

regional development agency of the ljubljana urban region



The Regional Development Programme of the Ljubljana Urban Region 2014-2020

2nd Proposal

Ljubljana, April 2015



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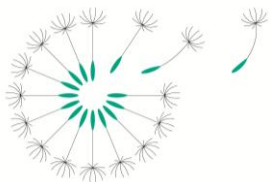
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List of Acronyms

AJPES	Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services
GDP	Gross domestic product
CLLD	Community-led local development
CTL	Central Technological Library
ITI	Integrated Territorial Investments
NPDP	National Programme on Development Priorities and Investments
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EFF	European Fisheries Fund
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
EU	European Union
FCCT	Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology
FCSI	Faculty of Computer Science and Informatics
GIS	Geographic information system
FMU	Forest management unit
FMP	Forest management plan
FMA	Forest management assessment
HE	Hydroelectric power plant
IPPT	Integrated public passenger transport
IJS	Institute Jozef Stefan
NIPH	National Institute of Public Health
PPT	Public passenger transport
CI	Creative industries
LP	Landscape park
CF	Cohesion fund
LAG	Local action group
LPP	Ljubljanski potniški promet (the Ljubljana passenger transport company)
LUR	Ljubljana urban region
MLFSAEO	Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
MF	Ministry of Finance
MEDT	Ministry of Economic Development and Technology
MI	Ministry of Infrastructure
MESS	Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
MC	Ministry of Culture
MESP	Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
MI	Ministry of the Interior
CLJ	City of Ljubljana
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
NLB	Nova Ljubljanska banka
NUL	National and University Library
NUTS	Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics
OP	Operational programme



P+R	Park and ride
PA	Partnership agreement
UDP	Urban Development Programme
PVSP	Entrepreneurially into the Business World project
LJRWMC	Ljubljana Regional Waste Management Centre
RCKE	Regional Creative Economy Centre
RSDGSAFT	Resolution on the Strategic Guidelines for the Development of Slovenian Agriculture and Food Technology by 2020
RRA LUR	Regional Development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region
LUR RDP	Regional Development Programme of the Ljubljana Urban Region
LUR RDF	LUR Regional Development Fund
RDO	Regional destination organisation
RGS	Regional guarantee schemes
RS	Republic of Slovenia
RSS	Regional scholarship scheme
EGW PRSP LUR	Expert groundwork for the preparation of the regional spatial plan of Ljubljana urban region
SDSS	Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia
SPS	Smart Specialisation Strategy
SRDF	Slovenian Regional Development Fund
CSF	Common Strategic Framework
SORS	Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia
SWOT analysis	Analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport Network
UMC Ljubljana	University Medical Centre Ljubljana
UL	University of Ljubljana
VEM one-stop-shop	State portal for enterprises and entrepreneurs
SFS	Slovenian Forest Service



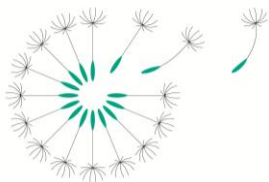
1. Introduction

Regional Development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region (hereinafter: "RRA LUR") associates have used the starting points designed in the workshops and meetings organised with numerous stakeholders in the region as well as more than 300 project proposals received, and have in cooperation with the bodies of the Ljubljana Urban Region and professional institutions prepared the **1st working draft of the** Regional Development Programme of the Ljubljana Urban Region (hereinafter: "LUR RDP"). The document was sent to the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology for an informal review and was concurrently considered at all six Committees of the LUR Development Council, the meeting of the core project group for drafting of RDP and the meeting of the Governing Board of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Central Slovenia. Following a call, we also received additional proposals and amendments to LUR RDP from public and private sector representatives as well as representatives of NGOs. Based on these proposals, comments, and reflections we drafted a new, upgraded version of the document that represented the **1st draft** of LUR RDP. The latter was sent to line ministries for an informal review. By October 2014 we received proposals from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment,¹ Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of the Interior. We have also received several initiatives and additional project proposals. Based on the proposals received, we have amended the document and drafted the **1st proposal** of LUR RDP which we sent to the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology for a formal review in December 2014. By the end of February 2015, we received official recommendations from the Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Food, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports. Taking into account the recommendations that had been communicated to us, we have amended the document as appropriate, thus arriving at the **2nd proposal** of LUR RDP including almost 500 project proposals.

The document comprises key development orientations for the Central Slovenia region (Osrednjeslovenska regija – Ljubljana urban region) for the 2014–2020 period and follows the objectives of the Europe 2020 – European strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in their entirety.

The Regional Development Council of the Ljubljana Urban Region has appointed a core project group to manage the preparation of LUR RDP: Lilijana Madjar, MA, as project manager, Matej Gojčič, as assistant to the project manager, Liljana Drevenšek, MSc, as expert coordinator, Matija Ukmar, MSc, as expert associate, and several managers of sector-specific areas: Miran Gajšek, MSc, for infrastructure, environment and spatial planning,– Franc Jamšek, MSc, for human resources, Iztok Lesjak, MSc, for economy, and Jože Benec for rural areas.

¹ Nota bene: currently Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Food



The document was formulated in accordance with the provisions of the Promotion of Balanced Regional Development Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, Nos. 20/11 and 57/12) that lays down: the method of mutual coordination between the state and the municipalities in regional policy planning and in the implementation of regional development tasks as well as the implementation of development tasks in the development region in accordance with the provisions of the Decree on Regional Development Programmes (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 69/12), which prescribes the contents of the RDP, the minimum mandatory preparation and implementation methodology, and the method for monitoring and evaluation of LUR RDP's effects. When the document was being drafted, all of the hierarchically superior strategic and programming documents were observed both at the state and individual sector levels.

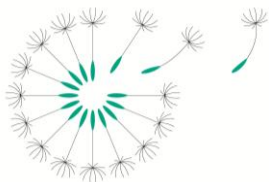
LUR RDP is the fundamental regional-level strategic and programming document that harmonises the development objectives in the region and outlines the instruments and resources for their realisation. The document includes a strategic and a programming section. The strategic section features an analysis of regional development potentials, definition of the key development obstacles and strengths of the region, development objectives and priorities of the region over the programming period, and finally determination of the region's development specialisation. The programming section outlines the programmes for promotion of development in the region with a timeline projection and a financial evaluation as well as determination of the monitoring, evaluation and organisation of the regional development programme implementation.

LUR RDP was prepared for the 2014–2020 programming period that overlaps with the current period of the EU Financial Perspective (i.e. EU multi-annual financial framework). The territory for which the Regional Development Programme of the Ljubljana Urban Region was prepared encompasses 26 municipalities of the Central Slovenia (Osrednjeslovenska regija) or the Ljubljana urban region.

LUR RDP includes analytical chapters, definitions of the region's vision and development specialisation, a proposal for the region's development objectives, development priorities and the resulting proposal for measures to be undertaken under individual development priorities.

The RDP was prepared during a period when many important development documents in Slovenia such as: Slovenia's Development Strategy, Resolution on the National Programme on the Development of Transport and Public Transport Infrastructure in the Republic of Slovenia by 2020 with a Vision until 2030, Programme of National Development Priorities and Investments in the Republic of Slovenia for the 2014–2017 Period; Smart Specialisation Strategy, etc., were still being formulated. Several documents that LUR RDP needs to be coordinated with are, hence, going to be adopted and implemented later in the process, which means LUR RDP will also have to be adapted to future changes in these documents.

The key programming documents such as the Partnership Agreement between Slovenia and the European Commission for the 2014–2020 period and the Operational Programme for the

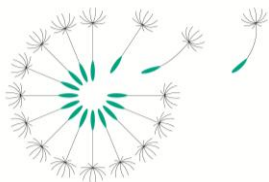


Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020 have only partially observed the proposals and amendments communicated by the Ljubljana Urban Region and the cohesion region of Western Slovenia, which is why projects will have to be managed and implemented in a way that generates greatest effects regardless the limited resources. .

LUR RDP, therefore, contains an overview of **all** project proposals received that are structured according to content. Projects have not yet been suitably prioritised as we are convinced that the crucial task of both LUR bodies and LUR development project stakeholders over the coming months will be the design of regional projects and the prioritisation of national projects in accordance with the defined development priorities and objectives of the Ljubljana Urban Region. MEDT's guidelines for preparation of the Agreement on the Development of the Ljubljana Urban Region for 2014–2017 (an implementation document) will also need to be considered.

We are looking forward to cooperating with line ministries and other key institutions in the Republic of Slovenia. We firmly believe that joint efforts and collaboration will allow us to appropriately allocate the available development resources to realisation of key development projects.

LUR RDP was **adopted** by the LUR Development Council at its 3rd meeting on 12 June 2015 and **confirmed** by the LUR Council at its 2nd meeting also on 12 June 2015.



2. Summary

The Ljubljana urban region encompasses **26 municipalities** and has a total **population of 542,447**. The region covers an area of 2,555 km², which equals 12.6% of Slovenian territory.

The present document includes analytical chapters with an identification of the region's development potentials, vision and development specialisation, a proposal for the region's development objectives, development priorities and the resulting proposal for measures to be undertaken under individual development priorities. It also presents a common financial estimate of RDP value along with the potential sources of financing and the system for monitoring, evaluation and organisation of LUR RDP implementation. This is followed by a presentation of the system for provision of information to and notification of the public on planning and implementation of RDP and a presentation of the project proposals received.

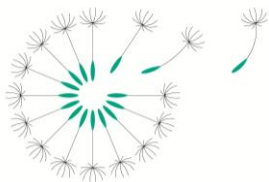
The Ljubljana urban region is the Slovenian region with the biggest concentration of knowledge and creative potential as this is where the key state, scientific, research, educational and cultural institutions are based. Owing to the large number of companies and jobs, the region generates more than a third of Slovenia's GDP, meaning that it is also the most economically developed region in the country.

Based on realising its development potentials, the Ljubljana urban region **will maintain and strengthen its role of the principal carrier of economic development on the national level**. It will develop human potentials as well as promote interdisciplinary cooperation and knowledge transfer. It will furthermore create conditions conducive to economic development and promote entrepreneurship, thus retaining and attracting both highly qualified labour force and investors. By establishing international ties and strengthening its role of a European metropolis, the region will also enhance its competitiveness in the international arena.

The Ljubljana urban region is distinguished by its well preserved and easily accessible natural environment, high level of biotic diversity and a variegated natural landscape. Its vicinity to quality areas of nature and the intertwinement of built and natural environments make it unique among European metropolitan regions.

The region's activities will thus aim to **build a positive, sustainable relationship with the environment that will position it as a bioregion both in Slovenia and internationally**. Acting in harmony with the natural environment, LUR will manage its natural resources prudently and strengthen the development of green economy and green jobs – also through the use of green technologies. Sustainable and inclusive development will allow the region to offer its inhabitants a high standard of living.

Therefore, the vision of the Ljubljana urban region for 2014–2020 is:



GREEN ENGINE OF DEVELOPMENT METROPOLITAN BIOREGION OF KNOWLEDGE

The **region's development specialisation** was defined by taking into account its comparative advantages over other development regions, development and spatial potentials as well as global opportunities. **The Ljubljana urban region will build sustainable development on knowledge, innovation, creativity and synergy between all relevant actors and sectors.** It will devote special attention to **economic development** that will be coordinated so as to take account of the available environmental capacities. It will strive to boost its competitiveness through appropriate modernisation and development of transport, environmental, ICT and social infrastructure.

The transport infrastructure renovation with a view to **sustainable mobility** will substantially improve economic flows and reduce environmental burdens in LUR. It will additionally provide for a **healthy and high-quality living environment** through active protection of natural features, suitable open space planning, renovation of the existing housing stock and settlements, as well as sustainable self-supply.

Development objectives of the region that have been defined based on the SWOT analysis and development specialisation are:

1. Efficiently internally connected region.
2. Region that uses space, natural resources and energy prudently.
3. Region that promotes development of knowledge, creativity and innovation.
4. Recognisable and competitive metropolitan region.
5. Region that provides high-quality jobs.
6. Region that provides high-quality living.

In response to the state of the art analysis as well as the analysis of development potentials, objectives and development specialisation, **three development priorities** have been formulated. These were then structured into **programmes and measures** (see Table 1).

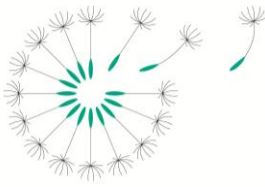
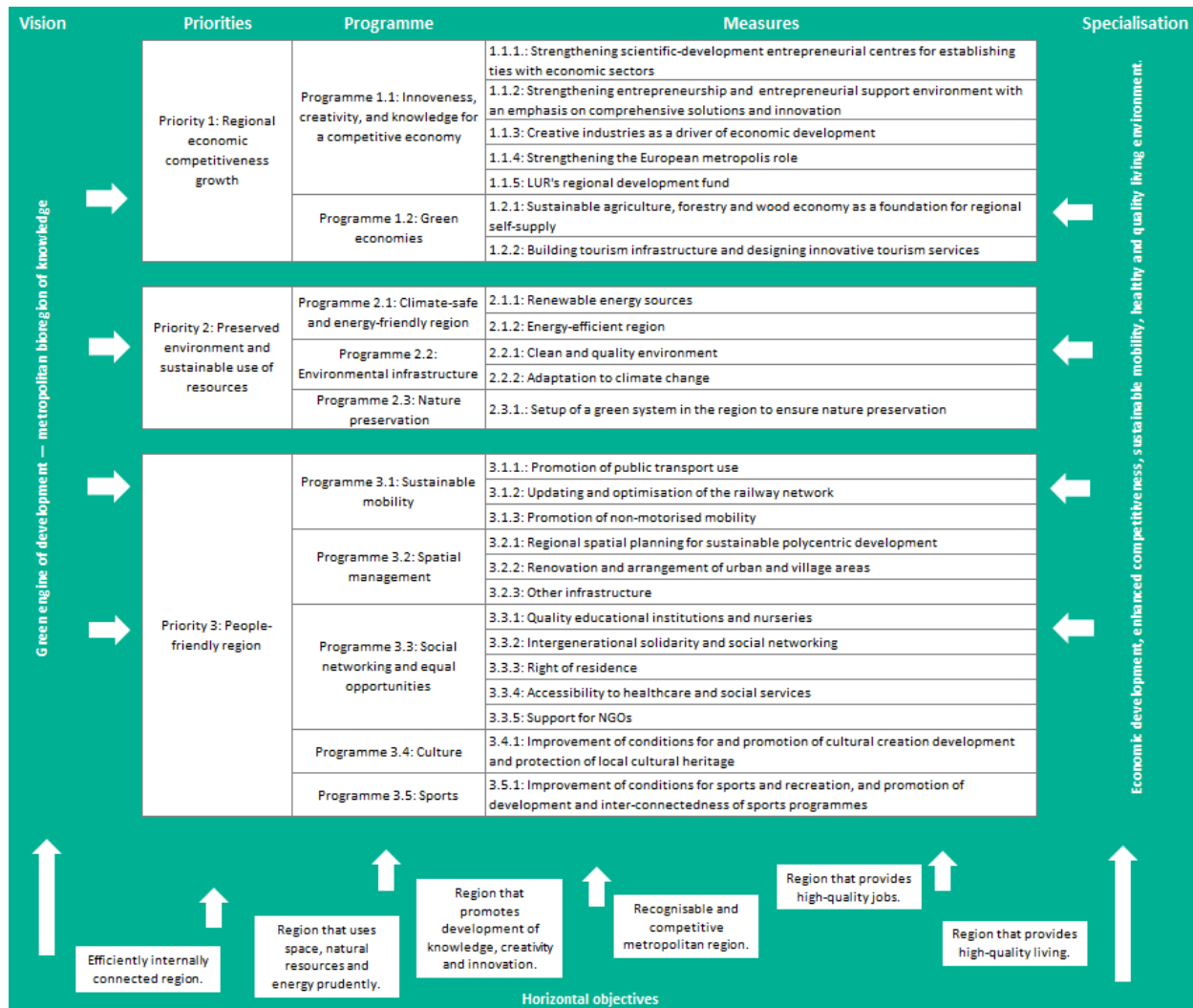


Table 1: Interconnectedness of the vision, objectives, development specialisation, priorities, programmes and measures



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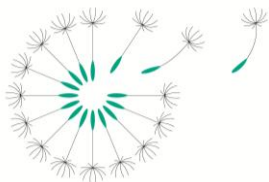
Grounded on the information available, we have estimated the financial value of the proposed LUR RDP 2014–2020. We have selected a 'bottom-up' approach to try and estimate the total value of the RDP based on recorded projects. We arrived at the value of EUR 1,838 million (i.e. estimated value excluding national projects).



Table 2: Estimated financial value of the proposed LUR RDP 2014–2020 (in EUR)

	EU funds	Other sources	<i>in EUR</i> Total
Priority 1: Regional economic competitiveness growth	282,209,833	80,130,779	362,340,613
Priority 2: Preserved environment and sustainable use of resources	625,848,030	213,082,013	839,255,213
Priority 3: People-friendly region	331,242,120	303,896,439	635,960,295
Total value of the LUR RDP 2014-2020:	1,239,299,984	597,109,231	1,837,556,122

Source: Own presentation.



3. Characteristics of the Ljubljana Urban Region

3.1. Geographic Position of the Region

The Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter: RS or Slovenia) became an EU member on 1 May 2004. The country is situated in **Central Europe**; at the junction of the Alps, Dinaric Alps, the Pannonian Plain and the Mediterranean. Slovenia borders Austria in the north, Hungary in the east, Croatia in the south and Italy in the west.

The Alps are the predominant geographical unit in the north-west with the highest peak being Mount Triglav. The Karst extends in the direction of the sea.

In territorial terms according to the NUTS classification, Slovenia is divided into NUTS 1, NUTS 2 and NUTS 3 levels. On the NUTS 1 level, it is classified as the entire country; there are two regions on the NUTS 2 level (Eastern and Western Slovenia); while it has 12 statistical regions on the NUTS 3 level, i.e.:

- Gorenjska statistical region;
- Goriška statistical region;
- Jugovzhodna Slovenija (SE Slovenia) statistical region;
- Koroška statistical region;
- Notranjsko-kraška statistical region;
- Obalno-kraška statistical region;
- **Osrednjeslovenska (Central Slovenia) statistical region,**
- Pomurska statistical region;
- Podravska statistical region;
- Savinjska statistical region;
- Spodnjeposavska statistical region; and
- Zasavska statistical region:

In administrative terms, Slovenia is divided into 212 municipalities, 11 of which have the status of a city municipality. The Ljubljana urban region comprises **26 municipalities**: Borovnica, Brezovica, Dobropolje, Dobrova - Polhov Gradec, Dol pri Ljubljani, Domžale, Grosuplje, Horjul, Ig, Ivančna Gorica, Kamnik, Komenda, Litija, Ljubljana, Logatec, Log - Dragomer, Lukovica, Medvode, Mengeš, Moravče, Škofljica, Šmartno pri Litiji, Trzin, Velike Lašče, Vodice, and Vrhnika (see Figure 1).

The Central Slovenia region or the Ljubljana urban region is central in terms of its position; the most densely populated in terms of the density of population; the largest in terms of the number of inhabitants; and the second largest statistical region in the RS in terms of the surface area (SORS, 2014).



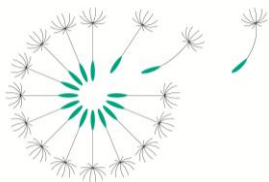
The Ljubljana urban region has an exceptional strategic position both within the country itself and on the European scale. It lies in the centre of Slovenia and is the economic, administrative and cultural hub of Slovenia – Ljubljana; LUR is also the intersection of important international traffic corridors.

Figure 1: Geographic position of Slovenia, LUR and its municipalities



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Source: RRA LUR, 2014



3.2. Region Fact Sheet

The region covers an area of 2,555 km², which is 12.6% of the area of the Slovenian territory. According to the latest data, the LUR has a **population of 542,447**, which is more than a quarter of the population of Slovenia. The region is heterogeneous in terms of settlement, with the average population density being 212 people per km², with the most urbanised areas having 1,019 people per km² and those least urbanised having only 38 people per km².

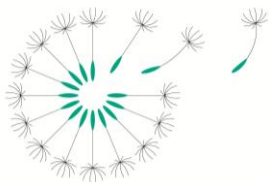
The region generates as much as 36.5% of the total Slovenian GDP, with its capital Ljubljana being the political, economic, administrative, scientific and cultural centre of Slovenia. A great majority of state institutions are headquartered in the region as are numerous large companies. The country's largest university, the University of Ljubljana (hereinafter: UL), also has its seat in the city.

As a developed region, Central Slovenia is also faced with numerous development challenges. Owing to numerous commuters who travel to economic centres, mainly Ljubljana, the region faces difficult traffic-related burdens that negatively affect the environment and the quality of living.

As already mentioned, more than a quarter of Slovenia's population lives in the Ljubljana urban region. It is the region with the most inhabitants in Slovenia. The total increase in population significantly exceeds the Slovenian average. The region is characterised by an above-average share of foreign nationals in the population. The population density is twice that of the whole of Slovenia, with large differences between the municipalities of the region.

The Ljubljana urban region is **the most developed Slovenian region in economic terms and is the country's economic centre**. In 2009, the companies headquartered in the region generated 43.2% of added value in Slovenia. The region generated more than a third of the total Slovenian GDP in 2011. The regional GDP per capita is the highest in Slovenia and significantly exceeds the Slovenian average. More than a quarter of Slovenia's active working population lived in the Ljubljana urban region in the middle of 2013. The share of the unemployed living in the region was somewhat less than a quarter of all unemployed person in Slovenia. When compared to other Slovenian regions, the LUR has a smaller share of the industrial sector, while market and public services are better developed (Kozina et al, 2014).

The Ljubljana Urban Region is an **attractive region in terms of tourism**. The region had a tenth of accommodation capacities in Slovenia in 2012 or 12,160 beds, and was fourth in terms of the number of overnight stays among twenty Slovenian regions. Foreign guests account for 93% of overnight stays in the region, with the share reaching as much as 96% in the City of Ljubljana. The average period of stay in the region in 2010 was 1.91 days (Ljubljana Tourism, 2011).



In terms of **education**, the Ljubljana urban region stands out mainly on account of the concentration of post-secondary schools, faculties and institutes. The country's largest university, the University of Ljubljana, is located in the region. The share of the population with post-secondary or higher education in the LUR (29.1%) significantly surpasses the Slovenian average (22.4%) (SORS, 2013) and is at the same time the highest share of Slovenia's population with post-secondary or higher education. Problems appear in the accessibility to pre-school education as demand exceeds supply in certain municipalities even though almost a third of all children included in such programmes in Slovenia are enrolled in pre-school education programmes in the LUR.

The Ljubljana urban region has **62,617 ha of farmland**, which is less than a quarter of the entire area of the LUR. In terms of use, the land is mostly used for permanent meadows and pastures, with a quarter of said land being used for crop fields and a certain percentage of the area being used for permanent crops. The area of farmland in use is the smallest in Slovenia. The region accounts for only 11.6% of the total agricultural holdings of Slovenian (SORS, 2013), with the farmer profession pursued by only a certain small percentage of the active working population (Kozina et al, 2014). **Forests cover 145,254 ha or 58% of the land.** Private forest land prevails with 88%. Forest estates are fragmented as there are as many as 56,000 owners of forests in the entire area (SFS, 2012).

The Ljubljana urban region is located at the **intersection of two corridors** of the core trans-European transport network (TEN-T): i.e. the Baltic-Adriatic and the Mediterranean corridors. The multi-modal core network corridors contribute significantly to European cohesion and the strengthening of the internal market.

With the Slovenian capital Ljubljana, the Ljubljana urban region is **the most important destination of migration flows in Slovenia**. As such, the region attracts commuters from neighbouring regions who look for jobs and schools here. Within the LUR, the City of Ljubljana acts as the gravitational centre of the region where the main regional and inter-regional flows merge.



4. Regional Development Potentials Analysis

4.1. Population

Demographic Analysis

More than a quarter of Slovenia's population lives in the Ljubljana urban region. There were 542,447 people living in the region in 2013 (SORS, 2013) (see Table 3).

Table 3: Composition of the population, 1 January 2013

		SLOVENIA	LUR
POPULATION:	Men	1,019,658	265,100
	Women	1,039,456	277,347
	TOTAL (gender)	2,059,114	542,447

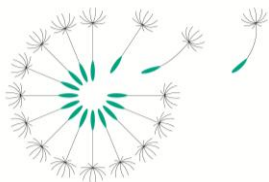
Source: SORS, 2014

The LUR has the most inhabitants among the statistical regions of Slovenia. In 2012, the natural increase in population in the region was 2,033 (see Table 4), the net migration including migration from abroad was 692 persons, while the net migration among statistical regions was 2,518 persons in favour of the Ljubljana urban region. The natural increase per 1000 population exceeded the Slovenian average significantly (1.6 persons), coming in at 9.8 persons in 2012. The region is recording above-average immigration.

