



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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Slovak Agency for International  
Development Cooperation



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A major part of the world we live in comprises countries and communities daily facing developmental and life challenges much greater than their realistic capacities to tackle them. The worst thing we can do is stand aside. This premise is fully translated into the foreign relations policy of the Slovak Republic (SR) and responsible development co-operation emphasizing a holistic approach and solidarity as integral part of that policy.

Through its activity, the Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (SAIDC) helps achieve the objectives of the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. SAIDC provides for development cooperation and humanitarian aid through capacity building, experience sharing, posting volunteers and experts, as well as by supporting business environments in line with the Medium-Term Strategy for Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2019 - 2023.

By means of projects and activities under SlovakAid, we join in global efforts to eliminate inequality and poverty, and so improve living conditions of people in developing countries of various parts of the world. Our efforts primarily aim at bringing tangible results. Hence the major goal of this Annual Report is to present and evaluate the results we achieved working together with our partners in 2019.

As you read the 2019 Annual Report, I invite you to look back on a period marking a milestone in our efforts to enhance the quality of services and internal processes. I am enormously proud that last year we in SAIDC successfully introduced a quality management system according to the ISO 9001 standard. This is an important achievement underlying our permanent commitment: to adhere thoroughly to major management principles stemming from the SAIDC quality policy. The major principles are standardization, equal access, open communication, transparency and social responsibility.

Action speaks louder than words. The fact that SAIDC has successfully progressed with its plans for synergy and effectively linked tools for development cooperation was proven by the European Commission (EC) recognizing our work and listing us as eligible applicants for large grants under delegated cooperation. Thus we joined an international community comprising only three countries from the central and eastern areas of the European Union (EU). We read this as appreciation for SAIDC's activity up to now, and a call to further progress in our work.

I hope that this Annual Report you will take you on an interesting journey, going beyond any individual or organization. In implementing our activities we try to follow the principle of solidarity, to help make the world a more equitable and safer place.

To conclude, I express my gratitude to the whole SAIDC team and our project partners for excellent cooperation, and wish every success in achieving the goals set for 2020.

**Lucia Kišš, SAIDC Director**



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**SLOVAK AGENCY  
FOR INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

2019 Annual Report of the Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation, a budgetary organization, was prepared pursuant to Resolution of the Slovak government No. 1189 from 19 December 2001.

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# 1. Identification of organization

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## BASIC INFORMATION

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Name:</b>                | <b>Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (SAIDC)</b>    |
| <b>Registered office:</b>   | Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava  |
| <b>Contact:</b>             | tel.: +421-2-5978-2601<br>e-mail: info@slovakaid.sk, www.slovakaid.sk     |
| <b>Ministry/founder:</b>    | Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic (MFEA SR) |
| <b>Form of management:</b>  | Budgetary organization under the state budget, chapter of the MFEA SR     |
| <b>BIN:</b>                 | 31819559  |
| <b>Director:</b>            | Lucia Kišš, MSc.  |
| <b>Number of employees:</b> | 15  |

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## 2. Human resources and processes

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From 1 January to 31 December 2019 the organization was managed by its director, Lucia Kišš, MSc. As of 31 December 2019, the organization had **15 employees** (one temporarily posted for internship abroad) and a total of **three employees contracted for part-time work** (including personnel working on a V4 project in Kenya). **The SAIDC also had four internships.** As of 1 September 2019 development diplomats there was a rotation at the Slovak Embassy in Nairobi, where an SAIDC employee replaced a departing diplomat, who returned to SAIDC as regular staff. As of 1 December 2019 SAIDC posted a development diplomat to the Slovak Embassy in Tbilisi.

Some services needed for SAIDC operations were supplied by subcontractors: public procurement, safety at work (OSH), legal services, IT support, QMS services and quality management system certification ISO:9001, an audit to comply with Pillar Assessment certification, development of contract methodology, drafting internal guidelines on public procurement, telecommunications services, cleaning etc.

In 2019 SAIDC employees took part in external training courses, on legislation and regulation changes concerning accounting, human resources, travel expenses, occupational safety and health and the introduction of a quality management system in the agency. **The major part of training for SAIDC employees in 2019 comprised language courses of Russian and Arabic, and English conversation lessons.**

SAIDC employees effectively used Russian during monitoring trips to Moldova. English conversation lessons proved a visible benefit for business meetings abroad and presentations. SAIDC employees will continue the Russian language course in 2020.

In 2019 the SAIDC continued 2019 with the **standardization of SAIDC internal processes** and deepening cooperation with all relevant MFEA SR agencies and representatives in development cooperation. The SAIDC policy is to improve functioning, streamline and simplify the conditions for SlovakAid project partners and continue professional development in the agency. In January 2019 the organization began to analyse internal pro-

cesses, structures, levels of responsibility, and clear working procedures and processes, also with respect to key partners and target groups of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. **The SAIDC has been building a quality management system (QMS) since March 2019. All SAIDC guidelines were updated within the QMS project. All processes in the agency are interlinked and form an integrated functional system. A certification audit took place at the SAIDC in the last week of May 2019, and the SAIDC was certified for ISO 9001: 2015.** The certificate has brought the SAIDC positive publicity and increased the agency's prestige and credibility in its involvement in joint implementation of development projects.

With a view to monitor the spending of funds under Slovakia's official development cooperation, **SAIDC employees participated in seven monitoring projects.** These verified the implementation of **37 projects** pursuant to contracts on the provision of a SlovakAid grant. Based on the results, the SAIDC updated the relevant grant contract template by adding an article on a **Special sanction mechanism for failure to comply with conditions for visibility of funding of official development cooperation of the SR (o Oso-bitnom sankčnom mechanizme za nedodržanie podmienok o zviditeľňovaní financovania oficiálnej rozvojovej spolupráce SR).** A separate report was produced for each monitoring project.

For grant applicants, the SAIDC **updated all mandatory annexes and templates for calls for proposals**, which comprised sector priorities, specific goals and cross-cutting topics resulting from the Medium-Term Strategy for Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2019 - 2023. Each specific goal was assigned **approved activities, along with indicators**. The specification was in line with sector priorities of Official Development Assistance - ODA SR of the current medium-term strategy and six national priorities or main areas of 2030 Agenda implementation. **Conditions for deadline extension for submitting grant applications were stipulated in all calls for proposals for 2019.**

Pursuant to the **Anti-Bureaucracy Act No. 177/2018**, the SAIDC verified one of the formal control conditions – **the criminal register certificate of grant applicants** – electronically, via the portal of **the General Public Prosecution Service of the SR**. With the aim to **simplify, streamline and standardize processes**, the SAIDC published an updated **Financial Guide** including a new handbook for business sector entities. All documents relevant for ODA SR applicants and contractors were published at the agency's website.

**All grant contract templates were updated** in cooperation with an external law firm. This meant adding an article on mandatory **SlovakAid project visibility**.

In May 2019 the SAIDC concluded public procurement for the **EU Pillar Assessment audit**. Auditors approved the final SAIDC Report in December 2019 and sent it to the EC for assessment. The above document **contained no reservations as to the main findings or principal recommendations**. The EC thus confirmed the SAIDC's eligibility to implement EU-delegated cooperation. The SAIDC successfully passed a demanding EC audit (by the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development), the Pillar Assessment.

The conclusion of the audit by PKF Littlejohn LLP was that the SAIDC is capable of securing the protection of EU financial interests in drawing EU funds. A positive rating was given for all four reviewed areas, or pillars: grants, internal controls system, accounting

system and independent external audit. Moreover, the EC also adopted revised terms of reference for pillar assessment in 2019. All EU Member States are obliged to undertake this assessment, too. Therefore, the SAIDC will prepare a supplementary audit in the course of 2020 for the other three assessed pillars: public awareness, personal data protection and external resources.

# 3. Organization mission statement and a mid-term outlook

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The **SAIDC** is a budgetary organization of the 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, 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 and commitments.

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;
- collaboration with the MFEA SR when drafting strategies and other policy documents;
- monitoring and implementation audits of development projects; and
- providing website information on development assistance activities.

The implementation of 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 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** and **Focal Points of Bilateral Development**

**Assistance** for the respective year, mainly designing and announcing calls for proposals to submit applications for grants or contracting, reviewing submitted applications, preparing meetings of the MFEA SR Assessment Commission, contracting project implementers (beneficiaries), financial management and project auditing, and their monitoring.

The SAIDC is also responsible for providing support to all parties interested in the implementation of development projects among non-governmental organizations, business organizations and academic institutions. The SAIDC also ensures communication of the main ideas and mission of official development cooperation to expert community and the general public through various external communication activities. In its activities, the SAIDC focuses on the effectiveness of development assistance, coherency for the benefit of development, flexibility in providing development assistance, and cost-effective use of funds.

Pursuant to the Medium-Term Strategy for Development Cooperation of the Slovak Republic for 2019-2023, ODA SR in 2019 focused on six priority countries, three programme countries and various other countries with urgent humanitarian needs resulting from conflicts and migration. As for sectoral focus, those areas were supported in which Slovakia demonstrates significant potential and comparative advantage.

The following programmes and countries were supported with grants:

- Support of **Eastern partnership** countries (Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova);
- Support of experience transfer in the **Western Balkans** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo\*, North Macedonia, Serbia);
- Development interventions support in the **Republic of Moldova**;
- Development interventions support in the **Republic of Kenya**;
- Development interventions support in **Eastern Sub-Saharan Africa** (Burundi, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda);
- Development interventions support in **Afghanistan**;
- Support of humanitarian and post-humanitarian aid in the **Middle East** region (Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon) and **South Sudan**;
- Support for eliminating the consequences of armed conflict through humanitarian aid (Ukraine);
- Posting of **volunteers and expert-volunteers** to developing countries;
- New **business partnership** programme;
- Support for Slovak organizations' projects approved under EC development tools by means of **co-funding**;
- **Capacity building** and partnership building;
- Support of **global and development education**.

\* In accordance with UNSC Resolution no. 1244/99.





## 4. Contract with central authority

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A Contract between the MFEA SR and the SAIDC for 2019 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. The Contract governed the substance and structure of providing foreign 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 Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic No. 57/2006 of 27 December 2006) and Statute.

The Contract defines the terms and conditions of the parties as follows:

### **The MFEA SR:**

- defines the focus of SAIDC activities and provides methodological guidance,
- secures financing for the subject of activities specified under Article III of the Contract,
- approves the amount of funds specified in Article V in the scope and timeline specified under applicable legislation, Slovak Government resolutions, and decisions issued by the Minister for of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic;
- conducts semi-annual evaluation and assessment of Contract implementation;
- decides on employment issues between the director of the SAIDC and the MFEA SR (particularly business trips abroad and holiday time); these matters are subject to approval by the Directorate General for International Organizations, Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid; and,
- approves draft versions of the Contract, minutes from the interim evaluation of the Contract, the final report on Contract implementation, and the Annual Report.

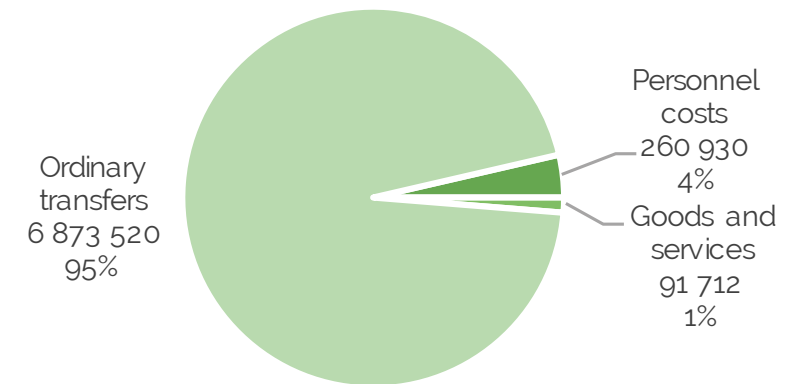
### **The SAIDC:**

- implements tasks under Act No. 392/2015 on Development Assistance as amended, in the wording of Act No. 281/2019, other generally binding legislative regulations, the Charter, and other internal normative acts;
- submits draft distribution of funds (by economic categorization) earmarked for SAIDC activities under the approved MFEA SR budget;

- observes the budget specified under the Contract, while observing limits set in the Table 'SAIDC Budget – Expenditures' under Article V;
- submits necessary documents to the Directorate General for International Organizations, Development and Humanitarian Assistance and the Directorate General for Economy and General Administration at the MFEA SR one week before the date of evaluation and audit of compliance with the Contract;
- informs the MFEA SR of any issues that occur during the contractual period; and
- prepares draft versions of the Contract, minutes from the interim evaluation of the Contract, the final report on Contract implementation, and the Annual Report.

|    | Item    | Economic categorization | Description of expenditures                          | Approved budget for 2019 (€) |
|----|---------|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1  |         | 610                     | Salaries, pay, service income and other personal pay | 195 307,00                   |
| 2  |         | 620                     | Premiums and other insurance contributions           | 65 623,00                    |
| 3  | 1+2     |                         | Personnel costs total                                | 260 930,00                   |
| 4  |         | 630                     | Goods and services                                   | 91 712,00                    |
| 5  |         |                         | Goods and services total                             | 91 712,00                    |
| 6  |         | 640                     | Ordinary transfers                                   | 6 873 520,00                 |
| 7  |         |                         | Ordinary transfers total                             | 6 873 520,00                 |
| 8  |         | 710                     | Acquisitions of capital assets                       | 0                            |
| 9  |         |                         | Acquisitions of capital assets total                 | 0                            |
| 10 | 3+5+7+9 |                         | TOTAL  | <b>7 226 162,00</b>          |

## SAIDC approved budget for 2019



## 5. Slovak Republic's official bilateral development cooperation in 2019

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The SAIDC implemented activities in line with the Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance for 2019 and indicative budget, approved by the Slovak Government. Development cooperation used diverse tools, including: grants for Slovak organizations, financial contributions for humanitarian aid or cooperation provided to foreign entities, microgrants for supporting activities of local organizations in partnering countries through embassies of the Slovak Republic, and project contracts in line with the requirements of partner countries and budgetary measures. In addition to collaboration with domestic and foreign organizations, the SAIDC also financed other activities aimed at building capacity, raising public awareness on development cooperation, and experience transfer.

