

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Slovakia

SK-CULTURE Cultural Entrepreneurship, Cultural Heritage and Cultural
Cooperation

2021

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The context of programme area in Slovak Republic is considered as stable. The main policy in monument preservation in Slovakia is the Strategy on Monument Fund Protection for years 2017 – 2022^[1], elaborated by the Ministry of Culture of the SR together with its Action plan for years 2021-2022. The main objective of the Action plan is how to find new ways of funding the restoration of cultural heritage. Special focus is on monument restoration and integrated approach to its management and tourism support in monuments surrounded area.

With regard to the art and culture sector in Slovakia, it was strongly influenced by the Covid-19 pandemics during 2021. This was the second year during which all the cultural happenings suffered by the sanitary measures and pandemic limitations. The beginning of the year 2021 was marked by strict lockdown meaning all the cultural institutions were closed for the public. On the other hand, this was the incentive to start learning how to work better with the online audience. The financial situation on the cultural market was supported through different schemes and various “Covid open calls”.

Within the framework of EEA Grants, the Programme Operator of the Culture Programme focused on the initial implementation phase of all projects contracted within the call CLT01 (19 projects) for culture heritage component, CLT02 (9 projects) for contemporary arts component and both pre-defined projects.

The CLT01 project promoters were dealing with the public procurement processes related to the monuments restoration and 7 of them have already started with the construction works. The Covid-19 situation and related measures taken at the national level affected the continuity of the processes. The promoters struggled with the lack of staff due to long lockdown and quarantine and the Regional Monuments Board offices could not carry out on-site inspections of the proposed reconstructions.

As the component of contemporary arts and live events and performances are the most affected by the Covid-19 restrictions, the most of project promoters focused on preparation works, organizing of events and performances, technical adaptation for the visually impaired and hearing impaired audience, promotion of the future events and public procurement connected with it.

Despite the current situation, many interesting events aimed at e.g. minorities and sensitive topic were held. Here are a few examples:

Slovak Chamber Orchestra (CLT01005) organized two concerts of classic music in partially renovated concert hall of Fatra House of Arts Žilina: the concert *Music of Romanticism* with the excellent Norwegian pianist Jan Gunnar Sørbø; and the concert *Music without borders* promoting *tolerance, which transcends not only the borders of states and continents, but also the imaginary borders of musical styles, age, religion ...*

Within CLT02019 project Slovak-Icelandic cooperation in development of small cultural centres – SLICE of OZ POVALA festival SLOVO aleBO huDbA (WORD and MUSIC) took place with the aim to educate the audience about human rights, democracy, the rule of law

through the stories of living witnesses and through the eyes of young historians and contemporary artists.

Based on the data provided within the projects approved for support within the calls CLT01, CLT02 and CLT03 all the output indicators should be achieved. It is clear that the indicators related to the number of artists involved and number of events will be overachieved. The target values of the most indicators were underestimated during the concept note preparation. The reason is that the Programme Operator expected more long lasting and bigger events such as festivals etc.

The annual revenues generated by the restored monuments and their number of visitors are lower than baseline value in the most of projects because the monuments are going to be renovated and Covid-19 restriction. There are also exceptions connected with the online events and the number of visitors is higher, however this form of events does not generate significant revenues.

“Pro Monumenta II” pre-defined project is close to its final phase, the adaptation of the premises for regional inspection teams, which will serve also as the venue for three training centres is almost done. Altogether 263 monuments were monitored by the regional inspection teams by the end of 2021, which is more than it was planned as target value (210) for the project. More than 100 inspections of the cultural monuments per year are carried out, which means the regional teams are able to carry out more inspections than was planned (100 inspections of the cultural monuments annually). This was achieved by strengthening the three inspection teams by one person and thanks to an effectively set up system of preventive technical inspections.

In “Red Monastery – Reborn” pre-defined project the reconstruction works within Red Monastery complex started in September 2021 and the beginning of the follow-up soft activities is expected in spring 2022.

Within the 2nd call for contemporary art and cultural cooperation CLT03 closed on 25 February 2021 with allocation 1,5 M€ 7 project applications were approved for support and 8 project applications were placed in a reserve list. An enormous interest was noticed for this call and 73 project applications in the total amount of 12,6 M€ were submitted to the Programme Operator. Altogether 103 institutions as the donor project partners were involved in the projects (25 Icelandic, 2 Liechtenstein, 75 Norwegian entities). The first 2 project contracts for successful projects were signed in December 2021.

The ambition of the Culture programme to have at least 30% of the projects in culture heritage component implemented in partnership with entities from the Donor States is successful. A donor project partner is involved in 18 out of 19 cultural heritage projects supported, which means in 94% of cultural heritage projects. In the contemporary arts component the involvement of at least one donor project partner is obligatory and all 17 projects supported include bilateral element, many of them with more than one donor project partner.

[1] http://www.pamiatky.sk/Content/Data/File/sluz_predpis/Strategia_ochrany_pamiatkoveho_fondu_2017-2022.pdf

B. PERFORMANCE

1. Programme context

The legislative context of programme area in Slovak Republic is considered as stable. The protection of monuments and historic sites in Slovakia is governed by the Act No. 49/2002 Coll. on the Protection of Monuments and Historic Sites.

During 2021, it was one minor change (amendment) of the Monument Law and its adoptions and reaction regarding the amendment of the Act No. 326/2005 on the Forests. With this amendment, Slovakia starts to solve issues with the castles (ruins), which lie in the state forests and have no owner (of the building). The main idea is that the ownership of the land on which the castle stands can be changed for free from State Forests Ltd. to higher territorial unit or nearby municipality if they have performed castle renewal at least for 5 past years. Regional Monument Boards offices got a new duty to issue a record for the act of ownership change, where will be stated what kind of renewal is going on, and the border of the castle and its surrounding will be outlined. It is considered as a minor change in legal environment of Slovak Republic monument protection field that will not affect EEA grants programming and implementation. In 2021, the Government Office of the SR submitted new Building Act^[1] with many changes in comparison to current building legislative framework in Slovakia. The construction proceedings competitions should be taken away from the municipalities to State Building Board. This will be a major change in building policy, which affects also the Monuments Board of the SR. According to this Act the Monuments Board of the SR and its regional offices will be seen as a special field of building industry dealing with monument protection and they will be transformed to specialized monument building authorities (boards). The approval process is currently on hold, even though it was planned to be effective from the beginning of the 2022.

The main policy in monument preservation in Slovakia is the Strategy on Monument Fund Protection for year 2017 – 2022^[2], elaborated by the Ministry of Culture of the SR (hereinafter referred to as (MC SR). It covers the following topics: monument fund (monuments and sites) and monument fund values, UNESCO sites, Archaeological heritage, Financial tools and resources, Traditional crafts development, Management of cultural monuments owned by the state, Institutional securing. The Strategy is divided into two Action plans. First Action plan was in force until the end of the year 2020. The Action plan for years 2021-2022 was approved by the government in the beginning of the year 2021. The main objective of this Action plan is to find new ways of funding the restoration of cultural heritage. Special focus is set on EU structural funds for monument restoration and integrated approach to its management and tourism support in monuments surrounded area. Integrated monument restoration is culture priority in structural funds Priority Axis 5 - Europe closer to its citizens (5.2.2. Monument fund conservation and restoration^[3]).^[4] Fund allocation is not clear yet, but this will be significant driving force for monument restoration in years 2021-2027, especially because there were no structural funds for monument restoration in last programming period. The preparations are taking longer than expected due to Covid-19 situation.

At the beginning of 2020, there were 10 097 immovable national cultural monuments^[5] registered in Slovakia, 25,75 % of these monuments are in bad technical state (5% of the 25% are in desolate state).

MC SR as the state central authority responsible for the protection of the cultural heritage runs subsidiary system („Let us renew our house“) to help the owners with the necessary renovation and conservation works (allocation of 12 M€ per year). Through evaluation criteria MC SR makes the cultural policy through all the subsidy sub-programme. Higher points get projects that are located in the least developed regions, on an important cultural route, contribute to tourism in the area or are realized through traditional craftsmanship. By applying these state priorities, the MC SR subsidy system contributes also to the Programme objectives.

