour of individuals and companies regarding environmental issues. Within the project public procurement, “green public procurement” actions were taken for brochures as they were requested to be printed on recycled paper. Publicity within the project contributes to national priorities with regard to stimulating the use of environment-friendly technology and co-financing environmental actions. The project team has presented a proposal for an amendment of legislation on separate waste collection to a member of the National Assembly.

NGO FUND

The NGO Fund co-financed the inclusion of marginalised groups on different levels. Some projects have directly addressed marginalised groups of population, such as disabled persons with head injuries, the Roma, disabled students, homeless, patients with chronic bowel condition, drug addicts, young migrants, young first-time job seekers, aged persons etc. All those groups have been adequately included in project activities as much as possible.

On the other hand, the NGO Fund co-financed several projects where the activities were not primarily focused on marginalised target groups, but paid particular attention to this issue, e.g. in planning the events, venues with no architectural barriers were chosen, persons with special needs were taken into account etc. In this way, the NGO Fund contributed to grass - roots development of this particular field.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

One of the important aspects of the Scholarship Fund is the social part of sustainable development – human resources development. It promotes high levels of employment and an economy whose strength is based among other things on education, innovation and social cohesion.

The very essence of the sustainable development idea is to extend the focus from the present needs to include the perspective of future generations.

The Scholarship Fund supports these objectives in different ways:

- by supporting educational and innovation activities, it leads to better life of the individual and the society;
- by supporting researchers engaged in innovative new projects, it facilitates the shifting of the focus to the problems of the future generations.

Through its activities, the Scholarship Fund empowers individuals, by giving them a feeling of safety and influence. But the positive effects of individual's mobility have, as proven through different studies, also positive effects for all in the society.

4.5.1.3 Economic effects

Governments use various instruments — including economic instruments such as pollution taxes, subsidies, marketable permits, performance bonds etc. – to re-align market signals so that they promote environmentally responsible behaviour by all. These instruments often operate in tandem with mandated regulations and greatly impact sustainable development.

The economic sustainability is ranked higher than environmental and is high above the average. Partly, this is due to the fact that more than 67% of project promoters are public institutions that have ensured financing for their activities and operations.

With the support of the FMs, an additional amount of 14,596,971 EUR of project promoters' own resources was engaged. Thus, for every euro granted by the FMs, 1 additional euro was spent by project promoters.

Example SI0032 Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Was green public procurement taken into account in the implementation of the project?

Under work contracts, the operators are obliged to carry the waste to a landfill with the appropriate certificates. In the reconstruction of the garden, nature-friendly materials were also used (type of paper, etc.).

Example SI0039 Science Educational Centre for Sustainable Development

How the cross-cutting issues have been taken into account within a project:

Economic sustainability of the project results is ensured by the project team that established a fund for maintenance of the equipment to which, on the completion of the project, an amount of 1% of the project value will be paid annually for the purposes of maintaining and updating the equipment. Teaching and research activities are financed by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and from the programmes for lifelong learning financed by the Ministry of Education and Sports.

4.5.2 Gender equality

Slovenia has made good progress regarding gender equality, with legislation in place to protect and promote women's rights and participation in the workplace and in political life. However, the legislation appears to have only a limited impact on the conditions for women to-date, with less than 1/3 of all managers and senior officials' women, and low political representation. The labour market remains gender-segregated horizontally and vertically. Slovenia is currently ranked 51st in the World Economic Forum's Global Gap Report (2008). The analysis of gender equality was verified from the aspect of general equality issues, economic and social dimension and human rights. Although no individual project is dealing with gender equality directly, the issue of gender equality is respected in all phases of implementation. All project promoters and intermediaries are paying special attention to an equal and active participation of both genders in the implementation of individual projects. Project teams are aiming to be composed equally of men and women, while the equal treatment of genders within the target groups is respected.

NGO FUND

The gender equality was fully considered already in the phase of preparation of the project applications. However, it has been noticed that the term of gender equality is often misunderstood in the case of NGO projects.

Most frequently the final beneficiaries aim at balanced representation of women and men in the implementation of the project's activities and do not focus on the activities for the improvement of women and men in the areas where they are in an unequal position in comparison with the other gender. As an example, only a minority paid special attention to the targeted inclusion of Roma women in the society.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Within the Scholarship Fund, gender equality was guarded throughout the project implementation. The project itself does take into account the gender-specific needs from past experience. Special emphasis is put on:

- female academics and researchers because the % of their participation is usually lower,
- male students because their participation in mobility is so far much lower than participation of female students (over 65% of participants in student mobility are female students).

For these reasons the intermediary targeted both groups with specific direct promotional activities:

- information seminar on mobility offered to technical and natural sciences faculties specifically (because they have majority of male students),
- academics and researchers were targeted directly/personally through an e-mail leaflet to reach all (the promotion only through the heads of institutions not always ensures wide distribution of information to all potential participants).

The additional effort to involve female academics and researchers has multiple effects. The project as such encourages lifelong learning and access by women, while it also enhances the income-earning by women and reduces their social exclusion.

4.5.3 Good governance

With regard to good governance and anti-corruption policy as expressed in the relevant guidelines developed by the donor states and the FMO, the NFP has already promoted and intends to further promote the below outlined measures, which will be complemented by additional measures as required.

1. In order to ensure transparency and the involvement of civil society in the project selection and national monitoring processes, their representatives are members of the established Steering and Monitoring Committees.
2. A selection of projects for grant support has been made on the basis of open calls for the submission of proposals.
3. As stipulated in the MoU, any procurement shall be carried out in accordance with the relevant law applicable in the Republic of Slovenia (Law on Public Procurement), transposing the provisions of the relevant EU Directives.
4. In order to report and claim eligible expenses, the NFP:
 - prepared the Guidelines on Reporting for Individual Projects with very detailed instructions;
 - conducted a workshop for project promoters instructing them how to prepare reports;
 - held individual meetings with project promoters, instructing them how to prepare reports.
5. The NFP updated its web site with all relevant information as regards the corruption or mismanagement of funds:

- link to the FMO web site on “Alert mismanagement of funds“;
- the Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Policy and Guide;
- contact details of the FMO Director and the Head of the NFP;
- contact information to audit and control institutions supervising the FMO (EFTA Board of Auditors, the Norwegian Office of the Auditor General) and the respective national audit institutions.

Example SI0031 “House – Fruits of Society”/Murska Sobota – Multigenerational centre

How the cross-cutting issues have been taken into account within a project:

The project resulted in creation of 5 part-time jobs and 3 permanent jobs. It contributes to the strengthening of organisations and public institution that promote opportunity and justice for socially weak by encouraging volunteering and social networking.

Since good governance is a highly important cross-cutting issue, the NFP and intermediate body paid all the necessary attention to the overall management of the NGO Fund. All procedures as well as communication were highly inclusive, open and managed transparently, the deadlines were strictly met during the whole implementation period. Therefore the Audit report made by an independent financial supervision authority proved that eligible costs are true, accurate and complete.

NGO FUND

Sound management is respected in all co-financed projects. Some examples show active involvement of the Roma population – employment – in the project devoted to the Roma or participation of experts, academic staff and disabled students in a project group, which contributed to changes in the way of thinking and new system solutions. In that way, final beneficiaries contributed to the improvement of work methods also for marginalised groups.

This included good planning, management and monitoring of projects, transparent functioning, responsibility towards target groups and respect for their needs. Projects funded under the NGO Fund are contributing to the improvement of participation of the civil society in decision-making procedures. Therefore civil society representatives are members of the established Steering Committee.

A selection of projects for grant support has been made on the basis of open calls for the submission of proposals.

In order to report and claim eligible expenses, the NFP and the Intermediary conducted a workshop for project promoters instructing them how to prepare reports and held individual meetings with project promoters when necessary.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In order to promote good governance, the Intermediary for the Scholarship Fund has ensured the following elements:

- Accountability – the Intermediary has already managed different grants, therefore the accountability is assured;
- Transparency – the activities of the Intermediary are under permanent monitoring through the internal and external Audit services, all information is publicly available;
- Participation – the Intermediary involves all target groups in all management stages (preparation, implementation, selection and decision-making by having joint groups working on mentioned issues);
- Equality;
- Rule of law – as a public body governed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia the Intermediary strictly complies with all the laws;
- Capacity and competence – the Intermediary has already managed grants.
- Responsiveness to people's needs – the Intermediary has a very flexible structure and engages experts, therefore can be highly responsive to people's needs.
- The complaints procedures are in place and all applicants are informed at different stages (during application, after selection time and in the phase of contracting) about the form, time limits and responsible bodies.

Procedures to prevent corruption are regulated within the Intermediary for Scholarship Fund:

- Access to information, including financial figures and other key project information;
- The involvement of different target groups in the project selection and/or the national monitoring processes;
- The use of external, independent appraisal agents in evaluating project applications;
- The reimbursement of eligible project expenses by paid invoices, as opposed to upfront grant payments;
- Ensuring individuals and institutions involved in the administration that the appraisal, recommendation, and monitoring of the funds avoid both the appearance and actual instances of conflict of interest.

4.6 Bilateral relations

The Norwegian Embassy in Slovenia is playing a very important role in the promotion of the FMs in Slovenia by actively participating in almost all events relating to the FMs (signing contracts with project promoters, workshops for potential applicants, opening and closing ceremonies, annual meetings, other meetings, site visits etc.). Thus, bilateral relations have been greatly strengthened. In this reporting period, the relationship with the NFP has always been and remained very co-operative, close and sincere.

The implementation of the selected individual projects (see Table below) is enhancing cooperation between Norway and the Republic of Slovenia.

Table 10: Individual projects' partnerships

No. / Title	Project Promoter	Priority	Partners from donor states	Partners' input
SI0001 LIVELY OLD TOWN – Integrated approach to the old town renewal in Gorenjska region	BSC Kranj	Conservation of European cultural heritage	Hedmark County Council, Norway	Partner from Norway actively participates in the implementation of Activity 1 (Regeneration process of old towns in Gorenjska region): the partner organised a conference in Hedmark) and provides 5 mentors for the regeneration process for 5 towns).
SI0004 Establishment of the GPS network	Surveying and Mapping Authority, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning	Promotion of sustainable development	Statens kartverk / Norwegian Mapping Authority	The purpose of consulting contract with Statens kartverk is to assure adequacy and expertise of solutions and implementation of the project in accordance with European practice.
SI0028 Divača – Renovation of Skratelj's homestead into Museum of Slovene Film	Municipality of Divača	Conservation of European cultural heritage	Den Norske Filmskolen Lillehammer University college	Organisation of joint international conferences and workshops in the field of cinematography and the European programme for training the professors (train the trainers) in the newly renovated Museum of Slovene Film is envisaged.
SI0032 Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Institute for blind and partially sighted children Ljubljana	Health and childcare	Huseby resource Centre visual impairment and Deaf Blindness Oslo	Partners from Oslo attended a 5-day seminar in Ljubljana where they discussed the achievement of project results and gave an important input of their practical experience as regards the preparation of programme documents of the Centre. The Slovene delegation returned a visit to Oslo in order to further discuss the project implementation.
SI0036 Establishment of the "Counselling centre for autistic spectrum disorders" institute	Center društvo za avtizem	Health and childcare	Institute of Applied Behaviour Analysis (IAA) from Norway	Since the result of the project is the establishment of a new centre, the partners from the donor state will contribute to the success of the project with their extensive practical experience and will transfer their knowledge to Slovenian partners. The co-operation in both ways is envisaged and the Slovenian partners will present their experience in work with children with autistic spectrum diseases.

The FMs allocated 1.2 million EUR for the implementation of the “Lively Old Town”, a co-operation project between the Gorenjska Region’s Regional Development Agency BSC, the Association of Historical Cities of Slovenia, the municipalities of Radovljica, Škofja Loka, Kranj, Jesenice/Stara Sava and Tržič, and the Hedmark Region in Norway. All partners signed a partnership agreement on 22 September 2005 to agree on all the legal and financial provisions related to the management of the project. This partnership is not only "paper-based", but actual cooperation which builds on interests and strengths of the each partner involved.

The Lively Old Town project rejuvenated and revitalised the urban centres by renovating four historical buildings and one square, transforming them into multi-purpose public venues. The results of the Lively Old Town project are built on common interest, know-how transfer, learning from each other’s experiences with town renewal. Site visits were organised, where town renewal experts from both regions participated (Hedmark, Norway, and Gorenjska, Slovenia). The dedicated partnership between the Hedmark and Gorenjska regions is a prime example of how the FMs contribute to promotion of economic and social integration of the Member States and peoples of Europe. Within this project, 5 permanent job venues were created and the working conditions improved for more than 50 people. Results achieved within the project are presented in the Table below. Also the fact that over 2 million EUR of additional means from the municipalities were engaged to reach all objectives of the project is not to be neglected.

Table: Indicators of the project result

Indicator	Baseline	Planned	Achieved	Exceeded
No. of organisations using 5 multifocal/meeting places	9	14	81	67
No. of "town regeneration" groups in action	0	5	22	17
No. of follow-up actions/projects	0	5	30	25
No. of old town regeneration facilitators	0	5	14	9
No. of participants at regeneration workshops	0	300	589	289
No. of old town regeneration plans use	0	5	5	0
Area reconstructed & available for "public use" in m2	0	2377	3329	952

Source: SI0001 Project application, PIP and PCR

NGO FUND

The implementation of the selected NGO Fund projects (see Annex 2: List of selected sub-projects for the NGO Fund) also significantly enhances cooperation between the donor states and the Republic of Slovenia.

The NGO Fund ensured a very high level of bilateral cooperation as 15 out of 40 co-financed projects are implemented in partnership with organisations from the donor states.

In the field of environment and sustainable development, the co-financed project aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Action Plan for the Development of Organic Farming

in Slovenia with active involvement of the Norwegian expert when developing the Strategy for introducing ecological food in public kitchens.

In the field of human resources, the resettlement model for homeless people was developed. The project was about the transfer and adaptation of the Norwegian model to Slovenia. The project has significantly influenced the policy making in Slovenia.

The project on cultural heritage conservation should be pointed out in particular. The network of eco museums was established, which included the transfer of knowledge from the Norwegian partner. In addition to this a round table was organised and networking with eco museums in Norway was established.

