SLOVENIA

Overview

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| Population *(specify date)* and territory | 2.116.972, 1.1.2023 km2 |
| Administrative structure *(unitary/federal)* | Unitary |
| Regional or state-level governments *(number)* | 1 |
| Intermediate-level governments *(number)* | 0 |
| Municipal-level governments *(number)* | 212 |
| Share of subnational government in total expenditure/revenues |  |
| Key regional development challenges | To reduce regional development disparities  To strengthen development capacities of regions on the basis of their own development potentials and global opportunities |
| Objectives of regional policy | 1. To increase the quality of life in all regions through balanced economic, social and environmental development based on the principles of sustainable development  2. Catching up with European regions  3. To realise development potentials and effective use of global opportunities with international territorial cooperation. |
| Legal/institutional framework for regional policy | Slovenian development strategy  Spatial development strategy of Slovenia  Promotion of balanced regional development act  Decree on the development council of cohesion region  Decree on the implementation of endogenous regional policy measures  Decree on regional development programs  Decree determining problem border areas  Decree on the regional aid map for 2022-2027  Rules on regional development agencies |
| Budget allocated to regional development (i.e., amount) and fiscal equalisation mechanisms between jurisdictions (if any) | Regional Development Agreements as the major regional development instrument for 7 years programming period amounted to 439 mio EUR (2014-2020). Beside this, several sectoral program measures are being implemented and influencing regional development. |
| National regional development policy framework | Measures defined in the Promotion of balanced regional development act |
| Urban policy framework | Urban development strategies for 12 Urban municipalities, led by the Ministry responsible for Spatial Development |
| Rural policy framework | Rural development programme, led by the Ministry responsible for agriculture |
| Major regional policy tools (e.g., funds, plans, policy initiatives, institutional agreements, etc.) | 2 Development Councils of both Cohesion Regions (NUTS 2)  12 Regional Development Councils (tripartite structure) (NUTS 3)  12 Regional Councils (majors) (NUTS 3)  Slovene regional development public fund, Ribnica  Slovene entrepreneurship Public Fund, Maribor  Baseline for development strategy for eastern cohesion region  Baseline for development strategy for western cohesion region  Regional Development Programmes for 12 regions  Governmental Programme for Border areas with specific features  Regional Development Agreements |
| Policy co-ordination tools at national level | Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development as Managing Authority for EU Cohesion Funds  Territorial and Sectoral Development Dialogue within process Regional Development Agreements |
| Multi-level governance mechanisms between national and subnational levels (e.g., institutional agreements, Committees, etc.) | 12 Regional Development Agreements between regions and Ministry responsible for regional development |
| Policy co-ordination tools at regional level | Territorial Development Dialogue within the process of preparing of Regional Development Agreements |
| Evaluation and monitoring tools | Yearly Reports from 12 Regional Development Agencies on implementation of general regional development responsibilities  Regular Evaluation Programmes |
| Future orientations of regional policy | To create conditions for dynamic and creative regions with their own identity and managed effectively and capable to recognise and to use global development challenges |

Recent policy developments

* The implementation of the Government Programme for Border Areas with specific features. The renovation of the programme is envisaged. The main objective is to involve more actively other ministries to contribute with their own development policies.
* Promoting measures for strengthening productivity, mainly on less developed areas and measures for the green transformation development policy.
* The Regional development field (Regional development Directorate) has been integrated in 2023 into a new Ministry for Cohesion and Regional Development.
* The process of preparing a new generation of Regional Development Agreements will start soon.