Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Development Cooperation with the Republic of Kenya for 2021-2023
The inclusion of the Republic of Kenya as a territorial priority of SlovakAid was a natural step in the strategic shaping of the Slovak Republic’s bilateral development cooperation. The foundations of the partnership with Kenya date back to the mid-’90s, when the first Slovak NGOs started their activities in the country, and several of them were already active in Kenya at the time of the establishment of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) mechanism of the Slovak Republic in 2003.

Kenya has been a key partner and programme country in development cooperation since the very creation of SlovakAid. This has made it possible to gradually increase the volume of official aid and to target development activities more specifically. The provision of development aid to Kenya is also supported by the Agreement between the Government of the Slovak Republic and the Government of the Republic of Kenya on Development Cooperation, which entered into force in 2019.

From a financial point of view, Kenya is the largest recipient of bilateral ODA of the Slovak Republic. Over seventeen years, the Government of the Slovak Republic has supported development projects in the country worth more than EUR 13 million, and Slovak NGOs and academic institutions have successfully established themselves in the country. The relationship has gradually taken the form of a long-term partnership involving the implementation of programmes and projects in many areas of the national economy, mutual transfer of experience and knowledge, humanitarian aid, multilateral support, volunteering, and support to Kenyan students in the form of government scholarships.

In order to streamline the cooperation and coordination of interventions with other donors, the Slovak Republic also participates in the Joint Programming (JP) of the European Union (EU) in Kenya through participation in the most important financial component of AgriFI Kenya. The Slovak Republic is also the main implementer of the four-year Visegrad Group project in the coastal Kenya in the area of agricultural self-sufficiency.
The Slovak Republic will support development activities in the sectors of education, health, food security, sustainable use of natural resources, labour, and economic growth, in line with the cross-cutting issues of environmental protection and equal opportunities.

In the context of the latest global challenge of the spread of COVID-19, the Slovak Republic will help Kenya mitigate the social and economic consequences of this pandemic by adapting development cooperation instruments flexibly to the country’s current needs.

With regards to the Medium-Term Strategy, the Slovak Republic will continue to apply a regional approach which allows the implementation of thematically related development interventions in several countries of the region, as well as the transfer of experience between partner countries. The aim is to capitalise on the experience gained both in Kenya and in the surrounding countries of Eastern sub-Saharan Africa, thus contributing to their socio-economic development.

The Slovak Republic will actively seek greater involvement of businesses in development cooperation programmes. The trend in recent years shows a growing interest of the private sector in this area. SlovakAid’s ambition is to effectively link development cooperation activities with economic diplomacy and to promote partnerships between the business and non-governmental sector.

The CSP reflects on important national development documents of the Republic of Kenya, such as the national baseline study report of the Vision 2030, which is a long-term development blueprint, the 2018-2022 (MTP III), the Kenyan Government’s Programme Statement, or the operational priorities of President Uhuru Kenyatta’s “Big Four” initiative (Big 4). It is also in line with the European Joint Cooperation Strategy with Kenya 2018-2022.
Kenya has undertaken **significant political, structural, and economic reforms** in recent years, which have greatly supported the country's economic growth and social development, while consolidating its political position in the region.

Nevertheless, the country continues to **face several challenges**, often exacerbated by regional disparities. It is the problem of increasing regional economic disparities, especially between cities and other rural areas, which generates further socio-economic problems in Kenya. The strong migration of rural populations to cities that are not ready for the influx of newcomers is causing uncontrolled growth of slums where basic hygiene, safety, and social conditions are lacking. The development projects of the Slovak Republic aimed at the economic development of the poor rural areas in Kenya, can make a significant contribution to halting or at least mitigating the migration of the poor population to large cities.