In the field of health and childcare, the implemented project was aimed at raising awareness of childbearing women about their rights, based on the introduction of the Norwegian experience.

The main added value of bilateral cooperation is the transfer of knowledge and on top of this bilateral promotion that is a basis for cooperation in the future. Experiences and best practices regarding cultural heritage, voluntary work, rehabilitation of drug addicts, homeless, development of social skills, and people with special needs were exchanged. Last but not least, several democratic principles such as human rights and public participation in policy making were introduced.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Slovenian Scholarship Fund with its 124 sub-projects significantly contributes to the strengthening of relations between participating countries, especially Slovenia and Norway, which will host the most participants from Slovenia.

Participants in mobilities from both sides have several opportunities:

- better knowledge of the involved countries, cultures and institutions,
- exchange of knowledge, experience, good practices,
- partnerships for future projects.

4.7 Publicity

Information and publicity about the assistance provided through the FMs intend to increase transparency and raise public awareness.

The NFP ensured that detailed information on opportunities for potential beneficiaries about the existence and functioning of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, including the availability of funds, was communicated to special target groups and the general public by:

- maintaining the web site www.eeagrants.si and updating it when deemed necessary;
- participating in several seminars and conferences on funding opportunities in Slovenia;
- answering to e-mails received from potential project promoters;
- holding meetings with project promoters;

- announcements of open calls;
- holding a workshop and presentation of selected projects.

Project promoters and intermediaries perform the following activities according to the Publicity Guidelines:

- billboards for investment projects (during the works);
- commemorative plaques (after the works are completed);
- press conferences with info packages for the press (with details on the implementation of project, financing arrangements and donors) at the openings and closures of projects;
- brochures for the interested public;
- invitations and leaflets for households;
- television and radio broadcasts with interviews;
- articles in local and national newspapers;
- articles in local newspapers of donor states;
- web pages of project promoters includes information on project and donors;
- memorial albums of projects;
- annual expert symposiums (for specific expert topics for some projects);
- experts articles;
- lectures and expert training;
- publishing of DVDs;
- workshops and meetings to include wider public in the project results in order to achieve sustainability;
- publishing e-letters, dBlog (digital blog);
- various promotional material.

NGO FUND

In 2010, around EUR 87,000 was allocated for the public promotion of projects. All final beneficiaries proposed their promotion-related activities already in their applications and also earmarked funds for that purpose.

Concrete promotion-related activities included mainly the preparation and publication of promotional materials like leaflets, brochures, posters, compilations and even films. Promotion in the media such as national and local TV stations, radio stations, national and local print media, as well as at press conferences and other promotional events was extensive.

Furthermore, websites were set up for every co-financed project, in order to promote the projects' activities. Indirectly, projects were promoted through the events held within the framework of planned activities. These events included meetings, conferences, education and training. At such events, final beneficiaries strictly followed the Rules on labelling and used the donors' logotypes.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The purpose of publicity was to raise public awareness about Slovenian Scholarship Fund in Slovenia and to attract high number of applicants to successfully use the available funds. The

Intermediary provided broad and specific information support and publicity for general public as well as special target groups.

Intermediary used different tools for different target groups:

- Public announcements (general public),
- media articles (general public, students, academics, researchers),
- information material (students, academics/researchers),
- information events (general, students, academics/researchers),
- web sites (general, students, academics/researchers) and
- direct mailing (academics, researchers).

All the tools included relevant logos and clear acknowledgment on all related documentation as well as on any promotional and publicity materials of the assistance received.

Target groups: HE institutions, research institutions, academics, researchers, students, relevant Ministries, relevant Embassies and general public.

Special attention was given to the widest possible publication of the Calls and to the support of the applicants because such activities can considerably contribute to the successful implementation of the Slovenian Scholarship Fund.

5 INDICATIVE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR

December 2010

- Transfer of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism to the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy

January 2010

- Workshop for project promoters on the preparation of a Project Completion Report, organised in co-operation with the FMO

March 2011

- Preparation of a brochure to present the implemented projects and funds in the Republic of Slovenia for the period 2004–2009

October 2011

- Submission of all remaining Project Interim Reports according to signed Grant Agreements
- Organisation of a closing conference

6 INDICATIVE AUDIT PLAN FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR

Internal Audit

On the basis of risk assessment, the internal audit of the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism will be incorporated in the Strategic Annual Audit Plan for 2011 of the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy (GOSP), which will be prepared in the beginning of January 2011.

Budget Supervision Office

Based on the annual plan for 2010, the following audits will be performed by the end of 2010 and beginning of 2011:

- audit of expenditures for 2 individual projects (December 2010) and
- audit of expenditures for selected sub-projects for SI0034 Scholarship Fund (January 2011).

The projects will be selected on the basis of risk analysis. There are some backlogs in the implementation of the BSO annual plan for 2010 due to a later additional inclusion of other financial instruments under this annual plan.

7 CONCLUSIONS

The NFP dedicated all available resources to efficient implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism in 2010. On the cut-off date of the report, 64.8 % of the committed funds have been disbursed, mostly because the existing implementation arrangements within the NFP had been maintained and strengthened. The NFP is nevertheless still facing problems in performing everyday tasks, because of time constraints and also because the variety of projects and tasks to be performed requires a lot of experience and different types of knowledge. Therefore, the small, but enormously dedicated team is often overburdened.

In general, the established implementation system is functioning properly and smoothly also because of close co-operation between the NFP, the FMO, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway and the Ministry of Finance.

The FMO is playing a crucial role in providing all professional support to the NFP and the Paying Authority with a constructive approach in finding efficient and proper solutions for the implementation of Financial Mechanisms on a daily basis.

The Norwegian Embassy in Slovenia also has a very important role in the promotion of Financial Mechanisms in Slovenia; it actively participates in almost all events relating to the FMs (signing contracts with project promoters, workshops for potential applicants, opening and closing ceremonies, annual meetings, other meetings, site visits etc.). In this way, bilateral relations have been greatly strengthened. Their relationship with the NFP has always been and remained very co-operative, close and sincere.

The Norway and EEA Grants are complementary to the existing financing sources, as the allocation of funds is spread among target groups which otherwise could not receive funds despite their ideas and determination to pursue common objectives, e.g. children with special needs, non-governmental sector and less developed municipalities. Individual projects are evenly dispersed all over the territory of Slovenia. Projects located in the capital have wide implications for the whole country since the promoters of these projects are national institutions. All projects have been extremely well received in the Slovenian regions and adequately presented to the wider Slovenian public who warmly accepted their results. In addition to the achieved objectives and tangible results, the Norway Grants strengthened the bilateral relations between Slovenia and Norway at the national as well as the regional levels; in particular, cooperation of the project promoters with the Norwegian partners is likely to be continued even after the completion of projects.

The main challenges of the NFP for the next reporting period are:

- to continue with so successful implementation as it was performed within this reporting period, despite the forthcoming transfer of responsibilities to another NFP; however, delays in the final implementation phase are to be expected;
- to actively involve new responsible officials on the governmental level in the processes of implementation;
- to raise awareness of the existing and future Norway Grants on the national, regional and local levels through promotional activities.

Annex 1: List of selected individual projects by priorities in the total amount of 14,206,166 EUR

EEAFM = EEA Financial Mechanism

NFM = Norwegian Financial Mechanism

No.	Title of the project	Project Promoter	Grant	Funded by
1. Protection of the environment				
SI0030	Protection of the environment – the task for all and everyone	My Neighbourhood	448,830	EEAFM NFM
SI0035	Change black to green	Municipality of Moravske toplice	309,630	NFM
SI0015	Energetically-economical kindergarten	Municipality of Gornja Radgona	672,466	NFM
10.1% of total			1,430,926	
2. Promotion of sustainable development				
SI0020	Sustainable supply of drinking water in the Komen Karst	Municipality of Komen	396,427	EEAFM
SI0037	"The old new Rinka" – the multi-purpose centre for sustainable development of Solčavsko	Municipality of Solčava	674,319	NFM
SI0039	Science Educational Centre for Sustainable Development	University of Maribor, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics	920,846	NFM
SI0004	Establishment of the GPS network	Surveying and Mapping Authority, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning	799,091	NFM
19.6% of total			2,790,683	
3. Conservation of European cultural heritage				
SI0001	LIVELY OLD TOWN – Integrated approach to the old town renewal in Gorenjska region	BSC Kranj	1,211,242	NFM
SI0005	Youth Hostel Situla – Museum as a living space	Zavod Situla, Novo mesto	465,434	EEAFM
SI0013	The Lipizzaner Museum	Lipica Stud Farm	692,850	EEAFM NFM
SI0014	Digital Library of Slovenia	NUK	863,748	EEAFM
SI0016	Construction of the theatre and residence centre Mini teater in Ljubljana	Mini Teater	600,546	EEAFM NFM
SI0018	Restoration of Kino Šiška into the Centre of Modern Arts	Municipality of Ljubljana	310,506	NFM

No.	Title of the project	Project Promoter	Grant	Funded by
SI0019	Restoration of the foundation vaults beneath the St. George's church in Piran	Municipality of Piran	534,461	EEAFM
SI0027	Cultural revival of the city core	Municipality of Koper	499,911	NFM
SI0028	Divača – Renovation of Skratelj's homestead into Museum of Slovene Film actors	Municipality of Divača	1,234,845	NFM
45.1% of total			6,413,543	
4. Human resource development				
SI0031	"House – Fruits of Society" / Murska Sobota – Multigenerational centre	Slovene Philanthropy	497,364	EEAFM NFM
3.5% of total			497,364	
5. Health and childcare				
SI0002	Demolition and reconstruction of the existing nursery school, due to excessive radon radiation	Municipality of Idrija	1,343,327	NFM
SI0017	Construction, reconstruction and adaptation of Centre for children's health care Šentvid pri Stični	Ministry of Health	592,840	NFM
SI0029	Equine-assisted psychotherapy at Rakitna	Rakitna Youth Sanatorium	381,832	NFM
SI0032	Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Institute for Blind and Partially Sighted Children (ZSSML)	475,230	NFM
SI0036	Establishment of the "Counselling centre for autistic spectrum disorders" institute	Centre Society for Autism	280,421	EEAFM
21.6% of total			3,073,650	

Annex 2: List of selected sub-projects for the NGO Fund

Project Title	Beneficiary	Partner from the donor states	Amount Awarded
PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 27.9%			
Sustainable energy in schools	Society for Ecological and Spare Time Activities		50,000.00
Following the Otter's knowledge	Lutra Institute for Natural Heritage Conservation	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Trondheim, (Inga E.Bruteig)	50,000.00
Slovenian National Energy Way	Vitra, Center for Sustainable Development		49,240.76
Leap Forward: Accelerate Org. Farming Action Plan	Institute for Sustainable Development		50,000.00
Invasive alien species – an overlooked threat	Institute Symbiosis	Debio, Norway (MortenIngvaldsen)	47,485.88
Reptiles of Slovenia – do we know them?	Society for Researching Amphibians and Reptiles		12,683.40
00CO2 – Zero Carbon Agents on a Public Mission	Slovenian E-forum, Society for Energy Economy and Ecology		50,000.00
Bees – the Carrier of Biodiversity	Beekeeping association of Bela Krajina		32,360.00
Grassland fungi as bio-indicator for biodiversity conservation	Mushroom Society Chanterelle, Maribor		21,917.00
Future is not Our Destiny, but Our Choice	Umanotera, Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development		47,535.36
Less Plastic in the Cemeteries	Environmental Research		44,350.00
Conservation of caves and water supplies	"Speleos-Siga", Caving Club of Koroška and Šaleška region, Velenje		22,368.87
TOTAL			477,941.27
CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION 25.3%			
Folk heritage for the museums of the Plateau of Banjsice and Trnovo	Community Foundation Planota	Intermusic Center Norway, Oslo (Kjell Skyllstad)	45,000.00
The Walk through the heritage of the Isonzo front	Foundation Walks of Peace in the Soča Region		48,993.00
The preservation of culinary heritage	Slovenian association of tourist farms	Norwegian Rural Tourism and Traditional Food	45,000.00

Project Title	Beneficiary	Partner from the donor states	Amount Awarded
The Elderly as Possessors and Transmitters of Cultural Heritage	Society Slovenian Third Age University		42,766.20
The skiing culture of Bloke Plateau	Tourist Society Bloke		33,393.43
From Grandmothers' and Grandfathers' chest for grandsons' wealth	Tourist Society Šempeter in Savinjska Valley	Lavanger sanitetsforening (Anne P. Husby)	44,510.40
Cultural heritage of the past for brighter Future	European Cultural and Technological Centre, Maribor	A museum in the municipality of Bjugn, Norway (Sturla Leth –	42,914.10
Carol-Singing and Carol Customs	Mini teater, Institute for promotion and execution of puppet and theatre performances, Ljubljana		44,426.93
Let's keep the customs to our descendants, yesterday for tomorrow	PRJ HALO, Country Development Core		42,183.00
Ethnological Park Cerknica Field	"Jezerški hram", Institute for Preservation of Natural and Cultural Heritage, Cerknica	Europa Nostra Norway (Siv Ark Eirik Saxvik)	44,496.80
TOTAL			433,683.86
DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES 28.9%			
"DROM – Way" Encouragement of the social inclusion of Roma population	Mission S – Society for Sustainable Development of Pomurje Region		44,245.00
New opportunity for people after head injuries	The Institute for Rehabilitation after head injuries Zarja		50,000.00
Development of a practical model and relevant policies of resettlement of homeless people in Slovenia	Society for help and self-help to homeless people Kings of the Street		49,500.00
Support for local initiatives	Institute for Policies of Space		39,647.00
Development of innovative training models of voluntarism and migrations	Slovene Philanthropy		49,319.80
Development of tourist offer for persons with special needs	SENT Slovenian Association for Mental Health		44,997.59
"The Whole World in my Village" - Development and Promotion of International Volunteer Work in Slovenia	Voluntariat, Institute for International Voluntary Work	Worldwide friends Iceland (Thorarinn Ivarsson)	45,272.23