New development in building industry has been seen last year. The cost of building material is increasing rapidly. Mesh wooden plate, copper or insulation material costs twice as much as last year.[\[6\]](#) This could have major effect on long-term projects with fixed budgets calculated according to past prizes from before this major shift in building material cost, which could imply on the monument conservation and restoration projects funded by EEA grants.

Due to Covid-19 situation, the meetings and traveling are limited to just few months of the year. The communication with the donor state partners moved in most cases to on-line space and it affects the bilateral cooperation in projects.

The general situation in Slovakia in the field of art and culture was strongly influenced by the Covid-19 pandemics. This was the second year (after the 2020) during which all the cultural happening suffered under the sanitary measures and epidemic limitations. The beginning of the year (January – March) 2021 was marked by strict lockdown meaning all the cultural institutions were closed for the public. On the other hand, this was the incentive to start learning how to work better with the online audience. Even though a truly significant artistic experience can always happen face-to-face, many state-funded institutions tried to stream their “behind-the-scenes” actions such as rehearsals, every day routines, preparations of new pieces and/or interviews with the cast[\[7\]](#).

The financial situation on the cultural market was supported through different schemes and various “Covid open calls” conducted by either the Slovak Arts Council[\[8\]](#) (hereinafter referred to as “the SAC”) or different ministries.

Different schemes applied to different cultural stakeholders. The state embodied by the MC SR worked on different financial support schemes to prevent bankruptcies of cultural institutions, artistic companies and to help the sector overcome the situation in general[\[9\]](#). The SAC came with schemes for free-lance individuals. Ministry of Economy of the SR distributed subsidies for the industrial part of the cultural market. Since the beginning of the pandemic, there were 111 million € invested in culture in all the aid received from various ministries. It was unprecedented help that culture in Slovakia has not yet experienced.

In 2019 there was made first complex analysis of culture in Slovakia – The Revision of cultural expenditure[\[10\]](#). This revision set up a pile of tasks to be fulfilled in the near future. In 2021 the Cultural Policy Institute started to work on one of the most essential ones. Together with cultural stakeholders from all the cultural spectre (music, theatre, dance, galleries, museums, creative industry, audiovisual industry etc.) discussions were held to name the goals of the cultural policies for different cultural fields. At the end of 2021 MC SR adopted a document that will lead to the preparation of the General Strategy of cultural development in Slovakia 2030.

Another task based on the Revision of cultural expenditure was to conduct efficient and transparent auditions for the management of cultural institutions. The pilot version of

a document conducting these audits was written in 2020, however, an updated final version was adopted early 2021 and from then on the MC SR conducted six transparent and efficient audits for different cultural institutions with a great engagement of a broad public into the whole process^[11].

When speaking of funds and subsidies, in the year 2021 most of the financial aid was focused to improve or soften up the results of the pandemic. Many challenging goals in legislation that were set up with the new government in office had to step away in order to make possible the necessary legislative changes for the distribution of the pandemic aid. Cultural sector made progress in the essential tasks summed up in the Revision of cultural expenditure.

[1] <https://www.stavebnyzakon.sk/>

[2] http://www.pamiatky.sk/Content/Data/File/sluz_predpis/Strategia_ochrany_pamiatkoveho_fondu_2017-2022.pdf

[3] <https://www.mirri.gov.sk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/V%C3%BDchodiskov%C3%BD-n%C3%A1vrh-prior%C3%ADt-SR-pre-PS-2021-2027-final-upraven%C3%BD-po-RV.pdf>

[4] <https://www.mirri.gov.sk/sekcie/cko/politika-sudrznosti-eu/programove-obdobie-2021-2027/index.html>

[5] <http://www.pamiatky.sk/sk/page/evidencia-narodnych-kulturnych-pamiatok-na-slovensku>

[6] <https://www.kros.sk/blog/aktualny-stav-cien-stavebnych-materialov-na-trhu/>

[7] <https://www.culture.gov.sk/ministerstvo/kultura-zije-online>

[8] <https://www.fpu.sk/sk/oznamenia/usmernenia-covid-19/>

[9] <https://www.pomahamekulture.sk/>

[10] <https://www.culture.gov.sk/ministerstvo/institut-kulturnej-politiky/revizia-vydavkov-2/>

[11] <https://www.culture.gov.sk/ministerstvo/organizacie-ministerstva/vyberove-konania/>

2. Programme results

Outcome 1: Cultural heritage conditions enhanced

Description and analysis of results

All projects selected and implemented under the call CLT01 will contribute to the Outcome 1 - output 1.1 *Cultural heritage restored and revitalized*.

During year 2021, the Programme Operator (hereinafter referred to as “the PO”) focused on the initial implementation phase of all projects selected and contracted within mentioned call CLT01. All projects contracted within call CLT01 are focused on the cultural heritage monuments restoration, their re-use and entrepreneurship potential promotion.

During last year (2020) the contracts for first 12 projects selected within the call CLT01 entered into force and the PO could contract further 4 project applications approved on 5th November 2020 after the funds reallocation to the CLT01 call (based on the Addendum No. 1 to the Culture Programme Agreement) during February and March 2021. In April and May 2021, the additional 3 project contracts were signed for project applications approved on 10th December 2020 based on further increased CLT01 call allocation (by the Addendum No. 2 to the Culture Programme Agreement).

The indicator *annual revenues generated by the restored monuments* reported in current value for CLT01 projects and “Red Monastery – Reborn” project is lower than the baseline stated in the Programme Agreement. There are several reasons for this fact – one of them is that the most of the monuments are not currently generating revenues as they were closed for public due to their bad technical condition or even damaged state and they will be open for public after the reconstruction. The other reason for decreased revenues is also significant impact of the Covid-19 pandemic situation with massive decline of tourism and related sectors and it is naturally connected with lower number of visitors/tourists or even with the total closure of some monuments.

These facts are closely connected with the current value of *annual number of visitors to supported cultural heritage sites, museums and cultural activities*. The number of visitors has significantly decreased during year 2021 due to the Covid-19 measures and massive decline in tourism but also due to the start of reconstruction works on some of the project sites. The annual number of visitors increased for example in case of Slovak Chamber Orchestra Žilina project (they organised also online concerts during the ban of cultural events) but the online concerts are not able to balance the income.

The indicator, which is already exceeded, is *annual number of monuments monitored by regional inspection teams*. The reason is that all 3 regional Pro Monumenta II inspection teams (CLTPP001) are working in very effective system of on-site inspections of monuments and consequent Technical Reports preparation.

The output indicators, which relate to the pre-defined Pro Monumenta II project and they are not met currently, are *number of craftsmen trained* and *number of bilateral workshops carried out*. The workshops and trainings for local craftsmen will be organised after Pro Monumenta II training centres reconstruction is completed (*number of centres for construction crafts established* are reported currently 0, they will be established after the adaptation of regional inspection teams premises). Bilateral workshops with Norwegian project partner were not carried out yet due to Covid-19 restrictions and they are postponed to spring/summer 2022.

In general, the implementation of all 19 cultural heritage restoration projects started and/or continued during year 2021 depending on the time of the contracting and the preparedness of the project promoters in terms of completing of all obligatory documents for public procurement procedures. Based on this, the process of outcomes and outputs' achievements and their indicators has fully started. Number of projects supported under the call on monuments heritage restoration is fully in line with the Programme Agreement (19 projects) and there is one more predefined project of Red Monastery contributing to the outcome, output and their indicators. It means all target values of the indicators, which are mandatory for all the projects supported, like *Number of cultural monuments restored and revitalised*, *Number of entrepreneurship strategies*

developed and implemented, Number of projects that have conducted consultations with the local community, are on a good way to be achieved.

Therefore, during year 2021, the most of the CLT01 project promoters were dealing with the public procurement processes and consequently with the signing of the contracts with contractors. The delays within the public procurement phase of some projects were caused mostly by the pandemic situation and the Covid-19 measures, which were undertaken on the national level. The project promoters struggled with the lack of staff in terms of the preparation of the project documentation due to long lockdown and quarantine, the Regional Monuments Board offices could not carry out on-site inspections of the proposed reconstructions during lockdown period.

Nevertheless, the PO undertook the ex-ante as well as ex-post verification of the public procurement documentation in line with its internal management system. Altogether, the PO carried out 112 public procurement verifications for 19 CLT01 projects and both pre-defined projects during the year 2021.

