



ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation

Annual Report 2017

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**SLOVAK AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

The 2017 annual report of the Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (SAIDC), a budgetary organisation, was completed on the basis of Slovak Government Resolution No. 1189 of 19 December 2001.

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BASIC INFORMATION

Name:	Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (SAIDC)
Registered office:	Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava
Contact:	Phone: +421-2-5978-2601 Email: info@slovakaid.sk, www.slovakaid.sk
Department/founder:	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic (MFEA SR)
Form of management:	Budgetary organisation connected to the state budget under the budgetary heading of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
Company ID:	31819559
Director:	Dr. Ing. Zuzana Letková
Number of employees:	12

2. Human resources

During the reviewed period from 1 January to 31 December 2017, the organisation was directed by Dr. Ing. Zuzana Letková. As of 31 December 2017, the organisation had a total of 12 employees with an additional 14 persons working on the basis of agreements on work outside of employment (including personnel working on the V4 project in Kenya and CETIR experts). Critical services, such as cleaning services, legal services, OHS, IT support, telecommunications services, etc., involving SAIDC operations were provided by external contractors.



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The Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "SAIDC") is a budgetary organisation of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as "MFEA SR"). The Agency's mission is to secure the implementation of Slovakia's official development assistance in accordance with the programming and policy documents of the MFEA SR and the Slovak Government, binding European Union (EU) documents, and documents issued by the United Nations (UN), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other international organisations and commitments.

SAIDC's standing and activities are laid down in § 5 of Act No. 392/2015 on Development Assistance and on amendment of certain acts. The organisation's primary activities specified in this act include:

- implementing development assistance, including humanitarian aid, public awareness, development-related training and the building of capacities by providing grants, financial contributions, awarding contracts or the use of other instruments in accordance with government decisions,
- collaboration with entities involved in development assistance in Slovakia and abroad,
- collaboration with the MFEA SR on the creation of strategies and other policy documents,
- monitoring and control of the implementation of development projects,
- provision of information on development assistance activities on the website.

The implementation of official development assistance is subject to the basic rules and principles of Slovakia's foreign policy priorities and complies with the principles of international development policy, in particular the European Union's development policy and the Sustainable Development Agenda after 2015 (*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*).

SAIDC covers all activities related to the management and administration of the project life cycle within the *Medium-Term Strategy of the Official Development Assistance of the Slovak Republic for 2014-2018* and the *Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance* for the respective year. These activities primarily involve preparation and declaration of the calls for proposals to submit applications for grants or to award contracts, evaluation of the submitted applications, preparations for meetings of the MFEA SR's Commissions, conclusion of contracts with project implementers, financial management and control of projects, their monitoring and evaluation.

SAIDC is also responsible for providing support to all parties interested in the implementation of development programs and projects among the non-governmental organisations, business organisations and academic institutions. SAIDC ensures the communication of main ideas and mission of official development assistance with respect to specialised groups and the general public through various external communication activities.

Within its activities, the SAIDC places emphasis on the effectiveness of development assistance, coherency to the benefit of development, flexibility in providing development assistance and the cost-effective use of provided funds.

Within the Medium-Term Strategy of the Official Development Assistance of the Slovak Republic for 2014-2018, development assistance in 2017 focused on 6 priority countries and 3 programme countries and multiple other countries with urgent humanitarian needs as a result of conflicts and migration. Topics in which Slovakia has significant potential and comparative advantages were supported within the area of sectoral focus.

The following programs and countries were supported within grants:

- Development interventions programme: Afghanistan, Kenya and Moldova,
- Transformation experience sharing programme: countries of the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo) and countries of the EU's Eastern Partnership (Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine),
- Business partnership programme,
- Humanitarian and post-humanitarian aid programme: Syria and neighbouring countries in the Middle East, South Sudan,
- Programme for sending volunteers and experts,
- Development education and public awareness programme: Slovakia,
- Capacity building and EU development project co-financing programme,
- Projects based on requests from partner countries - contracts (Macedonia).

Financial contributions were primarily provided to resolve urgent humanitarian needs, to support bilateral and multilateral assistance programmes conducted by local or international organisations and to provide direct support for small projects in priority countries through the use of microgrants.

SlovakAid's development diplomats worked at Embassies of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi and Chisinau, in 2017. Their activities made a significant contribution to the overall effectiveness and quality of development assistance in these programme countries and improve coordination and cooperation with other donors.

4. Organisation's contract with the central authority

The contract between the SAIDC and the MFEA SR for 2017 was concluded under Slovak Government Resolution No. 1370/2002/B1 of 18 December 2002 and under Act No. 523/2004 Coll. on Public Administration Budgeting Rules. The contract governed matters involved in foreign assistance are laid down in Act No. 617/2007 Coll. on Official Development Assistance and amendment of Act No. 575/2001 Coll. on the Organisation of Government Activities and the Central Government, as amended, the charter (Decision of Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic No. 57/2006 Coll. of 27 December 2006) and the SAIDC statute. The rights and obligations of the parties are designated as follows in the contract:

MFEA SR:

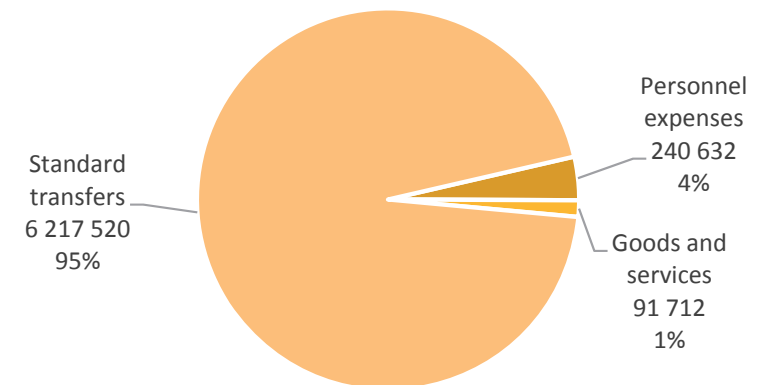
- defines the content focus of the activities and provides methodology-based guidance for the SAIDC;
- secures financing of the subject of activities specified in Article III of the Contract;
- approves the volume of funds specified in Article V in the scope and by the deadlines specified under applicable legislation, Slovak Government resolutions and decisions issued by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic;
- conducts biannual evaluation and assessment of the performance of the Contract;
- decides on employment relationships involving the director of the SAIDC and the MFEA SR (especially foreign business trips and holiday time); these matters are subject to approval by the Directorate General for International Organisations, Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid;
- approves the drafts of the Contract, minutes from the interim evaluation of the Contract, the final report on performance of the Contract and the annual report.

SAIDC:

- secures the performance of tasks under Act No. 392/2015 Coll. on Development Assistance and on amendment of certain acts, other generally binding legislation, the charter and other internal normative acts;
- submits the proposal for the distribution of funds (by economic classification) set aside for SAIDC activities under the approved MFEA SR budget;
- complies with the budget laid down in the Contract and the individual limits specified in the "SAIDC Budget - expenditures" table provided in Article V therein;
- submits all materials necessary to the Section of International Organisations, Development and Humanitarian Assistance and the Section of Economics and General Administration at the MFEA SR a week in advance of the planned date to evaluate and control the performance of the Contract;
- informs the MFEA SR of any issues that occur during performance of the Contract;
- completes the draft form of the Contract, minutes from the interim evaluation of the Contract, the final report on performance of the Contract and the annual report.

Planned SAIDC budget for 2017			
Line item	Economic classification	Description	Approved budget for 2017 in €
1	610	Payroll, employee benefits and other payments to personnel	180 199
2	620	Premiums and other insurance contributions	60 433
3	1+2	Personnel expenses, total	240 632
4	630	Goods and services	91 712
5		Goods and services, total	91 712
6	640	Standard transfers	6 217 520
7		Standard transfers, total	6 217 520
8	710	Acquired capital assets	0
9		Acquired capital assets, total	0
10	720	Capital transfers	0
11		Capital transfers, total	0
10	3+5+7+9+11	TOTAL:	6 549 864

Planned SAIDC budget for 2017



a.) grants

SAIDC implemented activities under the approved Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance in 2017 and the indicative budget. Grants for Slovak organisations, financial contributions for humanitarian aid or multilateral assistance provided by foreign entities, microgrants to support the activities of local organisations in partnering countries through Slovak embassies, contracts for projects based on requests from partner countries and budgetary measures were among the development assistance instruments put to use. In addition to collaboration with domestic and foreign organisations, SAIDC financed other activities focused on building capacities, raising public awareness of development assistance and experience sharing.

Along with development projects in programme and priority countries (development intervention programme and transformation experience sharing programme), **grants** were used to finance other interventions focused on overall and development education in Slovakia (in cooperation with NGOs, universities, colleges and international organisations) and the engagement of business entities into development assistance with the goal of improving social and economic development in poor countries (business partnership programme). Projects paid from European Commission development instruments also received support and Slovak organisations were successful in engaging in these projects (co-financing for EU development projects).

During 2017, SAIDC announced **15 calls** for proposals for grants to support development assistance projects. The following table provides an overview of projects supported by individual calls.

Overview of calls for grant requests in 2017						
Call reference no.	Call name	Closing date	Available funds	Number of approved requests	Decisions of the Minister	Amount of approved grants in €
SAMRS/2017/AFG/1	Development interventions programme	12 May 2017	200,000	1	22 July 2017	199,725.00
SAMRS/2017/KE/1	Development interventions programme	12 May 2017	1,200,000.00	5	22 July 2017	1,071,109.60
SAMRS/2017/MD/1	Development interventions programme	12 May 2017	600,000.00	4	22 July 2017	386,852.48
SAMRS/2017/PPP/1	Capacity and partnership building programme – support for new business partnerships	12 May 2017	250,000.00	3	22 July 2017	150,000.00
SAMRS/2017/UA/1	Transformation experience sharing programme	12 May 2017	500,000.00	3	22 July 2017	278,935.10
SAMRS/2017/VP/1	Transformation experience sharing programme	12 May 2017	300,000.00	3	22 July 2017	283,660.00
SAMRS/2017/ZB/1	Transformation experience sharing programme	12 May 2017	300,000.00	2	22 July 2017	185,222.20
SAMRS/2017/SSD/1	Humanitarian and post-humanitarian aid programme – South Sudan	12 May 2017	200,000.00 increased to 300,000.00	3	10 July 2017	598,572.00
SAMRS/2017/BK/1	Capacity and partnership building programme – Building capacities in Slovak development organisations	12 May 2017	50,000.00	1	10 July 2017	49,995.00
SAMRS/2017/EK/1	Capacity and partnership building programme – EU development project co-financing	12 May 2017	70,000.00	2	10 July 2017	68,498.00
SAMRS/2017/RV/1	Capacity and partnership building programme – Global development education	12 May 2017	100,000.00	4	10 July 2017	135,313.80
SAMRS/2017/D/1	Capacity and partnership building programme – Programme for sending volunteers and experts	5 May 2017	242,734.00	35	15 June 2017	247,583.42
SAMRS/2017/SYR/1	Humanitarian and post-humanitarian aid programme – Syria and its neighbourhood	26 July 2017	500,000.00	3	6 October 2017	592,208.00
SAMRS/2017/RV/2	Capacity and partnership building programme – Global development education	14 September 2017	150,000.00	1	29 November 2017	149,942.00
SAMRS/2017/Z/1	Contracts – projects based on requests from partner countries	18 September 2017	120,000.00	1	6 October 2017	120,000.00
TOTAL						4,517,616.60