While the growing middle class of the population is one of the indicators of economic development, it is exclusively a phenomenon of the capital Nairobi and a smaller number of large conurbations. Other cities and municipalities continue to suffer from material deprivation of their population. There are currently 47.6 million people living in the country, an increase of 10 million in 10 years.¹ A growing population inevitably entails not only an **increased demand for basic living needs such as infrastructure, schools, hospitals, housing, energy, but also food and drinking water**. Given that Kenya is in the midst of the transition process, foreign development cooperation emphasises the need to consolidate the country's acquired middle-income status and strengthen its sustainable economic growth. At the same time, this approach of international donors strongly reflects the need to address persistent inequalities, to address the causes of forced migration and the impacts of climate change.

Economic growth reached 5.4% in 2019², making Kenya one of the fastest growing economies in sub-Saharan Africa. The strong economic gains achieved in most sub-Saharan African countries are predominantly extensive in nature, i.e., strong population gains rather than labour productivity or living standards. The unemployment rate stands at over 10.4%,³ and job shortages are particularly acute for the young people.

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1 According to data 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census
2 According to World Bank data Kenya Economic Update 2020
3 According to World Bank data Kenya Economic Update 2020
Kenya’s economic potential remains underexploited. **Agriculture is the dominant sector** of the economy, contributing more than 50% of the GDP. It is also a source of income, in whole or in part, for almost 75% of the population, which are mainly small and medium-scale farmers. In the agricultural sector, a huge problem is the constant fracturing of land parcels into sizes which, in the end, are no longer able to feed their owners. The farmland fragmentation also prevents the use of bigger agricultural machinery and thus the intensification of agricultural production in Kenya, resulting in a loss of competitiveness in world markets.

Kenya’s **sustainable development goals** are ambitious and focused on the most problematic areas. Since 2016, the country has made some improvements in reducing overall poverty rates (including social protection programmes), strengthening health systems or education (e.g., a steady increase in enrolment rates). Entirely 82.5% of the population now has access to drinking water, compared to 65.7% in 2016. In a total 50.4% of the population has access to electricity, an increase of almost 10% compared to 2016. By 2022, Kenya plans to achieve universal access to electricity.

Tackling **strong regional and social disparities and inequality in access to basic services** is the backbone for further development. The most striking differences are visible when comparing urban and rural regions. The lowest incidence of poverty is recorded in the central part of the country, with the poorest region being the North-Eastern and a part of the West. These include the counties of Turkana, Mandera, Samburu, and Busia, which are also affected by the very serious impacts of climate change.

The economy is also struggling with the lack of infrastructure, the energy sector development, and the country has limited natural resources and raw materials. In recent years, Kenya has seen the **development of efficient use of information technology** with groundbreaking financial services in mobile banking. The services sector is growing significantly, especially in relation to the growing urbanisation level of the country.

Overall, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020 Kenya, as well as the rest of the region, **is expected to see a sharp downturn in economic growth**, accompanied by the deterioration in the business environment and the living standards of the population, including the provision of health services. Given the already existing high external indebtedness of these countries, it will be extremely difficult to regain at least the economic levels from the period before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the coming years.

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4 According to data from the Kenya’s Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation and USAID
6 According to data from the Kenya’s National Bureau of Statistics
Since the start of the Slovak Republic’s activities in Kenya, many actors – non-profit organisations, civic associations, foundations, institutions, or universities – have been involved in development cooperation. Through progressively built partnerships with other donors as well as organisations and local communities, development interventions have been transformed into effective multi-level and cross-sectoral cooperation. A key factor for sustainability is the reliability of local partners, the involvement of community organisations in project activities and cooperation with local government. The total financial volume of bilateral development cooperation of the Slovak Republic with the Republic of Kenya from 2014 to 2019 amounted to EUR 8.79 million.