After completing of the whole public procurement cycle and approval of each contract 7 project promoters have already started the investment part of their projects. Two projects contracted as the first ones: “*Umelka - Modern Center of Art and Community in Bratislava*“ (CLT01010) and „*Zichy Manor House in Voderady*“ (CLT01008) started their reconstruction works in August - September 2021. In Voderady, the original paintings were restored and the missing parts of the colourful decoration were reconstructed.

The State Chamber Orchestra - the project „*Fatra House of Arts Žilina*“ (CLT01005) - already carried out one part of its planned reconstruction and the one part of the modernization of the lighting in its concert hall is finished.

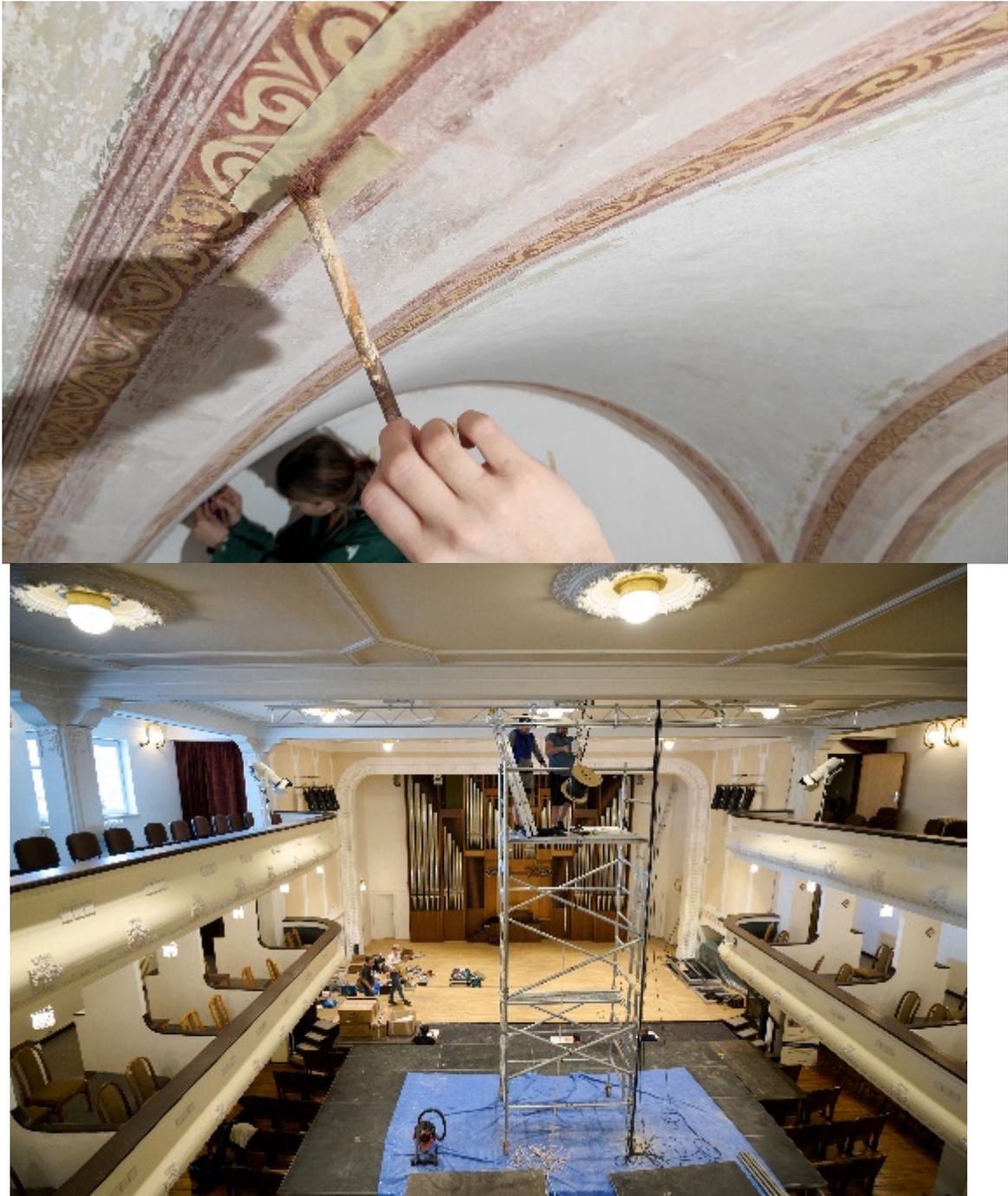
The Slovak National Museum within its project „*Baroque Manor House on the Castle Modrý Kameň Restoration*“ (CLT01007) and the City of Levoča as the project promoter of the project „*Community Open Townhall in Levoča*“ (CLT01027) handed over the construction site to the successful builders in November 2021.

Vila K Civic Association - the project promoter of the project “*Adaptation of Vila K into a cultural centre (acronym: VILA KULTURA)*” (CLT01012) started the reconstruction works on 3 December 2021.

The Congregation of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia Bratislava - Staré Mesto (Old Town) - “*LYCEUM - Free Society Lab*” (CLT006) – was the last one project promoter that manage to start with the construction works by the end of 2021.



Handover of construction site to constructor in the Castle of Modrý Kameň (CLT01007)



Restoration in Voderady Manor House (CLT01008) / Modernisation of lightning system in Fatra House of Arts Žilina (CLT01005)

In terms of projects kick-off milestones, except of the public procurement steps, the mandatory publicity components of the projects took place. Altogether **18 launching conferences** for CLT01 projects were organized and the last one will take place in January 2022. Altogether 12 launching conferences were organised in online form due to pandemic situation and relevant Covid-19 measures undertaken and only 6 conferences could be organized with audience in person (in Jelšava City, in Trenčín Synagogue, in Zichy Manor House and its park in Voderady, in Košice – Dominique Church, in Lednické Rovne Park and in Levice Synagogue). The project promoters had to adapt to the Covid-19 situation and the measures that followed from it, and

they managed it successfully. The PO cooperated with the project promoters on promotion of the launching conferences actively participated nearly in all the launching conferences in person, online or with submitted video speech.

During the first year of the CLT01 projects' implementation, their implementation included organizing of launching conferences, start of the reconstruction works and other publicity measures, as well. Events attracting many visitors from local community as well as tourists are called "*Day of the Open Doors*" and they were organized by the project promoters within the project of Zichy Manor in Voderady (with 1100 visitors) and in the Manor House in Ladce (with 850 visitors) during the summer 2021. Both examples demonstrate the promotion of monuments' potential and the project proposals of those monuments restoration by the owners to the local community. The consultations of the heritage restoration projects with the local community were the crucial aspect for the project approval and therefore the indicator *number of projects that have conducted consultations with the local community* is currently overreached. The example of extraordinary project promotion and the development of good public relations is visible also in Trenčín Synagogue (CLT01004), Lýceum – Free Society Lab (CLT01006) and Vila K (CLT01012) project.



Day of the Open door in Manor House Ladce (CLT01025) / Day of the Open door in Zichy Manor in Voderady (CLT01008)



Bilateral cooperation meeting in Beckov Castle (CLT01014)

Fatra House of Arts Žilina with partially renovated concert hall was the venue for the extraordinary cultural events: two concerts of classical music of Slovak Chamber Orchestra. Concert *Music of Romanticism* in October and in November 2021 *Music without borders* promoting *tolerance, which transcends not only the borders of states and continents, but also the imaginary borders of musical styles, age, religion.*



Concert of classical music in Fatra House of Arts Žilina on 21.10.2021/ on 11.11.2021

On 3 July 2021, the cultural monument of Vila K in Nitra was a part of popular educational trail called “*Exploring functionalism cultural heritage sites on bike*“ where 50 visitors on bikes could make a stop and visit the relevant cultural monuments in Nitra. On 11 and 12 September 2021, 2-day exhibition called „*Sheering*“ took place in Vila K within the event „*Days of Architecture*“. The interactive workshop for primary school pupils focused on the 80th anniversary of the adoption of Jewish Code in Slovakia was also organised in Vila K.



"Sheering" – 2day exhibition within Days of Architecture in Vila K (CLT01012)

In *Trenčín Synagogue* project there were unique findings discovered during the detailed archaeological research in 2021, the archaeologists have uncovered a 16th-century fence wall and the foundations of an older Jewish Synagogue on the project site.

