

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Slovakia

SK-INNOVATION Business Development, Innovation and SMEs

2022

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

B. PERFORMANCE

1. Programme progress and results

Objectives

All planned Calls have been launched and completed within the SK-Innovation Programme. There were 35 projects supported in the amount of € 14,85 mil.; PA01 (Outcome 1): 3 Calls – **BIN SGS01 (NFM), BIN 01 (NFM), BIN 02 (EEA FM)**, 21 projects supported in the amount of € 12,39 mil; PA03 (Outcome 2): 2 Calls – **BIN SGS02 (NFM), BIN SGS03 (EEA FM)**, 14 projects supported in the amount of € 2,46 mil.

All projects are being implemented (3 additional projects in PA03 will be contracted at the beginning of 2023). As regards the main programme areas, 71% of the supported projects are focused on Green Industry Innovation (GII) and 29% on Welfare Technologies and Ambient Assisted Living (WT/AAL). The most frequent topics dealt with in the supported projects include circular economy, reduction of CO2 emissions, energy efficiency and development of applications for care for elderly or ill people. The projects aims, set up indicators and character of the supported projects indicates that the programme will meet its objective. 62% of the supported projects within Business and Innovation (PA01) are implemented in the less developed regions of Slovakia.

All Calls under the Programme support the development of bilateral partnerships with entities from donor countries which is one of the grants objective. Out of 20 contracted projects at the end of December 2022 within the Business and Innovation (PA01) **8 are carried out with Norwegian project partners** - 3 projects in BIN SGS01 (NFM), 4 projects in BIN01 (NFM), 1 project in BIN02 (EEA FM). 1 additional project under the Call BIN SGS01 with the Norwegian partner will be contracted at the beginning of 2023. All projects within the education component (PA03) have a donor project partner following the obligatory condition of both calls. Hence, **11** projects in BIN SGS02 (NFM) have Norwegian partner and additional **1** contracted project under the Call BIN SGS03 (EEA FM) in January 2023 involves cooperation with donor institution from Norway. Two projects that would be contracted at the beginning of 2023 have 1 Norwegian and 1 Icelandic partner.

In April 2022 as a result of already contracted projects and applications received within the Call BIN SGS02, PO submitted to the NFP a request for reallocation of the unspent funds between the programme focus areas (GII, WT/AAL) within the calls BIN01 (NFM), BIN02 (EEA FM) and BIN SGS01 (NFM) and among the calls within the Outcome 1 and 2, i.e. BIN SGS01, BIN01 and BIN SGS02 (all 3 calls supported by NFM). The donors approved the PA's modification no. 3 in July 2022 and thus the PO could support 4 more projects from the reserve list of the Calls BIN SGS 01 (3) and BIN 01 (1). Hence, the number of supported projects would increase from total supported 35 projects (21 – innovation, 14 –education) in the amount of EUR 14,43 mil. to 39 projects (25 - innovation, 14 - education) in the amount of EUR 16,88 mil.

After contracting all projects recommended by the SC, the PO decided not to contract more projects from the reserve list (Call BIN 02). Despite of higher amount of uncommitted funds available, the PO's decision was made mainly due to lack of time available for contracting additional projects which takes ca. 6-7 months, long period for public procurement control and the PO's intention to primary focus on the implementation of already contracted projects from all calls. The PO has also decided not to increase the grant amount of already supported projects as the project promoters are businesses which can compensate the increase from their own

sources or bring other, cheaper solutions or transfer the unspent funds between the budget items. The PO discussed the above mentioned with the NFP and as the NFP didn't have any objections, the uncommitted funds in the amount of total 4,62 mil will be reallocated to other programmes administrated by other POs.

During the Programme implementation the PO expects increase of uncommitted funds (project contract cancelations, financial correction etc.) which can be used to increase travel allowances for mobilities.

Outcome 1: Increased competitiveness of Slovak enterprises within the focus areas: Green Industry Innovation and Welfare Technology and Ambient Assisted Living technologies

Within the Outcome 1 of the programme there are three calls **BIN SGS01/NFM, BIN01/NFM, BIN02/EEA FM** being implemented.

Under the Call for proposals on support of newly established businesses (start-ups) (**BIN SGS01/NFM**) with original allocation of EUR 1 058 824, 5 projects were implemented in 2022. After two project promoters (BIN SGS 01_2020_010, BIN SGS01_2020_030) decided not to continue in project implementation and the project contracts in the amount of EUR 284 931 were cancelled, the PO contracted one project from the reserve list under the WT/ALL in the amount of EUR 160 488 in May 2022 (BIN SGS01_2020_005). The advance payment paid to one of the cancelled project was returned to the PO and made available to the applicant from the reserve list. The second cancelled project didn't receive any advance payment.

Based on the PA modification no. 3, the PO started contracting 3 additional projects from the reserve list under the GII area and the allocation for this Call increased to EUR **1 412 210**. Due to long time since the submission of project applications (October 2020), changes of the time schedule and legal issues were required. In December 2022 1 applicant decided not to proceed with the project implementation because he has failed to secure a project implementation site, but 2 additional project contracts are about to be signed in January 2023. PO expects 7 start-ups in the amount of EUR 1 204 976,70 supported under this Call. 3 out of 5 contracted projects have Norwegian partner and one more project with a Norwegian partner will be contracted.

4 supported projects submitted first PIRs in spring and one in September 2022, set up the project teams, concluded partnership agreements, lease agreements, launched web pages dedicated to the project and held the opening events either online or in person. All have been approved and where relevant the 1st interim payments were paid. 4 promoters submitted 2nd PIRs in July-August 2022, all have been approved and 2nd interim payments paid, where relevant. 2 promoters submitted 3rd PIRs in November 2022, one has been approved and the second is under verification of the PO. 2 project promoters merged the reporting periods and will submit the 3rd PIR in 1Q 2023.

By the end of December 1 project (SGS01_2020_003/WT/ALL) already finished implementation and held the closing conference in December 2022 attended also by the PO. The main goal of the "mFIRES – Modular First Responder Information System" project was to create IT solutions of assistance services for elderly, people after surgery, disabled or otherwise dependent seniors. The aim is to secure seniors with social, medical and technical support, assistance with daily living activities, maintain independence and social interaction. The PO expects its final project report in 1Q 2023.

1 project with planned end of implementation in November 2022 (SGS01_2020_023/GII) announced extension of the implementation till 03/2023. The project “Energy savings and a better environment for children with attendance analysis” focuses on saving energy and improving the interiors of buildings. Devices established in public buildings such as schools or offices measures and collects data on environment in the rooms. Based on the analyses of the collected data, it is possible to set up healthy environment of the building for its users, save energy consumption and reduce pollution. The project promoter registered 2 trademarks.

The project “OPATRIO: Web-based application for home care service management” (SGS01_2020_005/WT/AAL) is close to completion, planned at the end of March 2023. In January 2023 the project promoter indicated the extension of the project completion by 2 months. The project aims at increasing quality of life of seniors and people with different disabilities, who receive home care service in Slovakia. The project shall be beneficial not only for the clients themselves but also for the municipality officials responsible for home care services provision and the employed caregivers. The other two projects in GII programme area with later planned completion are progressing in implementation as planned.