Overview of projects supported in 2017

Project registration number	Project name	Contractor	Sector priority	Priority country	Approved grant in €
SAMRS/2017/SYR/1/11	Operation of an urgent care obstetrics/gynaecological and specialised healthcare facility for women, newborns and children under the age of 5 in the encircled area of Homs, Syria.	MAGNA Deti v núdzi, o.z.	Health care	Syria	199,328.00
SAMRS/2017/SYR/1/14	Education for children, youth and women in the Syrian refugee population, increasing in capacity to provide psycho-social support in the Eastern Beirut	Človek v ohrození, n.o.	Education	Lebanon	192,880.00
SAMRS/2017/AFG/1/1	Training centre for renewable and clean energy in Kabul	ELVOSOLAR, a.s.	Education	Afghanistan	199,725.00
SAMRS/2017/KE/1/1	Fish farm on Lake Victoria	Humanistické centrum NAROVINU, o.z.	Fishery development	Kenya	250,000.00
SAMRS/2017/KE/1/2	Capacity building for health workers in the Kwale Region to preserve the health of the Kenyan population overseeing the incidence of infectious disease	Trnava University in Trnava	Health care	Kenya	161,437.65
SAMRS/2017/KE/1/3	Improving access to health care in the rural areas of Joska	St. Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work	Health care	Kenya	248,552.00
SAMRS/2017/KE/1/6	Strengthening a sustainable social enterprise that provides training, employment and support for the integration of young people into the labour market	Nadácia Integra, n.o.	Education	Kenya	161,930.00
SAMRS/2017/KE/1/8	Building peace through practical skills	SAVIO o.z.	Education	Kenya	249,190.00
SAMRS/2017/MD/1/3	Strengthening transparency and effective local government performance and building capacities in civil society	Človek v ohrození, n.o.	Civil society, government and self-government	Moldova	95,130.00
SAMRS/2017/MD/1/4	Building capacities for the implementation of Enhanced producer liability in the Republic of Moldova	Slovak Environment Agency	Waste management	Moldova	97,092.48
SAMRS/2017/MD/1/5	Modernisation prospects for Gagauzia, Moldova	Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association	Civil society, government and self-government	Moldova	100,000.00
SAMRS/2017/MD/1/6	Support for transparency and financial sustainability in regional policies, state-owned companies and self-governments in Moldova	Inštitút pre ekonomické a sociálne reformy, n.o.	Civil society, government and self-government	Moldova	94,630.00
SAMRS/2017/SSD/1/1	Humanitarian famine assistance in South Sudan	St. Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work	Health care	South Sudan	199,960.00
SAMRS/2017/SSD/1/2	Securing measures to reduce morbidity and mortality in a vulnerable population group in South Sudan	Nadácia Integra, n.o.	Health care	South Sudan	198,617.00
SAMRS/2017/SSD/1/3	Fighting famine: prevention and treatment of children under 5 years of age with acute malnutrition and pregnant and nursing mothers in the Duk District of Jonglei, South Sudan	MAGNA Deti v núdzi, o.z.	Health care	South Sudan	199,995.00
SAMRS/2016/UA/1/8	Application of experience with green procurement principles from Slovakia in Ukraine	Slovenské centrum pre komunikáciu a rozvoj, n.o.	Civil society, government and self-government	Ukraine	73,316.70
SAMRS/2016/VP/1/1	Harmonisation of analytical methods in the National Environmental Agency of Georgia with the requirements of the updated Framework Water Directive 2013/39/EU	Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava	Water management	Georgia	50,082.00
SAMRS/2016/VP/1/6	Monitoring and assessment of drought impacts on water protection and rational water use in Georgia	Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute	Water management	Georgia	89,735.00

Overview of projects supported in 2017

Project registration number	Project name	Contractor	Sector priority	Priority country	Approved grant in €
SAMRS/2017/UA/1/3	Self-government for people. Building capacities in local government and local state administration in collaboration with citizens	PDCS,o.z.	Civil society, government and self-government	Ukraine	89,386.00
SAMRS/2017/UA/1/4	Rights of refugees and internally displaced persons: European experience and methods for their implementation	SME SPOLU, o.z.	Civil society, government and self-government	Ukraine	89,775.00
SAMRS/2017/UA/1/7	Active citizen – effective state	Centrum pre európsku politiku, n.o.	Civil society, government and self-government	Ukraine	99,774.10
SAMRS/2017/VP/1/3	Use of remote sensing methods in water management and evaluation of extreme hydro-meteorological situations in Georgia	Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute	Water management	Georgia	85,515.00
SAMRS/2017/VP/1/8	Support for small and medium enterprises for unemployed young people	Regionálna rozvojová agentúra Senec-Pezinok, interest groups of legal entities	Market economy	Georgia	99,676.00
SAMRS/2017/ZB/1/5	Partnerships between non-governmental organisations and self-governments: collectively for more effective participation	PDCS,o.z.	Civil society, government and self-government	Albania	87,627.20
SAMRS/2017/Z/1/1	National Convention on the EU in Macedonia	Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, interest groups of legal entities and natural persons	Civil society, government and self-government	Macedonia	120,000.00
SAMRS/2017/RV/1/1	University network of global education	CEEV Živica	Education	Slovakia	34,534.80
SAMRS/2017/RV/1/2	Global development education for future journalists	Človek v ohrození, n.o.	Education	Slovakia	34,910.00
SAMRS/2017/RV/1/3	Incorporating principles and attitudes towards global themes into higher education (GlobPost)	Nadácia Milana Šimečku	Education	Slovakia	30,900.00
SAMRS/2017/RV/1/7	Global university V: Introducing development topics into higher education in the regions	Nadácia Pontis	Education	Slovakia	34,969.00
SAMRS/2017/RV/2/1	Development of global education programmes at pedagogical and non-pedagogical universities	Človek v ohrození, n.o.	Education	Slovakia	149,942.00
SAMRS/2017/BK/1/1	Building capacities among development actors and engaging other actors into development collaboration within the context of the international development Agenda 2030	Platform of non-governmental development organisations, interest groups of legal entities	Education	Slovakia	49,995.00
SAMRS/2017/PPP/1/2	Irrigation system for an apple orchard and nursery in the tropical zone of Tanzania	Agrofim Slovak s.r.o.	Agriculture	Tanzania	50,000.00
SAMRS/2017/PPP/1/6	Establishment of business contacts in Afghanistan and promotion of the Export-Import bank of the Slovak Republic (EXIMBANKA) programme in the public sector	ELVOSOLAR, a.s.	Energy	Afghanistan	50,000.00
SAMRS/2017/PPP/1/8	Investigation and promotion of the use of the Aquaholder™ solution in agriculture in Afghanistan to improve crop yields and decreasing water usage.	PeWas, s.r.o.	Agriculture	Afghanistan	50,000.00
SAMRS/2017/EK/1/2	SAME WORLD - SUSTAINABILITY / AWARENESS / MOBILISATION / ENVIRONMENT by 2018	Slovenské centrum pre komunikáciu a rozvoj, n.o.	Education	Slovakia	33,826.00
SAMRS/2017/EK/1/3	Social and solidarity economy as a sustainable approach to development by 2018	Slovenské centrum pre komunikáciu a rozvoj, n.o.	Education	Slovakia	34,672.00

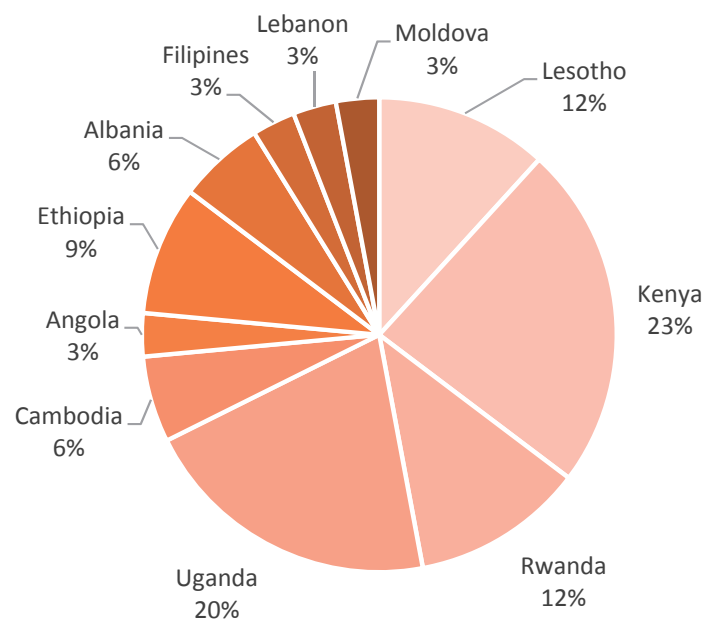
Programme for sending volunteers

Sending volunteers and experts abroad is one of the forms of official development assistance provided by SAIDC. The programme has multiple objectives. It involves cooperation with young people and national capacity building,

support for the creation of partnerships and institutional relationships and gives young people the opportunity to obtain inter-cultural experience and aids in the transfer of knowledge. A total of **34 volunteers** received **EUR 234,608.42** in contributions from the SlovakAid programme towards their stays in 2017.

Overview of volunteers sent in 2017		
Sending organisation	Receiving country (number of volunteers)	Total grant in €
St. Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work, n.o.	Lesotho (4), Kenya (5), Rwanda (2), Uganda (1)	93,600.00
Dvojfarebný svet, o.z.	Cambodia (2)	21,600.00
SAVIO, o.z.	Kenya (2), Angola (1)	20,868.42
Nadácia Integra	Ethiopia (1), Kenya (1)	12,200.00
ADRA - Adventistická agentúra pre pomoc a rozvoj, o.z.	Albania (1), Philippines (1)	20,740.00
Človek v ohrození, n.o.	Albania (1), Lebanon (1), Moldova (1)	21,600.00
eRko - Hnutie kresťanských spoločností detí	Uganda (2), Ethiopia (2)	14,400.00
Slovak Catholic Charities	Uganda (4), Rwanda (2)	29,600.00
Total	34	234,608.42

Number of volunteers in receiving countries (in %)



b.) financial contributions

Financial contributions provided through a decision issued by the MFEA SR are among the most flexible of Slovakia's official development assistance instruments. Financial contributions were provided for acute humanitarian aid, bilateral and multilateral assistance and projects implemented through local organisations, in partnering countries (e.g. microgrants) and in collaboration with Slovak embassies. A total of **€3,949,854.75** in financial contributions was provided in 2017 (€1,982,760 in humanitarian aid, €402,694.75 in microgrants and €1,564,400.00 in other financial contributions).