### Grants

**Grants** were used to fund development projects in programme and priority countries (development interventions and experience-sharing programmes), as well as other interventions aimed at global and development education in Slovakia (in cooperation with NGOs, universities, schools and international organizations) and engagement of businesses in development cooperation with the goal of improving social and economic development in poor countries (the business partnership programme). Projects with the active involvement of Slovak organizations funded through the development tools of the European commission were also supported (project co-funding of EU development projects). The SAIDC opened **14 calls for proposals** during 2019. The calls invited grant applications for projects in development cooperation and humanitarian aid. The following table offers an overview of all supported projects by calls for proposals.

## List of calls for grant proposals in 2019

| Reference No.        | Name of call for grant proposals   | Closing date (DD.MM.YYYY) | Available resources (€) | No. of approved grant proposals | Decision of the Minister (DD.MM.YYYY) | Approved grant amount (€) |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. SAMRS/2019/AFG/1  | Development interventions support – <b>Afghanistan</b>                             | 5.4.2019                  | 100,000.00              | 1                               | 24.6.2019                             | 99,976.00                 |
| 2. SAMRS/2019/KE/1   | Development interventions support – <b>Republic of Kenya</b>                       | 5.4.2019                  | 700,000.00              | 3                               | 24.6.2019<br>8.7.2019                 | 740,475.62                |
| 3. SAMRS/2019/MD/1   | Development interventions support – <b>Moldova</b>                                 | 5.4.2019                  | 500,000.00              | 3                               | 24.6.2019                             | 399,341.00                |
| 4. SAMRS/2019/PPP/1  | New <b>business partnership</b> programme  | 10.5.2019                 | 500,000.00              | 5                               | 22.7.2019                             | 435,392.78                |
| 5. SAMRS/2019/VP/1   | Support of <b>Eastern Partnership</b> countries                                    | 5.4.2019                  | 300,000.00              | 3                               | 24.6.2019<br>8.7.2019                 | 285,768.00                |
| 6. SAMRS/2019/ZB/1   | Support of experience transfer – <b>the Western Balkans</b>                        | 5.4.2019                  | 400,000.00              | 4                               | 24.6.2019<br>8.7.2019                 | 343,371.50                |
| 7. SAMRS/2019/HUM/1  | Support of humanitarian and post-humanitarian aid <b>in the Middle East region</b> | 19.3.2019                 | 1,000,000.00            | 5                               | 30.4.2019<br>8.7.2019                 | 999,962.40                |
| 8. SAMRS/2019/BK/1   | <b>Capacity building and partnership building</b>                                  | 30.04.2019                | 50,000.00               | 1                               | 8.7.2019                              | 50,000.00                 |
| 9. SAMRS/2019/EK/1   | <b>Co-funding of EU development projects</b>                                       | 12.4.2019                 | 80,000.00               | 2                               | 14.6.2019                             | 22,312.00                 |
| 10. SAMRS/2019/RV/1  | <b>Support of global and development education</b>                                 | 12.4.2019                 | 50,000.00               | 2                               | 14.6.2019<br>8.7.2019                 | 52,474.00                 |
| 11. SAMRS/2019/D/1   | <b>Posting of volunteers</b> and expert-volunteers to development countries        | 5.4.2019                  | 258,931.00              | 24                              | 14.05.2019                            | 223,636.00                |
| 12. SAMRS/2019/UA/1  | Support for eliminating armed conflict consequences – <b>Ukraine</b>               | 19.3.2019                 | 300,000.00              | 2                               | 30.4.2019                             | 199,888.00                |
| 13. SAMRS/2019/SSA/1 | Development interventions support – <b>East Sub-Saharan Africa</b>                 | 5.4.2019                  | 200,000.00              | 2                               | 8.7.2019                              | 251,118.40                |
| 14. SAMRS/2019/PPP/2 | Support for new <b>business partnerships</b>                                       | 6.9.2019                  | 70,000.00               | 6                               | 29.10.2019                            | 59,260.00                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         |  |                           | <b>4,508,931.00</b>     | <b>63</b>                       |                                       | <b>4,162,975.70</b>       |

## List of supported projects in 2019

| Item number | Project registration number | Project name   | Contractor  | Programme/ Partner country            | Approved grant (€) |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.          | SAMRS/2019/KE/1/1           | Expanding capacity of Filip Neri Elementary school with prospective secondary school – Phase 2   | St. Elisabeth College of Health and Social Work             | Kenya                                 | 249,999.00         |
| 2.          | SAMRS/2019/KE/1/6           | Constructing a pilot facility in Republic of Kenya to produce and research insects usable in food industry   | Medicinska alternativa, n. o.                               | Kenya                                 | 249,846.62         |
| 3.          | SAMRS/2019/KE/1/7           | Improved access of youth to skills in Marsabit region  | SAVIO, o. z.  | Kenya                                 | 240,630.00         |
| 4.          | SAMRS/2019/MD/1/1           | Support for democracy, independence and transparency of key public institutions in Moldova   | Institute for Economic and Social Reforms                   | Moldova                               | 101,840.00         |
| 5.          | SAMRS/2019/MD/1/4           | Building institutional capacities to strengthen effective management in waste management   | Slovak Environment Agency                                   | Moldova                               | 141,386.00         |
| 6.          | SAMRS/2019/MD/1/7           | Engaging local governments and civil society in development of Gagauzia and Taraclia region  | People in Need Slovakia, n. o.                              | Moldova                               | 156,115.00         |
| 7.          | SAMRS/2019/AFG/1/1          | Education support for renewable energy resources at Kabul University   | Slovak University of Technology                             | Afghanistan                           | 99,976.00          |
| 8.          | SAMRS/2019/SSA/1/1          | Introducing and developing macadamia production in Ethiopia as new source of income for farmers  | Integra   | Ethiopia                              | 200,000.00         |
| 9.          | SAMRS/2019/SSA/1/4          | Vocational education for young refugees from South Sudan   | Slovak Catholic Charity                                     | Uganda                                | 51,118.40          |
| 10.         | SAMRS/2019/VP/1/2           | Healthy water for Cherson  | Association of Water Companies                              | Ukraine                               | 100,000.00         |
| 11.         | SAMRS/2019/VP/1/5           | Mobility scheme for Ukrainian IT students to transfer IT-related soft skills and hard skills from Slovakia to Ukraine in cooperation with universities/colleges and private sector | European Migration Agency (EMA)                             | Ukraine                               | 100,000.00         |
| 12.         | SAMRS/2019/VP/1/6           | Experience transfer on reducing arsenic in natural waters, soils and food products and options for eliminating arsenic from drinking waters in Georgia                             | Water Management Research Institute                         | Georgia                               | 85,768.00          |
| 13.         | SAMRS/2019/ZB/1/1           | National Convent on the EU in Albania  | Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association    | Albania                               | 99,996.00          |
| 14.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP2/1/13        | Introducing digital platform to manage local business ecosystem with emphasis on sustainability.   | Solved, s.r.o.  | Mauritius                             | 9,360.00           |
| 15.         | SAMRS/2019/ZB/1/3           | Improving innovative ecosystem in Albania by supporting emergence and acceleration of young innovative companies   | Slovak Organization for Research and Development Activities | Albania                               | 95,285.00          |
| 16.         | SAMRS/2019/ZB/1/6           | Experience transfer in digitalization of public administration in the Western Balkans  | Partnerships for Prosperity                                 | Republic of Serbia<br>North Macedonia | 80,937.00          |
| 17.         | SAMRS/2019/HUM/1/2          | Improving accessibility and health care quality for mothers and children, Mapuordit  | St. Elisabeth College of Health and Social Work             | South Sudan                           | 199,999.40         |
| 18.         | SAMRS/2019/HUM/1/9          | Securing reproductive health care, including SGBV management for Syrian refugees and internally displaced people in Baalbek Hermel, Lebanon  | MAGNA   | Lebanon                               | 200,000.00         |
| 19.         | SAMRS/2019/HUM/1/10         | Securing drinking water for inhabitants of Bashiqa and Bahzani municipalities  | Slovak Catholic Charity                                     | Iraq                                  | 200,000.00         |
| 20.         | SAMRS/2019/HUM/1/11         | Education as a way to better living conditions for vulnerable children and youth from Lebanese and refugee communities in Tripoli  | People in Need Slovakia, n. o.                              | Lebanon                               | 199,971.00         |

## List of supported projects in 2019

| Item number | Project registration number | Project name   | Contractor  | Programme/ Partner country | Approved grant (€)  |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 21.         | SAMRS/2019/HUM/1/12         | WASH intervention in Baalbek for Syrian refugees and Lebanese people   | ADRA - Adventistická agentúra pre pomoc a rozvoj, o. z. | Lebanon                    | 199,992.00          |
| 22.         | SAMRS/2019/UA/1/3           | Health care provision through Mobile Emergency Primary Care Unit (MEPU) in Donetsk area, Ukraine.  | MAGNA   | Ukraine                    | 100,000.00          |
| 23.         | SAMRS/2019/UA/1/4           | Improving quality of life of vulnerable population groups affected by conflict in Donetsk area   | People in Need Slovakia, n. o.                          | Ukraine                    | 99,988.00           |
| 24.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP/1/3          | Clean Žovkva 2.0: energy-efficient and ecological water management   | Enviroline, s.r.o., Košice                              | Ukraine                    | 197,946.67          |
| 25.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP/1/10         | Education support and increasing quality of expert consulting in Belarus   | FEED LAB, s.r.o.  | Belarus                    | 60,132.80           |
| 26.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP/1/11         | Creating partnership and business plan development for PPP edible insect production project in Kenya   | Scientica, s.r.o.                                       | Kenya                      | 9,980.00            |
| 27.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP/1/14         | Feasibility study – Mobility scheme for Moldovan IT students to transfer IT-related soft skills and hard skills from Slovakia to Moldova in cooperation with universities and private sector | ITAS Edu  | Moldova                    | 10,000.00           |
| 28.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP/1/16         | Intensifying recovery of waste delivered to Srem-Mačva landfill site   | DAVOIL, s.r.o.  | Republic of Serbia         | 157,333.31          |
| 29.         | SAMRS/2019/EK/1/2           | People between the lines   | People in Need Slovakia, n. o.                          | Slovakia                   | 15,062.00           |
| 30.         | SAMRS/2019/EK/1/3           | Hackathon for global citizenship   | Slovak NGDO Platform                                    | Slovakia                   | 7,250.00            |
| 31.         | SAMRS/2019/RV/1/2           | Global and development education as part of 'Child-friendly school' programme  | Slovak Foundation for UNICEF                            | Slovakia                   | 27,482.00           |
| 32.         | SAMRS/2019/RV/1/3           | Global development education for journalists   | People in Need Slovakia, n. o.                          | Slovakia                   | 24,992.00           |
| 33.         | SAMRS/2019/BK/1/1           | Building management, coordination and implementation capacities of stakeholders in development cooperation   | Slovak NGDO Platform                                    | Slovakia                   | 50,000.00           |
| 34.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP2/1/1         | Budget information system for Moldova – sharing successful e-government solution from Slovakia   | PosAm, spol. s.r.o.                                     | Moldova                    | 10,000.00           |
| 35.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP2/1/2         | Portable Diagnostics Accessible to Everybody – Feasibility study   | S-Case  | Kenya                      | 10,000.00           |
| 36.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP2/1/3         | Portable Diagnostics Accessible to Everybody – Business Plan   | S-Case  | Ghana                      | 10,000.00           |
| 37.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP2/1/5         | Business plan development for importing certified premium coffee from Ethiopia   | Samay, s.r.o.   | Ethiopia                   | 10,000.00           |
| 38.         | SAMRS/2019/PPP2/1/12        | Growing medicinal herbs for biopesticide production  | CEDOME  | North Macedonia            | 9,900.00            |
|             | <b>TOTAL</b>                |  |   |                            | <b>3,872,286.20</b> |

# Programme for sending volunteers and experts to developing countries

Sending volunteers and experts to developing countries is one form of official development assistance the SAIDC has offered since 2012. The programme has multiple objectives. It creates long-term assistance partnerships in communities and enhances national capacity-building, and aims at increasing awareness in civil society on development topics and the importance of development cooperation.

