

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation



© MFEA SR, informal tent settlement in Al Fabur, Lebanon



“Peace is a responsibility incumbent on all of us.” These are the words of Pope Francis, who thus urges all mankind to uphold responsibility, tolerance, empathy and humanity, all of which are needed more than ever before. If each and every one of us contributes a little bit to make our world a better place to live in, we have a chance to carry out this responsibility. Thus, Slovakia helps wherever needed under the SlovakAid brand through its project partners. 2023 marked the 20th anniversary of the implementation of official development cooperation by the Slovak Republic.

After the Government of the Slovak Republic approved the Focus of Bilateral Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2023 in January 2023, the Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation opened 12 calls for proposals, publishing the information on its website. The calls, opened in January, February, April, May and June 2023, focused on humanitarian and development projects, posting of volunteers, co-financing EU projects and capacity building.

Following the positive experience with opening the call for Strategic Partnerships in the Republic of Kenya in 2022, the Agency opened a call for grant proposals in the form of a Strategic Partnership for the Republic of Moldova in the first half of 2023. The call aimed at creating a mechanism for long-term cooperation and to contributing to the long-term sustainable improvement of living conditions and development in the Republic of Moldova.

Unfortunately, Russian aggression against Ukraine continued through 2023. Therefore, in April and May 2023, the SAIDC opened two calls for grant proposals to help Ukraine devastated by the war: a humanitarian call to provide psycho-social assistance to people suffering from the consequences of the war, and a call for projects aimed at supporting new business partnerships aimed at the reconstruction of Ukraine. In line with the Focus, the call for development projects for the Western Balkans countries was not opened in 2023.

Despite that, the SAIDC provided financial contributions through the Slovak diplomatic missions in these countries, along with grants to support the posting of volunteers and volunteer experts in this region. In 2023, a total of 42 projects implemented by 27 of our partners in 11 countries were approved under the calls opened throughout the year and under the second humanitarian call to help Ukraine opened in December 2022. SAIDC supported the financing of 83 financial contributions through the Slovak diplomatic missions (so-called microgrants) in 14 countries. The Agency provided 24 financial contributions for 11 countries based on the decision of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic.

The contributions include one of € 100,000 to the UN World Food Programme to provide urgent food aid to Gaza residents facing a humanitarian catastrophe due to the sharp escalation of the conflict in the region, as well as a financial contribution of € 750,000 for the purchase of two pieces of the Slovak Bozena 4+ demining systems for humanitarian demining in Ukraine. A significant financial contribution of € 375,000 will be used to improve energy efficiency (installation of thermal insulation) of a 17-storey residential building in the 2nd largest Moldovan city of Balti. The SAIDC also supported 6 projects under the Sharing Slovak Expertise (SSE).

In November, the SAIDC opened a call for a 36-month EU Support for Internal Market in Serbia project, funded through the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), aimed at integrating the Serbian market environment into the internal market of the European Union. This is the third EU delegated cooperation project for the SAIDC, after the support of local

media in Moldova and support of the business environment in Kenya. "Our help knows no boundaries" a slogan used by the SAIDC throughout 2023 not only to remind that SlovakAid has been providing assistance for 20 years, but also to emphasize that the Agency is fully aware of what cooperation entails; with our partners helping specific people in the most dire situations. We will continue to pursue our mission, with commitment and accountability also in 2024.

Tomáš Bokor, the SAIDC Director



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**SLOVAK AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

The annual report of the organization financed by the state budget – Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation for 2023 was prepared pursuant to Resolution of the Government of the Slovak Republic No. 1189 of 19 December 2001.

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IDENTIFICATION OF ORGANIZATION

BASIC INFORMATION

Name:	Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation
Registered office:	Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava
Contact:	tel.: +421-2-5978-2601
e-mail:	info@slovakaid.sk
Web:	www.slovakaid.sk
Founder:	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
Form of management:	organization financed by the state budget, linked to the state budget through the budget chapter of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
Registration number:	31819559
Director:	Tomáš Bokor, MSc.
Number of employees:	16

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

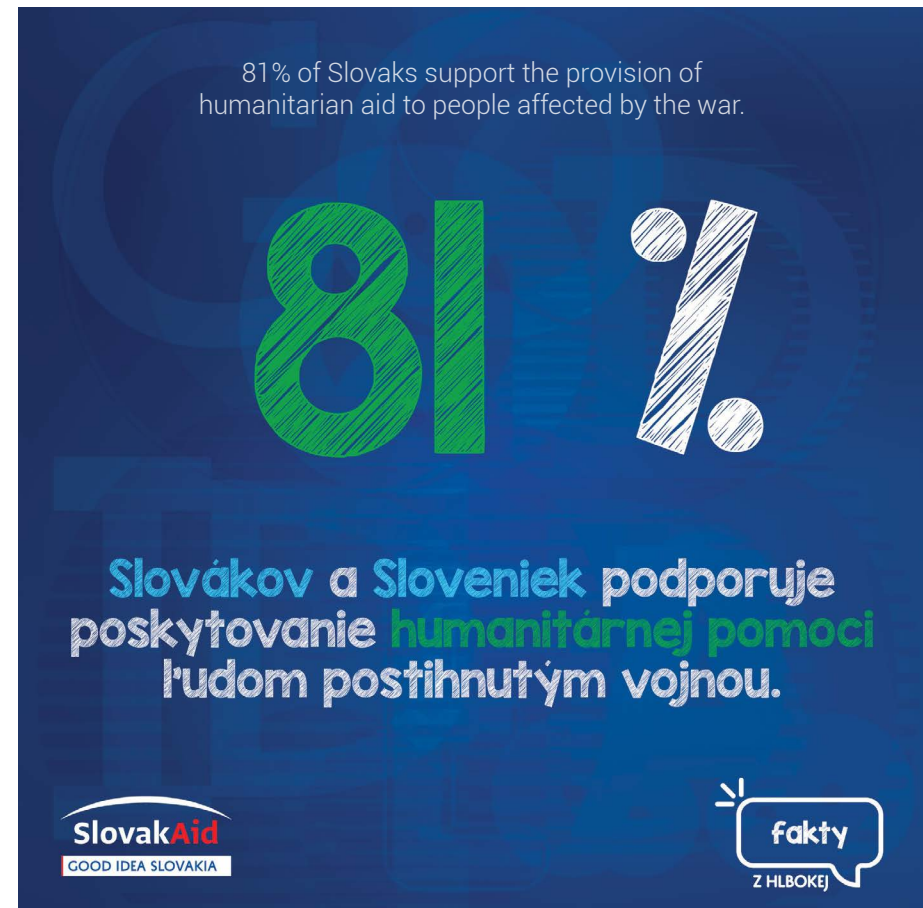
ABL	Administrative borderline	GRE	Global and Development Education	SNV	Stichting Nederlandse Vrijwilligers (Foundation of Netherlands Volunteers)
ATC	Amalgamated Territorial Community	HN	Hospodárske noviny	SR	Slovak Republic
AICS	Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo (Italian Agency for Development Cooperation)	ICT	Information and Communication Technologies	SSE	Sharing Slovak Expertise
DCAF	Le Centre pour la gouvernance du secteur de la sécurité, Genève (Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance)	IOM	International Organization for Migration	SSR	Security Sector Reform
DDCHA	Department of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic	IT	Information Technologies	TEI IVBA-SEED	Investing in Young Businesses in Africa – Supporting Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development
DG INTPA	Directorate-General for International Partnerships of European Commission	JEFIC	Joint European Financiers for International Cooperation	TSA	Ten Senses Africa
DMC	Digital Media Campus	MEPU	Mobile Emergency Primary Health Care Unit	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
DM SR	Diplomatic Mission of the Slovak Republic	MF SR	Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic	UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
EDFI	European Development Finance Institutions	MES SR	Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
EDYN	European Democracy Youth Network	MJ SR	Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
EF	Expertise France	MESRS SR	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic	WFP	World Food Programme (UN)
ENABEL	L'agence de développement du gouvernement fédéral Belge (Belgian development agency) EU DEL – EU Delegation or delegated cooperation	MI SR	Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic	FEA SR	Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
EÚ FA	Farm Africa	MFEA SR	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic		
FIAPP	Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas (International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies)	NDICI	Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe		
FRF MI	Fire and Rescue Force of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic	NGO	non-governmental organizations		
GENE	Global Education Network Europe	ODA SR	Official Development Assistance of the Slovak Republic		
GiZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development		
		OECD DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee OM – occupational medicine		
		PN	Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation		
		PPP	Programme of New Public Private Partnerships, SAIDC (Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation)		
		SARIO	Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency		
		SDG	Sustainable Development Goal		



HUMAN RESOURCES AND PROCESSES

From 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, the organization was managed by Tomáš Bokor, MSc. As of 31 December 2023, the organization had 19 employees and three persons working on work contracts (not FTE). Outsourced services included: procurement, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), legal services, IT support, Quality Management System (QMS) services and ISO 9001 quality management system certification, occupational health services, telecommunication services and cleaning. The training scheme for SAIDC employees continued through 2023. The training courses covered legislation and regulation changes concerning accounting, taxes, human resources and wages, travel orders, publishing documents in public administration, Facebook marketing, the Act on Financial Control, the Freedom of Information Act, distance negotiations, publishing contracts through the Central Register of Contracts, team communication and conflict resolution, register management and archiving, financial management, presentation skills and GDPR (new employees). The trainings were also implemented through UNDP financial support. In 2023, the SAIDC continued to standardize its processes internally and to deepen cooperation with all relevant departments and institutions under the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic and key partners in the field of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. The Agency was audited throughout the year: once externally, twice independently. The first follow-up audit in May that focused on the compliance with ISO SMK did not identify any non-conformities. The SAIDC's policy is to continuously improve, streamline and develop its operation and make the conditions for its project partners leaner. The Agency offered a month unpaid internship to one intern at the projects and organizational department

on a competitive basis in the first and second half of 2023. It was an opportunity to gain experience in SAIDC activities as well as to provide assistance to the SAIDC employees.



ORGANIZATION MISSION STATEMENT

AND MID-TERM OUTLOOK

The SAIDC is an organization financed by the state budget under the chapter of MFEA SR. The Agency's mission is to secure the implementation of Slovakia's official development assistance (ODA SR) in accordance with programming and policy documents of the MFEA SR, the Slovak Government, binding EU documents, and documents issued by the United Nations (UN), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other international organizations in accordance with commitments of the SR. The SAIDC's standing and activities are laid down in Section 5 of Act No. 392/2015 on Development Assistance as amended, in the wording of Act No. 281/2019.

Pursuant to this Act, the core activities of the SAIDC include in particular the following:

- development cooperation, including humanitarian aid, raising public awareness, development-related training and capacity-building through grants, financial contributions, contracting and the use of other instruments in accordance with government decisions;
- cooperation with entities involved in development assistance and cooperation both in Slovakia and abroad;
- cooperation with the MFEA SR in drafting strategies and other policy documents;
- monitoring and implementing audits for development projects; providing website information on development assistance activities.

The implementation of the official development cooperation is subject to the basic rules and principles of Slovak foreign policy priorities,

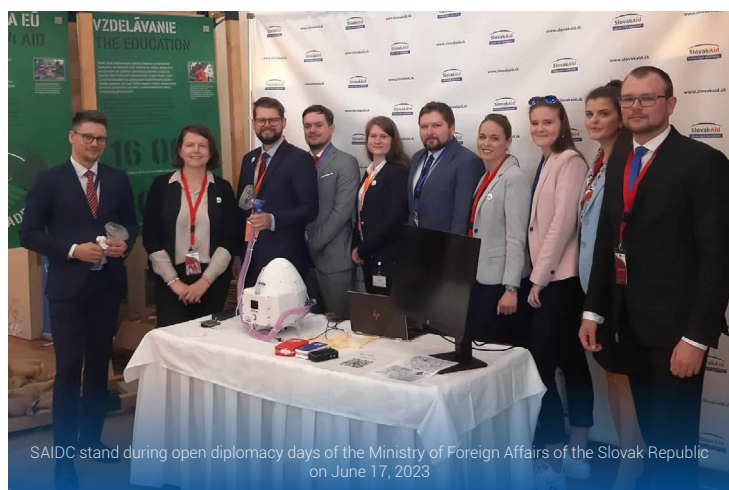
and complies with the principles of international development policy, particularly the EU development policy and the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda (**Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**).

The SAIDC facilitates all activities related to the management and administration of the project life cycle under the *Medium-Term Strategy for Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2019-2023* (hereinafter "*the Medium-Term Strategy*") and *Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance* for the respective year (hereinafter the "*Focal Points*"), mainly designing and opening calls for grant proposals, reviewing submitted applications, preparing meetings of the MFEA SR Evaluation Committee, contracting project implementers (beneficiaries), financial management and project auditing and monitoring.

The SAIDC is also responsible for providing support to all parties interested in the implementation of development projects among non-governmental organizations, businesses and academic institutions. The SAIDC also ensures communication of the main ideas and mission of the official development cooperation to the expert community and the general public through various external communication activities. In its activities, the SAIDC focuses on the effectiveness of development assistance, coherence for the benefit of development, flexibility in providing development assistance, and the cost-effective use of funds. ***Medium-Term Strategy for Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2019-2023*** extended to 2024 defines the territorial and sectoral priorities of official Slovak development assistance.

CONTRACT WITH CENTRAL AUTHORITY

A Contract between the MFEA SR and the SAIDC for 2023 (hereinafter the "Contract") was concluded under Slovak Government Resolution No. 1370/2002/B1 of 18 December 2002 and under Act No. 523/2004 on Public Administration Budgeting Rules on 29 December 2023. The Contract governs the substance and structure of providing foreign development assistance pursuant to Act No. 392/2015 on Development Assistance as amended, in the wording of Act No. 281/2019, and the SAIDC Charter (Decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic No. 57/2006 of 27 December 2006) and SAIDC Statute. The Contract is published on the Agency's website. [The Contract is published on the Agency's website.](#)



SLOVAK REPUBLIC'S OFFICIAL BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN 2023

During 2023, the SAIDC implemented activities in line with the Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance for 2023 approved by the Slovak Government on 11 January 2023.