Financial contributions in the form of microgrants were implemented in collaboration with Slovak embassies and represent another development assistance instrument. Microgrants are used to support small projects valued at up to €10,000 and lasting a maximum of 6 months. A total of 51 microgrants were approved in 2017 in 11 countries (Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova and Ukraine). This form of support was mostly provided in the areas of water and sanitation, health care, education, the environment and agriculture.

Overview of financial contributions provided within humanitarian aid		
Name	Country	Amount of financial contribution in €
Financial contribution provided for humanitarian assistance for the armed conflict affecting residence in the Luhansk area of eastern Ukraine	Ukraine	7,000.00
Financial humanitarian assistance for the residents of eastern Ukraine	Ukraine	20,000.00
Financial contribution for the victims of the armed conflict in Ukraine	Ukraine	39,000.00
Financial contribution for the victims of the armed conflict in Ukraine	Ukraine	35,000.00
Humanitarian assistance (budgetary measure of the Minister of Interior of the Slovak Republic)	Syria	161,760.00
Financial contribution provided as humanitarian assistance for residents and refugees in Iraq	Iraq	50,000.00
Financial contribution provided to purchase a bread oven for 600 Ethiopian children	Ethiopia	10,000.00
Financial contribution to mitigate hunger in drought-affected areas of the Marsabit Province	Kenya	25,000.00
Financial contribution to support the running of a clinic providing out-patient care for children and adults in the Mukuru slums	Kenya	5,000.00
Financial contribution provided at humanitarian aid for those affected by areas in which the Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic are active	Bosnia and Herzegovina	5,000.00
Financial humanitarian assistance for Palestinian refugees	Palestine	25,000.00
Financial contribution in response to the basic humanitarian needs of the residents of Yemen in the most affected areas	Yemen	150,000.00
Contribution towards humanitarian aid for the Rohingya	Bangladesh	50,000.00
Financial Contribution for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	200,000.00
Financial Contribution for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	200,000.00
Financial Contribution for the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	200,000.00
Financial Contribution for the United Nations Peace Building Fund (PBF), fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	400,000.00
Financial Contribution for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	100,000.00
Financial Contribution for the International Organisation for Migration, fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	200,000.00
Financial Contribution for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), fulfilment of commitments from Obama's Leaders' Summit on Refugees	not applicable	100,000.00
TOTAL		1,982,760.00

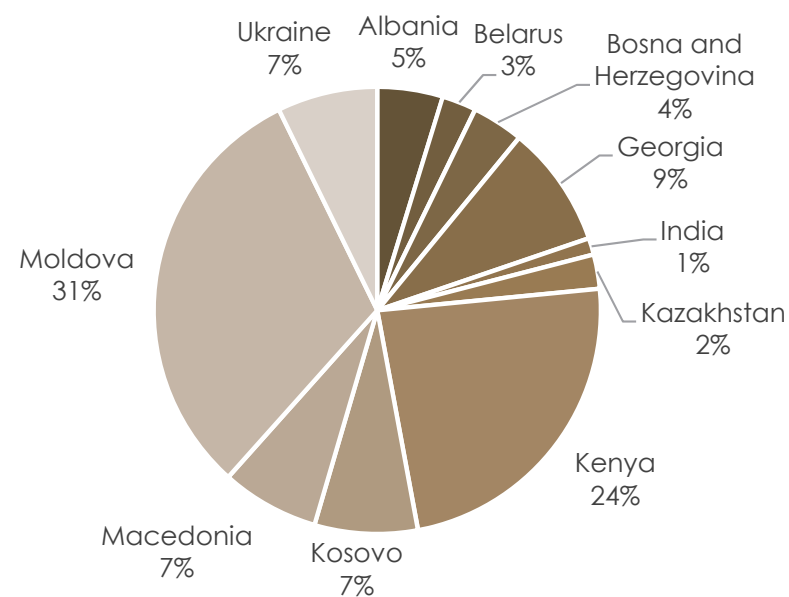
Overview of general financial contributions in 2017

Name	Country	Amount of financial contribution in €
Financial contribution to support tripartite collaboration in Moldova (2nd instalment)	Moldova	50,000.00
Financial contribution to support tripartite collaboration in Moldova (3rd instalment)	Moldova	50,000.00
Financial contribution to the activities of an educational and rehabilitation day centre	Kenya	5,000.00
Financial contribution for educational activities	Kenya	5,000.00
Financial contribution to the operation of the St. Philip Neri Primary School	Kenya	5,000.00
Financial contribution for educational activities	Kenya	5,000.00
Financial contribution to purchase equipment for the special Insectarium laboratory	Ethiopia	10,000.00
Voluntary financial contribution of the SR to a school for disabled children in Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan	10,000.00
Financial contribution provided to finance equipment for a primary and secondary school in Antoby	Madagascar	10,000.00
Voluntary financial contribution of the SR to support the activities of the OECD DAC (2nd instalment)	not applicable	10,400.00
Voluntary financial contribution of the SR to support the implementation of the Action Plan for Ukraine	Ukraine	10,000.00
Financial contribution to support fund activities in South Sudan	South Sudan	150,000.00
Financial contribution to support the International Committee of the Red Cross "Water and habitat" programme in South Sudan	South Sudan	150,000.00
Financial contribution provided for the UN Habitat programme	not applicable	15,000.00
Financial contribution for Afghan children in Afghanistan, completion of school buildings in the Azaade area, near Mazar-e-Sharif, Northern Afghanistan	Afghanistan	25,000.00
Financial contribution provided to the UN Democracy Fund	not applicable	15,000.00
Financial contribution for EED activities	not applicable	30,000.00
Financial contribution to support Slovakia's activities in the area of building and maintaining peace, conflict prevention, mediation and security sector reform during the chairmanship of the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly	not applicable	50,000.00
Financial contribution to the Commission for Refugee and Migration Issues of the Republic of Serbia	Republic of Serbia	30,000.00
Financial contribution provided to the International Committee of the Red Cross to support water in urban and rural areas of Afghanistan	Afghanistan	500,000.00
Financial contribution provided to the OECD to support Ukraine	Ukraine	90,000.00
Financial contribution for the DAC/OECD provided to support the 2017-2018 agenda and budget	Ukraine	110,000.00
UN voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in human beings, especially women and children	not applicable	15,000.00
Trust fund for victims of sexual violence	not applicable	30,000.00
UN Women	not applicable	100,000.00
Voluntary trust fund for migration	not applicable	15,000.00
Financial contribution for the Tadesse Damte primary school	Ethiopia	69,000.00
TOTAL		1,564,400.00



Overview of financial contributions provided for microgrants		
Partner country	Number of provided microgrants	Total in €
Albania	2	19,087.00
Belarus	1	10,000.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	15,000.00
Georgia	5	35,517.00
India	1	4,859.00
Kazakhstan	1	10,000.00
Kenya	12	95,133.66
Kosovo	6	30,003.20
Macedonia	3	28,500.00
Moldova	13	125,398.89
Ukraine	4	29,196.00
TOTAL	51	402,694.75

Financial contributions provided to partner countries (in %)



c.) contract

Contracts were another instrument used within development assistance. This is an instrument used to support projects readied based on the specific requirements of partner countries. This is a new instrument employed for the first time by SAIDC in the partner country of Moldova in 2017. A contract was used to select the implementer of a development project in the Republic of Macedonia for the promotion and support of democracy, the rule of law and the approximation of the Republic of Macedonia to European standards and European integration. The contract was drawn up for a total of €120,000 (including VAT). SAIDC wants to continue with similar projects in the future. Another contract should be drawn up in 2018 for the programme country of Moldova for a project focused on the area of water and sanitation.

d.) budgetary measures

Budgetary measures were also employed in 2017 to implement development assistance activities. These are a specific kind of financial transfer conducted during the year to make payments that are not covered by individual budgetary chapters. Payment may be completed based on budgetary measures that use funds from other chapters. All such changes are subject to approval by the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic. In this case, budgetary measures were used to support VÚVH (Water Research Institute) and specifically the "Technical assistance in the implementation of the requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC by local governments in Moldova" project. This project is implemented in collaboration with the Czech T. G. Masaryk Water Research Institute and its contractual framework is provided by the Memorandum of Association between the Czech Development Agency and SAIDC dated 9 August 2017. The focal point of this Czech and Slovak collaboration is the harmonisation of Moldovan legislation with the EU directive for wastewater management. A total of €124,918 was transferred within this budgetary measure.