Table 4: Changes in population in 2012

	SLOVENIA	LUR
NATURAL INCREASE	2,681	2,033
NET MIGRATION INCLUDING MIGRATION FROM ABROAD	644	692
NET MIGRATION BETWEEN STATISTIČNIMI REGIONMI	0	2,518
TOTAL NET MIGRATION (total)	644	3,210
TOTAL INCREASE	3,325	5,243

Source: SORS, 2013



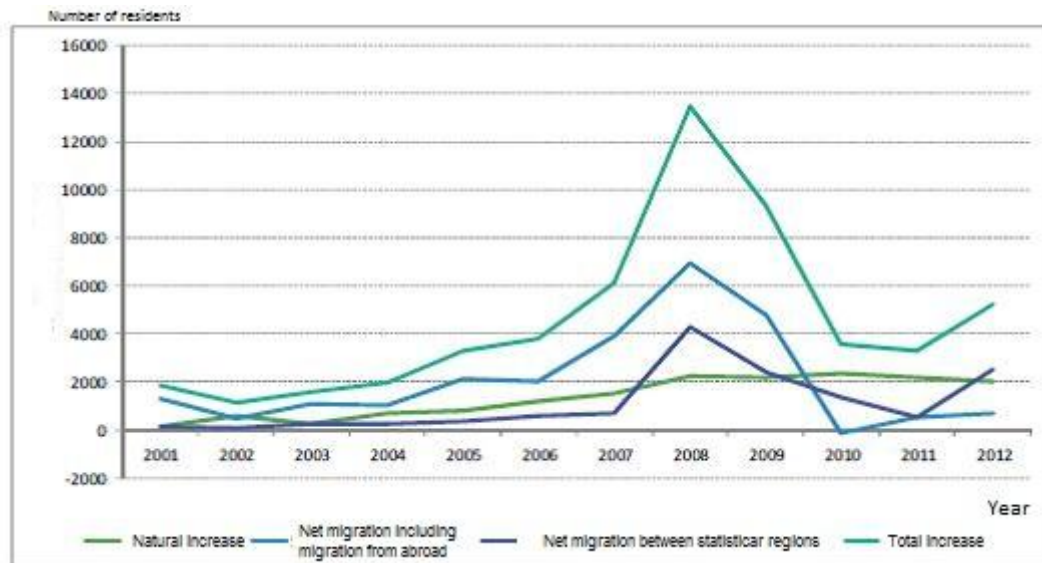
Over the last ten years, the number of inhabitants in the region has increased by well over 43,000 or somewhat less than 8.8%. Between 2002 and 2012, the number of people in the territory of the CLJ increased by 4%, while it increased by 9% in the region. There are 282,994 people living in the City of Ljubljana, which is 13.7% of the Slovenian population and more than a half of all inhabitants in the region (SORS, 2013). The region is characterised by an above-average share of foreign nationals in the population (5.7%). The data simultaneously shows that the educated and creative labour force has lately been moving out of Slovenia to foreign countries (Lapuh and Kozina et al, 2014) and that it is predominantly the less qualified individuals who are moving into the country.

The increase in the population of the Ljubljana urban region is first and foremost the result of immigration from abroad that has increased especially in the period of rapid economic growth after 2004. There was an obvious break in the trend at the beginning of the crisis in 2008 (see Figure 2) when immigration from abroad all but stopped. As opposed to some other statistical regions, the Ljubljana urban region has recorded positive natural increases throughout, whereby the natural increase after 2008 contributed the most to the growth in the number of the population. An important factor of the aforementioned increase in the LUR is the immigration from other Slovenian regions, whereby the LUR has had a positive balance since 2000 (Nared et al, 2012).

Over the coming years, we can expect a change in the population age structure, with the growing share of the elderly and the simultaneous drop in the number of women of childbearing age causing a decrease in the number of births. Certain forecasts caution as to the possibility of a negative natural increase and the subsequent decrease in the number of the population (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009).



Figure 2: Total increase in population in LUR in the 2001–2012 period

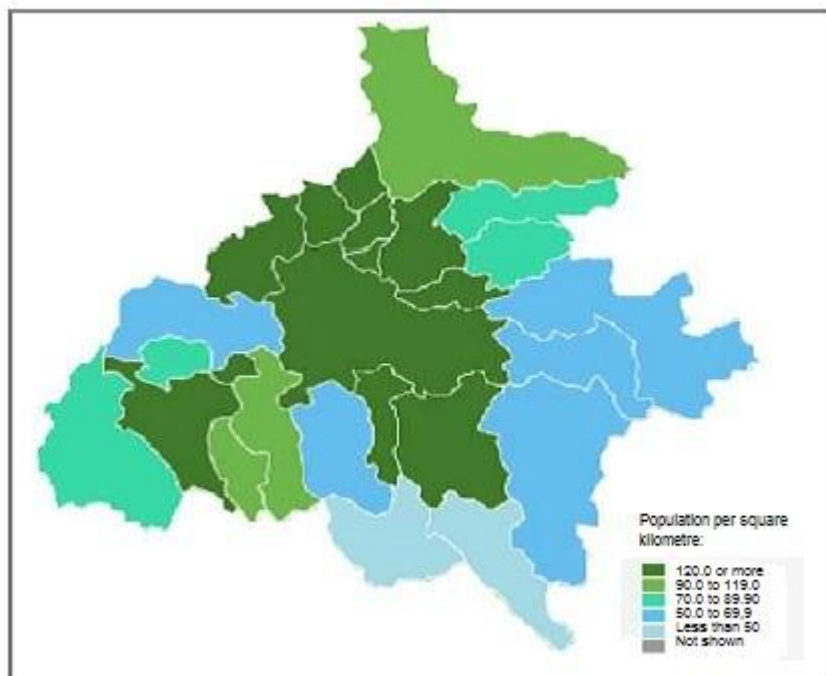


Source: SORS, 2013

Population density in the LUR is twice as high as that of Slovenia (212 people/km²), with large differences observed within the region – Ljubljana has a population density of 1,019 people per km² while the least populated municipality in Central Slovenia is the Dobropolje Municipality with only 38 people per km² (see Figure 3) (SORS, 2013).



Figure 3: Population density in LUR, 1 January 2013



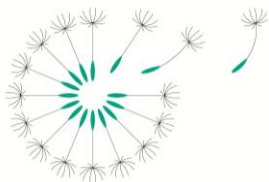
Source: SORS, 2013

Demographic Development Potential

Data shows that the number of inhabitants of the LUR represents 26% of the total population of Slovenia. Over the last decade, the population dynamics of the region show a persistent increase in the number of the population – both in the City of Ljubljana and in the territory of the entire region (SORS, 2013). The size of the region represents a certain potential in terms of regional development as a relatively large number of inhabitants represents a critical mass of human potential that is a condition for economic and cultural development.

The increase in the number of inhabitants is important for the region's development, whereby attention should be paid to the data indicating that immigration from abroad at the onset of the economic crisis nearly stopped and that the population is getting older.

The region is recording emigration of the creative and educated labour force that is looking for work abroad (Lapuh in Kozina, 2014). In addition to the above, it is predominantly the less qualified workers who are moving into the region (Lapuh in Kozina et al, 2014). We thus highlight the potential of attracting creative and highly educated individuals from abroad and from other regions (Kozina, 2014) – also by formulating a housing policy and the employment promotion policy.



In view of the data indicating that Europeans only rarely move (relocate), we can conclude that there is greater potential in retaining the educated and creative labour force than in attracting foreign workers, which is why it is reasonable to devote certain attention to retaining the highly qualified labour force in the region (Brelot - Martin et al, 2010).

Considering that we can expect further ageing of the population, one potential challenge is intergenerational cooperation and the increase in social capital of an individual (improvement in digital literacy, financial literacy, etc.).

4.2. Economy

Economic Indicator Analysis

The Ljubljana urban region is the most developed Slovenian region in economic terms and is the country's economic centre. The region generated more than a third of the total Slovenian GDP in 2011. The regional GDP per capita is the highest in Slovenia and significantly exceeds the Slovenian average. More than a quarter of Slovenia's active working population lived in the Ljubljana urban region in the middle of 2013. The share of the unemployed living in the region was somewhat less than a quarter of all unemployed person in Slovenia. When compared to other Slovenian regions, the LUR has a smaller share of the industrial sector, while market and public services are better developed (Kozina et al, 2014).

In 2009, the gross added value by activity at the level of the region was as follows: 79.6% in services, 19.5% in the industry, and 0.9% in agriculture (SORS 2013) – see Figure 4. The share of the industrial sector is lowest in the LUR when compared to other regions, with the services sector being the most developed as the share of gross added value generated in the services activity in the region is the highest in Slovenia, i.e. higher than in any other region.

The occupational composition of the active working population in the LUR (2011) indicates a distinct concentration of people pursuing a creative profession. If we compare the data to the national average, we can conclude that there is an above-average share or concentration of creative professions in the LUR. (ADS 2012, SRDAP 2012 in Kozina et al, 2014). Similar is true at the level of creative industries. As much as 42% of all creative industry companies are located in the territory of the LUR (Murovec, Kavaš 2010; Murovec et al, 2012).

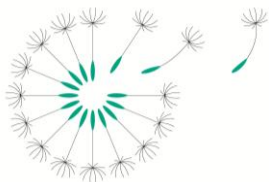
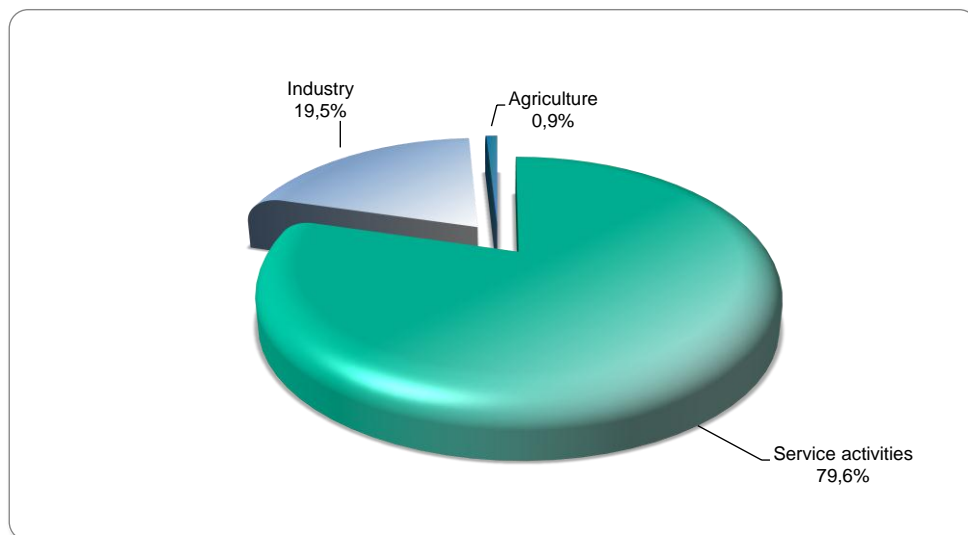


Figure 4: Gross added value by activity, Ljubljana urban region



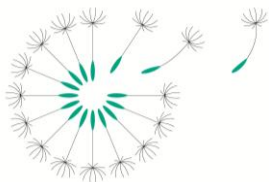
Source: SORS, 2013

Most of the people are employed in the wholesale and retail trade activity, processing activities, public services, professional, scientific and technical activities, and education.

Well over 70% of the companies in the region conducted their business out of CLJ in 2009 and they provided employment to more than 78% of those employed at companies in the region, generating around 83% of the value added in the region. A third of all Slovenian companies operated in the region, and there were 30% of people employed there generating 36% of value added (Nared et al, 2012). Over the last five years, the number of companies and sole traders rose by 18% – mainly owing to the increase in the number of sole traders. Over the same period, the number of employees fell by 12%. In 2011, the biggest reductions in the number of employees occurred at companies in the construction industry, transport and warehousing. The number of employed and self-employed persons has been decreasing ever since the beginning of the economic crisis, whereby the registered unemployment rate in the region is among the lowest in Slovenia: it was 11.5% in November 2013, while the average for Slovenia was 13.1%. At the end of November 2013, there were 28,164 registered unemployed persons, i.e. 24% of all unemployed persons in Slovenia (SORS, 2014).

Large numbers of commuters are coming to work to the region (mainly from Kranj, Trbovlje, Novo mesto, Koper and Celje). In June 2013, the active working population numbered 215,309 persons in the region, i.e. 27% of the active working population of Slovenia).

More surface areas have been allocated to economic activities in the region over the last decade, but we are observing significant fragmentation of industrial parks as they mostly do not exceed 10 ha. Municipalities have in the past frequently created industrial parks according to their spatial capabilities; however, without a known investor which in turn exposed them to risk (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009). Certain analyses also indicate high rental



prices for business or production premises, which is especially true of the CLJ (Peterlin et al, 2012).

Potential for Economic Development

With Slovenia's accession to the EU, the Ljubljana urban region was faced with competition in economic terms that came from comparable regions, i.e. other Slovenian regions as well as those on the EU level. The LUR simultaneously plays an important role for the national economic development. The Ljubljana urban region has all the prerequisites to facilitate economic development – a suitable physical infrastructure and plenty of creative and educated labour force; there is also potential in the formulation of its own development concept and the associated specialisation of the region. On the regional level, this could mean the establishment of several specialised creative centres that would complement rather than compete with one another (Kozina et al, 2014). There is also potential in the promotion of innovation in areas, in which the region exhibits comparative advantages. There are several such areas that differ from one another: diversification thus increases the region's resilience to economic crises that generally affect different industries to a different degree.

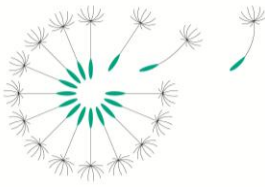
Interdisciplinary networking represents a big potential for the region: mainly the establishment of ties between educational institutions and other scientific institutions with the traditional economic sector, whereby the aim is to develop new products and services that are based on knowledge, innovation and creativity. To this end, it would make sense to develop a support environment and infrastructure on the regional level that could be based on the regeneration of underutilised or brownfield sites and buildings.

There is also potential in the development of entrepreneurship, mainly one based on knowledge, innovation and creativity, as well as social entrepreneurship. We would also highlight the importance of creative professions as it is especially evident during the times of the economic crisis because such professions are much more resilient when it comes to economic trends when compared to other professions (Kozina et al, 2014). In order to develop entrepreneurship, it is necessary to promote the accessibility of the financial resources – including new forms of capital asset acquisition, and their higher efficiency (also through the introduction and use of new digital technologies).

We should stress at this point that there is also potential in the development of digital jobs where numerous employment options could be taken advantage of (both in the commercial and non-commercial sectors).

Creative Potential of LUR Municipalities

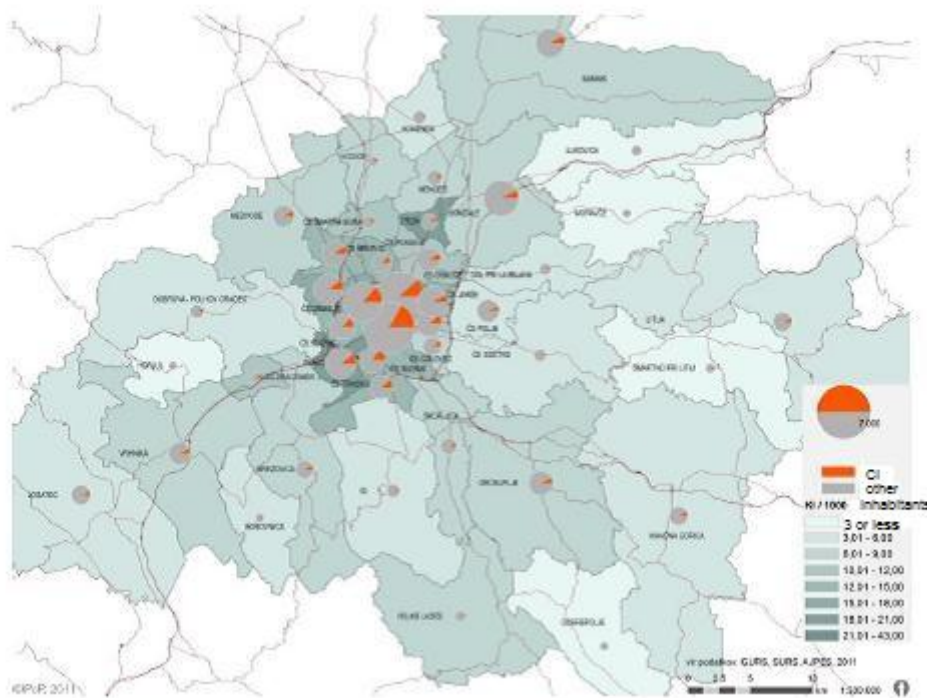
The region is characterised by the accumulation of human and economic capital. Over the last 15 years, more and more cities and regions strove to boost their economic development and regeneration strategies by adopting the concept of the **population with a creative profession** and/or the concept of **creative activities** (in Kozina et al, 2014), which represent to



fundamental and frequently applied approaches to the research of creativity. There are two crucial differences between them: definition of creativity based on creative activities includes all employees within a particular activity (both those performing creative work and all other employees within the activity), while the inhabitants with a creative profession concept on the other hand includes all creative workers irrespective of the industry, in which they are employed (Murovec, 2012).

There is a distinct concentration of creative workers in the Ljubljana urban region (their share in Ljubljana is increasing) (see Figure 5). The share of people in the Ljubljana urban region who perform a creative profession was 19.9% in 2011 which exceeds the national average (12.9%). The abovementioned share is also the highest among Slovenian regions and is comparable to those of the regions in Northern and Western Europe (Kozina et al, 2014).

Figure 5: Share of business entities in creative industries with respect to all business entities by municipality and district community



Source: Žaucer et al, 2012.

Data source: Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia, Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services, 2011

Ljubljana and Trzin stand out within the region. The Trzin Municipality has an above-average number of creative jobs, while Ljubljana has a high concentration of people with a creative profession that is comparable to Western European cities, which is coupled with the immigration of creative workers from other municipalities of the region and other Slovenian regions to the capital. (Kozina et al, 2014).

The "Distribution of Creativity in Selected Municipalities of the Ljubljana Urban Region" analysis (Kozina et al, 2014) thus undoubtedly shows that one of the ways of facilitating general



economic growth in municipalities is to attract: a) people with creative professions and b) companies pursuing creative activities.

Great potential for LUR municipalities is, therefore, mainly in the promotion of new creative jobs, the assurance of a high-quality living environment (arrangement, security, green environment, etc.) and good traffic connections.

"Balanced spatial development" that would allow sensible specialisation and 'distribution' of creative activities within the Ljubljana urban region and act uniformly and competitively vis-à-vis other European urban regions could represent the right future." (Kozina et al, 2014:9)

4.3. Tourism

Analysis of the State-of-Affairs in Tourism in the Ljubljana Urban Region

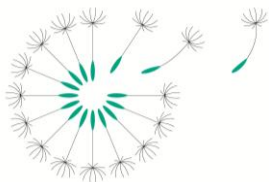
The Ljubljana urban region had one tenth of the accommodation capacities of Slovenia or 12,160 beds in 2012. The region was fourth in terms of overnight stays among the 12 Slovenian regions. Foreign guests accounted for 93% of overnight stays in the region, while they accounted for as much as 96% in the City of Ljubljana. The average period of stay in the region in 2012 was 1.91 days (SORS, 2012; Ljubljana Tourism, 2011) (see Table 5).

Table 5: Basic tourism indicators for 2012

	SLOVENIA	LUR
CAPACITIES – BEDS (total)	121,541	12,160
TOURIST ARRIVALS (total):	3,297,556	521,294
OVERNIGHT STAYS BY TOURISTS (total):	9,510,663	995,472

Source: SORS, 2013.

The Ljubljana urban region has a good geostrategic position as it lies along the Mediterranean European transport corridor. Its central (Central Slovenia) position means it is highly accessible when compared to the other regions in Slovenia. The region is located in the vicinity of the Jože Pučnik international airport and has good connections to the airports in Klagenfurt, Graz, Trieste, Venice and Zagreb (all are less than 2.5 hours' drive from Ljubljana). Road and rail



connections with neighbouring regions are also good. The frequency of air and rail connections will have to be increased to ensure faster development of tourism.

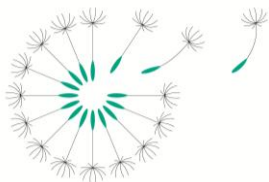
On the one hand, the Ljubljana urban region has a strongly developed business and urban holiday tourism in Ljubljana (where foreign guests are prevalent), whereas the mostly rural surroundings of Ljubljana on the other hand with their smaller natural and cultural tourism sites attract mainly excursion tourists (stationary tourism is less developed), but not in organised form. According to the estimates of the Ljubljana Tourism, tourism in Ljubljana directly generated around EUR 87 million in revenue in 2010. Ljubljana contributes 87.7% of all tourism revenues in the region and 86.1% of overnight stays. It has a 72.4% share of accommodation capacities. Approximately half of the guests said business was the reason for their visit to Ljubljana, while others see the city as the classic city destination for tourists – *so-called city break* (Ljubljana Tourism, 2011).

Since the establishment of the Regional Destination Organisation (hereinafter: RDO) in 2011, the number of arrivals and overnight stays has increased in the region. New programmes, products and catalogues have been created (various guides for the region – green stories of the region, excursion tips, a culinary guide, stories, myths and legends from the region).

Potential for the Development of Tourism

There is significant potential for the development of tourism in the region that stems from its rich cultural heritage, several cultural landmarks and its vibrant cultural pulse (more than 10,000 events a year are organised in Ljubljana alone) on the one hand (Ljubljana Tourism, 2011) and the highly preserved nature (numerous areas of natural landscape) and man-made environment on the other. It is the nature and activities in nature that need to be included more broadly into the region's tourist offer. This would contribute greatly to Ljubljana as the capital when compared to other European capitals where relaxation and recreational options in nature are not as close and as quickly accessible. As shown by the analysis of the primary offer in the region (both valuable natural features and cultural heritage), "*elements of cultural heritage are more numerous and more attractive than valuable natural features*" (Ljubljana Tourism, 2011: 35), which is why cultural heritage with its authenticity and the revival of traditions and customs should be upgraded with stories that will contribute to enhanced experiences and subsequently the satisfaction of tourists and hikers. First and foremost, the valuable natural features and cultural heritage should be integrated into tourist products (active getaway, *city break*, hiking tourism).

In the future, Ljubljana will take greater advantage of the attractive offer in its surroundings and guide foreign visitors to Ljubljana and the locals to discover the region, while Ljubljana's surroundings will build their recognisability more easily in cooperation with the capital. If cultural heritage (with a great emphasis on thematic stories) represents the most important potential for the development of tourist products and programmes of the region, then valuable natural features are highly important for its positioning (region with the capital where the natural environment is close-by and quickly accessible). Individual areas with high-value natural



landscapes and man-made environment (e.g. the Ljubljana Marsh Nature Park, Kamnik with surroundings) have already gained broad recognition, while other high-potential areas (e.g. Polhov Gradec Hills, Radensko polje – a Karst *polje*) will require more intensive promotion. We can also see potential in the new, joint management of protected landscape parks and areas with high-quality landscapes.

The natural environment offers multiple opportunities for spending one's free time – hiking tourism and various forms of recreation. The offer should be organised and new products and experiences developed both for foreign and domestic visitors.

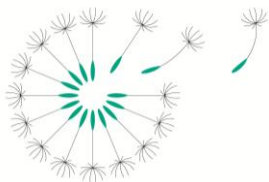
The emphasis should be on the potential for inter-connection of tourism and the development of the countryside. It should be ensured that landscape features remain/become attractive as sites where one can spend their free time and also enable the local population to earn a living or earn extra income.