Throughout the year, the SAIDC administered projects contributing to the implementation of the principles of the Medium-Term Strategy for Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2019-2023 through development cooperation and humanitarian aid instruments, in line with the priorities of the Slovak Republic to address global challenges and the objectives of the 2030 Agenda. Another goal was to support sustainability and the higher visibility of the SlovakAid brand. Development cooperation used diverse tools, including: grants for Slovak organizations, financial contributions for humanitarian aid or cooperation provided to foreign entities, and financial contributions through Slovak diplomatic missions, i.e. microgrants to support activities of local organizations in partnering countries. The SAIDC not only cooperated with domestic and foreign organizations, but it also funded capacity building activities aimed at raising public awareness about development cooperation and transferring experience and expertise through SSE - Sharing Slovak Expertise - a tool for providing knowledge and experience. From 1 January to 31 December 2023, the SAIDC opened, on the basis of the Focus, 12 calls for grant proposals and one call for the EU Delegated Cooperation Project in Serbia. In total, 42 grants were approved (including three grants from the second humanitarian call for Ukraine from December 2022). At the same time, the Agency

administered 67 grants from the 2021 and 2022 calls. During 2023, 83 financial contributions facilitated through diplomatic missions were approved and 24 financial contributions were approved based on the Minister's decision. Six projects were implemented under the Sharing Slovak Expertise tool. At the same time, the SAIDC implemented three EU Delegated Cooperation projects in Moldova, Serbia and one project in Kenya and South Africa. In order to raise awareness, the Agency ran the campaign "Our help knows no boundaries"; the campaign reached 212,543 people. In November 2023, the SAIDC co-organized the Slovak Development Summit to mark the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the ODA of the Slovak Republic.



SlovakAid Development Festival in Bratislava 's Aupark on November 10, 2023.

Subsidies

The calls for grant proposals for humanitarian and development projects, posting of volunteers, development education, co-financing of EU projects and capacity building were opened during January, February, April, May and June 2023, after the approval of the Focus. Information was published on the SAIDC website. In 2023, a call for supporting development interventions in the Western Balkans was not opened since the financial allocation for the call and the call itself were not included in the Focus. Following the positive experience with opening the call for Strategic Partnerships in the Republic of Kenya in 2022, the Agency opened a call for grant proposals in the form of a Strategic Partnership for the Republic of Moldova in the first half of 2023. The goal was to establish a mechanism for long-term cooperation, contribute to sustainable improvements in living conditions of the population and development in the Republic of Moldova as well as to the further development of the country. In relation to the ongoing Russian aggression in Ukraine, the Agency opened two calls to help the war-torn country in April and June 2023. A call for supporting new business partnerships with a focus on the reconstruction and development of Ukraine was opened in mid-April 2023. This call was beyond the plan in the Focus. SAIDC acquired the funds for the call in question through a budgetary measure. In mid-June, a second call was opened – to provide psycho-social assistance to vulnerable people impacted by the war in Ukraine. Tables below provide an overview of calls and supported projects in 2023.

List of calls for grant proposals in 2023

Call reference no.	Call name	Opening date	Closing date	Available funds (€)	Approved grant (€)	Number of approved/all applications	Date of approval by the Minister	
1.	SAMRS/2023/RV/1	Support for Development Education	31/01/2023	14/3/2023	150,000.00	148,690.00	3/6	26/5/2023
2.	SAMRS/2023/D/1	Posting of Volunteers / Expert Volunteers into Partner Countries	24/1/2023	7/3/2023	109,360.00	108,833.00	10/12	26/5/2023
3.	SAMRS/2023/EC/1	Support for Projects of Slovak Organizations Approved under the Development Instrument of the European Commission through the Provision of Co-funding	1/2/2023	10/3/2023	50,000.00	11,190.00	1/2	12/5/2023
4.	SAMRS/2023/MD/1	Support for Development Interventions in the Republic of Moldova	6/2/2023	27/3/2023	400,000.00	400,000.00	2/5	30/6/2023
5.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/1	Support for Business Partnerships	15/2/2023	6/4/2023	400,000.00	347,730.00	3/10	14/7/2023
6.	SAMRS/2023/GE/1	Support for Experience Sharing in Georgia	3/2/2023	24/3/2023	600,000.00	490,413.50	4/7	30/6/2023
7.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/1	Mitigating Negative Impacts of the Migration and Refugee Crisis Caused by War Conflicts and Ongoing Crisis in the Region of Middle East (Lebanon, Iraq, Syria)	24/1/2023	15/3/2023	1,000,000.00	999,667.46	4/5	2/6/2023
8.	SAMRS/2023/KE/1	Support for Development Interventions in the Republic of Kenya	3/2/2023	24/3/2023	600,000.00	597,881.15	3/6	9/6/2023
9.	SAMRS/2023/ST/MD/1	Strategic Support for Long-term Development Interventions in the Republic of Moldova	3/2/2023	24/3/2023	600,000.00	1,000,000.00	1/2	2/6/2023
10.	SAMRS/2022/HUM/3/UA ¹	Providing Basic Needs for Vulnerable Persons Affected by the War in Ukraine	8/12/2022	31/1/2023	1,000,000.00	966,179.76	3/9	14/3/2023
11.	SAMRS/2023/BK/1	Capacity Building and Partnership Programme	18/5/2023	15/6/2023	120,000.00	105,000.00	1/1	18/8/2023
12.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/UA/2	Support for Business Partnerships	14/4/2023	31/5/2023	322,000.00	456,345.482	5/9	18/8/2023
13.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/2/UA	Providing Psychosocial Support to Vulnerable People Affected by the War in Ukraine.	16/6/2023	17/7/2023	400,000.00	399,000.00	2/5	28/8/2023
SPOLU					5,751,360.00	6,030,930.35	42/79	

¹ The second humanitarian call for Ukraine was opened on December 8, 2022. The deadline for submission of applications was set for January 31, 2023, as a result of which the administration of submitted applications was carried out in 2023.

List of supported projects in 2023 - 1/2

(except for projects under the call SAMRS/2022/D/1 listed separately in the text below)

Project number		Project name	Applicant	Country	Approved grant amount (€)
1.	SAMRS/2023/EC/1/1	Supporting civil society in enforcing the rule of law and good governance	Research Centre of the Slovak Society for Foreign Policy, n. o. / RC SFPA - Slovak Foreign Policy Association Research Centre	Slovak Republic	11,190.00
2.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/1/1	Supporting the development of Doghat and Darkar municipalities by providing sustainable drinking water resources and training	Caritas Slovakia	Iraq	250,000.00
3.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/1/3	Providing quality education through comprehensive training; building sustainable energy and WASH infrastructure for vulnerable refugee and Lebanese populations in Akkar Governorate in Northern Lebanon.	People in Peril, n.o.	Lebanon	249,998.00
4.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/1/4	Rehabilitation of three water wells in Khan Arnaba, Syria, which will serve a community of 25,000 people	Integra Foundation	Syria	250,000.00
5.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/1/5	Water for Life: Restoring water infrastructure for communities affected by the earthquake in Syria (RINSE)	ADRA - Adventist and Development Relief Agency, o.z.	Syria	249,669.46
6.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/UA/2/1	Provision of psychosocial support in children's hospitals in the Kharkiv and Lviv regions during war times	IPčko, o.z.	Ukraine	199,022.00
7.	SAMRS/2023/HUM/UA/2/5	Improving mental health of residents of the Chernihiv region of Ukraine, with particular emphasis on children and their parents, women and older persons by providing professional psychosocial support	Integra Foundation	Ukraine	199,978.00
8.	SAMRS/2023/RV/1/3	Development education in the bigger picture	CEEV Živica, o.z.	Slovak Republic	49,000.00
9.	SAMRS/2023/RV/1/4	Mladí FAKTY-visti	Slovak Foundation for UNICEF	Slovak Republic	49,690.00
10.	SAMRS/2023/RV/1/5	Development education for journalists and the public	People in Peril, n.o.	Slovak Republic	50,000.00
11.	SAMRS/2023/MD/1/1	Social planting of saplings - a novel way of fighting deforestation, energy crisis and unemployment in the Republic of Moldova	Caritas Slovakia	Moldova	200,000.00
12.	SAMRS/2023/MD/1/2	Supporting market environment in Moldova: Digital innovation, labour market and investment – PHASE 1	EMA – Development and Mobility Agency	Moldova	200,000.00
13.	SAMRS/2023/ST/MD/1/2	Green vector for Moldovan agri-food sector	Slovak Centre for Communication and Development, n.o.	Moldova	600,000.00

List of supported projects in 2023 - 2/2

Project number	Project name	Applicant	Country	Approved grant amount (€)	
14.	SAMRS/2023/GE/1/1	Building economic resilience of ABL communities around the Tskhinvali region of Georgia	Strategic Analysis Think Tank	Georgia	180,060.00
15.	SAMRS/2023/GE/1/2	Introduction and development of modern analytical methods for the determination of organic pollutants pursuant to the Water Framework Directive	Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava	Georgia	100,094.00
16.	SAMRS/2023/GE/1/4	Supporting introduction of a separate waste collection system in Georgia	Slovak Environment Agency	Georgia	94,578.50
17.	SAMRS/2023/GE/1/5	Strengthening public surveillance and capacities of a key anti-corruption stakeholder in Georgia	Transparency International Slovensko	Georgia	115,681.00
18.	SAMRS/2023/KE/1/2	Desert farming in Turkana, Kenya	eRko - Christian Children Communities Movement	Kenya	199,979.15
19.	SAMRS/2023/KE/1/4	Apprenticeship and Economic Integration Programme for Kenyan Community and Refugees in Turkana Region	SAVIO o.z.	Kenya	199,854.00
20.	SAMRS/2023/KE/1/5	Heart for Kenya 2023	National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, a.s	Kenya	198,048.00
21.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/1/3	Establishment of a business partnership and development of a new facility for edible flyworm insects (<i>Tenebrio molitor</i>) in Kenya	Scientica, s.r.o.	Kenya	99,685.00
22.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/1/5	Expansion into the Kenyan market and increasing diagnostic capacities for cardiovascular diseases in the Kenyan health sector	Powerful Medical s.r.o.	Kenya	143,720.00
23.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/1/7	Water for the future – modern standards for the renewal of water infrastructure	ESOL s.r.o.	Ukraine	104,325.00
24.	SAMRS/2023/BK/1/1	Support for public policies, capacity building and public awareness of development cooperation	Platforma rozvojových organizácií – Ambrela	Slovak Republic	105,000.00
25.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/UA/2/2 ³	Modern sewage pumping station technology renewal in Umani	ESOL s.r.o.	Ukraine	95,665.00
26.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/UA/2/4	Study on the renewal of public lighting infrastructure in selected cities in Ukraine, with main focus on its energy efficiency associated with the integration of charging stations into the energy system	SEAK, s.r.o.	Ukraine	55,870.00
27.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/UA/2/5	Supporting the renewal and construction of new infrastructure and capacities to provide services through monitoring and forecasting of meteorological parameters	MPS - System, spol. s r.o.	Ukraine	177,780.48
28.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/UA/2/7	Support for green hydrogen infrastructure in the Transcarpathian region of Ukraine	Blue Green Tech s.r.o.	Ukraine	92,240.00
29.	SAMRS/2023/PPP/UA/2/9	Preparation of a feasibility study for the gradual modernization of the district heating system in Umani	Intech Slovakia, s.r.o.	Ukraine	34,790.00
30.	SAMRS/2022/HUM/3/UA/1/1	Improving living conditions in shelters and centres; providing humanitarian and psychological first aid to internally displaced persons	Caritas Slovakia	Ukraine	333,000.00
31.	SAMRS/2022/HUM/3/UA/1/5	Provision of vital humanitarian aid to residents of liberated cities in Ukraine	ADRA - Adventist and Development Relief Agency, o.z.	Ukraine	332,875.34
32.	SAMRS/2022/HUM/3/UA/1/8	Food and sanitation assistance to the Kiev and Odessa regions (Hope Packages)	Depaul Slovensko	Ukraine	300,304.42
TOTAL (€)					5,522,097.35

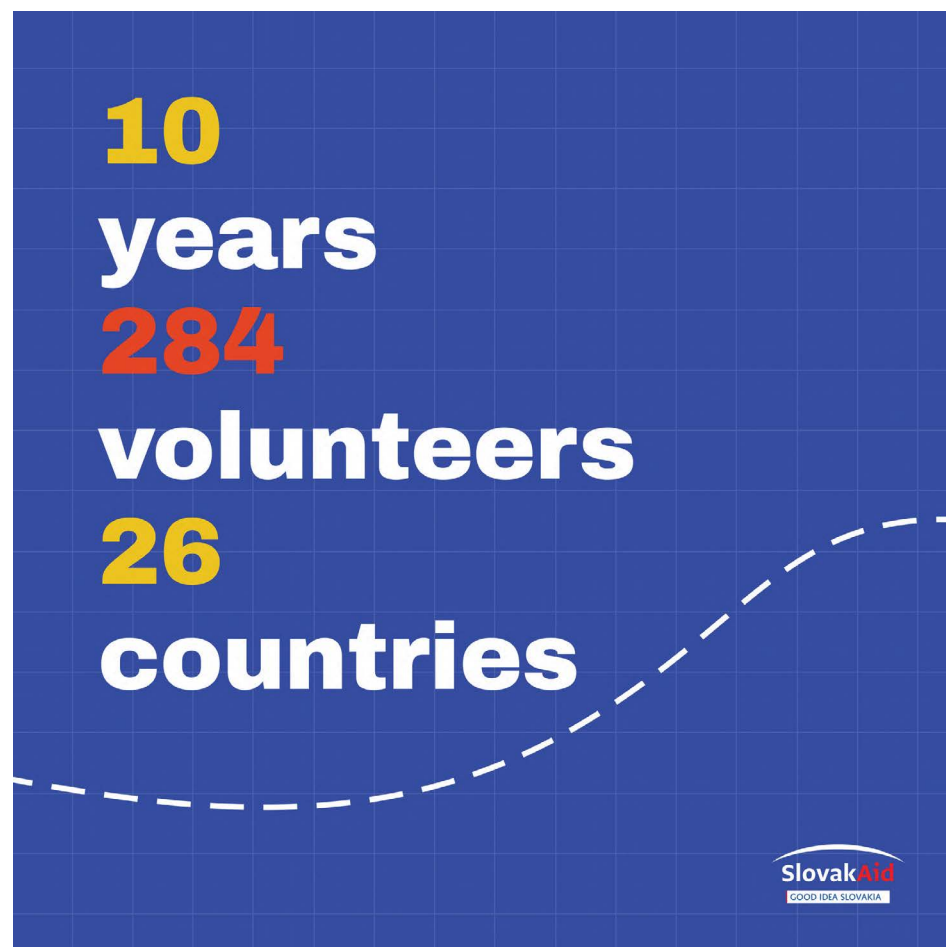
Posting volunteers and expert-volunteers to developing countries

Since 2013, posting volunteers and expert-volunteers to partner countries as part of the framework of development cooperation supports the achievement of the ODA objectives of the Slovak Republic in the programme and partner countries of Slovak development cooperation. It also creates long-term partnerships between organizations and communities, prepares experts for development cooperation and also increases public awareness of development topics and the importance of development cooperation. Volunteers focus on the needs of the local population.