Since June 2022 until the end of the reporting period, 4 project promoters have submitted 5 public procurement for approval. 3 ex-ante controls were concluded, and 1 ex post is just about to be concluded. The long approval process is mainly caused by lack of staff of the procurements control managers on the PO’s side and changes in legislation in 2022.

Under the Call for proposals on support of innovation and business development (**BIN 01/NFM**) with original allocation of EUR 11 578 235, 13 projects started implementation in 2022. 10 projects in the GII area and 3 in the WT/ALL area in the amount of EUR 9 386 972,31 are in various stages of implementation depending on the time of conclusion of the project contract. The project BIN 01_2021_009 (GII) with the amount of EUR 433 674,50 decided not to proceed with the project implementation due to concerns about compliance with legislative requirements for hazardous waste management and short of technical staff and terminated contract in December 2022. The advance payment paid was returned to the PO in January 2023.

Based on the PA modification no. 3, PO contracted the only project on the reserve list under this Call (BIN 01_2021_003/WT/AAL), in the amount of EUR 1 457 009,18. The project contract was signed in January 2023. Within the PA modification no. 3 (approved by donors on 1 July 2022) the allocation for this Call decreased to EUR 11 460 589.

12 projects under the Call, out of which 4 have Norwegian donor project partner, are in various stages of the implementation depending on the length of the contracting process. The project with the earliest planned end of implementation in January 2023 (BIN01_2021_016) announced extension of the implementation until the end of August 2023. The project promoter develops innovative technology to streamline the recycling of PET bottles. Project schedule slightly modified due to legislation changes in public procurement and long control of procurement on the side of the PO. Despite this delay project promoter is about to meet the project goals and results. Another 3 projects with the end of implementation planned by the end of 2023 are progressing in accordance to the project schedule. The remaining 8 projects plan to finish in April 2024.

All 12 supported promoters have submitted 1st PIRs in August – November 2022. Except one, all have been approved and the interim payments were paid where relevant. 5 promoters have submitted 2nd PIRs in November – December 2022 which have been verified by PO.

Since June 2022 until the end the reporting period, 6 promoters have submitted to the PO 17 public procurement for control. One was concluded, others are still under verification of the PO’s

department of public procurement. The long approval process is mainly caused by lack of staff of the procurements control managers on the PO's side and changes in legislation in 2022.

Under the Call for proposals on support of innovation and business development (**BIN 02/EEA FM**) with allocation of EUR 5 415 882, 3 projects started implementation in 2022. The Selection Committee (SC) meeting was held on 4 February 2022 and recommended 6 projects for support (4 under the GII, 2 under the WT/ALL area) in the total amount of EUR 3 443 907. PO contracted 3 projects by the end of August 2022 in the amount of EUR 2 164 351. 1 project has been cancelled before contracting, as it was already supported from the Call BIN SGS01/NFM (BIN 02_2021_004). In August 2022, 1 project promoter (BIN 02_2021_012) announced that he would not be able to co-finance the project and at the end of November, just before signing of the project contract, 1 project promoter (BIN 02_2021_030) decided not to proceed with contracting without further explanation.

Out of 3 implemented projects only one has a Norwegian partner (project BIN 02_2021_002). One of the supported project (BIN 02_2021_024) was planning to have a donor partner but just before the conclusion of the contract, the Norwegian partner was not interested in continuing the cooperation on project implementation. The lost of the donor partner did not have effect on meeting the project's objective and indicators and wasn't replaced.

All 3 projects under this Call started implementation in the second half of 2022 and submitted their first PIRs at the end of year. Between September and December the PO has received 6 public procurements for approval. The PO has not finished the approval of these requests. The PA's addendum no. 3 didn't have effect on increasing the allocation for the Call BIN02 (EEA FM).

The reported values of the **Outcome 1** indicators are low with regard to the type of projects in the programme. The PO expects results at the end of the projects' implementation. Based on the project contracts, the target values of all supported projects for 3 Outcome indicators *Estimated annual collection of waste from production and operational processes for re-use or recycling*, *Estimated annual decrease of energy consumption* and *Estimated re-use of waste for other production processes*, are considerably lower than expected. The indicator *Estimated annual CO2 emission reductions* is also lower than the target value. The PO presumes that companies rather apply for support in this area under other national grant programmes, whether structural funds or the subsidy schemes of the respective ministries with higher grant rates.

According to the project contracts data, two key indicators, *Estimated annual growth in turnover* and *Estimated annual growth in net operational profit*, shall be significantly higher than the target value of the programme (target 3%). It seems that indicators *Number of jobs created (target 25)*, *Number of products or services developed (target 5)*, *applied (target 7)* and *commercialized (target 3)*, together with the *Number of Intellectual Property rights applications submitted (target 3)* should be overachieved. The planned higher target values of these indicators can be attributed to the main objective and focus of the programme, namely the support of the competitiveness of the enterprises, applications and development of innovative solutions.

Due to insufficient number of completed projects the indicator *Survival rate of start-ups measured 1 year from the last day of the eligibility period of the projects* cannot be reported. The fact that the enterprises, which applied for the project grant in 2020, are still functioning despite the pandemic and energy crisis to this day proves their viability and the PO is optimistic about the prospects in this indicator (target 25%).

Output 1.1: Enterprises supported to develop innovative green technologies, processes, solutions, products or services

The PO supports only 3 large enterprises in the programme, all of them in the GII programme area. None of them develops green technologies, processes or solutions, so the target value (1) of the programme will not be achieved. However, the number of enterprises supported in application (target 1) and commercialisation (target 1) of innovative technologies/processes and solutions are slightly higher than expected.

As far as SMEs are concerned, the number of supported enterprises that develop (target 4), apply (target 3) and commercialize (target 2) innovative green technologies, processes or solutions is higher than expected in the PA. Additional two SMEs from the reserve list of the Call BIN SGS01/NFM within this category were in contracting process at the end of December 2022, so the achievement values will be even higher.

The expected number of women or young entrepreneurs supported corresponds exactly to the value set in the PA (target 4). However, one more woman entrepreneur under the Call BIN SGS01/NFM (the project in the contracting phase at the end of December), shall be supported.

Output 1.2: Enterprises supported to green their business operations

Except one project from the reserve list under the Call BIN SGS01/NFM in contracting process at the end of the year, no enterprise, neither large nor SME, has applied for support for the greening of the operation. Therefore, target values (target 8 SMEs, 4 large) set for this output of the programme will not be achieved.

Output 1.3: Enterprises supported to innovative welfare and ambient assisted living technologies, solutions and processes

As there are no large enterprises supported in WT/AAL area, the target values for this output (3/1/1) will not be met.

On the other hand, the number of SMEs that develop (target 4), apply (target 4) and commercialize (target 1) innovative welfare and ambient assisted living technologies, solutions and processes is higher than expected. There is still one project from the reserve list under the Call BIN01/NFM to be supported in 2023, which falls into this category.

The expected number of women or young entrepreneurs supported in this programme area will not reach the target value (4). Together with one project from the reserve list under the Call BIN01/NFM (the project in the contracting phase at the end of December), the value shall still be lower than expected.