e.) CETIR – Centre for Experience Transfer from Integration and Reforms

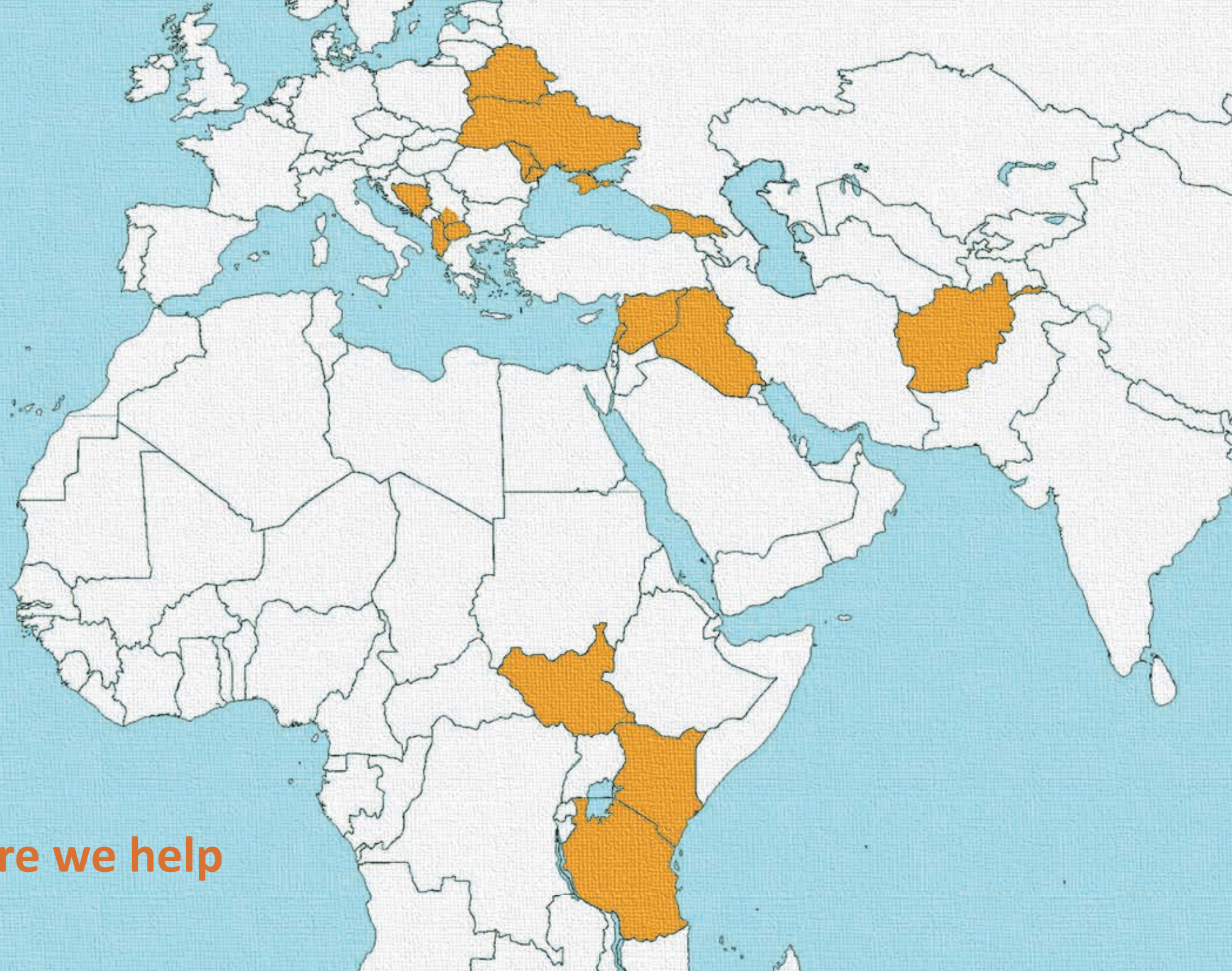
The programme to transfer experience from integration and reforms (Centre for Experience Transfer from Integration and Reforms - CETIR) is a flexible instrument within Slovakia's bilateral development assistance efforts. The programme's role in 2017 was to transfer Slovak experience from integration into European and North Atlantic structures and knowledge from the transformation process and the implementation of reforms in state organisations in priority countries and in countries that are currently engaged in transformation or integration processes.

CETIR's efforts this past year were also focused on deepening contacts between Slovak experts and the representatives of state authorities, primarily in the countries of the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partnership. Activities were primarily focused on strengthening reform efforts in the security sector, fulfilling European perspectives and improving on good governance through study visits, internships at ministries and working seminars.

SAIDC secured the implementation of this programme through a contact point and financial manager in close collaboration with embassies, which initiated and submitted individual proposals for activities. The CETIR Management Committee (MFEA) is responsible for managing the programme under the approved statute.

A total of 14 activities were conducted in 2017 through short-term study visits, working seminars, internships for diplomats from partner ministries of foreign affairs at Slovak ministries and expert consultations involving Slovak government experts abroad. CETIR activities were implemented in 9 countries: Albania, Montenegro, Georgia, Iraq, Kosovo, Moldova, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine with a total of €93,388.91 in support. Among the most important partnerships in this area are collaboration with Israel's development agency, MASHAV, which began in 2016 and has the potential to endure going forward. A detailed overview of activities implemented in 2017 is provided in the following table.

Overview of CETIR programme activities in 2017					
Partner country	Name of activity	Form of activity	Date of implementation	Number of participants	Total of activities in €
Moldova	Strengthening capacities in the Moldovan parliament	study visit	3 - 6 April 2017	4	4,354.45
Georgia	Social benefits, pensions and supporting information systems	sending of experts	12 - 18 March 2017	5	5,247.16
Iraq	Short-term internship of diplomats	internship	25 September to 6 October 2017	2	2,461.63
Montenegro	Short-term internship of diplomats	internship	10 - 12 April 2017	2	1,350.00
Kosovo	Short-term internship of diplomats	internship	26 May to 23 June 2017	1	1,886.31
Georgia	Workshop – Basics of security sector reform	working seminar	7 - 9 June 2017	1	944.56
Moldova	Workshop – Basics of security sector reform	working seminar	7 - 9 June 2017	5	4,722.80
Ukraine	Workshop – Basics of security sector reform	working seminar	7 - 9 June 2017	3	2,833.68
Albania	EU principles in ecological and agricultural production	study visit	3 - 8 September 2017	5	6,414.87
Montenegro	Environment and climate change	study visit	24 - 26 October 2017	2	2,519.07
Serbia	Integration and forest conservation reforms	study visit	16 - 20 October 2017	5	2,226.24
Eastern Partnership	MASHAW - Educational course focused on gender equality for Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine	study visit	19 - 26 November 2017	28	15,749.33
Turkey	Short-term internship of diplomats	internship	19 November - 2 December 2017	2	1,878.33
Serbia	Central register of residents	study visit	6 - 9 November 2017	5	3,344.28
	Administrative and payroll costs				37,455.76
Total					93,388.91



Where we help

6. Assessment of development assistance in 2017

From SAIDC's perspective, the year 2017 delivered several changes and new aspects in the day-to-day life of the agency. Chief among them was the agency's moving from its offices at Grösslingova 35 to new offices on the 4th floor of the new MFEA building located at Pražská 7 in Bratislava. Numerous internal documents (decisions concerning the registered office, the SAIDC statute, internal SAIDC guidelines, and the SAIDC organisational rules) were modified and entered into force on 1 May 2017 in connection with the moving.

The SAIDC continued in the trend of rolling out new development assistance instruments. In addition to grants and financial contributions, the agency expanded the range of instruments available to include awarding contracts. Within this context, the forms used in the Minister's decisions to award grants, contracts and financial contributions were modified at the beginning of 2017 to meet the specifications in new legislation and SAIDC's own needs and the process of preparing materials for financial contributions and their approval was also modified.

Illegal immigration, terrorism, poverty and climate change are acute and contemporary problems of a global character. We must consider them our own problems and therefore respond to the challenges they pose. A key document with respect to these issues remains the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which served as the basis for laying down objectives and political commitments in 2015 that the UN and its member states should achieve by 2030. The primary focus of the agenda is to eliminate poverty and hunger and create dignified living conditions. Slovakia is active in the process of preparing measures and in the integration of related tasks into policies and programmes at the international, national and local level, including the financing necessary for their achievement. Additional funds were provided in 2017 to resolve current issues (humanitarian crises and migration) and this trend will continue going forward.

SAIDC's internal activities were conducted under the contract with its founder (between the MFEA SR and SAIDC for 2017) and approval of the Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance in 2017.

SAIDC announced fifteen requests for proposals seeking grant applications in 2017. A total of 73 projects were supported with a total of €4,511,544.50. In terms of the transfer of experience and capacity building in state organisations in partner countries (CETIR programme), a total of 14 activities were held and supported with €93,388.91 (study trips, internships and sending of Slovak experts). Local organisations in priority countries received €402,694.75 in contributions towards 51 project activities focused on local development and improving infrastructure. A total of €3,547,160.00 was provided in financial contributions for humanitarian aid and multilateral cooperation. Capacity building and activities in the public awareness programme were supported with €26,496.61.

In the area of capacity building, the SAIDC organised training activities for parties interested in grants for development assistance projects, and provided training for volunteers sent abroad and individual external consultations with experts, intended to improve project documents for the individual successful applicants, in the area of the logic of intervention and before signature of the agreements themselves.

SAIDC staff participated in external and internal training activities and seminary, related to changes in legislation and regulations concerning the protection of personal data, payroll issues, financial control, OECD DAS reporting (RIS DEV), OHS, streamlining internal processes and collaboration within the agency, events organised by the UNDP within the capacity building project (Istanbul and Prague), and more. SAIDC's director participated in the meeting of the Coordination Committee on 20 June 2017.

Collaboration with the UNDP continued and an extension of the current project was agreed on until March 2018 with the goal of concluding these activities. SAIDC managers completed monitoring trips to Kenya.

SAIDC representatives regularly participated in round tables organised by the international Global Education Network Europe (GENE) organisation, which are held twice a year, in Nicosia and Brussels in 2017, for the purposes of networking institutions and evaluating current challenges and projects in global development education under way in the individual countries. SAIDC and GENE concluded a Memorandum of Understanding and subsequent tripartite agreement on cooperation (SAIDC, GENE and the Platform of Non-Governmental Organisations). SAIDC supported the comprehensive global development education project with a total of €149,942. This project is co-financed by GENE with €50,000. GENE is supporting global development education in 2018 with another €50,000 and continues to organise the national seminar on global development education and GENE peer review, aimed at evaluating projects and formulating recommendations for the future, in the creation and implementation of projects focused on global and development education.

SAIDC employees also participated in various working and coordination meetings and project monitoring activities (Moldova, Afghanistan, Kenya, Albania, Ukraine and Georgia).

Intensive collaboration and communication with development diplomats at the Embassies in Chisinau and Nairobi took place in the reported period. Within the monitoring mission in Moldova, SAIDC's director held negotiations with GIZ and USAID in June 2017 on potential collaboration in the coming years. SAIDC had the opportunity to use identified and formulated GIZ projects. The selection of a specific area of focus for implementing projects and experts to prepare detailed specifications is expected in 2018, along with the call to submit proposals for a contract with the goal of implementing a project in the water and sanitation sector.

SAIDC's director participated in peer review for Luxembourg (comprehensive evaluation of their ODA system) from January to September 2017. The 2nd networking forum organised by the UNDP was held in Astana in June 2017, and SAIDC's director presented on the legislative standing of ODA in Slovakia at this forum. Further monitoring trips were completed to Lebanon at the end of August, beginning of September 2017 (humanitarian projects organised by Habitat for Humanity and Magna).

SAIDC's director took up an invitation from the Platform of Non-Governmental Organisations in September to attend an international conference in Tallinn focused on security and development assistance in Afghanistan and a trip to Bosnia and Herzegovina in October for the closing conference organised by NISP Acee within their project.

SAIDC provided presentation and consultations for business entities within cooperation with the Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency at the CONECO 2017 trade fair held at Incheba Expo Bratislava (March 2017) and within a specialised seminar for businesses focused on investments and collaboration in developing countries (with focus on Africa) in April 2017. SAIDC collaborated and consulted with the Export-Import bank of the Slovak Republic (EXIMBANKA) on projects suitable for support within a new ODA instrument, loans with a grant component.

EXIMBANKA and SAIDC representatives participated in joint consultations with business entities interested in grant or loan support within activities in developing countries. Numerous presentations were given throughout the year on development assistance and two lectures were given on Slovakia's development assistance for the participants of the Children's University 2017.

The SAIDC's director, together with a project manager, participated in the European Development Days held in Brussels (6 - 8 June 2017), where a meeting was also held for the *EUTF05-HoA-KE-18/04* project implemented in Kenya involving the primary representatives of the collaborating organisations.