The educational activities for local children and young people, provision of medical or material assistance to the poorest in the local community, caring for HIV-positive children and orphans, or providing training and practical courses for young people to increase their chances in the labour market are some of the examples. In addition to the assistance in partner countries, personal experience in volunteering can effectively break down stereotypes.

Volunteers will experience a different way of life, broaden their horizons and potentially open up to embrace a more tolerant worldview, conducive to mutual solidarity. The volunteers get acquainted with a given country, its culture, acquire language and practical skills, professional and intercultural knowledge and experience in the development sector which cannot be obtained by working in the Slovak Republic. In 2023, total allocation for the call for grant proposals for the posting of volunteers and volunteer experts was €109,360. Based on the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee of the Slovak Foreign Ministry, the Foreign Minister approved ten applications (out of 12 applications received) from five beneficiaries in seven different countries.


By the end of 2023, nine agreements were signed; one of the approved applicants withdrew from the process on their own request. Onboard training for volunteers continued to be fully managed by the grantees.



Approved projects for posting volunteers and expert-volunteers in 2023

EMA – DEVELOPMENT AND MOBILITY AGENCY


Recipient country
(number of volunteers):
Moldova (1), Ukraine (1)


2 volunteers

11,400.00 €

DVOJFARBENÝ SVET, O. Z.

Recipient country
(number of volunteers):
Cambodia (2), Kenya (1)


3 volunteers

23,455.00 €

EOPLE IN PERIL, N.O.

Recipient country
(number of volunteers):
Bosnia and Herzegovina (1)


1 volunteer

18,000.00 €

ADRA - ADVENTIST AND DEVELOPMENT RELIEF AGENCY, O.Z.

Recipient country
(number of volunteers):
Uganda (1), Albania (1)


2 volunteers

29,818.00 €

ERKO - CHRISTIAN CHILDREN COMMUNITIES MOVEMENT

Recipient country
(number of volunteers):
Uganda (2)


2 volunteers

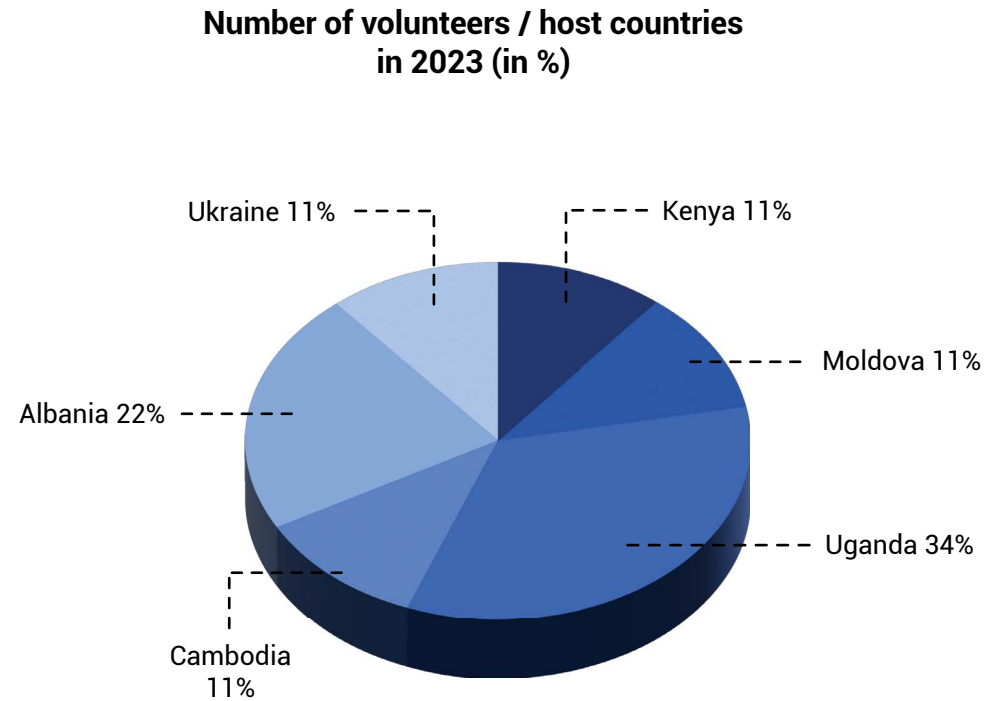
26,160.00 €



SPOLU

10 projects in 7 countries

108,833.00 €

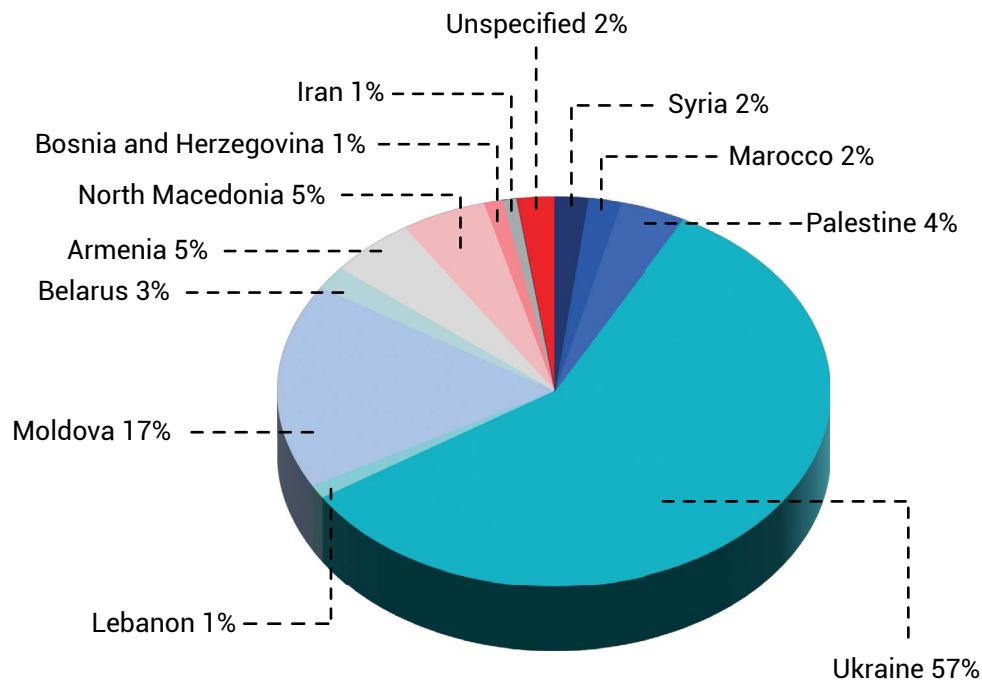


Financial contributions

Financial contributions are awarded based on the decision of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. Their provision is one of the flexible instruments of Slovak development cooperation. Until 31 December 2023, the Agency provided a total of 24 financial contributions in the total

amount of € 2,159,375.68 based on a decision by the Slovak Foreign Minister. Of this, 21 financial contributions were bilateral and three multilateral.

Financial contributions by amount paid in beneficiary countries in 2023 (%)



Financial contribution to the organization Development for Life and Peace for people affected by the earthquake in Syria

Financial contributions for 2023

Purpose	AMOUNT (€)	Country
Establishing a camp in a secured area in Aleppo, Syria, which will include a field hospital, field kitchen and a tent for the displaced population in order to provide necessary assistance, medical care and emergency accommodation to people affected by the earthquake.	37,000.00	Syria
Purchase of kitchen equipment for a rehabilitation centre for displaced persons, socially disadvantaged and discharged soldiers and their families.	49,813.00	Ukraine
Ensuring the continuation of the publication of articles from the Belarusian newspaper in dennikN – daily newspaper.	5,180.00	Belarus
Assistance to people affected by the January earthquakes €10,000. Assistance to Afghan refugees living in Iranian Mashad €10,000.	20,000.00	Iran
Assistance in providing health care for disadvantaged children, including Afghan refugee children.	10,000.00	Iran
Providing necessary equipment for a rehabilitation centre for clients with amputations or trauma, namely for wounded internally displaced persons, discharged soldiers and for civilians in need.	52,000.00	Ukraine
DCAF research and its UN related activities.	5,000.00	-
Security and Justice Governance and Reform Training (DCAF/ISSAT)	15,000.00	-
Supporting Moldova in solving energy crisis - providing funding for the installation of thermal insulation on the facade of the highest building in Băli	375,000.00	Moldova
Constructing a water supply pipeline after the attack on the Kachovka Dam - provision of drinking water to the affected areas	200,000.00	Ukraine
Garden for Children's Charity Social Rehabilitation Centre Charity - Centre for the Treatment of Cancer Patients	9,988.90	Belarus
Constructing an accessible entrance to the building of the District Social Services Centre in Krupki and provision of an accessible toilet	9,810.00	Belarus
Opening a pottery workshop in the Social Services Centre in Orsha	7,235.00	Belarus
Floor reconstruction in the dance hall at the Elementary Art School in Chashniki	3,435.00	Belarus
Capacity Building of the National Convention of the European Union in North Macedonia for Structured Dialogue	100,000.00	North Macedonia
Sumy Civil Protection Shelter	100,720.00	Ukraine
Bridging the gap - reconciliation in the hands of young people	30,000.00	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Assistance to Moroccans affected by the earthquake	40,000.00	Marocco
Food aid to the people of Gaza	100,000.00	Palestine
Humanitarian demining in Ukraine – purchase of two Bozena 4+ demining equipment, including spare parts	750,000.00	Ukraine
Humanitarian aid for displaced persons	100,000.00	Armenia
Securing Medicine and Medical Devices	20,833.78	Lebanon
Implementing activities in the field of strengthening and improving the quality of global education in Europe (GENE)	25,000.00	-
Installing solar panels	93,360.00	Ukraine
Providing a financial contribution to support Belarusian society and citizens who have become victims of political reprisals	8,000.00	Belarus
Providing a financial contribution to support Belarusian society and citizens who have become victims of political reprisals	30,340.00	Belarus
TOTAL	2,197,715.68	11

Financial contributions (microgrants) through diplomatic missions

Microgrants represent a flexible and targeted tool for addressing smaller scale development needs at the local level and are implemented through Slovak diplomatic missions directly to local beneficiaries. The maximum amount of a microgrant is €10,000 for a period from six to twelve months from the date of signing the agreement. The financial allocation for micro-grants in 2023 amounted to €800,000 (partner country Kenya and other countries under the authority of the Slovak Embassy in Nairobi €130,000, Moldova €110,000, Georgia €110,000, Serbia/Kosovo* €30,000/60,000, Ukraine €60,000, Bosnia and Herzegovina €70,000, Albania €60,000, financial contributions granted for micro-grants to partner countries in 2023 (in %) North Macedonia €60,000, Montenegro €30,000, Lebanon/Iraq €40,000 and Belarus €40,000).

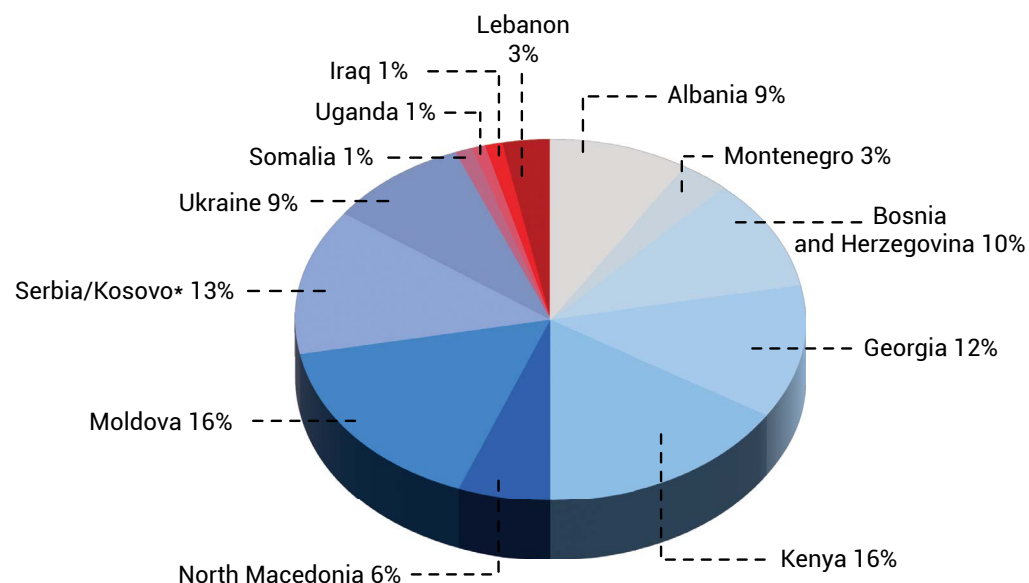
In 2023, microgrants could again be implemented in six areas that reflect selected Sustainable Development Goals, as well as within two overarching themes: quality education; good health; good governance and civil society building; food security and agriculture; infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources; support for the creation of a market environment; overarching themes – environment and climate change; equal opportunities.

The total value of 83 microgrants in fourteen countries provided in 2023 was €686,630.01.