Output 1.4: Start-ups supported for business growth

Under the Call for proposals on support of newly established businesses (start-ups) (BIN SGS01/NFM) 5 start-ups were supported in 2022. After two project promoters decided not to continue to implement the project, PO supported one additional start-up from the reserve list under the WT/AAL area. Based on the PA modification no. 3 (approved by donors on 1 July 2022), the PO started contracting 3 additional start-ups under the GII area. Due to reasons explained in the section Outcome 1, 2 additional start-ups will be supported in 2023. PO expects 7 start-ups supported in total, so the target value 8 will not be met.

Outcome 2: Education and Employment potential enhanced in Slovakia in Green Industry Innovation and Welfare and Ambient Assisted Living technologies

Within the Outcome 2 of the programme there are two calls **BIN SGS02/NFM** and **BIN SGS03/EEA FM** being implemented.

The Call on supporting of institutional cooperation between higher educational institutions, upper secondary schools and private sector (**BIN SGS02/NFM**) with the original allocation of EUR 2 470 588 was closed on 28 February 2022. Within the deadline, 13 applications were submitted, 2 of the submitted projects were rejected by the expert evaluators. The SC meeting was held on 25 May 2022, the SC recommended 11 projects for the support for EUR 1 914 117 and there are no projects on the reserve list. By the end of November 2022, all 11 projects were contracted and started implementation. All projects have Norwegian partners, as the donor project partner was a mandatory condition. Within the PA modification no. 3 the allocation for this Call decreased to EUR 2 234 848.

The Call on supporting international mobility between higher educational institutions, upper secondary schools and private sector (**BIN SGS03/EEA FM**) with the allocation EUR 1 058 824 was launched on 13 April 2022 with closing date 30 June 2022. By this date 3 applications were submitted in the total amount of requested grant EUR 578 737. The projects have 2 Norwegian partners and 1 partner from Iceland. All three projects met the formal criteria and were recommended by the expert evaluators. The SC was held on 14 September 2022, all 3 projects were recommended for support with no projects on the reserve list. One project contract was signed in January 2023 (BIN SGS03_2022_002) and two are just about to be concluded in February 2023. The PO explains the low interest of potential applicants by the high number of other available funding programmes for mobility of either academics or students at national level.

The projects under the Call (BIN SGS02/NFM) just started their implementation and the first PIRs will be available in February 2023. 7 project promoters already held the opening conferences by the end of December 2022. No request for public procurement control has been submitted yet.

As the projects are at the beginning of the implementation, the reported values of the Outcome 2 indicators are zero. However, based on the data of the project contracts, the *Number of education institutions offering new courses/modules in environmental technologies* shall be more than a double of the target value (4). *Estimated number of people who remain employed in the chosen sector after apprenticeship* will be slightly lower than the target value (25). No project with the outcome indicator *Number of people who remain working in the chosen sector after mobility* (target 15) can be justified by a low number of applications. PO also expects slightly higher *percentage of participants who declare improved skills and competences after project implementation* than the target value (70%).

Output 2.1: International mobility supported

According to the data in accepted Grant offer letters of the 3 projects supported under the Call BIN SGS03/EEA FM, none of the submitted projects set the target to support *Apprenticeships between Donor States and Slovakia in SMEs or other businesses*. The programme will therefore not meet the target value (20) for this indicator. On the other hand, *Number of staff from Slovakia in exchanges* will be more than a double of expected. (target 15). The projects are still in the contracting phase but the PO estimates 33 staff members from Slovak education institutions in exchanges are according to project promoters' data but only 7 staff members from the donor states, which is lower than the target value (10). Number of students from Slovakia in exchanges shall be 15 (target is 25) and the target value (15) for the number of students from donor states in exchanges will be underachieved. Given the number of applications submitted, the PO finds these figures quite reasonable.

Output 2.2: International Cooperation Supported

As the projects are at the beginning of the implementation, the PO is able to report only estimated values for the output indicators. According to the project promoters' data in project contracts, all target values shall be overachieved at the end of the programme, mainly *Number of apprentices supported in Slovakia within SMEs or other organisations/institutions (target 20, planned 90), Number of institutions developing curricula related to GII or WT/AAL (target 3, planned 22), Number of participants in workshops organized to share experiences regarding youth apprenticeships and new methods of education and engaging youth (target 50, planned 1324), Number of SMEs and other enterprises engaged in institutional cooperation at higher education and upper secondary level (target 10, planned 24).*

Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme

The implementation of the programme continued to be carried out in cooperation with the Donor Program Partners (DPPs) - Innovation Norway, Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills (HK-dir, Norway) and National Agency for International Education Affairs (AIBA, Liechtenstein) also throughout 2022. The PO finds the cooperation with DPPs effective and successful. The PO values their willingness to help and assist in a variety of issues, concrete suggestions to improvement or simplifying of procedures, prompt response to questions raised and flexibility in communication.

In January 2022 the PO co-organized an online match-making event for the calls launched within the education component (BIN SGS02/NFM, BIN SGS03/EEA FM) in cooperation with DPPs HK-Dir and AIBA. The matchmaking was attended by 80 participants, out of which were 47 Slovak, 33 Norwegian.

In 2022, 2 Cooperation Committee (CC) meetings took part. At the meeting held online on 9 June 2022, the PO provided the information on the programme implementation progress; the Committee members discussed the status of the Programme Agreement modification no 3, Fund for Bilateral Relations implementation and approved updates of the Bilateral Activity Plan (BAP) for 2022-2023. The CC meeting held on 23 November 2022 in person in Bratislava focused on projects implementation status, approval of the BAP for 2022-2024, reallocations of the uncommitted funds and contracting projects from the reserve list. The VET seminar that was planned to be held in 12/2022 was postponed to 03/2023 based on the request of the DPP. The study trip for supported start-ups that was originally planned in the 2nd half of 2022 or 1st half of 2023 was postponed to 09/2023 and will be combined with the Oslo Innovation Week.

Under the Call BIN BF02 - Call for proposals for bilateral Initiatives under the education component launched in November 2021, the PO has received 4 applications, all of them were rejected. Two applications were rejected for not meeting the formal criteria and two were rejected by the assessors. By the end of December 2022 no funds were spent from the Call allocation in the amount of EUR 50,000. The call is open until 31 December 2023.

The Call BIN BF03 - Call for proposals for bilateral initiatives under the business part of the Programme was launched in August 2021 and closed on 31 December 2022, as planned. In 2022 the PO received 3 applications from the same applicant, all of them were rejected by the assessors. No funds were spent from the EUR 70,000 Call allocation.

During the Cooperation Committee meeting in November 2022, the members agreed on not to prolong the Call BIN BF03 duration and to open a new Call BIN BF 04 for the business part with

the unspent funds of EUR 70,000. The new call would be available also for networking and B2B events organized by the DPPs or PO. The PO plans to launch the Call in February 2023.

In overall, the received applications under the Fund for bilateral relations were lower quality, either they didn't reflect the objective of the calls or donor partnerships were too formal. In addition, at the beginning of the year the COVID restrictions resulted in problems with planning the initiatives. The PO expects an increase in the number of initiatives in 2023 for both calls as a result of the DPPs planned events, expressed interest from schools and business institutions the PO has met during the SARIO conference (more information in chapter Communication).

