

Government of the Republic of Slovenia



**Resolution
on National
Development Projects
for the Period
2007-2023**

GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR GROWTH

RESOLUTION ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD 2007-2023

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The Resolution will provide development for all of us!

When the Government of the Republic Slovenia adopted Slovenia's Development Strategy and the Framework of Economic and Social Reforms, it forecasted that the structural changes pertaining to the comprehensive establishment of economic and other infrastructure would be created according to a unified, comprehensive, and feasible programme. This is what the Resolution on National Development Projects essentially is. We are convinced that Slovenia will achieve faster economic development, higher employment and the necessary social security, improved environment and protection of nature, and the sustainable use of natural resources by considering sustainable development as stipulated in common EU policies, particularly the Lisbon Strategy.

The Resolution on National Development Projects for the Period 2007-2023 brings together key development and investment projects, in the implementation of which the government will participate. Included here are projects which will combine development initiatives at both regional and national levels, so that the whole country will achieve a development breakthrough. The purpose of the Resolution, which clearly identifies the priority national development projects from 2007 to 2023, is to facilitate the accelerated

achievement of development goals. This is why this is one of the programmes implementing the Reform Programme for Achieving the Lisbon Strategy Goals and the Framework of Economic and Social Reforms for Increasing Welfare in Slovenia.

This method of planning is not based on the premise that the form of development is irrevocably fixed, but on the need to clearly identify those key development priorities in specific regions and on the state level which require the active support and financial participation of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. We realise that ours is a dynamic world, so we allow for the possibility that some projects will be adapted to changed economic and social needs. However, we are also convinced that all of the major projects are necessary in the long-term and will prove beneficial to all citizens of Slovenia.



Linkage of the Resolution's development projects to the key development priorities of Slovenia's Development Strategy

Slovenia's Development Strategy is based on five development priorities. Slovenia's key development projects are integrated into this framework and provide operational solutions for Slovenia to achieve a development breakthrough in relevant areas.

First development priority: a competitive economy and faster economic growth

The proposed projects aim to increase the competitiveness of the economy and achieve higher growth levels, encourage the faster development of small and medium-sized companies, create a more friendly business environment, and increase the inflow of development-friendly domestic and foreign investment. Therefore, the projects focus on developing entrepreneurship (business, industrial and commercial zones, business incubators) technological economic development (technology parks, business-related education centres), information technology development and its accessibility, logistic centres and tourist infrastructure. The projects are spatially scattered across regional centres or bigger towns in all regions

Table 1: Value of national development projects in EUR million

Key projects (as stipulated in the Resolution)	Total by 2023
1 Slovenia's development network (economic growth centres, national broadband network)	2.492
2 Synergy of natural and cultural resources (sports and tourist infrastructure)	1.534
3 Efficient environment management (sustainable mobility, sustainable energy)	4.434
3.1 Energy facilities (nuclear power, thermal power hydroelectric power, gas storage facility)	3.290
4 Mobility to promote economic development (road and railway transport infrastructure)	11.692
5 Institutional and administrative capacity (modernisation of health service and the judicial system)	478
TOTAL	23.920



of Slovenia, each uniting many themes, and thereby taking advantage of all the opportunities of mutual synergy.

Economic growth centres of Slovenia

By developing higher education in the natural and technical sciences, and building a university centre, a science and technology park, a regional entrepreneurial incubation network, and a large business and industrial zone, we will ensure that **Novo mesto**, its knowledge institutions and supporting environment, focus on creating a development breakthrough for the region. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 100 million.](#)

In the PHOENIX project we will expand the Cerklje ob Krki Airport by constructing a civil airport, and building business, industrial and logistic areas in its immediate vicinity. Thus, and by taking advantage of the existing traffic routes, the region around **Brežice** and **Krško** will become one of the main development centres in this part of Europe. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 160 million.](#)

In Gorenjska we will develop the **Kranj** ICT Technology Park, the **Golnik** Medical Technology Park, regional network business incubators in Kranj, **Jesenice**, **Tržič** and **Škofja Loka**, the Škofja Loka business centre, the **Brnik** business and logistics zone, and a university in Gorenjska or a scientific higher education centre, thereby achieving a concentration of educational institutions to ensure the advancement of the region. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 160 million.](#)

In **Postojna**, within the framework of the PERSPEKTIVA project, we will build the Veliki otok business zone, the Studenec business zone with a technology park, the Prestanek industrial and artisanal zone, and a logistics centre near **Pivka**. Also, the Postojna business and commercial centre, and the Karst visitors' park (the area of the town of Postojna with the Pivka and Nanoščica River basins and Postojna Cave) will be established. The goal of the project is also to establish an efficient internal network of public commercial infrastructure and to provide adequate access to the Perspektiva business centre from other regional business centres. These sub-projects will facilitate the concentration of economic development in the region and thereby encourage greater efficiency. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 100 million.](#)