Microgrants implemented in 2023

Country	Number of microgrants provided	Budget spent Euro
Albania	6	59,199.00
Montenegro	3	19,990.00
Serbia/Kosovo*	11	87,622.00
Moldova	11	108,657.66
Kenya	11	110,000.00
Somalia	1	10,000.00
Uganda	1	10,000.00
Georgia	10	84,973.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15	66,999.35
North Macedonia	5	39,239.00
Ukraine	6	60,000.00
Lebanon	2	19,950.00
Iraq	1	10,000.00
TOTAL	83	686,630.01

Financial contributions for microgrants to partner countries in 2023 (%)



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on the status throughout the SAIDC 2023 Annual Report and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Facilitating knowledge and experience – “Sharing Slovak Expertise” (SSE)

In 2023, SAIDC implemented six projects: two postings of experts to Uzbekistan and Bosnia and Herzegovina; and four study visits to Slovakia – from Moldova, Ukraine and two from Kenya.

As a part of the first SSE project in June 2023, four experts from the University of Economics in Bratislava were sent to

**SHARING
SLOVAK
EXPERTISE**
GOOD IDEA SLOVAKIA

Uzbekistan to participate in seminars, workshops and a round table to improve the representation of women in business, including family business, tourism and the internationalization of small and medium-sized enterprises in Uzbekistan. In July 2023, a three-member delegation from the Uzhhorod National Library participated in

a study visit to Slovakia, organized within the SSE framework. The aim of the visit was to share experience in implementing innovative library technologies and acquiring knowledge in the area of library digitization.

A study visit of a five-member Moldovan delegation to Slovakia was organized in September. Its aim was to share experience on legislative regulations and technical and methodological procedures of afforestation and to gain knowledge on how to improve management in forest nurseries in Moldova.

In the first week of November 2023, five Slovak experts were sent to Bosnia and Herzegovina under the SSE framework in order to share expertise in social work in the field of migration with an overlap with the academic community. Simultaneously, the Agency implemented two related SSE projects – study visits from Kenya.

The SSE framework has enabled a nine-member Kenyan delegation to gather information in the field of cybersecurity and protection of classified information, as well as the digitization of public administration services and protection of public administration data centres.

The total budget earmarked for SSE for 2023 was € 50,000; amount withdrawn by end of the calendar year was €40,182.45 (80.36%).

The withdrawal in 2023 was higher than during the two previous years, which were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemics. The withdrawal in 2021 was at the level of 24.33% from a total of €80,000 and in 2022 it was at the level of 35,3% (total allocation of €50,000).



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Overview of approved SSE projects and their implementation in 2023

	Country	Project name	Type	Duration in 2023	Number of persons	Real drawdown in € as of December 2023
1.	Uzbekistan	Improving representation of women in business, including family business, and their internationalization inspired by the Slovak example	posting of experts	11/06-17/06	4	7,769.14
2.	Moldova	Sharing Slovak experience with the Republic of Moldova in the field of afforestation and management of forest nurseries	study visit	25/09-30/09	5	8,136.47
3.	Ukraine	Adapting Ukraine's book collections to the standards of digital society	study visit	25/07-28/07	3	1,882.57
4.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Integrating the focus of social work into migration and asylum-related studies in Bosnia and Herzegovina	posting of experts	05/11-07/11	5	4,220.77
5.	Kenya	Sharing experiences in the field of cybersecurity and protection of classified information	study visit	05/11-09/11	6	14,635.00
6.	Kenya	Review of Slovakia's path in the field of digitization of public administration services	study visit	05/11-09/11	3	3,538.50
SSE ALLOCATION FOR 2023 IN €50,000.00						
TOTAL DRAWDOWN AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2023						40,182.45

EU INSTRUMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

COOPERATION

In 2023, the Agency co-prepared several letters of intent, or EU delegated cooperation projects. .

EU Delegated Cooperation Project to Support the Internal Market in Serbia

In the first half of 2023, a project titled EU Support for Internal Market in Serbia was submitted to the EU Delegation in Belgrade; the EU Delegation approved it and recommended that the agreement be signed.

The contract was signed on September 21, 2023, with the commencement of implementation on November 4, 2023. The project will be implemented in consortium with the Spanish agency FIIAPP and the Italian development agency AICS. The project duration is 36 months; budget €8,000,000; the amount allocated to SAIDC is €1,991,222. Of this, €1,751,217.19 is earmarked for the implementation partner. In November 2023, the SAIDC opened a call for grant proposals for a development cooperation project under the EU Delegated Cooperation No SAMRS/2023/EU/RS/1.

The call was open until 11 December 2023. By that date, one application was submitted to SAIDC. The whole project is aimed at supporting the Serbian internal market environment in eight specific areas – EU INSTRUMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION e-commerce, market

surveillance, intellectual property rights, state aid, one-stop shop, consumer protection, competition, safety and product quality.

The SAIDC implementation partner will be involved in the implementation of three of the above mentioned areas – e-commerce, one-stop shop and consumer protection.

EU Delegated Cooperation Project in Moldova

Since the beginning of March 2022, SAIDC, as a leading partner, has started to implement the first EU Delegated Cooperation Project named EU Support for Local Media Outlets in Moldova. The project focuses on building the capacity of independent local media, also using the relevant experience of Slovak entities.

The project involves 15 local media (print, online and TV media) from several regions of Moldova, including 13 operating media outlets and two startups. Project activities are implemented through tailor-made trainings, or as a mentoring programme, small grant scheme, networking and study visits. The total budget of this 2-year project is €998,284.32. The main project partner is People in Peril, n. o. The SAIDC is the main project partner (project lead) and directly implements the budget categories earmarked for expert consultations.

As of 31 December 2023, a total of 27 foreign experts were included in the expert database; 240 hours of expert consultations were approved and paid. In 2023, the SAIDC carried out three business

trips under this project. Their aim was to monitor the ongoing implementation of individual activities and to participate in the closing project ceremony.



EU Delegated Cooperation Project Team Europe Initiative aimed at supporting the development of the business environment in Kenya and South Africa

The EU Delegated Cooperation Project titled Investing in Young Businesses in Africa – Supporting Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development (TEI IYBA-SEED) is part of the Team Europe Initiative.

The project shall primarily assist in improving the quality, attractiveness, and accessibility of the business environment in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa. It is aimed at supporting and strengthening the business environment, primarily focusing on the future or aspiring entrepreneurs aged 18-35, and women entrepreneurs of all ages.

The project is being implemented in South Africa, Kenya, Benin, Togo and Senegal from 1 January 2023 to 30 November 2026 with a total budget of €22,850,000. The SAIDC will implement part of the total activities in South Africa and Kenya with a budget of €1,403,150. The project is funded by NDICI – Global Europe.

Slovakia will co-finance the project with €200,000, earmarked for the project-related operation of the Agency over four years. The amount allocated for 2023 under the Focus 2023 was €50,000.

The SAIDC has participated in the project preparation and implementation together with European partner agencies from Germany (GIZ), France (EF), Belgium (Enabel) and the Netherlands (SNV).



PROCESS MANAGEMENT

OF DEVELOPMENT

COOPERATION IN 2023

Calls for Grant Applications

The submission process in all calls opened through 2023 was revised in order to eliminate the submission of documents/ annexes in hard copies. The Financial Guidelines for development cooperation projects of the Slovak Republic for 2023, under the Business Partnerships Programme: Support for New Business Partnerships Focusing on the Reconstruction and Development of Ukraine was amended.

Originally, there was a condition for project implementation only in the Implementation category. The call for business partnerships in 2023 was revised based on the results of an audit by the Slovak Antimonopoly Office. The application form for grant proposals under the call for business partnerships was revised pursuant to scheme no. DM-2/2019; the section de minimis of the Project Manual for the call for business partnerships for 2024 was revised; the estimated amount of the de minimis scheme was also entered into the template of the Notification about the application evaluation (grant for business entities).

This information was also indicated in the template of the grant agreement for business entities. At the same time, the applicant's affidavit was revised; a new section was introduced explaining that no recovery of the aid is claimed against the applicant based

on a previous decision of the European Commission declaring the aid to be ineligible and incompatible with the internal market in accordance with Section 7 par. 6 (b) of the Act on State Aid (de minimis scheme), which is part of the grant application.

In November 2023, Amendment No. 3 extended the validity of the de minimis scheme No. DM-2/2019 until 30 June 2024 while at the same time the SAIDC consulted with the Antimonopoly Office of the Slovak Republic on the preparation of a new de minimis scheme for 2024.



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The SAIDC has traditionally organized an Information Day for potential grant applicants in order to increase the quality of grant applications. The online Information Day took place on 28 February 2023; it targeted all those interested in submitting a grant application for development cooperation and humanitarian aid projects.

A total of 67 participants listened to 11 presentations by SAIDC project and financial managers. All presentations and FAQs are available on the SAIDC website.

Submission and evaluation of grant applications

All applications submitted under the calls were reviewed according to the eligibility criteria and in accordance with the Statute of the Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic for the evaluation of grant applications for development cooperation and for evaluation of tenders for contracts for development cooperation (number of meetings: 13).

Five new external expert evaluators were involved in the evaluation process. The list of 9 external expert evaluators participating in the 2023 evaluation process is available on the SAIDC website. The external expert evaluators for the 2023 calls were selected pursuant to a new methodology, assessing thematic and geographical expertise, including their quantitative scale.

On March 23, 2023, the SAIDC organized an online training for members of the Evaluation Committee and on April 4, 2023, an online training for external expert evaluators. The aim of both trainings was to provide information on the methodology for the evaluation of grant applications submitted under the 2023 calls. Specific attention was paid to the methodology for evaluating cross-cutting themes. In October, the Agency organized an online training seminar for grantees on Project Management for SAMRS/2023 calls.

Presentations were published on the Agency's website, as well as answers to questions from the discussions.



Project Monitoring

In 2023, the Agency continued in its efforts to implement monitoring, after its suspension during the previous three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences.

In June 2023, representatives of the Agency and DDCHA MFEA SR carried out monitoring of one project in Ukraine, financed through a financial contribution.

The financial contribution of the Tandem beneficiary, implemented in the municipality of Svaliava, in the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine, planned to introduce energy self-sufficiency by installing gas tanks and air conditioning units.

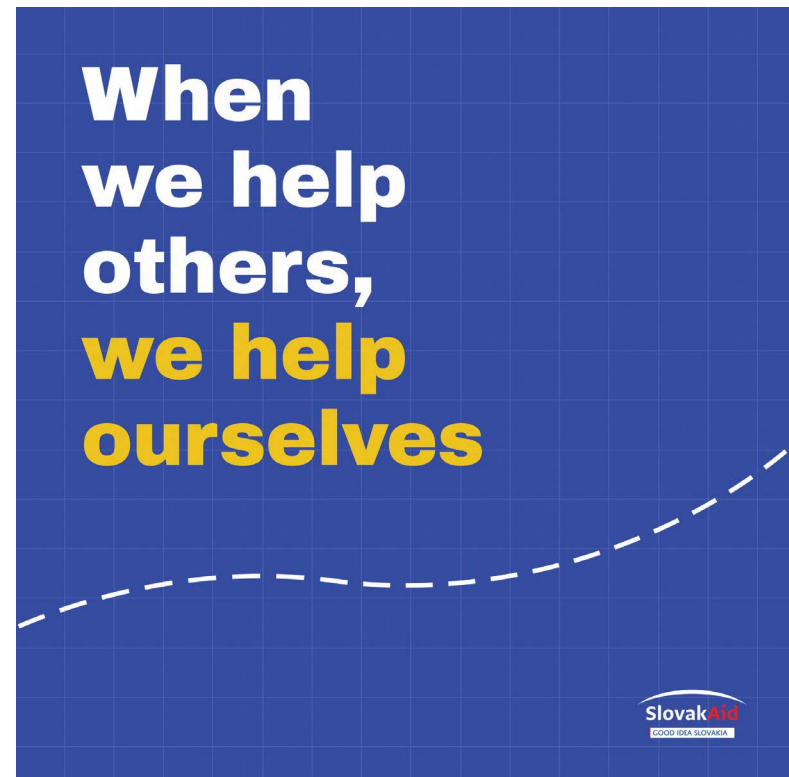
In October 2023, the Agency, in cooperation with the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Tbilisi, carried out monitoring of completed and ongoing projects in Georgia.

The project of The Research Institute of Child Psychology and Pathopsychology (beneficiary) in cooperation with the Atinati organization focuses on building an inclusive environment for children. As part of the project, the so-called "multipliers" were trained in the field of stimulation and work with children with special needs.

The project of the Senec-Pezinok Regional Development Agency (beneficiary), implemented in cooperation with the Slovak-Georgian Chamber of Commerce and the Georgian Ecotourism Association, focuses on the development of a new, comprehensive product of ecotourism.

The project of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (beneficiary) in cooperation with the Georgian University of Technology and Elvosolar, a.s. focuses on teaching solutions using solar energy.

The monitoring took place in the laboratory centre of the Georgian Technical University, where the solar system was installed at the time of the visit.





شكريل

Charbel
Hagopian

13 years



Thank you slovak Aid

During the first week of October 2023, the SAIDC monitored projects in Iraq and at the same time participated in the official opening of the wells built under the project of Charitas Slovakia (beneficiary) and in the activities of the St. Elizabeth University of Health and Social Work (beneficiary) and its partner in one of the refugee camps.

Interviews with the locals present at the opening showed that the project of building wells with drinking water would positively impact their quality of life and local people already perceived a significant difference when comparing the situation before and after their construction. According to the local population, building wells and increasing the availability of drinking water will also contribute to alleviating tensions between communities and neighbours. As the mayor of the municipality of Bersiva, where one of the wells was built indicated, there have been no technical difficulties since the opening, but pointed out that the local pipelines would also need to be reconstructed. The next step was a visit to the village of Darkar, where the beneficiary and the partner plan to build another new well as a source of drinking water for the surrounding area as part of a new project approved from a humanitarian call announced in 2023.