All calls under the programme support the development of bilateral partnerships with entities from donor countries. Out of 20 contracted projects at the end of December 2022 within the Outcome 1 (Business and Innovation) **8 are carried out with Norwegian project partners** - 3 projects in BIN SGS01 (NFM), 4 projects in BIN01 (NFM), 1 project in BIN02 (EEA FM). 1 additional project under the Call BIN SGS01 with Norwegian partner will be contracted at the beginning of 2023. All projects in Outcome 2 (Education) have a donor project partner following the obligatory condition of both calls. Hence, **11** projects in BIN SGS02 (NFM) have Norwegian partner and additional **1** contracted project under the Call BIN SGS03 (EEA FM) involves cooperation with donor institution from Norway. Two projects that would be contracted at the beginning of 2023 have 1 Norwegian and 1 Icelandic partner.

The target value for the Bilateral Output 2: Bilateral partnerships promoted (target 12) has thus been already overachieved and is estimated to be even more exceeded after additional project contracts will be signed at the beginning of 2023.

C. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Monitorings carried out

The Monitoring plan for the year 2022 involved the indicative timing for the risk monitoring in the form of on-site visits, and was scheduled proportionally throughout the year. Given the circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in time of drafting the Plan, the PO considered and subsequently also carried out online monitoring depending on the national pandemic measures as well as the individual situation of project promoters and the PO staff. The core monitoring focused therefore on administrative verifications of project interim reports provided by the project promoters. As a supporting tool to detect problematic issues on time, the PO communicated intensively with all project promoters in order to identify and mitigate potential project risks well in advance.

Only 4 project promoters started project implementation at the turn of the year (BIN SGS01/NFM), so the PO carried out an internal risk analyses of these projects based on the data available in their first PIRs and project applications.

2 projects (BIN SGS01_2020_026 and BIN SGS01_2020_003) were monitored in the form of a questionnaire and a guided telephone interview in 1Q 2022. The reason was the time span between the project application and the start of the project implementation and the fact that the project promoters under this call are start-ups. No other risks than those identified by the promoters already in the application were identified during the monitoring.

The PO carried out monitoring of another 3 projects in 2Q 2022 in the form of a questionnaire and a guided telephone interview (BIN01_2021_012, BIN01_2021_017,

BIN01_2021_013) in accordance with the Monitoring Plan, in order to monitor projects with eligibility expenditures above EUR 1 million and once per implementation. The PO identified no other risks than those identified by the promoters already in the application.

In 3Q 2022 the PO monitored 5 projects, 2 of them (SGS01_2020_023, BIN01_2021_016) due to the approaching implementation deadline, the other 3 projects were selected due to higher risk incurrence during the regular monitoring of the Project Interim Reports submitted by the project promoters (BIN SGS01_2020_012, BIN01_2021_005, BIN01_2021_007). The result of monitoring of the 2 projects with an early completion date was decision of the project promoters, after their risk assessment, to postpone the deadline for the completion of the project implementation by a few months. Projects BIN01_2021_005 and BIN01_2021_007 remain risky due to lengthy process of land use permit approval, although at the time of the monitoring, the threats to the schedule have not yet been apparent. Monitoring of BIN SGS01_2020_012 has not been completed by the end of December 2022 due to the number of objections raised by the project promoter to the draft of the monitoring report and his availability to discuss them with the PO as early as February 2023.

The PO has been in close contact with project promoters with identified new or ongoing risks to help them solve or mitigate situations that would may develop into risks that can harm the projects.

The Monitoring Plan for 2023 is provided in Annex 5 and will be focused in particular on quality of achieved results, as well as possible risks for the newly contracted projects.

2. Evaluations carried out

No evaluation of the Programme according to the Article 10.1 of the Regulations has been carried out by the end of December 2022.

D. ANNEXES

- 1. Results achieved**
- 2. Communication summary**
- 3. Project summary and call details**
- 4. Risk management**
- 5. Monitoring plan**
- 6. Evaluation report**
- 7. Agreement conditions**

Annex 1: Results achieved

Objective: Increased value creation and sustainable growth								
Outcome 1: Increased competitiveness of Slovak enterprises within the focus areas: Green Industry Innovation and Welfare Technology and Ambient Assisted Living technologies								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Estimated annual growth in turnover	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	3.00 %	The PO will start reporting on the indicator once the first projects are completed. There are no completed projects yet. Based on the projects' data the target value shall reach approx.105 %.
Estimated annual CO2 emission reductions (in tons)	Annual number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	0	6,000	It is expected that 4 supported projects with planned CO2 emission reduction should reach 4 266 tons at the end of the implementation. One project from the reserve list in contracting process with an additional target of 1 ton.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Estimated annual collection of waste from production and operational processes for re-use or recycling (in tons)	Annual number	1	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	-	15,000	It is expected that out of 5 projects with this indicator, the annual number should reach 103 tons, no progress has been reported by the project promotes so far. One project from the reserve list in contracting process with an additional target of 0,2 tons.

Estimated annual decrease of energy consumption (in MWh)	Annual number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	0	1,000	No project with this indicator. One project from the reserve list in contracting process with a target of 11 MWh.
Estimated annual growth in net operational profit	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	3.00 %	The PO will start reporting on the indicator once the first projects are completed. There are no completed projects yet. Based on the projects' data the target value shall reach approx. 44 %.
Estimated re-use of waste for other production processes (in tons)	Cumulative number	0.50	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	-	10,000	It is expected that 4 supported projects with this indicator should be able to re-use 44 tons at the end of the implementation.
Number of jobs created	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	25	Creation of about 52 jobs expected based on the data from the project promoters. No project with this indicator completed yet.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Age</i>								
<i>Children and youth (0-17)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Young adults (18-29)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Adults (30-64)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Elderly (65+)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of products or services commercialized (new to the market)	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	1	3	Out of 11 projects with this indicator (6 GII, 5 WT), one project reported progress. Estimated achievement value

									should reach 30 new products/services commercialized at the end of implementation.
<i>Sector</i>									
<i>Green</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
<i>Blue</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>ICT</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Welfare/ambient</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
Number of innovative technologies/processes/solutions applied (new to the enterprise)	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	7		Out of 12 projects with this indicator (9 GII, 3 WT), no progress reported until end of December 2022. Estimated achievement value should reach 21 new technologies, processes or solutions applied at the end of implementation.
<i>Sector</i>									
<i>Green</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Blue</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>ICT</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Welfare/ambient</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
Number of innovative technologies/processes/solutions developed	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	1	5		Out of 11 projects with this indicator (6 GII, 5 WT) one project promoter reported progress until end of Dec 2022. Estimated achievement value should reach 14 innovative technologies, processes or solutions developed at the end of implementation.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>									
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	

Norway Grants	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Sector								
Green	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Blue	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
ICT	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Welfare/ambient	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of Intellectual Property Rights (Copyright, Trademark, Patents) applications submitted	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	3	3	Out of 10 projects with this indicator (8 GII, 2 WT) two project promoters reported progress. Estimated achievement value should reach 18 applications for intellectual property rights submitted at the end of implementation.
Financial Mechanism								
EEA Grants	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Norway Grants	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Share of Enterprises' staff who declare better skills/competencies in their field	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	65.00 %	No results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects.
Survival rate of start-ups measured 1 year from the last day of the eligibility period of the projects	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	25.00 %	No results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects.
Output 1.1: Enterprises supported to develop innovate green technologies, processes, solution, products or services								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of large enterprises supported to apply green technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	3 (IFR 2022)	-	-	3	1	BIN01_2021_016_Greentech BIN01_2021_017_VIPO BIN01_2021_015_Asseco