In autumn 2017, the SAIDC, DDCaHA and CARDO agreed on collaboration and the organisation of the Volunteer of the Year (Dobrovoľník roka) event to be held in 2018. SAIDC agreed to provide reimbursement for the production of the awards within this collaboration.

In addition to updating and securing presentation materials, SAIDC also prepared and printed strategic materials, a campaign focused on popularising development assistance and the agency's activities on social networks and regularly updated its website (photo documentation, videos, news, etc.). The website includes an interactive map that provides all relevant information about SAIDC-financed projects.

The joint project of the Visegrad Group countries was approved by EU DEL Nairobi in December 2016 and is set for implementation in Kenya with focus on the support and development of local farmers and the processing of cashew and sesame seed crops (*EUTF05-HoA-KE-18/04: Enhancement of livelihoods in the Kenyan Coastal Region by supporting organic and fair trade certification of small farmholders*).

The contract between EU DEL Nairobi and the SAIDC was signed on 11 September 2017. The project has a total value of €1.9 million. SAIDC is serving as the grant manager, primary coordinator and the implementer of a portion of the activities.

Contracts with the primary partnering organisation were signed in December 2017. Ten Senses Africa Ltd. (Nairobi, Kenya, 4 December 2017), Farm Africa (Nairobi, Kenya, 4 December 2017), Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague (Czech Republic, 14 December 2017), National Agricultural Research and Innovation Center (Hungary, 14 December 2017), Foundation Science for Development (14 December 2017).

During the project, various institutions and organisations from the Visegrad Group countries will be engaged in fair trade-related activities to provide product marketing (with costs for these activities to be paid using SlovakAid funds in the 3rd and 4th years of project implementation). Partner organisations that signed contracts were paid the first instalments at the end of 2017 (the first instalment of €4,100 for the Polish partner was paid at the beginning of 2018):

Total of grant in €	1,900,000.00
First instalment received by SAIDC in 2017	768,795.00
Instalments to partner organisations in 2017	
Ten Senses Africa Ltd.	422,276.00
Farm Africa	248,032.65
National Agricultural Research and Innovation Center (Hungary)	5,473.50
Czech University of Life Sciences Prague	8,200.00
Foundation Science for Development	0.00



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1. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. RO/4/2017 increased expenditures in Category 640, Standard Transfers, by €3,187,649 by releasing funds from 2015 and 2016 related to providing official development assistance;
2. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. RO/11/2017 transferred funds to the Ministry of Interior's budget chapter in connection with providing humanitarian aid to Iraq; the budget in Category 640, Standard Transfers, was reduced by €161,760;
3. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. RO/12/2017 transferred funds to the MFEA budget to finance the programme to evaluate development assistance projects; the budget in Category 640, Standard Transfers, was reduced by €20,000;
4. Transfer of funds within the budget:
 - €40,000 to finance public awareness activities, from Category 640, Standard Transfers, to Category 630, Goods and Services;
 - €10,000 to build capacities at SAIDC and among ODA actors, from Category 640, Standard Transfers, to Category 630, Goods and Services;
5. An internal transfer of budget funds was completed to finance the CETIR programme:
 - €100,000, from Category 640, Standard Transfers, to Category 630, Goods and Services;
 - €10,000, from Category 640, Standard Transfers, to Category 620, Premiums and Other Insurance Contributions.
6. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 23 transferred budgeted funds to the VÚVH project in Moldova named: "Technical assistance in the implementation of the requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC by local governments in Moldova" - with a €124,918 reduction in the budget in Category 640, Standard Transfers.
7. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 18 permitted an overrun in the limit on expenditures in Category 610, Payroll, Employee Benefits and Other Payments to Personnel, of €7,576 and €2,648 in Category 620, Premiums and Other Insurance Contributions, due to cost of living increases.
8. Budgetary Measure No. 16 transferred €2,400 in funds from Category 630, Goods and Services, to Category 710, Capital Transfers, as a result in the adjustment of the cap on expenditures in programme 05T0A02.
9. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 26 transferred €35,000 in funds from Category 640, Goods and Services, to Category 720, Capital Transfers, after taking into account the real distribution of funds provided for official development assistance.
10. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 36 released budget funds from fund 131G in relation to the delivery of official development assistance; the budget in Category 640, Standard Transfers, was increased by €2,388,961.
11. Budgetary Measure No. 34 transferred budget funds to the central authority apparatus to cover personnel costs for representatives of the Council of Europe in Sarajevo; the budget in Category 640, Standard Transfers, was decreased by €118,373.
12. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 38 permitted an overrun of the cap on expenditures for the MFEA's chapter with a transfer of €1,500,000 from the VPS chapter to cover contributions paid to international organisations in Category 640, Standard Transfers.
13. An increase in non-budget funds received from a foreign grant led to modification of the cap on expenditures in Category 610, Payroll, Employee Benefits and Other

Payments to Personnel, by €3,500, in Category 620, Premiums and Other Insurance Contributions, by €2,180.71 and in Category 630, Goods and Services, by €2,738.

14. An internal budgetary measure was used to transfer €38,474 within the SAIDC budget from Category 630, Goods and Service, with €5,374 transferred to Category 620, Premiums and Other Insurance Contributions, and €33,100 transferred to Category 640, Standard Transfers.

15. Budgetary Measure No. 23 committed €153,589 in funds in Category 640, Standard Transfers, to the MFEA budget due to the sending of SAIDC employee and development diplomats to the embassies in Chisinau and Nairobi.

16. An increase in non-budget funds received from a foreign grant led to modification of the cap on expenditures in Category 640, Standard Transfers, in the amount of €683,982.15 to pay instalments based on contracts concluded with partners.

17. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 22 transferred €43,200 in funds from Category 640, Goods and Services, to Category 720, Capital Transfers, after taking into account the real distribution of funds provided for official development assistance.

18. Ministry of Finance Budgetary Measure No. 24 committed €4,680,621 in budget funds via transfer of unused funds for ODA projects into the following budget year.

Funds in Category 610, Payroll, Employee Benefits and Other Payments to Personnel, were drawn in the amount of €187,773, or 99.99%, of the modified budget.

Funds in Category 620, Premiums and Other Insurance Contributions, were drawn in the amount of €78,477, or 99.99%, of the modified budget.

Funds in Category 630, Goods and Services, were drawn in the amount of €188,000, or 93.69% of the modified budget.

Funds in Category 640, Standard Transfers, were drawn in the amount of €7,816,647, or 99.83 % of the modified budget. From this category as at 31 December 2017, a total of €7,815,634 was provided for Slovakia's ODA, with €1,387,091 drawn from fund 131F (unused ODA funds from 2015), €2,537,728 drawn from fund 131G (unused ODA funds from 2016) and €3,890,815 drawn from fund 111 (funds for 2017).

Funds in Category 710, Acquisition of Capital Assets, were drawn in the amount of €2,275, or 94.80 %, of the modified budget.

Funds in Category 720, Capital Transfers, were drawn in the amount of €78,200, or 100%, of the modified budget.

The total draw on the SAIDC budget at 31 December 2017 was €8,351,342, which represents 99.69% of the modified budget. SAIDC operating expenses (610, 620, 630 and 640) totalled €336,946 in 2017. A total of €93,389 was used to finance the CETIR programme, with €16,353 spent to finance Public Awareness activities, €10,144 on Capacity Building at the SAIDC and in state administration and €980 on financing for an expert in the external evaluation of projects.

Overview of funds drawn in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017:

Table of funds drawn from the budget as of 31 December 2017				
Economic classification	Approved budget in €	Modified budget in €	Amount drawn in €	% of modified budget
610	180,199	187,775	187,773	99.999%
620	60,433	78,455	78,447	99.990%
630	91,712	200,838	188,000	93.608%
640	6,217,520	7,829,769	7,816,647	99.832%
Of which, ODA	6,215,860	7,828,756	7,815,634	99.832%
710	0	2,400	2,275	94.792%
720	0	78,200	78,200	100.000%
Total	6,549,864	8,377,437	8,351,342	99.689%

Overview of funds drawn by instruments of the Focal Points of Bilateral Development Assistance in 2017:

Indicative budget of 05T0A for 2017 in €		
ODA allocated for the MFEA for 2016		6,549,864.00
Residual funds from previous funds		1,438,122.40
Additions during 2017		1,510,224.00
Subtotal		9,498,210.40
Additional funds received in 2017 (€768,795 - first instalment for V4 project)		768,795.00
Total for 2017		10,267,005.40
Development interventions programme		
	Planned budget in €	Contracted amount in €
Afghanistan	200,000	199,725.00
Kenya	1,200,000	1,071,109.60
Kenya V4 project	768,795	683,982.15
Moldova	600,000	386,852.48
Humanitarian and post-humanitarian aid programme		
South Sudan	200,000	598,572.00
Syria and neighbouring countries (Projects)	500,000	392,208.00
Transformation experience sharing programme - Western Balkans		
Albania		87,627.20
Bosnia and Herzegovina	300,000	0.00
Kosovo		0.00
Transformation experience sharing programme – Eastern Partnership and CETIR		
Belarus		0.00
Georgia	300,000	185,191.00
Ukraine	500,000	278,935.10
CETIR	110,000	93,388.91
Business partnership programme	250,000	150,000.00
Humanitarian aid programme (Financial contributions)	600,000	248,760.00
Programme for sending volunteers	242,734	234,608.42
Development education and public awareness programme		
Development education	100,000	285,255.80
Capacity building programme		
Financial contribution for umbrella organisations	50,000	49,995.00
EU project co-financing	70,000	68,498.00
Contracts		
Projects based on requests from partner countries (budgetary measures for VUVH (Moldova) and the SPPA contract (Macedonia)	125,000	244,918.00
Supporting instruments		
Microgrants	350,000	402,694.75
Financial contributions	100,000 + 1,500,000 (increase)	3,298,400.00
Cooperation with the UNDP	200,000	0.00
Other expenditures		
SAIDC expenditures	332,344 + 10,224 (increase)	336,946.00
Development diplomats (Kenya, Moldova)	149,786	153,589.00
Public awareness	40,000	16,352.61
Building capacities at SAIDC and ODA actors, evaluation of grant applications	10,000	10,144.00
Evaluation of projects	0	20,000.00
Audit of projects	20,000	0.00
Total drawn / contracted ODA by instrument (excluding old funds)	8,828,883.00	9,497,753.02
Total drawn / contracted ODA by instrument (including old funds)	10,267,005.40	

8. Overview of projects completed in 2017



AFGHANISTAN

Project name: Research on the effect of Aquaholder on agriculture in Afghanistan's specific climate conditions aimed at decreasing need for irrigation

Registration number: SAMRS/2016/PPP/1/2

Main sector priority: Agricultural research – CRS code 31 182

Contractor: PeWaS, s.r.o.