The St. Elizabeth University of Health and Social Work (beneficiary) project focuses on physiotherapeutic care and educational activities for children with physical or mental disabilities of internally displaced persons in Iraq. Among other things, the monitoring focused on discussions with mothers and physiotherapists present at the Kabertoo camp in Duhok. Both parties indicated the positive impact of the exercise and evident progress of individual children, which, however, also depends on the commitment of their parents to exercise with them at home. The local physiotherapist reported approximately 50% of parents who come to the centre exercise individually with their children on a regular basis.



Monitoring of the Charitas Slovakia project in Iraq

Monitoring is necessary in order to demonstrate compliance of the implementation with objectives and priorities, so that the finances are efficiently and meaningfully used and bring the desired results.



Activities focused on the business sector

In cooperation with the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic, Eximbanka and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, the Agency participates in the preliminary evaluation of applications for preferential export credits and also cooperates with the UNDP in the preparation and evaluation of calls of the Slovak Challenge Fund.



**Slovak
Challenge
Fund**



In the first half of 2023, the Agency met with a representative of EXIMBANKA and a representative of DDCHA MFEA SR to discuss development of cooperation in the field of preferential export credits.

In June, the Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency – SARIO organized an event for entrepreneurs titled Engage in Development Cooperation, where the representatives of DDCHA MFEA SR, SAIDC and UNDP jointly presented ODA tools.

In September, a representative of the SAIDC presented the Business Partnership Programme at a panel during the training Skills Mobility Partnership of the International Organization for Migration – IOM.

In October, the SAIDC representative together with Eximbanka, presented the topic of involving entrepreneurs in ODA at an event for economic diplomats.

Representatives of the SAIDC and DDCHA MFEA SR also mentored the competing teams at the SARIO Spaceport Hackathon event.

The SAIDC actively participates in regular interdepartmental online meetings on involving Slovak businesses in development cooperation organized by UNDP and international online meetings of EU development agencies organized by Practitioners' Network and their Private Sector Workstream working group.

External affairs and cooperation

UNESCO

A general Memorandum of Understanding with UNESCO, effective until 2030, was signed on 13 December 2018. The first joint project was implemented in the Turkana region of Kenya in the water management sector. The project was implemented by Caritas Lodwar – Lobur Catholic Mission, a local organization with long experience in the water and sanitation industry in this region. The project implementation officially ended on 30 June 2022, and the final report was sent to SAIDC by UNESCO on 30 May 2023. The joint project improved access to adequate drinking water resources for 52 community groups. The project activities served 9,328 beneficiaries, out of which 30% were girls under 15 years of age, 25% boys, 30% women, and 14% men.

OECD

In February 2023 the SAIDC director participated in a conference titled Sharing knowledge and working together to put the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) back on track, held in OECD, Paris. The conference discussed the current challenges of development cooperation and was attended by OECD DAC members and representatives from new donor countries. An online seminar held with OECD representatives in August 2023 focused on supporting the implementation of results based management into the development cooperation scheme of Slovakia, with special attention paid to grant projects.

The Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation

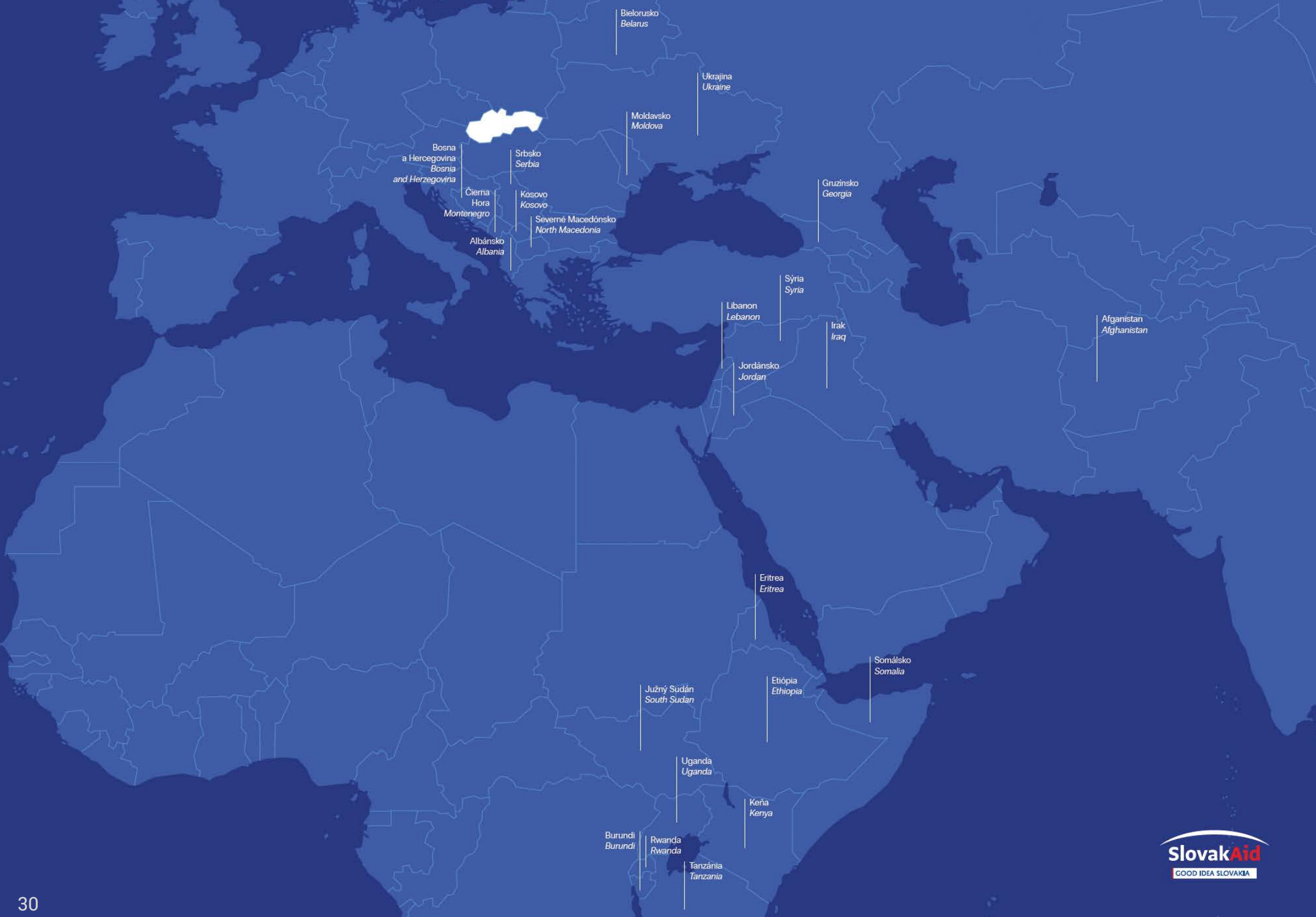
In May 2023, the project/financial manager of delegated EU cooperation project in Moldova, took part in the session of a standing

working group, targeting contractual and financial frameworks within the Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation ("PN"). She presented the experience concerning the rules for adjusting the budget and the related coordination with the EU Delegation in Chisinau, and then discussed with other members their respective experience. For SAIDC the discussion was crucial with respect to setting up systems for future projects of delegated EU cooperation. On 11 May 2023, the SAIDC director attended the annual general assembly of PN, held in Madrid, via a teleconference.

The assembly evaluated the year 2022 under the leadership of FIIAPP and SNV. Over the past year, PN managed to build and strengthen the dialogue with European Development Finance Institutions – EDFI and Joint European Financiers for International Cooperation – JEFIC. As a result, a declaration by EDFI–JEFIC–PN was approved, setting the path for supporting closer cooperation and further dialogue among the three networks in the context of Team Europe and the Global Gateway strategy. The co-presidency FIIAPP–SNV also organized the first visit to a country, where PN members operate – Kenya.

The Kenya strategic partnership project, supported by a SAIDC grant, was presented during the visit. Concurrently, meetings of standing working groups took place to review their activities during 2022 and present plans for the upcoming year. At the end of the assembly, FIIAPP and SNV handed over the PN presidency for the upcoming period to the Expertise France agency. The new presidency then shared the priorities for 2023–2024 with all PN members. In September 2023, the SAIDC director represented the Agency at the PN members conference, which debated the PN's vision and institutional arrangement for the years to come.

As part of the event Slovak Development Summit, which was held on 20th anniversary of ODA SR in November 2023, the SAIDC director discussed Slovak development cooperation with the representatives of GENE, UNDP, WFP and DG INTPA of the European Commission.



Bielorusko
Belarus

Ukrajina
Ukraine

Moldavsko
Moldova

Bosna
a Hercegovina
Bosnia
and Herzegovina

Srbsko
Serbia

Čierna
Hora
Montenegro

Kosovo

Albánsko
Albania

Severné Macedónsko
North Macedonia

Gruzínsko
Georgia

Sýria
Syria

Libanon
Lebanon

Irak
Iraq

Afganistan
Afghanistan

Jordánsko
Jordan

Eritrea

Somálsko
Somalia

Južný Sudán
South Sudan

Etiópia
Ethiopia

Uganda

Keňa
Kenya

Burundi

Rwanda

Tánzánia
Tanzania

20 rokov ODA SR / 20 years of Slovak ODA

**Naša pomoc
nepozná hranice**

***Our help knows
no boundaries***

Edícia bez filtra
• No filter edition •



In 2023 SAIDC published
a photo-book 20 years
of ODA SR: Our help knows
no boundaries

SPENDING IN 2023

The MFEA SR provided funding for the SAIDC in line with the 2023 Contract. The total approved budget (expenditures) for SAIDC for 2023 was €7,133,793.00.

The budget was revised to €9,158,131.52 through budgetary measures. The real consumption as of 31 December 2022 was €9,084,506.30 i.e. 99.20% of the revised budget. Spending under the 610 category (Salaries, pay, service income and other personal pay) was in line with the revised budget in the amount of €423,288.09, i.e. 100.00% of the revised budget. Spending under the 620 category (Insurance and contribution to insurance companies) was in line with the revised budget in the amount of €155,611.28, i.e. 100.00% of the revised budget.

Spending under the 630 category (Goods and services) was in line with the budget in the amount of €294,788.69, i.e. 97.91% of the revised budget. Spending under the 640 category (Current transfers) was in line with the budget in the amount of €7,104,086.24, i.e. 99.06% of the revised budget. Spending under the 720 category (Capital transfers) was in line with the revised budget in the amount of €1,106,732, i.e. 100.00%.

SPENDING IN 2023 As of 31 December 2023, a total amount of €8,191,155.28 was allocated to ODA SR projects; of that, €1,156,179.46 was spent from Source 131L (unused funds for ODA SR from 2021); €1,099,382.33 was spent from Source 131M;

€1,406,784 from 3UAM (funds earmarked for assistance to Ukraine) and €3,307,819.97 was spent from Source 111 (funds budgeted for 2023), of which €1,106,732.00 for capital expenses, and €1,220,989.52 from Source 11UA.

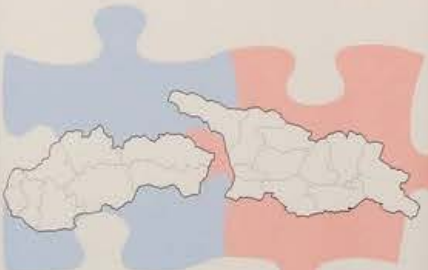


SLOVAK AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



სანიმორმატიო ცენტრი ნატოსა და ევროკავშირის შენახებ
INFORMATION CENTER ON NATO AND EU

Example of Fear zone (Jria-Perevi)



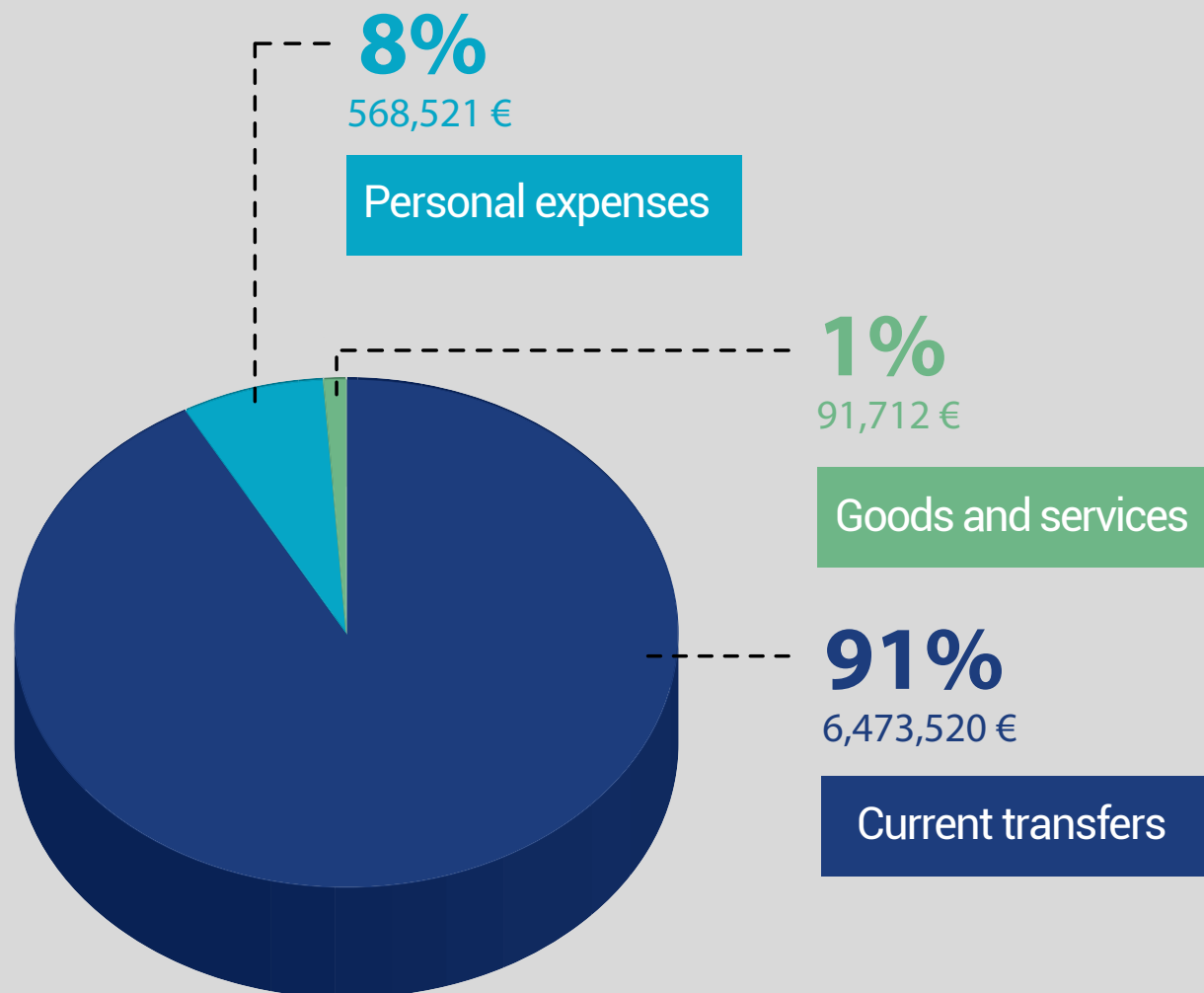
Development of Communities
along the ABL around the Tskhinvali region
with the focus on local administration and development