Table: Overview of the financing of bilateral development cooperation of the Slovak Republic with Kenya 2014-2019

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>548 015</td>
<td>959 301</td>
<td>1 703 870</td>
<td>905 950</td>
<td>1 034 353</td>
<td>826 509</td>
<td>5 977 998</td>
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<td>65 000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1 250 000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 315 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CETIR/SSE</td>
<td>34 993</td>
<td>58 242</td>
<td>49 253</td>
<td>76 860</td>
<td>88 536</td>
<td>97 704</td>
<td>405 588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPP</td>
<td>9 815</td>
<td>30 313</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>47 524</td>
<td>87 652</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer and expert-volunteer deployment programme</td>
<td>81 072</td>
<td>92 677</td>
<td>46 677</td>
<td>69 780</td>
<td>68 651</td>
<td>10 269</td>
<td>369 126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government scholarships programme</td>
<td>61 451</td>
<td>77 355</td>
<td>105 642</td>
<td>118 670</td>
<td>124 795</td>
<td>119 888</td>
<td>607 801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>735 346</td>
<td>1 217 888</td>
<td>1 916 400</td>
<td>1 236 260</td>
<td>1 330 193</td>
<td>2 351 894</td>
<td>8 787 981</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The table shows that, in financial terms, grants are the most used as one of the instruments of development cooperation. Grants accounted for almost 70% of the total financial expenditure of Slovakia’s development cooperation with Kenya in 2014-2019. Projects focused on three sectors: education, agriculture, and health.
In the field of education, 18 projects were implemented during the years 2014 - 2019. The primary focus of these projects was on building teacher capacity and students’ practical skills, as well as building new educational facilities or reconstructing/upgrading outdated school spaces. In line with the ongoing reform of the country’s school system, project activities have also focused on quality improvement of pre-primary, primary, and secondary education processes (including the use of innovative techniques), and growth of graduate jobs and the number of self-employed young people.

In supported projects, there is a higher degree of linkage between theoretical education and practical training, with the aim of creating new jobs and increasing graduate employment. Emphasis has been placed on the acquisition of practical skills and experience, primarily through traineeships and internships in enterprises. These have provided over seven thousand young graduates with valuable experience, contacts, and a better knowledge of future occupations and labour market requirements. Project activities also included the promotion of inclusive and equitable education for all, including people with disabilities. This has enabled over a thousand pupils and students with disabilities to be integrated into local communities and teaching.

### Share of grants by sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2014 – 2019</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Projects in the agricultural sector focused on training farmers and growers, introducing innovative technologies and methods, increasing production, and improving food security. A pilot facility for insect-based food research and production, or fish farms, have been established. Development interventions have helped to provide work/teaching tools for schools, vocational schools (establishment of school gardens) or training facilities. They also contributed to the transfer of expertise and experience on environmentally sound farming practices, as well as on the production of bio and fair-trade products to local farmers.

More than twenty thousand farmers have become part of local cooperatives that distributed quality seedlings from established nurseries and gained access to local markets.

In the health sector, projects were implemented during the period of 2014-2019 with the primary objective of improving the public health and building the capacity of local staff.
Over fifty thousand people benefited from the provided health and preventive care services. In the healthcare setting, a unified system for reporting the diagnosis of infectious diseases through tablets has been put in place. Almost ten thousand people participated in awareness-raising events on the importance of regular medical examinations, prevention, and proper nutrition. The transfer of experience and expertise of Slovak-Czech medical teams has contributed to improving the cardiac surgery performance of the Nairobi medical staff in the operations of children with congenital heart defects from Kenya’s poorest regions.

In 2020, during the outbreak of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Slovak Republic quickly adapted SlovakAid’s standard tools and not only provided immediate humanitarian assistance to Kenya, but also increased the financial volume of the so-called micro-grants to provide essential medical devices and disinfectant for the most vulnerable populations.

The Slovak Republic also supported a development project to mitigate the negative effects of COVID-19 on food security and employment in Machakos county.