Both mentioned projects significantly contribute to the *output indicator Number of revitalisation projects promoting the culture and heritage of minorities* (in total amount 5 projects contribute to this indicator, so far).

The project “*Umelka - Modern Center of Art and Community in Bratislava*“ already produced 4 audio-visual artworks as 3D virtual exhibition tour of the physical installation within Umelka exhibition hall.

Both pre-defined projects contribute to the **Outcome 1** of the programme.

The pre-defined project no. 1 “**Pro Monumenta II**” (PDP1) implemented by the Monuments Board of the SR is fully contributing to the output 1.2 ***Cultural heritage monitored and preserved*** and should achieve all the target values of the indicators defined under this output. Three new members of regional teams were hired (2 men and 1 woman), 3 new small mobile workshops were purchased, together 263 inspections of the cultural monuments were carried out (the target 210 was overreached). Three main educational and promotional events for owners and operators of cultural monuments called “*Gutter Cleaning Day*” took place in three historic towns with high density of cultural monuments (in Banská Štiavnica, Kežmarok and Levoča)

The adaptation of the premises for regional teams which will provide the venue for three training centres started in year 2021 and the adaptation is almost done. The adaptation of the training centres in Trnava is done by the regional team on its own, the adaptations of the premises in Banská Štiavnica and in Levoča are implemented by selected contractor.



Pro Monumenta II Regional Center in Banská Štiavnica

No evident delays are monitored within the PDP1 implementation except of bilateral cooperation activities. This delay is caused by Covid-19 restrictions and inability to travel between Norway and Slovakia in usual conditions. The bilateral activities, as the workshops and trainings for craftsmen with the participation of donor project partner is postponed to spring/summer 2022.

The pre-defined project no. 2 “**Red Monastery – Reborn**“ (PDP2) implemented also by the Monuments Board of the SR will contribute to the output 1.1 ***Cultural heritage restored and***

revitalised. Within the project, the very important part of the Red Monastery complex in the same name village is being restored and revitalised. The project promoter is working on making this part of monastery complex accessible for the public. The educational activities will be carried out, as well as other experience activities strengthening the entrepreneurship potential and cultural tourism. In 2021, the project promoter signed the 2 partnership agreements for the activities of new exposition preparation with Ľubovňa Museum and Spiš Museum. The reconstruction works in building E&F of Red Monastery complex started in September 2021, the works are at advance stage and the premises of the reconstructed part of Red Monastery complex will be put into operation in spring 2022. The follow-up soft activities could be carried out consequently.

The measures undertaken due to Covid-19 situation in Slovakia and Norway in 2021 had an impact on the bilateral activities time schedule within this project, neither common meetings nor seminars could be carried out. The video meeting with both donor project partners with the discussion on the progress within project and planning of common events for next year took place on 27 November 2021.



The reconstruction works of the Red Monastery in November 2021 (CLTPP002)

Outcome 2: Access to contemporary arts improved

The outcome indicator annual number of people attending cultural activities in its presented value is based on data from year 2020. The current values of 699 317 visitors is a significant decrease and this number is strongly affected by the Covid-19 measures, long-term lockdowns and restrictions in terms of the cultural events organising for long time (since March 2020). This number includes the number of visitors (physically attending the events) in theatres, festivals,

shows, open-air performances and concerts. It is estimated that the numbers presented for 2021 (in next APR) will be on the same level because the restrictions were in place for the most part of 2021. After the improvement of pandemic situation, the numbers of visitors will start to increase but it is prediction that it will last long time to reach the numbers reported before Covid-19.

The indicator *expenses of households on culture services* was not reported in last APR. The official consumption data regarding the culture services are provided by Eurostat ([https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_scp03\\$DV_550/default/table?lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_scp03$DV_550/default/table?lang=en); https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=cult_pcs_hbs&lang=en) once in 5 years, the data from year 2020 will be available in 2022 later.

All projects selected and implemented under the call CLT02 and CLT03 will contribute to the Outcome 2. In 2021 the project contracts for 6 remaining CLT02 projects (out of 9 approved) were concluded.

All CLT02 projects started their implementation and except for 1 all of them held their launching conference. All of them were organised in online form due to pandemic situation and relevant Covid-19 measures undertaken. The PO participated in some of them online or through video speech. The PO promoted the information about launching conferences on its own website as well as on its Facebook profile, the press releases were issued in advance for the launching conferences.

The contemporary arts and live events and performances were significantly affected by the Covid-19 restrictions in 2021. The most of project promoters therefore focused on preparation works, organizing of events and performances in the next year, technical adaptation for the visually impaired and hearing impaired audience (e.g. within CLT02016), promotion of the future events and public procurement connected with it.

Based on the data provided within the projects approved for support within the calls CLT02 and CLT03 all the indicators should be achieved. It is clear that the indicators related to the *number of artists involved* and *number of events* will be overachieved. The target values of the most indicators were underestimated during the concept note preparation. The reason is that the PO expected more long lasting and bigger events such as festivals etc.

Even though the Covid-19 situation and connected limitations and curfews the events are held (on-line or live) during the spring/summer period. Many interesting events focused on minority and sensitive topic were organized.

The project “*Empathy in Arts*” (CLT02015) of the project promoter the Slovak Technical University, The Faculty of Architecture and Design implemented the activity “*Silent Generation*” about aging; according to the critics *an important topic in the time of egoism and at a time of ongoing pandemic, which threatens especially the elderly*. . The activity “*Ephemeral architecture - a traveling work of art*” was open in Banská Štiavnica by the student workshop, the artwork “*Afloat*” was chosen for the installation, prepared and installed in Old Castle in Banská Štiavnica. The vernissage took place on 24 August 2021.



Afloat installed in Old Castle in Banská Štiavnica (CLT02015)

The project promoter of “*Student Forum Fest Anča*” project (CLT02018) – Anča Civic Association implemented together with its partners all the steps necessary for the successful organisation of the Student Forum Fest Anča which will be a part of the Fest Anča International Animation Festival. In 2021 the topic Tradition was the main part of the project implemented accompanied by discussions and arts exhibition within the 6 movie blocks of Fest Anča online 2021 (the festival was not organized within the project).

Within CLT02019 project Slovak-Icelandic cooperation in development of small cultural centres – SLICE of OZ POVALA festival SLOVO aleBO huDBA (WORD and MUSIC) took place with aim to educate the audience about human rights, democracy, the rule of law through the stories of living witnesses and through the eyes of young historians and contemporary artists. Their activities such as Sea of stories - children's sensitising theatre performance - and discussion in a popular format of interfaith dialogue "Rabbi, priest and imam meet" contribute to the fight against xenophobia, anti-Semitism and islamophobia.

The Slovak National Museum – Museum of Ľudovít Štúr in Modra within its project “*ClayDay – Magic of Clay*” (CLT02020) with its partner Telemark Museum implemented the activity Ceramic elements in the town and the works were installed in a public space in Modra such as community garden in Modra Town.



Creation of ceramic tiles by local artists and installation in community garden in Modra (CLT02020)

The last CLT02 project contract (with Civic Association Pôtoň - CLT02023 “Resurrection of Miracle: Development of New Model of Art Festival in Slovak Countryside”) was signed in April 2021. There was not enough funds in allocation of the call to support the project in full amount. In order to ensure involvement of all the DPPs (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) in the project, the programme modification was requested and approved and the project could be supported in full requested project grant. The Project partners from Norway, Island and Liechtenstein together with the project promoter met on the project’s launching conference on 25 July 2021 in premises of Pôtoň Theatre in Bátorvce. All partners further cooperated on model of new festival “In Miracles” and visited all sites of the future festival trail in Slovak countryside.





The first working meeting of project promoter with all involved donor state partners within Pôtoň project (CLT02023)

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the main festivals, events and string of performers /concerts were postponed to 2022 and some of them to 2023 in order to sufficiently prepare. The artists involved in the projects are working on concepts of their works.

The 2nd call of small grant scheme CLT03 focused on the support of the capacity development of cultural players and audience development addressing contemporary art and culture was launched on 30 October 2020 and it was closed on 25 February 2021. The enormous interest in CLT03 call was noticed and the PO therefore organised the 2nd (additional) Information Day for CLT03 applicants in online form on 9 February 2021.