The volunteers focus on the needs of local inhabitants. Examples include educational activities for local children and youth, securing health or material assistance for the most deprived groups in the local community, care for HIV-positive children and orphans, and provision of training and practical courses for young people to increase their chances to succeed in the labour market.

The volunteers acquire knowledge about a country, its culture and language skills, new practical skills, and professional and intercultural experience in the development sector that cannot be acquired by working in Slovakia. In 2019, **21 volunteers** were sent abroad under the SlovakAid brand with total funding equal to **€223,051**. Postings last three, six or twelve months.

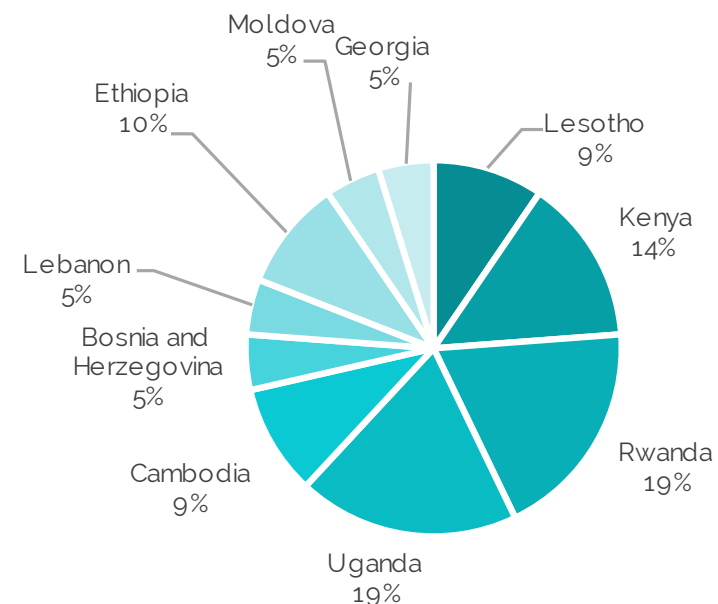
The SAIDC organized a **networking event for development volunteers** posted through SlovakAid, in Bratislava in September. The event was attended by 70 volunteering advocates. Networking was organized in three **panel discussions** based on the territories where our volunteers help local communities most frequently. Volunteers had the opportunity to share their experience and practices and motivate new potential volunteers to engage in this meaningful activity.

In order to make **SlovakAid** volunteers' preparation for staying abroad more effective, the SAIDC organized two **pre-mission trainings for volunteers** in July and September 2019. These focused mostly on the matters of development cooperation, security, health and intercultural competence. The trainings were led by a lecturer with vast experience in development volunteering.

## Posted volunteers in 2019

| Posting organizations  | Recipient country (number of volunteers) | Total grant (€)   |
|--|--|-------------------|
| St. Elisabeth College of Health and Social Work, n. o. (NGO) | Lesotho (2), Kenya (2), Rwanda (2)       | 72,400.00         |
| Dvojfarebný svet, o.z.                                       | Cambodia (2)                             | 22,780.00         |
| SAVIO, o. z.   | Kenya (1)                                | 9,111.00          |
| ADRA - Adventistická agentúra pre pomoc a rozvoj, o. z.      | Georgia (1), Lebanon (1), Moldova (1)    | 42,300.00         |
| Globsec  | Bosnia and Herzegovina (1)               | 18,000.00         |
| Slovak Catholic Charity                                      | Uganda (2), Rwanda (2)                   | 20,300.00         |
| eRko - Christian children communities movement               | Uganda (2), Ethiopia (2)                 | 38,160.00         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>21</b>                                | <b>223,051.00</b> |

## Number of volunteers in recipient countries in 2019 (%)



## Financial contributions

Financial contributions provided **based on the decision of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic** is one of flexible tools for development cooperation. Financial contributions were provided for urgent humanitarian need, bi-lateral and multilateral cooperation. **17 financial contributions** in the total amount of **€2,584,213.55** were provided in 2019.

In order to ensure a higher consistency and better monitoring of the financial contributions provided, **Act No. 392/2015 on Development Assistance was amended** (in Section 8 para 1 items b) through d)).



## List of supported projects in 2019

| Name   | Country                           | Amount of financial contribution (€) |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cooperation under USAID 'My Community' project implemented in Moldova, following up on Memorandum of Understanding between MFEA SR and USAID                       | Moldova                           | 264,084.51                           |
| Co-funding 'Decade of Roma Inclusion: Legacy, lessons learned, best practices and what to do next' conference  | Serbia                            | 15,000.00                            |
| Annual contribution of SR under SR and UNDP project Partnership for effective development cooperation solutions focused on sustainable development goals 2018-2021 | -                                 | 368,300.00                           |
| Contribution to implement three extra-budgetary OSCE projects (rapprochement of young people of different nationalities and anti-trafficking in human beings)      | North Macedonia, Ukraine, Georgia | 35,000.00                            |
| Providing financial contribution to purchase medical equipment for 'Cancer screening centre' in town of Zugdidi in Georgia   | Georgia                           | 39,000.00                            |
| Financial contribution for Ukrainian people (emergency health care at Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint)   | Ukraine                           | 20,000.00                            |
| Project implementation: National Convent on the EU in Macedonia, Partnership with USAID  | North Macedonia                   | 100,000.00                           |
| Financial contribution to secure and support training centre operations and capacity building  | Uzbekistan                        | 10,000.00                            |
| Financial contribution for 2019 for Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance /International Security Sector Advisory Team (DCAF/ISAT)                          | -                                 | 70,000.00                            |
| Financial contribution under development cooperation joint programming in Kenya  | Kenya                             | 1,250,000.00                         |
| Financial contribution to hold 'Second International Forum in Eastern Ukraine' event   | Ukraine                           | 5,000.00                             |
| Financial contribution to implement 'Strengthening cyber security in the Eastern Partnership' project (cyber audit in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia)                | Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia      | 21,000.00                            |
| Himalayan Trust Nepal  | Nepal                             | 25,000.00                            |
| Fundación BBVA Bancomer Asociación Civil in Mexico - restoration of earthquake damage in elementary school   | Mexico                            | 76,489.04                            |
| SR contribution under SR and UNDP Partnership project for effective development cooperation solutions focused on sustainable development goals 2018-2021 (prepaid) | -                                 | 275,340.00                           |
| Holding panel discussion – 'Women's contribution to Western Balkans peace, democracy and development' at Belgrade Security Forum 2019                              | Serbia                            | 10,000.00                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |                                   | <b>2,584,213.55</b>                  |

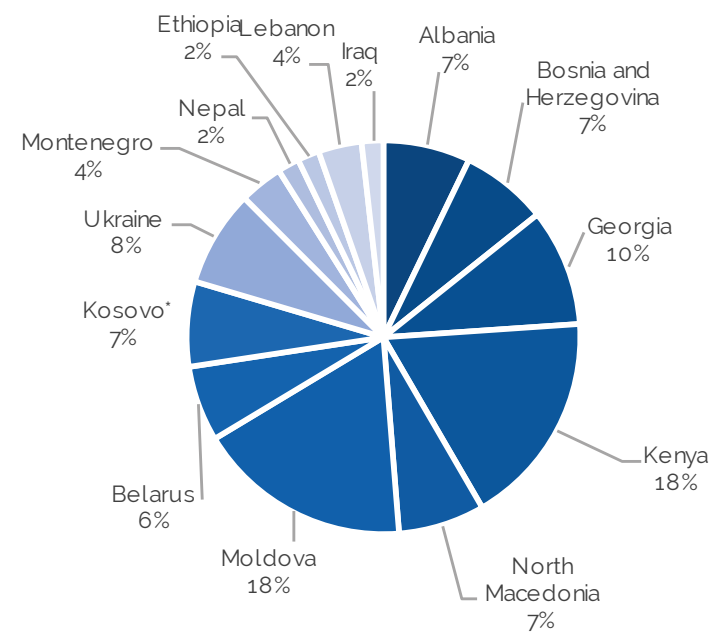
Financial contributions are provided as **microgrants** through embassies and missions of the Slovak Republic abroad. They allow for flexible and targeted response to problems and needs in a partnering country and contribute to increasing the Slovak Republic's visibility. These are small projects of up to €10,000 with a maximal duration of from 6 to 12 months.

### Financial contributions for microgrants in 2019

| Partner country        | Number of microgrants | Total amount (€)  |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Albania                | 4                     | 40,000.00         |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 9                     | 39,846.73         |
| Georgia                | 6                     | 53,878.24         |
| Kenya                  | 15                    | 99,024.08         |
| North Macedonia        | 5                     | 39,709.00         |
| Moldova                | 10                    | 98,665.15         |
| Montenegro             | 2                     | 19,943.00         |
| Kosovo*                | 4                     | 39,034.80         |
| Nepal                  | 1                     | 9,999.11          |
| Belarus                | 4                     | 34,758.75         |
| Ukraine                | 6                     | 44,340.00         |
| Ethiopia               | 1                     | 10,000.00         |
| Iraq                   | 1                     | 9,916.40          |
| Lebanon                | 2                     | 19,968.91         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>70</b>             | <b>559,084.17</b> |

In 2019 **70** microgrants were approved in the total value of **€559,084.17** for 14 countries: Kenya (15), Bosnia and Herzegovina (9), North Macedonia (5), Georgia (6), Kosovo\* (4), Ukraine (6), Iraq (1), Montenegro (2), Nepal (1), Belarus (4), Moldova (10), Lebanon (2), Ethiopia (1) and Albania (4). Microgrants were most often provided in the sectors of education, health, and living environment protection. The SAIDC developed a **handbook for applicants in the English language** ("Guidance for Applicant").

### Financial contributions to partner countries (%)



\* In accordance with UNSC Resolution no. 1244/99.

# Contract

In January 2019 the SAIDC signed a service provision contract for Moldova with a representative of CzechAid, the Czech development agency. The contract scope includes preparation of SAIDC methodology, cooperation and provision of expertise in drafting the call for proposal for an expert/technical specialist for a particular contract in Moldova regarding water management in line with SAIDC methodology and Act No. 392/2015 on development cooperation as amended, in the wording of Act No.281/2019. The SAIDC further continues intensive communication with experts from CzechAid and the German development agency GIZ. **However, administration has been very complex and demanding in terms of technology and time. At present it is impossible to put this tool in practice given current SAIDC conditions.** The agency will deal further with introducing the instrument in 2020.

## SSE - Sharing Slovak Expertise (formerly CETIR, by 22 January 2019)

**17 activities** were implemented **in 2019**: eight study trips, four expert postings, four conferences/seminars and one internship. From the launch of the CETIR programme in 2011 the total number of activities up to 31 December 2019 totalled 188.

Again in 2019, SSE supported project proposals of the Slovak Embassy in Kyiv, implemented by the Faculty of Arts of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica and also involving the Nation's Memory Institute. The goal of an expert seminar in Kyiv was for historians and journalists to share experience on exploring and investigating of Slovak and Czecho-Slovak topics in the Archives of the Security Service of Ukraine. The archives from the Soviet Union era were completely and complexly declassified in Ukraine after 2014. **Historians have worked the information acquired into articles and published them in Slovak print and electronic media.**

Intensified cooperation between Slovakia and Ukraine in the area of historical research and archive use will be beneficial for both sides in the future. Ukraine will be able to share Slovak experience in involving experts among historians and archivists – as a segment of civil society segment – in ongoing democratic processes: coping with sensitive issues from the past, civil political and social discourse on historical topics, educating and raising awareness in the public, and fighting against disinformation and the alteration of history. The Slovak side will benefit from gaining the access to declassified resources in Ukrainian archives, which can be used for historical research and also **in strategic communication on selected topics of Slovak history.**



SHARING  
SLOVAK  
EXPERTISE  
GOOD IDEA SLOVAKIA

In the beginning of **March 2019** a successful **mission of 11 medical doctors and nurses**, supported by SSE funds and a microgrant, took place again. The mission brought valuable expertise to cardiac surgeons and medical personnel in Kenya. A team comprising **Slovak and Czech medical doctors and local personnel** performed surgery and examined children with congenital heart diseases from the poorest areas of Kenya in the Mater Hospital, Nairobi. There were operations on nine child patients, complete cardiology examinations on 28 children, and a total of 66 echocardiographic examinations.