SlovakAid
GOOD IDEAS SLOVAKIA

SAIDC – approved budget under Contract for 2023

Item No.	Economic classification	Description	Approved budget (€)
1.	610	Wages, salaries, service income and other personal pay	423,293.00
2.	620	Insurance premiums and contribution to insurance companies	145,268.00
3.	1+2	Personal expenses total	568,521.00
4.	630	Goods and services	91,712.00
5.		Goods and services total	91,712.00
6.	640	Current transfers	6,473,520.00
7.		Current transfers total	6,473,520.00
8.	720	Capital transfers	0.00
3+5+7		TOTAL	7,133,793.00

Approved SAIDC budget for 2023



In 2023, no public procurement contracts financed by the 2023 state budget were implemented. With the processes for streamlining the SAIDC operation already under way, individual activities did not exceed the overall value of €5,000 incl. VAT. Vendors were selected based on the estimated contract value, by approaching three potential suppliers. As part of the EU DEL project implementation in Moldova, a low-value contract for service provision was carried out from May to August 2023. This contract was related to a Marketing and media campaign – EU Support for local media in Moldova with the overall value of €8,940.

Spending for SAIDC operation and activities split by 2023 ODA SR Focus

Economic classification	Approved budget (€)	Revised budget (€)	Spending (€)	% share to revised budget
610	423,293.00	423,293.00	423,288.00	100.00 %
620	145,268.00	155,611.00	155,611.00	100.00 %
630	91,712.00	301,081.00	294,789.00	97.91 %
640 z toho ODA	6,473,520.00	7,171,415.00	7,104,086.00	99.06 %
	6,471,860.00	7,151,751.00	7,084,423.00	99.06 %
720	0.00	1,106,732.00	1,106,732.00	100.00 %
Spolu	7,133,793.00	9,158,132.00	9,084,506.00	99.20 %

Spending for SAIDC operation and activities split by 2023 ODA SR Focus

SAIDC OPERATION AND ACTIVITIES		
	Allocation by 2023 Focus (€)	Real spending as of 31 December 2023 (€)
Development diplomats (KE, MD, GE)	250,000.00	262,706.00 ²
Informing public	100,000.00	68,880.07
Building capacities of SAIDC and ODA stakeholders	10,000.00	8,174.15
ODA Projects' audit	60,000.00	59,232.05
SAIDC administrative costs	564,301.00	683,157.82
Costs for supporting the Team Europe initiative – IYBA-SEED	50,000.00	33,724.48
ODA Project evaluation	50,000.00	32,280.00
TOTAL	1,084,301.00	1,148,154.57

² Actual expenditures for development diplomats are calculated by the Financial Department of the MFEA SR.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2023

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID PROJECTS



The project's focus was to support the functionality and sustainability of a platform established for the institutionalized public discussion on European integration based on the partnership between governmental, non-governmental, business, and interested institutions. It also pursued the strengthening of Albania's capacities for the EU pre-accession negotiations – National Convention on the EU in Albania. The project objective was to continue involving the broader circle of experts from all areas into designing national positions under the EU-integration agenda; and to transfer Slovak know-how from its own political, economic and social transformation. Another goal was to maintain an interactive information source on EU integration. Together with its partner and local experts, the beneficiary organized 16 meetings, where Albanian and Slovak experts were present, and discussed the agenda to transfer experience from Slovakia's EU accession negotiations and reform processes.



ALBANIA

Project name: National Convention on the EU in Albania

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/ZB/1/2

Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society

Beneficiary: RC SFPA – Slovak Foreign Policy Association Research Centre

ODA SR grant:

€99,998.00



The main project goal was to build an international start-up accelerator – a program to streamline support for start-ups and entrepreneurs in the Western Balkans region, specifically in Albania, Kosovo and North Macedonia. The project followed up on the beneficiary's activities under the UPLIFT Albania project, launched thanks to SlovakAid, and know-how transfer from the Slovak start-up ecosystem. Thus, the first international start-up program in Albania was established, which in the two years of its existence, has built a network of dozens of mentors and experts, investors and a strong brand expanding beyond the borders of Albania. The impact of UPLIFT later attracted additional important partners and donors, both international and national. The aim of the project was to expand the program to other Western Balkans countries: Kosovo and North Macedonia. The beneficiary and partner thus responded to the demand for this type of program and interest among new local partnering organizations to replicate the success of UPLIFT in Albania. The UPLIFT acceleration program prepares start-ups and young entrepreneurs to do business, using an intensive and practical training. The course provided in-depth and focused training to more than 35 start-ups from the said countries. These trainings were focused on developing business and improving the abilities to present their own businesses to attract investments and/or clients.



ALBANIA, KOSOVO*, NORTH MACEDONIA

Project name: Uplift the Western Balkans – scaling up start-up accelerator aiming for boosting investments for businesses in the region

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/ZB/1/1

Main sectoral priority: Supporting the development of market environment

Beneficiary: Slovak Research and Development Agency, civic association

ODA SR grant:

€135,490.00



The project developed a detailed analysis of survey results on the needs of persons with disabilities and the current trends in employment policy in Georgia; a baseline report on the progress of measures in Georgia; six special methodologies; four action plans in three Georgia regions, including defined responsibilities; implementation recommendations regarding measures to support the employment of people with disabilities in Georgia on a local, regional and national level. Moreover, three expert workshops for 90 participants were held, which trained 30 professional workers to apply the gained knowledge in practice. One of the project outcomes is the officially confirmed cooperation with the regions involved to continue the processes they've started even after the project has ended. The state employment agency, also inspired by Slovak experience, could introduce the position of work coach in the integration process of people with disabilities into the labor market. The public institution in Mtskheta managed to create one direct job position in the municipal library to employ a woman with a disability coming from an organization cooperating in this project. Another 133 people with disabilities could be employed in the whole region with additional job positions being created within existing or emerging social enterprises.



The project aimed at transferring Slovakia's experience with the reform process to support effective state administration, local self-government, and empower civil society. Slovak experts from both the field and relevant institutions transferred their experience by means of targeted workshops and a study trip/visit to the Slovak Republic for target group representatives. The project was implemented in communities around the administrative borderline (the "ABL"), separating the Tskhinvali region from the rest of Georgia, specifically parts of these regions: Shida Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Imereti, Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo-Svaneti. Districts: Oni, Sachkhere, Khashuri, Kareli, Gori, Kaspi and Dusheti. To achieve the specific goal 1, Slovak experience and inspiring solutions from selected self-governments, which implemented innovative or inclusive solutions in their practical operation, were applied. Experience transfer from Slovakia helped build capacities of local self-government representation from the communities at the ABL in the following areas: regional development, green innovations application, social entrepreneurship, and social agriculture; it helped achieve an increased resilience of target communities along the ABL to fight disinformation through developing the capacities of the local media, local journalism and local visibility. The project organized one initial coordination meeting, a series of workshops for local self-government representatives in the ABL communities – focused on regional development, green innovations, social business and social agriculture (138 participants) and a study trip by Georgian ABL community representatives to Slovakia (nine participants). Another series of workshops for local self-government officials was aimed at building local media capacities and local journalism (81 participants). The project also evaluated the needs of communities living alongside the ABL – with an emphasis on women and young people; formulated recommendations for decision-makers; and helped increase the active participation of women and young people in the operation and decision-making of the local self-government in target communities. A new study on the needs of ABL communities was developed and a Conference on the same topic, focusing on local self-government and regional development, was held with 78 participants. Other outcomes included a closing advocacy event in Tbilisi (34 participants), experience exchange among ABL communities in Zugdidi (46 participants), and a series of workshops for women and young people from ABL communities – aimed at increasing their participation in the activities of local self-governments (142 participants).



GEORGIA

Project name: Supported employment and service optimization in policy in Georgia

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/GE/1/1
Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society and creating of market environment
Beneficiary: TENENET, o. z.

ODA SR grant:

€89,211.88

Project name: Developing communities along the administrative border line separating the Tskhinvali region from the rest of Georgia with an emphasis on local self-governance and development

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/GE/1/2
Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society
Beneficiary: MESA10

ODA SR grant:

€95,949.23



Since the region had practically no system support for children with special needs and kindergarten staff, and relevant public education was also lacking, the project focused on good practices and sustainable solutions for the region. The main goal was to build capacities for local infrastructure (renovate and furnish a separate therapy room in kindergarten No. 2 in the town of Martvili), which would be accessible to children and parents from the broader surrounding area. Moreover, as the beneficiary has had many years of experience and is a leader in the inclusive approach with its children's centre project (ISKA – an integrated group of pre-school aged children), the goal was to replicate key good practices in Georgia, through the training of ten multipliers. The project helped renovate and furnish a therapy room in kindergarten No. 2 in Martvili for children with special needs; trained a total of 22 multipliers for stimulation and work with such children, organized 21 workshops for 263 kindergarten employees for stimulation and work with such children, and educated 115 parents on how to stimulate children with special needs.



GEORGIA

Project name: Building an inclusive environment for children

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/GE/1/5

Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society

Beneficiary: Research Institute for Child Psychology and Patho-psychology

ODA SR grant:

€82,349.35

The project aims at securing drinking water in Birstek and Bersava for more than 6,000 people and builds capacities for simple and stable access to sufficient volumes of drinking water for all village inhabitants – including women, children, and communities of internally displaced persons. This has improved the conditions for development in Iraq, which is largely affected by lack of drinking water, and has also helped prevent potential tension between the host community and the community of internally displaced persons. The project involved the installation of two water filters, two refrigerating appliances, and a water reservoir in local schools. Trainings on the protection of water sources and the use of drinking water in farming and breeding activities were organized to educate more than 200 village residents in agricultural activities and the protection and use of wells.



IRAQ

Project name: Securing drinking water for Bersava and Birstek municipalities

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/HUM/1/2

Main sectoral priority: Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources

Beneficiary: Caritas Slovakia

ODA SR grant:

€200,000.00



The main project goal was to enhance food security through capacity building in local communities to tackle the impact of climate change on South Sudan agriculture and respond to the current situation in agricultural production and impending famine. The project aimed at creating conditions for local communities to grow crops and increase agricultural production, improve access to drinking water in reaction to the current country needs. The target group was 8,500 residents from three village communities in the Cueibet region, who live mainly on pasture rearing and, as such, highly depend on climatic conditions. In years of drought, they are at risk of famine. The soil in the area is suitable for growing plants, however, the residents lack material conditions and know-how to start farming production and they do not have access to drinking water. The project implementation enhanced food security and access to drinking water for people in the region and was ultimately a success, significantly exceeding its original goals. Effective use of funds enabled the repair of two drinking water wells, originally not included in the project plan, thus facilitating access to drinking water for approx. 3,150 people. The training process provided education to 76 members of local communities in fishing, and fish processing and storage.



SOUTH SUDAN

Project name: Supporting self-sustainability in food and access to drinking water in Cueibet

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/SSA/1/1

Main sectoral priority: Food safety

Beneficiary: St. Elisabeth University of Health and Social Work, n.o.

ODA SR grant:

€200,000.00

The project focused on enhancing the quality of the teaching process in Kenya, in response to the ongoing educational system reform. The aim was to increase the number of young people with quality primary and secondary education, through supporting quality education in agriculture and environmental protection, and by completing the construction of a secondary school. The project targeted 540 primary school pupils, who had no possibility to attend theoretical or practical lessons in agriculture and environmental protection and had hampered access to secondary education. Teaching started at the secondary school and involved 80 students. The project implementation has enhanced the competitiveness of graduates on the education and labour market. In 2022, the St. Philip Neri Primary and Junior School had the best evaluation results for eighth grade students in the Athi



River sub-county, achieving 372 points out of a maximum of 500. Four students obtained more than 400 points. The success will bring future students for the school and will add to the project's sustainability. In the new academic year, the school has so far enrolled 67 students from the local area, from pre-school grades to the seventh grade, and 21 students from socially vulnerable families. Practical knowledge useful for life (e. g. on agriculture and environmental protection) were critical for the project to be successful. Teaching of these subjects was also highly valued by parents who emphasized that teaching the subjects in a practical way is important for real life. The construction of new classrooms with modern teaching technology created conditions for providing quality education to a higher number of children, in particular those from a disadvantaged environment.



KENYA

Project name: Scaling up capacities of the Philip Neri elementary school to a secondary school – stage 3

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/KE/1/1

Main sectoral priority: Quality education

Beneficiary: St. Elisabeth University of Health and Social Work, n.o.