As shown by the SWOT analysis, the main potential opportunities for tourism development at the regional level are as follows: new programmes featuring the discovery of Ljubljana's surroundings and experiencing nature, closer ties with other sectors such as culture, sports, agriculture and the economy, development and marketing of a sustainable offer (in accordance with the trends on the international tourism market), maintained recreational paths in Ljubljana's surroundings (cycling tourism is on the rise worldwide), new innovative and authentic products and services with higher added value, offer of local products (with protected designation of origin) that are also marketed in Ljubljana, the Ljubljanica River - a river that connects Ljubljana, the Ljubljana Marsh (as a water connection and footpath along the river) and Kamniška Bistrica – the region's green axis (Ljubljana Tourism, 2011).

4.4. Agriculture and Forestry

Analysis of the State-of-Affairs in Agriculture and Forestry in the Ljubljana Urban Region

The Ljubljana urban region has **62,617 ha of farmland, which is less than a quarter of the entire area of the LUR**. In terms of use, the land is mostly used for permanent meadows and pastures, with a quarter of said land being used for crop fields and a certain percentage of the area being used for permanent crops. The area of farmland in use in Central Slovenia is the smallest in Slovenia. The region accounts for only 11.6% of the total agricultural holdings of Slovenian (SORS, 2013), with the farmer profession pursued by only a certain small percentage of the active working population (Kozina et al, 2014). **Forests cover 145,254 ha or 58% of the land**. Forest estates are fragmented as there are as many as 56,000 owners of forests in the entire area (SFS, 2012).



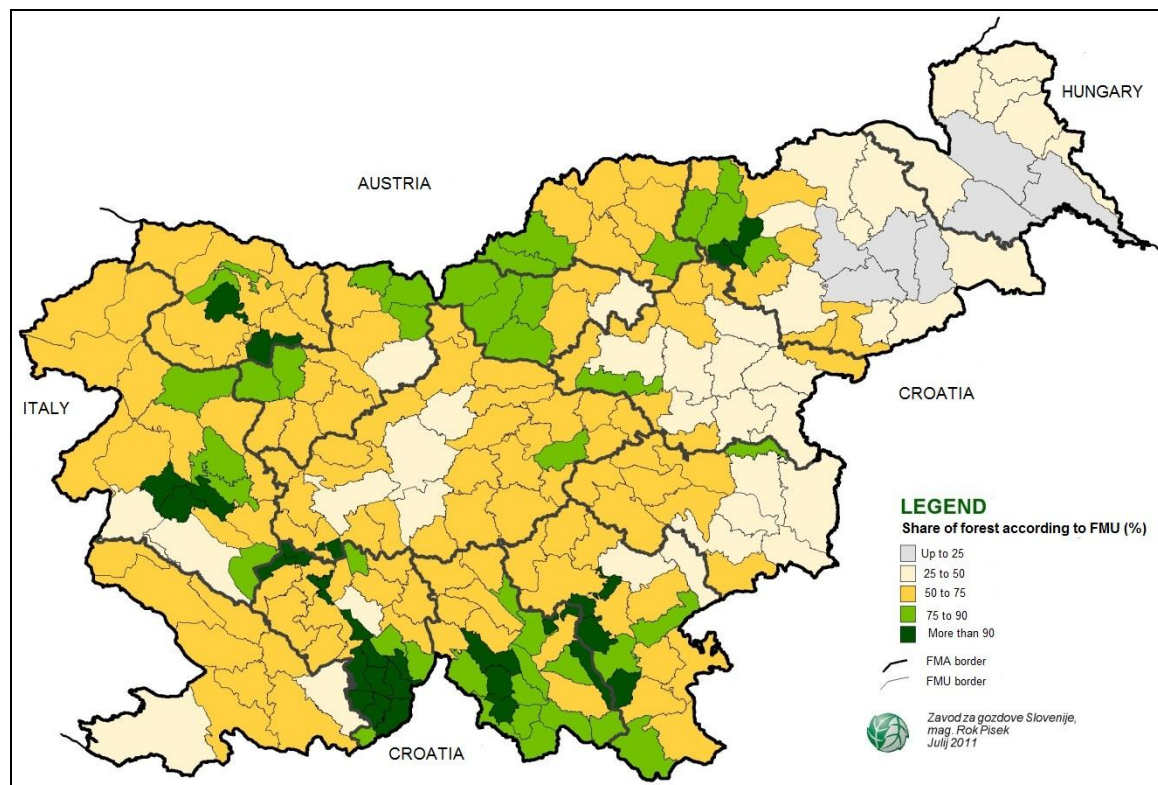
Agricultural and forest areas cover a great majority of the LUR territory (more than 90%) and thus to a large extent determine the landscape image of the region. Agricultural use is intensive in lowland areas, while it is either extensive or being abandoned in hilly regions. Forest covers mainly hilly areas, the steeper and difficult to access areas (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009). Permanent pastures (60.55%) take up the biggest chunk within the structure of the use of farmland, and are followed by crop fields (21.96%), marsh meadows (7.61%) and extensive orchards (2.51%) (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009).

According to the agriculture survey from 2010, there were 62,617 ha of farmland or 24.5% of the total area of the region actually being used. Out of a total of 8,673 agricultural holdings in the region, 217 were organic farms (2.5%) and 28 were in the process of being converted into organic farms. Production at 4,990 farms (57.5% of all agricultural holdings) was mainly intended for own consumption. There were 3,648 or 42% of farms that cultivated mainly for sale. As compared to the farm survey from 2000, the number of agricultural holdings decreased by 8.7%, while the area of farmland in use decreased by 1.8% (SORS, 2013).

The Ljubljana forest management area is the largest in Slovenia, taking up 12% of the area of the country. The majority of the area is taken up by mixed forests (60%), while 26% is taken up by deciduous forests and only 14% by coniferous forests. In terms of the growing stock, the species that prevail are beech (34%) and spruce (32%). The annual forest increment is 6.43 m³/ha, while the potential annual fellings are 3.59 m³/ha (SFS, 2012).

The share of forest by forest management unit is shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Share of forest by forest management unit



Source: Slovenian Forest Service, 2012.



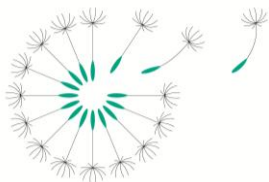
Forests in the LUR are mostly privately owned (88%), with 11% owned by the state and less than 0.5% owned by municipalities. Most of the owners have highly fragmented and spatially disconnected estates (the average forest estate in private forests is 2.9 ha) and have no interest in forest cultivation and protection. Many of the owners are also not sufficiently qualified or equipped to work in forests, while only a small share of the owners involved in agriculture derive additional income from forest management. Forest management is strongly affected by the pronounced ecological and social functions of forests in the territory of the region as well as the production functions of forests, the major one of these being the wood processing function that is performed on half of the surface areas of the region's forests. A large portion of the area is taken up by protective forests (7,3%) and special-purpose forests (9,3%). The surface area of forests has been contracting in recent years mainly because of the construction of infrastructure and the expansion of settlement (SFS, 2012).

Potential for the Development of Agriculture and Forestry

The development of the countryside is indelibly linked with the development of agriculture and forestry. In addition to the economic importance, agriculture also performs other functions as it maintains the settlement of the countryside and contributes to the development of activities in rural areas such as tourism, recreation, crafts and the preservation of cultural heritage and the landscape. Its additional important functions are the environmental and territorial one.

There is plenty of potential for the development of agriculture. From the **economic** point of view, there is great potential to be exploited in sustainable food production, food security, expansion and interconnection of production for the market and the organisation of food supply chains – including the processing and marketing of agricultural and traditional products on both the local and regional levels. One market niche is certainly organically cultivated food as demand by Slovenian consumers for such food is increasing continuously and the supply of domestically cultivated organic food cannot keep up with demand. One important segment is the promotion of the transfer of knowledge and innovation in agriculture, forestry and the wood processing industry, preservation of cultural heritage of the countryside and the transfer and revival of traditional and specific knowledge and skills as well as the simultaneous presentation of such professions as being attractive and enterprising. Another potential and challenge lies in the implementation of innovative technologies in agriculture and wood production. We should also mention wood as a renewable energy source in this regard. The development and revitalisation of the abandoned wood industry and its restructuring with a view to innovation represents enormous potential for the sustainable development of the countryside and the entire region.

From the **environmental** point of view, agriculture and forestry exhibit potential in the sustainable management of natural resources and raw materials. Wood is a raw material that contributes to environmental protection and biotic diversity, with wooden products also favourably affecting the health and well-being of people. Wood is our only raw material of economic importance that is an excellent opportunity for the region on account of it currently being underutilised (PlanB, 2010).

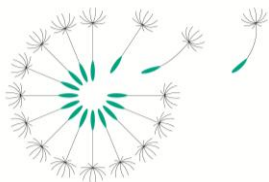


From the **spatial planning** point of view, we can see potential in the balanced spatial development and the simultaneous preservation of areas of great ecological importance. Protection regimes in the areas where quality farmland and areas with highly preserved nature overlap should not represent a restriction on the exploitation of the economic potentials of agriculture (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009), but rather a regional challenge to be overcome through the reorientation into sustainable forms of farming. Another potential is also the unutilised farmland and other land suitable for agricultural production, the use of which can contribute to higher food supply self-sufficiency of the region according to the bioregion principle.

Potential for the development of agriculture and forestry in the 2014–2020 period is also represented by the establishment of a Local Action Group (hereinafter: LAG). An important aspect in this regard is the inclusion of municipalities that did not participate actively in the LAG and its activities in the 2007–2013 period.

The LAG is tasked with drafting a local development strategy and realising its objectives using various financial and other resources. In 2014, LAGs will be established around Slovenia anew in accordance with the requirements of strategic and operational documents, which outline the drawing on European funds in the 2014–2020 programming period, and with the requirements of national regulations. Once local strategies have been formulated, the strategic orientations of LAGs will be clear, upon which they will select projects according to the bottom up approach. There will be 4 LAGs in the territory of the LUR over the coming period. Changes are being made at the LAGs that are already in operation, and individual municipalities will join other LAGs or new LAGs will be formed in the area. Owing to the delays in the adoption of the "Decree on the implementation of community-led local development in the 2014-2020 programming period (LEADER – CLLD), the areas of the LAG have not yet produced local development strategies. In the agreements reached and the activities implemented to date, the following priorities were identified for the implementation of local development projects: basic services in the countryside, creation of jobs (promotion of enterprising activities with an emphasis on social inclusion, promotion of innovative development partnerships), environmental protection and the preservation of nature (improvement of the state of the environment, enhancing accessibility to services on the local level and the elimination of poverty), greater inclusion of young people, women and other vulnerable groups (strengthening of cooperation with the institutional environment to boost social inclusion).

Over the 2014–2020 period, we will have set up LAGs in the territories of six municipalities not included in any LAG at this time. We will introduce a new development approach in this area for the development of the countryside, i.e. LEADER and CLLD. We will also participate in other LAGs within the scope of we will prepare and implement projects. On the regional level, we will coordinate the work of all LAGs operating in the territory of the Ljubljana urban region. We will work actively in the implementation of projects that are important for the region such as self-sufficient supply.

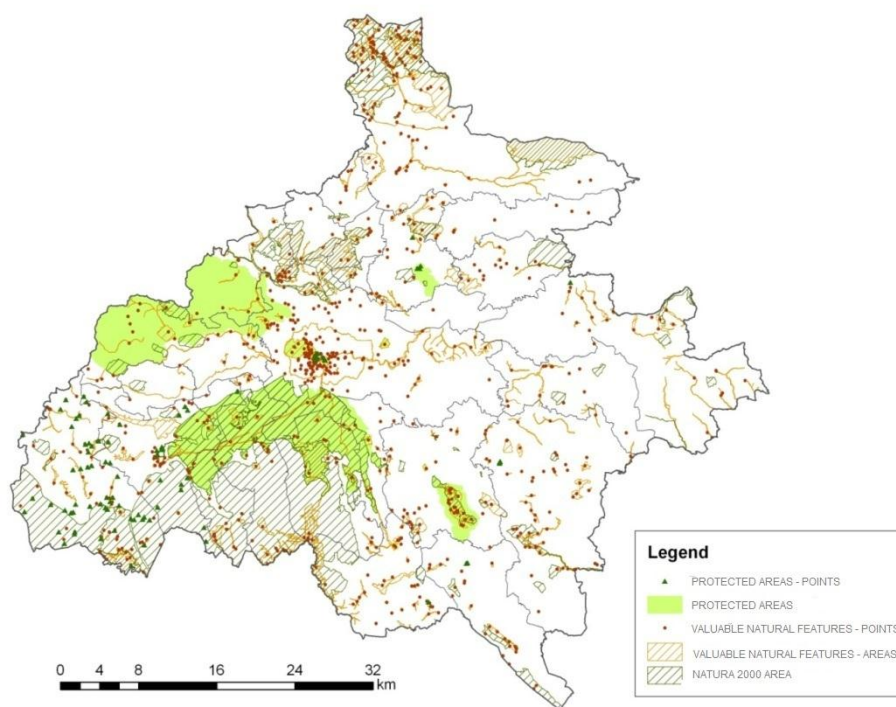


4.5. Areas of Natural Quality

Analysis of the Preservation of the Natural Environment

The natural environment in the Ljubljana urban region is relatively well preserved. There are 67 areas of ecological importance in the region that bear great significance for the conservation of the habitats of numerous plant and animal species. Most of these areas are included in the protected Natura 2000 areas that cover 27.2% of the region, with some areas termed protected areas (see Figure 7).

Figure 7: Natural heritage in LUR



Source: ARSO, 2013

There are 31,419 ha of areas in the Ljubljana urban region (12.3% of the entire region) that are classified as protected areas of nature. Of the abovementioned 67 areas, 8 have the status of a landscape park, 10 have the status of a nature reserve, 21 have the status of a natural monument and 28 have the status of a monument of shaped nature (ARSO, 2013). The municipalities with the largest surface area of protected areas are Dobrova - Polhov Gradec and Medvode that comprise the Polhograjski Dolomiti landscape park (hereinafter: LP). The above LP also extends into the CLJ. The Ljubljana Municipality has three other landscape parks: the Zajčja dobrava LP, the Tivoli, Rožnik and Šišenski hrib LP, and the Ljubljana Marsh LP that extends into the municipalities of Borovnica, Brezovica, Vrhnika, Log - Dragomer, Škofljica and Ig. The Grosuplje Municipality has the Radensko polje LP, while Domžale has the



Spominski park revolucionarnih tradicij (Memorial Park of Revolutionary Traditions) LP. "Protected areas - points" are the most concentrated in the Logatec Municipality.

Areas of valuable natural features are uniformly distributed across the region, while concentrations of areas of "valuable natural features - points" occur in the municipalities of Kamnik, Ljubljana and Grosuplje.

The protection of naturally better preserved areas is urgent because of the nature itself and so as to ensure quality living conditions and a cultural identity. Naturally preserved areas perform several eco and social functions such as the protection of land, natural resources and raw materials, balancing of climatic and hydrological conditions, mitigation of the consequences of natural and other disasters, structuring of the image of the landscape as well as health, recreation and aesthetic functions.

As one of the fastest developing regions in Slovenia, the Ljubljana urban region faces challenges in terms of its landscape. It has an advantage on the European level in terms of the well-preserved eco network, however, this potential is underutilised (Balantič, 2007). The biggest conflicts in terms of space in the Ljubljana urban region occur in areas of open space and green areas in the immediate vicinity of the existing settlement areas. This is where the pressure on green areas resulting from the expansion of settlements is the most severe.

The status of the well-preserved environment in the region must be maintained as such an environment is the basis for the preservation of biotic diversity, variety of landscape and the assurance of ecosystem services, while it also represents a quality living environment for the region's inhabitants as well as a great potential for the development of nature-friendly tourism.

Potential for the Conservation of the Natural Environment

Beautiful and conserved nature in the region is a pre-condition for the development of its potentials such as agriculture and tourism. Considering that one of the most recognisable characteristics of Slovenia is well-preserved nature (especially the great biodiversity and landscape diversity, rich flora and fauna, numerous habitat types, varied geological makeup, variegated relief, variety of man-made environment patterns, etc.), there is plenty of room for the development of other activities that are searching for opportunities in areas with a high level of nature preservation.

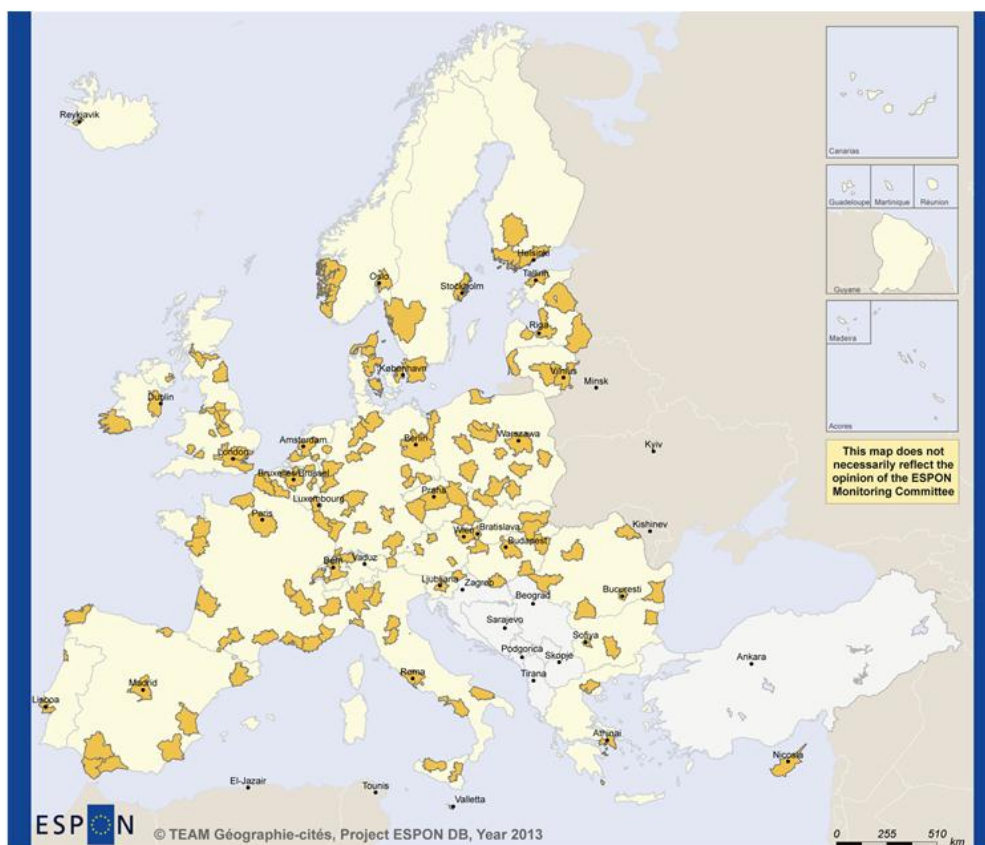


4.6. Settlement and Development of Settlements

Human Settlement Status Analysis

Based on the criteria of the ESPON project that determines polycentricity in Europe and the role of centres in the European network of settlements, six functional urban areas have been defined in Slovenia, one of which is Ljubljana. Moreover, Ljubljana as the only urban area is known in Slovenia and in its surroundings as a Metropolitan European Growth Area (MEGA) and as a metro-region (see Figure 8). The MEGA areas closest to Ljubljana are Bologna, Milan, Munich, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest and Zagreb (based on the supplemented criteria of the PlaNet CenSE project). Within the metropolitan area, Domžale is the town recognised as the secondary regional centre.

Figure 8: Scheme of countries with metro-regions

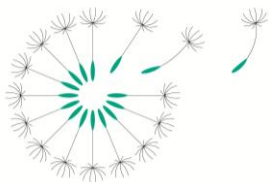


EUROPEAN UNION
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Regional level: NUTS 0
Source: ESPON DB, year 2010
Origin of data: ESPON Project SGPTD, 2012
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

- Countries with Metroregions
- No MetroRegion
- Out of ESPON space

Source: ESPON, 2013.



The following are characteristic of the Ljubljana urban region in terms of settlement: favourable geostrategic position in the centre of the country, polycentric system of settlement with the central position of Ljubljana characterised by the high concentration and development of central (political and administrative) and services activities as well as the fact that the city of Ljubljana is the national centre. Ljubljana does not only hold a central position on the regional level as it is also a centre of national and international importance as well as the main employment and education centre that generates a large number of daily migrations (commuters), including from neighbouring regions (Kranj, Škofja Loka, Trbovlje, Trebnje, Postojna, Cerknica, etc.). It is daily commuting that is becoming one of the biggest problems for the region and which should be resolved by reducing the need for migrations (polycentric development of the region) or by promoting sustainable mobility (PPT, P+R, railway transport).

There is a strongly pronounced central position of the city of Ljubljana and the star-shaped urban agglomeration (connection and merging of settlements) along important traffic corridors. A compact city has developed within the ring road around Ljubljana, while settlements are expanding outwards from here in five development directions:

- towards the north-west: Medvode – Škofja Loka – Kranj (urban agglomeration expanding into the neighbouring region);
- towards the north: Trzin – Domžale – Kamnik;
- towards the east: Dol – Litija;
- towards the south-east: Škofljica – Šmarje Sap – Grosuplje and
- towards the south-west: Brezovica – Borovnica – Vrhnika.

Within the development corridors, human settlement is concentrated in larger and smaller settlements, while more or less dispersed construction of single-family homes that have been springing up over the recent decades prevails in the areas between the aforementioned settlements. Compact areas of settlement with lower density occur along certain traffic arteries that connect local centres. These are mostly bedroom communities for people who commute for work to Ljubljana or one of the industrial parks in the region.

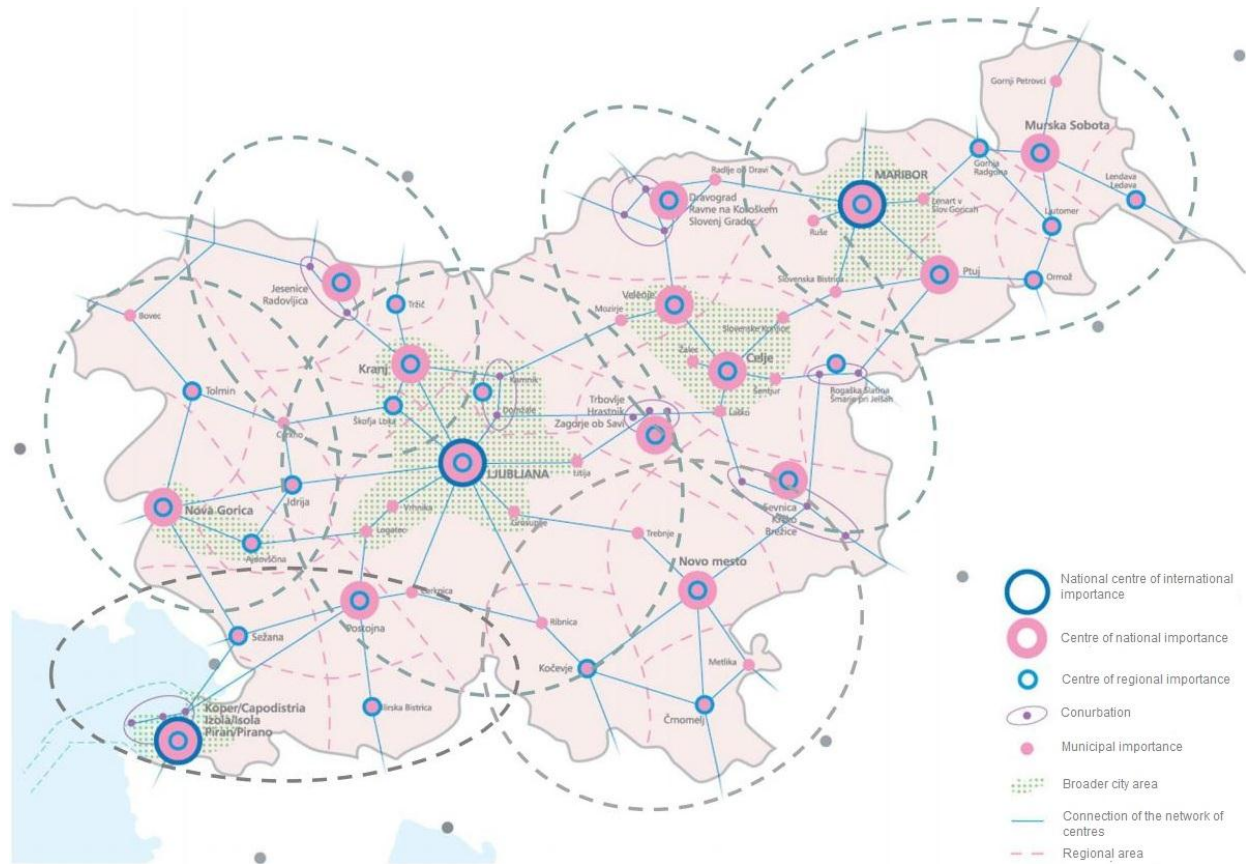
When it comes to human settlement, we can observe negative consequences resulting from the lack of a common vision and strategy for the region's development. One of the prominent consequences is the City of Ljubljana losing inhabitants to surrounding municipalities and the resulting suburbanisation of the region as well as the dying out of other old urban centres.