Slovak ODA grant: €49,956.35

Project implementation: November 2016 – November 2017

The primary focus of the implemented project was to contribute to future decreases in the need for irrigation in the region of the project's local partner by using Aquaholder products, which were specially adapted to local climatic conditions. Modifications were facilitated based on the result of field testing and monitoring of its effects on germination and the emergence of selected crops, which the contractor conducted in collaboration with its partner, Herat University. The utility of the produced products was demonstrated as there was a decrease in the need for irrigation during testing in the agricultural production of monitored crops. The completion of the proposal of measures for exploitation of the project's results was a major contribution made by the project. The contractor managed to secure the contacts necessary for the future collaboration and the sustainability of project outcomes depends on its ability to continue to develop and strengthen these contacts.





ALBANIA

Project name: NGO leaders for better partnership and collaboration
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/ZB/1/3
Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society
CRS code 15 150
Contractor: PDCS, o.z.
Slovak ODA grant: €89,409.00
Project implementation: October 2015 – March 2017

The goal of this project was to support the Albanian non-profit sector in an effort to efficiently build up civil society and enhance collaboration between the government and non-governmental sector. The non-governmental sector in Albania does not sufficiently collaborate and does not have a shared vision and strategy for communication with the government sector. Through specific activities, the project contributed to the establishment of partnerships between NGOs, along with their networking and affiliation in coalitions. Training activities were conducted during project implementation for the leaders of NGOs that reflected current needs and the problems facing the Albanian non-governmental sector and training contents were officially recorded in a published publication. The leaders of Albanian NGOs enhanced their learning through study trips to Slovakia.

Project name: Western Balkan CSOs for Global Development (Balkan NGOs for Global Development)
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/ZB2/1/2
Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society
CRS code 15 150
Contractor: Nadácia Pontis
Slovak ODA grant: €95,195.00
Project implementation: March 2016 – September 2017

The goal of this project was to mobilise civil society in Albania and Kosovo through local organisations and to support their capacities by focusing on the agenda of global education and development assistance. The project is built upon previous collaboration between the contractor and project partners and has the ambition of complementing a regional project implemented in the Balkans by the Austrian organisation Horizont 3000. Capacity building in NGOs in Albania and Kosovo was conducted through educational and networking activities. The submission of project proposals for analytical projects through a request for proposals directed towards Albanian organisations was an important element of the project. A map of Albanian NGOs active in the area of development assistance was created.



BELARUS

Project name: Use of experience in supporting the transformation of the regional market environment

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/VP/1/1

Main sector priority: Business support services and institutions
CRS code 25 010

Contractor: Slovak Chamber of Commerce

Slovak ODA grant: €63,430.00

Project implementation: May 2016 – April 2017

The objective of this project was to improve the development aspects of bilateral relations between Slovakia and Belarus, to use partnerships to foster and support the transformation of the regional market environment for small and medium enterprises and communities in Belarus, to transfer Slovakia's experience from economic and social transformations, and to expand economic collaboration between Slovakia and Belarus. Project activities contributed towards a reinvigoration of transformational ambitions among Belarus business organisations, ensured greater awareness of market environments, the transformation process, and legislation, and demonstrated the main benefits of transformation using Slovakia as an example so that counterparts in Belarus could use its knowledge and experience from social and economic transformation and in the area of the democratisation of society and the market environment. The contractor created 5 regional information points at chambers of commerce in Brest, Grodno, Minsk, Gomel and Mogilev to facilitate business opportunities with the EU and to provide first contact information to the Belarus SME sector at no charge and for guidance in the area of legislation and information towards support for international collaboration. The impact of the project on the regional business environment on the Belarus side was secured by engaging regional chambers of commerce which used improvements in the quality of their own capacities to disseminate the acquired knowledge and know-how at the regional level.



GEORGIA

Project name: Effective management of water management projects in Georgia: Implementation of EU and EBOR methodology

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/VP/1/3

Main sector priority: Water sector policy and administrative management
CRS code 14 010

Contractor: NISPAcee

Slovak ODA grant: €99,265.00

Project implementation: October 2015 – January 2017

The primary focus of the project was to contribute to the more effective management of water management projects in Georgia using EU and EBOR methodology. Improved protection of water and wastewater management are among the leading priorities in the country given the critical condition in this sector, together with the signed association agreement with the EU. Through the project's activities, the contractor built up the necessary capacities by training the representatives of local government, the NALAF and relevant ministries and by informing 72 local government units, two ministries and groups of professionals and the general public; it also completed methodology using existing project data, project methodology using EBOR and EU specifications, methodology for water projects in terms of environmental impact assessment (EIA) and methodology for internal audit to be used by contracting authorities and commentary on the existing public procurement law.

Via the NALAG, trained officials will continue to provide consultations for other relevant officials and institutions after the end of the project.

Project name: National Convention on the EU in Georgia
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/VP/1/7
Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society
CRS code 15 150
Contractor: Výskumné centrum Slovenskej spoločnosti pre zahraničnú politiku, n.o.
Slovak ODA grant: €99,632.00
Project implementation: November 2015 – February 2017

This project was primarily focused on the institutionalisation of public debate on the questions of Georgia's relationship with the European Union based on partnerships between governmental, non-governmental, business and special interest institutions and on strengthening Georgia's capacities to implement the Association Agreement. The objective was to engage the broader professional public from all segments of society in the process of creating national policy and positions within the agenda of European integration, the transfer of Slovak know-how from political, economic and societal transformation and the creation of a long-term, reliable, interactive and permanent informational resources for all segments of Georgian society about the EU, reforms and the modernisation of the country. The project included the creation of four working groups on the topics of agriculture and regional development; DCTFA; energy and the environment; and dialogue and strategic communication and they conducted a total of 16 meetings, with two plenary sessions held at the introductory and final phases of the project. The engagement of a broad spectrum of experts in the project contributed to the building of expert capacities in governmental and non-governmental organisations and the structuring of information on the EU/reforms by sector-specific interests across various segments of Georgian society, and improved Georgia's preparedness to implement the Association Agreement. Key projects outcomes, in addition to the working groups and their meetings, included sector-specific recommendations from individual groups for the government and their publication in electronic format, a website and account on Facebook, a media presentation of the project, EU - Georgia Dialogue, and a complete team in Georgia capable of long-term activity to fulfil the overall objective of the project.

Project name: Georgia on European path
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/VP2/1/2
Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society
CRS code 15 150
Contractor: GLOBSEC
Slovak ODA grant: €91,222.00
Project implementation: March 2016 – March 2017

The objective of the project was to use the sharing of Slovak experience to support collaboration between civil society and state institutions in Georgia, especially with respect to questions related to European integration.

A priority focus was to build on the initiative of the Georgian government with respect to the creation of platforms for more effective participation of civil society in the process of Georgia's association with the EU. Space was created by project activities for discussion of European questions at the expert level between the representatives of civil society and state institutions involved in Georgia's European integration. Another focal point of the project was to improve the capacities of Georgian state administration in the area of organising larger-scale, international and specialised conferences through the contractor's know-how and experience, which was based on a request from the State Minister of Georgia for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Davit Bakradze seeking partnership with a Slovak organisation with the capacities to aid his Office with the organisation of the "Georgia's European Way" conference in July 2016. The implementation of the conference overlapped the beginning of Slovakia's Presidency in the Council of the European Union, which opened up space for the presentation of Slovakia and of Slovakia's Presidency in the Council in Georgia and in the region of the Southern Caucasus. The third aspect of the project was the engagement of civil society and the general public in participation in the process of Georgia's association with the EU, which the contractor achieved by increasing awareness of the EU and by countering myths by holding public discussions across Georgia's regions.

Project name: Support for the development of agriculture in hard-to-access mountainous areas of Georgia by increasing the productivity and efficiency of cattle breeding
Registration number: SAMRS/2016/PPP/1/3
Main sector priority: Livestock/veterinary services - Animal health and management, genetic resources, feed resources – CRS code 31 195
Contractor: Agro Stud Javorie, s.r.o.
Slovak ODA grant: €49,979.98
Project implementation: November 2016 – September 2017

The primary focus of the project was on increasing the production yields of cattle breeding by crossing breeds and developing cooperation between Slovak and Georgian entrepreneurs in this area. Existing local breeds produce limited milk and meat yields due to lower growth and therefore the contractor trained selected Georgian breeders on breeding techniques using suitable genetic material and the acclimatisation process for new breeds with respect to local conditions. Selected breeders participated in a business trip to Slovakia, where they attended training courses on insemination techniques, excursions to farms and relevant institutions and gained know-how in breeding techniques. The contractor is planning to use the contacts and partnerships made in the project in the future to further local efforts directed towards the development of dairy production.



IRAQ

Project name: Basic health care for Iraqi refugees
Registration number: SAMRS/2016/SYR/1/5
Main sector priority: Basic health care – CRS code 12 220
Contractor: St. Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work
Slovak ODA grant: €80,080.00
Project implementation: August 2016 – August 2017

This project focused on providing humanitarian health care for internally displaced persons and improving their health in the Kurdistan area of Iraq. The project involved providing health care in two locations: in Erbil through a stationary clinic that provided care for a catchment group of 15,000 refugees, and in Dohuk and Nineveh using a mobile health unit. The project included the purchase of an ultrasound machine, which was used in specialised examinations for local residents and internally displaced persons. A total of approximately 1,200 ultrasound examinations were performed, including pregnant women, and the equipment was able to identify three hundred potentially risky pregnancies. In Erbil, more than 3,000 people were examined at the Zdenka Schellingova Clinic, while the mobile unit provided health care for more than 11,000 patients. The project improved the quality of provided health care. The use of the purchased ultrasound machine likewise improved quality.



SOUTH SUDAN

Project name: Securing paediatric care in the Gordim region of the Republic of South Sudan
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/SSD/1/1
Main sector priority: Basic health care – CRS code 12 220
Contractor: St. Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work
Slovak ODA grant: €199,471.98
Project implementation: October 2015 – September 2017

This project was focused on improving the health of residents in the Gordim region, with special emphasis on children and parents, by making quality paediatric care and educational activities available to them. With a focus on sustainability moving forward, the contractor trained 20 local health workers in paediatrics and 37 selected community outreach workers who will be responsible for ensuring the acquisition of proper hygiene habits and other habits to prevent and limit the spread of infectious diseases.

The contractor renovated and reopened a local paediatric care facility with a vaccine centre, which has been providing health care continuously since its opening. Nearly 18,000 children have been examined since May 2016, with a total of 2,654 children receiving vaccinations. As a complement to primary health care, the contractor conducted educational seminars for parents designed to prevent the occurrence of various infectious diseases, to learn proper hygiene and nutritional habits and to increase the effectiveness of treatment for common paediatric health problems.