ODA SR grant:

€200,000.00



The Dr. David Roden Tikit Mission Health Center was established mainly because people from remote savannah areas had to travel extremely long to get health care, often four and more days, without any possibility to use transportation means which are unavailable. The Center has been in operation since October 2019 and is a true rescue for patients; however, given the insufficient resources and lack of medical appliances and equipment, it only provided basic medical care. The main project goal was to enhance the availability of health care and hence improve the health condition of residents in the Masol region, with an emphasis on mothers and children. The project stands as an example of effective utilization of ODA SR resources. Both the beneficiary and the contract partners in the partnering country took initiative to help

the project grow. This is confirmed by the health center's upgraded classification by two levels under the Kenyan health system, to a Health center 3B. The project activities were aimed at the broader community, health care personnel, patients, new mothers and their newborns in hospital, midwives, the public, and also men, who were instructed in the importance of their women's medical treatment. The beneficiary's goals of the implemented project were based on the needs of the local community. The activities also involved public education on health and social matters laying the foundation for positive change in this area of care. The project goals were achieved: the principal focus was on educating midwives who perform circumcisions and childbearing at homes or in the bush. The intervention successfully trained midwives to stop performing dangerous operations such as pressing the abdomen of a woman in labour and taking out the placenta from mothers by hand. A cross-cutting topic focused on new mothers and the newborn. The principal topic was obstetrics/midwifery and women's circumcision, while other medical topics were also intensively dealt with.



As a result of vast health-related and economic impacts of the corona virus pandemic, a team of scientists and experts from medicine, natural, and technical sciences developed the alternative pulmonary ventilator Q-vent at the beginning of 2020. This appliance is primarily intended for a bridging therapy of pulmonary COVID-19 patients in locations where conventional pulmonary ventilation is not available, or when patients are being transported. Beyond the corona crisis, the secondary purpose of the appliance is to provide pulmonary support to patients during simple medical interventions such as appendectomies and Caesarean sections, or with injuries incurred in accidents. The project goals were to significantly reduce the impact of the growing humanitarian crisis, to teach Kenyan nationals how to manufacture this device from available resources and train personnel how to use it. Owing to its inexpensive, complex, modular and pressure-independent design, the appliance may be produced not only under conditions in Kenya, but also in other developing countries; a special emphasis was put on the design of components and support modules for the device so that a complete servicing and spare parts production could be provided using self-help, affordable (one cent) 3D printers and materials. Following implementation of the device and the training of Kenyan specialists in its production, a team of domestic health professionals was trained to subsequently operate Q-vent appliances in target locations. The beneficiary also trained a Kenyan team to work with a pulse oximeter. These in turn formulated a new project – thus the training and education impact has significantly expanded beyond the original scope and, combined with the international success of Q-vent, adds an important sustainability aspect to the implemented project.



KENYA

Project name: Quality health care with an emphasis on mothers and children in Masol region

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/KE/1/2

Main sectoral priority: Good health

Beneficiary: Dvojfarebný svet civic association

ODA SR grant:

€200,000.00

Project name: Introducing manufacturing and use of a Slovak pulmonary ventilator Q-vent for a bridging therapy of COVID-19 patients and simple medical interventions

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/KE/1/5

Main sectoral priority: Good health

Beneficiary: Comenius University Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

ODA SR grant:

€128,603.20

The project goal was to help improve local democracy in Kosovo by means of transferring Slovak experience through increased transparency in town halls and a higher involvement of the public at a local level. During the project, the beneficiary and partner measured the openness of Kosovo self-governments using a modified and adjusted Slovak methodology in two year-long transparency rankings; transparency increase was recorded in 18 Kosovo towns. Training activities for local self-government representatives and a study trip to Slovakia also took place as part of the project.



KOSOVO*

Project name: Supporting local democracy and transparency in Kosovo

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/ZB/1/6

Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society

Beneficiary: Transparency International Slovensko

ODA SR grant:

€95,754.00

The main goal pursued by the project was to improve the quality of life, hygienic conditions, possibilities for disease prevention and safety of public spaces in Al Faour, Lebanon, by providing access to critical infrastructure in the water, sanitation, and renewable electricity sectors. In cooperation with the partnering organization, the beneficiary carried out an intervention for the benefit of Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugees who have been settled in the village for a long time. There are 9,375 residents in the village –approximately 6,000 vulnerable Lebanese and 3,375 Syrian refugees in informal tent sites. The first activity was the installation of 100 solar lamps for public lighting that will enhance the safety of villagers at night and will bring a sustainable light resource to a municipality suffering from a lack of electricity. The beneficiary also installed a water tank with a volume of 10,000 litres in the local informal tent site, which had no permanent access to water. The water tank provided drinking water to the residing Syrian refugees, improving hygienic conditions and disease prevention. The last activity was the installation of 30 privies, providing a more dignified sanitary conditions and a higher hygiene standard for local Syrian families. The families have selected their representatives, who were trained to maintain the functionality and hygiene of these outdoor toilets.



LEBANON

Project name: WASH intervention and energy-sustainable infrastructure for Syrian refugees and Lebanese people in Beqaa area

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/HUM/1/8

Main sectoral priority: Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources

Beneficiary: ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency

ODA SR grant:

€199,999.97



The project focused on enhancing the good governance of public affairs in south Moldova, through building transparency and the informatization of self-governments while also involving civil society in social inclusion, whereby contributing to the sustainable and fair development and democratization of the Republic of Moldova. The project followed up on the successful results of previous interventions by the project partners and addressed the needs of target groups, and the current situation and needs associated with the spread of coronavirus and the war in Ukraine. Project activities took place in the self-governments of Comrat, Ceadir-Lunga, Vulcanesti, Copceac, Tvardița, Basarabeasca and Causeni. Project deliverables include a newly opened client center for citizens of Basarabeasca; implemented electronic voting systems and a new IT communication system for Comrat and Ceadir-Lunga; capacities built in six self-governments of Comrat, Ceadir-Lunga, Copceac, Tvarditsa, Vulcanesti and Basarabeasca; and Slovak experts trained self-government representatives for four existing client centers. Thus, the project helped to provide better services to citizens, based on better communication, transparency and efficiency in acquiring information and documents. Another outcome of the project is the developed program for Participative planning of social inclusion services in a particular municipality. Other project outcomes responding to the current situation are: capacities built to provide more efficient services to vulnerable population groups including humanitarian aid; as well as material assistance to six children centers, five refugee centers and support for three initiatives.



The project sought to enhance the quality of life by providing better access to sewage systems in the town of Rezina and to increase awareness on waste-water treatment. The support was comprehensively built around two correlated outcomes: (1) fostering quality infrastructure in water and sewage systems – construction of part of a sewage system in Rezina (4,322 meters); (2) working with the public in Rezina and a close neighbourhood to raise awareness in waste-water treatment and a responsible environmental approach. The project helped build capacities and gave technical support to local waste-water treatment entities, i.e. municipalities and sewage system operators; and raised public environmental awareness, sparking a higher interest in being connected to the sewage network. It has also positively impacted local residents and target groups. The construction of a sewage section in Rezina (4,322 m of pipes and 138 manholes) granted 869 people (Rezina has approx. 12,000 inhabitants) access to a sewage system. Strengthened infrastructure has created suitable sanitary conditions, reduced infectious diseases and generally improved the quality of life for village residents. Information campaigns as part of the events in Rezina – Children’s Day, Dnester Fisherman Festival and World Water Day, introduced suitable activities for target groups. Information materials and visuals aimed at raising awareness on the reasonable use of water resources, as well as environmental and water protection, were also distributed. It was mainly children and young people who showed interest in the events and they can act as an example to motivate their parents and immediate surroundings. The project outcomes on the sewage construction were presented during information campaigns while the SlovakAid visibility also increased. The project’s added value helped the town of Rezina obtain funds to complete a waste-water treatment plant with a dual use: to treat waste-water and produce eco-compost for agricultural purposes.



MOLDOVA

Project name: Building good governance through supporting transparency, digitalization and social inclusion in Southern areas of Moldova

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/MD/1/6
Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society
Beneficiary: People in Need Slovakia, n. o.

ODA SR grant:

€178,180.91

Project name: Improving quality of life of people in Rezina: securing access to sewage system

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/MD/1/8
Main sectoral priority: Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources
Beneficiary: Regional Development Agency Senec-Pezinok

ODA SR grant:

€191,094.68





The project pursued the fostering of apiculture as one of the crucial factors of sustainable land farming and the involvement of women in processing honey bee products. Specific project goals included the boosting the competitiveness of honey products, namely those made by small-scale beekeepers, by meeting EU hygienic standards, and thus opening the markets for such products; further increasing the professional competence of apiculturists/beekeepers for improving the quality of breeding, processing and the production of honey bee products as well as involving women from rural areas in the production of honey bee products. The main project activities comprised the development of a hygienic manual for the production of honey products in line with EU hygiene regulations, improvement of processing capacities by purchasing new equipment and creating model training operations at selected apiculturists, taking the form of three model processing units. The project also aimed at training male and female beekeepers, focusing on proper production and hygiene practices, and has trained more than 80 apiculturists. The target group was comprised of male and female beekeepers, the latter processing honey bee products and providing services in agri-tourism, associated with apiculture.

The project focused on transferring Slovak experience in occupational medicine ("OM") to the Western Balkans region, specifically to local partner organizations – Institute of Occupational Medicine of Serbia Dr. Dragomir Karajović, and Institute of Public Health (Medicine of Labor) of the Republic of North Macedonia. The addressed topics were health and safety at work and the lack of controlling functions of the OM central institutes in the system of occupational health services. To limit the possibility that these services and/or related obligations are not being provided, the beneficiary strengthened and expanded institutes' capacities (both human resources and technical) so that these may better check occupational health services on the national level; the checking of services performed creates conditions for comparable service quality. The beneficiary was seeking general improvement in the prevention and occupational safety and health with a positive impact on the working population in Serbia and North Macedonia. The team of experts also created functional digital registers for

both countries in order to keep records of suspected occupational diseases under verification and occupational diseases already recognized in order to enable better analysis of the data and to fulfil the reporting obligations of Serbia and North Macedonia to the European Occupational Diseases Statistics – EODS. The beneficiary also provided new technical equipment to partner organizations, e.g. new spirometer and ultrasound facilities were purchased. Trainings for local personnel were organized under the project (more than 75 employees trained in partner organizations), and also two conferences (opening and closing); and a document outlining recommendations for the given area was developed.



SERBIA

Project name: Supporting efforts to attain the EU hygiene standards and involvement of female beekeepers in processing honey products in Vojvodina region

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/ZB/1/5
Main sectoral priority: Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources
Beneficiary: National Agricultural and Food Centre

ODA SR grant:

€133,512.80



SERBIA / NORTH MACEDONIA

Project name: Building efficient state administration bodies for auditing labour medicine services in Serbia and North Macedonia

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/ZB/1/8
Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society
Beneficiary: Regional Development Agency Senec-Pezinok

ODA SR grant:

€188,450.00

This project focused on improving the health conditions of the internally displaced and refugees in Syria. The main goal was to reduce the morbidity and mortality rates in Aleppo mainly in children and mothers, and to create conditions for providing quality basic health care, in reaction to the current refugee crisis in the country. The project implementation helped the beneficiary and partners to increase the availability of health care to local residents, improve the care of older people and people with disabilities, and enhance preventive measures to reduce the spread of infectious diseases. More than 6,500 people were provided treatment and more than 4,000 families received a hygienic package with protective equipment/materials. The project also procured new equipment, installation of new solar panels and a hot water generator for the local health care center in Aleppo, which focuses on providing assistance to the older persons and people with disabilities.



 **SYRIA**

Project name: Health care for internally displaced in Syria, Aleppo

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/HUM/1/1

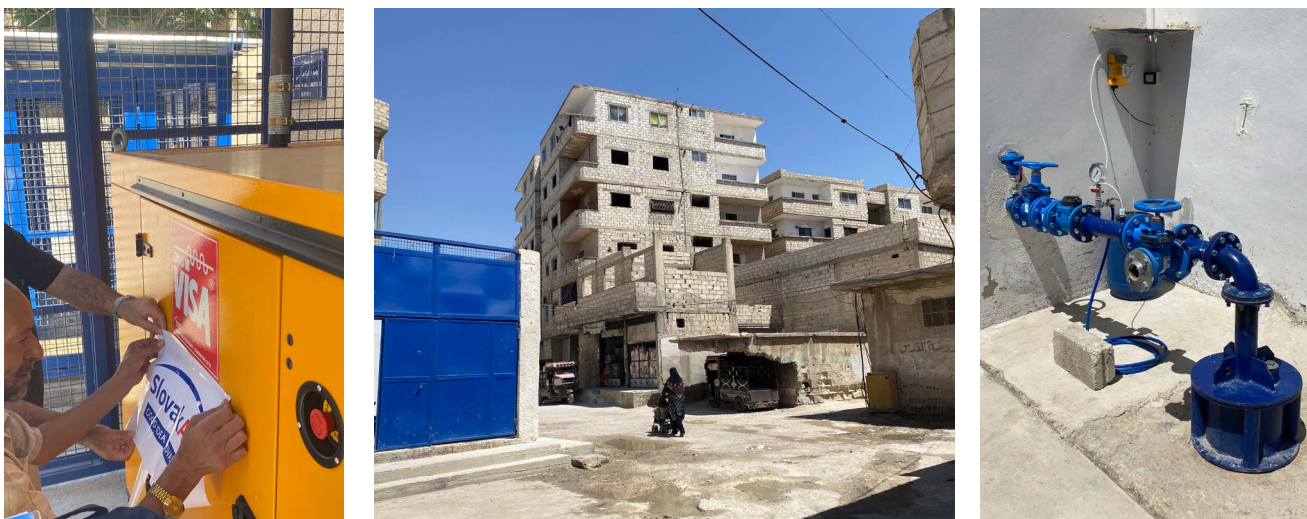
Main sectoral priority: Good health

Beneficiary: St. Elisabeth University of Health and Social Work, n.o.

ODA SR grant:

€199,999.00

The main project objective was to help improve the quality of life and health of people in the pandemic and post-pandemic period by providing sustainable access to safe drinking water for the internally displaced population and returnees in the area of Hjeira, Syria. Around 22,000 local residents gained access to sufficient amounts of safe water; a specific objective pursued was to enhance the quality and accessibility of drinking water, and thus positively impact the living environment and health of the local population. The beneficiary and partner achieved the objectives and deliverables through the main project activities, which were the rehabilitation of three (originally two) water wells, training of technical personnel and of 480 households from the target community mainly on topics concerning water, hygiene, health and contagious diseases.