Network of Towns and Settlements in the Region

The Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia (SDSS) for coordinated spatial development envisages the promotion of development of a polycentric urban system made up of a two-level structured network of centres of national and regional importance, to which the network of other centres (inter-municipal and local centres) connects through an appropriate division of functions and by way of traffic connections.



Figure 9: Design of a polycentric urban system and development of broader urban areas



Source: SDSS, 2004.

Only Ljubljana is classified into the category of a national centre of international importance in the LUR, but should on account of its role of the country's capital and the intersection of trans-European transport corridors be classified outside the current system stipulated by the SDSS into a special category of international importance or "regional European centre". Taking into account such a strong central role of Ljubljana, we could speak of a mono-centric settlement pattern in the territory of the region, i.e. one that is characterised by two types of functionally complete areas: the central highly urbanised area (city of Ljubljana with the conurbation of Domžale–Kamnik and the urban agglomerations in the direction of the main traffic connections towards Medvode–Kranj–Škofja Loka, Vrhnika and Grosuplje) as well as the peripheral area (mainly the southern and eastern outskirts of the metropolis).

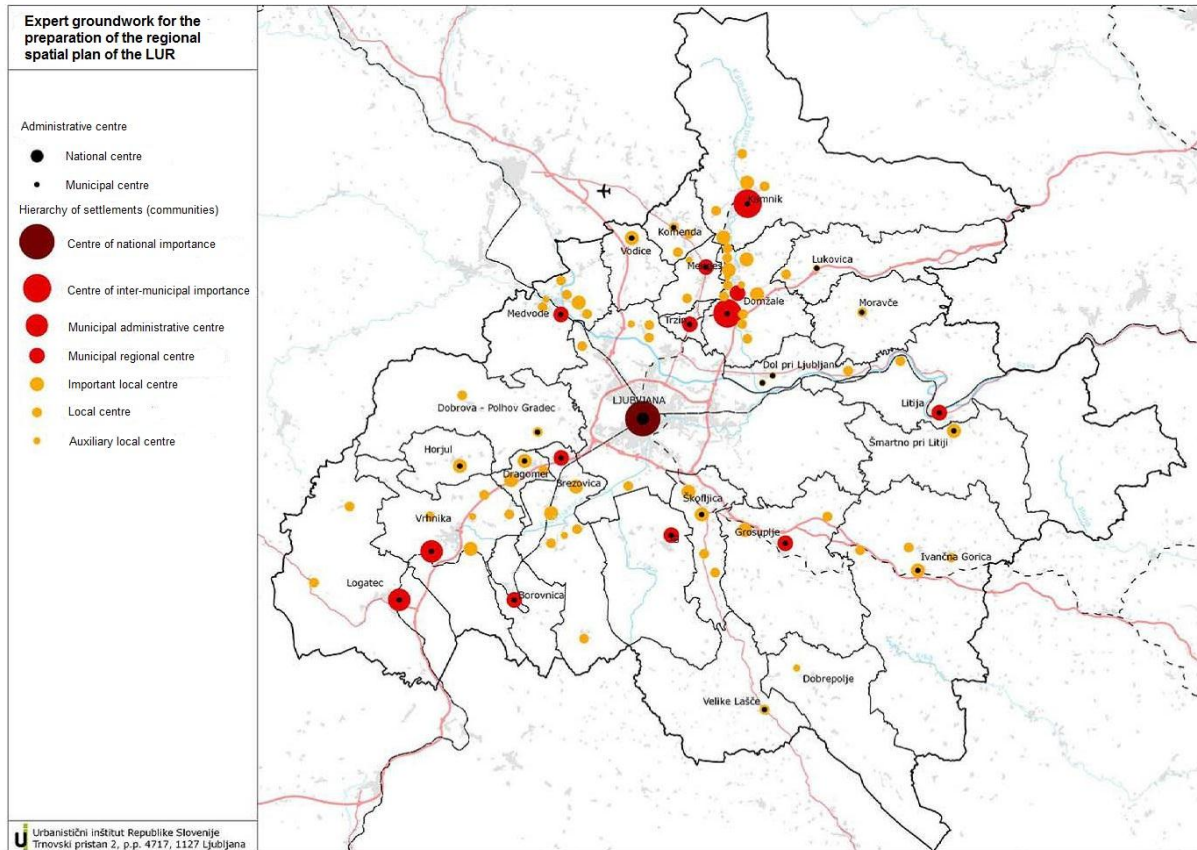
The central settlements in the LUR territory are classified in the spatial planning strategy as follows:

- centre of national importance: Ljubljana (also the centre of international importance);
- centre of regional importance: Domžale–Kamnik conurbation;
- centres of inter-municipal importance: Grosuplje, Litija, Logatec and Vrhnika.

Local centres are not defined in detail in the national strategy. They are defined in detail in the spatial plans of the individual municipalities.



Figure 10: Urban centres and hierarchy of settlements in the region



Source: Expert groundwork for the preparation of the regional spatial plan, 2008.

In order to establish a balanced polycentric system of settlements in the surroundings of the metropolis, additional elements of social infrastructure should be provided in individual settlements in accordance with the function of a settlement in a polycentric urban system.

Ljubljana has all of the highest level central national institutions (e.g. central public administration, diplomacy, banking, the university, cultural institutions, the clinical centre, scientific institutions, institutions for the elderly and person at social risk, religious centres for various religions, central sports facilities) and is also striving to attract international institutions. *On the intergovernmental level, it is establishing ties with foreign countries and regional centres.* It would be reasonable in the future to decentralise certain functions of Ljubljana by relocating them to surrounding centres of regional or inter-municipal importance.

The Domžale-Kamnik conurbation is a centre of regional importance providing the more important cultural and educational institutions (secondary school and higher education institutions), medical activities, intergenerational centres and other institutions for the elderly and persons at social risk, sports and administrative activities. Certain regional administrative functions should be located in the conurbation which would increase the importance of said functions on the regional level.



Centres of inter-municipal importance include Grosuplje, Litija, Logatec and Vrhnika. In addition to providing primary services such as education, culture, sports and medical services, these centres also provide certain public administration services (administrative centres) and various forms of living for the elderly and persons at social risk (care homes, sheltered housing). The centres should be strengthened through the introduction of higher-level service functions so as to ensure a certain level of rationalisation and specialisation of the offer and enable high-quality and interconnected development of social infrastructure.

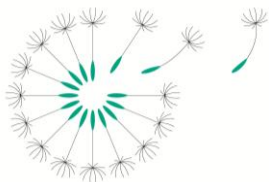
Centres of municipal importance: Borovnica, Brezovica, Dobrova, Polhov Gradec, Dol pri Ljubljani, Log-Dragomer, Horjul, Ig, Ivančna Gorica, Komenda, Lukovica pri Domžalah, Mengeš, Medvode, Moravče, Škofljica, Šmartno pri Litiji, Trzin, Velike Lašče, Videm-Dobrepolje and Vodice all have primary schools as well as pre-school education (alternative forms in addition to kindergartens), primary healthcare (in the municipal centre or in cooperation with the neighbouring/nearby municipal centre), a pharmacy, a cultural centre (library, care home, premises for socialising), varied offer of living arrangements and care for the elderly (care homes, sheltered housing, home care services), sports facilities and playgrounds as well as the administrative function. Social activities are not always located in the municipal centre as some are dispersed through local centres because this ensures suitable quality, accessibility and more economical care within the municipality. When it comes to the further development of municipal centres, it is necessary to ensure the connection and complementarity of social and services infrastructure, and especially spatial accessibility for individual users.

Local centres of the LUR do not have a suitable settlement centre established that would merge several elements of social infrastructure, all of the element of basic services and a central public area. By establishing such a centre, local centres could convert from mainly bedroom communities into active communities.

Potentials and Obstacles to Spatial and Urban Development

Polycentricity is a spatial development concept that encourages territorial cohesion and a balanced spatial development of an area. The LUR is characterised by a monocentric development of human settlement that is reflected in the central and peripheral type of areas in the region, each having its own features, strengths and weaknesses. When planning future spatial development, it is important for these two types to be treated differently in terms of spatial planning as this is the only way to take advantage of the positive characteristics and reduce the obstacles that are characteristic of each of the two types. One of the main potentials that must be taken advantage of and upgraded is the intertwinement of the urban and rural characters of the region.

The development of human settlement in the LUR will be primarily geared towards select settlements (communities) where emphasis will be on ensuring sufficient supply of flats, jobs and varied activities as well as suitable infrastructural outfitting. Prior to interventions into new areas, priority will be given to the urban renovation or the use of dilapidated (brownfield)



urban areas. The polycentric urban system will aim to develop a network of suitably equipped centres providing all inhabitants with comfortable, affordable, safe and environmentally acceptable accessibility to public service functions, flats, jobs, services and knowledge.

4.7. Transport

Region's Strategic Transport-Related Position

The Ljubljana urban region is a crossroads of European transport corridors as two important trans-European transport corridors pass through the centre of Ljubljana:

- **the Baltic-Adriatic corridor** connecting the Baltic Sea and the Adriatic Sea through industrial regions between southern Poland, Vienna and Bratislava, the eastern Alpine region and northern Italy (see Figure 11) and
- **the Mediterranean corridor** connecting the Hungarian-Ukrainian border with the Iberian peninsula by proceeding from the Mediterranean coast of Spain and France, crossing the Alps towards the east through northern Italy and continuing along the Adriatic coast in Slovenia and Croatia in the direction of Hungary (see Figure 12).

Figure 11: Course of the Baltic-Adriatic corridor across the territory of the Republic of Slovenia



Source: European Commission, 2013a.



Figure 12: Course of the Mediterranean corridor across the territory of the Republic of Slovenia



Source: European Commission, 2013a.

The region represents an area of regional connections to the area of the Ljubljana transport hub that will be one of the important factors of sustainable development in the transport–spatial planning policy of the EU on account of its location between West and South-East Europe at the intersection of the planned high-speed railways in the Baltic-Adriatic and Mediterranean corridors and considering the future market attractiveness of this area.

The region's potential lies in suitable transport connections to the primary urban and regional transport networks. The arrangement of the main connections of the transport hub encompasses the inner city ring of the City of Ljubljana that extends to the outer city ring and further on to the ring road that connects (through the main roads into the city) all of the regions of the Republic of Slovenia by connecting to the outbound corridors leading into neighbouring countries – Italy, Austria, Croatia and Hungary. The ring road is divided into individual sections that break off into different directions, forming the so-called motorway cross that also connects to neighbouring countries and is represented in Ljubljana by the A1 (Austria – Šentilj border crossing–Maribor–Celje–Ljubljana–Postojna–Koper) and A2 (Austria–Karavanke tunnel–Kranj–Ljubljana–Novo mesto–Brežice–Obrežje) motorways that connect in other regions to the A3 motorway (Divača–Fernetiči–Italy) and the A4 (Slivnica–Hajdina–Draženci–Gruškovje–Croatia) and A5 (Maribor–Murska Sobota–Lendava–Hungary) motorways.



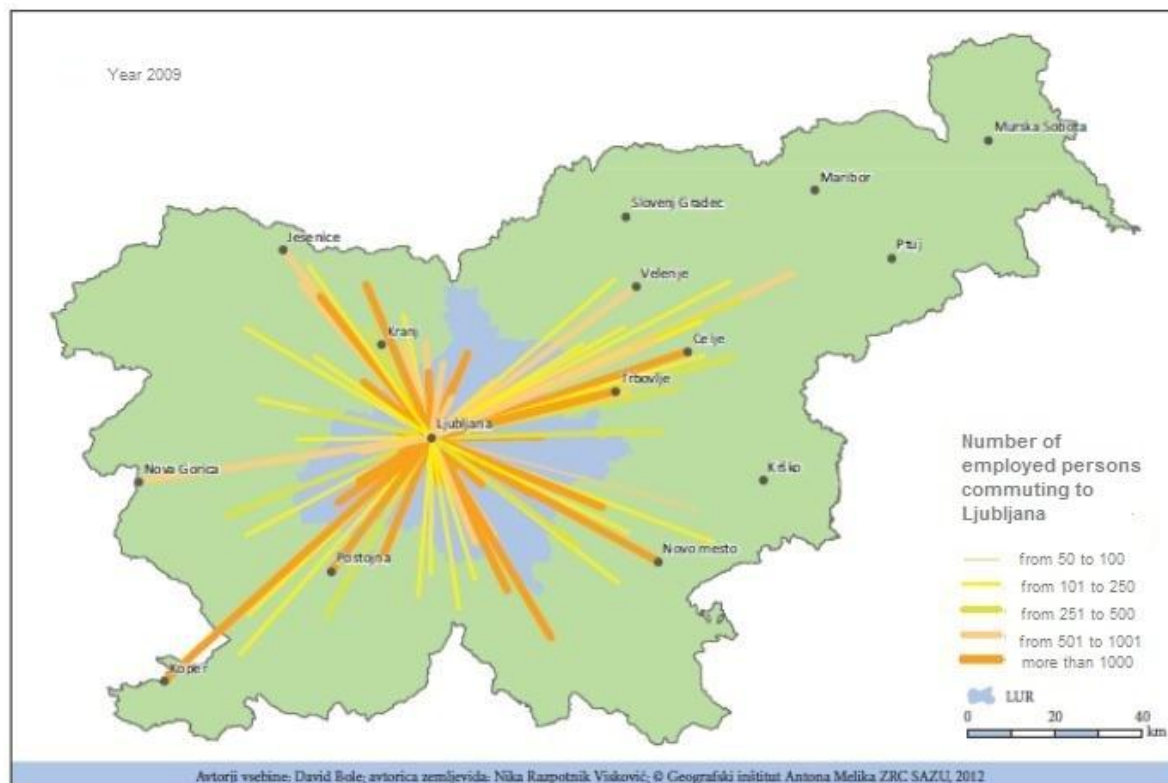
Transport Flows within the Region

Passenger Transport

The intertwinement and co-dependence of Ljubljana and the surrounding towns are on the rise. They are additionally strengthened by the processes involving **accelerated suburbanisation of the surrounding communities** (settlements) brought on by inadequate spatial planning and housing policies. Such a development encourages a mono-structural design of surrounding communities that are increasingly becoming satellite bedroom communities of Ljubljana. Employment remains focused on Ljubljana, which causes highly intense flows of **commuters** coming to the capital for work, school, public services and general services. It has been estimated that nearly 150,000 workers and school-goers commuted to Ljubljana on a daily basis in 2009 (Nared et al, 2012).

With its capital Ljubljana, the Ljubljana urban region is the most important destination of migration flows in Slovenia (see Figure 13). As such, the region attracts daily commuters coming to work and school from neighbouring regions. Within the LUR, the City of Ljubljana acts as the gravitational centre of the region where the main regional and inter-regional flows merge as do international migration flows through the Jože Pučnik Airport. The City of Ljubljana stands out in terms of the scope of transport infrastructure in the region (also on the Slovenian level). The pronounced radial character of roads, railways, inter-city, suburban and city bus transportation towards Ljubljana and its centre is clearly discernible (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009).

Figure 13: Attractiveness of Ljubljana as an employment centre

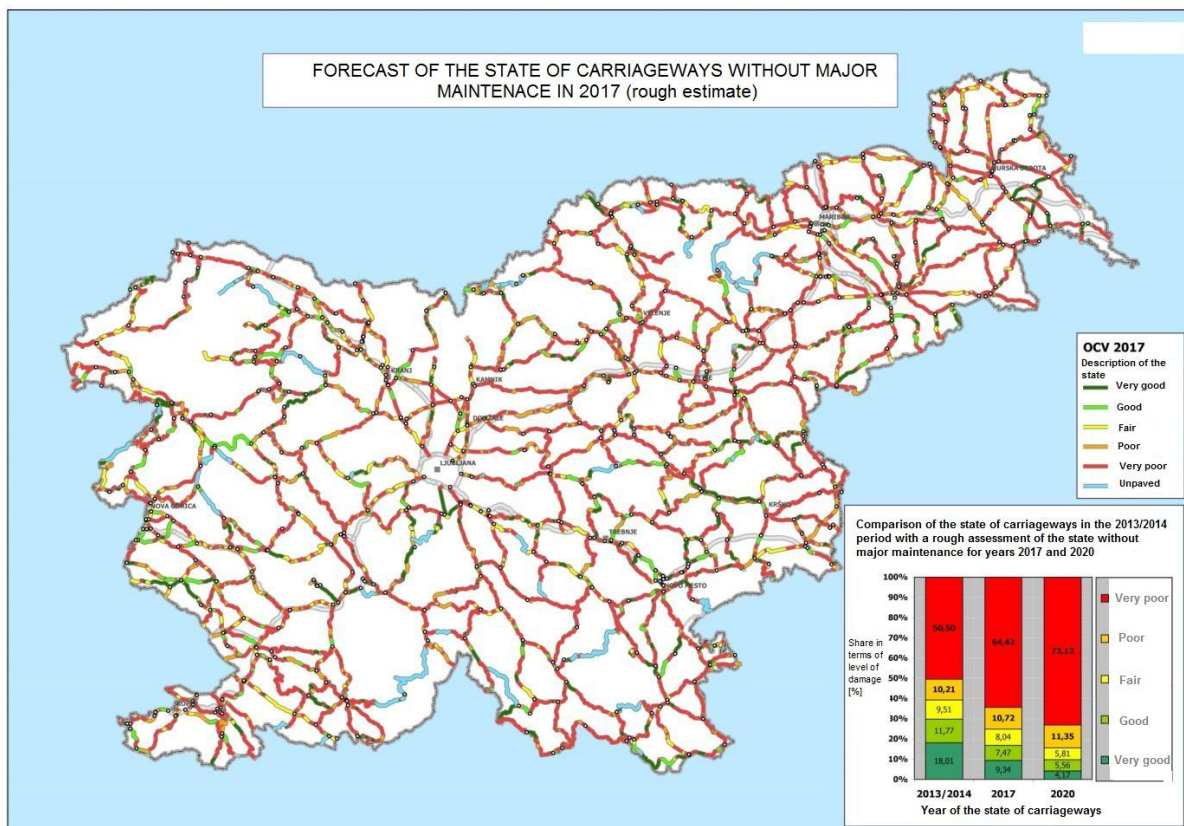




Source: Nared et al, 2012.

On the one hand, the region is facing both large numbers of commuters and a poor road infrastructure on the other. This is also coupled with warnings from the economy that the outdated network and poor transport connections resulting in higher costs are making the economy uncompetitive. If 60% of state roads were below the threshold value in 2014, the forecasts of the Slovenian Roads Agency are projecting this percentage to grow to 75% in 2017 and to nearly 85% of all roads by 2020.

Figure 14: Forecast on the state of roads in 2017 without major investment in infrastructure and maintenance



Source: Ministry of Infrastructure, 9 March 2015.

The Ljubljana urban region is characterised by a high level of motor vehicle ownership that peaked in 2009 when 524 personal vehicles per 1000 population were registered in the Ljubljana urban region, whereby the **number of personal vehicles** has been **decreasing** since (among others also on account of the economic crisis), dropping to 515 vehicles per 1000 population in 2013 (SORS, 2014).

The number of transports in inter-city and city public transportation by bus is decreasing with each coming year. We can conclude that, despite the co-financing and maintenance of the scope of public transportation by bus, its **use is decreasing**. Public transportation by bus is still too slow, has too low of a frequency of services, it has an unpredictable schedule and is



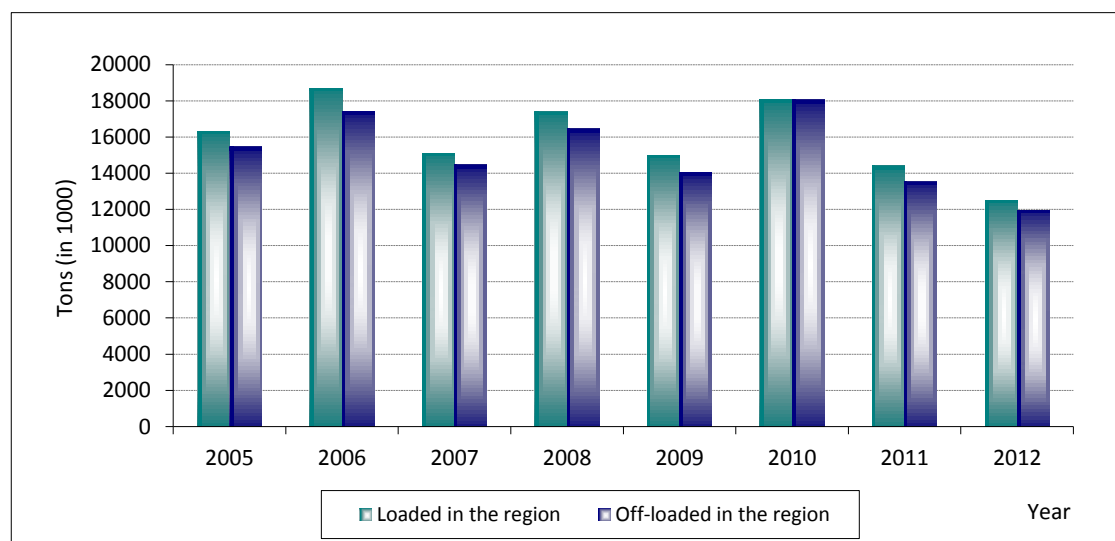
becoming less and less acceptable in terms of price. We are observing similar trends in railway passenger transportation where the number of passengers carried has been declining slightly since 2008 (SORS, 2013).

Carriage of Goods in the Region

The statistical region of Central Slovenia is the most active region in terms of logistics as it has the highest concentration of goods flows. Over the last eight years, 16 million tons of goods have been loaded onto transports on average in the region, whereby 93% of all goods were offloaded in Slovenia with the remaining 7% going abroad (SORS, 2014, own calculations). Over the last eight years, 15 million tons of goods have been offloaded on average in the region, whereby 89% of all goods were loaded onto their respective transports in Slovenia with the remaining 11% of the goods coming from abroad (SORS, 2014, own calculations). The volume of loaded and offloaded goods is evident from Figure 15.

All of the regions in Slovenia have been facing fluctuations in the logistics activity in recent years, which is the result of the said activity being highly dependent on economic activity.

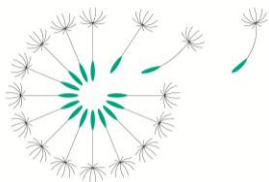
Figure 15: Goods that were loaded and offloaded in the Central Slovenia statistical region in the 2005–2012 period



Source: SORS, 2014.

Potential for the Development of Transport and Transport Connections

In terms of passenger transport, the potential of the region lies in the promotion of attractive public transport and the resulting increase in the number of passengers. One of the challenges of the region in the 2014–2020 period is also the harmonisation of economic growth and social requirements for mobility with environmental and other costs associated with transport. The



region's potential lies in sustainable mobility, the success of which will depend on the transport policy.

Another potential for the region is in connecting surrounding communities with larger centres; including by various forms of public transport (e.g. P+R). There is also potential in efficient use of space (in terms of price and the actual physical space).

In order for the region to retain the current concentration of goods flows and thus generate higher added value, it must offer users quality logistical support and services. There is, therefore, potential for the region in developing logistical centres, transshipment terminals and intermodal hubs tasked with connecting transport subsystems and ensuring more efficient supply of the regional economy with logistical services. In this sense, the potential for the region in the area of goods flows lies in the efficient use of the existing infrastructure and well thought out planning of spatial management and the management of resources in the future. The region still has some reserves in terms of space for the development of economic activities that are competitive on the European level in terms of their rate of infrastructural development, accessibility, spatial capacities and geostrategic position. The region will by all means have to devote attention to the overhaul of the existing transport infrastructure.

4.8. Energy Infrastructure and Energy Supply

Analysis of Energy Infrastructure and Energy Supply

Similarly to Slovenia as a whole, the Ljubljana urban region is deemed to be **dependent on external energy sources** as the local potentials for heating and electricity generation are relatively poorly utilised while the imports of fossil fuels are increasing continuously with the imports of petroleum products increasing by as much as 40% over the last 10 years and the imports of all energy products increasing by nearly 30%. Transport is the biggest consumer of energy in Slovenia as its energy needs have increased by 46% over the last ten years and thus significantly exceeded the needs of the industry that has been seeing its energy needs drop since 2006 (ARSO, 2013).

