

Programmes managed by the FMO

Annual Meeting: Slovakia 2014-2021 EEA and Norway Financial Mechanisms

Tom Tjomsland

**Director of the Compliance and
Administration Department
FMO**

2021-06-09

An overview of the Active Citizens Fund

Annual Meeting: Slovakia

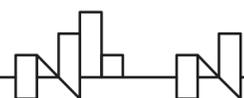
Tom Tjomsland

Director of the Compliance and
Administration Department
FMO

2021-06-09

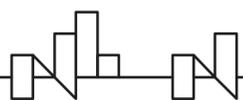
Active Citizens Fund and Slovakia (1/2)

- **Programme Grant:** €9,750,000
- **Programme Fund Operator:** Ekopolis Foundation (the lead partner), the Open Society Foundation and the Carpathian Foundation
- **Status of calls and implementation:**
 - The programme is progressing well and is on schedule to achieve its intended targets.
 - All planned 17 calls for proposals have been launched and closed.
 - The last round of open calls was launched in January 2021 and closed on 29 April. **235 applications of which 40 include donor project partners** were received across all five outcomes requesting **almost seven times more of the available grant amount.** The applications are currently being reviewed and the selection is expected to be concluded by the end of the summer.



Active Citizens Fund and Slovakia (2/2)

- 118 projects have been contracted so far; **23 of those being implemented with a donor project partner** (18 from Norway and five – Iceland).
- Following the mid-term review process in Slovakia concluded in June 2020, **the programme was granted €750,000 from the MoU (EEA Grants) reserve.** These funds have been spent partly on funding projects on reserve lists from previous calls and partly in the last round of calls, for which applications are currently being assessed.



An overview of the Social Dialogue – Decent Work programme

Annual Meeting: Slovakia

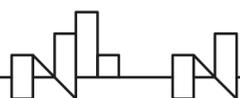
Tom Tjomsland

Director of the Compliance and
Administration Department
FMO

2021-06-09

Social Dialogue – Decent Work programme and Slovakia

- **Programme Grant:** €582,000
- **Programme Fund Operator:** Innovation Norway
- **Status of calls and implementation:**
 - Two calls for proposals have been launched in 2018 and 2019.
 - **Four projects with a combined budget of €355,000 have been contracted and are in implementation. All projects have a Norwegian project partner.**
 - As some funds under the programme remain unused (€227,000), the FMO and the fund operator have developed a strategy to remedy the situation. More specifically, the following actions have been discussed: 1) launch a restricted call among the contracted projects, for parts of the unused amount; 2) promote some fixed project ideas directly to social partners as well as other relevant organisations (NGOs + relevant Norwegian organisations); and 3) explore some of the less used measures from the Blue Book description.



An overview of the Fund for Youth Employment

Annual Meeting: Slovakia

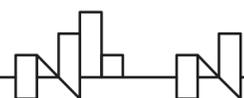
Tom Tjomsland

Director of the Compliance and
Administration Department
FMO

2021-06-09

About the Fund for Youth Employment

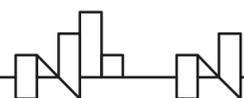
- **Programme Grant:** €60,61 million in total funding (no country allocation) from EEA and Norway Grants
- **Programme Operator:** Financial Mechanism Office
- **Status of calls and implementation:**
 - 25 projects in implementation phase following the first open call for proposals
 - **One** Slovak is entity involved in **one project** under the Fund (*as a beneficiary partner*)
 - Second call launched on 1 September 2020 with a deadline 8 January 2021:
 - **17 entities from Slovakia** are involved as project partners (*one of these as a lead partner*) in the 138 submitted proposals
 - Selection is ongoing, to be finalised by summer 2021



The Youth Employment Fund and Slovakia

One Slovak entity is involved in one project funded by the Youth Employment Fund:

PEDAL Consulting is a beneficiary partner in the project '**Youth Impact**', together with partners from the Czech Republic, Poland and Germany. The project provides tools and services to improve the ability and capacity of implementers (NGOs, public and private institutions) of youth employment and entrepreneurship support actions to efficiently evaluate the impact of their activities.



An overview of the Fund for Regional Cooperation

Annual Meeting: Slovakia

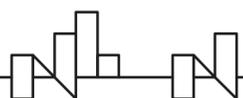
Tom Tjomsland

Director of the Compliance and
Administration Department
FMO

2021-06-09

About the Fund for Regional Cooperation

- **Programme Grant:** €31,89 million in total funding (no country allocation) from EEA and Norway Grants
- **Programme Operator:** Financial Mechanism Office
- **Only one open call in 2018:**
 - Over 700 applications received
 - 20 projects were selected by the Donors in 2020
 - 18 projects are in implementation
 - As of today, no future open calls planned



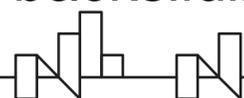
The Regional Cooperation Fund and Slovakia 1/2

Five projects involving five Slovak entities are currently being funded by the Regional Cooperation Fund:

1) **The Biomedical Research Center of the Slovak Academy of Sciences** is a beneficiary partner in the project **TBFVnet: surveillance and research on tick-borne flaviviruses (TBFV)**, together with partners from the Czech Republic, Russia, **Norway (Norwegian Institute of Public Health)**, Sweden and Italy. The project aims at creating a regional network of laboratories for the surveillance and diagnostics of tick-borne flaviviruses (TBFV).

2) **SLOVGEOTERM a.s** is a beneficiary partner in the project **Improving the energy efficiency of geothermal energy utilisation by adjusting the user characteristics**, together with partners from **Iceland (National Energy Authority)**, **Norway (Norwegian Research Center AS (NORCE))**, Hungary and Poland. The project aims to improve the efficiency of the interaction between geothermal energy providers and their customers.

3) **The Ekopolis Foundation** is a beneficiary partner in the project **Reclaim our Civil Space! - from local to European**, together with partners from Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania, and **Norway (the Norwegian Helsinki Committee)**. The project aims at addressing the trends of democratic backsliding and shrinking civil space.

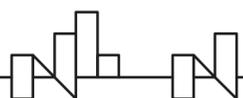


The Regional Cooperation Fund and Slovakia 2/2

Five projects involving five Slovak entities are currently being funded by the Regional Cooperation Fund:

4) **The RARC - Roma advocacy and research center** is a beneficiary partner in the project **New solutions to old problems – exchange of new type of approaches in the field of Roma integration**, together with partners from Romania, the Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Turkey, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Netherlands. This project aims to share success stories of Roma inclusion projects in the fields of education, employment, participation and combating antigypsyism with funders and state agencies to break the vicious circle of cynicism that ‘nothing can be changed’.

5) **Special Olympics Slovakia** is a beneficiary partner in the project **Transnational partnership for social inclusion of children with developmental disabilities in Turkey, Romania, Lithuania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Iceland**, together with partners from Romania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lithuania, Poland, Ireland and **Iceland (*Special Olympics Iceland*)**. The project will assist in developing critical cognitive, social and motor skills in children with intellectual disabilities.



External monitoring:

- In 2020, the FMO has launched an external monitoring of the Fund for Youth Employment and the Fund for Regional Cooperation, focusing on the added value of transnational cooperation.
- The report from the monitoring **was very positive:**
 - More than 60% of respondents find that the regional funds have created added value to existing actions on national or EU level.
 - 76% find that the transnational cooperation has benefitted their organisations.
 - Almost 80% say that their projects are innovative or have transferred new practice to their country, sector or target group.

