

SLOVENIA

With a population of 2 million people, Slovenia is one of the smallest beneficiary states. It is also one of the more developed countries. Among the beneficiary states, it ranks fourth on GDP per person and human development (HDI), and third on gender equality (GII). In the funding period 2009-2014, Slovenia has been allocated €26.9 million, up from €18.6 million in the previous five-year period.

Small but strategically located in the heart of Europe, Slovenia enjoys a rich and diverse cultural heritage from its different historical impulses. However, with social and economic decline, old town centres have been falling into a state of disrepair. The EEA and Norway Grants have contributed to revitalising and renewing such centres, while also contributing to regenerating investments and incomes from tourism, and lessening regional inequalities. Other key priorities are environment, health and social issues.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2004-2009

Cultural heritage was the largest sector, with projects to restore historical buildings, create new facilities for cultural events and revitalise old town centres, such as the €1.2-million 'Lively Old Town' project which saw the renovation of key heritage sites in five cities in the Gorenjska region.

In the **health and childcare** sector, notable examples include the construction of a new nursery school in Idrija, where radioactive radon gas from local mining activities had threatened the health of schoolchildren, and the modernisation of the Slovenian Institute for Blind and Partially Sighted Children. The capacity to diagnose and treat patients increased by almost 600 people thanks to two different projects.

Better-quality drinking water, a new environmental educational resource centre, and a nationwide campaign to promote environmental awareness were just some of the achievements in the **environmental** sector.

A **NGO Fund** supported the development of civil society and institutional capacity-building. A **scholarship fund** facilitated a great variety of cooperation between educational institutions from the donor states and beneficiary states.



Population

2.1 million

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

(difference to EU average)

€21 200 per person (-14%)

Human Development Index (HDI)

29 (world)

19 (EEA)

Gender Inequality Index (GII)

17 (world)

13 (EEA)

EEA Grants (2004-09 / 2009-14)

€6.1 / 12.5 million

Norway Grants (2004-09 / 2009-14)

€12.5 / 14.4 million

In the period 2004-2009, **five partnership projects** between Slovenian and Norwegian entities were implemented, in addition to cooperation under the funds.

OPPORTUNITIES 2009-2014

Human and social development represents almost half the funding in this period, and will mainly fund public health initiatives to reduce health inequalities, prevent lifestyle-related diseases and improve mental health services. The Norwegian Institute of Public Health will be involved, and particular target groups include children and youth at risk and disadvantaged communities such as the Roma. In addition, gender equality and work-life balance initiatives will receive funding.

A programme on **cultural and natural heritage** will take into account the principles of local and regional development, and actively stimulate bilateral cooperation with the donor states.

Environmental funding will go to the protection of biodiversity and to improve compliance with environmental legislation. An environmental monitoring project will be implemented in cooperation between the mapping authorities of Iceland, Norway and Slovenia.

A new **NGO Fund** to strengthen civil society will include funding for the development of cross-sectoral partnerships to address the needs of children and youth, and vulnerable groups such as the Roma.



Renovated historical buildings in the old town centres of five cities in the Gorenjska region have provided local inhabitants with new public and cultural venues.

There will also be another **scholarship fund**, plus new funding to promote **decent work and social dialogue**.

National Agency for International Education Affairs (AIBA) of Liechtenstein, Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU)

DONOR PROGRAMME PARTNERS

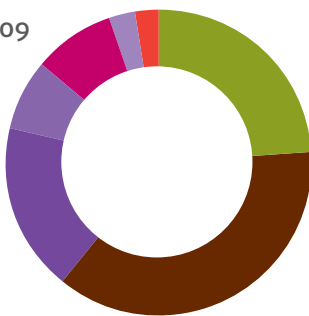
- › Public Health Initiatives: Norwegian Institute of Public Health (FHI)
- › Scholarships: Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannis),

DONOR PROGRAMME OPERATOR

- › Global Fund for Decent Work and Tripartite Dialogue: Innovation Norway (IN)

NET ALLOCATIONS

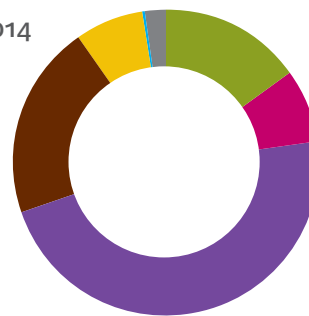
2004-2009



- Environment 7**
€4.2 million
- Cultural heritage 9**
€6.4 million
- Health and childcare 5**
€3.1 million
- Human resource development 1**
€1.3 million
- Civil society 1**
€1.5 million
- Regional policy and cross-border 1**
€0.5 million
- Technical assistance 1**
€0.4 million

Total: 25 projects - €17.4 million

2009-2014



- Environment and climate change**
€3.8 million
- Civil society**
€1.9 million
- Human and social development**
€11.7 million
- Cultural heritage**
€5.1 million
- Research and scholarship**
€1.8 million
- Decent work/ social dialogue**
€0.1 million
- Other**
€0.5 million

Total: €24.9 million