Number of large enterprises supported to commercialise green technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	2 (IFR 2022)	-	-	2	1	BIN01_2021_017_VIPO BIN01_2021_015_Asseco
Number of large enterprises supported to develop green technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	0	1	No large enterprise with this indicator.
Number of SMEs supported to apply green technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	4 (IFR 2022)	-	-	6	3	SGS01_2020_026_niore energy BIN01_2021_007_LUBEX BIN01_2021_012_REVOLTT BIN01_2021_024_Woolstyle BIN02_2021_025_ElectroRecycling BIN02_2021_024_BAMIDA DEKONTA, BIN 01_2021_009 terminated PA in Dec.2022 Two additional SMEs from the reserve list with this indicator in contracting process. SGS01_2020_011_Setup Lighting SGS01_2020_006_ECO development
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	2	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-
Number of SMEs supported to commercialise green technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	2 (IFR 2022)	-	-	4	2	SGS01_2020_023_Zachran včely SGS01_2020_012_Waki BIN01_2021_021_ROEZ BIN02_2021_024_BAMIDA Two additional SMEs from the reserve list with this indicator in contracting process. SGS01_2020_011_Setup Lighting SGS01_2020_006_ECO Development
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								

<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-
Number of SMEs supported to develop green technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	6 (IFR 2022)	-	-	6	4	SGS01_2020_023_Zachran včely SGS01_2020_026_niore energy BIN01_2021_012_REVOLTT BIN01_2021_005_Martel BIN01_2021_001_KOOR BIN02_2021_024_BAMIDA DEKONTA, BIN 01_2021_009 terminated PA in Dec. Two additional SMEs from the reserve list with this indicator in contracting process. SGS01_2020_011_Setup Lighting SGS01_2020_006_ECO Development
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	6	-	-	5	-	-
Number of young and female entrepreneurs supported	Cumulative number	0	4 (IFR 2022)	-	-	4	4	SGS01_2020_023_Zachran včely SGS01_2020_012_WakiVaky BIN01_2021_007_LUBEX BIN01_2021_015_Asseco One more project to be supported in 2023. SGS01_2020_011_Setup Lighting
Output 1.2: Enterprises supported to green their business operations								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of large enterprises supported to improve energy efficiency	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	0	4	No project with this indicator

Number of SMEs supported to improve energy efficiency	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	0	8	No project with this indicator. One project with this indicator from the reserve list in contracting process SGS_01_2020_006_ECO Development
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Output 1.3: Enterprises supported to innovate welfare and ambient assisted living technologies, solutions and processes								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of large enterprises supported to apply ambient assisted living/welfare technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	0	3	No large enterprise supported in WT programme area.
Number of large enterprises supported to commercialize ambient assisted living/ welfare technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	0	1	1 No large enterprise supported in WT programme area.
Number of large enterprises supported to develop ambient assisted living/welfare technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	0	1	1 No large enterprise supported in WT programme area.
Number of SMEs supported to apply ambient assisted living/welfare technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	2 (IFR 2022)	-	-	3	4	BIN01_2021_020_Diagnose BIN01_2021_013_EMM BIN02_2021_002_BA Solar One more project from the reserve list in contracting process with this indicator. BIN01_2021_003_WELLNEA

<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Number of SMEs supported to commercialize ambient assisted living/ welfare technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	2 (IFR 2022)	-	-	5	1	BIN02_2021_002_BA Solar BIN01_2021_013_EMM BIN01_2021_010_NOVOTA SGS01_2020_003_Intellope SGS01_2020_005_PRORoz One more project from the reserve list in contracting process with this indicator. BIN01_2021_003_WELLNEA
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	2	-	-	4	-	-
Number of SMEs supported to develop ambient assisted living/welfare technologies/processes/solutions	Cumulative number	0	3 (IFR 2022)	-	-	5	4	BIN02_2021_002_BA Solar BIN01_2021_013_EMM BIN01_2021_020_Diagnose SGS01_2020_003_Intellope SGS01_2020_005_PRORoz One more project from the reserve list in contracting process with this indicator. BIN01_2021_003_WELLNEA
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-
Number of young and female entrepreneurs supported	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2022)	-	-	2	4	SGS01_2020_005_PRORoz BIN01_2021_010_NOVOTA One more project with female entrepreneur to be supported. BIN01_2021_003_WELLNEA
Output 1.4: Start-ups supported for business growth								
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Previous achievement	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment

	nt		t value	Numerato r	Denominato r	Achieveme nt value		
Number of start-ups supported	Cumulative number	0	5 (IFR 2022)	-	-	5	8	SGS01_2020_003_Intellope SGS01_2020_005_PRORoz SGS01_2020_023_Zachran včely SGS01_2020_026_niore energy SGS01_2020_012_WakiVaky 2 additional projects out of 3 approved were in process of contracting until end of Dec 2022. 1 applicant decided not to proceed with the project implementation. PO expects 7 start-ups supported. SGS_01_2020_006_ECO Development SGS01_2020_011_Setup Lighting.
Outcome 2: Education and Employment potential enhanced in Slovakia in Green Industry Innovation and Welfare and Ambient Assisted Living technologies								
Indicator	Unit of measureme nt	Baselin e value	Previous achievemen t value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerato r	Denominato r	Achieveme nt value		
Number of businesses who self-rate the programme as having added value, regarding employment of apprenticeships (on a scale of 1-5)	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	10	There are no results to report as the projects are at the beginning of the implementation.
Number of education institutions offering new courses / modules in environmental technologies	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	4	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 9 education institutions offering new courses/modules according to project promoters' data.
Number of people who remain employed in the chosen sector after apprenticeships	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	25	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 20 people who will remain employed

									after apprenticeship according to project promoters' data.
<i>Gender</i>									
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Level of education</i>									
<i>Secondary education</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Bachelor degree</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Master degree</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Ph.D.</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Sector</i>									
<i>Green</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Blue</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>ICT</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Welfare/ambient</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
Number of people who remain working in the chosen sector after mobility	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	15	No project with this indicator.	
<i>Gender</i>									
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Level of education</i>									
<i>Secondary education</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Bachelor degree</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Master degree</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Ph.D.</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Sector</i>									
<i>Green</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	
<i>Blue</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	

<i>ICT</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Welfare/ambient</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Percentage of participants who declare improved skills and competencies	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	70.00 %	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 77% of participants to declare improved skills and competences after project implementation according to project promoters' data.
Output 2.1: International mobility supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of apprenticeships supported between Donor States and Slovakia in SMEs or other businesses	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	20	No project with this indicator.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of staff from beneficiary states in exchanges	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	15	The projects are in the contracting phase. Estimated 33 staff members from Slovak education institutions in exchanges according to project promoters' data.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-

<i>Donor State</i>								
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Liechtenstein	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
Female	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of exchange</i>								
Online	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Physical	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of staff from donor states in exchanges	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	10	The projects are in the contracting phase. Estimated 7 staff members from donor states in exchanges according to project promoters' data
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
EEA Grants	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Norway Grants	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Liechtenstein	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
Female	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of exchange</i>								
Online	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Physical	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-

Number of students from beneficiary states in exchanges	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	25	The projects are in the contracting phase. Estimated 15 students from Slovakia in exchanges according to project promoters' data.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of exchange</i>								
<i>Online</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Physical</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of students from donor states in exchanges	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	15	The projects are in the contracting phase. Estimated 2 students from donor states in exchanges according to project promoters' data.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-

<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of exchange</i>								
<i>Online</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Physical</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Output 2.2: Institutional Cooperation Supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of apprentices supported in Slovakia within SMEs or other organisations/institutions	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	20	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 90 apprentices supported at the end of implementation.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of institutions developing curricula related to Green Industry Innovation, or Welfare and Ambient Assisted living	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	3	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 22 institutions developing curricula in GII/WT supported at the end of implementation.
Number of institutions engaged in cooperation at higher education and upper secondary level	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	10	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 17 institutions engaged in cooperation at the end of implementation.