The OKO project will bring a technological centre, a transport and logistics centre, and a higher education centre to the **Pomurje** region. The project aims to develop an innovative environment which will provide competitive locations and ensure the transfer of domestic and foreign knowledge into market products. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 100 million.](#)

The IN PRIME project in the **Goriška** region includes establishing a Primorska technology park (Vrtojba, Ajdovščina), a university incubator, technology centres, network business incubators, a personnel incubator, and building business zones to accompany the regional university centre. The project aims to encourage innovation and faster



technological development in the commercial sector, thereby increasing the global competitiveness of the region. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 160 million.**

Within the OREH economic growth centre in the **Podravje** region, business and university incubators, and a science park connected with a land-based logistics centre will be built. It will improve innovation activity, encourage the growth of new and existing technological and other companies, strengthen cooperation between companies and universities, and increase domestic and foreign investment in the region. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 160 million.**

The NOORDUNG project will facilitate the development of the Noordung business and development logistics network with centres in **Dravograd, Slovenj Gradec, Radlje ob Dravi** and **Ravne na Koroškem**, the establishment of a business incubator, technology park and higher education centres in Slovenj Gradec, and the building of Otiški Vrh II technology centre. With this project the region will establish a business development centre and increase its innovation capacity to achieve a development breakthrough. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 100 million.**

The TEHNOPOLIS+ project in **Celje** envisages the development of a technology park, incubators, technology centres and a network of regional business centres, while gradually establishing a large business, industrial and logistics zone of national importance, thus building **a central integrating site for the**

technological development of South-Eastern Europe. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 160 million.**

National broadband network

By accelerating the construction of broadband networks in less developed regions, especially in rural areas, integrating these networks with national backbone networks, and upgrading the existing stationary networks or wireless broadband networks on the basis of economic eligibility we will create an opportunity for Slovenia to truly **become an information society**. The implementation of the programme will enable all end-users to access the internet via broadband connections, and result in a more balanced regional development of electronic communications networks and services. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 385 million.**

Tourist infrastructure projects

The **Slovenian Adriatic Island** project focuses on the construction of an artificial island, thereby concentrating the benefits arising from challenges related to the deposition of gravel with the benefits of a new tourist attraction (relaxation, entertainment and socialising). **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 100 million.**

The project which integrates the natural and cultural potential of the Karst aims to establish a European Karst Park by renovating cultural heritage structures in Lipica, investing in the wider area of the Škocjan Caves, the



renovation of the village of Štanjel, and establishing the infrastructure for a regional Karst park. The project will thus facilitate both active management of the area and its protection. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 50 million.](#)

The **MEGALAXIA Amusement Park** will offer entertainment, excitement, relaxation and socialising to people from all social groups and of all ages. It will provide a development boost to the wider region and offer new opportunities to develop entrepreneurship. The Gaja-Janežovci Spa Resort is one of the largest direct investments in tourist infrastructure in Slovenia. Within the project a luxury hotel area with villas and accompanying sports and tourist infrastructure will be built. This will ensure more varied tourist services, which will increase the quality of tourism in North-Eastern Slovenia. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 150 million.](#)

The **Leon Štukelj Sports and Business Centre** will be a multi-purpose park for fairs, congresses, tourism, and sports and recreational activity. It will include an indoor hall complex and an outdoor area. By developing this central event facility, Ljubljana and its wider region aims to become an important means for connecting Slovenia with other countries. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 340 million.](#)

The **Planica Nordic Centre** project focuses on renovating and equipping jump hills, and constructing a cross-country ski stadium. The centre will also include an artificial snow-

production system, ski-lifts, an athletics and football stadium, cycling and walking paths, a cultural heritage park, an information centre with a catering establishment, and other tourist and sports services. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 94 million.](#)

The **Goriška Tourist Centre** is the largest gaming resort project in the country, which will facilitate the development of all forms of entertainment tourism. Thus the first resort of entertainment tourism and the largest of its kind in Europe will be established. Another important objective is to establish a technological pillar, so that the facilities will include high-tech gaming, foreign investment and knowledge will increase, and new marketing skills developed. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 800 million.](#)



Second development priority: effective generation, two-way flow and application of knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs

Projects will contribute to the better use of domestic and foreign know-how for economic and social development. The fundamental change lies in strengthening cooperation between the research field and academia and the business sector. The joint work of experts and economists in developing new technological, organisational, design, marketing and other business solutions will provide the best way to achieve greater innovation and the faster technological development of the economy.