Two other successful activities were implemented **in June 2019**. The first was the visit of **11 university students** from the Western Balkans and EU Eastern Partnership countries, winners of a Best Essay Contest, at **the GLOBSEC 2019 Bratislava Forum conference**. A **trilateral seminar** on water management (SR/Israel/Eastern Partnership) took place in Bratislava in the end of June 2019, at which experts from the Water Research Institute and Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences shared expertise with their colleagues from Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

During its study trip to Slovakia focused on the fight against corruption, a delegation from the **Serbian Anti-Corruption Agency** visited relevant state institutions and the prestigious law firm TaylorWessing e/n/w/c advokáti s. r. o., where visitors were acquainted with the Act on Register of Public Sector Partners by two of the act's co-drafters. The trip was followed by a seminar entitled **A Unique Slovak Act on Public Sector Partners and its Application in Practice**. The seminar was prepared under Slovakia's OSCE chairmanship and attended by Professor Paola Severino (Italy) and OSCE Special Representative, Slovak Minister of Foreign and European Affairs Miroslav Lajčák, and OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides (Cyprus). The seminar, which was well-received, was intended for senior state officials from the Western Balkans and EU Eastern Partnership. Seminar co-funding of €14,000 was provided by the Ministry's OSCE Chairmanship Directorate General.

A delegation of five people from the NGO Young Ambassadors (Serbia) visited Slovakia **in September**. Their study trip focused on creating conditions for developing collaboration and establishing contacts between representatives of the creative industry from Niš and Bratislava. Study trip participants were familiarized with the public-private partnership model to promote creative industries in Slovakia and with models for public support of creative industries, gained information about models that they can implement in Serbia, and explored the functioning of successful co-working prem-

ises in Bratislava. The study trip helped facilitate a network of contacts and future collaboration between organizations involved in the creative industry in Niš and Bratislava. The visitors found the meeting with representatives of Nová Cvernovka and Stará Tržnica premises to be the most interesting and inspiring parts of their study trip. All trip participants decided to implement similar projects in Niš and embark on cooperation with local stakeholders.

The SAIDC secured SSE programme implementation through two programme and financial managers in close cooperation with the Slovak embassies and missions abroad, who initiated and submitted the respective activity proposals.



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## Overview of SSE programme activities in 2019

| Partner country                          | Activity name   | Activity type        | Implementation    | Number of participants | Total amount spent (€) |
|--|---|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Kenya                                    | Slovak and Czech mission of medical doctors (cardiologists) and nurses in Mater Hospital, Nairobi                                     | posting of experts   | 10.03.-17.03.2019 | 11                     | 15,982.00              |
| Georgia                                  | Georgian representatives participating in 10th International Meeting of Young Beekeepers in Slovakia – IMYB 2019                      | study trip           | 02.07.-08.07.2019 | 5                      | 2,425.00               |
| Georgia                                  | Experience- and expertise-sharing in ecology, environmental science and regional development between Slovakia and Georgia             | study trip           | 21.04.-27.04.2019 | 2                      | 2,282.00               |
| GE, ME, North MK, RS, UA                 | Best Student Essay as ticket to prestigious GLOBSEC 2019 Bratislava Forum   | study trip           | 05.06.-09.06.2019 | 11                     | 6,550.00               |
| MD, GE, UA                               | Trilateral cooperation of SR: Educational seminar for participants from EU Eastern Partnership countries on water management (MASHAV) | seminar              | 23.06.-28.6.2019  | 14                     | 12,432.00              |
| Serbia                                   | Strengthening cooperation in fighting corruption  | study trip           | 23.06.-25.06.2019 | 6                      | 4,400.00               |
| Ukraine                                  | Experience exchange in archive research and strategic communication   | posting of experts   | 02.09.-11.09.2019 | 6                      | 5,745.00               |
| Kazakhstan                               | Experience sharing in water management and water project safety   | posting of experts   | 19.10.-25.10.2019 | 6                      | 5,952.00               |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina                   | Technical support provided to enhance expertise of local government in town of Jezero   | study trip           | 02.07.-04.07.2019 | 3                      | 3,206.00               |
| Serbia                                   | Young people in creative industry   | study trip           | 16.09.-20.09.2019 | 5                      | 2,165.00               |
| Palestine                                | Palestinian diplomat internship at MFEA SR  | internship           | 21.10.-25.10.2019 | 1                      | 626.00                 |
| Palestine                                | Visit of Palestinian university representatives to establish direct cooperation   | study trip           | 27.10.-31.10.2019 | 6                      | 7,510.00               |
| Moldova                                  | Supporting SME development and linking supply chain among local SMEs and large investors  | study trip           | 23.09.-26.09.2019 | 6                      | 4,048.00               |
| AL, BA, ME, RS, North MK, BY, GE, MD, UA | Unique Slovak Act on Public Sector Partners and its Application in Practice   | seminar              | 23.10.-25.10.2019 | 20                     | 19,993.00              |
| Serbia                                   | Experience-sharing on climate change  | study trip           | 29.09.-04.10.2019 | 4                      | 5,281.00               |
| Serbia                                   | Continuing cooperation in creative industry   | posting of an expert | 29.11.-04.12.2019 | 1                      | 1,457.00               |
| North MK,RS                              | Capacity building in air quality management – Clean Air Forum 2019  | conference           | 27.11.-30.11.2019 | 5                      | 2,578.00               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             |   |                      |                   |                        | <b>102,632.00</b>      |

**Where  
we help**



# 6. Assessment of development cooperation in 2019

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The Slovak Republic has provided official development assistance since 2003. Over 15 years, ODA SR implemented through SlovakAid has undergone significant changes.

As is clear from the first peer evaluation **OECD Development Aid Committee (DAC)**, the Slovak Republic is seen in the OECD as an influential and efficient donor with ambitious and progressive sense of direction in bilateral and multilateral development cooperation. DAC appreciates that SlovakAid has the necessary visibility, a good reputation and a high degree of professionalism, despite its limited administrative and financial resources. **The peer evaluation process resulted in 13 recommendations**, and intensive work will be needed to fulfil them. Special attention is being paid to the funding of global development needs.

The Slovak Republic made a voluntary commitment to gradually increase development cooperation expenditures to the level of 0.33% of GNI by 2030. As part of drafting the OECD evaluation report we therefore mapped Slovakia's absorption capacities. Our aim is to approach the 0.33% of GNI target by 2030 as close as possible, while respecting our administrative capacities and state budget funding limits. Analogously with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is obvious that this goal is unattainable for Slovakia using traditional instruments. That is why we are seeking new partnerships and new funding resources through better involvement of the private sector in development cooperation. This prerequisite for the success and sustainability of development activities goes hand in hand with mobilizing private sector resources.

A special **Business Partnership Programme (BPP)** was created to this end. Hence, the SAIDC published a call for proposals only for business sector entities **on 6 March 2019**. The SAIDC drafted **a minimum assistance scheme** for this target group, to be provided via BPP to support development activities of Slovak business entities. The de minimis scheme was approved by **the Anti-Monopoly Office of the Slovak Republic on 18 February 2019**. BPP goals include **supporting synergies between Slovakia's goals for development cooperation and goals of businesses** in developing countries, estab-

lishing new business partnerships and sustainable capacity-building in local partners, mobilizing private resources to strengthen Slovak development activities, supporting Slovak business entities to establish themselves in developing countries and facilitating the entry of local businesses into global value chains. One follow-up to the Business Partnership Programme could be subsidized export credits with Eximbanka, a new development cooperation tool, prepared together by the SAIDC and the MFEA SR, the Ministry of Finance SR and Eximbanka.

All applications submitted under **calls for proposals**, were reviewed in line with the Statute of the Commission of the MFEA SR for reviewing development cooperation grant applications and for bids/contracting for development cooperation (registration No. I/825) the relevant **MFEA SR Commission for reviewing grant applications (seven meetings** were held in total).

The SAIDC organized two **information seminars for SlovakAid project applicants** in the MFEA SR congress hall in February and March 2019. The SAIDC project and financial managers provided specialized information **to 45 participants** on opened calls for proposals and preparation of project budgets for development cooperation and humanitarian aid. During the calls for grant applications, the relevant SAIDC employees provided **expert consulting to grant applicants** in person, electronically and via telephone to help them improve their preparations and drafting of applications for ODA SR grants.

With a view to raising interest in volunteering and intensifying the efficiency of volunteer posting in relation to the **programme for sending volunteers and expert volunteers to developing countries**, the **maximum grant per volunteer** was increased to €1,500 per month and to €1,900 per month for expert volunteers for 2019 calls (in 2018 the grant was €1,200 and €1,600 per month per volunteer and expert volunteer, respectively). Top MFEA SR officials approved, in line with the current **strategy for official development cooperation of the SR, a new Concept Paper for sending volunteers and expert volunteers to developing countries** in March 2019. This concept sets out basic definitions, goals and principles of posting.

2019 was a year of positive changes. On 22 January 2019 the MFEA SR approved two important changes in the CETIR programme: a **change of the programme name and its inclusion under amended Act No. 392/2015 on Development Assistance** as amended, in the wording of Act No. 281/2019, under Section 9a - Knowledge and Experience Provision. CETIR has officially become a Tool for Slovak experience- and expertise-sharing: **Sharing Slovak Expertise (SSE)**. A new **SSE Tool Guide** for Slovak embassies and missions abroad for 2019, describing implementation procedures of SSE activities and duties of parties involved, was approved by the Steering Committee and the SAIDC Supervisory Board in January 2019. A **Concept Paper for the Implementation of the Tool for Sharing Slovak Expertise (SSE)**, replacing the CETIR Programme Paper, was approved by top MFEA SR officials in April 2019. Following further legislative and technical adjustments, the **Steering Committee Statute** will be ready for approval by the MFEA SR in 2020.

Cooperation between the **MFEA SR and UNDP** under the UNDP - Slovakia Partnership project also continued in 2019: Effective Development Cooperation Solutions for the SDGs.

Under this project, one SAIDC employee was sent on a **six-month secondment to the UNDP Regional Hub in Istanbul**, where he worked in the Governance and Peace-building department. .

At the plenary of the National Convent on the European Union in North Macedonia, a **Memorandum of Understanding** between **the MFEA SR and USAID** was signed in **Skopje on 19 June 2019**. In the document, both parties expressed their willingness to cooperate and mutually support modernization and reforms related to accession negotiations between the EU and North Macedonia. The first two joint projects will be implemented in Moldova, under the Comunitatea Mea (My community) programme. The overall value of the programme totals \$20.5 million, of which SlovakAid financial support amounts to \$300,000.

On **23 August 2019** a contract was signed between the SAIDC and the **Irish development organization Self-Help Africa (SHA)** on cooperation in supporting agricultural development in Kenya. It relates to involvement in the **AgriFI** programme (Support for Kenyan small farmers who are productive, well-adapted and market-integrated), with the Slovakia's contribution to be **EUR 2.5 million based on a Slovak Government resolution** (Resolution of the Government of the SR No. 158/2017 of 5 April 2017). The AgriFI programme is a **joint EU programming tool in Kenya** and the component co-funded by SlovakAid will make approx. EUR 18 million available to farmers in Kenya, with roughly 90% of the budget funded by the EU. Credit resources from the **European Investment Bank of up to 50 million euros** and private credit resources will be added to the above funds. The AgriFI main objective is to support farmers, and thus help reduce the country's food deficit and enhance the agriculture sector's competitiveness. The programme aims to create 10,000 jobs, and the supported projects should improve the situation of up to 100,000 small farmers.



Negotiations between the Director General of the Directorate General for International Organisations, Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid of the MFEA SR and SHA CEO took place along with the contract signing; the main topic was specific possibilities of involving Slovak entities in AgriFI programme implementation. The **implementation of a workshop for potential Slovak partners** both from the NGO and business sectors was agreed. The event took place in Bratislava on **9 October 2019**, and SHA representatives explained to Slovak businesses and NGOs the programme's functioning and potential participation in the upcoming call for proposals.

**Global Development Education (GDE) is part of the official development cooperation of the SR. The total allocation to grant applications for the global and development education projects in 2019 amounted to €50,000.**

A meeting of the SAIDC and **Global Education Network Europe (GENE)** representatives was held in the SAIDC premises on **29 January 2019**. Previous mutual cooperation and future challenges and visions in the area of global education were evaluated. Furthermore, GENE presented a **new three-year programme** titled *Programme of National Support of Global Education, replacing the previous GENE Increase Programme*. The idea of this programme is to support various stakeholders and thus achieve a greater diversity during the programme period. During the meeting, the SAIDC expressed its interest in signing a new Memorandum of Understanding with GENE.



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With GENE support and for the pursuit of experience transfer and sharing in the field of global education, a three-day study trip to Portugal (Lisbon) took place on 20-22 March 2019. Representatives from the SAIDC, MFEA SR, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, NGDO Platform, Iuventa and Youth Council of Slovakia participated in the trip, along with Portuguese representatives. Plenary meetings dealt with topics such as drafting national GDE strategy, cooperation among relevant stakeholders, experience from the GENE Increase Programme, presentation of GDE mapping results, and challenges concerning the overall systemic inclusion of GDE topics in the education system. Moreover, bilateral meetings provided room for more intensive experience-sharing in particular areas relevant for the participating institutions and organizations.