The current energy production capacities in the region only provide for around 20% of the regional needs and electricity consumption. Most of the municipalities have prepared local energy concepts in recent years which are frequently not reconciled with one another and represent a challenge on the local level in terms of the assurance of a sufficient share of renewable energy sources. The City of Ljubljana stands out in terms of electricity consumption as it purchases nearly two thirds of the energy consumed in the region. The municipalities with higher electricity consumption (Trzin, Mengeš, Domžale, Logatec and Borovnica) are characterised by having a large share of users (industry and the services sector), while



households are the prevailing user in smaller municipalities (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009).

Energy is one of the pillars of the economic situation and development, which is why the key question for a region is where it sources its energy and at what price. It is crucial for as much energy as possible to be sourced from within the region.

Potential for the Development of Energy Infrastructure and Energy Supply

The use of renewable energy sources for the production of electricity such as solar, wind and biogas in the Ljubljana urban region is very low. Potential is represented by the use of hydroelectric power and biomass. The share of the use of wood biomass at the regional level is 17% and is much lower than the share on the national level (30%). It represents great potential taking into account sustainable forest management principles and assuming the wood processing industry is revitalised. The best **opportunities for the use of wood biomass** are found in rural municipalities such as Borovnica, Dobropolje, Ig, Ivančna Gorica, Litija, Logatec, Lukovica, Šmartno pri Litiji and Velike Lašče (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009).

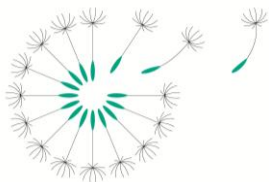
The self-supply of energy amounts to only 20% in the Ljubljana urban region, with fossil fuels prevailing as a source for energy generation. When striving to increase the share of energy from renewable sources, it is important to build the awareness of the public (in cooperation with consulting services) of the potential of exploiting local renewable energy sources, the importance of improved understanding of the use of energy from renewable sources, energy conservation and efficient use of energy.

The region's potential is also in lowering the consumption of electricity – primarily in the commercial use sector, in the industry and by households.

4.9. Drinking Water Supply, Waste Water Drainage and Waste Management

Analysis of the Status of Drinking Water Supply, Waste Water Drainage and Waste Management

The region is relatively well equipped with water distribution systems. The quantity of abstracted water has been decreasing slightly in the region since 2008, with groundwater representing the largest source of potable water. The biggest share of water from the public water distribution system was supplied to households (55%) in 2011, with 15% of the water being used to supply commercial activities. **Water losses** were extensive and amounted to 13,440,000 m³ or 30% of all the water supplied from the public water distribution system (SORS, 2013). Drinking water in the region also has an elevated content of nitrates and pesticides which is also associated with the groundwater sources in the region (NIPH, 2012).



The water in the territory of the Ljubljana urban region is nevertheless of high quality as the threshold values for harmful substances have not been exceeded.

Approximately two thirds (i.e. 115.9 million m³) of waste water are treated and released from sewerage systems in Slovenia, which represents 57.8% of treated waste water. The most waste water in 2012 was treated in the South-Eastern Slovenia (Jugovzhodna Slovenija) statistical region (as much as 93%). The lowest share of waste water was treated in the Central Slovenia statistical region (44%).

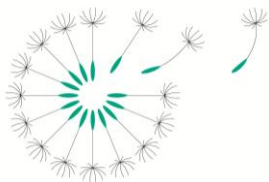
The region treated 78% of waste water from the public sewerage system in 2010, which is slightly above the Slovenian average (73%) (SORS, 2013). The region has already built large waste water treatment plants. As certain treatment plants are in need of an overhaul, expansion or even upgrading in order to ensure their compliance with the legally prescribed parameters, the multi-annual financial framework for the 2014–2020 period will also feature additional investment measures aimed at these treatment plants (e.g. the Ljubljana and Domžale-Kamnik central waste water treatment plants; hereinafter: Ljubljana CWWTP and Domžale–Kamnik CWWTP).

The Ljubljana urban region collected **30% of all municipal waste** collected in Slovenia in 2011. This share is increasing with each passing year even though the total quantity of municipal waste collected in 2011 has decreased somewhat with respect to previous years (216,620 tons in 2011). The quantity of waste created by production and service activities decreased significantly in 2011, while this trend cannot be observed for the Slovenian average. The region collected 10% of all waste created in production and service activities in Slovenia, which is half as much as in the previous year (SORS, 2013).

Region's Potential

The region's potential is mainly in the quality supply of drinking water and the preservation of the environment, which additionally increases the quality of living in the region.

From the point of view of the environment, the region could additionally improve the waste collection system. The region has the potential of achieving an even higher level of waste separation at the source and in setting up a network of waste collection facilities where the key role is played by the Ljubljana Regional Waste Management Centre. Another of the region's potentials is in the so-called zero waste society, which involves a change of lifestyle and habits and the copying of sustainable natural cycles where all waste materials represent a raw material for someone else. This would prevent any discharges into the ground, water or air that could pose a risk to the health of ecosystems, people, animals and the planet.



4.10. Areas with Spatial Limitations for Development

Analysis of the Status of Areas with Spatial Limitations for Development

Special attention should be devoted to development in areas that are at risk of the detrimental action of water (flooding, high groundwater table, erosion), areas with land slips and landslides, and earthquake prone areas.

The main limitation for development in the region is represented by the **numerous flood risk areas** (see Figure 16). A preliminary assessment of flood risk has been produced on the national level, which identified the following areas in the LUR that are significantly affected by flooding: Ljubljana - north-east, Dobrova-Brezje pri Dobrovi, Ljubljana - south, Grosuplje, Vevče - paper mill, Litija, Zalog-Podgrad-Videm, Sava, Kresnice, Ihan - farms, Domžale, Nožice, Stahovica-Kamnik, Komenda-Moste-Suhadole, Medvode-Tacen and Gameljne (Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia, 2013). The state's cooperation is urgent for the mitigation of the consequences of floods as the state manages most of the mechanisms for the rehabilitation and maintenance of watercourses. Both the municipalities and the state, which provides effective solutions for increasing flood safety of the area and the entire region, must regularly fulfil their obligations. Safety concerns have warranted the planning of the construction of high-water retarding basins in developed (built up) areas that are at the highest risk of flooding (e.g. Grosuplje and Polhov Gradec). Activities for the preparation of the National Flood Safety Spatial Plan for the south-west part of Ljubljana and the communities in the Dobrova - Polhov Gradec Municipality have been going on since 2004.

In 2012, the government adopted the “Map of categories of flood-related erosion hazard areas alongside the Iška, Iščica and Draščica streams in the Community of Ig”. The water protection and flood-proofing measures are defined in the spatial planning documents of the Community of Ig. Since November 2014, in the wake of the last major flood, activities have been ongoing to construct the flood defence embankments protecting the settlements of Brest, Matena, Tomišelj as well as Podkraj, Iška, Iška mala vas and Ig.

The Study on Floods, produced within the framework of the expert groundwork in the process of preparing the spatial plan of the Commune of Vrhnika, was also validated on the national level which in its art. 70 determines the actually settled areas of the Municipality of Vrhnika at risk of flooding, and defines the guidelines for reducing the flood risk.

Several areas (for example, Dol pri Ljubljani) rank as areas at risk of flooding (as shown on Map 16).

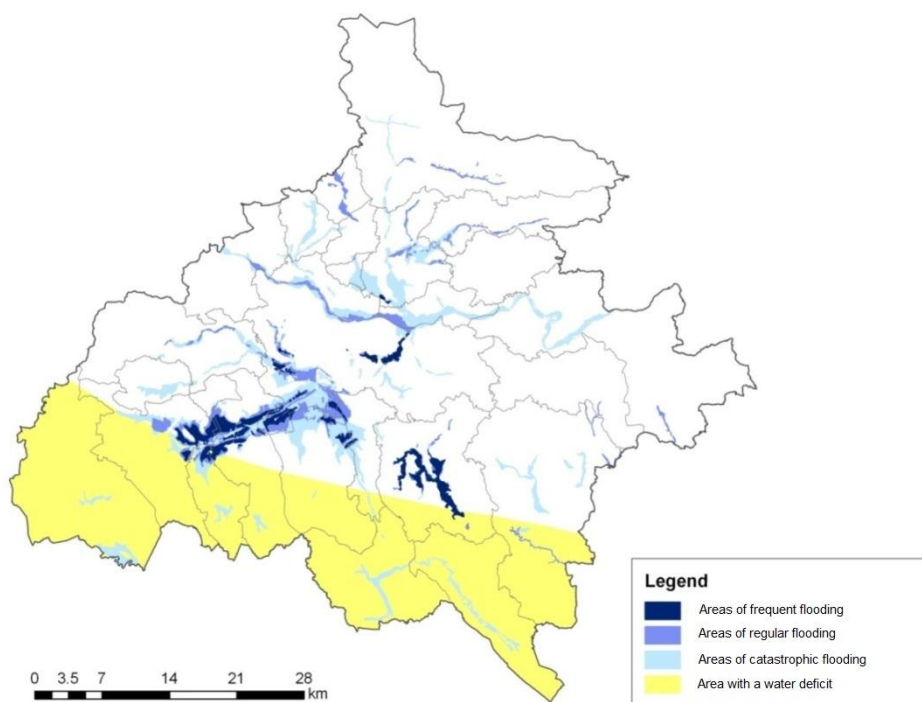
Erosion and landslide prone areas are found mainly in the eastern and western mountainous parts of the region, with larger erosion prone areas with demanding protection measures located in the municipalities of Dobrova - Polhov Gradec, Dol pri Ljubljani, Horjul, Kamnik, Litija, Ljubljana, Medvode, Moravče and Šmartno pri Litiji. The rehabilitation of the focal zones of dangerous natural processes needs to be enabled in these areas as they are



also areas where spatial development and activities that trigger and accelerate these processes should not be planned.

The western part of the City of Ljubljana with the surrounding municipalities of Trzin, Mengeš, Vodice, Medvode and Dobrova - Polhov Gradec fall into the **high earthquake hazard area**. No spatial development and activities that represent a risk to the environment in case of a disastrous earthquake should be planned in these areas.

Figure 16: Depiction of hazard areas in LUR



Source: ARSO, 2013.

Potential of Areas with Spatial Limitations

Areas with spatial limitations represent mainly a developmental obstacle. Potentials for the limitation and overcoming of spatial obstacles lie mainly in **appropriate spatial and development planning** (locating activities – in terms of spatial planning – outside the areas of eventual natural disasters), **management of various activities** in hazardous and endangered areas, and the **supervision of activities** that can cause natural or other disasters.

One other development potential lies in the opportunity to use additional state and European funds and financial incentives intended exclusively for measures in areas with spatial limitations.



4.11. Education and Schooling

Analysis of Inclusion into the Education and Schooling System

There were **888 public and 50 private kindergartens** in Slovenia in 2012 that cared for a total of 83,090 children (SORS, 2013). The area of pre-school education in Slovenia is managed on the municipal level.

There were 25,204 children attending kindergartens in the Ljubljana urban region in 2012, which is 79.1% of all children in the region and 30% of all children enrolled in all kindergartens and their branches in Slovenia (SORS, 2014). 95% of children attended public kindergartens and 5% attended private ones. There are 244 kindergartens operating in the region with a total of 1,484 groups, whereby nearly one half of the kindergartens (120) is located within the City of Ljubljana which has the most children enrolled in kindergartens, i.e. 13,330 children.

The key problem for the Ljubljana urban region in the area of pre-school education is the lack of capacities as demand is exceeding supply in certain municipalities. The problem is most pronounced in the territory of the City of Ljubljana, with insufficient capacity plaguing the municipalities of Kamnik, Brezovica, Dobrova - Polhov Gradec, Grosuplje, Ivančna Gorica, Log - Dragomer, Moravče, Škofljica, Vodice, Vrhnika, Šmartno pri Litiji and Lukovica, which is the result of the high natural increase of the population in recent years. A regional demographic study shows that the lack of kindergarten capacities is transitional in nature, with the kindergarten and primary school capacities soon becoming excessive (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009), which is why the pre-school education issue should be resolved on the inter-municipal or regional levels.

There were **842 primary schools** in Slovenia in 2012 that were attended by 162,775 students. The region had 176 of the abovementioned primary schools (21%) that were attended by 44,118 students (28%). Approximately one third of primary schools is located in the territory of the City of Ljubljana and they are attended by somewhat less than half of the students (20,797) of the entire Ljubljana urban region (SORS, 2013).

There are **40 secondary schools** operating in the Ljubljana urban region – most of them within the city limits of the City of Ljubljana. There are secondary schools in the municipalities of Domžale, Ivančna Gorica, Kamnik, Litija, Logatec and Škofljica (List of secondary schools in Slovenia, 2013). The number of students in the region decreased slightly between 2008 and 2010, whereby 20,918 of them lived in the territory of the LUR in 2010 and half of these lived in the City of Ljubljana (SORS, 2013).

The Ljubljana urban region stands out mainly on account of the high concentration of higher education schools, faculties and institutes. The country's largest university, the University of Ljubljana, is located in the region. According to the data of the Ministry of



Education, Science and Sport, there were 89,427 students enrolled in higher education institutions in the 2012/2013 academic year, whereby 51,270 students attended the University of Ljubljana, which is 57% of all students in Slovenia. Extensive study activity in the territory of the LUR is also reflected in the high share of the population with post-secondary or higher education in the LUR (29.1%), which significantly surpasses the Slovenian average (22.4%) (SORS, 2013).

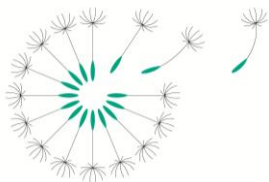
All post-secondary and higher education schools, faculties and institutes in the LUR are located within the territory of the CLJ. In 2011, there were 26,965 students enrolled in tertiary education in the region who had their permanent residence in the LUR, i.e. 52.7 students per 1000 population, which is close to the Slovenian average. The number of students has decreased in the last five years while the number of graduates has increased. In 2011, the number of graduates per 1000 population in the LUR (9.61 graduates per 1000 population) was slightly lower than the Slovenian average (9.65 graduates per 1000 population) (SORS, 2013).

The higher education activity is also reflected in the level of education of the population aged 25 to 64, which is above-average in the region when compared to the Republic of Slovenia. In 2011, the share of the population with at least secondary education was the highest among Slovenian regions (more than 82% of the population) which is also true of the population with post-secondary or higher education (29.1% of the population of the region) (SORS, 2013). This is an important piece of information because metropolitan regions with a higher share of educated people or greater human capital are recording faster economic growth (Glaeser and Saiz, 2003).

Potential for the Development of Education

The high level of formal education attained by the population represents potential in terms of regional economic development – especially in relation to the other Slovenian regions because the share of people with post-secondary and higher education in the LUR is the highest in Slovenia (SORS, 2013). The region's biggest potential in the area of education lies in the establishment of ties between educational institutions and the economy.

In order to develop the economy, we need to bolster the efforts for the establishment of ties between higher education and the economy with the aim of encouraging innovation and competitiveness of the region's economy. This also includes the development of infrastructure, the aim of which is to promote cooperation between the educational system and economic operators. In view of the above, another reasonable consideration is specialisation or the identification of development opportunities that are evident mainly in the development of *green* and *bio*-technologies.



4.12. Science and Education

Analysis of the State-of-Affairs in Science and Education

An important starting point for the development of science and research is the high concentration of post-secondary and higher education schools and institutes in the region or the CLJ because all of the mentioned institutions are located in the territory of the CLJ (see Figure 17). The share of people with an above-average level of education, i.e. post-secondary and higher education, at the LUR level is also favourable as it surpasses the national average. In addition to the Gorenjska region, the LUR is the only region with more than a 20% share of employees working in the R&D activity (SORS, 2013). The LUR has the highest concentration of researchers and research organisation with it also using the most financial assets for this activity in the RS (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009). The region is home to key institutions that could be associated with science communication as well as the associated events and festivals.

The LUR has a good base for further economic development; however, being the most developed region that is home to the country's capital, it cannot only be compared with the regions on the national level as it warrants comparison with comparable European regions. In this sense, it would be reasonable to boldly take advantage of the potential that the high concentration of human capital represents for economic development and to encourage the establishment of inter and intra-sectorial ties – mainly with the economy (Urban Planning Institute of the RS et al, 2009). Intra-sectorial ties here means the ties between various scientific and research institutions with the aim of bridging the gap between various scientific disciplines (e.g. disciplines arising from art, culture or creativity on the one hand and natural sciences on the other). The establishment of ties between education and scientific institutions implies new forms of cooperation between the mentioned institutions, whereby the objective of such ties is the development of economic sectors that attain the highest added value.

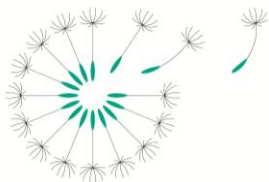


Figure 17: Location of research organisations comprised in the SICRIS information system



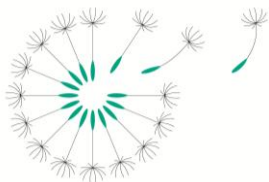
Source: Kotnik, 2013.

Potential for the Development of Science and Education

At the level of the region, we are noticing the potential for the development of new specialised hubs of scientific-research institutions and educational institutions with a distinct connection to the local economy.

One potential that has been underutilised is reflected in the promotion of science communication, i.e. the promotion of the role of science and scientists in explaining and resolving issues that frequently affect daily life but are basically issues that can only be reasonably resolved through a scientific approach.

In order to develop research and science, we need to boost the interest in young people for the scientific explanation of the world. Most of the activities and institutions associated with this are located in the CLJ, with the development potential exhibited in the improvement of infrastructural conditions, under which said institutions operate, in new contents and in the promotion of activities that popularise science on the regional level.



4.13. Culture and Preservation of Cultural Heritage

Analysis of the State-of-Affairs in Culture and Cultural Heritage

The Ljubljana urban region is a region with an exceptionally varied and rich cultural heritage that is already attractive for tourists. There are 5,409 units of immovable cultural heritage in this area, i.e. 4,542 units of registered cultural heritage, 114 cultural monuments of national importance and 753 monuments of local importance. The register has 16 intangible cultural heritage operators.

The core of cultural creation of the LUR municipalities is represented mainly by the houses of culture and individual cultural institutions that provide for the preservation of the identity and customs and care for the cultural heritage of local communities through the dynamic development of cultural and artistic activities. They are at the same time an important factor of social inclusion within local communities and strongly affect the quality of life in the region. Ljubljana is home to a great majority of important cultural institutions (the largest cultural and congress centre in Slovenia – Cankarjev dom, the Slovenian Philharmonic, the National Gallery, the Modern Gallery, the National and University Library, etc.). Ljubljana as a European-level capital has an above-average number of museums (22), galleries (53), theatres (10) and cultural and arts events (Kavaš and Murovec, 2010).

Unfavourable economic conditions in recent years have strongly affected the state of the milieu, in which culture develops, which has contributed to the already difficult position of institutions, creative communities and individuals as well as the public, private and non-governmental sectors. The area of culture in the LUR nevertheless boasts a relatively rich and diverse production, which can contribute significantly to the development of individuals and the society assuming it is coupled with an appropriate cultural policy and enhancement of the cultural system. It is mainly the cultural industries, which place the individual at the centre, that can represent an extraordinary potential for the establishment of ties with the economy and at the same time set up new models of cultural production.

Depiction of units and areas of cultural heritage in the LUR is provided in Figure 18.

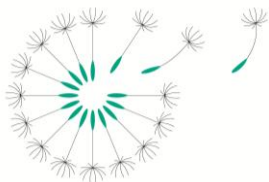
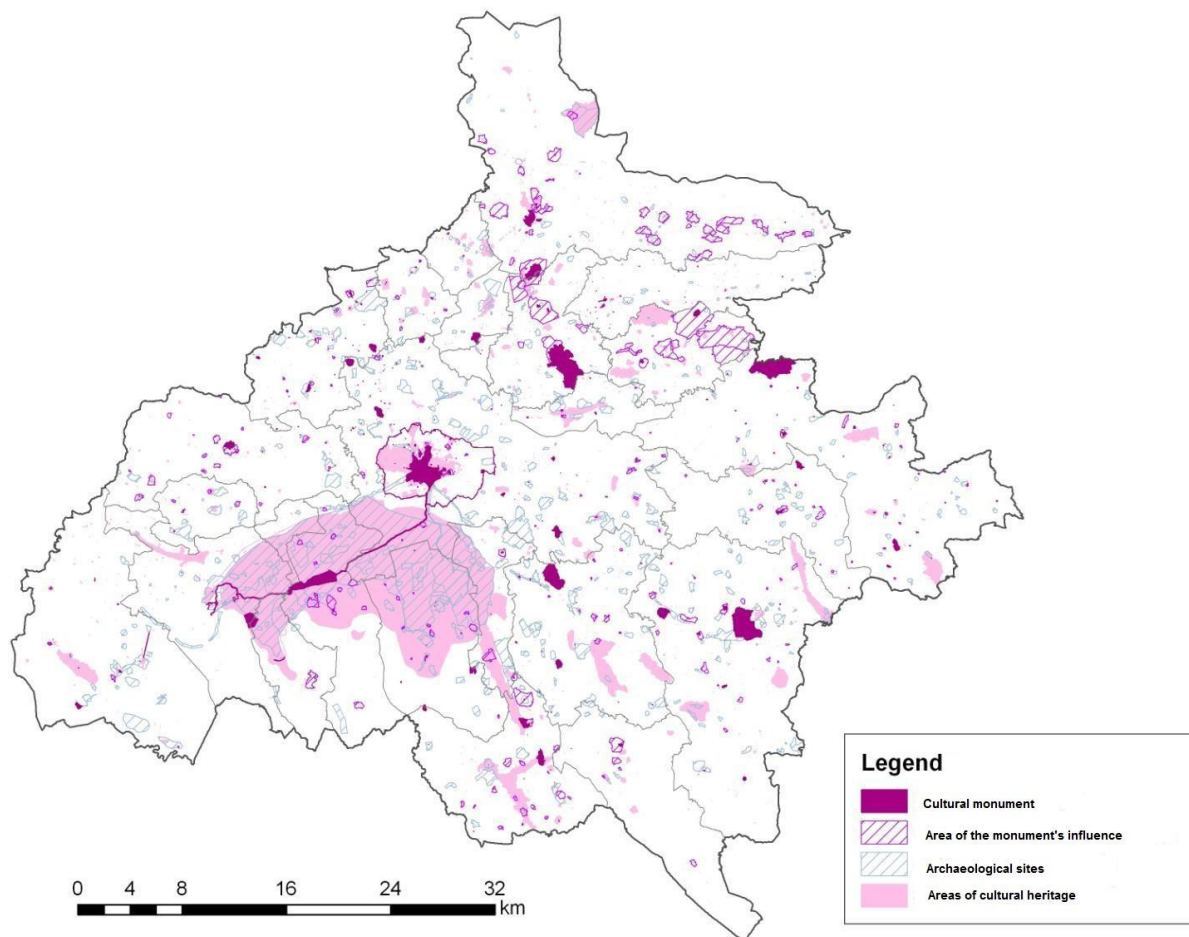


Figure 18: Cultural heritage in LUR



Source: Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport², 2013.

Potential for the Development of Culture and Cultural Heritage

An important potential for cultural creation is exhibited primarily in the interlinking of cultural production, accessibility of quality cultural content and the setup of a network between cultural institutions in the LUR municipalities. Another potential is the development of cultural institutions at the level of the region with the aim of enabling active involvement of local inhabitants in such institutions as part of their daily lives.

As regards cultural heritage, the two important aspects in addition to the study and research are the identification and comprehensive preservation of its values. Cultural heritage represents potential for economic and social development both on the local and national levels. One other

² By way of the Act Amending the Government of the Republic of Slovenia Act (ZVRS-H, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 65/2014), the ministry was divided into the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport.



thing that is undergoing change is the cultural heritage management method which creates an environment conducive for the development of new services focusing on the user.