The Jože Plečnik National and University Library

The Jože Plečnik National and University Library Project includes both the construction and organisation of a new National and University Library, together with the Central Technological Library, and the digitalisation of the content pertaining to Slovenian cultural heritage and biodiversity, two key prerequisites for an information and knowledge-based society. The project aims to establish a centre of national, educational, and scientific importance. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 90 million.**

Ljubljana Polytechnic

The project focuses on the spatial management of the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, the

Faculty of Computer and Information Science, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, the Biotechnical Faculty, the Jožef Stefan Institute – the Centre for New Technologies and Design, the Institute of Chemistry, the Institute of Hydraulic Research, the Botanical Garden, and the House of Experiments, thereby establishing a centre for higher education, research and application infrastructure. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 72 million.**

Maribor University Medical Centre

By renovating and expanding the Faculty of Medicine and University College of Health Care, a Maribor University Medical Centre will be established, which will increase the efficiency of health services and provide opportunities for the training of young medical experts, who are in high demand, as there has been a shortage of staff for many years. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 51 million.**



Third development priority: an efficient and less costly state

Our fundamental goal is to increase the efficiency of the state sector. Among other things, this requires, above all, changes in the behaviour and organisation of the public sector and the judicial system. Considerable investment is required to improve the quality and accessibility of some public sector services.

Modernisation of the health care system

The e-Health Project aims to implement the e-Europe and e-Health strategies adopted by the European Union to raise the quality of life and health of EU citizens through the wider use of communications and IT systems. The project significantly contributes to regional development, as health IT will cover the entire health-service network, which is regionally organised. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 66 million.](#)

Modernisation of the judicial system

The **e-Justice** Project aims to modernise the outdated software on which the information systems of the judicial system are based, in line with the experience of good practice elsewhere, to achieve a more efficient enforcement of the law. The latest IT will improve working conditions, and facilitate the better functioning of the administration of justice, which is a prerequisite for a market economy, democratic development, and the rule of law, and also a goal which will enable

the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy in Slovenia. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 65 million.](#)



Fourth development priority: a modern social state and higher employment

The basic European guideline for the labour market, which is also reflected in Slovenian development documents, is to create a so-called “flexicurity” system, which aims to find a balance between employment flexibility and social security. Foremost among these measures is investment in skills and knowledge by promoting lifelong learning and establishing a connection between the educational system and labour market demands. To this end, a fund for human resources development and scholarships will be established. This priority includes investments in the health sector, which will increase accessibility to tertiary health services, and opportunities for medical research and education on the national level.

Human resources development fund and the scholarship scheme

This project aims to unite the current state support systems and increase the flow of knowledge between educational and research institutions, and the business sector, through a human resources development fund and a modern scholarship scheme. By 2023, the number of development personnel with at least a university degree will have increased by at least 5.000 over 2005. The number of development personnel in the business sector holding a post-graduate degree in natural or technical sciences will have increased by at least 3.000 over 2005. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 694 million.**

New University Medical Centre in Ljubljana

By building a new university medical centre in Ljubljana, disparity between the quality and capacity of the health care infrastructure in Slovenia and other EU members will be eliminated. The improved health of the population will significantly contribute to economic, social and environmental development, as well as the development of excellence in regions based on their respective advantages by providing modern tertiary health care infrastructure and services, which will increase patient mobility in Slovenia and the EU. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 296 million.**

Network of emergency medical centres

This project aims to upgrade the existing network of emergency medical centres in Slovenia and ensure the faster and more efficient treatment of acute medical conditions requiring urgent treatment. The project includes the establishment of emergency treatment centres in the university medical centres of Ljubljana and Maribor, as well as in regional hospitals in Celje, Izola, Jesenice, Murska Sobota, Nova Gorica, Novo mesto and Slovenj Gradec, thereby ensuring that services are as widely available as possible. The project will also ensure enhanced and fast data and transport connections between the centres. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 78 million.**



Fifth development priority: integration of measures to achieve sustainable development

The objective of this development priority is to integrate different policies to ensure the comprehensive implementation of sustainable development. The Resolution includes financially challenging projects in the fields of transport, energy and quality of life. The main focus in transport is to develop public transport and the railways, and to enlarge the road network, which by ensuring greater mobility can significantly contribute to raising the quality of life and increasing employment prospects, despite the threat posed to the environment. The energy sector includes projects aimed at promoting the efficient use of energy and increasing the use of sustainable and traditional sources. However, the latter will only be considered as a last resort if sufficient technological progress is not achieved by means of sustainable sources. As far as improving the quality of life is concerned, the projects deal largely with quality and healthy leisure activities, partly connected with some economic activities.