Project Title	Beneficiary	Partner from the donor states	Amount Awarded
Building a workroom in a commune	"Ray", Society for Work With Young in Distress	Risk Kristiansand Kommune Byhallen	43,430.00
Training of Youth for Inclusion in the Labour Market	You say!, Institute for Creative Society		45,279.00
65+, for activity, transfer of knowledge and voluntary work in oldness	Papilot, Institute for Stimulation and Developing of Quality of Life		44,780.00
Development of Inclusive Higher Education System	Association of Disabled Students of Slovenia		39,770.00
TOTAL			496,240.62
HEALTH AND CHILDCARE 17.9%			
HUG – Supporting Family in Educational Process	Friends of Youth Society, Litija	Adults for Children, Oslo (Randi Talseth)	45,000.00
Movement, Youth, Nature and Innovation: Motive Power for Society	Institute Wholesome Grove Tunjice	The Icelandic Boy and Girl Scout Association, Reykjavik	43,956.00
Pilot Project for Exchange of Sterile Equipment for Injecting Drugs in Slovenian Prisons	STIGMA, Society for Reducing Drug Damage		50,000.00
"Many have done it before!" The rights of childbearing women	Natural Beginnings, Association for Informing, Free Choice and Support in the Field of Pregnancy, Childbirth and Parenthood	Fodsel I Fokus (Heide Thorsen)	43,896.60
Integration programmes adapted for young migrants	Slovenian Philanthropy, Association for Promotion of Voluntary Work		43,754.63
School for People with Chronic Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Society for Chronic Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Landsforeningen Mot Fordoyelsessykdommer (LMF) (Arne Schatten)	30,880.00
Social Integration of Roma	Society for Development of Voluntary Work Novo Mesto		50,000.00
TOTAL			307,487.23
TOTAL NGO Fund with national co-financing			1,715,352.98

Annex 3: Status Report Slovenia, 4 October 2010 (in EUR)

No	Title	Project promoter	Total grant value	Grant value NOR	Grant value EEA	ADV	PIRs/PCRs received	Values of disbursed PIRs	PIRs/PCRs in a process	In process at NFP	In process at MF	In process at FMO	Disbursed TOTAL
SI0001	LIVELY OLD TOWN- Integrated approach to the old town renewal in Gorenjska region	BSC Kranj	1.211.242	1.211.242	0	0	5	PIR1 19,234 PIR2 342,197 PIR3 685,355 PIR 4 93,206 PCR 71,250	1	0	0	0	1.211.242
SI0002	Demolation and reconstruction of the existing nursery school, due to excessive radon radiation	Municipality Idrija	1.343.327	1.343.327	0	0	3	PIR1 6,229 PIR2 1.258,058 PCR 79,019	0	0	0	0	1.343.306
SI0004	Establishment of the Network of GPS stations and European Spatial Reference System in Slovenia	Surveying and Mapping Authority	799.091	799.091	0	0	5	PIR1 44,208 PIR2 274,727 PIR3 79,782 PIR 4 171,937 PIR5 85,037	0	0	0	0	655.691
SI0005	Youth hostel Situla- Museum as a living space	Zavod Situla, Novo mesto	465.434	0	465.434	0	5	PIR 1 3,494 PIR2 167,985 PIR 3 187,000 PIR4 102,053	1	0	-319	0	460.532
SI0013	The Lipizzaner Museum	Lipca stud farm	692.850	47.599	645.251	0	2	PIR 1 23,556	1	38.582	0	0	23.556
SI0014	Digital Library of Slovenia- dLib.si	NUK	863.748	0	863.748	86.374	2	ADV 86,374 PIR1 125,948	1	280.646	0	0	212.322
SI0015	Energetically- Economical Kindergarten	Municipality Gornja Radgona	672.466	672.466	0	0	4	PIR1 110,880 PIR2 242,536 PIR3 275,586 PIR4 3,906	0	0	0	0	632.908
SI0016	Construction of the theatre and residence centre Mini teater in Ljubljana	Mini teater	600.546	300.273	300.273	60.055	3	ADV 60,055 PIR1 7,582 PIR2 324,423 PIR3 115,134	0	0	0	0	507.195
SI0017	Construction, reconstruction and adaptation of Centre for children's health care Šentvid pri Sišči	Ministry of Health	592.840	592.840	0	59.284	2	ADV 59,284 PIR1 0	1	0	371.322	0	59.284
SI0018	Restoration of Kino Šiška into Centre of Modern Arts	Urban Municipality Ljubljana	310.506	310.506	0	0	2	PIR1 0	1	66.667	0	0	0
SI0019	Restoration of the foundation vaults beneath the St. George's church in Piran	Municipality Piran	534.461	0	534.461	0	4	PIR1 30,183 PIR2 451,150 PIR3 19,628 PCR 33,500	0	0	0	0	534.461
SI0020	Sustainable supply of drinking water in the Komen Karst	Municipality Komen	396.427	0	396.427	0	3	PIR1 1,847 PIR2 334,874	1	0	0	0	336.721
SI0027	Cultural Revival of City Core	Municipality Koper	499.911	499.911	0	0	1	/	1	0	99.610	0	0
SI0028	Divča - Renovation of Skratelj's homestead into Museum of Slovene Film	Municipality Divča	1.234.845	1.234.845	0	0	3	PIR1 7,420 PIR 2 124,711 PIR3 159,852	0	0	0	0	291.983
SI0029	Equine-assisted psychotherapy at Rakitna	Rakična youth sanatorium	381.832	381.832	0	38.183	3	ADV 38,183 PIR1 0 PIR2 46,725	1	30.511	0	0	84.908
SI0030	Protection of the environment - the task for all and everyone	"My neighbourhood"	448.830	224.415	224.415	0	5	PIR1 15,954 PIR2 100,890 PIR3 107,878 PIR4 47,933	0	0	0	0	368.403
SI0031	"House - Fruits of Society" /Murska Sobota - Multigenerational centre	Slovene Philanthropy	497.364	248.682	248.682	49.737	5	ADV 49,737 PIR1 21,860 PIR2 68,993 PIR 3 146,004 PIR 4 41,268	0	0	0	47.874	327.862
SI0032	Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Institute for blind and partially sighted children Ljubljana	475.230	475.230	0	0	4	PIR1 144,608 PIR2 27,969 PIR3 122,531	0	139.433	0	0	295.108
SI0035	Change black to green	Municipality Moravske toplice	309.630	309.630	0	30.963	1	ADV 30,963 PIR1 24,213	0	0	0	0	55.176
SI0036	Establishment of the "Counselling centre for autistic spectrum disorders" institute	Center društvo za pomoč osebam z motnjami avtizma / Center društvo za avtizem	280.421	0	280.421	28.042	3	ADV 28,042 PIR1 70,847	1	68.403	0	0	98.884
SI0037	The old new Rinka - The multipurpose centre for sustainable development of Solčavsko	Municipality Solčava	674.319	674.319	0	67.432	3	ADV 67,432 PIR1 179,804 PIR2 74,796 PIR3 106,799	0	0	0	0	428.831
SI0039	Science educational centre for sustainable development	Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Maribor	920.846	920.846	0	0	6	PIR1 33,938 PIR2 109,743 PIR3 207,886 PIR4 172,484 PIR5 76,647	1	0	0	161.624	600.698
SUB TOTAL - Individual			Total committed grant	Total committed NOR	Total committed EEA	Total advance payments	Total PIRs received	Values of disbursed PIRs	PIRs in a process	Total in process of check at	Total in process of check at MF	Total in process at FMO	Total disbursed
			14.206.166	10.247.054	3.959.112	420.070	74	8.109.001	11	593.731	470.613	209.498	8.529.071
SI0023	Technical Assistance Fund for Grant Management Project	GODEA	408.504	204.252	204.252	0	6	PIR1 11,348 PIR2 13,316 PIR3 24,040 PIR4 40,383 PIR5 52,806 PIR6 18,285	1	0	0	0	160.178
SI0024	NGO Fund	REC	1.458.050	729.025	729.025	67.940	4	PIR1 351,860 PIR2 440,695 PIR3 109,815 PIR 4 127,012	0	0	0	0	1.458.050
SI0034	Scholarship and exchange of experts fund	CMEPIUS	1.298.205	432.951	865.254	25.705	3	ADV 25,705 PIR1 0 PIR2 1.076,795	1	6.230	0	0	1.102.500
SUB TOTAL - Block grants			Total committed grant	Total committed NOR	Total committed EEA	Total advance payments	Total PIRs received	Values of disbursed PIRs	PIRs in a process	Total in process of check at	Total in process of check at MF	Total in process at FMO	Total disbursed
			3.164.759	1.366.228	1.798.531	93.645	13	2.627.083	2	6.230	0	0	2.720.728
TOTAL			Total committed grant	Total committed NOR	Total committed EEA	Total advance payments	Total PIRs received	Values of disbursed PIRs	PIRs in a process	Total in process of check at	Total in process of check at MF	Total in process at FMO	Total disbursed
			17.370.925	11.613.282	5.757.643	513.715	87	10.736.084	13	599.961	470.613	209.498	11.249.799

Annex 4: Strategic framework for priority areas of EEA and Norway Grants in 2005–2009 in Slovenia

Strategic documents setting development priorities in Slovenia that have to be considered when preparing project proposal are:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy 2007–2013;
- Sectoral national strategies (spatial, transport, cultural, regional, environmental protection, biotic diversity, etc.);
- Framework of Economic and Social Reforms to Increase Prosperity in Slovenia;
- Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia;
- Regional Development Programmes;
- Local Strategies;
- National Strategic Reference Framework;
- Operational Programme:
 - Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013;
 - Operational Programme for Environmental and Transport Infrastructure 2007–2013;
 - Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for 2007–2013.

Framework of strategic documents in Slovenia

The first and most relevant strategic document at the national level is **Slovenia's Development Strategy (SDS)** adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on 23 June 2005. Slovenia's Development Strategy sets out the vision and objectives and defines five development priorities with action plans. Development Strategy can be seen as an umbrella document of strategic development policies which takes into account development documents and links them into a coherent whole. Document sets the development objectives of the country as a whole. Therefore, the strategy does not focus solely on economic development, but also involves social, environmental, political, legal and cultural issues. With such determination of objectives, it represents Slovenia's sustainable development strategy and at the same time this means the transposition of the Lisbon Strategy goals into the national environment.

SDS defines five key development priorities with set objectives:

1. A competitive economy and faster economic growth;
2. Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs;
3. An efficient and less costly state;
4. A modern social state and higher employment;
5. Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development;

The development priorities defined in the SDS represent also a framework for programmes and measures under the **National Development Programme (NDP)**, which is not the sole instrument for implementation of the SDS, but covers all those development investment

programmes and projects in Slovenia in the period 2007–2013 that are financed and co-financed from the national budget and municipal budgets. Because of that logic the development priorities of the NDP are identical to five development priorities of the SDS.

Although Slovenia has only two territorial levels of government (national and municipal level), by 12 regional development programmes a strong linkage of municipal developmental priorities is presented. Consequently, the regional policy is mainly influenced by these two levels, especially the national one. The Promotion of Balanced Regional Development Act (2005) provided a systemic framework and in all 12 development regions, regional development programmes for the period 2007–2013 were adopted, along with their implementation plans for the first three years of implementation.

In addition to the strategic development document, for most projects the financial framework and geographical location are important. Regarding the financial framework of public finance **the Plan of Development Programmes (Načrt Razvojnih Programov - NRP)** is the third part of the budget, which includes investment projects and programmes, state aid and expenses, associated with the financing of common European policies and other grants. In the NRP the budgetary expenditure relating to the development policy of the country is displayed in the form of specific projects or programmes.

Geographical dimension for investments is regulated by spatial planning and spatial policy. The spatial development policy is based on three interlinked measures:

- At the national level, it promotes an advanced and integral regional spatial planning, which adequately values natural resources, social and economic requirements, market opportunities etc., and harmonizes the development of tourism with other factors and users of space (transport, agriculture, forestry, etc.).
- At the local level, it promotes the drafting of spatial strategies and the implementation of spatial legal acts, which shall take into account the development requirements of tourism by considering the supporting capacity of the environment (ecological, socio-cultural, psychological, infrastructural, managerial).
- In safeguarded (and protected) areas it offers a clear definition of various levels of protection within these areas (zoning), through which an equal level of protection and development of the protected areas will be ensured by taking into account the requirements of the environmental profession, the adopted regulations and international conventions signed by the Republic of Slovenia.

Two levels of documents set development priorities and objectives for the implementation of cohesion policy. First is the **National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF)** based on the strategic guidelines of European Commission and prepared as a set of general national strategic priorities and the set objectives for the benefit of cohesion policy. The NSRF includes all those programmes and projects that can be co-financed with the funds from the European budget and satisfy the criteria from the new EU regulations in the field of cohesion policy for the period 2007–2013. In that respect NDP is the document for the implementation of the SDS in the field of development investment programmes and projects and NSRF is its subset where it is crucial to ensure a strategic approach with clear and consistent programmes and instruments. So NSRF sets the same priorities as SDS and NDP.

The second level presents **Operational Programmes** that covers the period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2013. Both the Slovene National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) and the Operational Programmes (OPs) for the period 2007–2013 are in line with the relevant recommendations regarding the cohesion policy and the Community spending targets for the Lisbon Strategy. In legal terms Operational programme is the basis for the disbursement of EU funds.

1. **Operational programme "Strengthening Regional Development Potentials 2007–2013" is a programme co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) under the Convergence objective in Slovenia.**

The main goal of the Operational Programme is to attain the core objectives defined in the NSRF, namely fostering the country's competitiveness while ensuring a balanced regional development in the entire country. The OP aims to:

- enhance competitiveness,
- foster entrepreneurship, innovation and technology development, and
- facilitate job creation, also in the tourism sector, while taking into account environmental and social concerns.

The operational programme is divided into 5 priority axes:

1. Competitiveness and Research Excellence;
2. Economic Development Infrastructure;
3. Integration of Natural and Cultural Potentials;
4. Development of Regions;
5. Technical assistance.

2. **Operational programme 2007–2013 "Development of environment and transport infrastructure" is a programme co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund (CF) under the Convergence objective in Slovenia.**

The main goal of the operational programme is to provide the conditions for growth by:

- providing sustainable mobility,
- improving the quality of the environment and
- constructing suitable and sustainable infrastructure.