The potential for the development of cultural heritage in the LUR is also to be found in other areas because cultural heritage represents horizontal content occurring in all spheres of our activity. New potential for the development of cultural heritage in the entrepreneurship segment is any content in a renovated building or activity for the renovation of units of heritage that observes the protection regime. The performance of renovation or maintenance work on cultural heritage also affects employment. Cultural heritage in itself is also an example of the sustainable use of resources and is therefore tied to the area of sustainable use and generation of energy. One part of cultural heritage also comprises the man-made environment that encompasses a large portion of the region and – together with the architectural, urban and landscape heritage – forms an identity and cultural recognisability on the local, regional and national levels. It is the result of the actions and interaction between the natural and human activities where agriculture is certainly the prevailing activity. As such, the man-made environment designated as heritage appears mainly in less urbanised, remote areas where the main characteristic is the mosaic-like intertwinement of the forest, agrarian landscape patterns and a traditional settlement structure. We will ensure the preservation of the man-made environment through the promotion of sustainable and organic farming, polycentric spatial development (maintaining the settlement of remote areas), comprehensive management of landscape parks and primarily through the cooperation of sectors, local communities and landowners. Heritage represents a strong incentive for social cohesion and inclusion, rehabilitation of neglected areas, creation of local jobs and the promotion of mutual understanding and the sense of belonging. Cultural heritage offers important opportunities to both the young and the old to gain knowledge and volunteer, and encourages dialogue between the various cultures and generations.

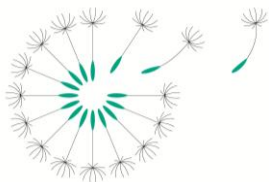
Global warming and climate change, especially the frequency of extreme weather phenomena, can threaten cultural heritage, which is a challenge for the region in terms of considering these problems and ensuring the durability of cultural heritage.

Taking into account the rich cultural heritage in the LUR, the potential for development is extensive and diverse, and will in the long-term contribute to cultural heritage as a strategic source for a sustainable Ljubljana urban region.

4.14. Healthcare

Analysis of the State-of-Affairs in Healthcare

In 2011, all municipalities (with the exception of the Šmartno pri Litiji Municipality) had **at least the lowest level (primary) healthcare**. Primary healthcare can be found mainly in municipal centres. It is only in the City of Ljubljana that we have primary, secondary and tertiary levels of healthcare. Only the Ivančna Gorica Municipality has a hospital in addition to Ljubljana.



Pharmacy services have improved when compared to the data from 2006 (Urban Planning Institute of the RS, 2009) when pharmacies operated in only 11 municipalities. In 2011, there were pharmacies in 22 municipalities in the region with 4 municipalities not having a pharmacy (Dol pri Ljubljani, Horjul, Lukovica and Šmartno pri Litiji) (Domanjko et al 2013, Vodice Municipality). The number of visits on the primary level per 1000 population in the region is below the Slovenian average and totalled 2,344 visits in 2012. There are 16,006 medical workers in the LUR, which represents 34% of all healthcare workers in Slovenia (NIPH, 2011).

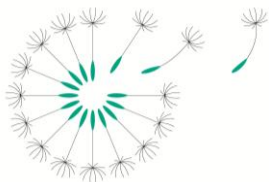
Mortality has not changed in the Ljubljana healthcare region over the last decade, but differs in terms of sex, age group and administrative unit of permanent residence. Mortality in the 1998–2008 period was 9% lower than the Slovenian average (Jerman et al 2011). Mortality of boys, which is an important indicator of the quality of healthcare and the social and economic development level, has decreased importantly in the LUR and in Slovenia over the last two decades.

The most frequent causes of death among the inhabitants of the LUR are (the same as in Slovenia as a whole) cardiovascular diseases and cancer. The two groups of diseases account for 71% of all causes of death. These are followed by injuries and poisoning, respiratory diseases and gastrointestinal diseases. Mortality caused by cardiovascular diseases has been decreasing over the last two decades as has mortality caused by injuries and poisoning, whereas mortality caused by cancer is on the rise. Neoplasms have become the leading cause of death in men in recent years (since 2006), overtaking cardiovascular diseases.

Differences in health that are still relatively small in Slovenia and the LUR are expected to increase on account of economic conditions and other effects on health. Good health is a value in itself for an individual, but is also a pre-condition for the social and economic development of the country. The country and the region see the answers to these issues lying in the strengthening of primary healthcare, introduction of integrated care leading to a decrease in unnecessary hospitalisations and specialists services, reduction of medication costs, introduction of assessment of medical technologies and IT support. A special challenge for both Slovenia and the region is the issue of how to ensure better ties between healthcare and social services providers that will make such services more user-friendly. This is especially true of the services intended for the elderly, the terminally ill and patients with mentally handicapped persons (e.g. people suffering from dementia).

Potential for the Development of Healthcare

The potential for the region based on the currently developed healthcare is represented by the raising of the quality of medical knowledge and methods. There is also potential in redirecting attention to preventative and promotional measures as well as the promotion of a healthy lifestyle, i.e. awareness-building and the promotion of healthcare literacy among the population.



4.15. Social Protection in the Region

Analysis of the State-of-Affairs in the Area of Social Protection in the Region

Social protection means the network of state programmes and measures for the resolution of social issues affecting the population. The measures are aimed at those who are unable to ensure social security for themselves. Such people are trained to be able to provide for their own social security. The measures also help those who are unable to function well in basic and other relations, which can lead to social exclusion.

Several types of social protection services are prescribed by law and must be available as help to individuals, families and groups as a way to resolve their personal distress as well as provide care, protection, upbringing and training. Social protection services are roughly divided as follows: (i.) home help, (ii.) institutional care and (iii.) home care assistants.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, the state is obliged to arrange compulsory healthcare, pension, disability and other social insurance as well as care for their functioning. It is also obliged to protect the family, motherhood, fatherhood, children and young people as well as create suitable conditions for all of these.

Municipalities are legally obligated to ensure a network of public services for home care assistance to families, to cover the costs of care in institutes for adults when persons are exempt from the payment of such costs (homes for the elderly and special social protection institutes) as well as to finance the right to the choice of a home care assistant.

A number of social protection services and programmes are available in the Central Slovenia region. They are carried out by public (state or municipal) and numerous non-governmental organisations (societies, private institutes, etc.). The territory of the Central Slovenia region is covered in terms of social assistance services by 11 social work centres, 23 elderly homes, 8 protection and work centres, 36 public and private institutions and legal entities providing social protection services (including home help) (Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, 2014; Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, 2014).

There are also many NGOs in the region that provide programmes intended for vulnerable groups, i.e. children and young people, the elderly, people with mental illnesses, people with various handicaps, people facing the risk of poverty and its consequences, women and children who are the victims of violence, people with problems caused by the use of legal and illicit drugs, people with eating disorders, people with same sex orientation, the Roma, immigrants and the terminally ill.



Potential for the Development of Social Protection

Social protection will be adapted in the future to new phenomena and processes associated with the changes on the labour market. In addition to the traditional social groups, for which measures must be planned to ensure their decent survival and social participation, certain new social groups have today found themselves in great difficulty.

Potential in the area of social protection is exhibited among others in the raising of the quality of services as some of the services (e.g. home care for the elderly) are insufficiently regulated and the users are therefore exposed to low quality services (on the black market).

4.16. NGOs in the Region

Analysis of the Status of NGOs in the Region

In 2012, there were 23,965 NGOs operating in Slovenia. As many as 6,753 (i.e. 28.1%) of these were headquartered in the Central Slovenia region. NGOs headquartered in the LUR include 5,516 (82%) societies, 1,100 (16%) private institutes and 127 (2%) institutions.

Table 6: Distribution of societies by municipality and data on their operations in 2012

TYPE	SOCIETIES		PRIVATE INSTITUTES		INSTITUTIONS	
	No.	No. of employees	No.	No. of employees	No.	No. of employees
MUNICIPALITY						
BOROVNICA	32	0	0	0	0	0
BREZOVICA	91	1	12	6	1	0
DOBREPOLJE	37	0	3	39	0	0
DOBROVA-POLHOV GRADEC	66	1	2	1	0	0
DOL PRI LJUBLJANI	49	1	2	1	0	0
DOMŽALE	291	32	23	14	1	0
GROSUPLJE	166	20	15	14	0	0
IG	64	2	8	0	2	17
IVANČNA GORICA	134	2	6	0	0	0
KAMNIK	230	18	23	9	2	0
LITIJA	149	10	2	1	3	0
LJUBLJANA	3294	1479	924	1754	113	50
LOG-DRAGOMER	27	1	8	5	0	0
LOGATEC	125	2	12	45	0	0
LUKOVICA	65	12	1	0	0	0
MEDVODE	127	17	9	10	2	0
MENGEŠ	59	1	2	21	1	7

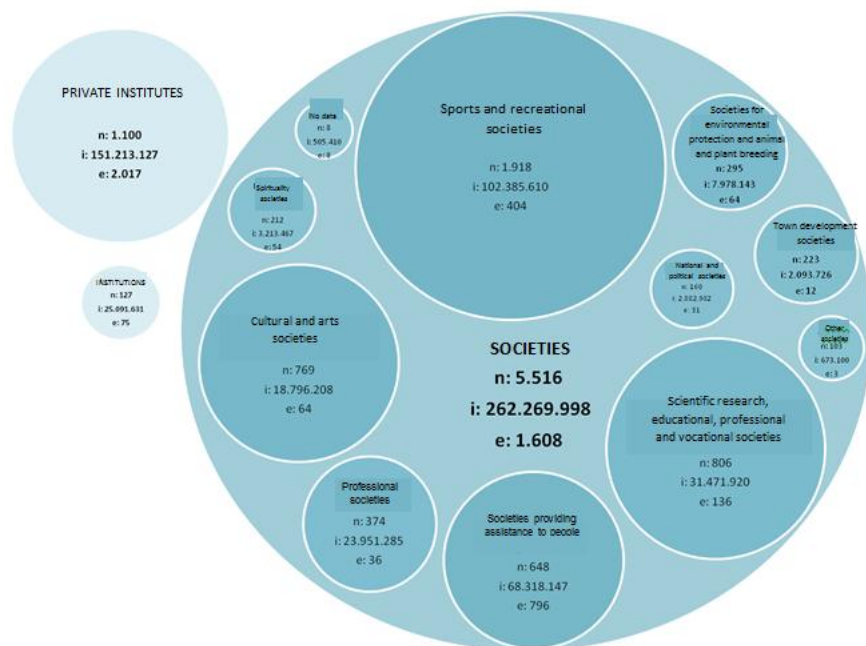


TYPE	SOCIETIES		PRIVATE INSTITUTES		INSTITUTIONS	
MORAVČE	43	0	1	0	0	0
ŠKOFLJICA	63	0	10	47	0	0
VELIKE LAŠČE	55	0	5	2	1	0
VODICE	44	5	4	0	0	0
VRHNIKA	141	2	15	35	0	0
HORJUL	29	1	2	0	0	0
KOMENDA	53	0	5	1	1	0
TRZIN	35	0	5	12	0	0
ŠMARTNO PRI LITIJI	47	1	1	0	0	0
TOTAL FOR THE REGION	5.516	1.608	1.100	2.017	127	74
TOTAL FOR SLOVENIA	21.622	2.981	2.111	3.971	232	123

Source: Materials of the Society for the Development and Protection of Geoss

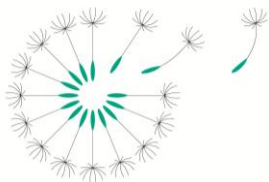
The most societies in the region are classified (see Figure 19) in the group of sports and recreation societies (1,918 or 34.77%), they are followed by scientific-research, educational, professional and vocational societies (806 or 14.61%), cultural and arts societies (769 or 13.94%) and societies providing assistance to people (648 or 11,75%).

Figure 19: NGOs in the Central Slovenia region in terms of type of organisation, number of organisations, revenues and number of employees in 2012



n=number i=revenues e=employees

Source: Materials of the Society for the Development and Protection of Geoss



In addition to the organisational form, an important definition of NGOs is the one that considers the needs they address or their objectives, whereby the Central Slovenia region is somewhat specific. Almost all national NGOs involved in international and national projects are headquartered in Ljubljana. There are around 200 of these and they generate the great majority of all revenues and jobs in NGOs in the region. These NGOs also carry out many pilot projects in the territory of the CLJ or in the municipalities surrounding Ljubljana and therefore have an enormous direct impact on the place where their headquarters are located or on the region as a whole.

The total revenues of NGOs in 2012 in the Central Slovenia region amounted to EUR 438.57 million or 1.24% of GDP (EUR 35.3 billion). Societies in the region generated 59.80% (EUR 262.27 million), private institutes generated 34.47% (EUR 151.21 million) and institutions generated 5.72% (EUR 25.09 million) of the total NGO revenues in the region.

Potential for the Development of NGOs

Through their professionalism, innovation, creativity and proximity to direct users, NGOs are an important player in the formulation and implementation of sustainability-oriented public policies. Through their work involving the promotion of civil dialogue (i.e. dialogue between the decision-makers and NGOs), they contribute to the lowering of the democratic deficit and act as an important supporter of vulnerable target groups thus contributing to more transparent and effective functioning of the region and the country. The potential for the development of the activities of NGOs lies in their complementarity of the public sector when performing public services, the development of new/innovative services and the development of social innovations.

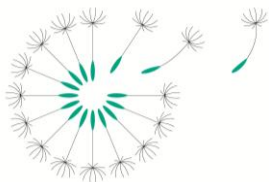
4.17. Region's Position in the International Arena

Analysis of the Position of the Region in the International Environment

Despite the region not being in physical contact with the state border, its political, economic, scientific, cultural, institutional and other connections mean it enjoys wide-ranging international cooperation.

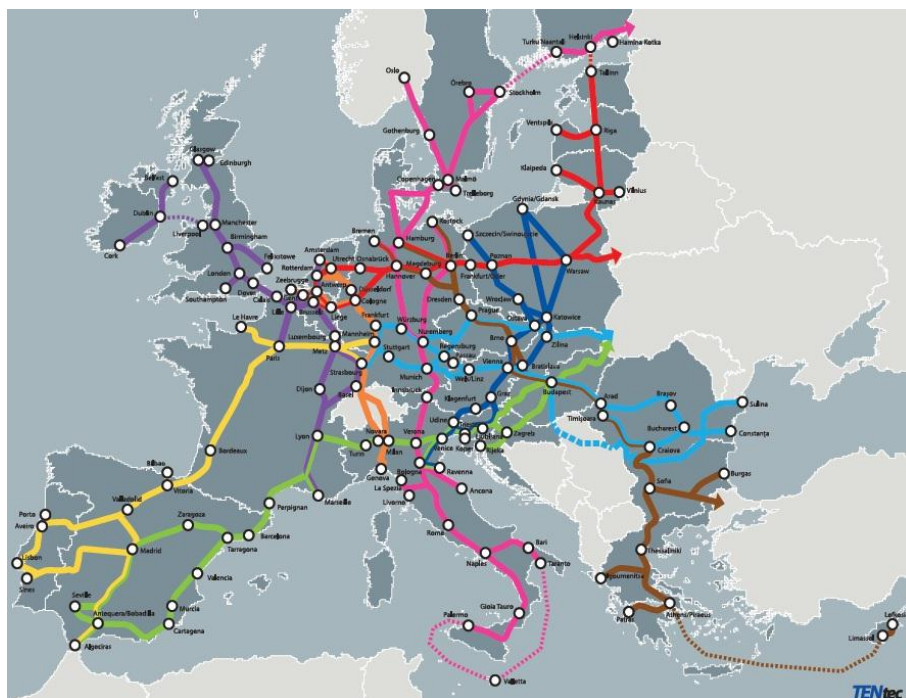
The Slovenian capital, Ljubljana, is an important centre of regional and national importance. The relatively easily accessible Jože Pučnik Ljubljana international airport is located in the vicinity of the Ljubljana urban region and its capital and it serves as an important link between the region and the country with other international centres.

The region is otherwise closely knit into the European infrastructural corridors (see Figure 20) and thereby into the European transport and economic flows as it is located at the crossroads of the so-called Baltic-Adriatic corridor (dark blue) and Mediterranean corridor (bright green).



The region, therefore, has as many as two out of the nine European corridors that the EU has identified as the 'infrastructural backbone' of development in the 2014–2020 period.

Figure 20: New European infrastructural corridors for the 2014–2020 period



Source: European Commission, 2013b.

The region is also home to the internationally recognised University of Ljubljana that attracts numerous foreign students. The Ljubljana urban region is also the headquarters for all foreign embassies in the Republic of Slovenia as well as numerous foreign consulates. The fact that the region is recognised around Europe is also corroborated by the fact that the EU has located the headquarters of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators in Ljubljana.

Potential for the Improvement of the Region's Status on the International Stage

Slovenia's strategic position and its integration in European transport and economic flows represent an outstanding development potential for the entire country, especially for the Ljubljana urban region that is home to the city of Ljubljana, the country's economic, administrative and cultural centre. A precondition for realising this potential is a suitable transport infrastructure. The revitalisation of the railway network will increase the region's economic competitiveness.

Other important opportunities for the Ljubljana urban region are international cooperation programmes and projects. Over the 2014–2020 programming period, Slovenia will have participated in 13 European territorial cooperation programmes, i.e.:

- 4 cross-border: Slovenia–Italy, Slovenia–Hungary, Slovenia–Croatia, Slovenia–Austria;



- 5 transnational: Alpine region, Central Europe, Adriatic-Ionic macro-regional strategy, Mediterranean and Danube River Basin region; and
- 4 inter-regional: INTERREG VC, INTERACT, ESPON and URBACT.

Over the 2014–2020 period, the region will strive to enhance cooperation with the regions of other European countries, both on the bilateral level and the level of integration in international associations and organisations. The region wishes to be more actively integrated in international events and to establish closer political, economic, cultural and other ties with foreign counterparts.



5. Analysis of RDP 2007–2013 Implementation

5.1. Set Objectives

The vision outlined in the Regional Development Programme of the Ljubljana Urban Region for the 2007–2013 Period was for the Ljubljana urban region to be a conurbation intertwined with nature. By promoting creativity and cooperation, the region was supposed to achieve a high level of competitiveness in the world as well as a high quality of life. The position of Ljubljana as a 'European capital' is supposed to be reflected throughout the entire region.

The following were set as priority objectives of the Ljubljana urban region in the 2007–2013 period:

- a functioning conurbation;
- creative people and successful companies; and
- region with a European capital where the quality of life is the highest in Europe.

The key measures of the LUR RDP 2007–2013 were:

- accessibility for the quality of life;
- preserved heritage;
- planning for the assurance of a quality living environment;
- efficient public utility services;
- equal opportunities for the region's competitiveness or as a contribution for said competitiveness;
- culture as a competitive advantage of the region;
- e-government; and
- support environment for entrepreneurship.

The Regional Development Programme of the Ljubljana Urban Region for the 2007–2013 Period envisaged measures worth a total of EUR 836,194,055 (see Table 7), whereby the distinct priority was accessibility for the quality of life, which was allocated more than 63% of all funds (see Figure 21). Accessibility and development of public passenger transport were recognised as a key priority of the Ljubljana urban region in the previous period as it was found that it can have the most important impact on the quality of living in the region and can strengthen the region's competitiveness in the international environment. As the home of Slovenia's capital and the economically most dynamic environment in the country, the Ljubljana urban region must first and foremost provide an environment that enables the further development of the economy and is attractive for investors whereby the sustainable form of mobility positively affects the level of preservation and quality of the natural environment and good connections within the region as well as connections with other regions. The measure that was second in terms of the amount of investment was efficient public utilities services comprising mainly investment by local communities into the construction of water distribution systems, public sewerage systems and efficient waste management. Nearly 23% of all funds



were allocated to the efficient public utility services measure. The planning for the assurance of a quality living environment measure received 8% of all investment funds and included measures associated with the development of urban areas, protection of resources as well as cycling paths and waterways, all of which were tied together through smart planning. Other envisaged measures were smaller in terms of investment, but were nevertheless as important as the former.

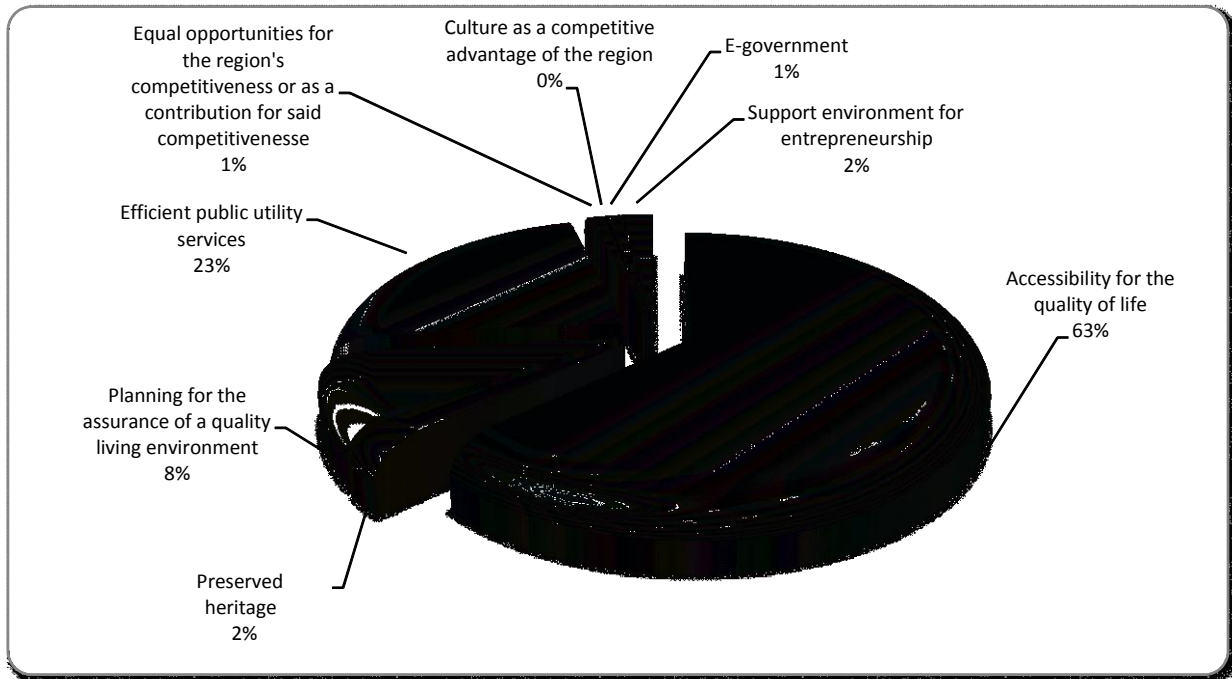
Table 7: Financial framework of RDP 2007–2013

Measure:	Total value of the programme in EUR
Accessibility for the quality of life	528,296,612
Preserved heritage	18,522,318
Planning for the assurance of a quality living environment	66,782,236
Efficient public utility services	188,788,683
Equal opportunities for the region's competitiveness or as a contribution for said competitiveness	7,181,606
Culture as a competitive advantage of the region	2,449,508
E-government	6,874,979
Support environment for entrepreneurship	17,298,114
TOTAL	836,194,055

Source: Own presentation.



Figure 21: Shares of envisaged investments by measures in the 2007–2013 period



Source: Own presentation.

5.2. Realised Activities

The 2007–2013 programming period was strongly marked by the financial crisis that began in this period and significantly changed the hierarchy of priorities. The recession, meltdown of the construction industry, closure of numerous companies and increase in unemployment at the end of the financial perspective warranted a stronger emphasis on measures aimed at stimulating the economy. The contraction of economic activity also importantly limited the available funds from private investors which meant that the public-private partnership model did not work for key investments.

If we take a look at the funds granted from the Cohesion Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund, eligible person in the Ljubljana urban region had the following funds at their disposal in the 2007–2013 period according to the currently available data:

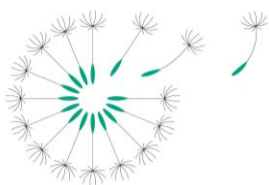


Table 8: Funds granted to the Ljubljana urban region by field, CF, ERDF, ESF

Area/fund	Share
CF	
Energy	18%
Environment	78%
Transport	4%
ESF	
Education	40%
NGOs and social partners	7%
Entrepreneurship	36%
Social inclusion	10%
Scholarships	7%
Employment	1%
ERDF	
Economic-development infrastructure	33%
Company competitiveness and research excellence	46%
Linking up of natural and cultural potentials	12%
Transport	6%
Development of regions	4%

Source: www.eu-skladi.si, 12 March 2015.

The main source for the financing of investments envisaged under the Regional Development Programme in the 2007–2013 Period were funds from the budgets of municipalities, European funds and the funds from the national budget.