Sustainable mobility

This project will introduce a single transportation pass and passenger information, and inter-modal nodes in the public transportation system, and intelligent transportation systems. By providing sustainable mobility, we will create opportunities for developing a competitive economy and ensure a high-quality living space in the long term. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 526 million.**

Modernisation of the railway network

This project will primarily focus on upgrading and constructing a railway network in the 5th corridor between Koper/Trieste and Hodoš, and in the 10th corridor. This is to ensure Slovenia remains a competitive country, as the deterioration of the railway network would diminish the competitive opportunities for employment in the transportation sector. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 8.884 million.**

Modernisation of the national road network on priority development axes?

The modernisation of priority development axes (3, 3a, and 4) will eliminate national road bottlenecks, which will directly influence users (lower transport costs) and indirectly contribute to increasing the competitiveness of the economy and positively influence regional development. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 1.446 million.**

Additional highway programme

Within the framework of this project we will continue and complete the building of individual sections of the national highway system, which will directly affect the users (lower transportation costs) and indirectly contribute to increasing the competitiveness of the economy and positively influence regional development. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 1.362 million.**



Sustainable energy and the hydrogen economy

This project aims to promote renewable energy sources, which are efficiently used to provide a hydrogen economy infrastructure and new generation vehicles, and encourage the development and transfer of technology. It is a possible substitute for the project to upgrade Krško Nuclear Power Plant. The project aims to increase the consumption of renewable sources in the share of primary energy production, reduce Slovenia's dependence on imported fossil fuels, and increase the cooperation of Slovenian economy in the international research and development projects. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 3.908 million.](#)

Modernisation of electric power supply network

The modernisation of the electric power supply network includes nationally important transmission capacities: the Krško–Beričevo, Okroglo–Udine and Cirkovce–Pince transmission lines. The goal is to ensure the security and quality of supply of electric power. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 103 million.](#)

Building of a new Lower Sava electric power production facility

This project includes significant investment in production facilities, which will facilitate the better exploitation of renewable and cost-efficient energy resources of national

importance, thereby increasing independence, reliability and the competitiveness of Slovenia's power system. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 350 million.](#)

Pumped storage hydroelectric power station Kozjak

In addition to the annual production of electricity, the project will facilitate the better development of local communities in the area of the new hydroelectric power plants, raise the level of environment protection and improve regional development. The goal of the project is to raise the quality and security of the electric power supply. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 168 million.](#)

Construction of Unit 6 of the Šoštanj Thermal Power Plant

The new Unit 6 aims to ensure the secure and qualitative provision of electric power. This project may be substituted with Unit 2 of the Krško Nuclear Power Plant and serves the same purpose: to provide safe and high-quality supply of electricity. Similarly, within the gas storage facility project, we will construct depots to store national reserves, thereby increasing the reliability of the supply of natural gas. [The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 602 million.](#)



Construction of Unit 2 of the Krško Nuclear Power Plant

Increased energy consumption requires securing additional sources, which can be either foreign or domestic. It is in the interest of every country to first exploit affordable domestic resources, thereby limiting dependence on imports. Sustainable development depends on energy prices and availability. Nuclear power plants are clean producers of largely broadband energy. Building a nuclear power plant with annual production ranging from 7,5 to 8,5 TWh is thus the most appropriate solution. By realising this project, dependency on the import of energy will be lessened, while competitive prices of electric power will facilitate and increase the competitiveness of the economy. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 2 million.**

Construction of gas storage facility

Owing to its adaptable technologies (gas turbines) and its favourable location, the Brestanica Thermal Power Plant has a special place in Slovenia's energy system. It is one of the largest natural gas consumers in Slovenia. The technology underlying storing natural gas by constructing one or more connected subterranean chambers lined with steel plates, was developed in Sweden, where such subterranean storage facilities have been in operation since 2003. On the basis of this technology the construction of a high-pressure subterranean natural gas depot is planned between the gas depot and the Brestanica TPP. Geological survey results show that the

present location is capable of supporting the construction of subterranean, high-pressure natural gas storage with a volume of 91.200 m³. The gas depot will also facilitate using the storage facility for Slovenia's national reserves, increase the reliability of the gas supply within the Holding Slovenske elektrarne group, improve the negotiating position with natural gas suppliers, and possibly initiate a gas trading market. **The value of the 2007-2023 project is EUR 67 million.**



The Resolution on National Development Projects for the Period 2007–2023 is of key importance for faster economic development and the implementation of Slovenia's economic development goals, as it includes large-scale and concentrated planning of investments with inter-sectoral influence. Slovenia must concentrate its assets on those development and investment projects which will, in the long-run, facilitate faster economic growth, and the competitiveness of the economy and social environment, and, through development, create new quality jobs and welfare. The projects have a vision, and they provide a better business environment in many different ways and create possibilities for growth and development. Their implementation will provide a development breakthrough for Slovenia as a whole.

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