The operational programme is divided into 7 priority axes: 3 focusing on transport (Railway infrastructure, Road and maritime infrastructure and Transport infrastructure); 3 on the environment (Municipal waste management, Environment protection – water sector and Sustainable use of energy); and 1 on technical assistance.

3. With the title '**Development of human resources for the period 2007–2013**', the Slovenian Operational Programme for ESF funding intends to invest in people, thereby enhancing innovation, employability and economic growth, and thus ensuring high employment, social inclusion, and the reduction of regional disparities – leading to a higher standard of living.

The operational programme is divided into 5 priority axes:

- 1: Promoting entrepreneurship and adaptability;
- 2: Promoting employability of job-seekers and the inactive;
- 3: Human resource development and lifelong learning;

- 4: Equal opportunities and reinforcing social inclusion;
- 5: Institutional and administrative capacity.

Framework of strategic documents in Slovenia by priority sectors

1 Protection of Environment

The basic direction of environmental protection policy is oriented towards ensuring sustainable development. The concept of sustainable development is increasingly invoked in the international community. Until the late 1960s, no European country had a clearly defined environment policy. However, over the last 30 years a significant progress has been made in setting up a comprehensive system of environmental controls in the European Union. The EU environmental policy is based on the idea that high environmental standards stimulate innovation and business opportunities. Economic, social and environmental policies are closely integrated. The main goal of environmental policy at EU level is to provide an adequate protection throughout the EU, without disregard for local circumstances and economic constraints. The policy is based on the “polluter pays” principle. The polluter may “pay” either through the investment in higher standards or as a tax on business, and consumers for using an environmentally hazardous product. The payment may also entail the requirement to take back, recycle or dispose the products after use.

The EU sixth programme ‘Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice’ running from 2002 to 2012 - focuses on four priority areas:

- Tackling climate change and global warming;
- Protecting natural habitat and wildlife;
- Addressing environmental and health issues;
- Preserving natural resources and managing waste.

A geographical dimension of investments is regulated by spatial planning and spatial policy. The policy of spatial development is based on three interconnected measures: str. 62

- At the national level, it promotes advanced and integral regional spatial planning, which adequately values natural resources, social and economic requirements, market opportunities etc., and harmonizes the development of tourism with other factors and users of space (transport, agriculture, forestry, etc.).
- At the local level, it promotes the drafting of spatial strategies and implementation spatial legal acts, which will take into account the development requirements of tourism by considering the supporting capacity of the environment (ecological, socio-cultural, psychological, infrastructural, managerial).
- In safeguarded (and protected) areas it offers a clear definition of various levels of protection within these areas (zoning), through which an equal treatment of protection and development of the protected areas will be ensured by taking into account the requirements of the environmental profession, the adopted regulations and international conventions signed by the Republic of Slovenia.

In Slovenia there are many sectoral programmes and strategies, as well as and intersectoral approaches and policies dealing with the question of environment protection (e.g. the policy of protecting and conserving the environment and space; the policy of protection against

natural and other disasters, a national programme of environmental protection, etc.). The legal framework referring to the environment policy in Slovenia includes the following acts: Environment Protection Act, Nature Conservation Act, Water Act, as well as provisions of regulations covering all areas, which define the issues of the above listed acts in detail. The strategic documents which identify long and short term objectives for the reduction of the pollution and measures for achieving the objectives are the following: National Environmental Action Programme (hereinafter referred as NEAP) and on its basis adopted operational programmes. The National Environmental Action Programme (NEAP) is the basic strategic environmental protection document. Its main objective is the general improvement of the environment and the quality of life, and the protection of natural resources. The NEAP sets out the key environmental objectives and priorities based on the assessment of the environmental situation and prevailing trends. The NEAP is a starting point for the environmental dimension the Slovenia's Development Strategy within the fifth priority. To this end the programme sets goals in individual areas for specified periods of time, and determines priority tasks and measures for the attainment of those goals. The NEAP includes measures for the improvement of conditions in the area of environment protection for the period from 2005 to 2012.

The environmental policies are guided by the EU environmental legislation. For years, they were a subject of preparatory work prior to the EU accession and can be identified in several areas which include objectives and measures, as follows:

- **Energy and Climate Policy (climate change);** - to place emphasis on climate change as an important challenge in the coming years and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, thereby contributing to the long-term goal of stabilising concentrations of greenhouse gases in the air, as well as reducing emissions of ozone-depleting substances;
- **Nature and Biodiversity;** - to protect and preserve natural systems, habitats and wild animal and plant species in order to halt the loss of biodiversity and genetic diversity, and to stop soil from further degradation;
- **Sewage Disposal (quality of life);** - to contribute to raising quality of life and social welfare by ensuring that the environment does not contain pollution at levels harmful to health and the environment, by promoting sustainable development in towns and cities and, in particular, by ensuring that implemented measures establish good surface and underground water status and sustainable water management, including activities that focus on the water balance and on the rational consumption of water as a natural resource.
- **Air Quality Protection;** - to achieve an integrated and unified system for providing the control and planning of permitted emissions and to promote the development and use of technologies that prevent, eliminate or reduce environmental burdens.
- **Waste Management (waste and industrial pollution);** - to ensure that waste management and the use of renewable and non-renewable natural resources, which facilitate sustainable production and consumption, contribute to reducing environmental pollution and energy consumption in such a way that an excessive burden is not placed on the environment. Example in the field of waste management: it is clear there are a large number of illegal dumps which are not adequately regulated (50,000 to 60,000).

The basic environmental components of sustainable regional and spatial development of Slovenia in the EU until 2013 are therefore in particular:

- cost management of waste and the improvement of water resource quality;
- reduction of excessive greenhouse gas emissions under the Kyoto Agreement and other air emissions by 2010, according to the protocol of Gothenburg;
- Stabilization (by 2010) and reduction (after 2010) of the use of natural resources (and energy) per capita;
- Significant reduction of the energy intensity (at least 3% per year) and increase in the use of renewable natural resources;
- Reducing the pressures of intensive agriculture in the gravel plains of ground water;
- Reducing dispersion of suburban suburbanization, environmental pressures of road management, industrial pollution and waste problems;
- Polycentric economic development (the concept of decentralized concentration), keeping the population in rural and backward areas;
- Building common infrastructure (e.g. transport and energy) corridors in the regional capacity of the environment;
- Increasing the quantity of protected areas under various regimes of protection and ecological corridors (to about 30% of the land) and conservation areas with important sources of drinking water (Karst springs, the areas with ground water);
- Maintaining the relationship between forest (55%), agricultural (35%) and built (and other non-productive) areas (10%);
- Remediation in geographically distinct areas of multiple landscape degradation, especially in Zasavje, Upper Mežiška Valley, Šaleška Valley (continuation of the successful remediation).

Taking into account the principles of maintaining a degraded environmental capital of Slovenia and its response to the economic trends of globalization, the principle of weak sustainability, breaking the link to the greater use of natural resources and economic growth and international environmental commitments, Slovenia (and EU) have to attain the following key environmental objectives and priorities in the field of environmental protection by 2013:

1. to improve and maintain the quality of water resources;
2. to reduce pollution from municipal waste and increasing material efficiency;
3. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
4. to calm the traffic pressures on the environment;
5. landscape conservation and biodiversity;
6. to reduce environmental degradation of contaminated areas (Zasavje, Mežica Valley, the urban area of Celje and Šaleška Valley) and lower the number of critically contaminated areas.

2 Promotion of sustainable development

The key milestone in the field of sustainable development was the United Nations conference on environment and development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The plan on how to achieve sustainable development in the 21st century, Agenda 21, was adopted. Prior to the conference, sustainable development was defined as the »development that meets

the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs». In Rio, however, it was pointed out for the first time that the policies of economic development must necessarily include environmental and social aspects. In the past two years, the understanding of development and sustainability has changed considerably as the narrow vision of development which emphasized only the economic development has been superseded recently by the new criterion of development: general well-being of people. However, well-being is much more: in addition to material goods, it relates also to health, environment, social relationships, personal activities, education and culture.

Key objectives of the Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy as adopted by the European Council in 2006 are:

1. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** - Safeguard the earth's capacity to support life in all its diversity, respect the limits of the Planet's natural resources and ensure a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment. Prevent and reduce environmental pollution and promote sustainable consumption and production to break the link between economic growth and environmental degradation.
2. **SOCIAL EQUITY AND COHESION** - Promote a democratic, socially inclusive, cohesive, healthy, safe and just society with respect for fundamental rights and cultural diversity that creates equal opportunities and combats discrimination in all its forms.
3. **ECONOMIC PROSPERITY** - Promote a prosperous, innovative, knowledge-rich, competitive and eco-efficient economy which provides high living standards and full and high-quality employment throughout the European Union.
4. **MEETING OUR INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES** - Encourage the establishment and defend the stability of democratic institutions across the world, based on peace, security and freedom. Actively promote sustainable development worldwide and ensure that the European Union's internal and external policies are consistent with global sustainable development and its international commitments.

This strategy provides an EU-wide policy framework to deliver sustainable development and rests on four separate pillars – economic, social, environmental and global governance – which need to reinforce one another. This strategy complements the Lisbon Strategy and is built around measures covering the main challenges, as well as cross-cutting measures, adequate funding, the involvement of all stakeholders and effective policy implementation and follow-up. The strategy is based on the following guiding principles: promotion and protection of fundamental rights, solidarity within and between generations, the guarantee of an open and democratic society, involvement of citizens, businesses and social partners, policy coherence and governance, policy integration, use of best available knowledge, the precautionary principle and the polluter-pays principle.

Measures for responding to the key challenges

The strategy identifies seven unsustainable trends on which action needs to be taken:

- to limit **climate change** and its effects by meeting commitments under the Kyoto Protocol and under the framework of the European Strategy on Climate Change. Energy efficiency, renewable energy and transport will be the subject of particular efforts.

- to limit the adverse effects of **transport** and reducing regional disparities, to break the link between economic growth and transport growth and do more to develop transport that is environmentally friendly and conducive to health. The strategy envisages, among other measures, infrastructure charging, and promotion of alternatives to road transport and vehicles which produce less pollution and use less energy.
- to promote more sustainable **modes of production and consumption**. With this aim in view, the EU must among other things promote green public procurement, define environmental and social performance targets for products in cooperation with stakeholders, expand the distribution of environmental innovations and environmental technologies and produce information about and appropriate labelling of products and services.
- **Sustainable management of natural resources** is also an objective. From now until 2010 overexploitation needs to be avoided, efficiency of natural resource use improved, the value of ecosystem services recognised and loss of biodiversity halted. In particular the EU must make efforts in agriculture, fisheries and forest management; it should make sure that the Natura 2000 network is completed; define and implement priority actions to protect biodiversity, and make sure that aspects associated with the seas and oceans are duly taken into account. Recycling and re-use must also be supported.
- Limiting major threats to **public health** is another of the strategy's objectives. Food safety and quality must be ensured throughout the food chain. Threats to health and the environment posed by chemicals must be removed by 2020 and research into the links between health and pollutants must be developed.
- to combat **social exclusion and poverty** and mitigate the effects of an ageing society. To promote active ageing and make efforts to ensure the viability of pension and social protection systems, integrate legal migrants and develop a Community immigration policy, improve the situation of families – especially of children – and promote equality between men and women.
- to strengthen **the fight against global poverty** with increased amount of aid provided to less favoured countries and to improve the coherence and quality of development aid policies and promote better international governance.

Regarding to the questions related to the sustainable development, Slovenia's problems and tasks are to some extent similar to those in neighbouring and other nearby countries, and to some extent a reflection of the country's own special features and its political and economic heritage.

For the first time in 2010, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia published "The sustainable indicators for Slovenia", that can help to find the answers to the questions regarding which are the key areas and key objectives of sustainable development in Slovenia. SORS formulated the following five key objectives of sustainable development in Slovenia: prosperity, long-term balance, modesty, cooperation and integrity. The set of indicators is grouped into three sections and for each field environmental, economic and social aspects are considered:

1. Well being
 - a. Quality of natural resources
 - b. Economic growth
 - c. Safety
2. Balance and modesty

- a. Natural resources
 - b. Research and development
 - c. Population, gender equality and poverty
3. Intergenerational cooperation
- a. Intensity of use of natural resources
 - b. Government debt
 - c. Care for all generations

There was no national strategy for ecological sustainable industrial development except the guidelines described in the National Environment Protection Programme (Official Gazette RS, No. 83/99). New spatial development legislation and a number of strategic spatial development acts (Policy of Spatial Development, Spatial Development Act, Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia, Spatial Order of Slovenia) have been adopted since then. These introduce sustainable spatial development and verify the urgency of the need to introduce spatial regulation.

Sustainable spatial development is a basic principle underpinning the Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia and provides assurance that spatial regulations and the use of space allow for the needs to be met through environmental protection, nature conservation, sustainable use of natural resources, and the preservation of cultural heritage and other assets of the natural and living environment. The spatial planning strategy sets out the objectives of spatial development which are to improve the quality of space and to resolve Slovenia's existing and anticipated spatial problems.

The objectives of prudent use of natural resources and conservation of nature completes the integrated management of environmental protection elements through economic and multipurpose use of soil and resources, the efficient use of space for town planning and the monitoring of the expansion of urban areas, preservation of the cultivation potential of land for agricultural use, the balanced provision of raw minerals, the distribution of activities to ensure that there is a balance between water supply capacity and needs, promotion of the use of renewable resources where this is spatially acceptable, promotion of conservation of biodiversity, natural assets and natural processes as fundamental elements of a high-quality natural environment, and the proper inclusion of biodiversity and natural assets in the management of natural resources and space.

3 Human resource development

Labour and social policies are a key part of the EU's Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs. Their main goal is to increase employment by giving unemployed and disadvantaged people the training and support they need to get jobs. By focusing on those most in need of help, they contribute to policies aiming to reduce inequality and build a fairer society, equip the workforce with the skills needed by business in a competitive global economy.

One of the employment policy priorities is to achieve the targets set in the Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs. The fundamental orientations and mechanisms encouraged in the sphere of social development are found in the policy of encouraging equal opportunities and

facilitating social participation by investing in human resources, testing all social security systems and providing measures tailored to an individual.