Number of participants in workshops organized to share experiences regarding youth apprenticeships and new methods of education and engaging youth	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	50	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 1 324 participants expected at the end of implementation. The estimated number of participants compared to the target value is so much higher because of increased opportunities and availability of online participation.
Number of SMEs and other enterprises engaged in institutional cooperation at higher education and upper secondary level	Cumulative number	0	-	-	-	0	10	The projects are at the beginning of implementation. Estimated 24 enterprises engaged in institutional cooperation at the end of implementation.
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Level of satisfaction with the partnership	Scale 1-7	6.79, Survey carried out by the FMO	-	-	-	-	4.50, Target is ≥4.5, and an increase on the baseline value	There are no results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects
Level of trust between cooperating entities in Beneficiary States and Donor States	Scale 1-7	6.81, Survey carried out by the FMO	-	-	-	-	4.50, Target is ≥4.5, and an increase on the baseline value	There are no results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects

Share of cooperating organisations that apply the knowledge acquired from bilateral partnership	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	50.00 %	There are no results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects.
Share of donor business partnerships which continue after project implementation period	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	30.00 %	There are no results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects.
Bilateral Output 1: Donor cooperation enhanced								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of new jointly registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection (Copyright, Trademark, Patents)	Cumulative number	N/A	-	-	-	0	2	-
Bilateral Output 2: Bilateral partnerships promoted								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of projects involving cooperation with a donor project partner	Cumulative number	0	5 (IFR 2022)	-	-	19	12	3 projects in SGS01, 4 projects in BIN01, 1 project in BIN 02, 11 projects in SGS02. Estimated additional 4 projects involving cooperation with a DPP (1 project in SGS01 being contracted and 3 in SGS03 also in contracting phase at the end of Dec 2022.

Annex 2: Communication summary

1. Best projects

In 2022 most of the projects supported by the PO started their implementation, but until the end of the year only a few could present some outputs or results.

Example 1

Project title: Bridging the gap for people with food restrictions - Safe Food

Project number: BIN 02_2021_002 BA Solar (EEA FM)

Project partners: Pure Food Norway AS (Norway), No Gravity (Slovakia)

The Safe Food project is aimed at bringing an innovative approach to food allergy or intolerances by developing a tailor made solution (non-allergen food boxes without cow's milk/milk protein, egg, wheat, soy, peanut, tree nuts, fish and shellfish) supported by an application (SafeFood APP) and on-time delivery by low emission vehicles. The SafeFood APP will monitor feedback from customers, including ordering, logistics and on-time delivering service in re-usable packaging. From the project result will benefit various target groups, such as people with disabilities and intolerances and with food allergy and their caregivers, SMEs (production and service), ingredients producers/farmers, the other sectors (HORECA), the Norwegian partner (an opportunity for further development of new products), employees (in the production centre will get new job with high qualification and experience).

In mid-November 2022 was organized a workshop held at the premises of the Norwegian project partner Purefood, the most successful manufacturer of gluten-free bakery products in Norway who employs people with disabilities. The Norwegian partner was extremely supportive, enthusiastic and willing to innovate for a joint project. The project can be labelled as environment-friendly as it pursues the strategy based on the re-usable packaging and reducing emissions from the delivery of the SafeFood meals.

The project stands out thanks to its intensive communication campaign, successful and vital bilateral partnership as well as its health and environmental impact.

<https://www.mysafefood.eu/> - project website

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100084009585470> – project Facebook Page

<https://www.mysafefood.eu/en/opening-conference/> - information about the project's launching conference

<https://www.mysafefood.eu/en/workshop-2/> - information about the workshop in Norway

Example 2

Project title: Development of Smart Furniture with Artificial Intelligence and Medical Devices

Project number: BIN 01_2021_010 NOVOTA ART, s.r.o. (NFM)

Partners: JAHO MUR OG FASADE AS (Norway), VIA LUX - Home of Social Services and Facilities for the Elderly (Slovakia)

The overall objective of the project is the development of smart furniture with artificial intelligence and medical devices. The project is focused on industrial research in the field of specialized intelligent furniture, movable interior and exterior units with an integrated robotic mechanism, controlled by computer software and artificial intelligence connected to a medical centre.

The project promoter, NOVOTA ART, will do the research activities, the partners will cooperate on the following activities: the VIA LUX facility will work on the implementation of the medical devices and lead the field research, while the Norwegian partner will take part in the field research and final testing in real environment.

The project promoter has already implemented one of the planned activities - Field Research and Scientific Search – by defining the barriers that need to be overcome by users, the difficulty of movement, fine motor skills, space requirements, modifications of pieces of furniture, pressure and lifting capabilities of the robotic arms, moving and kinetic parts of the furniture, etc. The output of this activity is the evaluation report from a Scientific Field Survey, which describes the scientific progress in currently evolving medical devices and technologies for measuring vital functions, scanning and improving life as well as early collapse diagnostic and prevention in the elderly and sick, or self-living persons with disabilities. Report from a Scientific Field Survey, which describes the scientific progress in currently evolving medical devices and technologies for measuring vital functions, scanning and improving life as well as early collapse diagnostic and prevention in the elderly and sick, or self-living persons with disabilities.

This project is worth mentioning because it intends to improve the quality of life of elderly people and runs an effective communication campaign mainly through its dedicated project website. It contributes to the programme objectives by developing welfare and ambient assisted living technologies and solutions.

<https://smartfurniture.tech/> - project website

<https://www.novota.art/en/presentation-smart-furniture-2/> - information about the project's launching conference

<https://web.vucke.sk/sk/novinky/seniori-vo-via-lux-barci-pomahaju-vyvijat-byvanie-so-smart-technologiami.html> - PR article in a regional medium (Higher Territorial Unit web)

2. Visibility of the Grants and the Donors

2.a. Communication activities

The Programme Operator made the best efforts to raise public awareness of the programme, grants and the donors. The PO used the communication tools defined in the PO's Communication Plan (CP). With the updated CP (version 3.0), the PO decided to focus preferably on the internet-based communication rather than audio-visual media (TV, radio), since, based on PO's previous experience, radio advertising did not prove to be effective as there was a minimum response.