The analysis of the funds obtained and the overall analysis of the implementation of the RDP 2007–2013 were performed based on the analysis of the persons eligible for European and national funds in the Ljubljana urban region, for which we acquired data from the www.eu-skladi.si website.

From 2008 to April 2013, well over EUR 679 million of EU funds were granted to eligible persons in the Central Slovenia region, which represented 79% of the funds used for the operations carried out. The most funds in the region (44%) were granted within the scope of the ERDF, 29% within the scope of the ESF and 27% within the scope of the CF.

The LUR saw most of the funds go into the area of the environment (23% of the funds), company competitiveness (22%) and education (20%). The least funds were granted in the areas of social inclusion, scholarships, NGOs, social partners and the development of regions (see Table 9).

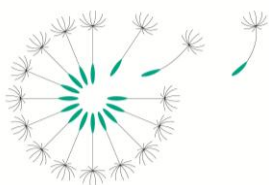


Table 9: Funds granted to the Ljubljana urban region by field, ERDF – Development of regions

AREA:	(Funds granted)	Share
Environment	202,463,606	23%
Company competitiveness and research excellence	187,795,892	22%
Education	171,291,461	20%
Economic-development infrastructure	112,264,038	13%
Entrepreneurship	49,871,184	6%
Linking up of natural and cultural potentials	40,136,411	5%
Transport	29,896,493	3%
Energy	27,349,750	3%
Social inclusion	12,047,079	1%
Scholarships	10,711,069	1%
NGOs and social partners	9,947,584	1%
Development of regions	9,787,797	1%
TOTAL	863,562,364	100%

Source: Own presentation.

Owing to the highly limited investment funds in the budgets of local communities, European funds managed by individual ministries became the main source of financing for the operations. Regions also had to compete for the funds from the 'Regional Development Programmes' priority orientation within the scope of the Operational Programme for the Strengthening of Regional Development Potentials for the 2007–2013 Period, which they did in public calls for tenders, the conditions and contents of which were drawn up by ministries and which were not harmonised with the guidelines of individual regional development programmes. The harmonised public calls for tenders for the territory of the whole of the Republic of Slovenia thus did not take into consideration the local specifics and the priorities set within regional development programmes. The Ljubljana urban region was additionally limited in terms of access to EU funds on account of the so-called development risk index (hereinafter: DRI), which established extensive disproportionate differences between regions in terms of the assumed level of development of individual regions and placed the Ljubljana urban region in a distinctly underprivileged position in terms of opportunities to access the mentioned funds (see Table 10). DRI was the main criterion for inter-regional allocation of funds intended for the development of regions and was also used for the allocation of certain other European funds that are otherwise not directly linked to the level of development of regions (e.g. subsidies to enterprises or agriculture).



Table 10: Funds available for the 'Regional Development Programmes' priority axis within the scope of the Operational Programme for Strengthening of Regional Development Potentials for 2007–2013 – 'Development of Regions' developmental priority for individual development regions (in EUR)

Region	Number of residents	2007–2013	Share	EUR per capita
Goriška	119,541	40,282,629	6.88	336.98
Gorenjska	198,713	59,319,058	10.13	298.52
Obalno-kraška	105,313	31,181,467	5.32	296.08
Central Slovenia	498,378	15,657,194	2.67	31.42
Pomurska	122,483	70,194,294	11.98	573.09
Notranjsko-kraška	51,132	23,328,479	3.98	456.24
Podravska	319,282	133,998,779	22.87	419.69
Spodnjeposavska	69,940	29,352,452	5.01	419.68
Zasavska	45,468	18,598,385	3.17	409.04
Koroška	73,905	27,595,505	4.71	373.39
JV Slovenia	139,434	50,928,355	8.69	365.25
Savinjska	257,525	85,401,555	14.58	331.62
TOTAL	2,001,114	585,838,152	100	292.76

Source: Government Office for Local Self-Government and regional Policy, 2006.

Based on public calls for tenders, the regions prepared 3-year implementation plans for the Regional Development Programme for the 2007–2013 Period, in which they precisely defined the lists of priority projects that complied with the terms of reference of said public calls for tenders and which then had to be confirmed by the competent ministries. Over a seven year period, seven public calls were prepared for the submission of projects intended for the development of regions and just as many implementation plans for them were drafted as well (see Table 11). As there were still untapped funds available, the 8th public call was realised and will be implemented within the scope of the new financial perspective for the 2014–2015 period.

Table 11: Overview of successful operations carried out under the 'Development of Regions in the 2007–2013 Period' priority

Public call for tenders	No.	Title of operation	Operation operator	Project value in EUR	Funds granted in EUR
1st RDP public call for tenders (26 June 2007)	1	Škofljica commercial and craft park - phase II	Škofljica Municipality	5,040,501.00	244,000.00
	2	Reconstruction of the 213070 Jevnica - Kresniške poljane local road	Litija Municipality	1,053,393.00	198,000.00
	3	Reconstruction of the individual sections of the water distribution network	Vrhnika Municipality	629,417.00	300,000.00
	4	Expert groundwork for the arrangement of public transport in the region	RRA LUR	685,000.00	440,000.00
	5	Expert groundwork for the preparation of the regional spatial	RRA LUR	425,000.00	360,000.00



Public call for tenders	No.	Title of operation	Operation operator	Project value in EUR	Funds granted in EUR
		plan			
	6	We Are Knocking on the Doors of Heritage	Dol pri Ljubljani Municipality	376,647.00	300,000.00
	7	Arrangement of mobility to the Zdravilni gaj Tunjice holistic healthcare centre	Kamnik Municipality	548,702.00	200,000.00
				Total:	8,758,660.00
2nd RDP public call for tenders (12 November 2007)	8	Construction of a waste water sewerage system	Lukovica Municipality	824,167.00	150,000.00
	9	Discharge of household water and rainwater from the territory of the Vodice community	Vodice Municipality	508,333.00	120,000.00
	10	Reconstruction and construction of the Gasilska cesta road	Grosuplje Municipality	570,644.00	150,000.00
	11	Liberga - Preska nad Kostrevnico - Ježni vrh water distribution system	Šmartno pri Litiji Municipality	541,667.00	140,000.00
			Total:	2,444,811.00	560,000.00
3rd RDP public call for tenders (15 May 2008)	12	Construction of the B31 local connecting road	Kamnik Municipality	4,200,000.00	500,000.00
	13	Construction of the Mrtvaški most bridge across the Ljubljanica River	City of Ljubljana	4,200,000.00	950,000.00
	14	Reconstruction of the water distribution system in Zaboršt and Zajelše	Dol pri Ljubljani Municipality	884,736.60	120,000.00
	15	Ribče water distribution system	Litija Municipality	1,833,333.00	150,000.00
			Total:	11,118,069.60	1,720,000.00
4th RDP public call for tenders (15 September 2008)	16	Center urbanih kultur (urban culture centre)	City of Ljubljana	2,300,000.00	800,000.00
	17	Sewerage system for Prešernova cesta and Topole	Mengeš Municipality	749,725.00	200,000.00
	18	Rakitna sewerage system – phase I	Brezovica Municipality	738,863.00	297,000.00
			Total:	3,788,588.00	1,297,000.00
5th RDP public call for tenders (29 January 2010)	19	Portal neprometnih vsebin (Traffic-Free Content Portal)	RRA LUR	515,000.00	389,364.00
	20	Expert groundwork for the navigability of the Ljubljanica River	RRA LUR	170,000.00	120,700.00
	21	Network of P+R car parks in the LUR	RRA LUR	1,046,337.00	742,899.00
	22	Emona archaeological park - Emona promenade	City of Ljubljana	941,200.00	800,000.00
	23	Recreation and education by the Sava River	City of Ljubljana	995,000.00	650,000.00
	24	Ihan sewerage system	Domžale Municipality	887,231.00	360,000.00
	25	Household sewerage system and the Rovte lagoon waste water treatment plant	Logatec Municipality	1,535,820.00	320,000.00
26	Promotion of the Heart of Slovenia tourism area	Kamnik Tourism and Entrepreneurship Development Agency	328,852.00	240,834.00	
			Total:	6,419,440.00	3,623,797.00
6th RDP public call	27	Ponikve sewerage system: phase I, stage 2	Dobrepolje Municipality	859,664.92	104,323.75



Public call for tenders	No.	Title of operation	Operation operator	Project value in EUR	Funds granted in EUR
for tenders (11 May 2012)	28	Construction of the Praproče - Zalog water distribution system	Dobrova-Polhov Gradec Municipality	752,126.86	198,911.55
	29	Kamniška Bistrica as the region's green axis: Strengthening of the regional importance of the area of the Kamniška Bistrica River with tributaries	Domžale Municipality	716,684.00	371,540.45
	30	Sewerage system in Podgorica pri Šmarju and Paradišče	Grosuplje Municipality	991,461.53	244,173.01
	31	Drinking water supply for Suha krajina - (Kuželjevec-Korinj water distribution system)	Ivančna Gorica Municipality	1,093,000.00	422,941.47
	32	Overhaul of the water distribution network in the area of the Pirniče and Medvode agglomeration	Medvode Municipality	846,871.02	371,927.67
	33	Sava, the river that connects	City of Ljubljana	890,000.00	630,416.70
	34	Regional Centre for Creative Economies	RRA LUR	432,666.15	329,281.80
	35	Construction of the Rašica sewerage system and waste water treatment plant	Velike Lašče Municipality	615,000.00	126,454.36
	36	Cultural centre with a library	Vrhnika Municipality	2,018,000.00	457,409.70
			Total:	9,215,474.48	3,257,380.46
7th RDP public call for tenders (26 July 2013)	37	Trg republike	City of Ljubljana	3,110,000.00	1,220,684.01
	38	Peče sewerage system, phase I	Moravče Municipality	616,748.80	96,849.70
				Total:	3,726,748.80
8h RDP public call for tenders (18 April 2014)	39	Zagradec subsidiary school and kindergarten	Ivančna Gorica Municipality	5,248,346.49	594,565.92
	40	Water distribution system – Dobje - VH - Dole pri Polici	Grosuplje Municipality	631,431.28	512,975.58
	41	Newly constructed kindergarten in Zgornje Pirniče	Medvode Municipality	2,019,225.07	734,103.91
	42	Ljubljana for green mobility - arrangement of the river banks of Gruberjev kanal with the construction of wharfs	City of Ljubljana	3,198,980.23	2,228,797.71
	43	Cankarjev dom cultural and congress centre	Vrhnika Municipality	957,351.84	767,099.50
			Total:	12,055,334.91	4,837,542.62
Total for all public calls for tenders in the 2007–2013 period:				57,527,126.79	18,655,253.79

Source: RRA LUR, November 2014.

The 2007–2013 financial perspective has still not been completed which means that the data from the analysis of the use of funds in the previous financial period are not yet complete and final. There are, therefore, still many projects that are awaiting the approval of EU funds or which have already had the funds approved and are in different stages of realisation and reporting, which is why the situation can change significantly by the end of the financial perspective. The chapter will therefore be revised in view of the above. The remaining information on the drawing of funds available upon the drafting of the final version of the RDP will be added.



6. SWOT Analysis

Based on the analysis of the state-of-affairs in the region, the review of the studies carried out and the analyses for the Ljubljana urban region as well as based on the analysis of questionnaires completed by municipalities, a SWOT analysis (*strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats*) was carried out, which represents the framework for the formulation of strategic objectives and priorities in the new programming period.

The preparation of the SWOT analysis included several activities. Workshops and expert discussion were held with the relevant stakeholders. Special contacts were established with the municipalities of the LUR so as to carry out consultation on all four elements of the SWOT analysis. The municipalities of the LUR were sent a questionnaire inviting them to indicate their respective key development potentials, obstacles to development and their vision. They had to list their comparative advantages – i.e. the specialisation of the municipality, what the municipality can offer so as to attract foreign investors, a list of business locations in the municipality in terms of the different types of investments, industries that represent an important development potential in the municipality and the most important companies that affect the development in the municipality.

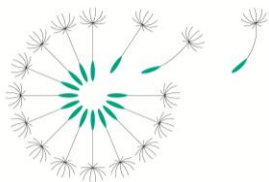
The key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats are summarised in Figure 22.

Figure 22: Key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the region



Source: Own presentation.

Detailed descriptions of each of the key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats are provided below.



6.1. Strengths

Quality living environment:

- closely knit urban and natural environments;
- preservation of the natural environment with a high share of protected areas;
- quality drinking water;
- rich cultural heritage;
- variety of the cultural offer.

Favourable position:

- central position in the country, good road connections and developed infrastructure;
- the capital of the Republic of Slovenia is located in the region;
- good road connections with neighbouring regions in the country and with European macroregions.

Favourable demographic characteristics:

- relatively stable natural increase of the population;
- immigration to the region from abroad and from other regions;
- relatively high education level of the population;
- qualified labour force.

Concentration of research and public institutions and NGOs:

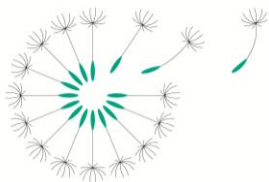
- concentration of research institutions and the largest university in Slovenia;
- concentration of public sector institutions in the region with the consequent jobs for a highly educated labour force;
- the Ljubljana Technology Park that enables concentration and the linking up of entrepreneurship, knowledge and development;
- better developed non-governmental sector.

Developed economy:

- high share of foreign direct investment when compared to the rest of Slovenia;
- presence of large corporations – including those involved in processing activities;
- numerous business parks and economic zones;
- concentration of creative industries in Ljubljana.

Great potential of farming and forested areas:

- high share of farming and forested areas;
- possibility of using local renewable energy sources.



6.2. Weaknesses

Inefficient spatial and transport planning:

- weak sense of belonging to the region and the development visions of the region and the country;
- increasing numbers of commuters in the region;
- pressure to urbanise the countryside, depopulation of city centres, changes in the settlement pattern;
- unsatisfactory PPT, inadequate integration between individual PPT systems and with other systems (human settlement, public infrastructure, services and the economy);
- weak urban policies and absence of urban regeneration;
- development of municipal utility and social infrastructure lagging behind the development of the population;
- large differences in the level of development between the municipalities in the region.

Too low energy efficiency:

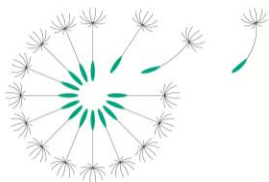
- energy wastefulness of buildings;
- high energy consumption in the area of transport;
- wastefulness of production processes and services;
- low level of awareness on the issue of energy efficiency and potential solutions.

Inadequate cooperation and ties between different sectors:

- poor export competitiveness of business services;
- lack of entrepreneurial and innovation culture;
- lack of managerial and marketing knowledge in small and medium-sized enterprises (hereinafter: SMEs);
- lack of ties between education and research institutions and the economy;
- disconnect between the agricultural and tourist offer;
- lack of ties between individual industries;
- support environment services are frequently insufficiently developed and do not meet the needs of the economy (including on account of the lack of ties between support institutions);
- underutilisation of the potential of NGOs.

Underutilised potentials in the countryside:

- underutilised potentials of forests and nature protection areas;
- underutilised tourism potentials;
- absence of strong tourism services providers for whom tourism is the main source of income;
- weak promotion of the existing tourist offer.



Inflexible education system:

- the education system does not respond to needs;
- high share of unemployed people with tertiary education;
- non-market orientation of the research carried out by large public research/educational institutions.

6.3. Opportunities

More efficient spatial and regional planning:

- targeted promotion of regional development at the country level;
- transfer of foreign good practices on the local level;
- more efficient public management on the state level;
- formulation of the region's own development concept.

More extensive inter-sectorial networking:

- strengthened ties between the economy and other sectors (public sector, NGO sector, etc.);
- development of new specialised hubs of scientific-research institutions and educational institutions with a distinct connection to the local economy;
- promotion of science communication.

Promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship:

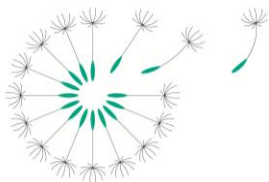
- development of entrepreneurship;
- attracting and retaining creative and highly educated individuals;
- promotion of innovation in areas, in which the region exhibits comparative advantages;
- raising the quality of medical knowledge and healthcare services;
- development of a logistical platform and more efficient supply of the regional economy with logistics services.

Introduction of green technologies:

- possibility of transitioning to a more sustainable form of transportation on account of the changed travelling habits and the rise in fuel prices;
- energy savings through various measures and public awareness building in regard to the potential of local renewable energy sources;
- exploitation of hydroelectric power and biomass.

Development of tourism and organic farming:

- development of tourism and establishment of links between tourism and other sectors such as culture, sports, agriculture and the economy;
- arranged cycling paths, hiking and other themed trails;



- boom in organic farming resulting from the increased awareness of the importance of healthy food and the supplementary tourism activities on farms (development and marketing of a sustainable offer);
- sustainable food production and food supply security;
- revitalisation and expansion of agricultural production for the market using innovative technologies;
- renovation and revitalisation of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge and skills;
- acceleration of knowledge and innovation sharing in agriculture, forestry and rural areas.

Increase in the quality of living in the region:

- intergenerational cooperation and raising of an individual's social capital;
- incentivising renovation instead of new construction in urban centres;
- strengthening of cultural and creative industries and products;
- promotion of a healthy lifestyle;
- promotion of the use of public transport;
- quality supply of drinking water and the preservation of the natural environment;
- prudent planning and management of the spatial potential.

6.4. Threats

Changing demographics:

- curbing immigration – especially from abroad;
- emigration (especially of educated young people) on account of unfavourable employment conditions.

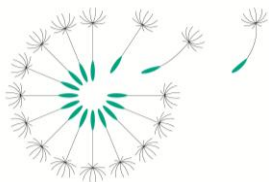
Unsuitable spatial development:

- further suburbanisation resulting from an unsuitable transport policy and ineffective spatial planning policy at the national level;
- absence of a national housing policy;
- lack of support mechanisms for the urban revitalisation at the national level.

Risk to agricultural production:

- lack of national consensus on the importance of food and self-supply;
- loss of farmland on account of urbanisation resulting from an ineffective spatial planning policy at the national level;
- non-adjustment of agriculture to changed climatic conditions;
- increasing damage brought on by unsuitable use and rehabilitation of flood risk areas.

Frequent changes to policies on various levels and instability of the legal environment:



- overly frequent changes to the policies for the promotion of development on various levels (EU, the state and municipalities);
- reduction in EU funds (cohesion policy);
- proportionally greater effect of the extensive contraction of the public sector in the country on the Central Slovenia region;
- failure to establish ties between sectors for the resolution of local problems.

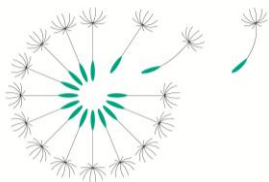
Too slow response by research institutions and the economy:

- slow response of research institutions/departments at companies to the arrival of new technological and research sub-fields within broader fields, such as nanotechnologies, biotechnologies and environmental technologies.

Environmental pollution and natural disasters:

- transit corridors represent a burden on the environment and infrastructure;
- increase in the frequency of natural disasters (floods, earthquakes, flash floods and drought);
- groundwater pollution;
- failure to implement environmental projects and the resulting failure to meet the objectives of the Operational Programme. This aspect also includes the risk of a lag in accessing EU funds. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia³ estimates: "/.../ that this could cause EUR 300 million worth of damage as Slovenia will not have access to an advance payment of at least this amount by the end of the year if the partnership agreement and operational programme are not signed by the end of March 2014." They also forecast a one-year lag in the access to EU funds on account of the above.

³ Source: Delo: Ministry: *Slovenija s pripravami dokumentov za črpanje ne zamuja (Slovenia is not late in drafting documents for drawing on EU funds)*; 10 January 2014



7. Vision for the Development of the Region

The vision of the Ljubljana urban region in the 2014–2020 period is:

GREEN ENGINE OF DEVELOPMENT METROPOLITAN BIOREGION OF KNOWLEDGE

The Ljubljana urban region is the Slovenian region with the most knowledge and creative potential as this is where the key national, scientific, research, educational and cultural institutions are concentrated. Owing to the large number of companies and jobs, the region generates more than a third of the Slovenian GDP, meaning that it is also the most economically developed region in the country.

Based on the realisation of development potentials, the Ljubljana urban region **will maintain and strengthen its role of the principal driver of economic development on the national level**. It will develop human potential and promote interdisciplinary cooperation and transfer of knowledge. It will create conditions conducive to economic development and promote entrepreneurship thus retaining and attracting a highly qualified labour force and investors. By establishing international ties and strengthening its role of a European metropolis, it will also become competitive on the international stage.

The Ljubljana urban region is distinguished by its preserved and easily accessible natural environment, high level of biotic diversity and a variegated natural landscape. It is unique among the European metropolitan regions on account of the vicinity of quality areas of nature and the intertwinement of the developed and natural environments.

When performing its activities, the region will strive to **build a positive and sustainable relationship with the environment that will rank it as a bioregion both in Slovenia and on the international stage**. Acting in harmony with the natural environment, it will handle its natural resources prudently and strengthen the development of the green economy and green jobs – also with the help of modern green technologies. Through sustainable and inclusive development, the region will offer its inhabitants a high standard of living.



8. Region's Development Specialisation

The Ljubljana urban region will build sustainable development on knowledge, innovation, creativity and the synergy between all important players and sectors. It will devote special attention to **economic development** that will be coordinated so as to take account of the available environmental capabilities. It will strive to boost the competitiveness of the region through the appropriate overhaul and development of transport, environmental, ICT and social infrastructure.

The overhaul of transport infrastructure with a view to **sustainable mobility** will importantly improve economic flows and reduce environmental burdens. It will additionally provide for a **healthy and high-quality living environment** through the active protection of natural features, appropriate planning of open spaces, renovation of the existing housing stock and settlements, as well as sustainable self-sufficient supply.



9. Region's Development Objectives

The development objectives of the region listed below were defined based on the SWOT analysis and the definition of the development specialisation:

1. Efficiently internally connected region

Institutions in the region will be efficiently linked up so as to ensure comprehensive and coordinated development of the region as well as its coordinated management using appropriate techniques and forms of partnership cooperation as well as modern technologies. The key stakeholders in the region will co-create different regional ties that will steer sustainable development initiatives.

2. Region that uses space, natural resources and energy prudently.

The region will use its resources carefully and prudently. In order to ensure sustainable development, it will treat space as a limited commodity and will develop and promote spatial planning on the regional level. It will only use as much resources as are urgently required for successful and comprehensive development and the combination of resources that ensure the greatest substantive effectiveness. It will strive to reduce dependence on foreign resources and act in accordance with the principles of a bioregion.

3. Region that promotes the development of knowledge, creativity and innovation.

The region will focus on the promotion of knowledge, creativity and innovation as the v Ljubljana urban region has the highest concentration of scientific, research, educational and cultural institutions, highly educated individuals and numerous companies that represent the potential for innovation and development. All players will be incentivised to establish ties as well as share and use knowledge for the long-term transformation of the economy and the resulting sustainable development of the region. Activities will be geared towards the creation of innovative processes, products and services with high added value.

4. Recognisable and competitive metropolitan region

The region will take advantage of its comparative advantages as the only metropolitan region in the country with the capital city. It will strengthen its competitiveness and recognisability of a generator of sustainable development and a bioregion of knowledge, which it will achieve through its activities and the establishment of ties on the national and international levels (inter-regional and cross-border ties, ties with the countries and regions in the Balkans, the EU and globally).

5. Region that provides high-quality jobs.

The region will encourage the preservation and creation of new high-quality creative jobs that are based on sustainable development, knowledge and creativity. It will also promote digital jobs in all fields.