Joint EU Programming (JP) plays an important role in coordinating development activities in partner countries. Following the agreement of EU Member States, the JP process in Kenya started in 2013, when the EU Joint Cooperation Strategy in support of Kenya’s Medium-Term Plan 2014-2017 was adopted. It aims to streamline, harmonise, and avoid any duplication of activities by European donors. The Slovak Republic was involved in the implementation of the JP in 2019 through the AgriFI Kenya programme, namely by supporting its financially most important component KILIMO-VC. The programme aims to support productive, applied, and market-integrated small-scale agriculture, by stimulating investment in the agri-food sector and strengthening the competitiveness of small-scale farmers.
The Slovak Republic has been a long-standing member of two donor coordination platforms, the Development Partners Group, and the Development Effectiveness Group, which include bilateral donors, the EU, and international organisations. The effectiveness of the first platform is mainly based on cooperating and harmonising the programme visions of the various sectoral donor groups (agriculture, education, etc.) with the development strategies of the relevant Kenyan ministries. The second aims at streamlining foreign development cooperation processes to reduce transaction costs for the Kenyan government and development partners, rationalising aid delivery mechanisms, avoiding duplications, ensuring transparency of aid, and the responsible use of financial resources.

At the initiative of the Slovak Republic, a joint project of the Visegrad Four countries was launched in 2017 to support 15,000 smallholders. At the initiative of the Slovak Republic, a joint project of the Visegrad Group countries was launched in 2017 to support 15,000 small-scale farmers in the production of traditional agricultural products in the country’s coastal counties (Kwale, Kilifi, and Lamu). A four-year project of EUR 1.9 million is funded by the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Stability and Addressing the Causes of Illegal Migration and Displaced Persons in Africa.

The Slovak Republic and UNESCO established cooperation in Kenya in 2018 on the implementation of environmental development projects, with an emphasis on the water sector. The pilot project, which will run until 2022, is the initiative Water Security for Turkana, Kenya. The project aims to ensure sustainable access to clean water (supply, infrastructure, and sanitation) for the residents of the Turkana region.
The programme of the Slovak Republic's ODA is based on the basic needs and key priorities of Kenya as a partner country. A long-term national development policy is contained in the Vision 2030 document, which aims to transform the Republic of Kenya into an industrialised, middle-income economy, that ensures a high quality of life for all its citizens by 2030 in a clean and secure environment. It focuses on the economic, social, and political pillars. In addition to Vision 2030, Kenya’s Development Agenda reflects the five-year medium-term plans (MTPs), the Government’s Statement of Policy (The Jubilee Manifesto), the initiative of President U. Kenyatta's “Big Four” (Big 4), the East African Community Vision 2050, the UN Development Agenda, which is contained in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the 2063 Agenda of the African Union, as well as other regional and global treaties and conventions.

The development cooperation of the Slovak Republic seeks to contribute to the achievement of the objectives set by Kenya and thus to contribute to the sustainable and inclusive development of the country, with an emphasis on the effectiveness and targeting of the programmes and instruments used. The CSP mainly builds on the priorities set out in Kenya’s national documents and has a meaningful focus on the selected areas, considering comparative advantages, previous experience, and knowledge of Slovak development actors active in Kenya, as well as the activities of the EU and other donors in the region.

Migration is one of the important long-term challenges for Slovakia’s development cooperation with Kenya and other countries in Eastern sub-Saharan Africa. The sectoral priorities of the development cooperation of the Slovak Republic will therefore continue to be directly targeted to address the causes of migration and ensure decent living conditions for the local population.

**Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Development Cooperation with the Republic of Kenya for 2021-2023 is dominated by four main objectives:**

1. Improve the health status of Kenyan population, with particular emphasis on children and mothers through access to quality health and preventive care services.
2. Reduce youth unemployment by improving access to quality education and acquiring practical skills.
3. Strengthen food security by building community resilience to climate change impacts in agriculture and to protect and promote the sustainable use of natural resources.
4. Promoting job creation through sustainable economic development.
Improve the health status of Kenyan population, with particular emphasis on children and mothers through access to quality health and preventive care services

Although the constitutional amendment has marked a significant step forward for the health care system in Kenya (the primary responsibility for the provision of basic health services has been transferred to 47 provinces, the so-called counties, while the government remains mainly responsible for policymaking), the area is still at the beginning stages of the necessary transformation. The Kenyan government declares the health sector as one of its main priorities. To improve access to basic health services, it introduced the abolition of fees for medical checks and free care for mothers in all public medical institutions. In the “Big Four” agenda, achieving universal health care is one of the main objectives. This requires substantial financial commitments and, given the current allocation, it is essential to ensure the optimal use of resources in the health sector. Strengthening the health system is also a necessity in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has highlighted the vulnerabilities of the sector not only in developing countries.