The PO launched one call for proposals in 2022, the Call BIN SGS03 (EEA FM), and started implementing projects approved under 4 calls – BIN SGS01, BIN 01, BIN 02 and BIN SGS02. The related communication campaign was intensive, focused on potential and existing applicants, beneficiaries, professionals and general public, as well as the partners from the donor states. PO's website <http://www.vyskumnaagentura.sk/sk/granty-ehp-a-norska-sk> and Facebook page (FB) <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068653969027> served as the basic communication platforms where information on calls and projects were published and regularly updated. In addition to these, in May 2022 the PO created a LinkedIn profile <https://www.linkedin.com/in/granty-business-and-innovation-005469239/> to promote the grants and attract attention of organisations as potential applicants for projects within the open call. The, National Focal Point, DPPs and the Norwegian Embassy in Bratislava and provided the PO with significant support in disseminating information through their websites and FB pages.

Promotion of the EEA and Norway Grants in 2022 was carried out through the following channels:

- Websites: PO, NFP, DPPs, FMO, Norwegian Embassy in Bratislava
- Facebook posts: PO, NFP, DPPs, Royal Norwegian Embassy

- Press releases on the website: PO, Ministry of Education of SR
- Promoting bilateral cooperation: matchmaking
- Public administration web portal www.vssr.sk
- Direct mailing using a database of companies and educational institutions and their umbrella organisations
- Direct contact with project promoters
- Active participation with opening speeches and the EEA and Norway Grants presentation at project launching conferences
- PO's participation at the conference *Slovak Industry Vision Day* (24 Nov. 2022) organized by SARIO (Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency) – presentation of the SK-Innovation programme, the EEA and Norway grants and a project focusing on energy efficiency.

(<https://www.slovakindustryvisionday.com/>, Video from „120 Minutes of Inspiration, Projects, Ideas and Tutorials“: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxJRVsvx9js>).

The PO, being a member of the Communication Network of the Grants lead by the NFP, participated in regular meetings on 13/05/2022 and 19/12/2022. The PO finds this platform very useful and effective as it allows all POs to exchange information and share experience in the field of communication and publicity of the EEA and Norway Grants.

2.b. Project stories

There were no project stories published on PO's website in the reporting year for two main reasons:

1. The Programme website represents a rather static information tool where the PO presents information on the Programme, calls and projects. However, the PO regards the FB page as a more dynamic, flexible and interactive tool and therefore it used its FB page to showcase individual projects.
2. A vast majority of the projects started their implementation in 2022, but only a few could present some tangible results by the end of the year. The PO published information about each project on the Facebook page through its own posts or sharing project promoters' posts published on their FB pages.

The PO is planning to continue publishing projects and bilateral cooperation mainly on its Facebook page also in 2023.

3. Media coverage

Based on the PO's previous experience with radio and print advertising promoting the calls which didn't meet the PO's expectations, the PO promoted the opening of the Call BIN SGS03 (EEA FM) on the PO's website and FB Page as well as on those of NFP and DPPs. In addition to that, a press release informing about the announcement of the call was sent to the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and a direct email with a request to spread information about the Call BIN SGS03 among education institutions was sent to the state secretary of the Ministry of Education.

The announcements of launching and closing the Call BIN SGS03 and the information on the results (approved projects) can be found on the following links:

- - <http://www.vyskumnaagentura.sk/en/news-norway/694-call-for-international-mobility-between-higher-education-institutions-upper-secondary-schools-and-private-sector-bin-sgs03-is-launched>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=bin%20sgs03>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=420898223541973&set=a.154563080175490>
 - <https://www.eegrants.sk/en/calls/call-for-proposals-for-bilateral-initiatives-under-education-component-bin-sgs03/>
- - <https://www.minedu.sk/vyskumna-agentura-vyhlasila-vyzvu-schemy-malych-grantov-na-podporu-medzinarodnej-mobility-medzi-instituciami-vysokoskolskeho-vzdelavania-strednymi-skolami-a-sukromnym-sektorom/>
 - <https://www.saia.sk/sk/main/aktuality/oznamy/archiv/ehp-2022>

As far as the projects promotion is concerned, the project promoters made their projects visible through local TVs, streaming on social media and PR articles, where opening speeches and the grants presentation given by the PO at launching conferences can be seen (photos) or heard (videos). Some examples of programme and projects promotion is shown below:

BIN SGS01_2020_003 – Intellope:

PR article: <https://www.40plus.sk/aplikacia-onselo-a-jej-vyuzitie-nema-kto-vasim-rodicom-pomoc-ci-nakupit-trapi-ich-samota-a-vy-nestihate/>

PR article: <https://www.dobrenoviny.sk/c/209029/buducnost-su-super-aplikacie-jednu-taku-vyvinuli-slovaci-pomaha-najma-seniorom-a-ludom-v-nudzi>

BIN SGS01_2020_005 - PRORozVOJ, s. r. o.:

PR article - <https://www.prorozvoj.eu//the-city-of-brezno-is-cooperating-in-the-development-of-an-application-for-managing-home-care-service/>

BIN SGS01_2020_012 - WAKIVAKY, j.s.a.:

Photos – Products: <https://www.wakivaky.com/selitex>

BIN 01_2021_010 - NOVOTA ART, s.r.o.:

PR article: <https://web.vucke.sk/sk/novinky/seniori-vo-via-lux-barci-pomahaju-vyvijat-byvanie-so-smart-technologiami.html>

BIN 01_2021_015 - Asseco Solutions, a.s.:

Video - Launching conference: <https://asseco-cloud.sk/novinky>

BIN 01_2021_001 – KOOR, s.r.o.:

Photos – Launching conference and opening speech by the PO’s representative: <https://www.koor.sk/digital-energy-service-platform/>

BIN 01_2021_020 - Diagnose.me a. s.:

Video – Launching conference - <https://www.activeme.sk/sk/updates>

BIN 01_2021_013 - EMM, s.r.o.:

Photos – Launching conferences: <https://oversen.sk/novinky>

BIN 01_2021_017 - VIPO, a.s.:

Photos – Launching conference and Grants presentation by the PO's representative: <https://ecobead.eu/gallery/>

BIN 02_2021_002 - BA Solar, s.r.o.:

Photos, news and blog: <https://www.mysafefood.eu/en/home/>

Invitation to launching conference: <https://www.facebook.com/events/537088758170775/?ref=newsfeed>

BIN SGS 02_2021_001 – Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava:

Photos - Launching conference and Grants presentation by the PO's representative: <https://iringift.eu/OpeningConferenceSK/>

BIN SGS02_2021_007: University of Žilina:

Photos - Opening conference: <https://www.fstroj.uniza.sk/index.php/studenti/vseobecne-informacie/oznamy/2073-norsky-projekt-bin-sgs02-2021-007>

4. Website and social media

Link to programme website		Total number of page views in the reporting year	
http://www.vyskumnaagentura.sk/sk/gra...		26487	
	Link or account handle	Number of posts published in the reporting year	Number of followers
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068653969027	83	145
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/in/granty-business-and-innovation-005469239/	13	28

5. Visuals

There were no project-related multimedia assets published in EEA and Norway Grants media library (eealibrary.org) in 2022. Some example are given above in chapter 3. Media Coverage