Another **semi-annual GENE Roundtable**, with the participation of the SAIDC Director and project and financial manager, was held in **Berlin** on 4-5 April 2019. Two representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the SR were also present. Workshop topics included global education and measuring change, and how to adapt, at the national level, the 4.7 indicator Education to Global Citizenship, falling under sustainable development objective No. 4. A side event was held prior to the GENE Roundtable on **3 April 2019**, where the SAIDC presented outcomes and experience from the GENE Increase Programme.

With a view to establishing cooperation under the GENE Programme of National Support (2019-2021) a common **meeting of GENE, the SAIDC and the Slovak Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports** was held on **21 June 2019**. **The SAIDC again confirmed an interest to sign a new multilateral Memorandum of Understanding**. Representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the SR plan to further elaborate on GDE topics within action plan No. 2 – Implementation plan of the National Education Development Programme. Cooperation was proposed with the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the SR, including the issue of GENE co-funding.

Another **semi-annual GENE Roundtable** was held in **Malta** on **16 - 17 October 2019**. The project and financial manager participated on behalf of the SAIDC, and two representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the SR were also present. Practical workshops were dedicated to subjects such as GDE evaluations, and the process of GDE topics' practical implementation through various projects at schools in Malta. The next round table in Brussels is scheduled for the beginning of May 2020.

The **Envision 4.7** international conference was held under the European project **Bridge 47 – Building Global Citizenship** in Helsinki on **5 - 7 November 2019**. The following participated on behalf of Slovakia: SAIDC project and finance manager, representatives of Ambrera, the National Institute for Education of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the SR, Comenius University in Bratislava, and the Habitat for Humanity organization. The conference was held under the auspices of Finland's EU Presidency, with the aim to create a roadmap for institutions to fulfil sub-target No. 4.7. for Global Citizenship Education. GENE, and especially ministry representatives from EU member states whose agenda includes global education and its integration on the national level, also participated in the conference.

**Implementation of a joint project of V4 countries in Kenya continued** in 2019, in coastal areas of **Kilifi, Kwale and Lamu**. The project value is **€1,900,000** and is funded from the resources of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa. The implementation period is **four years** (2017-2021). Its main goal is to **support development in the coastal provinces by creating jobs and increasing food safety**. A specific goal is to improve the socio-economic situation of **15 thousand small farmers** and creating **new jobs** through **BIO and Fair Trade production of cashew nuts and sesame seeds**.

**15,367 small farmers** were involved in the project in the second half of 2019, of which 55.5% were men and 44.5% women (6,570 farmers in Kilifi; 6,723 farmers in Kwale and 2,074 farmers in Lamu).

The SAIDC's project role is to be the grant manager and main coordinator, as well as the implementer for some of the activities. Various organizations from **V4 countries** actively participate in the project, including: the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Foundation for Science Development (PL) and National Research and Innovation Centre of Agriculture (NAIK) (HU). The main local partners are Ten Senses Africa and Farm Africa.

The most important activities implemented include **Fair Trade and Organic training** for farmers, **establishing plant nurseries** in Kwale, Kilifi and Lamu, **farmer training** in agriculture practices with related **distribution of high-quality cashew and sesame plants**, training of target groups to form community self-help groups, collective management, conflict prevention and basic financial literacy, and training in enhancing diet variety and streamlining cashew and sesame processing. Cashew nut production under Fair Trade is certified (by the World Fair Trade Organization) as of 30 July 2019. **451,000 plants** of the total expected number of 900,000 plants were distributed to farmers as of 11 September 2019. **Distribution of the remaining plants** is a priority for the upcoming project period in order to fulfil the project goal. To this end, an **amendment to the contract** between the SAIDC and Ten Senses Africa was signed on 11 December 2019, with the aim to increase funding for distributing plants to farmers.

In the second year of project implementation, sesame distribution to farmers was delayed due to the low quality of sesame seeds available for sale in Kenya. Sesame seeds had to be imported to coastal provinces from neighbouring Tanzania, the largest sesame producer in Africa. Ten Senses Africa promised to to **increase the sesame volume** distributed to farmers in the upcoming project period. Despite the unstable political situation in the region, a **nursery in Lamu** with a distribution capacity of 100,000 plants a year **was established** in June 2019. The Minister of Agriculture of Kenya officially launched plant distribution in Lamu on 6 June 2019.

The project will be followed up by constructing a cashew processing plant in Kilifi. Although construction will not be financed by project funds, opening the factory is desirable for the initiative's overall sustainability. The SAIDC, as the main coordinator, reported on project implementation in the form of **an interim annual narrative and financial report** to the EU Delegation in Nairobi on 7 November 2019. **Both** reports were approved and the SAIDC made the last, i.e. third, project payment.

**This project has significant political support from embassies of V4 countries in Kenya.**

On 18 October 2019, the ambassadors of Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland and the head of the EU Delegation in Kenya made a business trip to monitor the cashew plant nursery in Kwale. Another nursery monitoring trip in Kwale province occurred on 19 November 2019, with the participation of the SAIDC, MFEA SR, the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi, and project managers of Ten Senses Africa and the Integra Foundation. The Integra Foundation's initiative **A million trees for Africa** was ceremonially launched during the trip. Its goal is to plant a million trees in Africa by 2021 using a public fundraising campaign, thus mitigating the negative climate impact on our planet. Climate change and the related extreme weather fluctuations have had negative consequences for the V4 project implementation. Drought periods have resulted in fewer plants distributed to farmers over the long run, then strong rains flooded the Kilifi nursery in November 2019 and destroyed 30,000 cashew plants. Beyond the V4 project, 30,000 cashew plants were distributed to three elementary and seven secondary schools on the coast. As of 11 September 2019 Ten Senses Africa registered a total of 23 schools (10 elementary and 13 secondary schools) that wish to join the project in the near future. Plant distribution to schools is accompanied by training in agronomy and economics. **The efforts aim to raise youth interest in agricultural activities as a career opportunity for the future, which also represents a way to facilitate the entire project's continuity and sustainability.**



# 7. Spending in 2019

## The SAIDC budget was revised in 2019 as follows:

1. Budgetary measure No. 5/2019 - transfer of funds to MFEA SR (programme 097 - SR contributions to international organizations) to cover financial contributions in 2019, from category 640 (Ordinary transfers), in the amount of €500,000;
2. Budgetary measure No. 2/2019 - release of budget funds from previous years in relation to providing official development assistance; the budget for category 640 (Ordinary transfers) was increased by €4,419,600;
3. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - from category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to category 630 (Goods and services) in the amount of €180,000 to fund SSE activities, fund activities of public information and build capacity of SAIDC and ODA SR stakeholders,
4. Budgetary measure No. 13/2019 – for expenditures of the MFEA SR to secure a 10% salary tariff increase of public service employees in line with the amended Act No. 553/2003 on remuneration of some employees working in public service for 2019 in connection with Section 5 of Act No. 370/2018 on the State Budget for 2019 in category 610 (Salaries, pay, service income and other personal pay) by €26,047 and in category 620 (Premiums and contributions to insurance companies) by €9,103;
5. Budgetary measure No. 14/2019 - change in mandatory state budget indicators covered through transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - €100,000 from category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to category 610 (Salaries, pay, service income and other personal pay) in the amount of €100,000 - due to the increased number of SAIDC employees and new tasks;
6. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - from category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to category 630 (Goods and services) in the amount of €84,060 and to category 620 (Premiums and contributions to insurance companies) in the amount of €40,000 - due to the increased number of SAIDC employees and new tasks;
7. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - €6,140 from category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to category 630 (Goods and services) in the amount of €6,140 - due to external audit of the project account and clearance,
8. Budgetary measure No. 24/2019 - transfer of funds from OSCE funds to cover projects via the SAIDC in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) in the amount of €72,254 to the SAIDC budget;
9. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - €5,824 from category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to category 630 (Goods and services) in the amount of €5,824 - to cover the external audit of projects;
10. Budgetary measure No. 42/2019 - transfer of budget funds to the Ministry of Defence of the SR, Central Office of Ecumenical Pastoral Service in the Armed Forces and Armed Corps to produce school uniforms for pupils of a school in Afghanistan; reduced budget in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) by €10,640,
11. Budgetary measure No. 43/2019 - transfer of funds from OSCE funds to cover projects via the SAIDC in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) in the amount of €65,566 to the SAIDC budget;
12. Budgetary measure No. 45/2019 - transfer of budget funds to the Ministry of Interior of the SR, humanitarian aid to the Ukraine provided in the form of three fully equipped emergency medical service vehicles for the IMC humanitarian organization; reduced budget in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) by €79,800;
13. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - from category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to category 630 (Goods and services) in the amount of €14,000;
  - from category 630 (Goods and services) to category 620 (Premiums and contributions to insurance companies) in the amount of €4,850;
14. Budgetary measure No. 47/2019 - transfer of funds from MFEA SR funds in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) to the SAIDC budget - refund of unspent finances for humanitarian aid and payment of membership fees through the Ministry in the amount of €187,252;
15. Budgetary measure No. 54/2019 - funds in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) earmarked for the MFEA SR budget, for posting SAIDC employees as development diplomats to diplomatic missions in Chisinau, Nairobi and Tbilisi, and transfer of funds to the central body for personal costs of the Council of Europe representative in Sarajevo, in the total amount of €293,837;

16. Budgetary measure No. 60/2019 - funds in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) earmarked for the MFEA SR budget, refund of the balance provided from OSCE funds to cover projects via the SAIDC in the amount of €5,000;
17. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - from category 630 (Goods and services) to category 640 (Ordinary transfers) in the amount of €54,592;
18. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget:
  - from category 630 (Goods and services) to category 640 (Ordinary transfers) in the amount of €5,000;
19. Budgetary measure No. 66/2019 - transfer of contracted funds to projects under ODA 2018 and 2019 Calls to the following budget year in the amount of €3,287,530;
20. Internal budgetary measure - transfer of funds within the SAIDC budget :
  - from category 630 (Goods and services) to category 620 (Premiums and contributions to insurance companies) in the amount of €45.

**Other:**

- Funds in category 610 (Salaries, pay, service income and other personal pay) were spent in line with the revised budget in the amount of €321,352.51 i.e. 100% of the revised budget.
- Funds in category 620 (Premiums and contributions to insurance companies) were spent in line with the revised budget in the amount of €119,621 i.e. 100% of the revised budget.
- Expenditures in category 630 (Goods and services) were used in line with the budget and spent in the amount of €314,803.31, i.e. 99.23% of the revised budget. .
- Expenditures in category 640 (Ordinary transfers) were spent in line with the budget in the amount of €7,070,474.85, i.e. 99.99% of the revised budget.

As of 31 December 2019 a total amount of €7,067,750.43 was awarded to ODA SR projects; of that, €1,663,828.68 was spent from Source 131H (unused funds for ODA SR from 2017), €1,512,550.34 was spent from Source 131I (unused funds for ODA SR from 2018) and €3,891,371.41 from Source 111 (funds budgeted for 2019).

As of 31 December 2019 total **spending of the SAIDC** was 7,826,251.67, i.e. **99.96%** of the revised budget. Operational SAIDC expenditures (610, 620, 630, 642015) for 2019 equal €604,712.60.

## Overview of budget spending 1 January – 31 December 2019

| Economic categorization | Approved budget (€) | Revised budget (€)  | Spending (€)        | % share of revised budget |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 610                     | 195,307.00          | 321,354.00          | 321,353.00          | 100                       |
| 620                     | 65,623.00           | 119,621.00          | 119,621.00          | 100                       |
| 630                     | 91,712.00           | 317,249.00          | 314,803.00          | 99.23                     |
| 640                     | 6,873,520.00        | 7,070,953.00        | 7,070,475.00        | 99.99                     |
| ODA as subset of 640    | 6,871,860.00        | 7,067,753.00        | 7,067,750.00        | 100                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>7,226,162.00</b> | <b>7,829,177.00</b> | <b>7,826,252.00</b> | <b>99.96</b>              |

| Other expenditures  | Allocation (€)    | Spending (€)      |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| SAIDC administration costs  | 353,642.00        | 604,712.60        |
| Development diplomats (KE, MD, GE)  | 153,589.00        | 160,909.00        |
| Public awareness  | 70,000.00         | 41,829.08         |
| Capacity-building of SAIDC and ODA stakeholders, grant application evaluation | 10,000.00         | 9,345.56          |
| Project evaluation  | 150,000.00        | 0.00              |
| Project audit   | 50,000.00         | 20,508.66         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>787,231.00</b> | <b>837,304.90</b> |

## 8. Overview of projects completed in 2019

### AFGHANISTAN



**Project name:** Training centre for renewable and clean energy in Kabul

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/AFG/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Quality education

**Contractor:** ELVOSOLAR

**Slovak ODA grant:** €184,794.47

**Project implementation:** November 2017 – August 2019

Through the project's implementation, a modern, fully equipped training centre was established, focusing on the provision of practical training in solar energy systems, with personnel trained in the given field. The project goal was to further deepen the energy-related knowledge and skills of technical personnel and enhance the efficiency and maintenance of the solar energy system, as well as raising general awareness of solar systems. A total of 28 Afghans were trained and certified for this training methodology. Two Afghan lecturers were trained in Slovakia as part of the project.