In the sector of good health (Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being), development cooperation of the Slovak Republic will focus on the provision of quality health care, focusing on mothers and children, specialized medical care, nutrition programmes, health promotion and disease prevention through population based interventions, training and capacity building of local health workers, provision of medical supplies and equipment for health facilities.
Projects in the quality education sector aim to maximise the competitiveness and employability of young people in the labour market.

2 Reduce youth unemployment by improving access to quality education and acquiring practical skills

The level of youth unemployment is significantly higher than the overall level of unemployment in the country. The challenge is the lack of readiness of young people to perform effectively at work. During their studies, students need to acquire practical skills and learn basic work habits to be able, as graduates, to compete in the labour market. Employment problems, especially among young people, occur due to labour supply (unemployed young people) but also demand (businesses). On the supply side, there is clearly a weak focus on the current market needs, and cooperation between industry and TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) institutions is also significantly lagging. The low level of education and training of teachers and the use of outdated curricula also have an impact on the lack of preparation of graduates.

Projects in the sector of quality education (Goal 4: Quality Education) aim to increase the competitiveness and employability of young people in the labour market. In addition to the provision of quality and modern education (necessarily linked to capacity building of teachers emphasis will be placed on linking education to the real demands of employers.

Support will be directed to educational activities at all school levels, acquisition of professional skills with a focus on entering the labour market and self-entrepreneurship, training teaching, and non-teaching staff, or equipping school facilities. Overall, the ambition is to reduce unemployment (especially youth unemployment), improve access to quality education and make the link between educational institutions and potential employers operational.
Strengthen food security by building community resilience to climate change impacts in agriculture and to protect and promote the sustainable use of natural resources

Kenya has taken several new initiatives on environmental protection in recent years and the transition to a low-emission economy is a key component of the Vision 2030. In 2016, it completely banned both the production and use of plastic carrier bags to relieve the landscape of the enormous quantities of plastic waste. The change was almost immediately visible in the country and the initiative has become good-practice model for neighbouring countries.

In 2019, several Kenyan areas were reliant on humanitarian aid because of climate change and adverse weather events. Food security is low in some counties, with insufficient access to adequate and nutritious diets in approximately one-fifth of the population: Isiolo (27%), Tana River (20%), Garissa (20%), Turkana (18%), Marsabit (18%).

On average, a fifth of the population has insufficient access to an adequate and nutritious diet.
In addition to climate change, the agricultural sector currently faces many other challenges, such as the use of outdated technology, lack of sufficient infrastructure (low levels or absence of roads especially in rural areas, linking small farms to commercial outlets), water scarcity, gradual soil degradation with regards to nutrient levels, but also the proliferation of diseases and pests.

Development cooperation of the Slovak Republic in the sector Food Security and Agriculture and Infrastructure and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources (Goal 1: No Poverty, Goal 2: Zero Hunger, Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, Goal 13: Climate Action and Goal 15: Life on the Land) will focus on promoting the sustainable development of the agricultural sector, in line with the protection of the environment and natural resources.

In order to strengthen the resilience of agriculture to climate change, Slovakia's development interventions will focus on promoting food security, diversifying livelihoods, and value chains (particularly with regard to universal availability of nutritious food and drinking water), promoting the involvement of modern technologies aimed at making the agricultural sector more efficient, measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote the sustainable use of both natural and renewable energy sources.
4 Promoting job creation through sustainable economic development

The market environment in Kenya is relatively unstable and territorially unbalanced. By the time of entry into the labour market, account should be taken of the need for a stronger linkage between the professional skills currently provided by educational institutions for the potential workforce and the real needs of businesses (supply versus labour market demand).