Within the building of capacities among local health workers, the contractor conducted two six-month educational courses for local health workers and selected community outreach workers. A total of 20 health workers successfully completed testing in the field of paediatrics with 37 community outreach workers completing testing in the area of hygiene and preventing the spread of infectious diseases in August 2017.

Intervention delivered a functional paediatric care facility and vaccine centre, and educated parents, local health workers and community outreach workers, all of which contribute to reducing disease and illness in the Gordim region.



KENYA

Project name: Reducing unemployment of young people by improving access to quality education and obtaining practical skills

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/KE/1/1

Main sector priority: Basic life skills for youth and adults – CRS code 11 230

Contractor: St. Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work

Slovak ODA grant: €247,193.29

Project implementation: October 2015 – September 2017

The primary objective of this completed project was to contribute to a decrease in youth unemployment by developing their practical (both craft and artistic) skills. Intervention produced the opening of two new classes in a primary school, which expand general and everyday education of children. These students are prepared to continue their studies at secondary vocational schools. Motivational seminars held for 7th and 8th-year students and open house events, where schools showcased their activities to potential employers from the timber, car and clothing industries, hairdressing and construction, i.e. work skills which are in high demand in Kenya, helped increase interest in vocational secondary schools. Improvements in competitiveness thanks to vocational education at the first and second levels of primary education will have a tremendous impact on the employability of graduates or their continued education at vocational schools. The entire school was electrified to increase the standard of the school environment. The project included capacity building for 18 local teachers to increase their professional qualifications by holding a series of training activities.

Project name: Secondary school, part II, and operation of a health centre on Rusinga Island

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/KE/1/2

Main sector priority: Secondary education – CRS code 11 330,

Medical services – CRS code 12 191

Contractor: Humanistické centrum Narovinu, o.z.

Slovak ODA grant: €248,640.00

Project implementation: October 2015 – September 2017

The project was focused on support for education and health care for the residents of Rusinga Island on Lake Victoria. An integral part of the project was the final completion of a secondary school with a dormitory, which is now fully operational (4 classes) with 120 attending students. The newly constructed secondary school focused on work in IT and the development of practical skills, and is a suitable complement to existing educational capacities at the kindergarten and primary school in the community centre, the comprehensive expansion of which the contractor has focused on since 2005.

A portion of the project was focused on operating an existing health centre, which was constructed within previous intervention thanks to a SlovakAid programme, and has a catchment area serving approximately half the residents of the island. The centre operated continuously throughout the implementation period and was regularly supplied with drugs and materials, despite complications resulting from the nationwide strike of doctors and nurses. Given the financial demands of operating the community centre, the contractor worked with a local partner to identify potential areas to create added value and profits for the centre, by establishing a vegetable farm and starting commercial fish farming, with the goal of improving its economic self-sufficiency. Future financial sustainability depends on the ability of the contractor and the local partner to exploit opportunities and to effectively develop them.



Project name: Socio-economic integration of former street children
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/KE/1/4
Main sector priority: Education policy and administrative management
CRS code 11 110
Contractor: SAVIO, o.z.
Slovak ODA grant: €222,190.00
Project implementation: October 2015 – August 2017

This project was focused on support for the Bosco Boys educational centre in Nairobi, where key activities included the construction and operation of new carpentry and welding workshops in which students obtain vocational skills with the goal of improving their competitiveness on the labour market. Seminars and training activities focused on landing a job were completed for the youth to support the employment of future graduates from the centre, while the contractor built up partnerships in parallel with potential employers in the region.

By establishing these practical workshops, the contractor made a significant contribution to the future financial self-sufficiency of the centre and the overall sustainability of this intervention. A business plan and fund-raising strategy were developed to further support its economic independence. The key element in improving future income streams is the construction of practical workshops, while the carpentry shop is already fairly well established.

Capacity building involving teachers working with problematic youth was another significant benefit of the project. Thanks to a series of training activities, the qualifications of 38 educators were increased, which had a positive effect by subsequently reducing staffing fluctuation. Pupils have the opportunity to use consultations and engage in therapy with teachers, which reduced the number of incidents and overall stress in the centre, and improved the overall conduct of the children as well.

Project name: Economic empowerment for small farmers in the Busia region by growing sesame and opening up markets
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/KE/1/5
Main sector priority: Agricultural development – CRS code 31 120
Contractor: ADRA, o.z.
Slovak ODA grant: €244,083.13
Project implementation: November 2015 – August 2017

The overall objective of the project was to improve socio-economic conditions for 500 small farmers in the Busia region by increasing the production of sesame, gaining market access and generating income. The project proposal covered the first part of the value chain, from social entrepreneurship, including the mobilisation of local communities, to the creation of groups and cooperatives, fair trade and organic certification, training activities, the procurement of tools and machinery, soil preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage and the sale of production by partners.

Local farmers were trained in more efficient growing techniques and were prepared for fair trade and organic audits, via which they managed to gain certification. A number of difficulties were encountered during implementation and collaboration with the farmers could be described as truly complicated. Neither effective communication nor community mobilisation were achieved, which resulted in high fluctuation among the involved families. The creation of a local cooperative was accompanied by multiple problems, as the original management did not complete the defined tasks and the entire cooperative had to be reorganised.

The defined objective of higher production, revenues and improving the farmers' ties to the market were only achieved in part. This was the result of the fluctuation among farmers and a lack of quality in the crops produced in the first season. On average, the farmers' growing costs only decreased by ¼.

The sustainability of the intervention going forward depends on the quality of leadership and management, effective engagement of the community and compliance with good growing practices and post-production activities.

Project name: Support for the production and marketing of fair trade oils: building economic independence for small farmers in Kenya

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/KE/1/7

Main sector priority: Industrial crops/export crops – CRS code 31 162

Contractor: Nadácia Integra

Slovak ODA grant: €247,335.41

Project implementation: October 2015 – September 2017

This project was focused on reducing poverty among rural farmers and their families in Kenya by supporting the production and sales of certified products with higher added value (fair trade and organic baobab, sesame and nut oils). The contractor placed a new and functional line for processing crops into operation, with crops purchased from local suppliers, which are farming cooperatives. The fact that the cooperatives gained critical organic and fair trade certificates during the project ensured that farmers enjoyed higher profits from the sale of their crops. Thanks to the technological expansion of the plant, the partner was able to increase production capacity and to employ additional personnel. The project achieved the defined outcomes and managed to set up conditions and processes for sustainable and efficient production. Thanks to the addition of presses to the plant, it now has the ability to process crops that the farmers would otherwise be unable to bring to market under normal circumstances. This increases their household income and their standard of living. International demand for these products is relatively high. The project included the introduction of a new monitoring system intended to simplify supplier-consumer relations and to make communication more efficient. The system proved itself being very useful in practice and streamlined numerous business practices. The actual building of capacities at the local plant and its expansion has delivered additional jobs to the local community. Thanks to its strong business aspect, the project is very sustainably going forward, a fact to which the experienced management and excellent cooperation with the Kenyan partner Ten Senses Africa certainly contributed.

Project name: Sote ICT: Development of start-ups in Kenya using practice companies at secondary schools

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/KE/1/6

Main sector priority: Vocational training – CRS code 11 330

Contractor: Nadácia Pontis

Slovak ODA grant: €201,421.36

Project implementation: October 2015 – September 2017

The project was focused on supporting the education and competitiveness of young people in the Taita-Taveta region and reducing the level of poverty by expanding general education. As a follow-up to previous interventions, the primary activities involved the implementation of digital technologies, project-based teaching, the development of IT clubs and the concept of practice companies using Practice Enterprises Network (PEN) methodology in secondary education, mentoring and support for graduates in further education and the start of entrepreneurial activities in the newly-established centre.

The intervention is based on the engagement of Kenyan practice companies with their Slovak counterparts and real company mentors, with the project expanded overall to include two new girls' schools. Collaboration with a leading Kenyan start-up centre, iHub, within the training of students and graduates is a new element. Obtaining PEN membership is another positive in terms of sustainability as Sote Hub is now the guarantor for practice enterprise methodology and the issuer of PEN certificates for all of Kenya. The contractor is planning to use this fact to charge for issuing certificates in the future to help enhance its economic independence.

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KOSOVO ¹⁾

Project name: Slovak Fund for Public Policy in the Balkans: active civil society in northern Kosovo

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/ZB2/1/6

Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society

CRS code 15 150

Contractor: Nadácia Pontis

Slovak ODA grant: €80,378.00

Project implementation: April 2016 – July 2017

The objective of this project was to support the democratisation and reform process in northern Kosovo through support of civil society. The project focused on raising the relevance of the civil sector in northern Kosovo in relation to central institutions, given that the insufficient ability of Kosovo and Serbian NGOs to be relevant actors in the reforms of socio-political processes is a major deficiency in the functioning of civil society. Fulfilment of the project's objectives was achieved through a programme for building capacities and sharing Slovakia's experience with creating a civil sector and its relationship to state institutions. The programme included training activities for the representatives of civil society with the potential to engage in the creation of state policy, a small grant scheme, support from Slovak mentors, study trips, networking and advocacy-focused events.

Project name: Capacity building in civil society to improve decision making processes in public institutions in Kosovo

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/ZB2/1/8

Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society

CRS code 15 150

Contractor: Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, interest groups of legal entities and natural persons

Slovak ODA grant: €76,360.00

Project implementation: April 2016 – September 2017

The objective of the project was to improve the capacities of non-governmental organisations in Leposavič and Zubin Potok with focus on intensifying and improving their collaboration with local and central government institutions. Through the proposed activities, the project contributed to the active engagement of the participating non-governmental organisations by transferring new skills to them that they can then use in the implementation of their own projects and in their interaction with the government sector. The first outcome was the building and strengthening of capacities and skills among local non-governmental organisations. The second outcome of the project was the creation of conditions and mechanisms for constructive collaboration between local and central institutions. The third outcome was the construction of a network of sustainable and actively collaborating NGOs in the region. The project is also contributing to the process of integration in the northern part of the country and is moving Kosovo on the path to the European Union.

¹⁾ In accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)



LEBANON

Project name: Educational infrastructure and stabilisation of the refugee community in Lebanon

Registration number: SAMRS/2016/SYR/1/1

Main sector priority: Primary education – CRS code 11 220

Contractor: Habitat for Humanity International

Slovak ODA grant: €199,982.70

Project implementation: September 2016 – September 2017

The primary objective of the project was to improve conditions for the education of children in communities with a high number of refugees from Syria by improving infrastructure in primary schools to thereby provide basic education for the children from refugee communities. The project provided health and safe school environments for approximately 3500 children from these communities in 6 primary schools in low-income area of Beirut, Mount Lebanon and northern Lebanon, and basic supplies for these schools in the form of new furniture and teaching aids and school supplies for the children. The project also focused on the refurbishment of sanitary and hygiene-related facilities, providing drinking water by installing water tanks and water filters, installing railings and other safety barriers, wiring the school, repairing leaking roofs, securing barrier-free access and other supporting activities. A covered playground was also built at one of the schools to provide the children with a safe place to play, which helps their physical, emotional, intellectual and social well-being.