The call CLT03 with total allocation 1,5 M € was closed on 25 February 2021, overall 73 project applications in the total amount of 12,6 M € were submitted to the PO. Altogether 103 institutions have been involved in the submitted applications as the donor project partners (25 Icelandic, 2 Liechtenstein, 75 Norwegian entities). 5 project applications were rejected due to administrative or eligibility non-compliance and 16 project applications did not receive the minimum average number of points during the experts' assessment.

The Selection Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the SC”) meeting for CLT03 call took place in on-line form on 11 August 2021. The Selection Committee recommended 8 applications for support within the allocation to the PO. Seven applications were recommended on the reserve list, 35 project applications were not recommended due to lack of funding within the call and 2 project applications were rejected by the SC (not recommended for support).

On 2 November 2021, the decision on the approval of 8 project applications were issued by the PO without any modification of the ranked list recommended by the SC. The first 2 project contracts were signed in December 2021, all other will be signed in early 2022.

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

The beginning of the bilateral component support in the programme is considered successful, as just one project supported has no donor project partner (hereinafter referred to as “the dpp”) and different kinds of cooperation are expected (even though the involvement of the dpp was mandatory only for contemporary arts component).

Bilateral cooperation is an important part of the expected results of both pre-defined projects implemented by the Monuments Board of the SR PDP1 and PDP2 related to the know-how transfer. The delays regarding the common meetings and workshops with the dpp were caused by the Covid-19 situation and travel restrictions. The planned bilateral activities were postponed to spring/summer 2022.

The ambition and challenge of the Culture programme in term of bilateral cooperation is to have at least 30% of the projects under the Outcome 1 “Cultural heritage conditions enhanced” (call CLT01) implemented in partnership with entities from the Donor States. Altogether, 18 out of 19 approved projects are with at least one donor project partner, which means 94% of cultural heritage projects are being implemented in partnership with the donor entities and this achieved results is extraordinary.

The donor project partnership within projects under the Outcome 2 “Access to contemporary arts improved” is obligatory and all 17 approved projects within this outcome include at least one donor project partner.

As regards the bilateral indicator “*number of project involving the cooperation with donor project partner*” – 37 of approved cultural projects include cooperation of dpp (programme target value is 30), the target value of the indicator will be achieved.

The CLT01 projects included mainly bilateral visits of the dpps and common meetings or planning working sessions during summer – the only period suitable in connection with Covid-19 situation. The example of bilateral component activity was the meeting of the representatives of Høgskulen for Grøn Utvikling with the project promoter of the Vila K restoration project (CLT01012) in Nitra City on 23 June 2021 and the project promoter Beckov Village and project partner Civic Association Beckov Castle on the project site - Beckov Castle (CLT01024) on 24 June 2021. The role of the dpp is to help the project promoters increase the interest of local people in cultural heritage by transfer their expertise of specific methodology developed, based

on moderated dialogue, which will be applied in involvement of local communities in the localities of cultural monuments.

The indicator “*number of bilateral activities targeting minorities*” started to be achieved by the activity “Dissident yesterday and today” within CLT0022 project.

Some additional interesting *joint cultural activities implemented* were carried out. Within CLT02023 project the common multilateral event with all 3 dpps during kick-off and preparatory meeting was organised in summer 2021. Within CLT02022 project the bilateral activity named “Dissident yesterday and today” was implemented.

On 21 October 2021 the Slovak Chamber Orchestra brought the interesting event *Music of Romanticism* full of virtuoso romantic music of Slovak, Norwegian and Czech provenance. For the first time in Žilina, the excellent Norwegian pianist Jan Gunnar Sørbo performed as a soloist in one of the most beautiful piano concerts ever.

Examples of interesting cooperation in contemporary arts component included the following initiatives and activities:

ŽUDRO and its ANGRUSORI - Roma music, heritage, hybridization and improvisational exchange (CLT02017) – Iva Bittová and Nils Henrik Asheim (Kitchen Orchestra) study Romani music through publications and sound media in cooperation with ethnomusicologist Jana Belišová and compose new music. Their concerts are scheduled for 2022.

Atrakt Art and its NOISS (Norway-Iceland-Slovakia): New Musics for New Audiences (CLT02021) in August 2021 held the event Next in Spiš Region for rural audience – the concert of improvised music with the artists Inger Hannisdal (Norway) and Michal Paľko and Róbert Kolář (Slovakia). They had never seen each other before and after one rehearsal on the day of the event they played a joint concert. The concert was followed by a discussion on artistic freedom in improvised music.

No bilateral call nor pre-defined bilateral initiatives and common events were implemented in 2021. The pre-defined activities approved by the Cooperation Committee meeting are postponed to 2022.

The close cooperation between the donors’ institutions and Slovak programme representatives include also meetings of the Cooperation Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the CC”) of the Culture programme. During the year 2021 no person-to-person meeting took place due to Covid-19 situation. One ad-hoc *per-rollam* meetings took place in January 2021 with the purpose to ensure the procedures of Annual Programme Report reviewing by all CC members and observers before its submission to the donors. The second CC meeting was in online form and took place in October 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to review the progress in the programme, advising on Programme modification, on bilateral activities and on the use of the funds for bilateral relations.

On 17 December 2021, an online Seminar for all Culture Programme Operators (Programme Operators gathering meeting) was organised by the Arts Council Norway and Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage. The PO of the Slovak Culture Programme participated actively and presented the experiences from the current status of the programme

implementation, as well as the publicity and information activity of video promotion of the projects from both cultural heritage restoration and bilateral cultural cooperation components.

The overall cooperation, as well as communication through the Cooperation Committee with the Donor Programme Partners is constantly very good. The Donor Programme Partners (hereinafter referred to as “the DPPs”) provided significant support to the Programme Operator as an observer during the Selection Committee meetings within CLT03 call and provided the PO with the review of the Norwegian (and/or other donors) partners and proposed bilateral cooperation. They are also active regarding the using bilateral funds at programme level and brought a several interesting proposals such as Bilateral Garden initiative.

3. Implementation

Cooperation with International Partner Organisations (IPOs)

N/A

C. LEARNING

1. Monitorings carried out

Due to ongoing pandemic of Covid-19 the PO postponed the on-site monitoring of the pre-defined projects to 2022. The main reason was a curfew in most of 2021 and working in regime of home office at the PO, as well as Project Promoters and project partners, which is not appropriate for such kind of monitoring. The attention was therefore given to the regular monitoring through the project interim reports. Both pre-defined projects, as well as 28 projects from CLT01 and CLT02 calls were implemented and regularly monitored throughout the interim projects reports, which have been submitted regularly and closely monitored by the PO, including regular communication such as e-mails and phone calls. Within the project interim reports a monitoring on Covid-19 impact was included and meeting of the milestones have been observed. In case of milestones, postponing information about reasons and new plan was required. Most of the activities such as launching conference and other events have been moved to online or postponed to 2022 and 2023. The PO has been in touch with project promoters via phone and e-mails regarding if there are any significant delays caused by the ongoing pandemic of Covid-19 or other unexpected reasons. The main risk is connected with the delays of construction works; there is also risk connected with the prices issue related. So far no significant challenges have been reported to the PO. The limitation of 70 % for investments costs was mandatory condition in the call CLT01. If there is a significant issue, the PO will reconsider the possibilities how to eliminate the risk. A potential option of project grant or limitation increase can be considered, if there are some unallocated funds in the Programme or unspent funds in the projects. An unsuitable environment for the cultural events life also affects the project implementation. However, under limited conditions the events can be organized and the spring /summer period is available for such events. The project promoters therefore plan or postpone their event to this period. The main focus of the PO in 2022 during the monitoring will be on current particular events schedule and alternatives planned, if the situation is not better.

In 2022 the on-site monitoring for all predefined projects and selected projects within CLT01 and CLT02 call are planned. The monitoring plan is attached.

2. Evaluations carried out

Not applicable as the evaluation of the programme has not been carried out yet.

3. Lessons learned from monitoring, evaluation and implementation

The lessons learned of the year 2021 are closely connected and affected with the Covid-19 pandemic situation in Slovakia and other Beneficiary states, as well as Donor states.