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### ALBANIA



**Project name:** NGO and local government partnerships: together for more effective participation

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/ZB/1/5

**Main sector priority:** Peace, justice and strong institutions

**Contractor:** PDCS, o. z.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €82,754.34

**Project implementation:** January 2018 – June 2019

The project goal was to support the democratization and reform process by sharing Slovakia's transformation experience in fields relevant for Albanian beneficiaries, through building a civil society and strengthening cooperation between the government and NGO sectors on the local level. The project was based on the needs of Albania's civil society to share experience in the area of efficient cooperation with the state sector, and on building capacities required for local participation. The latter is indispensable for organizations to be able to promote interests of the citizens they represent and to maintain a transparent and healthy environment, where corruption practices will not take root. The contractor achieved this through systematic and long-term leader training for local non-governmental organizations and representatives of the local government sector and their networking, with a view to establishing partnership and cooperation. The planned training focused thematically on capacity- and skills-building required for participation in and influencing of decisions, both locally and centrally. It comprised a training programme in the capital city and in regions, online training, networking groups and individual coaching. Additionally, preparation of case studies, i.e. examples of good participation practices in Albania and Slovakia, was included. The project final event was Albánska Biela vrana (awards for achievements in defending public good), aimed at raising public awareness of the need for transparency on the local level and awarding responsible local governments and courageous citizens who are not afraid to point at non-transparent practices and corruption.

## BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



**Project name:** Increasing building energy efficiency through 'ECO PACKET INFRA'

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/ZB/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Affordable and clean energy

**Contractor:** EN-MAR s.r.o.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €89,995,33

**Project implementation:** September 2018 – June 2019

The project goal was to introduce 'Eco Packet Infra', a modern heating system, to the premises of a local school in Sarajevo, which has old hydronic radiator heating and a gas boiler heat source. The technology uses electricity to produce heat. Electricity is available almost everywhere as an energy source, and since it is essentially produced and in the future will be generated in all countries as an energy production mix from various primary resources, mainly renewables, it is considered the cleanest energy with the lowest carbon footprint. Given its use in the proposed buildings, its consumption causes no local pollution by CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, soot, fine dust, or other residues as would those produced by burning fossil fuels; this would greatly contribute (albeit in a single structure, but as an example to others) to decarbonizing the living environment in this densely populated location, attractive because of its nature beauties. For the users, this solution strategically opens the possibility of their own energy security for the future and consequent energy independence and, if the decision is made, the possibility of producing on-site electricity using photovoltaic panels or other similar technology coming to market, and even complete independence.

## NORTH MACEDONIA



**Project name:** National Convent on the EU in Macedonia

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/Z/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Civil society, public administration and local government

**Contractor:** The Research Centre, Slovak Foreign Policy Association

**Slovak ODA grant:** €120,000

**Project implementation:** October 2017 – September 2019

The project goal was to create expert sector-level working groups, comprising representatives of non-governmental organizations, professional associations, universities, business people, state administration, and other experts. These focused on strengthening Macedonia's capacities for the European integration process and established an open and broad platform – the National Convent on the EU – for public discussion on issues related to EU integration, necessary reforms and other matters critical for Macedonian society. An important implementation factor was Slovakia's know-how transfer from its political, economic and social transformation, as well as strengthening a long-term reliable, interactive and permanent information source about the EU for all segments of society. Four working groups were established under the National Convent on the EU intervention, which were WG I: Agriculture and rural development, WG II: Social policy and employment, WG III: Judiciary and fundamental rights, and WG IV: Justice, freedom and security. These held a total of 24 meetings and 3 plenary sessions. The platform's website and Facebook and Twitter social network accounts were created, and became the main communication channels. Another outcome was a separate booklet containing the working groups' political recommendations to the Macedonian government, and a media presentation of partial and final intervention outputs, also through press conferences and statements in the media by WG experts.



## GEORGIA



**Project name:** Supporting small and medium-sized businesses of young unemployed people

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/VP/1/8

**Main sector priority:** Market economy

**Contractor:** Regional Development Agency (RZA) Senec-Pezinok

**Slovak ODA grant:** €55,576.88

**Project implementation:** November 2017 – June 2019

The project focused on supporting the creation and functioning of SMEs of the largest group of the unemployed: young people under 35, of which 10% are women, in selected regions of the country. These are areas with development potential in tourism and agro/bio (organic) business, where handicrafts traditions have been preserved. The target group was identified in the beginning: the young unemployed who are interested in doing business; this helped create new jobs. This reduced the unemployment rate in this risk population group and their dependence on social benefits. With the help of Slovak and EU experience transfer and in cooperation with the Georgia Social Services Agency, the contractor was able to deploy this model while significantly strengthening the partner organization's expert capacities. The project also facilitated input data processing, to identify a target group of 30 promising young entrepreneurs in three selected microregions. In the second project phase, a Centre for Business was established, which arranged for drafting of individual business plans, as well as training on certification and grant schemes in Georgia and the EU to foster the business environment. In cooperation with the Slovak and Georgian Chamber of Commerce in Tbilisi, the Centre assisted with market surveys, networking of business associations, and the entry of (participating) young entrepreneurs to the local market. These activities raised public awareness on current problems of young beginning entrepreneurs and on local governments' opportunities to initiate further social and economic development in their regions.



**Project name:** Using remote sensing methods in water management and evaluation of extreme hydrometeorological situations in Georgia

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/VP/1/3

**Main sector priority:** Water management

**Contractor:** Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute

**Slovak ODA grant:** €71,899.54

**Project implementation:** October 2017 – June 2019

Georgia is situated in a region with highly uncertain weather. The country's area spans 13 climate zones from subtropical to semidesert. The scope and intensity of hydrometeorological situations is highly variable. The changing climate (global warming) is another contributing factor. It is therefore important to know and be able to quantify the impact of such situations and changes. Terrestrial monitoring of hydrometeorological indicators has proven insufficient and covers only part of the territory, not all of Georgia. For this reason terrestrial measurements of hydrometeorological situations had to be completed using indicators from remote sensing, as the most appropriate and low-cost alternative to gain the data and information necessary to protect water resources and crisis management in the country. Satellite data (Georgia territory coverage is sufficient for such methods) and radar data were adapted using software to calculate indicators such as precipitation intensity, total rainfall, vegetation coverage, glacier status, and (where available during project implementation) territory snow coverage. Project outcomes helped introduce a modern nation-wide system to monitor and evaluate extreme hydro-meteorological situations.



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**Project name:** Using super-absorbent polymers (SAP) as innovative tool for lowering consumption of drinking water and contamination of underground waters caused by fertilizers and pesticides

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/VP/1/9

**Main sector priority:** Agriculture

**Contractor:** Pewas

**Slovak ODA grant:** €98,969.94

**Project implementation:** November 2018 – October 2019

The main project goal was to support water and waste management in the country and enhance the system and management of water supply to small crop-growing farms. Information on the impact of hydrostimulation treatment Aquaholder™ Seed+ on the efficiency of pesticide treatment may lead to reducing both the pesticide dosage and progressive soil pollution by pesticide residues. New information about the retention capacity of the hydro-gel layer in relation to fertilizers will facilitate the quantification of potentially reduced fertilizer dosage, which can contribute to protecting underground water and help reduce the current soil salinization tendencies. The target group was Georgian scientists from the Ministry of Agriculture's information and counselling centres, who can disseminate the knowledge to other regions, as most of them come from farming families and can apply the know-how in their own farms. The target group also involved farmers from the village of Dedoplistskaro and Tsilkani area, on whose fields the field experiments with test seeds (barley, maize) were made. Project activities were implemented via laboratory tests and experiments on small fields. These focused on lysimetric tests (measuring the amount and composition of leachate) to measure specified indicators. These were subsequently analysed and the absorbents used were adjusted as necessary. Tests on small fields verified the results in real-life field conditions (varied absorbent concentrations and different irrigation regimes – variations of water quantity and irrigation intensity).

# IRAQ



**Project name:** Health care and nutrition support for internally displaced refugees in Dohuk province

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/SYR/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Zero hunger and Good health and well being

**Contractor:** St. Elisabeth College of Health and Social Work

**Slovak ODA grant:** €199,990

**Project implementation:** September 2018 – October 2019

The humanitarian project helped reduce morbidity and mortality of the internally displaced, and created conditions for providing quality basic health care in a country suffering from a refugee crisis. It focused on 8,000 people living in the Dawoodia refugee camp and 19,000 inhabitants of Dohuk (Sharya, Sina, Sheladze, Balqosh and Gersheen), who have no access to health care. The Dawodia camp health centre provided treatment to 10,030 patients. A mobile clinic in the Sharya, Sina, Sheladze, Balqosh and Gersheen rural areas treated 10,749 patients. An anti-malnutrition programme for 711 children living in the Dawodia camp was provided and a vaccination programme was also performed. Target groups' health condition has improved. There was a decrease in infectious diseases, especially in children, as well as postpartum complications in mothers and new-borns, and malnutrition in children under five years of age. The communities show continuing interest in health care, in particular in areas where the mobile clinic is operating.



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**Project name:** Building potable water wells in Bozan municipality  
**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/SYR/1/9  
**Main sector priority:** Clean water and sanitation  
**Contractor:** Slovak Catholic Charity  
**Slovak ODA grant:** €200,000  
**Project implementation:** October 2018 – September 2019

The project focused on strengthening the social cohesion of refugee and host communities, and helped improve people's living conditions through building an infrastructure of potable water wells and pipelines to bring drinking water to all households in Iraq's Bozan municipality. At the same time it provided for awareness of the needs and means of protecting water resources available to Bozan, and increased agricultural and animal production activities in both local communities.

Individual project activities were based on official requests of Bozan's mayor and technical instructions from the engineer who developed the construction and/or well renewal plan. The pumps drawing water from the wells into over-the-ground reservoirs are linked to the municipal water pipeline system and use power from the public electricity network. Each well has a standby generator that will provide power to keep the pump running if necessary or if the public network has a long outage. Fuel for the diesel electricity generators is provided by the local community.

In addition to the primary results, it was also possible to create better conditions for household women and for children and youth, who can now go to school instead of helping arrange for drinking water for their families.



© Slovak Catholic Charity archive

## SOUTH SUDAN



**Project name:** Humanitarian response to South Sudan famine

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/SSD/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Good health and well-being and Zero hunger

**Contractor:** St. Elisabeth College of Health and Social Work

**Slovak ODA grant:** €199,949.56

**Project implementation:** October 2017 – April 2019

The main goal of the submitted project was to save lives and mitigate the effects of shortage of food and access to basic health care for the most affected groups of the population: children under 10 in South Sudan, in the Gordim region. About 40,000 children live in the area. Another goal was to support the prevention of infectious diseases by vaccinating children. The specific objective of the project was to reduce mortality due to acute malnutrition, targeting the most at-risk groups of inhabitants: children in the Gordim region of Bahr-El-Ghazal State, where a number of child refugees. The main need of malnourished children is treating acute conditions of malnutrition and promoting the prevention of infectious diseases. Vaccines are inaccessible in this region; most parents are uneducated in basic (both sanitary and anti-infectious) habits, while basic preventive measures can reduce child mortality by 40 percent (UNICEF). The project established a functional nutrition centre, where 5,189 children with acute malnutrition were treated, 2,672 parents trained, and 1,444 children vaccinated.

**Project name:** Ensuring measures to reduce morbidity and mortality of endangered population in South Sudan

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/SSD/1/2

**Main sector priority:** Good health and well-being

**Contractor:** Integra Foundation

**Slovak ODA grant:** €198,307.65

**Project implementation:** October 2017 – September 2018

The general objective of this project was to strengthen healthcare sector interventions in three selected locations in South Sudan: Renk, Leer and Aweil. The project sought to significantly reduce morbidity and mortality of conflict-threatened groups of residents and displaced and weakened local host communities in South Sudan. Specific emphasis was placed on women and children, not overlooking the elderly population, people with disabilities and pregnant and breastfeeding women. By providing a stable supply of medicines, the project sought to contribute to strengthening basic health care and preventing epidemic diseases. Other parts of the project were increasing the capacity of medical staff and providing appropriate training, and support of several malnutrition centres. As a result, there are functional mobile and static centres providing malnutrition and health assistance services in 36 locations, with 131,421 consultations provided and 79,804 health and nutrition recipients.



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**Project name:** Resolving famine: prevention and treatment in children under 5 with acute malnutrition and pregnant breastfeeding mothers in Duk County of Jonglei State, South Sudan

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/SSD/1/3

**Main sector priority:** Zero hunger and Good health and well-being

**Contractor:** MAGNA

**Slovak ODA grant:** €197,322.56

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – October 2018



The project was a response to a serious humanitarian situation in Jonglei state of South Sudan, where the UN announced a threat of famine to 5 million people. The project provided a specialized nutritional programme, established a nutrition stabilization centre and a mobile unit for the treatment of acute malnutrition. Intervention provided outpatient treatment, a therapeutic RUTF diet and hospital treatment in the stabilization centre for patients identified with severe acute malnutrition. It also allowed patients with moderate acute malnutrition and pregnant and breastfeeding mothers to be identified, and provided treatment by securing missing micronutrients and vitamins. Intervention provided health and nutritional care for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and acutely malnourished children. The project provided nutrition education, including education on nutrition for infants and young children in the Duk county of Jonglei State.