MOLDOVA

Project name: Promoting the security of the drinking water supply and determining the level of reduction of hazardous substances through the remediation of wastewater in Moldova.

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/MD/1/1

Main sector priority: Waste management / disposal - CRS code 14 050

Contractor: Výskumný ústav vodného hospodárstva, príspevková organizácia

Slovak ODA grant: €78,285.00

Project implementation: October 2015 – June 2017

The project, through its activities, focused on methodical and technical support for the system of safe drinking water (from source to consumer) and determining the level of contamination by hazardous substances. Increased attention is focused in Moldova on resolving issues related to drinking water supplies (protecting water sources) and the remediation of wastewater. This is related to the signature of the Association Agreement with the EU and a lack of water supplies in Moldova. The project was implemented on the water distribution system in the city of Leova, which was selected by experts as a pilot water system for completing a safety plan. The completed safety plan will serve as a template for other water distribution systems. The drinking water security plan also included training for water treatment experts from Leova.

Project name: Transparent, financially sound and competitive local government in Moldova.
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/MD/1/4
Main sector priority: Decentralisation and support to subnational government
CRS code 15 112
Contractor: Inštitút pre ekonomické a sociálne reformy, INEKO, n.o.
Slovak ODA grant: €82,570.00
Project implementation: October 2015 – March 2017

This project focused on support of regional development in Moldova by enhancing transparency and effective management at the local government level and by improving their performance within their tasks and improving capacities. Transparency, fiscal sustainability and competitiveness at the local government level are absolute prerequisites for being able to effectively deliver public services to residents and conditions for improving the standard of living. Through new instruments (internal portals, analyses and publications) for monitoring and evaluating transparency, financial stability and competitiveness among local authorities in Moldova and through training for Moldovan experts, the engagement of local authorities into discussions regarding the implementation of anti-corruption measures and intensive media coverage of the outcomes have generated tremendous public pressure to increase transparency and reduce corruption, and to make improvements towards more effective management and greater competitiveness at the local government level in Moldova.

Project name: Construction of a sustainable wastewater treatment system in parts of the town of Bucovat.
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/MD/1/5
Main sector priority: Basic sanitation - CRS code 14 032
Contractor: DEKONTA Slovensko, spol. s.r.o.
Slovak ODA grant: €93,905.00
Project implementation: January 2016 – February 2017

This project focused on improving the quality of life and hygienic conditions for residents in the town of Bucovat. The construction of a sewer system and biological wastewater treatment facility led to the elimination of wastewater in the town. The existing wastewater solution represented an extreme health risk for local residents and was responsible for significant environmental contamination. The project included outreach activities focused on water issues, water conservation, the forms of water and water management projects.

Project name: Improving sanitation conditions and hygiene in the Hincesti region
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/MD/1/9
Main sector priority: Sanitation - large systems - CRS code 14 022
Contractor: Adventistická agentúra pre pomoc a rozvoj – ADRA, o.z.
Slovak ODA grant: €96,882.30
Project implementation: January 2016 – February 2017

This project focused on improving living conditions of a rural population by improving the accessibility of drinking water and improving the environment by making improvements to the sanitation system and waste management. A tangible outcome of the project was the installation of household wastewater treatment plants at school facilities in the Hincesti region. The project was composed of two components. An infrastructure element and an educational element. Together with the construction of treatment equipment, activities were conducted to increase the awareness of the local population, with special focus on children, school-age youth and their parents.

Project name: Waste-free processing of hazardous biological wastes into products suitable for intensive ecological agriculture
Registration number: SAMRS/2016/PPP/1/4
Main sector priority: Agricultural land resources – CRS code 31 130
Contractor: Rokosan, s.r.o.
Slovak ODA grant: €46,338.32
Project implementation: November 2016 – June 2017

This project was focused on presenting innovation technologies for processing hazardous biological wastes into products used in ecological agriculture. The contractor is an expert in the regulation of feathers as a biological waste stream and focuses on research in the area of fertilisers and plant nutrition; it also holds patent rights for technology to process this waste into products used in crop production. The main activity of the intervention was a presentation in Moldova intended to establish local partnerships with local business entities in the field of feather processing with focus on the production of organo-mineral fertilisers.

A major contribution made by the project was the transfer of knowledge and experience from the implementation of European legislation in the area of environmental protection and solutions with respect to preparations to fulfil EU conditions within the processing of biological wastes.



SYRIA

Project name: Mobile primary health and psychosocial care and care for women of reproductive age in the encircled areas near Homs, Syria
Registration number: SAMRS/2016/SYR/1/7
Main sector priority: Basic health care – CRS code 12 220
Contractor: MAGNA, o.z.
Slovak ODA grant: €124,520.00
Project implementation: August 2016 – June 2017

The project focused on providing emergency primary health care through mobile basic health and specialised services in encircled areas to the north of the city of Homs in Syria. Mobile health services were operated to strengthen and assist the national public health system and infrastructure, and to help health workers reduce mortality. Over its duration, the project provided basic health care to approximately 15,000 people, including internally displaced persons, and provided emergency obstetric care and reproductive health services. The project also provided referrals and transfers to secondary care facilities for patients as needed. The capacities and readiness of local personnel to prevent, detect and respond to outbreaks of diseases were also strengthened.



UKRAINE

Project name: Together 2.0 - support for the development of civil society and increasing the quality of territorial management in Ukraine and the transfer of Slovak experience
Registration number: SAMRS/2015/UA/1/1
Main sector priority: Democratic participation and civil society
CRS code 15 150
Contractor: Karpatská nadácia
Slovak ODA grant: €98,918.00
Project implementation: October 2015 – October 2017

The goal of the project was to support the development of civil society and to increase the quality of management in four cross-border areas of Western Ukraine, specifically the Zakarpatska, Lvivska, Ivano-Frankivska and Chernivetska regions. Young people serving as the representatives of non-governmental organisations had the opportunity to implement small community development activities through a grant scheme. A condition of the grant scheme was the engagement of residents and local state and local government representatives in the projects, which contributed to the development of the principle of participation and higher quality territorial management. Before project objectives were laid out, the young representatives of civil society had the opportunity to complete a training on project management and then to practice their presentation skills. The representatives of these non-governmental organisations awarded a grant complete a study trip to Slovakia for the purposes of getting acquainted with the third sector in Slovakia, exchanging experience and making direct contacts. The project included two conferences, the primary objective of which was to transfer experience from reform processes in Slovakia for the purposes of building up civil society and experience from the process of decentralisation within public sector reforms in Slovakia. Decentralisation is a hot topic in Ukraine after the "Revolution of Dignity" and is one of the conditions of the Minsk Protocol to halt the war in Eastern Ukraine. The project also created opportunities for networking activities by organising discussion forums.

Project name: Transparent, financially sound and competitive local government in Ukraine.

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/UA/1/6

Main sector priority: Decentralisation and support to subnational government – CRS code 15 112

Contractor: Inštitút pre ekonomické a sociálne reformy, INEKO, n.o.

Slovak ODA grant: €91,760.00

Project implementation: October 2015 – March 2017

The focus of this project was to support the central and local government in Ukraine towards more effective management and to create better conditions for the development of economic activity, and to increase transparency, fiscal sustainability and competitiveness in local governments to enable their residents to more efficiently secure public services and conditions for improving their standard of living. The contractor identified a package of anti-corruption measures to increase transparency at the local government level based on examples of good practices in the fight against corruption in Slovakia. During follow-on activities, an online portal was established focused on the management activities of cities and towns, which used transparent publication of city and town budget information to help significantly reduce local government debt levels in Ukraine, and used pressured applied by the public and media to force city and town officials to comply with financial limits that were regularly exceeded, even in the recent past. Local government officials obtained a useful aid for further development of their regions through the creation of an interactive model of the competitiveness of Ukraine's regions for the purposes of identifying their competitive advantages and disadvantages and the proposal of individual development strategies. The project was implemented by independent experts from Slovakia and Ukraine, while project outcomes were primarily intended for local government representatives so that cities and towns are managed responsibly to achieve sustainable economic development.

Project name: Building capacities for reform of the energy sector in Ukraine

Registration number: SAMRS/2015/UA/1/8

**Main sector priority: Energy policy and administrative management
CRS code 23 110**

**Contractor: Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association,
interest groups of legal entities and natural persons**

Slovak ODA grant: €98,736.00

Project implementation: November 2015 – February 2017

The overall objective of this project was to support reform processes in Ukraine aimed at increasing energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources and to transfer experience from Slovakia to partners in Ukraine in this area, including experience from the implementation

of relevant legislation and EU programmes and their transposition into national legislation, as well as presentations from successfully implemented projects at the local and regional level. The project contributed by increasing the qualifications of ministry officials responsible for the implementation of the association agreement and the Accession Protocol to the Energy Community, the representatives of Ukrainian cities and towns in the EU acquis, programmes focused on increasing energy efficiency and the use of RES, as well as presentation of successful projects in Slovakia, and raising public awareness in Ukraine about EU policies in this area. Three training modules were created in the project, each of which had a specific target group – 1. ministry officials; 2. representatives of Ukrainian cities and towns (mayors); and 3. the professional and general public. Key project outputs, among others, included the completion of methodology for the individual training modules and their organisation/implementation and the processing of publications with experience of the Visegrad Group countries in the area of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources, and monitoring of activities of Ukraine's Ministry of Energy in this area.

Project name: Waste-free processing of hazardous biological wastes into products suitable for intensive ecological agriculture

Registration number: SAMRS/2016/PPP/1/5

Main sector priority: Agricultural land resources – CRS code 31 130

Contractor: Rokosan, s.r.o.

Slovak ODA grant: €49,351.65

Project implementation: November 2016 – June 2017

The primary focus of this completed project was to increase awareness and the engagement of the professional and general public with respect to environmental protection and the processing of hazardous biological waste. A key activity of the intervention was a presentation in Ukraine intended to establish local partnerships with local business entities in the field of feather processing with focus on the production of organo-mineral fertilisers. The organisation of seminars, working meetings and promotion at agricultural trade fairs were the primary activities used to achieve the defined outcomes. Thanks to the engagement of local and foreign experts, the contractor managed to cultivate collaboration with representatives from the government and business sectors.

A major contribution made by the product was the transfer of knowledge and experience from the implementation of European legislation in the area of environmental protection and solutions with respect to preparations to fulfil EU conditions within the processing of biological wastes.

PUBLICATION OF THE SAIDC ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017 AND DATE OF THE PUBLIC REVIEW

Publication of the SAIDC Annual Report for 2017 - electronically:

Government Office of the Slovak Republic: www.uvvr.sk

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

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

The public review was held on 21 May 2018 from 12 to 2 PM at the Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation's offices, Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava.



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