All Covid-19 related restrictions, as well as continuous unfavourable situation in terms of travelling possibilities during 2021 caused that the PO mostly implemented online forms of communication and visibility measures within the programme. The PO used the system for online meetings and the PO was able to carry out all the necessary meetings and events and seminars. The Selection Committee for the call CLT03 was in online space on 11 August 2021 as well as the Cooperation Committee meeting on 13 October 2021.

Due to Covid-19 measures the project promoters and partners within CLT01 and CLT02 projects transferred the suitable events to online platform. As this is not suitable way for all the events and there is still time (2 years) to postpone some events to be organized in person; the main events such as festivals, joint concerts etc. have been postponed. The PO instructed the project promoters to plan these kinds of events for spring/summer months of 2022 as the situation with the pandemic of Covid-19, based on the experience so far, is much better this time of the year.

The Programme Operators' networking meeting prepared by Donor program partners has been also organized in online form. The Slovak PO presented its experiences with organising Selection Committee online sessions. During this POs' networking meeting, good examples and experiences from different countries were shared; it was a great opportunity to be inspired by the others.

On the project level, also the project promoters had to accommodate with the Covid-19 situation and the measures based on it and they did this work successfully. They were able to organise the launching conferences in online space. The bilateral activities such as meetings or working sessions of project promoters with their Slovak partners as well as donor state project partners had been in most cases also organised in online form.

The ongoing pandemic has proved that on-line meetings and events are great, if the situation does not allow meeting in person or if it is urgent to meet; on the other hand if it is just on-line the people are replete and it is not so efficient as needed. Long-term situation with only online events is more demanding about creativity; mostly how to attract the people and their attention if they participate. This affects a lot cultural events, as on-line events and performances are not so interesting for people. They do not bring enough funds and if the organizers want to keep their quality of the performance, it requires even more funds than live events. Travel reduction saves time, as well as the environment. However, personal contact is necessary and it is needed to find a balanced way.

D. ANNEXES

1. Updated achievements in the results framework

2. Communication summary

- 3. Overview of contracted projects**
- 4. Risk management**
- 5. Monitoring plan**
- 6. Evaluation report**
- 7. Agreement conditions**

Annex 1: Updated achievements in the results framework

Objective: Social and economic development strengthened through cultural cooperation, cultural entrepreneurship and cultural heritage management								
Outcome 1: Cultural heritage conditions enhanced								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of jobs created	Cumulative number	0	3 (APR 2020)	-	-	11	25	11 jobs have been created within 7 projects, so far.
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Age</i>								
<i>Children and youth (0-17)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Young adults (18-29)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
<i>Adults (30-64)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
<i>Elderly (65+)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Annual revenues generated by the restored monuments (€)	Annual number	1,337,013	104,000 (APR 2020)	-	-	1,223,863	2,674,026, +100% increase compared to the baseline value	As there have been allocation for the CLT01 call increased twice and 7 more projects are being implemented, it is necessary to update the baseline and target value
Annual number of visitors to supported cultural heritage sites, museums and cultural activities	Annual number	130,590	45,379 (APR 2020)	-	-	156,830	261180, +100% increase compared to baseline value	As there have been allocation for the CLT01 call increased twice and 7 more projects are being implemented, it is necessary to update the baseline and target value

Annual number of monuments monitored by regional inspection teams	Annual number	80	108 (APR 2020)	-	-	104	100	Regional inspections teams are working more effective than considered by indicators set-up - 01-12/2021
Output 1.1: Cultural heritage restored and revitalised								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of cultural monuments restored and revitalised	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	0	19	Based on the projects implemented under the CLT01 call and Red Monastery PDP, the achieved value at the end of the programme implementation should be 20.
Number of entrepreneurship strategies developed and implemented	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	2	19	The strategy was mandatory annex of the project applications. 2 of the project have already stated to implement entrepreneurship strategies (CLTPP002,CLT01010)
Number of projects that have conducted consultations with the local community	Cumulative number	0	2 (IFR 2021)	-	-	20	19	The consultations with local community was the elimination criteria within CLT01 projects selection. 19 CLT01 projects and CLTPP02 are included in the current value
Number of revitalisation projects promoting the culture and heritage of minorities	Cumulative number	0	2 (IFR 2021)	-	-	5	10	Based on the projects information 16 projects should promote the culture and heritage of minorities. So far 5 of them have already started the activities focused on

								the minorities and awareness about their culture and heritage
Number of partnership agreements concluded between the owner of cultural heritage sites and other players	Cumulative number	0	14 (IFR 2021)	-	-	38	35	Within all projects the most of partnership agreements between the owners of cultural heritage monuments and other players have been concluded. For 5 projects some of the partnership agreements should be concluded at the later
Output 1.2: Cultural heritage monitored and preserved								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of craftsmen trained	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	0	15	This indicator relates to CLTPP001. The target value will be met by organising of workshops and trainings after the training centres of ProMonumenta II will be reconstructed
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of new regional inspection teams' members	Cumulative number	0	1 (IFR 2021)	-	-	1	1	CLTPP001 Pro Monumenta II inspection teams were strengthen by 1 employee in each team (together 3 new employees)
Number of centres for construction crafts established	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	0	3	Pro Monumenta II 3 regional centres as seats of regional teams are under the reconstruction and this will be finished in 2022

Number of cultural monuments monitored	Cumulative number	0	159 (IFR 2021)	-	-	263	210	System of Pro Monumenta II inspections and monitoring work is very effective and the target have been met during 2021
Number of bilateral workshops carried out	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	0	3	not carried out yet due to Covid-19 restrictions, postponed to spring/summer 2022
Outcome 2: Access to contemporary arts improved								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Annual number of people attending cultural activities	Annual number	3,615,897	10,815,911 (APR 2020)	-	-	699,317	4,000,000, Number of people attending in the last year of programme implementation. Attendance at theatres, theatre festivals, shows, concerts and live performances - Ministry of Culture Statistics	The number of people attending cultural activities in 2020 significantly decreased. The value is affected by the Covid-19 measures and restrictions since March 2020 (involving theatres, festivals, shows, concerts)
Expenses of households on culture services	Cumulative number	58.41	0 (APR 2020)	-	-	0	60	The data for year 2020 will be provided by Eurostat during 2022
Output 2.1: Capacity of cultural players supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		

Number of artists and cultural experts directly involved or benefiting from the support	Cumulative number	0	4 (IFR 2021)	-	-	266	200	The target value was significantly underestimated. Just within CLT02 call about 700 artists and experts should be involved. The PO expected long-lasting activities of individual artists.
Number of entrepreneurship strategies developed and implemented	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	0	15	The project promoters are working on the entrepreneurship/communication strategy within the project implementation.
Number of cultural players (institutions) supported	Cumulative number	0	3 (IFR 2021)	-	-	16	20	The target value will be achieved, so far mainly the project promoters and project partners are covered
Output 2.2: Audience development supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of events targeting audience development	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	17	30	Despite of Covid-19 some events have been organized (on-line and live). The target value has been significantly underestimated. Just within CLT02 call, about 100 events should be held. The PO expected long lasting bigger events instead of many smaller events
Number of events dedicated to artistic freedom and/or freedom of expression	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	17	15	Despite of Covid-19 situation some events have been organized (on-line and live). The target value

								has been significantly underestimated.
Number of educational institutions involved	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	5	10	About 30 educational entities are involved, so far Elementary School Bakomi, Gymnasium Andreja Kmeťa in Banská Štiavnica, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences and Technical College Reykjavik
Number of events focused on raising awareness about minority culture	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	10	15	Despite of Covid-19 situation some events are organized (on-line and live). The target value has been significantly underestimated. The PO expected long lasting bigger events such as festivals etc. instead of many smaller events
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Level of satisfaction with the partnership	Scale 1-7	6.26, Survey conducted by the FMO	-	-	-	-	4.50, Target is ≥4.5 and an increase on the baseline	There are no results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects-
<i>State type</i>								
<i>Beneficiary State</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Level of trust between cooperating entities in	Scale 1-7	6.33, Survey conducted	-	-	-	-	4.50, Target is ≥4.5 and an	There are no results to report due to insufficient number of completed projects-