Among the five key priorities of SDS there are at least two which are very important and closely related to human resource management, social protection and social inclusion, namely:

1. Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs (second priority);
2. An efficient and less costly state (third priority);
3. A modern social state and higher rate of employment (fourth priority).

On the basis of the SDS, National Reform Programmes and Framework of Economic and Social Reforms for Increasing Welfare in Slovenia (2005) national development documents by respective areas (social, health, education, employment, etc.) and legislation are being prepared. Overall objectives of labour policy in Slovenia are:

- On the labour market - to increase flexibility, promote employment and increase activity and employment;
- In the area of social transfers - to motivate people to work and be more socially equitable;
- In the area of pension system - to increase incentives for the activity while ensuring long term sustainability of the system and increase the volume of a supplementary pension;
- The health care system - to lower the increasing costs of public health, to manage the existing resources at macro and micro levels.

Education and training may be the answer to the challenges of technology and structural changes and to the problem of aging population, as lifelong learning can also prolong labour activities.

The basic strategic objectives of the active employment policy (AEP) are to:

- increase employment and reduce unemployment;
- prevent the transition into long-term unemployment (the share of long-term unemployed) and increase the transition into employment;
- reduce structural unemployment: enhancing employability by raising education training and improving skills (improving the educational structure of the unemployed);
- increase the flexibility and competitiveness of employees;
- promote new employment (increasing the number of supported projects to develop new employment opportunities);
- strengthen social inclusion (the share of recipients of unemployment benefit and social assistance among the unemployed).

Main areas of interventions in AEP are:

- advice and assistance in job seeking;
- training and education;
- promotion of employment and self-employment;
- programmes for increasing social inclusion.

4 Health and childcare

The fifth development priority of the SDS is also related to the provision of optimal conditions for health, including:

- integration of measures and conditions for the protection of health sector policies and reducing health disparities among regions and population groups;
- promotion of healthy behaviour and prevention of early mortality;
- improvement of the accessibility and quality of health services and the upgrade of health facilities.

Action plan for Slovenia's development strategy for the area of health as part of quality of life presents specified objectives:

- drawing up guidelines to protect and promote health and reduce disparities in health between regions and population groups;
- preparation and implementation of health protection programmes in different fields of lifestyle (nutrition policy, physical activity, alcohol, smoking, etc.);
- increase in system efficiency by improving the accessibility and quality of health services and strengthening preventive health programmes;
- modernization of health facilities at all levels of health care, including emergency medical assistance.

In order to protect health and improving public health, the programme foresees three general objectives:

- to improve information and knowledge for the development of public health;
- to enhance the capability of rapid and coordinated response to health threats;
- to promote health and prevent disease.

The main objectives of the second Public Health Programme are:

- to improve citizens' health security (protect citizens against health threats);
- to promote health, improve prosperity and solidarity (promote a healthy and active aging and help to eliminate health inequalities);
- to collect and disseminate knowledge in the field of health (sharing knowledge and best practices; collection, analysis and dissemination of health information).

The strategy is based on national documents, documents of the European Union and the scientific evidence in the field of quality medical treatment and patient safety. Basic documents are:

- National guidelines for the development of quality in health care;
- Resolution on National Health Care Plan 2008–2013;
- Patients Rights Act.

In health policy there are some measures with objectives focused on youth and children:

- to create conditions for healthy living of children and youth;
- to achieve the best possible health for children and youth in Slovenia with an emphasis on reducing inequalities in health;
- to involve young people in designing, implementing and evaluating strategies, programmes and measures as a necessary part of all activities;

- the implementation of specific programmes and projects for young people, in order to gain autonomy, positive self-esteem and skills;
- the preparation of programmes and measures to strengthen health of children and youth which: a) are a result of systematic work covering all developmental stages b) ensure equality, paying particular attention to disadvantaged groups, c) require inter-ministerial and inter-institutional engagement, and cooperation with non-governmental organizations, d) create an appropriate supportive environment (family, local communities, kindergartens, school etc.);
- to strengthening mental health in all developmental stages of childhood and adolescence and the most common cause of mortality among children and youth;
- to influence factors that cause increased morbidity and mortality in children and youth;
- to carry out national prevention activities in the following priority areas: promoting mental health, including suicide prevention, prevention of road traffic injuries, drowning, falls, poisoning (unintentional), burns and scalds;
- to provide opportunities for healthy psychosocial development, promoting mental health and reduce the suicide rate among children and youth;
- to implement measures aiming to prevent injury and poisoning in children and youth.

Additionally, in the field of family policy, the following measures and objectives can be identified:

- to create conditions for family life, which allow young couples to start a family and be actively engaged in their family life as well as in professional and social roles; in case of already established families, the state shall create conditions for a quality life for all family members and influence decisions to add a new family member;
- to take all necessary measures to protect vulnerable members in cases of domestic violence;
- to ensure adequate funding and human resources for the smooth implementation of a programme that provides support to the family at their home.

In the field of education policy, the objectives are:

- to provide equal opportunities for education and facilitate the access to education;
- to provide quality education for children (with special emphasis on providing quality education for mutual tolerance and reducing inequalities in society with respect for diversity and human rights),
- to promote lifelong learning at all educational levels.

In social policy, the objectives are:

- to achieve greater effectiveness in supporting and helping children and their families;
- to ensure quality of life and development in the primary social network for children and young people;
- to reduce poverty and social exclusion of children and families in which they live, and to develop and provide effective measures that will make it possible to find a solution as soon as possible;
- to provide social benefits, focusing on the most vulnerable children and young people in future ;

- to reduce dropout rates in secondary schools and increase the possibilities of participating in all school curricula and increasing the involvement of unemployed youth in training and education programmes.

Special concern of social policy:

1. for children with special needs:

- the main aim is a systematic approach to children with special needs, taking account of all the subsystems and the interaction between them (children, family, school, social and health institutions, local communities, etc.). The actual implementation of integration policy, which considers a person with a disability as an entity with all human and civil rights and it provides not only compensation for a "deficit", but also creates equal opportunities (non-discrimination), in order to make a more independent life in a normal living environment (social inclusion). Integration required in relation to children with special needs and support measures and activities of the responsible institutions, in order to provide adequate professional and material resources, training of professionals, taking into account these aspects when planning their activities;
- to ensure that every child has most normal everyday life, taking every opportunity to remain in their family and grow up with his/her generation, and to develop their potentials to the fullest extent;
- to promote democratic values, the right to be different and thus develop positive attitudes towards inclusion;
- to provide a comprehensive early reading for all children with special needs, giving them a foundation for successful development and quality of life;
- to create not only a numerical record of children with special needs, but also to ensure their individual treatment, as defined by law, and provide measures for every child;
- to ensure the education system that will allow effective learning of students with special needs (incl. protective mechanisms of adaptation and prevention of school failure) and provide a full continuum of educational and training programmes (from early education to training for work and the less supportive forms of integration into mainstream schools).

2. for children with deviant behaviour:

- to create conditions in which these children acquire the knowledge, experience and potential to change their patterns of behaviour and are thus included in the peer and wider social environment;
- to provide opportunities for quality leisure time for all ages of children and young people – to prepare and adopt a system solution to operate non-profit organizations, and to provide employment, education and training of trainers, animators and youth workers who will work in programmes for leisure, to provide system solutions for co-programming costs, investment and payment facilities, to provide leisure activities;
- in media production, which is designed for children and youth, to ensure that the appropriate public is informed about the possibilities of quality and non-commercial forms of leisure and the functioning of groups and organizations for children and youth organizations and the promotion of leisure activities;

- to ensure the development of leisure facilities, paying special attention to children and young people with special needs, socially disadvantaged children and young people, children of immigrants and refugees, young immigrants and refugees, children and unaccompanied children and young people from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

Annex 5: Consistency and compliance of project objectives with national and EU strategic documents and with regional and local documents

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
1. Environment <i>Protection of the environment, including the human environment, through, inter alia, the reduction of pollution and the promotion of renewable energy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of energy efficiency - Regulation of greenhouse gas emissions 	SI 0015 - Energetically-economical kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to reduce the energy costs (energy of heating, lightning, ventilation, and hygienic water preparation), through integral reorganization and reconstruction of the two units of Manko Golar kindergarten - to improve the efficiency of energy consumption and fuel reduction 	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development, in particular to integrate environmental standards into sectoral policies and consumption	4 th priority of OP RD - Development of regions through developing economic, social, educational, transport and environmental infrastructure 6 th priority of OP ROPI through sustainable energy	The project is in line with the Operational programme for energy efficiency with the priority: energy and climate policy: To reduce environmental degradation in contaminated areas. The project is in line with the Operational programme for energy efficiency of public buildings Project is in line with the Regional development programme of Pomurje Project is in line with the Plan of development projects of the Municipality of Gornja Radgona
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of monitoring systems for ground water, waste water and air pollution. The assessment of implementation of the EU 	SI 0030 - Protection of the environment - the task for all and everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to raise the awareness of the necessity of environmental protection among the target groups - to promote strategic priorities of sustainable development and its legislation 	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development, in particular to develop the national identity and culture	3 rd priority of OP RD - Integration of natural and cultural potentials through the improvement of quality of life. 6 th priority of OP ROPI through the promotion of	Quality of life: Integrating environmental requirements into sectoral policies and consumption patterns

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
	legislation on the condition of air, water and land in Slovenia				sustainable development	
	- Development and implementation of waste collection and recycling systems	SI 0035 - Change black to green	- to destruct illegal dumps - to prepare study of illegal dumps	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development, in particular to improve spatial management and ensure optimal health conditions	3rd priority of OP RD - Integration of Natural and Cultural Potentials through preservation and integration of natural and cultural potential for development and the improvement of tourism competitiveness, recreation and the quality of life. 4th priority of OP ROPI waste management	Waste Management: reducing pollution from municipal waste and increasing material efficiency. The project is in line with the Regional development programme of Pomurje The project is in line with the local development strategy of the Municipality of Moravske Toplice
2. Sustainable development <i>Promotion of sustainable development through improved resources use and management</i>	- Establish a national GPS network as a basis for the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) needed to support the Land Administration/ Cadastre, environmental information, physical planning/land	SI 0004 - Establishment of the Network of GPS stations and European Spatial Reference System in Slovenia	- the creation of functions of the national permanent GPS (Global Positioning Stations) network - the implementation of the European Spatial Reference System in the territory of Slovenia	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: to improve spatial management and to integrate environmental standards with sectoral policies and consumption patterns;	4 th priority of OP RD - Development of regions through the development of economic, social, educational, transport and environmental infrastructure 6 th priority of OP ROPI through the promotion of sustainable	The creation of the network of permanent GPS stations and the implementation of ESRS are defined in the Action Plan of the Surveying and Mapping Authority for 2005 and 2006 adopted by the Government of RS on 31 March 2005 (Decision No. 35301-1/2005/6). The creation of the network of permanent GPS stations as an

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
	development and public sector management - Implementation of the European Landscape Convention				development	important part and the implementation of ESRS are defined in the Strategy of the national Geodetic System adopted by the Government of RS in 2004 (Government of RS Decision No. 450-06/2004-1)
	- Promote the sustainable management of specific urban and landscape areas	SI 0020 - Sustainable supply of drinking water in the Komen Karst	- Construction of water pipeline in Birje pri Komnu and Lukovec (settlements in the Municipality of Komen) - Construction of water reservoir	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: to ensure optimal health conditions;	4 th priority of OP RD - Development of Regions through developing economic, social, education, transport and environment infrastructure 5 th priority of OP ROPI for water management 6 th priority of OP ROPI through the promotion of sustainable development	Project is in line with the Regional development programme of Južna Primorska
	- Strengthening education and research in the field of sustainable development	SI 0037 - The old new Rinka - The multipurpose centre for sustainable development of Solčavsko	- to construct the new multipurpose centre Rinka (772 m3) - to introduce the centre's new contents which will serve public well-being of all generations, - to establish the new	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: to ensure optimal health conditions and balanced regional	4 th priority of OP RD - Development of regions through the development of economic, social, educational, transport and environmental	Operational programme for the areas contained in Natura 2000 Rural Development Programme 2007-2011, including the measure: improvement of lifestyle in rural areas

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
			Rinka facility; for a non-profit organisation this will represent the backbone of the future community development.	development and to develop the national identity and culture.	infrastructure 6 th priority of OP ROPI through the promotion of sustainable development.	Development plan and orientations for a tourism policy in Slovenia 2007-2011 Project is in compliance with the Regional development programme of Savinjska region, the 2 nd priority region of innovative tourism. The project is part of the Plan of development project of the Municipality of Solčava Local development strategy of Zgornja Savinjska Valley Rural development programme of Municipalities of Ljubno, Luče and Solčava Local development programme of Savinjsko Šaleška Valley
	- Strengthening education and research in the field of sustainable development	SI 0039 - Science Educational centre for sustainable development	- implementation of the educational research labs for molecular biology and environmental physics, a cabinet for the geographical-information system and installation of the computer cluster for the setting up of the interdisciplinary	2 nd priority of SDS - Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs: to improve economic efficiency and the level	4 th priority of OP RD - Development of regions through the development of economic, social, educational, transport and environmental infrastructure	National Higher Education Programme; Resolution on the National Higher Education Programme The project is in line with the national programme of higher education, which promotes decentralization of tertiary education,