In this respect, there is a direct link to the Strategic Development Goal No.2 (to reduce youth unemployment by improving access to quality education and the acquisition of practical skills). Economic development is also constrained by job shortages, income inequality, lack of access to markets (especially in the rural areas), unavailability of financial instruments and low value-added production.

Kenya is often referred to as a country with a high potential for business development, mainly because of a relatively dynamic market and interest of people in doing business. The World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business index, now ranks the country 56th, giving it a strong position in the region.

In support of the creation of a market environment (Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) Slovakia will focus on reducing poverty and addressing the causes of migration through job creation, human capital development, and increasing the economic and social resilience of communities. The Slovak Republic will also place emphasis on the quality and intensity of the practical skills developed by providing targeted trainings in the areas demanded by the labour market.
Combating climate change requires urgent initiatives to mitigate it, and strengthen adaptive capacity.

Cross-cutting issues

Equal opportunities

Equality of opportunity is one of the essential conditions for achieving real progress in the fight against poverty and social inequalities. There has been some progress in this area in the context of the 2010 constitutional amendment, with gender equality, the empowerment of women, youth, and people with disabilities, in terms of full realisation of human rights, among the priorities of the development strategy in the national documents currently in force. Especially support for women and girls is an integral part of the overall development of society and the importance of their involvement is also key to achieving the SDGs. Goal 5: Gender Equality specifically focuses on this issue.

The Slovak Republic will strive to mainstream this cross-cutting theme into planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of all relevant development programmes and interventions in Kenya, building on Guidelines for Integrating Gender Equality as a Cross-Cutting Issue in Development Cooperation Instruments of the Slovak Republic, drawn up in the framework of the MFEA SR-UNDP partnership project. The aim will be to promote equal opportunities for both sexes, eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and ensure equal opportunities in public life. Local women’s interest groups active in the country that are active in strengthening the participation and economic position of women in the public and private sectors will also be involved in the implementation of the projects.

Environment and climate change

Several Kenyan regions are suffering from devastating effects of climate change. As agriculture, especially in rural areas, is almost the only source of economic activity, most of the population is affected by weather events.

The adaptation to climate change is terribly slow in poor regions, with several counties suffering long and intense droughts. The most affected areas – Turkana, Mandera, Garissa, Baringo, Kilifi – were in a situation requiring immediate humanitarian assistance in 2018. Water scarcity has a serious impact on the health sector, agriculture, and in some parts of the country water becomes a source of tensions and conflicts amongst the population.

The development cooperation of the Slovak Republic sees the area of environmental protection and climate change as a key and integral part of all the activities carried out. Tackling climate change requires urgent mitigation initiatives, strengthening the capacity to adapt to climate change and increasing the resilience of ecosystems, protecting nature, biodiversity, and soil, protecting, and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and monitoring the environment. In the framework of the 2030 Agenda, climate protection covers, in particular, Goal 13.

9According to the Situation Report about Agriculture, Food, Nutrition and Drought issued by the Government of Kenya in 2019
The Slovak Republic will strive to mainstream this cross-cutting theme into planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of all relevant development programmes and interventions in Kenya, building on the *Guidelines for Integrating Environment and Climate Change as a Cross-Cutting Issue in Development Cooperation Instruments of the Slovak Republic* drawn up in the framework of the MFEA SR-UNDP partnership project.

**Applicable instruments and coordination with other donors**

*Grants* will continue to be an important modality of the implementation of the bilateral development cooperation of the Slovak Republic in Kenya. The Slovak Republic will also make use of the Slovak Republic’s flexible ODA tool, the so-called micro-grants, via the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi.

Through *government scholarships*, the Slovak Republic will continue to support higher education students. Kenya is one of the largest beneficiaries of these scholarships, with 35 awarded between 2014 and 2019, mainly for study fields: medicine, economics, or technical sciences.

The Slovak Republic will continue to benefit from the *Volunteer and Expert-Volunteer Deployment Programme*, which since its launch in 2012, has registered some 90 young people who have been active in development projects in Kenya, mainly in the fields of health, social work, and education.