Beneficiary States and Donor States		by the FMO					increase on the baseline	
<i>State type</i>								
<i>Beneficiary State</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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-
<i>State type</i>								
<i>Beneficiary State</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bilateral Output 1: Bilateral cultural cooperation supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2021			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of projects involving cooperation with a donor project partner	Cumulative number	0	29 (IFR 2021)	-	-	37	30	only 1 project from 38 selected projects is without DPP
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of bilateral activities targeting minorities	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	1	10	Due to unsuitable conditions just one bilateral activity named "Dissident yesterday and today" was implemented in project CLT02022

Number of joint cultural activities implemented	Cumulative number	0	0 (IFR 2021)	-	-	6	25	The concert "Music of Romanticism" with the Norwegian pianist (CLT01005), joined kick-off event with DPPs (CLT02023), bilateral activity named "Dissident yesterday and today" (CLT02022), Concert a discussion in Spišský Hrhov
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Annex 2: Communication summary

1. Best practice examples

There are plenty of interesting projects implemented within the Culture programme relevant for communication purposes. Currently, the most relevant is the pre-defined project “*Pro Monumenta IP*” CLTPP001 implemented by the Monuments Board of the SR. The website of the project is well elaborated and it is regularly updated <http://www.promonumenta.sk/index.php?l=en>. It contains not only a huge amount of information about the project but it also contains a reservation tool for operators and owners of monuments to apply for technical inspection of cultural monument which will be put into operation in near future. The promoter established also Facebook profile <https://www.facebook.com/promonumenta.sk> with regular new posts about the project progress and milestones.

Another interesting project is a project implemented within CLT02 call by the Faculty of Architecture of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava. Various activities were implemented in 2021 such as documentary theatre Decameron/Silent generation which evokes feeling of “living memory and wisdom” from the point of view of the discourse on social and political events. Performers covered the full spectrum of people from all layers of the society born in the 1930s and 1940s – a generation called the “silent generation”. Another activity was Ephemeral Architecture that represents realization of a traveling work with the materialization of the term empathy. The object called Afloat represented a monumental air installation of a human molecule. Photos from these activities can be found on the project’s website <http://emia.stuba.sk/en/>.

2. Best bilateral cooperation examples

Within the projects implemented in 2021 under this programme it could be mentioned an example project with extraordinary bilateral cooperation. The Civic Association Pôtoň in its project CLT02023 „*Resurrection of Miracle: Development of New Model of Art Festival in Slovak Countryside*” joins the donor project partners from all three donor states to implement project activities (**Company B. Valiente** from Norway, **Tjarnarbio** from Iceland and **Kultur-Traverse** from Liechtenstein):

<https://www.poton.sk/aktuality/otvaracia-konferencia-vzkriesenie-zazraku/>.

Another project which could be mentioned is project “*Restoration, reconstruction and revitalization of the Synagogue in Trenčín*” CLT01004 implemented by Jewish community Trenčín in cooperation with The Mosaic Crossroads from Norway <https://synagogatrencin.sk/en>. The website is presenting the project not only in Slovak and English but it is also in Norwegian mutation. The promoter provides the regular information about project also on its Facebook profile:

<https://www.facebook.com/Synagogatrencin/>

3. The programme in a nutshell

<p>What is the added value of this programme?</p>	<p>The Programme supports enhancement of the cultural heritage condition - revitalisation of cultural heritage for the reuse or further use of cultural monuments and to foster entrepreneurial potential in line with the promotion of bilateral partnership with entities from the Donor States. The Programme supports the projects focused on the events dedicated to artistic freedom and/or freedom of expression, events focused on raising awareness about minority culture and involvement of educational institutions.</p>		
<p>Include up to two quotes about this programme. Please include the name, last name and title of the person.</p>	<p>Quote 1</p>		
	<p>“These beautiful buildings (synagogue in Žilina and Bardejov – notice of the PO) have been renovated and serve the public for cultural and social activities. This is also the aim of the project in Trenčín to make accessible - a renewed synagogue for visitors and tourists, to enable them to enjoy the architecture and to experience cultural, educational and social activities in this beautiful environment.”</p>		
	<p>Author</p>	<p>Name Terje Theodor Nervik</p>	<p>Title the Ambassador of the Norwegian Kingdom in Slovakia</p>
	<p>Quote 2</p>		
	<p>“I advise to all who are interested to apply (for EEA grants – notice of the PO) to use this opportunity”.</p>		
	<p>Author</p>	<p>Name Dalibor Hladký</p>	<p>Title Mayor of Beckov Municipality</p>

4. Visibility of the Grants and the Donors

To promote bilateral relations and cooperation with Donor States entities and to make the cooperation with the Donor States visible on the programme level, the Programme Operator acts in line with the Communication Plan. With regards to continuous Covid-19 pandemic wave and related restrictions, as well as continuous unfavourable situation in terms of travelling possibilities during the 2021 calendar year, the PO and NFP continued to use and implement the communication and visibility measures in online forms.

The Culture Programme webpage is a subpage of the national single web page for both financial mechanisms and it is managed by the NFP. During 2021, the Culture programme webpage <https://www.eeagrants.sk/en/programs/culture> informed about 2nd Online Information Day for CLT03 call and possibility to register for it, as well as about the open call of contemporary art small grant scheme CLT03 closure and its CLT03. Culture programme webpage is in Slovak and English language.

Information and publicity on the project level is provided through the conditions stated in the project contracts which is in line with the Regulation and its Annex 3. Except of the launching conferences, the project promoters were during 2021 focused to set up the project websites in line with the provision in Annex 3 relevant for their project size.

5. Media coverage

Example 1

Coverage	Type	National
Description	With regard to the Programme content, the focus is on the local and regional media as well as the national media and by all types of media (press, radio, TV, social media, website). The particular media is communicated in the co-operation with the Public Relations Department and Press Department of the Ministry of Investments, Regional Development and Informatization of the Slovak Republic and the press news for each communication activity is prepared ad-hoc.	
Relevant links	<p>The Slovak Press Agency about the CLT01025 project (Manor House in Ladce):</p> <p>https://www.tasr.sk/tasr-clanok/TASR:2021052000000164</p> <p>Slovak State TV Channel New about CLT02 call results:</p> <p>https://spravy.rtvs.sk/2020/11/remisovej-rezort-vycleni-na-podporu-kultury-15-miliona-eur/</p> <p>teraz.sk - CLT02022 project EMCA - Empowering Migrants through Cultural Activities</p> <p>https://www.teraz.sk/kultura/festival-fjuzn-predstavi-cudzincov-k/546698-clanok.html</p>	

Example 2

Coverage	Type	Regional
Description	The project promoters closely cooperates with the regional and local media to promote the funding of the project by the EEA grants as well as to announce the particular milestones of the projects and invite the participants to relevant events.	
Relevant links	<p>Regional “Trenčín” website about CLT01014 project (Beckov Castle):</p> <p>https://trencin.zoznam.sk/na-obnovu-hradu-beckov-pojde-z-grantov-europskeho-hospodarskeho-priestoru-a-norska-vyse-800-tisic-eur/</p> <p>Regional “Považská” website about CLT01025 project (Manor House in Ladce):</p> <p>https://povazska.dnes24.sk/remisova-o-podpore-turizmu-kastiel-v-ladcoch-premenia-na-moderny-priestor-390543</p> <p>Radio Devín – CLT02019 project Slovak-Icelandic cooperation in development of small cultural centers - SLICE</p> <p>https://devin.rtvs.sk/clanky/kulturny-dennik/267133/festival-slovo-alebo-hudba-bude-hladat-priestory-slobody-v-case-normalizacie</p>	

6. Website and social media

6.a. Links to the programme website and social media accounts

Link to programme website						
https://www.eeagrants.sk/en/						
Total number of page views in the reporting year		Change, compared to last year (in absolute numbers)		Total number of unique visitors in the reporting year		
57565		4138		2659		
Specific link or handle for the account		Posts published in the reporting year	Total likes in the reporting year	Total comments in the reporting year	Total shares/Re-tweets etc. in the reporting year	Followers gained since programme launch
Facebook		https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069358563242	75	497	10	55
						0

6.b. Results of website and social media activities

The Culture Programme webpage <https://www.eeagrants.sk/en/programs/culture/> is a subpage of the mentioned national single web page for both FMs www.eeagrants.sk, operated both in Slovak and in English. Altogether 7 news published on the programme website are connected with the progress in programme and its milestones. The NFP administers also the Youtube channel under the title “Granty EHP a Nórska na Slovensku” <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMOc-pUxDiqMuqaItaLxQxQ>. All videos created about all contracted and implemented cultural projects are place here. The most commented or liked posts were those from the video campaigns, it has shown a large interest from the social media audience, for that it seems to be easily attention capturing, approachable and quickly conveying the important project information.