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## ETHIOPIA



**Project name:** Introducing macadamia production in Ethiopia as new source of income for small farmers

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/PPP/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Zero hunger and Sustainable agriculture

**Contractor:** Samay, s.r.o.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €47,523.84

**Project implementation:** September 2018 – August 2019

Through this project, Samay s.r.o. prepared the ground for introducing macadamia production and processing in Ethiopia in cooperation with Kenyan partner TSA and Ethiopian partner NeoBOTAB. Samay s.r.o. and the partners drafted a business plan, arranged for macadamia export and import certificates from Kenya to Ethiopia, and transported a test volume of 5000 plants to create a nursery and research their viability to survive in Ethiopian conditions. The partners obtained a lease of land near the town of Shakiso, Guji zone, for their joint venture pursuing macadamia production. The land was provided by the local government in the Oromia region for a long-term cost-free lease of 60 years. The Guji zone is known for producing coffee, and combining this with macadamia production is also expected to influence climate protection. Plants remained in quarantine for three weeks and then were distributed to selected farmers. The Ethiopian partner's agronomist was trained in March 2019, with training materials developed later. The training took place on 3 June 2019 with the participation of 47 farmers, six development agents, two representatives of an agricultural institute and two representatives of government agencies. TSA partners also organized a lecture for 18 students at the Bule Hora University. Samay s.r.o. and local partners signed three memoranda of cooperation: with the Bule Hora University, with Oromia Agricultural Research Institute (OARI), and a joint venture memorandum titled Ten Senses Ethiopia with partners TSA, NeoBOTAB and IncludInvest. The contractor's partner organization was awarded project SAMRS/2019/SSA/1/1 to implement the following project phase.

## REPUBLIC OF KENYA



**Project name:** Peace-building through practical skills

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/KE/1/8

**Main sector priority:** Education

**Contractor:** SAVIO o. z.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €249,190

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – September 2019

The main project goal was to reduce the unemployment rate of disadvantaged youth in the Turkana district by opening a carpentry training course and providing technical education for a disadvantaged refugee group from the Kakuma refugee camp and a group of young Kenyans living close to Kakuma. A hall to provide training was constructed and furnished and more young people gained practical skills during the project implementation period. The total number of those trained was 27 carpentry students, 11 electrician students, 42 English language students and 38 students of entrepreneurship. The project also contributed to peaceful coexistence of student communities by training 92 local teachers for peace-building, and several peace-oriented seminars and workshops for around 100 students were also organized.



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**Project name:** Capacity building of health workers in Kwale region to preserve Kenyan population health by monitoring incidence of infectious diseases

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/KE/1/2

**Main sector priority:** Health care

**Contractor:** Trnava University in Trnava

**Slovak ODA grant:** €161,437.52

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – September 2019

The aim of the project was to improve the health of Kenya's inhabitants by reducing morbidity and mortality from infectious diseases, preventing epidemics through the timely implementation of preventive and suppressive measures at the outbreak site, as well as by streamlining the surveillance system for infectious diseases. The project was carried out in Kwale province in three counties: Msambweni, Lungalunga and Kinango; activities were aimed at training medical staff and building the capacities at medical facilities. 232 community workers were trained on preventing the development and spread of infectious diseases in the community, and 110 health workers to supervise the occurrence and spread of infectious diseases and epidemic preparedness. A unified system was introduced in 104 health centres for making immediate, weekly, monthly and quarterly reports of the occurrence of individual diagnoses of infectious diseases using tablets, which also served to provide a local analysis of the epidemiological situation. The establishment of specialized libraries in the three main hospitals (equipped with a total of almost 400 books and 108 e-books) helped to build continuous self-education, not only of medical staff but also of university students and the local community.



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**Project name:** Strengthening sustainable social enterprise providing training, employment and integration support for young people in labour market

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/KE/1/6

**Main sector priority:** Education

**Contractor:** Integra Foundation

**Slovak ODA grant:** €161,915.12

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – September 2019

The project focused on improving the financial stability and increased income from the partner's social entrepreneurship, intended for TAPA centre operations in Kibera slum and reducing unemployment of disadvantaged youth from orphanages or strongly socially disadvantaged environments through building their practical skills and specialized practical training. Under the project, technical equipment for a tailoring workshop was purchased, in which a total of 43 people could be employed (15 full-time and 28 for flexible work). A six-month training in sewing skills led by a qualified trainer was taken by 50 students and completed with a certificate award. A full-time consultant provided counselling for finding accommodation, stable employment and gaining life skills to succeed in the labour market and for the young people to integrate in community life. Thanks to this social enterprise and financial stability, the workshop may contribute to its community's social activities – school education, food and school supplies for pre-school and school-age children.



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**Project name:** Improving health care accessibility in Joska rural area

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/KE/1/3

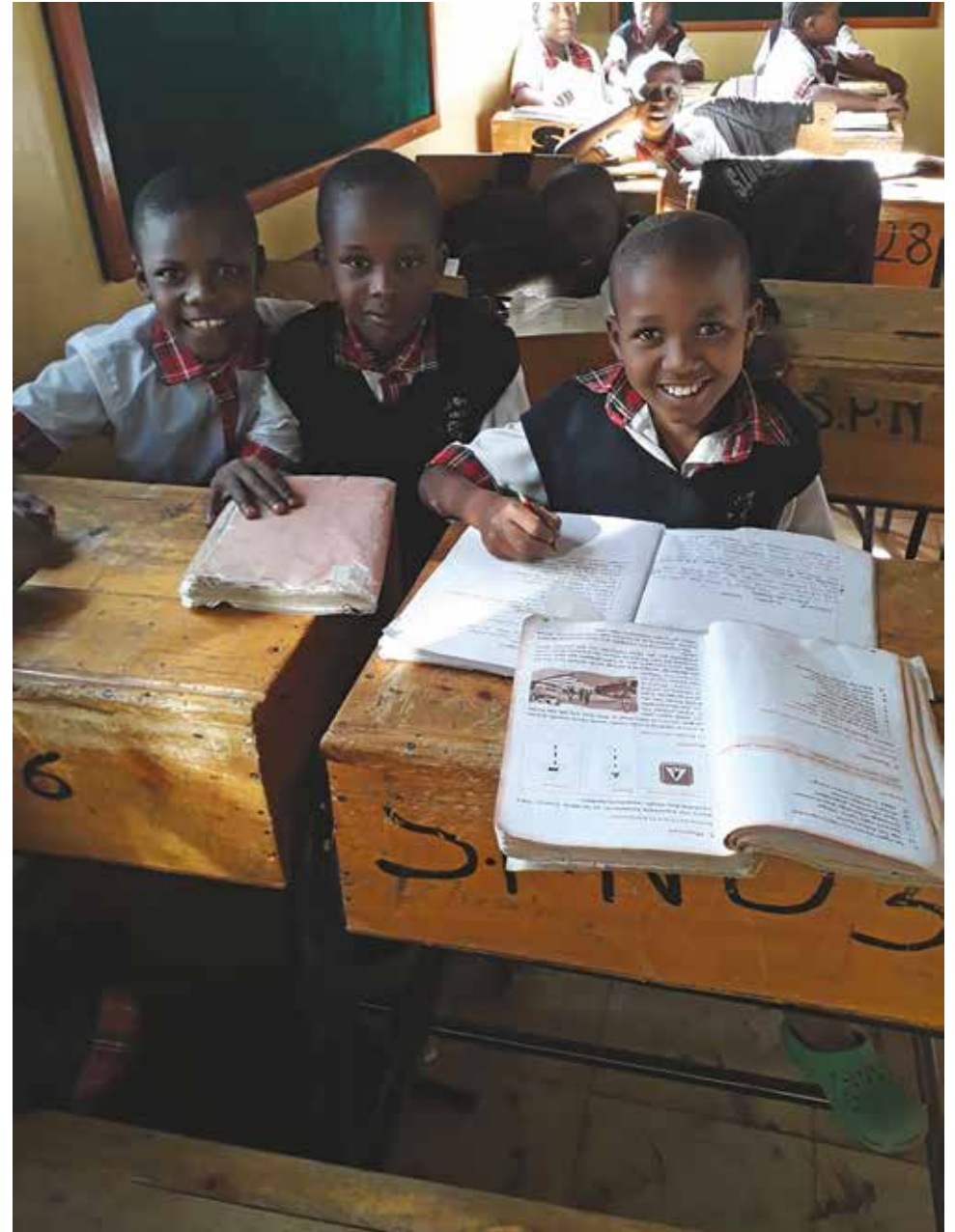
**Main sector priority:** Health care

**Contractor:** St. Elisabeth College of Health and Social Work

**Slovak ODA grant:** €248,552.00

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – September 2019

The overall project goal was to help improve the health condition of Kenyans in the Joska region, with a special focus on children and mothers, by providing access to quality health and preventive care by building a functioning medical and antenatal/postnatal clinic. The following were built as part of the clinic: 2 examination rooms, a laboratory, a phlebotomy room, a pharmacy with a storeroom, and reception, waiting room and toilets for patients and staff. An antenatal and postnatal clinic was established and a vaccination programme started. The clinic received a certificate for treatment and preventive work and treated more than 30,000 patients. In nine education seminars and 168 training courses, 4,922 patients and community members were able to participate in education concerning child mortality, mother mortality and health improvement for mothers and the fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Also, 36 children with physical and health impairments gained improved access to education and fully integrated into the school and community, and 1,722 community members were educated on the need to integrate such children into society.



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**Project name:** Fish farm at Lake Victoria

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/KE/1/1

**Main sector priority:** Fishery development

**Contractor:** Humanistické centrum NAROVINU, o.z.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €245,348.21

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – September 2019

The project focused on support for fish farming on Rusinga Island on Lake Victoria, with the total population around 30,000. The goal was to sustain the existing 'Island of Hope' community centre through establishing a fish farm. For this purpose floating cages for tilapia fish were deployed, and the production profits were used to fund community centre operations, including a clinic operating 24/7. Part of the production was also used to provide for the centre's food security; the centre comprises a kindergarten, elementary and secondary boarding schools and orphanage for 400 children. A functioning water tower with total capacity of 20,000 litres was also constructed. Part two of the project was implementing a one-year seminar for a total of 200 students in a Life Skills course, with the focus on sexual education and family planning for secondary students in the community centre. Almost 1,250 textbooks of specialized literature, some of them dedicated to the above subject, were purchased. Moreover, an optional Fish Farming course was introduced at the secondary school.



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## LEBANON



**Project name:** Educating children, youth and women from Syrian refugee population, increasing capacities in providing psycho-social support in eastern Beirut

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/SYR/1/14

**Main sector priority:** Quality education

**Contractor:** People in Need Slovakia, n.o.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €190,985.94

**Project implementation:** March 2018 – February 2019

A humanitarian project in eastern Beirut, Lebanon, focused on strengthening resilience of Syrian refugee communities in Beirut regarding negative and detrimental impacts of the war conflict and expatriation, through increased access to adequate education and psycho-social support. The project assisted 360 children of pre-school and school age (5 to 14 years old) and 320 girls (14 to 18 years old) from the Syrian and Palestinian refugee community and the Lebanese community, 100 women from the Syrian and Palestinian refugee community and the Lebanese community, 520 parents and care givers, 7 teachers and educators, and 45 foreign and local volunteers. A series of training and other courses for children, youth, women and educators along with psycho-social support activities focused on mitigating the tragic situation of some refugee communities in the Shatila camp and averting their becoming a lost generation.



**Project name:** Education as a way of securing livelihood for Syrian and Lebanese children and youth in Akkar area

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/SYR/1/10

**Main sector priority:** Quality education

**Contractor:** People in Need Slovakia, n.o.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €192,204.53

**Project implementation:** September 2018 – September 2019

This humanitarian project's goal was to mitigate the impact of Syrian crisis on the future of children and youth from the Syrian refugee community in the Akkar area of Lebanon. The aim was to contribute to sustainable access and continual school attendance for the formal education of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese children aged 6 to 14 years, as well as to provide better opportunities to Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese youth aged 14 to 20 years, aimed at securing their livelihood. The enrolment of 271 children in schools and the completion of the school year by 270 children, as well as vocational training courses completed by 45 young people, positively influenced their development. The project followed up on long-term activities implemented by the partner organization in several locations (Bkarzla and Tel Abbas), further deepened relationships with local communities and expanded the partner organization's work to other two locations, Mishmish and Rahbe. However, with a view to the overall social and economic context in which the project was implemented, it is difficult to ensure the positive impact of the education process on the supported children in the long run, as the reasons why most parents either fail to enrol their children in school or stop their school attendance are external. These include, most typically, lack of funds, worries about the children's safety and bad relations with one of the local communities. These reasons have outlived the project end, and most require fundamental structural changes.