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
			<p>didactical centre for environmental education where natural sciences, mathematics and engineering meet with the purpose of showing the connection of all the fields, when environmental effects are considered</p> <p>- This centre is transferring the knowledge from the level of university education and research to the level of university didactic - teaching future teachers of elementary and secondary schools; as a result the knowledge is transferred to the level of primary and secondary education</p>	<p>of investment in research and technological development; and to improve the quality of education and encourage lifelong learning;</p> <p>5th priority of SDS - Integration of measures aiming to achieve sustainable development: to improve spatial management and to integrate environmental standards with sectoral policies and consumption patterns;</p>	<p>Priority sector »Promotion of sustainable development«, main sector "Strengthening education and research in the field of sustainable development"</p>	<p>increased enrolment in natural science programmes and education and qualification of teachers for sustainable development</p> <p>Development of human resources: increase the number of bachelors, masters and doctors in the field of natural sciences (Life-long learning; Support to educational institutions for teaching environmental topics; Decentralization of tertiary education in the field of natural sciences);</p>
<p>3. Human resource development <i>Human resource development through, inter alia, promotion of education and training, strengthening of administrative or public service</i></p>	<p>- Increasing the competence and administrative capacity of local authorities</p> <p>- Training in nursery schools and special schools (foster care, centres for education and care, schools for</p>	<p>SI 0031 - House – Fruits of Society</p>	<p>- to establish a multigenerational centre</p> <p>- to encourage voluntary work</p> <p>- to transfer and exchange knowledge/skills of HRM management and social entrepreneurship</p>	<p>2nd priority of SDS - Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs: to improve the quality of education and encourage lifelong learning;</p>	<p>1st priority of OP ESF - Promoting entrepreneurship and adaptability</p> <p>3rd priority of OP ESF - Human resource development and lifelong learning.</p> <p>5th priority of OP ESF - Institutional and administrative capacity.</p>	<p>National strategy of welfare development</p> <p>National strategy for quality aging and solidarity and co-existence among generations</p> <p>AEP activities: Advice and assistance in job seeking</p> <p>Training and education</p> <p>Promotion of employment</p>

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
<i>capacities of a local government or its institutions and the democratic processes that support it</i>	children with special needs) - Support for social integration of the disadvantaged groups			4th priority of SDS - A modern social state and a higher rate of employment: to reduce social exclusion and the poverty risk.		and self-employment Programmes for increasing social inclusion The project is in line with a local strategy for care for the elderly The project is in line with the Regional development programme of Pomurje
4. Health and childcare <i>Health and childcare - Improvement of learning and the development of environment for children with special needs</i>	- Programmes supporting the improvement of conditions at children's hospitals	SI 0002 - Demolition and reconstruction of the existing nursery school, due to excessive radon radiation	- Construction of the substitutive nursery school edifice on the Arkova st. - enabling a healthy environment for children education - sanitation of old encumbrance, caused by mercury mining: sanitation of the Radon	4 th priority of SDS - A modern social state and higher employment: to improve labour market flexibility; to modernise social protection systems; and to reduce social exclusion and poverty risk. 5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: To ensure optimal health conditions;	3 rd priority of OP ESF - Human resource development and lifelong learning. 4 th priority of OP ESF - Equal opportunities and reinforcing social inclusion. 5 th priority of OP ESF - Institutional and administrative capacity.	Project is part of Plan of development projects of the Municipality of Idrija
	- Improvement of standards in nurseries and special schools (foster care, centres for	SI 0017 - Construction, reconstruction and adaptation of the Centre for children's health	- Renovation and completion of one of the centre's buildings, - Renovation and upgrade of a connecting corridor between A and B	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: to ensure optimal health	4 th priority of OP ESF - Equal opportunities and reinforcing social inclusion. 5 th priority of OP ESF - Institutional and	Health policy: to ensure conditions for healthy environment for youth and children Policy of special social care Systematic approach

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
	education and care, schools for children with special needs)	care Šentvid pri Stični	buildings, - To renovate heating and water systems	conditions	administrative capacity	towards children with special needs
	- Programmes supporting the improvement of conditions in children's hospitals	SI 0029 - Equine-assisted psychotherapy at Rakitna	- To develop a programme for treatment of children and teenagers with eating disorders and emotional disturbances with therapeutic horseback riding - To establish a therapeutic team, involve as many parents as possible in a therapeutic and educational programme - to develop a system for measuring the effectiveness of therapies.	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: To ensure optimal health conditions	3 rd priority of OP ESF - Human resource development and lifelong learning. 4 th priority of OP ESF - Equal opportunities and reinforcing social inclusion.	National programme for mental care The project is in line with a local development programme of the Municipality of Brezovica
	- Programmes to support the improvement of conditions in children's hospitals	SI 0032 - Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired	- renovation, modernization of the institution and construction of an exercise area for the blind - formation of the Centre of Blind and Visually Impaired	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: to ensure optimal health conditions	3 rd priority of OP ESF - Human resource development and lifelong learning. 4 th priority of OP ESF - Equal opportunities and reinforcing social inclusion.	Health policy: To ensure conditions for healthy environment for youth and children
		SI 0036 - Establishment of the "Counselling centre for autistic spectrum disorders" institute	- the establishment of the "Counselling Centre for Autistic Spectrum Disorders" - The service of implementing the	5 th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development: to ensure optimal health	3 rd priority of OP ESF - Human resource development and lifelong learning. 4 th priority of OP ESF - Equal opportunities	Health policy: to ensure conditions for healthy environment for youth and children Special social care policy Systematic approach

EEA and Norway PRIORITY AREAS	EEA and Norway FOCUS AREAS	EEA and Norway projects	Objectives of projects	SDS and NDP	NSRF and OPs	Sectoral strategies Local strategies
			programmes aimed at social skills and social integration as well as work with families - The service for diagnosing and treating ASD-affected persons	conditions	and reinforcing social inclusion.	towards children with special needs Development strategy for welfare in the Municipality of Ljubljana

Annex 6: Assessment of individual projects

This annex provides presentation of individual projects within priority areas and a review of planned and achieved results and their contribution to national, regional and local priorities. Some information is also provided on complementarities of projects financed from national budget and/or other EU funds by priority sector.

The review relies on figures and data provided by the NFP, project promoters, and information contained in project files. A questionnaire was sent to all 22 project promoters. All project promoters replied to the questionnaire and they were very cooperative.

Due to the fact that no special and common monitoring system is in place or foreseen for the evaluation of indicators on national level regarding the implementation of different strategies, only descriptive evaluation of individual project can be presented and logical framework with national, regional and local priorities can be given.

1 Protection of environment

Num.	Project title	Project promoter	Funded by
SI0030	Protection of the environment - the task for all and everyone	Service "Moja soseska"	EEAFM+NFM
SI0035	Change black to green	Municipality of Moravske Toplice	NFM
SI0015	Energetically-economical kindergarten	Municipality Gornja Radgona	NFM

The projects are in line with priorities of the following Slovenian documents at the national, regional and local level:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy (2005);
- National Development Programme 2007–2013;
- National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013;
- Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the Period 2007 – 2013;
- Operational Programme of Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development for the Period 2007–2013;
- National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2008–2016;
- Resolution on National Programme for Protection of Environment 2005–2012;
- Regional Development Programme Pomurje 2007–2013;
- Development Programme of Municipality of Gornja Radgona;
- Energy Plan of Municipality of Gornja Radgona;
- Strategy of Municipality of Moravske Toplice 2007–2013 ("Health Oasis").

1. Protection of the environment - the task for all and everyone - SI0030 (EEAFM+NFM)

The main purpose of the project is to raise awareness on the necessity of environmental protection among the target groups. The main project activities are concentrated on media activities (radio, television, newspapers, internet) for the purpose of informing, raising awareness and motivating selected target groups and the general public in the areas of lifelong learning (LLL), social involvement, intergenerational cooperation and pensions, long-term nursing, and the European Community and its policies. Raising awareness on the necessity of environmental protection among the target groups is planned with informative mosaic television shows about environmental protection and newspaper columns about environmental protection, organising cleaning actions and workshops about environmental protection.

It is planned that the project results would be published (in all TV and newspaper announcements) on the website www.mojasoseska.si. Free access to this information will enable its further use by project partners, as well as other governmental and non-governmental organizations. The proposed project directly supports sustainable development from the environmental point of view. Through informing, motivating and raising awareness via different media, it promotes the reduction of environmental pollution, alongside the use of alternative energy sources and the preservation of our environment and natural treasures.

In its application, Project SI 0030 has specified indicators related to actions and events that will raise the awareness about the environment and sustainable development. According to the reviewed reports, predicted results are to be achieved and outputs realized with some delay and not according to a primary implementation plan. The project is still in progress and is expected to be concluded by December 2010.

Project is in line with the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2008–2016, priority Quality of life: “Integrating environmental requirements into sectoral policies and consumption patterns” and activity: “Public support and media promotion of environmentally appropriate citizen and consumer practices” that consist of presented actions:

- a) Promotion of organic products, energy saving, shopping via the internet (home delivery, saving time and money, reducing transport costs, avoiding the construction of shopping malls, etc.);
- b) Financing of entrepreneurial projects, production of organic products and services and promotion of the existing ones (consumers show the way, an opportunity for environmentally friendly behaviour)
- c) Financing of entrepreneurial projects, introduction of work from home.

2. Change black to green - SI0035 (NFM)

Overall objective of the project is to increase the awareness of residents of the municipality about the importance of clean environment and therefore make preventive impact on longterm extinction of illegal dumps in nature. In project workshops, the exhibitions of photographs of illegal dumps in nature were organised, but a study of ecological problems in

the Municipality of Moravske Toplice has to be prepared. The actual destruction of illegal dumps as complete sanitation of at least 18 evidenced and at least 10 still unevidenced illegal dumps in nature (takeaway of waste, recultivation, construction of dykes, warning boards) is also planned and not yet completed.

The project complies with the 5th priority of Slovenia's Development Strategy (Combining measures for long-term development - better environment management and infrastructure) and with the 2nd principle of a Resolution on national environment protection programme 2005-2012 (Higher environment awareness and sanation of degraded areas). Another activity: sanitation of illegal dumps in nature is a part of Regional development programme Pomurje 2007-2013 (Priority 4 - environment and living space, programme 4.2. Revitalisation of degraded areas) and local development plan of Municipality of Moravske Toplice called "Oasis of Health".

The project is in line with the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2008–2016 priority Energy and climate policy: "Reducing pollution from municipal waste and increasing material efficiency" and the activity "Progressive rehabilitation of a disordered landfill" where the following activities are planned:

- a) creation of an integrated cadastre and environmental risk assessments of unregulated sites and municipal landfills;
- b) environmental rehabilitation of landfills in 1) areas of water protection zones of drinking water wells, 2) protected areas and 3) attractive tourist areas.

In its application, the project SI 0035 specified indicators related to illegal dumps and promotion actions on illegal dumps. Following the reports we can estimate that starting activities of projects were carried out, i.e. the study of illegal dumps, monitoring of water etc., but the main part of the project's activities still needs to be implemented. The project still has 4 months of implementation activities according to the planned finalization.

3. Energetically-economical kindergarten - SI0015 (NFM)

The project objective was to reduce the energy costs of two units of Manko Golar kindergarten (energy of heating, lightning, ventilation, and hygienic water preparation), through integral reorganization and reconstruction into "Energetically-economical kindergarten". The reconstruction represents the first Slovenian model of integral reconstruction of a public facility into a low-energy house, respecting the passive house standard, and by using new technologies for effective energy consumption and renewable sources, it can improve its operation economically, socially, and ecologically.

The impact of the project is resulted in a higher level of protection of the environment, including human environment, reduction of pollution, encouraging the renewable energy consumption, with its main objective to encourage the effectiveness of energy consumption and fuel reduction. Consequently, the reconstruction improved the living conditions of children staying in the kindergarten.

The project's overall objectives are in line with the environment's priority area and sustainable development.

Project SI 0015 is completed and all planned indicators have been achieved. Results of project contribute to the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2008–2016, its priority Energy and Climate policy: “To reduce environmental degradation in areas of contamination” and the activity “Reduction of critical components and long-term pollution of the environment” and can be directly linked with the third activity listed:

- a) Install water treatment equipment and filters to the source of over-loading environment;
- b) Spatial management for activities that have major environmental impact also in terms of self-cleaning capabilities;
- c) A larger share of more environmentally friendly energy sources (with lower emission load);

2 Promotion of sustainable development

Num.	Project title	Project promoter	Funded by
SI0004	Establishment of the Network of GPS stations and European Spatial Reference System in Slovenia	Surveying and Mapping Authority	NFM
SI0020	Sustainable supply of drinking water in the Komen Karst	Municipality of Komen	EEAFM
SI0037	The old new Rinka - The multipurpose centre for sustainable development of Solčavsko	Municipality of Solčava	NFM
SI0039	Science educational centre for sustainable development	Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Maribor	NFM

The projects are in line with following Slovenian documents at the national, regional and local levels:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy (2005);
- National Development Programme 2007–2013;
- National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013;
- Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the Period 2007 – 2013;
- Operational Programme of Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development for the Period 2007–2013;
- Rural Development Programme 2007 – 2011;
- Development Plan and Orientations for Tourism Policy in Slovenia 2007 – 2011;
- Resolution on the National Higher Education Programme;
- National Higher Education Programme;
- Strategy of the National Geodetic System (2004);
- Action Plan of the Surveying and Mapping Authority for 2005 and 2006

- Operational programme – Natura 2000 management programme (adopted in July 2007);
- Strategy for development of Južna Primorska region;
- Regional Development programme of Savinjska region 2007–2008
- Local development strategy of Zgornja Savinjska Valley
- Rural development programme of municipalities of Ljubno, Luče and Solčava
- Local development programme of Savinjsko Šaleška valley.

1. Establishment of the Network of GPS stations and European Spatial Reference System in Slovenia - SI 0004 (NFM)

The objective of setting up of a geo-information infrastructure, based on common, EU-accepted guidelines and technologie, was to ensure the possibility for cross-bounder cooperation and economic, spatial, environmental and social development both on interregional and international levels. The establishment of the Network of GPS stations of the European Spatial Reference System entails:

- the creation of the functions on the national permanent GPS (Global Positioning Stations) network
- the implementation of the European Spatial Reference System in the territory of Slovenia.

The creation of a common coordination system in the EU territory is important also because it will facilitate the comparability of data and their exchange in the entire EU territory.

The project complements the actions aiming to achieve objectives of the 5th priority of SDS: “Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development”. It is expected that the results of the project would contribute to the improvement of spatial management by the establishment of national GPS network as a basis for the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) needed to support the Land Administration/Cadastre, environmental information, physical planning/land development and public sector management.

Project SI 0004 is expected to be completed by the end of the year. According to the reviewed reports, the setting up of the national infrastructure for determining the position in ESRS with GPS is completed. Data services within the system for providing conditions for determining position in ESRS with GPS in the entire territory of the state and the introduction of data services for linking the old coordinate system with the new are still in progress.