Project name: Water well rehabilitation for Hjeira community in Syria

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/HUM/1/7

Main sectoral priority: Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources

Beneficiary: Integra Foundation

ODA SR grant:

€199,916.00



This project's main objective was to support infrastructure and the sustainable use of resources with the prospect of a social-economic revival during the post-pandemic period, as well as the overall improvement of the quality of life and health of inhabitants. It was important to raise information awareness among the professionals on providing safe drinking water through the installation of smaller technological equipment while also providing education on how such equipment is operated in Slovak water plants. The project implementation enhanced the quality of life and health of Rivne inhabitants. 20 experts have been trained, the project documentation for installing the technological equipment was commissioned and developed, the installation was procured and the technological equipment in Rivne was put into operation. The project partners confirmed in their letter that the installation and operation of the equipment supplied drinking water to more than 110,000 residents of Rivne. After Ukraine was attacked by the Russian aggressor in February 2022, Oleksander Shkin, Director of the Ukrainian Water Utilities Association, expressed his gratitude for the support and help provided to the Ukrainian people: "This project is equally important as a similar one, already implemented in Kherson, because today the monopoly Ukrainian plant producing sodium hypochlorite lies in temporarily occupied territories, which has caused a serious shortage in supplies of this chemical agent. However, by implementing our project, we will supply 50% of the total need for sodium hypochlorite, which will spare the city a humanitarian disaster". This testimony is proof that the official development cooperation by the Slovak Republic is important and justified and its impact extends to all areas of society and unforeseen situations.

In this project, the focus was on material and psychosocial support to the most vulnerable members of the internally displaced communities in the Dnipropetrovsk region. 16,874 vouchers were distributed under the project: 8,002 vouchers to purchase foodstuffs, 4,140 vouchers to buy medicine and 4,732 vouchers for hygienic purposes. Food aid, urgent health care and non-food material assistance via vouchers was provided in total to 2,493 households, i. e. 2,493 direct recipients and 7,728 indirect recipients. Psycho-social "first aid", aimed at mitigating and overcoming trauma caused by the ongoing military conflict in the country, was provided to 2,567 adults and 515 children through group consultations, and to 275 adults and 173 children through individual counselling.



UKRAINE

Project name: Healthy water for Rivne

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/UA/1/5

Main sectoral priority: Infrastructure and sustainable use of resources

Beneficiary: Association of Water Management Companies

ODA SR grant:

€195,306.96

Project name: Provision of basic needs and psychological first aid for internally displaced persons living in shelters in Dnipro city and suburbs

Registration number: SAMRS/2022/HUM/2/UA/1/1

Main sectoral priority: Good health

Beneficiary: Caritas Slovakia

ODA SR grant:

€329,752.11

The main project objective was to enhance food security of the internally displaced and other population impacted by the war in the western part of Ukraine. Material assistance was provided to 6,000 families (19,701 persons). A broad range of food products contained in food parcels has made it possible for the recipients to maintain their nutritional and vitamin balance, especially during cold seasons and spring. Before the project implementation, the beneficiary had been distributing humanitarian aid only in the Trans-Carpathian region. Thanks to the project, the beneficiary was able to increase the capacity of distributing food aid and as such increase the number of hromadas (Ukrainian municipalities) to which the necessary humanitarian aid was distributed, as well as the number of tons and beneficiaries of the aid. During the implementation of the project, 115 organized distributions of food products to families in Zakarpattia and 56 in the Ivano-Frankivsk region took place. Women aged 18 to 60 years accounted for one third of the total number of recipients in the two regions.



The main objective of the project was to improve the physical and mental health of the population at risk of armed conflict in Ukraine and to support the Ukrainian health system. Dedicated to improving the physical and mental health of the population of eastern Ukraine the project provided medical and psychotherapeutic consultations, conducted psychoeducation and mental health awareness workshops, and organized trainings for local physicians on polytrauma. A mobile clinic was set up

under the project, 9,241 medical sessions and 984 psychotherapy sessions were provided. At the same time, the project conducted 44 workshops for a total of 606 people, aimed at spreading awareness about mental health, its importance and needs, as well as about warning signs when to seek professional help. 10 trainings were held for 104 doctors on the topic of pre-hospital emergency medical assistance to victims injured in armed conflict.



UKRAJINA

Project name: Provision of material assistance to persons affected by the conflict in Ukraine to ensure their basic living needs

Registration number: SAMRS/2022/HUM/2/UA/1/3

Main sectoral priority: Good health

Beneficiary: People in Need Slovakia, n. o.

ODA SR grant:

€309,406.17

Project name: Improving the physical and mental health of populations affected by armed conflict and enhancing the competencies of health personnel in eastern Ukraine

Registration number: SAMRS/2022/HUM/2/UA/1/4

Main sectoral priority: Good health

Beneficiary: STEP-IN

ODA SR grant:

€319,625.32

The main objective of this project was to enhance, through the distribution of humanitarian aid packages, food security and access to basic sanitation for the most vulnerable part of the population, who has lost access to basic necessities of life as a result of the ongoing armed conflict in Ukraine. Under the project, a total of 6 trucks were dispatched to the partner's warehouse in Ukraine between September 2022 and January 2023, with each truck containing 1,320 aid packages (6 trucks x 1,320 parcels = 7,920 household parcels). The results of a telephone questionnaire survey showed that the project has increased access to sanitation for a total of 20,453 people, i.e. 96% of the total of 21,305 beneficiaries, and increased food security for 21,198 people, i.e. 99.5% of the total of 21,305 beneficiaries of the aid.



Project name: Strengthening access to basic food and sanitation for the most vulnerable in Ukraine

Registration number: SAMRS/2022/HUM/2/UA/1/5

Main sectoral priority: Food safety, Infrastructure and sustainable use of natural resources

Beneficiary: ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency

ODA SR grant:

€329,500.91

AID FOR UKRAINE

Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation under the SlovakAid brand, through its partners and fulfilling Slovak Republic's commitment to international solidarity, supports projects for targeted assistance to people in the least developed and most endangered regions of the world. This is how Slovaks have been helping abroad since 2003. Therefore this year we commemorate the 20th anniversary of the creation of SlovakAid, a moment when Slovakia, through the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, stopped receiving official development assistance, but instead started to help and provide assistance to others.

Since February 24, 2022 the war in Ukraine has made us, people in Slovakia, fully aware of how fragile peace is and how high its price is. Slovakia became a country directly adjacent to a war conflict. The fates of our Ukrainian neighbours who flee from war to our country are a memento for us - they emphasise that in order for us all to live in a world where freedom and peace are available to all without distinction, we must all make our best efforts.

Since the beginning of the Russian aggression on Ukraine, Slovakia under the SlovakAid brand, announced 2 humanitarian calls to ensure the basic life needs of vulnerable people affected by the war conflict in Ukraine. A total number of 7 projects worth more than 2,200,000 euros were supported within these calls. Access to basic health care, psycho-social support, access to drinking water and foodstuff, access to accommodation and basic items of personal need, all of this is provided to the residents of Ukraine by Slovak non-governmental organisations.

These photos bear witness to the work of four of them (People in Need, Step-In, Slovak Catholic Charity, and ADRA Slovakia) and people in difficult conditions. Their author is Jan Husar.



www.slovakaid.sk

Exhibition at Hviezdoslav Square
in Bratislava, June 20 - July 7, 2023

GLOBAL EDUCATION PROJECTS

The project was aimed at raising public awareness of development cooperation by the Slovak Republic, deepening awareness of global development and increasing the involvement of young people in addressing global issues at the local level. The cross-cutting theme of SDG 13 was reflected both in the research and subsequent campaign on environmental protection and climate change organized for Development Awareness Day, and in the podcast and Digital Platform for Civic Engagement. The cross-cutting theme of SDG 5 was reflected in the research and subsequent campaign on young women's involvement in development cooperation. The gender gap will also be taken into account in the development of the Digital Platform for Civic Engagement to equally motivate young men and women as much as possible. Both the quantitative and qualitative research was done on a very high level and contains valuable data and findings that can serve both several NGOs and SAIDC on global education topics in the future. The results of the research were used in the development of a digital platform for youth civic engagement, launched on 28 June 2023.

The project is a continuation and innovation of the World between the Lines initiative, which aims to bring more comprehensive information on development into the Slovak discourse. The main objective of the project is to expand public awareness of



development education topics and contexts, by increasing the quality and quantity of education for future journalists (through university courses, including an innovative MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) and lifelong learning courses) and accompanying informal education activities (through media outputs, including GDE-focused podcasts and festival discussions). The specific objective has been sufficiently met and benefits future journalists, especially in terms of the expertise of the articles they publish in the field of development education. The activities aimed at this target group have also deepened the groups' very interest in the topic. The overall impact of the implementing organization's activities reached a significantly larger target group, the public, than had been planned in the project application. The impact was exceeded in several measurable parameters. The specific objectives of the project are connected in a way that is directly applicable in the real world. The first target group, journalism students, produce a media context for the second target group, the general public. During the project implementation, students of journalism were engaged in the same activity they will pursue in their practice as professionals, giving priority to global education topics.

Project name: Understanding diversity: Supporting engagement of youth and building awareness of development cooperation in wide public in Slovakia.

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/RV/1/10
Main sectoral priority: Quality education
Beneficiary: Slovak Youth Council

ODA SR grant:

€29,928.60

Project name: Global development education for journalists

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/RV/1/11
Main sectoral priority: Quality education
Beneficiary: People in Need Slovakia, n. o.

ODA SR grant:

€29,966.50

PROJECTS CO-FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The main project objective was to increase the quantity and quality of ODA, through work addressing advocacy and public policies on a national and international level, inclusive of improving the efficiency of Slovak ODA and systematically engaging civil society and the private sector. Ambrella implemented two co-financed activities – a conference titled Ambrella Development Forum in May 2022 and the publication of AidWatch 2021 and AidWatch 2022 reports, under the main European project No. CSO-LA 2018/401-870 that focused on strengthening the Eurodad organizations network.



Project name: Development forum

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/EK/1/2

Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building

Beneficiary: Platform for Development Organisations – Ambrella

ODA SR grant:

€10,317.72

PROJECTS UNDER THE BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The project goal was to develop a feasibility study for the FLUENTY project – introducing a new safety component into road traffic—a mobile shield wall for extraordinary events in Georgia. The main activity of the project comprised analytical work, data collection, a study trip and developing expert opinions for the purpose of the study. The target group was local authorities and academics and the final beneficiaries, if successfully put into practice, would be motorists and authorities cleaning up traffic accidents. During the feasibility study, initial assumptions regarding the successful collaboration with a potential university partner, East European University, the suitability of local production and the existence of local authorities' interest in a Fluenty prototype that reduces the risk of further accidents to motorists passing the scene of an accident, were not confirmed.



GEORGIA

Project name: Designing project feasibility study for introducing a new safety component into road traffic – mobile shield wall for extraordinary events in developing countries.

Registration number: SAMRS/2021/PPP/1/6

Main sectoral priority: Good governance of public affairs and building civil society and supporting the development of market environment and SME business

Beneficiary: Endrius, s. r. o.

ODA SR grant:

€10,000.00



GENERÁCIA ZLOMU

ČO VŠETKO NÁS MÔŽE NAUČIŤ KEŇA
MÁRIA MŮHL

Ingrid Brocková, štátna tajomníčka Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR, Tomáš Bokor, riaditeľ Slovenskej agentúry pre medzinárodnú rozvojovú spoluprácu, Matej Drlička, generálny riaditeľ Slovenského národného divadla, a Miriam Kičiňová, riaditeľka Činohry Slovenského národného divadla si Vás dovoľujú pozvať na vernisáž výstavy fotografií Márie Múhl z dvoch projektov v Keni podporených z oficiálnej rozvojovej spolupráce Slovenska pod značkou SlovakAid.

Vo štvrtok 11. mája 2023 o 17.00 h vo foyeri novej budovy SND

V roku 2003 Slovensko prestalo oficiálnu rozvojovú pomoc prijímať a začalo ju krajinám a ľuďom v núdzi poskytovať. Už 20 rokov naša pomoc nepozná hranice.

Po vernisáži výstavy o 18.30 bude v Opernom salóne diskusia s autorkou fotografií a aktérmi slovenskej oficiálnej rozvojovej spolupráce.

RSVP na publicity@slovakaid.sk



GENERATION OF THE BREAK: WHAT KENYA CAN TEACH US (MÁRIA MŮHL)
exhibition in Slovak National Theatre, May 11 - July 31, 2023



SlovakAid: naša pomoc nepozná hranice

Pozývame Vás na premietanie filmu *Tri životy* a diskusiu o globálnom probléme, ktorý nepozná hranice: generačná chudoba, ktorá zbavuje ľudí už od narodenia perspektívy dôstojného a naplneného života. Rovnako tristne ju zažívajú ľudia rôznych národností, etník, sociálnych skupín a je jedno, či je to na Slovensku alebo v Lesotho. SlovakAid je tu už 20 rokov na to, aby svojou pomocou prekračoval hranice – geografické, či spoločenské.

Štvrtok 21. septembra 2023 o 18.00 h v Modrom salóne novej budovy SND.

Cez kultúru, reprezentovanú divadlom v predstavení *Budete mať ľuď!* a jej protagonistkou **Barborou Andrešičovou**, cez osudy detí z filmu *Tri životy*, ktorý je výsledkom projektu z dielne neziskovej organizácie Dvojfarebný svet, podporeného zo SlovakAid a jej riaditeľky **Martiny Bencovej Utešenej**, a cez svedectvo a skúsenosti neziskovej organizácie Človek v ohrození a jej riaditeľky **Andreji Najvirtovej**, v diskusií, moderovanej Martou Jašurekovou zo Slovenskej agentúry pre medzinárodnú rozvojovú spoluprácu – SlovakAid, prepojíme „naše“ a „ich“, to rozdielne a predsa rovnaké vo svojom tragickom dosahu – generačnú chudobu a jej dôsledky.



SlovakAid: Our Help Knows No Boundaries
Movie projection and discussion, Slovak National Theatre, September 21, 2023

Publishing of the SAIDC 2023 Annual Report and public presentation

The SAIDC's 2023 Annual Report was published electronically on 30 April 2024.

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic:
www.mzv.sk

SAIDC Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation: www.slovakaid.sk

Public presentation on 10 May 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 02:00 p.m., in SAIDC, Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava.



SLOVAK AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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