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## MOLDOVA



**Project name:** Engaging youth and responsible citizenship

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/MD/1/3

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

**Contractor:** Research Centre, Slovak Foreign Policy Association

**Slovak ODA grant:** €86,162.69

**Project implementation:** December 2018 – December 2019

The project's goal was to educate and build capacities of responsible and engaged young citizens in the autonomous territorial unit of Gagauzia (Gagau Yeri) and pave the way for formulation and implementation of requirements in the context of policy- and reform-making related to Moldovan youth. Through the GYLP educational programme combined with a study trip to Slovakia, 15 young people from various parts of Gagauzia were educated in project management and project drafting, personal development and critical thinking. FYLM, an organization for nation-wide meeting of engaged youth, made it possible to provide education on the linking of IT and local development, and facilitated networking of a further 60 young people from various regions of Moldova (north, centre, south, Gagauzia, and Transnistria region).

**Project name:** Modernization prospects for Gagauzia (Gagau Yeri)

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/MD/1/5

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

**Contractor:** Research Centre, Slovak Foreign Policy Association

**Slovak ODA grant:** €93,427.00

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – February 2019

The project's primary focus was on increasing the participation of civil society and young leaders in formulating and adopting public policy in the context of improving relationships and measures to build trust between the central government in Chisinau and the autonomous territorial unit of Gagauzia. V Four working groups were created in this context, defined by local partners: Regional development, Social infrastructure, Youth and sports, and Culture and education. The working groups had 12 meetings and also met at a plenary session in the project's final phase. The groups prepared specific recommendations for policy makers in Gagauzia to achieve a more effective functioning of public affairs. Around 120 individuals were networked: representatives of non-governmental organizations, elementary and secondary schools, universities, young entrepreneurs and engaged youth. Through thematic trips, the representatives of both non-governmental and governmental sectors learned success stories of development initiatives in Slovakia; they also got to know the EU's institutional structure and functioning during a trip to Brussels. A subsequent informal meeting of young leaders from various Moldovan regions facilitated experience-sharing on active citizenship and community building.

**Project name:** Capacity building for implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility in Republic of Moldova

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/MD/1/4

**Main sector priority:** Infrastructure and sustainable use of resources

**Contractor:** Slovak Environment Agency

**Slovak ODA grant:** €97,092.48

**Project implementation:** November 2017 – June 2019

The project focused on the improvement of living conditions and the quality of the living environment for Moldova's inhabitants through increased efficiency of waste management, with the emphasis on legislative and functional help, in part with a view to achieving EU standards. A more efficient waste management was supported through introducing a system of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for electrical and electronic equipment. Important factors in the process included the imposition of a legal framework and its regulation by state administration bodies, the level of business sector involvement in waste collection and processing, and the level of the public's environmental awareness and consumer involvement in the recycling system for end-of-life electronics. To address the issue, the project involved activities such as technical assistance while drafting legal regulations, supporting entities concerned in EPR system integration (basic requirements overview, workshops, capacity-building for Moldova experts – training for state administration and electronics producers on the information system and registration, etc.) and dissemination of information and raising awareness to attain a positive response in the business sector and population in achieving EPR scheme principles.



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**Project name:** Enhancing transparency and effective work of local governments, and capacity building for civil society

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/MD/1/3

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

**Contractor:** People in Need Slovakia, n.o.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €93,880.60

**Project implementation:** January 2018 – February 2019

The project focused on strengthening an effectively functioning state administration and civil society. It drew on the premise that a successful transition to democracy in Moldova requires decentralizing power from the state administration to local governments and a simultaneous bottom-up approach, through an engaged civil society. In addition to local government employees, project activities largely focused on youth as a key group for developing society and progress. Three youth NGOs and two client centres were established. These are fully operable and actively offer services to citizens handling their requirements using a 'one-stop-shop' principle. 18 local government employees were trained on transparency and effective self-government. Three web portals to publish contracts were also created. Services and consultancy in the client centre in Komrat are used by some 100 citizens a day and in Ceadir-Lunga by approx. 30 to 40 a day. The client centres made life easier for citizens and town mayors. Centre modernization through digitalization and interconnection with other local governments is anticipated. The project was implemented in Moldova's autonomous territory of Gagauzia. Local government representatives gained knowledge and skills in specific local activities during study trips to Slovakia and will apply them in local projects upon their return.



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**Project name:** Supporting transparency and financial sustainability of regional policies, state enterprises and local governments in Moldova

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/MD/1/6

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

**Contractor:** Institute for Economic and Social Reforms

**Slovak ODA grant:** €91,892.25

**Project implementation:** September 2017 – May 2019

The project updated unique tools to improve Moldovan citizens' information awareness concerning the management and transparency of public enterprises and local governments. It also made possible the training of local experts who, assisted by a Slovak team, transferred best practices and recommendations to increase transparency and financial health to top officials of selected public enterprises and local governments. Various stakeholders were engaged: 192 participants of seminars and conferences, 6,395 visitors of the created and updated internet portals displaying more than 40,000 pages, and additional tens of thousands of people who read the partner's statuses on a social network. The broad public response helps the push for improved transparency and financial health of the evaluated public enterprises and local governments; in the case of the latter this has already manifested in a positive year-on-year transparency index change. Evaluation of openness of information confirmed a growing tendency for the year-on-year transparency index improvement of towns (average score raised from 26% to 28%) and regions (from 33% to 37%); which means thanks in part to this exercise that local governments continue improving on introducing measures to increase transparency and fight corruption. The project also exposed much room for increasing transparency and financial health in public enterprises. The most open company scored 44% (in Slovakia it is 67%), the average company scored around 20%, and three evaluated companies had scores of 0%. The strengths of the most open companies includes the publishing of their economic results and access to basic information, as pursuant to information law. On the other hand, they need to improve in particular as to information about public procurement, property management, publishing codes of conduct and publishing information about awarded grants. Updating the evaluations in future will help maintain and intensify public pressure for further improvement of information openness and the financial stability of local governments and public enterprises. At the same time it is desirable to spread best practices and recommendations for representatives of local governments and public enterprises to have the necessary know-how to introduce changes. To achieve this, the project created the necessary tools, transferred experience from Slovakia and trained local experts, thus creating conditions to continue the key activities, provided adequate financial resources are secured.

**Project name:** Technical Assistance in Transposition of Directive No. 91/271/EEC by local governments in Moldova

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/RO/MD/1

**Main sector priority:** Water and sanitation

**Contractor:** Water Research Institute

**Slovak ODA grant:** €124,918.00

**Project implementation:** August 2017 – December 2018

The main goal of this project, implemented in cooperation with the Czech Development Agency, was to deepen the knowledge of technical and economic requirements for wastewater sanitation, and improve the local government's decision-making process in solving the issue in Moldova. In order to estimate the economic aspects of building sewage lines and sewage water treatment plants pursuant to Council Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste-water treatment, the following was developed: category-based analysis of the condition of lines and sewage water treatment plants, and calibration and implementation of mathematical models to calculate investment costs for building sewage lines and wastewater treatment plants in Moldova. Two case studies on agglomeration linking were prepared (with 2,000 to 10,000 citizen equivalent) while preserving the economic, natural and technical conditions in Moldova and 91/271/EEC Directive requirements. The project outcomes included three methodological documents: methodology for the calculation of economic costs, case studies on agglomeration linking and a methodological guideline for the application of wastewater treatment technologies and processes suitable for Moldova. Week-long training for eight representatives of Moldova local government and sewage and wastewater treatment plants was held, also including visits to three wastewater treatment plants in Slovakia.



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# SYRIA



**Project name:** Running emergency obstetric and gynaecological and specialized health care in Homs area, Syria

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/SYR/1/11

**Main sector priority:** Good health and well-being

**Contractor:** MAGNA

**Slovak ODA grant:** €199,276.02

**Project implementation:** January 2018 – March 2019



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The project sought to reduce morbidity and mortality of women and children by improving their access to quality obstetric, gynaecological, neonatal and paediatric health care. Thus it helped provide sustainable coverage of medical interventions, necessary to save lives of a vulnerable Syrian population. As part of the project a (24/7) operation capacity at a specialized health care facility for children and women was created, as well as a functional gynaecological-obstetric centre for new-borns and children up to 5 years of age and a mobile outpatient department. Supplies of drugs and medications, medical material and equipment were secured. Local health care personnel numbers grew and their expertise improved. The project focused on the original inhabitants living in the besieged area and also on an internally displaced population (46,000 people live in the project intervention area, of which approx. 25,300 are displaced). Women and children account for up to 65% of the population. Many of those among the internally displaced had already been displaced two or three times, and their numbers are growing due to unceasing conflict in other parts of Homs and Hama provinces. Given the worsening security situation, the contractor requested redeploying the project away from its venue in North Homs after the first quarter of project implementation. Activities shifted to Al Farabi hospital in an area controlled by the opposition (Aleppo, Idlib and Hama provinces). The unstable situation requires further involvement of international humanitarian organizations, and any deterioration of the security situation in north-west Syria may further complicate the humanitarian situation and increase basic needs.



# UKRAINE



**Project name:** Engaged citizen – effective state

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/UA/1/7

**Main sector priority:** Civil society, public administration and local government

**Contractor:** Centrum pre európsku politiku, n. o.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €84,287.67

**Project implementation:** October 2017 – June 2019

The contractor in Slovakia developed a teaching module, which helps pupils define the local community's problems, and projects (drafts of public policies) to tackle these problems. The contractor and the Ukrainian partner together adjusted the findings to contribute to educating young engaged citizens in Ukraine's society and help those tackling current problems of poor civil society development, low public administration effectiveness, and inefficient youth civics education. Through education seminars and consultation support, both the contractor and the partner organization assisted young people aged 15 - 18 years in preparing projects for creating public policies.

Those working with the youth (teachers, civil activists) were assisted through specialized seminars and partnerships with student activists to master a civics education methodology (based on attitude-formation and gaining necessary skills and knowledge). By means of remote support and presentation seminars, youth and adult engaged citizens were helped to achieve that their proposals were actually addressed by public administration bodies. A pilot project in four regions of Ukraine, an information workshop for participants from other Ukraine regions and a video from project implementation strengthened the partner NGO organization SRS Uzhorod. They also contributed to creating effective partnerships between the civil and public sectors.



© CEP archive



**Project name:** Local government for people. Capacity building for local government and local state administration with respect to citizen cooperation

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2017/UA/1/3

**Main sector priority:** Civil society, public administration and local government

**Contractor:** PDCS, o. z.

**Slovak ODA grant:** €85,511.69

**Project implementation:** January 2018 – January 2019

The project enhanced the expertise and capacities of elected representatives and employees of the local government and state administration in selected regions of Ukraine. Participants in the project's educational activities gained knowledge of the methodology for involving citizens in planning processes and decision-making. As a result 22 trainers were trained, who organized at least 44 training courses in the local state administration offices. The final beneficiaries of capacity-building were the representatives of public administration authorities who, as a result of decentralization reforms, have more authority and possibilities for involving citizens in decision-making related to town and other municipal development. 732 representatives of local governments and relevant communities received re-training under the project. During the project, 522 of them took part in specific activities or community development projects. Most of these are involved in the preparation, implementation or direct management of participative budgets in towns or other municipalities. Other projects involved the inclusion of minorities (the displaced, physically challenged, or families of ATO war veterans, etc.), and planning of public spaces. As the training was in Slovakia, the trainers could share Slovak experience in this area, and visit local governments and various projects concerning participative development of towns and other municipalities. The trained trainers continue to provide training under another project of the local partner.



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**Project name:** Together for energy-efficient and ecological water management: clean Žovkva

**Registration number:** SAMRS/2018/PPP/1/3

**Main sector priority:** Clean water and sanitation

**Contractor:** Enviroline, s.r.o., Košice

**Slovak ODA grant:** €29,402.65

**Project implementation:** September 2018 – September 2019

The project aimed to establish a partnership between Enviroline and the partner company Carpathian Development Institute, enhance expertise of their water management engineers, and establish cooperation with public institutions, the town of Žovkva and the Association of Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine. During the project, the partners developed a variant study about the current condition of water and wastewater management with recommendations for further action, and contributed to raising public awareness on energy-efficient and ecological water management systems. Five seminars comprised the theoretical and practical part, focusing on designs in water management in the context of EU legislation. Subsequently, two variant studies were developed, a tool not familiar to the beneficiaries before, and they presented them to the broader public and representatives of Žovkva town and of the Association of Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine.



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# **Publishing of the SAIDC Annual Report for 2019 and public presentation date**

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SAIDC Annual Report for 2019 was published electronically: 27 April 2020

Government Office of the Slovak Republic: [www.uvsr.sk](http://www.uvsr.sk)

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic: [www.mzv.sk](http://www.mzv.sk)

Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation: [www.slovakaid.sk](http://www.slovakaid.sk)

The public presentation: 29 May 2020 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Venue: SAIDC, Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava.



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