2. Sustainable supply of drinking water in the Komen Karst - SI 0020 (EEAFM)

The project is finished; more than 600m of water pipeline have been installed in Birje pri Komnu and more than 1000m in Lukovec (settlements in the Municipality of Komen). Preparatory and construction works for water reservoirs were also carried out in two places. The capacity of a water reservoir is 158 m³ of water per second; before the project it was only 8m³ of water per second.

Project SI 0020 is in compliance with the 5th priority of SDS – Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development to ensure balanced regional development and also with

the 6th priority of OP ROPI with promotion of sustainable development. The project is in line with the 4th priority of OP RD and complements a regional development measure.

The project was implemented in the Karst, a specific region between the Bay of Trieste and the Vipavska Valley. Water needs for industry and agriculture and drinking water needs in Karst are much greater than available quantities. Thus, reasonable use of water is necessary. It has been proposed to connect local sources in the area with a traditional way of water supply. At the same time, qualification and modernization of a local water supply system contribute to a better quality and quantity of drinking water. Furthermore, a smaller catchment for an individual settlement, in addition to the central one is economically more practical.

The implementation of the project stimulates additional investment of sewer pipe for broadband, lighting and telecommunications, rainwater drainage. The project was also co-financed by national funds for investments in municipalities according to Article 23 of Financing of Municipalities Act.

3. The old new Rinka - The multipurpose centre for sustainable development of Solčavsko - SI0037 (NFM)

In a small, geographically confined Municipality of Solčava (also called "Solčavsko") which counts 546 inhabitants who live in the area of 102km², an old building was renovated, in order to set up a friendly house which would combine tourism, education, rural business, as well as meeting facilities for the community. The place should revive Solčava Village with the new multipurpose centre Rinka which is managed by a newly established, non-profit organisation "Rinka". It should provide the backbone of the future community development and introduce new contents which would serve the public well-being of all generations, of locals and visitors; which would bring them together, educate them and also support their new business activities, while marketing local sources and tradition in a sustainable way. The new Rinka facility shall become the centre of future sustainable development.

The main stages of constructing a multi-purpose centre: tearing down the old facility, construction works, water distribution system, sewage, electric and heating installation, including engineering and supervision, are completed and basic furnishing of the multi-purpose centre is finished. A local team is working on awareness rising and publicity.

Project SI0037 is in line with the 5th priority of SDS – Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development to ensure balanced regional development and also with the 6th priority of OP ROPI with promotion of sustainable development.

The project complies with Operational Programme for management of Natura 2000 - the project is consistent with the measures of the programme listed under "2.4.5.1 Measures for sustainable development focused on the direct benefits of Natura for the local population". Within the Rural Development Programme 2007 – 2013, the project is consistent with the measure 322 Quality of life in rural area and renewal and development of villages, which states that in comparison with the city, the countryside is neglected in its development of infrastructure and therefore more exposed to the risk of draining. A reduction in the

population in rural areas can give rise to socially undesirable areas and the declining value of the countryside, so the need for investment in a rural infrastructure and facilities is supported.

The project is in compliance with the Regional development programme of Savinjska, the 2nd priority region of innovative tourism. The project is a part of Plan of development project of Municipality of Solčava, Local development strategy of Zgornja Savinjska Valley, Rural development programme of municipalities of Ljubno, Luče and Solčava and Local development programme of Savinjsko Šaleška Valley.

As in the framework of the NFM the elimination of designed content that was questionable in terms of "state aid" (a cafe with local organic products and an installation in the attic) and because of the recession, that part of the building was unable to obtain appropriate private partners who would agree to a "green and sustainable" concept offers and a part of its content was abolished. Those activities were decided to become a part of the public task of a newly created Public Service for Sustainable Development Solčavsko. The project obtained additional funds through the public call for priority for "Regional development programmes" under the Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007-2013, the development priority »Development of Regions." Furthermore, exhibitions and collections were shown in the basement of the visitor centre, which was funded under Objective 3 Territorial Cooperation Slovenia and Austria 2007-2013.

4. Science educational centre for sustainable development - SI0039 (NFM)

The purpose of the project is to provide the conditions for high quality educational and research work in the field of natural sciences and sustainable development at all three levels of the tertiary education by the interdisciplinary didactical centre for environmental education where natural sciences, mathematics and engineering meet with the purpose of showing the connection of all the fields, when environmental effects are considered. The project's tasks are the implementation of educational research labs for molecular biology and environmental physics, a cabinet for the geographical-information system and installation of the computer cluster for modelling.

The project objectives are in accordance with the national programme of higher education, which promotes decentralization of the tertiary education, increased enrolment in the natural science programmes and training and qualification of teachers for sustainable development. The project belongs to the 5th priority of SDS »Promotion of Sustainable development«, main sector "Strengthening education and research in the field of sustainable development".

Within Project SI0039, seminars and science days, experimental works and manuals are being prepared. The project is in progress and should be completed by April 2011. The main topics covered by objectives are:

1. "Development of human resources":
 - i) increase the number of bachelors, masters and doctors in the field of natural sciences (In Slovenia there are 3.90% graduates in the field of natural sciences, mathematics and computing which is far below the average of developed countries in the EU, where this ratio is 9.86%);

- ii) Life-long learning;
 - iii) Support to educational institutions for teaching environmental topics;
 - iv) Decentralization of the tertiary education in the field of natural sciences;
2. "Regional development": education of specialists, which will facilitate the sustainable development by providing support to the institutions and enterprises in the eastern region.

3 Human resource development

Num.	Project title	Project promoter	Funded by
SI0031	"House – Fruits of Society"/Murska Sobota – Multigenerational centre	Slovene Philanthropy Human resource development	EEAFM+NFM

The project is in line with objectives of:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy (2005)
- National Development Programme 2007–2013;
- National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013;
- Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for 2007-2013
- National strategy for quality aging and solidarity and co-existence among generations (2006)
- National strategy of welfare development
- AEP activities:
 - Advice and assistance in job seeking
 - Training and education
 - Promotion of employment and self-employment
 - Programmes for increasing social inclusion
- Regional Development Programme Pomurje 2007–2013;
- Local strategy for care for the elderly

1. "House – Fruits of Society"/Murska Sobota – Multigenerational centre - SI0031 (EEAFM+NFM)

Objectives of the project are:

- to establish a multigenerational centre
- to encourage voluntary work
- to transfer and exchange knowledge/skills of HRM management and social entrepreneurship

The project is in progress, the construction work has been completed - the centre was established in 2009. Following that, the main activities focused on the contents of the centre. The report states that the project exceeded the number of people participating in the "House" (for more than 150%) and promotional activities are above all expectations.

The project is in line with the 2nd priority of SDS - Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs and objective to improve the quality of education and encourage lifelong learning. It is also in compliance with the 4th priority of SDS - A modern social state and higher employment and objective to reduce social exclusion and poverty risk. Activities of the project contribute to the Operational programme for Human Resources Development, more exactly to the 1st priority - Promoting entrepreneurship and adaptability, the 3rd priority - Human resource development and lifelong learning and 5th priority - Institutional and administrative capacity.

The project is implemented by a private promoter, it contributes with the advice and assistance in job seeking, training and education, promotion of employment and self-employment and programmes for increasing social inclusion. It is based on voluntary work and is in line with the National strategy of welfare development and the National strategy for quality aging and solidarity and co-existence among generations. It is well accepted in the community and is in line with a local strategy for care for the elderly and with the Regional development programme of Pomurje.

The project team tried to attract additional co-financing through calls for projects of the Municipality of Murska Sobota, call of the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, call of the National Employment Office, and Public Call for promoting the development of social entrepreneurship.

4 Health and childcare

Num.	Project title	Project promoter	Funded by
SI0002	Demolition and reconstruction of the existing nursery, due to excessive radon radiation	Municipality of Idrija	NFM
SI0017	Construction, reconstruction and adaptation of Centre for children's health care Šentvid pri Stični	Ministry of Health	NFM
SI0029	Equine-assisted psychotherapy at Rakitna	Rakitna youth sanatorium	NFM
SI0032	Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Institute for blind and partly sighted children Ljubljana	NFM
SI0036	Establishment of the "Counselling centre for autistic spectrum disorders" institute	Centre "Društvo za pomoč osebam z motnjami avtizma"	EEAFM

The projects are in line with following Slovenian documents at the European, national, regional and local levels:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy (2005)
- National Development Programme 2007–2013;
- National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013;
- Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for 2007-2013
- Strategy of development of health care in Slovenia 2006–2011;
- National programme for mental care
- Development strategy for welfare in the Municipality of Ljubljana
- Local development programme of the Municipality of Brezovica

1. " Demolition and reconstruction of the existing nursery, due to excessive radon radiation - SI0002 (NFM)

The construction of a nursery building, in order to provide healthy environment for children education sanitation of old encumbrance, caused by mercury mining: sanitation of the Radon.

The project is in compliance with the 5th priority of SDS - Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development and to ensure optimal health conditions. The project also contributes to Operational programme for Human Resources Development, more exactly to the 3rd priority - Human resource development and lifelong learning, the 4th priority - Equal opportunities and reinforcing social inclusion and the 5th priority - Institutional and administrative capacity. The project is part of Plan of development projects of Municipality of Idrija.

Project SI 0002 is completed and the Project Completion Report has been approved by the FMO. The target of maximum radon concentration on the average per month is for more than 100% lower than planned within the project (in Bq/m³, planned: 100, achieved: 46.4).

2. Construction, reconstruction and adaptation of Centre for children's health care Šentvid pri Stični – SI0017 (NFM)

The project's main activities are renovation and completion of one of the centre's buildings, renovation and upgrade of connecting corridor between A and B buildings and renovation of heating and water systems.

The project is in line with the 5th priority of SDS – Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development to ensure balanced regional development and to ensure optimal health conditions.

3. Equine-assisted psychotherapy at Rakitna – SI 0029 (NFM)

The project's idea was to develop a programme for treatment of children and teenagers with eating disorders and emotional disturbances with therapeutic horseback riding. Within the project, a therapeutic team was established for work with children, involving as many

parents as possible in a therapeutic and educational program. The activities also included the development of a system for measuring the effectiveness of therapies.

The project contributes to the objectives of National programme for mental care. The project is in line with a local development programme of the Municipality of Brezovica and with the 5th priority of SDS – Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development to ensure balanced regional development and to ensure optimal health conditions. The project resulted in 3 part time jobs and the assistance of 2 students.

4. Ljubljana-Centre for the Blind and Visually Impaired – SI 0032 (NFM)

Renovation, modernization of the institution, as well as construction of an exercise area for the blind, and setting up of the Centre of Blind and Visually Impaired were the main activities of the project. The exercise area is a garden for the blind and visually impaired, which allows the training of orientation skills of children with sensory difficulties. In addition to the outdoor orientation, it also includes an audio corner whose merits are a modern sound playing and the type of classroom in which to the ability to recognize different materials and objects by type could be tested. There are many different requisites, e.g. the garden has also a room with water, where the blind and visually impaired children can identify the type of water's movement.

Picture: Garden of senses in the Centre



Source: <http://www.ecetera.si/za-medije/odprtje-vrta-cutil/>

The project is in line with 5th priority of SDS – Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development to ensure balanced regional development and to ensure optimal health conditions. The project resulted in the creation of 2 permanent jobs.

5. Establishment of the "Counselling centre for autistic spectrum disorders" institute – SI 0036 (EEAFM)

The objective of the project is the establishment of the "Counselling Centre for Autistic Spectrum Disorders". The Centre will implement programmes relating to social skills and social integration, and also work with families. It will provide the service of diagnosing and treating ASD-affected persons.

The project should achieve results within the framework of a health policy and its objective to ensure conditions for healthy environment for youth and children. It is also as part of policy of special social care with systematic approach towards children with special needs.

The project is in line with Development strategy for welfare in the Municipality of Ljubljana and with the 5th priority of SDS – Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development to ensure balanced regional development and to ensure optimal health conditions. The project resulted in the creation of 4 jobs for the time of its implementation and 3 permanent jobs.

Annex 7: Methodology for assessing cross-cutting issues of individual projects

For FMs authorised guidelines for the implementation of cross-cutting themes (i.e. Sustainable development policy and guide, Gender equality policy and guide, and Good governance and anti-corruption policy and guide) have been issued, but are not well known among project promoters. Only 18.18% of project promoters stated that they had used them for the implementation of cross-cutting issues within the project.

A questionnaire and the assessment was not meant to contribute to the formulation of policies in any of the policy fields concerned, but to provide a practical tool for the staff responsible for the preparation of projects and/or assessing/selecting proposals/applications and/or reporting, in order to systematically check the aspects of cross-cutting issues in the respective procedures.

When a set of questions was prepared, the following aspects concerning the formulation of questions were taken into account:

- on the one hand, they were formulated in a general way, but oriented towards EU objectives and national strategies;
- they were prepared in a way that the project promoter did not need to answer verbally; in principle, the three default answers “No”, “Yes” and “Neutral” were foreseen;
- in cases of quantifiable answers, a relevant number/percentage etc. was required;
- in addition, the project promoter was given the opportunity to formulate a short passage on specific qualitative characteristics of the project concerning cross-cutting issues.

The questionnaire for assessing cross-cutting issues is in Table 3 below.

Methodological approach to impact assessment is based on calculation of the ratio between the ranked values of each response by the maximum amount that would be obtained if all answers for a set of questions of a cross-cutting issue dimension would be "Yes". Even though the analysis was taken on a small scale of projects (still this is the whole project portfolio for Slovenia), the presented tool for the evaluation of the impact of cross-cutting issues can be used also in future.

For the interpretation of results of the analysis, a measurement scale for the estimation of the impact of an individual project towards dimensions of three cross-cutting issues was developed.

- Results that are between 0 – 40 represent **negative impact of dimension** of a cross-cutting issue on project. In the way questions are formulated, negative impact can be understood that specific issue related to a cross-cutting issue was not considered important to project promoter or a nature of project can not satisfy subject matter e.g. answer to question “Does the project take an account of environmental standards and rules for construction?” can be just “No” if project does not have any activity related to construction.
- Results of 40 – 60 represent **neutral impact of dimension** of a cross-cutting issue. Due the fact questions were to be of general matter related to cross-cutting issues some

answers can not be linked directly to project activities. For those project promoters decided to score impact as neutral meaning that they are aware of the subject but no special attention was given to that matter in project implementation.