Annex 3: Overview of contracted projects

1. Project summary

	Number	Total Grant	Amount budgeted to dpps (estimate)
Total number of projects contracted	34	€ 14,665,636	€ 1,753,792
Number of pre-defined projects contracted	0	€ 0	€ 0
Number of projects with a donor project partner	19	€ 6,987,285	€ 1,753,792
Number of projects with a donor project partner Norway	19	€ 6,987,285	€ 1,753,792
Number of projects with a donor project partner Iceland	0	€ 0	€ 0
Number of projects with a donor project partner Liechtenstein	0	€ 0	€ 0

2. Call details

Call title	Outcome(s)	Call amount	Submission deadline	Number of applications received	Grant amount applied for	Grant demand %	Number of applications approved for funding	Grant amount awarded	Number of projects contracted	Amount contracted
BIN BF01		€ 30,000	08/02/2021	1	€ 2,880	9.60 %	0	€ 0	0	€ 0
CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR BILATERAL INITIATIVES (BIN BF03)		€ 70,000	31/12/2022	7	€ 49,737	71.05 %	0	€ 0	0	€ 0
CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR BILATERAL INITIATIVES UNDER THE EDUCATION COMPONENT (BIN BF02)		€ 50,000	31/12/2023							€ 0
Call for proposals for international mobility between higher education institutions, upper-secondary schools and private sector (BIN SGS03)	Outcome 2	€ 1,058,824	30/06/2022	3	€ 555,145	52.43 %	3	€ 555,145	1	€ 199,944
Call for Proposals on the Support of Innovation and	Outcome 1	€ 5,415,882	04/10/2021	35	€ 18,930,855	349.54 %	6	€ 3,443,907	3	€ 2,164,351

Business Development (BIN 02)										
INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, UPPER-SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND PRIVATE SECTOR (BIN SGS02)	Outcome 2	€ 2,470,588	28/02/2022	13	€ 2,234,847	90.46 %	11	€ 1,914,118	11	€ 1,909,248
OPEN CALL FOR PROSALS ON THE SUPPORT OF INNOVATION AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (BIN 01)	Outcome 1	€ 11,578,235	17/09/2021	25	€ 20,593,227	177.86 %	13	€ 9,386,972	13	€ 10,843,981
SMALL GRANT SCHEME SUPPORT OF NEWLY ESTABLISHED BUSINESSES (START-UPS), (BIN SGS01)	Outcome 1	€ 1,058,824	23/10/2020	31	€ 5,264,122	497.17 %	6	€ 968,103	6	€ 1,005,120

Annex 4: Risk management

Risk description	Likelihood (1-4)	Consequence (1-4)	Risk score	Planned response in 2023
Insufficient use of means from the Fund for Bilateral Relations and difficulties in fulfilling the condition of bilateral project partnerships (educational component)	2 medium low	2 medium low	2.00	The PO has prepared a new Call BIN BF04 focusing on the support of bilateral initiatives in PA01, but also to support the project promoters of the business Calls at 3 networking events planned in cooperation with the DPP (IN) for 2023. Targeted campaigns on promoting the possibilities for bilateral cooperation in the PA03 under the Call BIN BF02.
Discrepancy between expected programme outcomes and achieved results of implemented project	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	The PO will regularly monitor progress towards the achievement of the targeted results and outcomes as part of the verification of the Project interim reports. The PO will also carry out results-based monitoring and take measures to ensure the achievement of project results.
Change of legislative environment	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Regular following of the changes in relevant legislation (mainly the Act on Public Procurement and the Act on Financial Control and Audit). Updating of guidelines for Beneficiaries and/or seminars for Beneficiaries (if needed).
Lack of time for project implementation	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	The PO will regularly monitor the progress within public procurement, implementation of activities and the milestones fulfilment within verification of Interim project report, as well as risk assessment. The PO will also carry out a monitoring focused on milestones meeting, updated plans and measures to be taken to ensure the projects results achievement. The PO will be forthcoming in project promoters prolongation requirements.

Insufficient institutional and management capacities in the PO level	2 medium low	2 medium low	2.00	Stabilisation of administrative capacities by applying a Staff Stabilisation Plan of the PO (stable salaries, regular bonuses, suitable work equipment, enabling the distance work if appropriate, regular professional trainings in soft and hard skills etc.).
Long period for obtaining permits needed for projects implementation in areas of GII and WT (application of technology)	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Regular supervising of the project implementation by the responsible PM in order to take the proper action in a timely manner, case-by-case approach.
Shortcomings and mistakes in the public procurement	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Intense communication and assistance between the PO staff (PM and public procurement managers) and project promoters to ensure limitation of mistakes and compliance of the documentation submitted for the ex-ante and ex-post verification of the public procurement in line with the Law and the PO's internal management system.
Impact of COVID-19 restrictions	1 low	1 low	1.00	Regular monitoring of the pandemic situation and taking action if necessary. The incidence of the disease is only marginal, as is its impact on project implementation.
Insufficient capacity to perform public procurement controls that may affect the speed of projects implementation	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	As the number of PO's public procurement managers has been increased at the end of 2022, the PO expects speeding up the controls. The PO expects to speed up the public procurement controls from 06/2023 when the EU funded projects administrated by the Research Agency will be concluded.
Low absorption of grants	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Constant communication between PO and Project promoters, speed up the public procurement controls and improve quality of PIRs. The PO will organize webinar on most frequent mistakes in PIRs (02/2023).

Overall risk of not absorbing most financing and achieving most targets (1-4):	3.00
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Annex 5: Monitoring plan

Please note this Annex is uploaded separately and is not visible in this document. Please download and print separately if needed.

Annex 6: Evaluation report

Not Available

Annex 7: Agreement conditions

Description	Type	Tracking	Fulfilled	Date of fulfilment	Description of measures taken
1. For outcome 1 indicators “Estimated annual collection of waste from production and operational processes for re-use or recycling (in tons)” and “Estimated re-use of waste for other production processes (in tons)”, where the baseline value is “to be determined” (TBD), the Programme Operator shall submit to the FMO for approval the baseline value, together with a description of the data collection method used, no later than 6 months after the selection of projects under the last relevant call for proposals. The updated baseline value shall be agreed upon through a modification of the programme agreement.	General	One-time fulfilment	Yes	05/10/2022	The technical modification of the PA to update the baseline value of both indicators done in line with the condition 1.
2. The results framework (esp. Output level indicators under Outcome 1) may be revised after the selection process is concluded. The updated results framework shall be agreed upon through a modification of the programme agreement.	General		N/A		The PO has requested to increase the target of the output level indicator 1.4. through the PA’s modification No. 3
3. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator ensures that project promoters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project in their ownership for a period of at least 5 years following the completion of the project and continue to 	General		N/A		The PO has specified the condition in project contracts, drawn up in accordance with the template of the project contract prepared by the NFP. It is included in the general terms and conditions (Annex 2). In addition, the PO is tracking the fulfillment of this condition during the project

<p>use such buildings for the benefit of the overall objectives of the project for the same period;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project properly insured against losses such as fire, theft and other normally insurable incidents both during project implementation and for at least 5 years following the completion of the project; and • Set aside appropriate resources for the maintenance of any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project for at least 5 years following the completion of the project. The specific means for implementation of this obligation shall be specified in the project contract. 					<p>implementation (during the verification of PIRs and monitorings).</p>
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