7. Visuals

EEA and Norway Grants media library (eealibrary.org) will be one of the PO’s priority in 2022. The results will be shared in the next years.

The PO prepared the videos about all 30 contracted projects, the links for them in Slovak with English subtitles:

CLTPP001: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YigfMI1BJWI>

CLTPP002: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7mRds_5AwA

CLT01: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYoKgE1yAI3bScFwNNABXK6TKBN-aR9jk>

CLT02:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYoKgE1yAI3ZHrxn9ZPqTCtFKWSMvfDVx>

Annex 3: Overview of contracted projects

Outcome	Projects	#	# of donor project partners	Amount contracted	% of outcome budget contracted
Outcome 1: Cultural heritage conditions enhanced	Pre-defined	2	2	€ 2,600,000	14.07 %
	Contracted through open calls	19	16	€ 15,621,144	84.51 %
	Contracted through small grants scheme	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
	Total Outcome 1	21	18	€ 18,221,144	98.58 %
Outcome 2: Access to contemporary arts improved	Pre-defined	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
	Contracted through open calls	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
	Contracted through small grants scheme	11	17	€ 1,901,298	62.17 %
	Total Outcome 2	11	17	€ 1,901,298	62.17 %
Programme	Total	32	35	€ 20,122,442	93.41 %

Annex 4: Risk management

Programmatic risks						
Risk description	Risk related to	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk score	Response type	Validity
Delays in timeschedule such as delays of construction works due to weather conditions, problems with the suppliers, delays in public procurement etc.	Reducing social and economic disparities	3	3	3.00	Mitigate	
	Description of planned response	Not possible to describe currently. The PO will organize seminar for the Project Promoters and remind them the schedule and last day of project eligibility. The PO will also carry out a monitoring on Covid-19 impact on the projects implementation in Q1 2021.				
	Description of actual response	In 2021 during the project interim reports review the PO focused on milestones and whether they were met. If not, the justification and updated plan was required. For the delays connected with the construction works, an overview of measures taken and further steps to meet the updated deadline was required. The projects with significant delays are obliged to report about the progress regarding the plan steps once a month.				
	Planned future response	The PO will regularly monitor the progress within public procurement, reconstruction works progress and the milestones fulfilment within verification of Interim project report. 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.				
Complications during the construction works due to unexpected findings. It can result in a change of project documentation and the subsequent delay to the original schedule and changes in budget headings	Reducing social and economic disparities	3	2	2.45	Accept	
	Description of planned response	Not possible to describe currently. The PO will organize seminar for the Project Promoters and remind them the schedule and last day of project eligibility. The PO will also carry out a monitoring on Covid-19 impact on the projects implementation in Q1 2021.				
	Description of actual response	Only few project have already started the construction works. So far no findings have been reported.				

	Planned future response	The PO will regularly monitor the progress within reconstruction works. The PO will also carry out a monitoring on Covid-19 impact on.				
Project sustainability after completion	Reducing social and economic disparities	1	2	1.41	Mitigate	
	Description of planned response	The monitoring of the sustainability after the completion.				
	Description of actual response	The selection process is already closed and it included the assessment of the clear entrepreneurial plan with the model of the sustainability of the project. The sustainability condition to maintain the project results and indicators achieved had been included in all project contracts signed.				
	Planned future response	The monitoring of the sustainability after the completion. If new or significant risks threatening the sustainability of the projects' results occur during the projects implementation, the PO will take appropriate measures in line with the Project Contract.				
Delays in time schedule of projects due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions etc.	Strengthening bilateral relations	2	3	2.45	Mitigate	
	Description of planned response	Given the relatively long time span of the Programme, there should be enough time for the implementation of projects. The delays however could be caused objectively due to Covid-19 restriction and several lockdowns. The PO plans to monitor the timeschedule of the projects in terms of the implementation period and actual delays during 1st half a year 2021. The cultural projects events could be carried out online and in case of necessary physical participation, these will be postponed.				
	Description of actual response	The overall delays of the bilateral project activities connected with pandemic restrictions is reviewed regularly. The events which could be carried in online space could replace the physical participation.				

	Planned future response	The PO will regularly monitor the progress within the milestones of the bilateral activities within verification of Interim project report. The PO will also carry out a monitoring focused on milestones meeting and activities completion to ensure the projects results achievement.				
Operational risks						
Risk description	Risk related to	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk score	Response type	Validity
Low attendance of monuments before as well as after the reconstruction	Reducing social and economic disparities	2	2	2.00	Mitigate	
	Description of planned response	The promotion of the restored monuments on the national level, the requirement to make powerful promotion.				
	Description of actual response	Only restoration projects with a clear idea of the function of the building (monument) and the link of this function to revenue generation was proposed for funding by the SC and further approved by the PO. It can be seen that even though the Covid-19 situation and restrictions regarding the meeting in person, the project promoters do their best to promote the projects and the monuments with its cultural activities, which have been already implemented.				
	Planned future response	The promotion of the restored monuments on the national level, the requirement to make powerful promotion. This will be a part of the PO's monitoring.				
Significant increase of the costs of initial inputs for construction works (higher prices of building materials)	Reducing social and economic disparities	2	2	2.00	Accept	New
	Description of planned response	The limit of the investments cost (70%) stated in the call is stated also the project contract. During the preparation of the projects, the PO recommended to include item "5% Reserve" in project budget. If it is within the limit, the project promoters are recommended to use this reserve for the construction works, if needed. An option is increase project grant or				

		limitation, if there are some unallocated funds in the programme or unspent funds in the projects provided that all the results will be achieved.		
Overall risk of the programme				
	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk score	
OVERALL RISK OF THE PROGRAMME	3	2	2.45	

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

General	
Condition	Fulfilled status
1. The maximum level of funding available from the total eligible expenditure of the programme for infrastructure (hard measures) shall be 60%.	<p>Is condition fulfilled? - N/A</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>The limit of 70% of the project eligible expenditures for the investment measure was stated in call CLT01. Before the decision of approval of CLT01 projects, the Programme Operator verifies each application that the budget keeps these limits. The drawing of budget items is monitored and verified by the PO in each Project Interim Report. The calls CLT02 and CLT03 are not primarily intended for infrastructure. The management costs do not contain expenditure for infrastructure. For the purposes of the Programme the infrastructure (hard measures) are defined as any activities that require a building permit/a building announcement or purchase of buildings or estates.</p> <p>The limit of the PDPs infrastructure is also in line with stated level. The maximum level of 60% will be kept and is being monitored during the whole implementation period.</p>
2. The relevant public institution(s) in the Slovak Republic in charge of the policy area in question, including the Ministry of Culture, shall be actively involved in the preparation and implementation of the programme, specifically as member(s) of the Cooperation Committee.	<p>Is condition fulfilled? - N/A</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>The following institutions are the members of the Cooperation Committee according to the approved Rules and Procedures: Programme Operator, Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Arts Council Norway (DPPs), Ministry of Culture of the SR, Monuments Board of the SR and Slovak Arts Council. National Focal Point, Financial Mechanisms Office and Royal Norwegian Embassy are observers of the Cooperation Committee.</p>
3. The National Focal Point shall ensure that any revenues generated within projects are reinvested in compliance with the programme's outcomes and outputs.	<p>Is condition fulfilled? - N/A</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>This is included in the Guideline for Project Promoter and Project Partner, chapter 16. Based on the Project Contract the Guideline for Project Promoter and Project Partner is a binding document for the Project Promoters and Project Partners. It is being monitored by the PO.</p>
4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator ensures that project promoters:	<p>Is condition fulfilled? - N/A</p> <p>Comment</p>

<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 use such buildings for the benefit of the overall objectives of the project for the same period;• 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>The Programme Operator incorporated all these conditions to all relevant project contracts. It is being monitored by the PO during the project implementation and sustainability period.</p>
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