In the framework of the *Sharing Slovak Expertise*, the Slovak Republic’s ODA programme will build on the interest of the Kenyan side in transferring Slovakia’s experience, in the fields of health and agriculture.

The *Business Partnership Programme* is open to all ODA partner countries of the Slovak Republic and, in the context of a regional approach, Kenya will have great potential for expanding business activities both within the country and in the neighbourhood.

The Slovak Republic will continue to engage with the *EU Joint Programming* and seek opportunities for participation in *EU delegated cooperation*. It will also work actively with international donors to further shape and implement Joint Programming. Drawing on its experience of participating in the JP and the V4 project, the Slovak Republic will be involved in the implementation of the *Team Europe Initiative* for Kenya, namely in Green Transition.

It will also continue to implement the *Partnership Agreement* with UNESCO, notably by supporting the initiative for development in the water sector in areas negatively affected by climate change.

The Slovak Republic has the ambition to be part of wider *international development programmes and projects*. Based also on the experience gained from the leadership of the *Visegrad Group joint project* to support smallholder farmers on the Kenyan coast, funded by the EUTF Africa, the Slovak Republic can act as a reliable and serious international partner in the future.

The *active approach of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi and the presence of a development diplomat* in the country will continue to ensure an efficient combination of available tools, as well as functional coordination with existing EU programmes and tools and *economic diplomacy*, including concessional loans granted by EXIMBANKA of the Slovak Republic.
To support long-term and predictable development interventions for programme countries, including Kenya, in the future, a new instrument is planned to be launched in the form of strategic partnerships. This will be a multi-annual grant with an overall higher financial allocation, allowing for a more strategic partnership between Slovak NGOs and Kenyan actors.

Regional approach – Eastern sub-Saharan Africa

As the last year of implementation of the previous five-year Medium-Term Strategy, 2018 confirmed that Kenya had the potential to serve as a starting point for broadening the territorial focus in terms of a regional approach. The extension of development cooperation activities of the Slovak Republic in the Eastern sub-Saharan Africa region (namely to Burundi, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda) aims to contribute to the flexibility of development cooperation and to make use of the knowledge and expertise acquired from the implementation of successful development programmes and projects in Kenya. Depending on the specific situation in the partner country, it can take the form of cross-border cooperation as well as replication of initiatives previously implemented in Kenya that are admirably adapted to new conditions.

Slovakia’s development cooperation priorities for Eastern sub-Saharan Africa are in line with the Medium-Term Strategy based on the Joint Africa-EU Strategy as well as bilateral regional policy strategies and agreements. All new partner countries are Least Developed Countries according to the UN classification. Ethiopia has a specific status within the region, including through the presence of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Addis Ababa. The first initiatives have already been launched in Ethiopia and the country also has great potential for engaging private sector in development cooperation.

In the region, the Slovak Republic will focus on activities supporting the local economic development of African countries, including job creation to help address the causes of migration, eradicate poverty and raise the standard of living of the population. The sectors supported within the region will be the same as for the Republic of Kenya.
The CSP, together with the Medium-Term Strategy, serve as framework documents for the annual planning of development interventions. The above-mentioned development cooperation instruments, available for Kenya, will be able to be adapted to support such development activities that make it possible to respond flexibly to the latest developments in the country by targeting them to current needs.

The system of regular monitoring at project level and evaluation at both project and programme level is an important tool of collecting valuable feedback from the implementation of Slovakia's ODA initiatives in the field. The information obtained from independent evaluations will serve to comprehensively assess development cooperation with Kenya and for its further direction and planning at strategic, programme and project levels.

Regular monitoring of the implementation of development activities will be carried out by the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi and SAIDC/MFEA SR staff by checking the fulfilment of the qualitative and quantitative indicators defined in the project documentation. The monitoring reports will serve as a basis for possible corrections in the implementation of the activities and for their subsequent evaluation.

Evaluations of development activities carried out at regular intervals by independent external bodies will evaluate the long-term contribution and impact of the development interventions of the Slovak Republic in Kenya, including the efficiency of spending. Evaluations will follow the Strategy of Monitoring and Evaluation of Bilateral Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic and the annual evaluation plan. They will also rely on the Evaluation Guidelines of the Slovak Official Development Assistance, which were drawn up as part of the MFEA SR-UNDP partnership project.