Results above 60 – 100 represent a **positive impact of dimension** meaning that in fact consideration of subject matter was relevant for the project e.g. Answer “Yes” to the question “Are financial resources sustainable?” should be understood that project promoter has a plan how financial means will be assured for project activities after co-financing from EEA and Norway Grant is over.

To be able to say that the project has a **positive impact on a cross-cutting issue** e.g. sustainable development, it should have on average a positive impact in all three dimensions. Results of the whole analysis are presented in a table and some additional explanation is provided within the chapters of an individual cross-cutting issue. Also some interesting examples of project promoters activities related to cross-cutting issues are presented.

Table1: Results of questionnaire analysis by priorities

Number	Sustainable development				Gender equality				Good governance
	Environment	Economic	Social	Average	General	Ec. and social	Human rights	Average	
Environment									
SI0030	62,35	65,71	70,00	66,02	32,00	36,00	20,00	29,33	36,00
SI0035	74,12	29,41	100,00	67,84	80,00	76,00	60,00	72,00	84,00
SI0015	62,35	31,76	80,00	58,04	76,00	68,00	60,00	68,00	52,00
Sub average	66,27	42,30	83,33	63,97	62,67	60,00	46,67	56,44	57,33
Sustainability									
SI0004	69,41	77,14	80,00	75,52	64,00	68,00	60,00	64,00	76,00
SI0020	69,41	82,86	90,00	80,76	60,00	60,00	60,00	60,00	60,00
SI0037	74,12	71,43	80,00	75,18	84,00	100,00	100,00	94,67	92,00
SI0039	52,94	65,71	80,00	66,22	38,00	84,00	60,00	60,67	60,00
Sub average	66,47	74,29	82,50	74,42	61,50	78,00	70,00	69,83	72,00
Cultural heritage									
SI0001	71,76	88,57	80,00	80,11	76,00	68,00	60,00	68,00	52,00
SI0005	57,65	77,14	20,00	51,60	88,00	92,00	20,00	66,67	20,00
SI0013	52,94	60,00	80,00	64,31	52,00	60,00	60,00	57,33	84,00
SI0014	29,41	71,43	30,00	43,61	48,00	68,00	60,00	58,67	68,00
SI0016	64,71	65,71	80,00	70,14	80,00	84,00	60,00	74,67	68,00
SI0018	24,71	48,57	40,00	37,76	56,00	52,00	20,00	42,67	20,00
SI0019*	52,94	54,29	80,00	62,41	64,00	60,00	60,00	61,33	76,00
SI0027	52,94	65,71	90,00	69,55	88,00	84,00	100,00	90,67	76,00
SI0028	55,29	71,43	50,00	58,91	80,00	100,00	100,00	93,33	92,00
Sub average	51,37	66,98	61,11	59,82	70,22	74,22	60,00	68,15	61,78
Human resource development									
SI0031	67,06	65,71	100,00	77,59	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00
Sub average	67,06	65,71	100,00	77,59	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00
Health and childhood care									
SI0002	50,59	77,14	90,00	72,58	68,00	68,00	100,00	78,67	76,00
SI0017	69,41	82,86	90,00	80,76	64,00	36,00	100,00	66,67	52,00
SI0029	76,47	82,86	100,00	86,44	88,00	92,00	100,00	93,33	76,00
SI0032	52,94	94,29	80,00	75,74	80,00	76,00	100,00	85,33	68,00
SI0036	29,41	82,86	70,00	60,76	76,00	92,00	100,00	89,33	76,00
Sub average	55,76	84,00	86,00	75,25	75,20	72,80	100,00	82,67	69,60
Average	57,86	72,73	75,45	68,68	70,09	73,82	70,91	71,61	66,55

Because the measurement scale is very basic and an average number can be achieved by lots of “neutral” answers as well, additional check of the impact was made and is presented in the table below. The table presents a percentage of answers given by promoters who decided for a “positive” impact of their project on the subject of matter.

Table 2: Percentage of answers “yes” in questionnaires by priorities

Number	Sustainable development				Gender equality				Good governance
	Environment	Economic	Social	Average	General	Ec. & social	Human rights	Average	
Environment									
SI0030	47%	14%	50%	37%	10%	20%	0%	10%	20%
SI0035	59%	43%	100%	67%	50%	40%	0%	30%	60%
SI0015	41%	43%	50%	45%	50%	20%	0%	23%	20%
Sub average	49%	33%	67%	50%	37%	27%	0%	21%	33%
Sustainability									
SI0004	24%	43%	50%	39%	20%	20%	0%	13%	40%
SI0020	35%	57%	75%	56%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
SI0037	59%	43%	75%	59%	70%	100%	100%	90%	80%
SI0039	29%	43%	75%	49%	20%	60%	0%	27%	40%
Sub average	37%	46%	69%	51%	28%	45%	25%	33%	40%
Cultural heritage									
SI0001	47%	86%	75%	69%	40%	20%	0%	20%	40%
SI0005	24%	57%	0%	27%	70%	80%	0%	50%	0%
SI0013	29%	43%	75%	49%	30%	0%	0%	10%	60%
SI0014	6%	57%	0%	21%	20%	20%	0%	13%	20%
SI0016	12%	14%	50%	25%	50%	60%	0%	37%	20%
SI0018	6%	29%	25%	20%	30%	0%	0%	10%	0%
SI0019*	35%	43%	75%	51%	10%	40%	0%	17%	60%
SI0027	35%	57%	75%	56%	70%	60%	100%	77%	40%
SI0028	6%	29%	0%	11%	50%	100%	100%	83%	80%
Sub average	22%	46%	42%	37%	41%	42%	22%	35%	36%
Human resource development									
SI0031	47%	43%	100%	63%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sub average	47%	43%	100%	63%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Health and childhood care									
SI0002	35%	57%	75%	56%	40%	20%	100%	53%	60%
SI0017	53%	71%	75%	66%	20%	0%	100%	40%	40%
SI0029	41%	57%	100%	66%	70%	80%	100%	83%	40%
SI0032	24%	86%	50%	53%	50%	40%	100%	63%	40%
SI0036	6%	71%	25%	34%	60%	80%	100%	80%	60%
Sub average	32%	69%	65%	55%	48%	44%	100%	64%	48%
Average	37%	47%	68%	51%	51%	52%	49%	51%	51%

The results show that a half of project promoters have scored all three cross-cutting issues with a positive impact on their project. It is interesting that the lowest score (37%) was achieved within the environmental dimension of sustainable development. This is the case, because of a better understanding of (legal) requirements about the subject matter than of good governance and gender equality. Project promoters are themselves more restricted in answers regarding the environment protection.

Table 3: Questionnaire for the assessment of cross-cutting issues

Sustainable development:		
Environment:	Economic	Social
<p>Does the project have positive impacts on land use?</p> <p>Does the project promote the use of environmentally friendly technologies?</p> <p>Has the project reduced the use of fossil fuels?</p> <p>Does the project promote the use of renewable energy and / or energy efficiency?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to the value of natural resources (forest)?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to sustainable development objectives?</p> <p>Does the project have an impact on specific protected areas in Slovenia?</p> <p>Does the project enjoy the benefits of biodiversity?</p> <p>Does the project take an account of environmental standards and rules for construction?</p> <p>Was an environmental impact assessment prepared within the project?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to reducing noise?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to reducing CO2 emissions and the creation of greenhouse gases? To what extent will the project reduce or prevent releases?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to increasing the share of population connected to the system for draining and cleaning of waste water in accordance with EU standards?</p> <p>Have a green procurement into account in the implementation of the project?</p>	<p>Does the project take into account the "polluter pays" principle?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to better health conditions?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to improve the education condition?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to better working conditions?</p> <p>Are financial resources sustainable? (How are the funds assured for the implementation of activities after the completion of the project)</p> <p>Are there the necessary institutions to carry out tasks after the completion of the project guaranteed?</p> <p>What is the property of the project results?</p> <p>Does the project promote positive legislation (amendments to the laws, regulations, etc.)?</p>	<p>Does the project contribute to reducing regional disparities?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to reducing migration from less developed regions?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to the development of towns and centres at the regional level?</p> <p>Does the project increased understanding of sustainable development?</p> <p>Does the project affect the positive attitude towards sustainable development?</p> <p>Does the project generate positive impacts on public health?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to the planning, implementation or management of sustainable development?</p>

Gender equality		
General	Economic and social rights	Human rights
<p>Does the project promote equal opportunities and access to education, training and employment regardless of gender, race, ethnic origin?</p> <p>What is the relationship between men and women involved in the project (estimated in %)?</p> <p>Does the project involve at least 50% of women?</p> <p>Does the project prevent the elimination of the most vulnerable people in the worst situation for example terms of employment?</p> <p>Does the project promote equal representation, regardless of gender in economic performance, decision making, social and cultural life?</p> <p>Does the project promote change in traditional recruitment procedures?</p> <p>Does the project promote the employment of women older than 40 years, people with handicaps, less educated?</p> <p>Does the project contribute to greater compatibility of family, private and professional life?</p> <p>Does the project take an account of any past or current activities in the field of equal opportunities, conducted by the national policy?</p> <p>In what specific group the project take an account of equal opportunities?</p> <p>How does the project provide information on equal opportunities?</p>	<p>Does the project promote lifelong learning?</p> <p>Does the project affect the employability of women?</p> <p>Does the project promote employment opportunities for women?</p> <p>How the project enhances the possibilities for participation of women in social and political life?</p> <p>How does the project contribute to social inclusion?</p>	<p>How does the project contribute to strengthening organizations and public institutions that promote opportunity and justice for socially weak?</p> <p>In the case of other activities to promote equal opportunity in your project, please specify</p>

Good governance

Does the project contribute to strengthening organizations and public institutions that promote opportunity and justice for socially weak?

Does the project contribute to improving accessibility and public information and increasing transparency?

Does the project contribute to increasing civil society's involvement in decision processes?

Does the project provide actions for the prevention of corruption?

Does the project provide the results to the real needs?

Source: Questionnaire distributed to all project promoters prepared in accordance with Guidelines on sustainability, Gender mainstreaming and Good governance prepared by the donor states.

Annex 8: Overview of audits carried out by the Budget Supervision Office in 2009 and 2010

BUDGET SUPERVISION OFFICE

Based on the annual audit plan for 2009, the Budget Supervision Office (BSO) performed after the last year's annual report two audits of the EEA and Norwegian Financial mechanisms in **2009 and 2010**:

1. System audit at the Paying Authority for the EEA and the Norwegian Financial mechanisms – Ministry of Finance, Sector for management of EU funds and
2. Expenditure audit of the NGO Fund (selected project).

1 System audit at the Paying Authority for the EEA and the Norwegian Financial mechanisms – Ministry of Finance, Sector for management of EU funds

Scope of audit

In December 2009, the Budget Supervision Office in line with its annual work plan conducted a compliance audit of the adequacy and functioning of the Ministry of Finance, Division for the management of EU funds (hereinafter: MF - DMEUF), which is responsible for carrying out the tasks of the Paying Authority for managing the FMs in Republic of Slovenia .

Audit objectives

The main audit objectives were to:

- check the operation of the system within the MF – DMEUF, as far as it relates to the tasks of PA, in accordance with the rules of domestic and international laws and in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism and EEA Financial Mechanism, in the period 2004–2009 (hereinafter: The rules and procedures)
- formulate a conclusion on the adequacy and consistency of the establishment and operation of the system within the MF - DMEUF which is in the Republic of Slovenia responsible for carrying out the tasks of PA.

Summary of significant findings and recommendations

The audit revealed no significant findings.

Summary of less significant findings and recommendations

No.	Less significant findings	Recommendations	Chapter in the report
1.	PO enters data into an Excel file "Claims and payments". Access to the table is enabled for all users in the directory H: MF SUSEU.	We recommend the PO to allow the access to the table only for authorized users.	4.1.
2.	In reviewing the proceedings manual we noted that the time period of the storage of written documents is mentioned, but not the manner and place of storage.	We recommend the PO to supplement the proceedings manual, indicating the manner and place of storage of written documents.	4.2.

2 Audit report by an independent financial supervision authority on the performed audit of costs financed under the Norwegian financial mechanism and the EEA Financial Mechanism for the project "The walk through the heritage of the Isonzo front" March 2010

Scope of audit

The subject of this audit was a project "The walk through the heritage of the Isonzo front" (Pot dediščine Sočke fronte) and all project-related costs. By the end of 2009 the value of all approved eligible costs which were co-financed under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism and the EEA Financial Mechanism totalled EUR 19,112.45. The applicant and the recipient of funds is a non-governmental organization "Foundation Walks of Peace in the Soča Region".

Audit objectives

The main audit objectives were to:

- check the eligibility of costs and their compliance with the provisions of the national and European legislation, and
- acquire adequate and sufficient evidence that the management and control system functions properly and in accordance with the provisions of the national and European legislation.

Findings and recommendations

A summary of findings and recommendations is given in the following table:

No.	Finding	Recommendation
1.	When auditing the audit trail, we have ascertained that the fixed asset (a laptop) has not been adequately marked.	We recommend that the recipient of funds shall mark the fixed asset with a label indicating an inventory number and a label indicating the Norwegian and the EEA Financial Mechanisms.
2.	On the basis of the performed audit we shall ascertain that the website of the recipient of funds does not provide basic information on co-financing of the audited project by funds provided by the Norwegian and the EEA Financial Mechanisms.	We recommend that the website of the organization "Foundation Walks of Peace in the Soča Region" shall mention basic information on co-financing of the project by funds provided by the Norwegian and the EEA Financial Mechanisms.

Conclusion

When auditing the management and control system and testing the data within the audited project, we have audited the project and the costs to the value of EUR 18,141.60, which represents 95% of all costs of the project that were approved by the end of 2009. We discovered no irregularities which could affect the implementation of the project or eligibility of costs paid for the project.

On the basis of the performed audit we shall deem that the project's costs are eligible and requests for the reimbursement of costs co-financed under the Norwegian and the EEA Financial Mechanisms are true, accurate and complete.

The audit has identified some shortcomings; there is a possibility that they might incur non-eligible costs in the future or could affect the utilisation of funds from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism and the EEA Financial Mechanism. The identified shortcomings represent risks which influenced our decision to recommend measures related to the audit trail and information and publicity.