Before preparing the third CSP for Kenya, this CSP will be evaluated in the year of its expiry, i.e., in 2023 through an assessment of specific objectives, outputs and indicators achievement matrix (see chapter 7).
### 6. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AgriFI</td>
<td>Agriculture Financing Initiative – EU initiative to increase the professional capacity and innovation of growing processes of the small-scale farmers in Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPP</td>
<td>Business Partnerships Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CETIR</td>
<td>Centre for Experience Transfer from Integration and Reforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSP</td>
<td>Country Strategy Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUTF Africa</td>
<td>European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross domestic product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KILIMO-VC</td>
<td>Kenyan Initiative for Long-term Integration of Market Operators in Value Chains - component of the AgriFI programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTP3</td>
<td>Third Medium-Term Plan 2018-2022 (Medium Term Plan 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFEA SR</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODA</td>
<td>Official Development Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAIDC</td>
<td>Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSE</td>
<td>Sharing Slovak Expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>The United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVET</td>
<td>Technical and Vocational Education and Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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### 7. MATRIX of specific objectives, outputs and indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority Sectors</th>
<th>Specific objectives and results</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Good health**  | 1. Improve health care for the population focusing on children and mothers through access to quality health and preventive care services  
1.1 Use of technical equipment linked to the work of qualified health personnel providing quality health and preventive care services  
1.2 Increased public awareness of the importance of preventive care with a focus on the protection of the child’s health | • number of health facilities built  
• number of technical equipment provided  
• number of medicines purchased  
• number of professional staff trained  
• number of training courses organised  
• number of people (girls and boys, women, and men) receiving health and prevention care services  
• number of male and female course graduates  
• number of training courses |
| **Quality Education** | 2. Reduce youth unemployment by improving access to quality and modern education and the acquisition of practical skills  
2.1 Reducing inequalities between the skills of the workforce and employers’ demands by preparing qualified graduates, trainings, and courses with the required level of education  
2.2 Inclusive education for all linked to a market environment offering sustainable and higher added-value jobs has been ensured | • number of male and female training and courses graduates  
• number of male and female graduates in professional traineeships and vocational practice  
• number of partnerships established between educational institutions and employers  
• number of trained teaching staff  
• number of vocational training courses provided  
• number of people who have been given access to quality and modern education and the development of practical and entrepreneurial skills  
• number of IT clubs established  
• number of pupils (boys and girls) who have increased digital literacy  
• number of educational materials and equipment provided  
• number of advanced technologies purchased  
• number of educational facilities built/reconstructed |
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</thead>
</table>
| Food security and agriculture and Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources | 3. Strengthen food security by building community resilience to climate change impacts in agriculture  
3.1 Innovative agricultural technologies, processes and practices in place linked to the sustainable management of organic farming  
3.2 Established sustainable management of water infrastructure and efficient use of natural and renewable energy resources by strengthening the professional capacity of male and female farmers using environmentally friendly management | • number of male and female farmers provided with new technical equipment  
• number of male and female farmers trained  
• number of technical equipment purchased  
• number of male and female farmers trained in the cultivation, processing, and marketing of agricultural products  
• number of new technologies ensuring safe, efficient, and equitable access to water  
• number of people who have been provided with safe, efficient, and equitable access to water  
• number of male and female farmers who have been granted access to local markets  
• number of male and female farmers able to improve/set up/innovate their own agricultural business |
| Promoting the creation of a market environment                                   | 4. Promote job creation through sustainable economic development                                       | • number of newly created jobs  
• number of newly created jobs for young people (women and men under 29)  
• number of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups supported  
• number of starting male and female entrepreneurs with secure access to markets  
• number of enterprises with stable market access  
• number of innovative clubs and hubs created  
• number of jobs created for disadvantaged social groups, including people (women and men with special health needs) |