RRA LUR

regionalna razvojna agencija
ljubljske urbane regije

6. Region that provides high-quality of living.

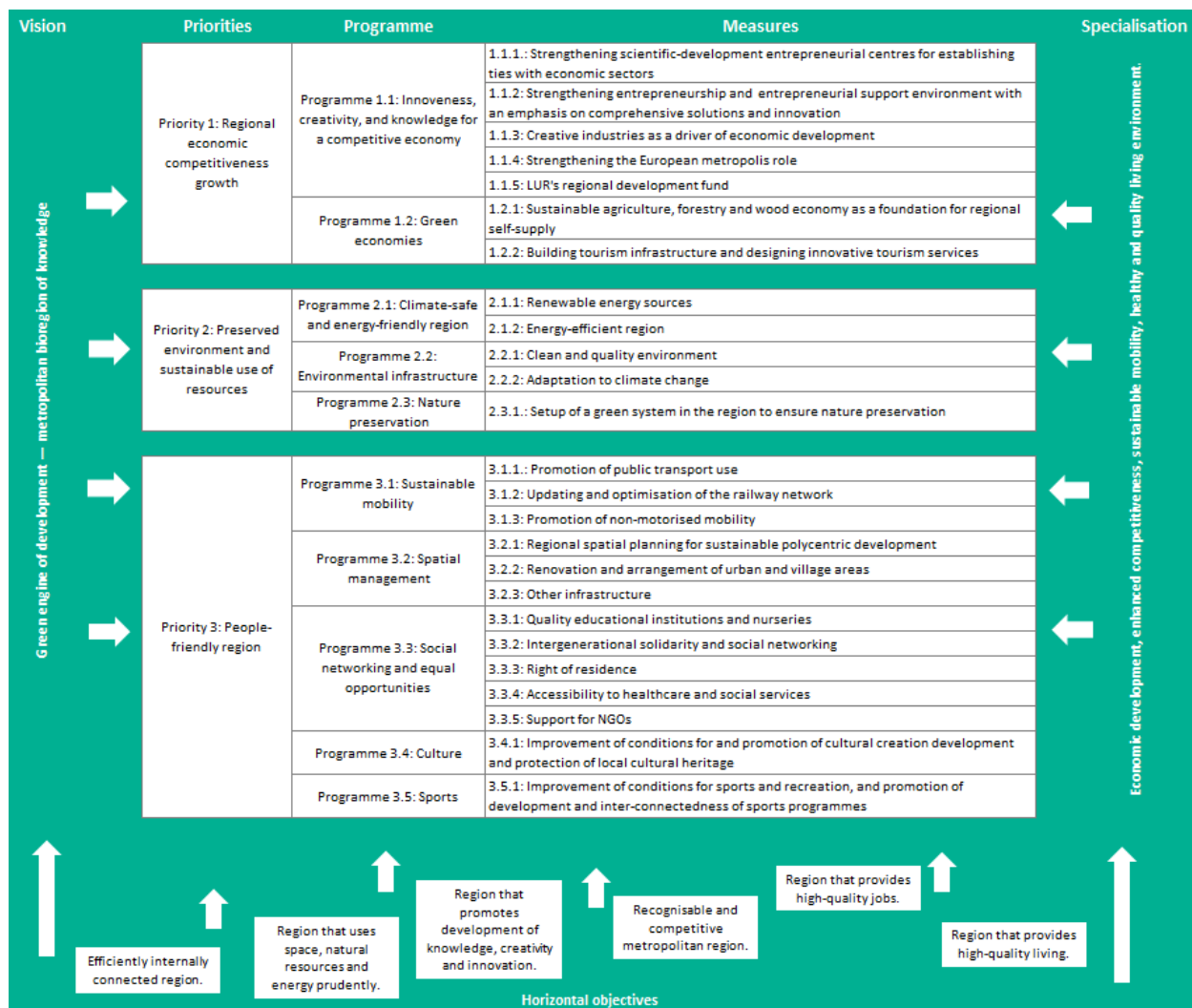
The region will ensure a high quality of living for individuals and the entire society through smart, prudent and inclusive management, which it will do by monitoring different types of indicators: economic, social, spatial and environmental. The region will thus represent a friendly, accessible and well-connected environment to live and work in and will also be an attractive tourist destination.



10. Region's Development Priorities, Programmes and Measures within Individual Programmes

In response to the analysis of the state-of-affairs and development potentials, three development priorities have been formulated that are the basis for programmes and measures (see Figure 23). For reasons of transparency, priorities, programmes and measures below are numbered. We would stress that the consecutive numbering does not imply higher or lower importance of an individual priority: all priorities are equal.

Figure 23: Interconnectedness of the vision, objectives, development specialisation, priorities, programmes and measures



Source: Own presentation.

Each priority and measure has **indicators** defined as is evident from Table 12 below:



Table 12: Indicators on the priority and measure levels

Priorities	Indicators, priorities	Programme	Measures	Indicators for the measure	
Priority 1: Regional Economic competitiveness growth	GDP per capita in the region (in EUR)	Programme 1.1: Innovation, creativity and knowledge for a competitive economy	Measure 1.1.1.: Strengthening of scientific-development entrepreneurial centres for establishment ties with economic sector	Number of newly created companies without a predecessor – expert, scientific and technical activities and other varied commercial activities Percentage of researchers in the region	
			Measure 1.1.2: Strengthening entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial support environment with an emphasis on comprehensive solutions and innovation	Number of fast and moderately growing companies in terms of the number of employees (with 10 and more employees) – expert, scientific and technical activities as well as other varied commercial activities Share of persons working in newly created companies (%) GDP per capita (in EUR) Registered unemployed in terms of the level of education – people with post-secondary and higher education (%)	
			Measure 1.1.3: Creative industries as the driver of economic development	Employees at the level of the region – in ICT activities Employees at the level of the region – in expert, scientific, technical and other commercial activities	
			Measure 1.1.4: Strengthening of the European metropolis role	Number of implemented projects	
			Measure 1.1.5: LUR's regional development fund	Number of implemented projects	
		Programme 1.2: Green economies	Measure 1.2.1: Sustainable agriculture, forestry and wood economy as the foundation for regional self-supply	The share of farmland in use is with respect to the entire region (%)	
				The share of the area of crop fields with respect to the farmland in use (%)	
				Employees in agriculture, forestry and fisheries	
				Number of agricultural holdings	
				Agricultural holdings that sells directly to consumers (number)	
				Agricultural holdings pursuing organic farming	
				Annual forest increment in Slovenian forests taking 2012 as the baseline year with the estimates produced with the use of the Ljubljana FMU FMP (m)	
				Quantities harvested in Slovenian forests taking 2010 as the baseline according to the GGA and ownership categories – Ljubljana FMU (m)	
				Measure 1.2.2: Building tourism infrastructure and innovative tourism services	Number of overnight stays
					Arrivals/number of guests
					Average period of stay in the region (days)
					Average daily spending in Ljubljana (in EUR)
					Number of projects in the area of quality development (increased quality of tourist services and products)
					Number of (direct) new jobs – resulting from the projects that received support
Number of new parks in the region – resulting from the projects that received support					
Number of new thematic trails (cycling trails) resulting from the projects that received support					



Table 12: Indicators on the priority and measure levels (*continued*)

Priority 2: Preserved environment and sustainable use of resources	Funds allocated to investments for environmental protection as a % of the regional GDP	Programme 2.1: Climate-safe and energy-friendly region	Measure 2.1.1: Renewable energy sources	Number of projects in the area of renewable energy sources
			Measure 2.1.2: Energy-efficient region	Number of projects in the area of energy efficiency
		Programme 2.2: Environmental infrastructure	Measure 2.2.1: Clean and quality environment	Length of the water distribution network (km)
				Water losses (%)
				Number of connections to the water distribution network
				Number of population that will benefit from improved and more secure drinking water supply
				Length of the sewerage network (km)
				Number of connections to the sewerage network
				Quantity of treated municipal waste water (m3)
				Separately collected municipal waste (% of total waste collected)
		Measure 2.2.2: Adaptation to climate change	Number of projects in the area of risk prevention	
		Programme 2.3: Nature preservation	Measure 2.3.1.: Setup of a green system in the region to ensure the preservation	Surface area of Natura 2000 areas in the Central Slovenia region
				Surface area of protected areas in the Central Slovenia region
				Number of implemented projects for the arrangement or renovation of open green areas in the region
Total area of newly acquired open green areas				
Number of projects for the achievement of an improved state of habitat preservation				
Number of projects for the protection of the existing level of biotic diversity				
Number of projects related to animal welfare				



Table 12 Indicators on the priority and measure levels (*continued*)

Priority 3: People-friendly region	Level of motorisation	Programme 3.1: Sustainable mobility	Measure 3.1.1.: Promotion of public transport use	Number of projects aimed at the promotion of the use of public transport
				Number of built P+R facilities
				Number of low-carbon PPT vehicles
	Net disposable income per capita (in EUR)	Programme 3.1: Sustainable mobility	Measure 3.1.2: Updating and optimisation of the railway network	Number of projects implemented in the area of the railway network
				Length of newly constructed railway lines (km)
				Length of modernised railway lines (km)
		Programme 3.2: Spatial management	Measure 3.1.3: Promotion of non-motorised mobility	Number of projects implemented in the area of non-motorised mobility
				Length of newly constructed cycling paths (km)
				Length of recreational trails established (km)
	Drawn up regional spatial plan	Programme 3.2: Spatial management	Measure 3.2.1: Regional spatial planning for sustainable polycentric development	Number of adopted instruments for the promotion of spatial planning at the level of the region
				Number of adopted regional strategic plans (in the LUR territory)
			Measure 3.2.2: Renovation and arrangement of urban and village areas	Number of implemented projects for the arrangement or renovation of urban and village areas
		Programme 3.3: Social networking and equal opportunities	Measure 3.2.3: Other infrastructure	Transport - kilometres by road category (total for public roads)
				Number of projects implemented
			Measure 3.3.1: Quality educational institutions and nurseries	Number of projects implemented for the assurance of quality educational institutions and nurseries
Measure 3.3.2: Intergenerational solidarity and social networking			Number of projects associated with the implementation of the social protection system	
			Number of projects implemented in the area of social networking	
Measure 3.3.3: Right of residence			Number of new buildings and equipment	
			Number of flats in the region	
			Number of vacant flats in the region	
			Number of projects implemented	
Number of built/renovated cultural and sports infrastructure buildings	Programme 3.3: Social networking and equal opportunities	Measure 3.3.4: Accessibility of healthcare and social services	Number of persons in care at social protection institutes	
			Number of projects for the assurance of improved accessibility to healthcare and social services	
		Measure 3.3.5: Support for NGOs	Number of projects implemented to support NGOs	
	Programme 3.4: Culture	Measure 3.4.1: Improvement of conditions and promotion of the development of cultural creation and the protection of the cultural heritage of the local environment	Number of projects implemented in the area of cultural heritage	
			Number of projects implemented for public cultural infrastructure	
Programme 3.5: Sports	Measure 3.5.1: Improvement of conditions for sports and recreation, and the promotion of development and inter-linking of sports programmes	New and renovated sports surfaces (m2)		
		Number of new and renovated sporting facilities and training areas		



10.1. Priority 1: Regional Economic Competitiveness Growth

The Ljubljana urban region is the most developed Slovenian statistical region in economic terms with the highest GDP per capita in the country. The region generates more than 36% of Slovenia's total GDP and is home to approximately one third of Slovenian companies.

The region will develop its role of a European metropolis through the creation of favourable conditions for the greater competitiveness of the economy which shall be achieved by two fundamental programmes: (1) promotion of innovation and creativity at companies and (2) development of economic activities deemed to represent green economies.

Promotion of innovation and creativity at companies is a comprehensive programme that is of key importance both on the regional and national levels. Owing to the concentration of creativity in the region, it is reasonable to promote this programme geographically in the Ljubljana urban region which has the most individuals with an innovative and creative potential and the highest concentration of creative industries.

Support and promotion of entrepreneurship relates to all forms of entrepreneurship: these range from social entrepreneurship to the entrepreneurship among the young and the highly educated unemployed labour force. Promotion of new business models is also envisaged as is the co-financing of company scholarships and the provision of favourable conditions for the acquisition of guarantees. The region will focus on the promotion of the internationalisation of companies and the strengthening of the role of Ljubljana as a European metropolis.

The second pillar of the promotion of competitiveness is represented by green economies. The emphasis will be on sustainable agriculture, the strategic Slovenian raw material – wood, promotion of modern, innovative tourist products with higher added value and other activities that will allow the Ljubljana urban region to be defined as a bioregion.

Both fundamental pillars will develop with the strong support from ICT. Rapid development of ICT and expansion of the possibility of its use in the economy and the society are the characteristics of an international economic environment that must be taken into account by every economic entity.

This priority has the following target groups: municipalities, company consortia, R&D organisations, consortia of companies and other public institutions (the University, institutes, etc.), companies, cooperatives, entities of the entrepreneurial support environment and regional development agencies.



The indicator for this priority is:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	GDP per capita in the region (in EUR)	24,170	2012	SORS

Taking into account the latest forecasts available from the bearers of public authority for macroeconomic analyses of the Republic of Slovenia, assumptions for the future and the measures planned in the region, it has been estimated that the GDP per capital in the region will be EUR 27,000 in 2020.

10.1.1. Programme 1.1: Innovation, Creativity and Knowledge for a Competitive Economy

The Ljubljana urban region has comparative and competitive advantages in the area of R&D – especially in the life sciences. The results of the research sector are not being converted nearly enough into the production of goods and services required to jump start economic growth and create jobs.

The region has a high concentration of people pursuing professions associated with creativity and innovation and possessing specialist knowledge which is one of the crucial advantages of the region. Even though individual creators are dispersed throughout the region relatively uniformly, creative companies are more concentrated in the CLJ and the Trzin Municipality. The objective of this priority is to promote the development of the economy, which is based on knowledge, creativity and innovation, to achieve higher added value of products and services as well as to promote the development of new jobs in this field at the level of the entire region.

Development based on knowledge, creativity and innovation will be promoted by the region through the establishment of ties between the research sphere and the economy (including creative industries), the use of new technologies and the creation of jobs as well as innovative products and services with high added value. In addition to the synergistic vertical networking, there is significant development potential in the horizontal networking between creative communities, which will additionally encourage the development of creative solutions and their realisation.

The development of new and the growth of existing SMEs will be ensured through adequate accessibility of financial resources, and we will simultaneously develop a suitable support environment on the level of the region that will be able to adapt to the specific needs of certain groups of companies and areas. We will also encourage the establishment of ties between companies and the research sphere. Special measures and programmes will be aimed at the development and strengthening of social entrepreneurship, and there will also be measures for the development of entrepreneurship in certain target groups (the young, women and groups at social risk).



Measure 1.1.1: Strengthening of scientific-development entrepreneurial centres for the establishment of ties with the economy

The purpose of scientific-development entrepreneurial hubs is the promotion of cooperation between science and the economy on the level of the new product and services development process. It is only through continuous cooperation between the two that it is possible to develop and exploit the market potential of scientific achievements with high added value. It is, therefore, necessary to focus on development that will be based on knowledge and new technologies, which is at the same time the region's comparative advantage as the region is home to the University and other important scientific-educational institutions and thus employs the most people from the field of R&D activities in Slovenia (SORS, 2013). Efficient transfer of knowledge and scientific findings into the economy through the establishment of new companies and the restructuring of existing ones can contribute significantly to the region's development. The objective of the programme is to utilise the substantive and spatial concentration of scientific-development entrepreneurial hubs to create new jobs with high added value and to position the region among the leading European regions in the fields of science and research in connection with the economy.

Indicators of the measure at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of newly created companies without a predecessor – expert, scientific and technical activities and other varied commercial activities	1,484	2010	SORS
2.	Percentage of researchers in the region (Slovenia = 100%)	62	2010	SORS

Measure 1.1.2: Strengthening of entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial support environment with an emphasis on comprehensive solutions and innovations

Micro enterprises and SMEs represent a great portion of the Slovenian economy (99.8%), which is why an environment must be created that will boost their growth and development as well as their global orientation. It is also necessary to develop new support mechanisms for the development of young entrepreneurial talent who will contribute to the economic development of the region through innovative start-ups. One of the key measures for the development of entrepreneurship is the transfer of knowledge between the different stakeholders and the



establishment of ties with different communities and institutions – including from the fields such as science and creative activities.

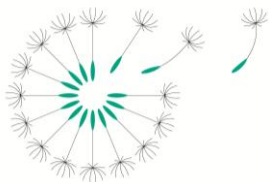
The development of new and the growth of existing SMEs will be ensured through adequate accessibility of financial resources and the implementation of the guarantee scheme, and we will simultaneously develop a suitable support environment on the level of the region that will be able to adapt to the specific needs of certain groups of companies and areas. We will also encourage the establishment of ties between companies and other important players (e.g. the research sphere) for the building of value chains and the increase in added value of finished products, all of which will in turn contribute to the improvement in the global competitiveness of the region. The implementation of the scholarship scheme will enable the establishment of a labour market equilibrium, i.e. through the linking up of the economy's needs and the educational sphere. Activities will also be aimed at the development and strengthening of social entrepreneurship, and there will also be measures for the development of entrepreneurship in certain target groups (the young and women). The Entrepreneurially into the Business World programme, for example, is intended for the promotion of entrepreneurship among the young unemployed persons with post-secondary or higher education and the incentivisation of the opening of new jobs.

Indicators of the measure at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of fast and moderately growing companies in terms of the number of employees (with 10 and more employees) – expert, scientific and technical activities as well as other varied commercial activities	43	2010	SORS
2.	Share of persons working in newly created companies (%)	2.2	2010	SORS
3.	GDP per capita (in EUR)	24,519	2010	SORS
4.	Registered unemployed in terms of the level of education – people with post-secondary and higher education (%)	15.6	2011	SORS

Measure 1.1.3: Creative industries as the driver of economic development

Creative industries (hereinafter: CI) are becoming increasingly recognised as one of the key activities and the source of economic development of cities and regions as well as an effective tool for the achievement of competitiveness on the global market. The Department for Culture,



Media and Sport (in the UK) has defined creative activities as activities that stem from individual creativity, skills and talent and which have the potential to create profit and jobs through the generation and exploitation of intellectual property. Creative industries include architecture, design, performing arts, the film and media industry, journalism, printing and publishing, museum stores, exhibitions, sale of cultural items, fine arts and antiquities market, software and computer games, and fashion design.

The programme will promote new forms of interdisciplinary establishment of ties between CI and other industries as well as the introduction of CI into the development processes of companies, the objective of which is the creation of added value of products and services that are attractive for the international market.

The SWOT analysis entitled 'Status of Creative Industries in Ljubljana' (Kavaš and Murovec, 2010) has shown that architecture stands out as the strongest subsector of CI with the longest tradition, while design has the most overlooked potential – not only as the subsector within CI but also as a means of restructuring the broader economic sector. In certain key documents of the European Commission, design as a subsector of creative activities is recognised as an important discipline and activity that can contribute to Europe's innovation capacity (European Commission, 2010). Innovations stemming from design are also recognised as the key factor for overcoming challenges of the third industrial revolution (European Commission, 2012). The working document of the departments of the European Commission entitled "Action Plan for Design-Driven Innovation" features areas of measure that focus on EU programme policies but also stresses: "that they have to be supplemented on the national and regional levels by equal measures for the promotion of the take-up of design into the innovation policy." (European Commission, 2013).

Under the current social conditions, it is necessary to also and mainly promote the development of non-technological innovation (this is emphasised by the documents of the European Commission). The systematic application of user-focused design can encourage innovation in the area of business models and is simultaneously important for overcoming complex systemic challenges – mainly in terms of the redesign of public institutions and strategic decision-making. It is necessary to prepare comprehensive support for design by applying systemic measures and thus creating an environment where design can play the crucial role as a discipline that is distinctly focused on problem-solving.

There is a certain emphasis within the scope of this measure on the search for new contents for the underutilised urban areas. CI as a new content can assume the role of the driver of urban regeneration, through which creative companies can obtain an affordable production space, which can provide them with faster specialisation and development in terms of entrepreneurship.



Indicators of the measure at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Employees at the level of the region – in ICT activities	14,929	2012	SORS
2.	Employees at the level of the region – in expert, scientific, technical and other commercial activities	45,198	2012	SORS

Measure 1.1.4: Strengthening of the European metropolis role

The Ljubljana urban region (and especially its capital Ljubljana) wishes to entrench its position of a European metropolis by the year 2020. Both the region and the capital will strive for more active involvement in international affairs and closer cooperation with foreign counterparts. Their activities will also be geared towards raising their international reputation and gaining recognition abroad.

Specific regional project will be designed for this purpose that will place Ljubljana and its surroundings on the European map. The focus will be on strategic projects, i.e. projects with a long-term vision for the city/region; such as a well-arranged transport infrastructure and connection to the international airport, arrangement of a logistics terminal, which will contribute to the closer integration of the city in European transport and economic flows. Projects will include contents that will present Ljubljana and its surroundings as a modern, successful and green European metropolis that is at the same time attractive as a "city for meetings" (Ljubljana Tourism, 2011). The intertwining of the creative urban milieu and the authentic countryside where niche tourism products make up the prevailing offer will transform the region into an important and competitive MICE destination. The region will also encourage projects aimed at the preservation of the local heritage and local specific features: this mainly includes larger projects in the area of culture such as the centre of pile-dweller culture, heritage woven into the city, aviation museum, construction of academies, etc.

Projects will be implemented through the use of the ITI mechanism as Ljubljana is one of 11 city municipalities entitled to the use of the said mechanism.

The indicator of the measure at the level of the region is:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of implemented projects	0	2014	RRA LUR



Measure 1.1.5: LUR Regional Development Fund

The basic purpose of the LUR Regional Development Fund (hereinafter: LUR RDF) will be the merging of development funds – both of the commercial and non-commercial sectors. The second objective will be facilitated financing of the implementation of development projects – especially in the case of projects where costs will have to be settled in advance and a refund requested subsequently. LUR RDF will simplify and facilitate participation in development (and EU) projects for all partners, it will also simplify certain procedures and enable transparent collection of development funds and financing of development projects by partners that are unable to secure their own funds to cover the preparation and development of new development projects.

The following partners will merge their funds within the regional fund:

- municipalities;
- enterprises;
- development agencies;
- other development institutions;
- and optionally also the state or EU institutions.

The LUR RDF will perform the following functions:

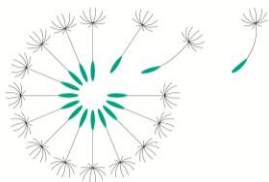
- financing of the current implementation of projects;
- co-financing of the financial gap in the implementation of projects – provision of own participation (share);
- bridging financing for the implementation of new projects;
- merging of financial assets for the implementation of the more important regional projects.

The indicator of the measure at the level of the region is:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of implemented projects	0	2014	RRA LUR

10.1.2. Programme 1.2: Green Economies

The basic characteristics of green economy are sustainable growth and economical use of endogenous natural and social potentials coupled with the simultaneous protection of the environment. In order to create a green economy, it is necessary to change the production and consumption patterns so as to ensure greater sustainability as well as a local and sustainable orientation, more efficient use of resources, development of green technologies and the creation of green jobs.



Owing to the natural features and the social and economic environments, the Ljubljana urban region exhibits the potential of becoming a green region: i.e. region that is able to ensure self-supply of energy products, high quality natural materials (the priority raw material being wood), healthy food and renewable stocks of drinking water. The LUR is simultaneously developing sustainable and nature-friendly forms of agriculture, forestry, tourism and recreation that will be upgraded in the coming period.

The objective of the LUR is to raise the competitiveness of the region through the sustainable use and development of existing potentials with a special emphasis on the creation of new green jobs that could be created in the area of sustainable agricultural and forestry production and processing as well as green tourism. We wish to set up an environment, in which green economy could thrive, which would be done through consulting services and technical support for the restructuring of the economy in terms of material and energy efficiency or the transition to a low-carbon economy. The planned measures will support the raising of the region's level of self-supply, development of integrated and innovative products, services and trademarks as well as the connection and promotion of local products for the joint market operations.

Measure 1.2.1: Sustainable agriculture, forestry and wood economy as the foundation for the regional self-supply

Owing to the expected deterioration of the supply of food and other resources on the global level as well as the realisation of the negative environmental impacts of long transport routes, the issue of local and regional self-supply of food and natural materials has increasingly come into the forefront in recent years, while the issues of food security and own production and processing have become of strategic importance on the national level as well.

Despite the favourable natural, social and economic features, the region is still far away from realising all of its potentials for local or regional self-supply. Domestic food production in the Ljubljana urban region does not cover the needs of the region for agricultural-food products. Inefficient management of forests and the export of timber abroad make the demand from the wood processing industry greater than the domestic growing stock, which is why a portion of the wood used by the industry needs to be imported.

The Ljubljana urban region will employ measures in the area of self-supply to meet the objectives of the Resolution on the National Programme of Food and Nutrition Policy that defines local production and consumption as a priority for the assurance of sustainable food supply. With the desire to preserve the environment and protect the health of people, the measure for the raising of regional self-supply will support and promote primarily the sustainable forms of management of the agricultural, forest and cultural landscape and natural resources, inter-linking and promotion of local products for the purpose of joint market operations on the regional market, new forms of marketing and the distribution of regional products. Awareness-building, promotion and education will be an important horizontal topic in this regard that promotes the development of such practices.



Indicators of the measure at the level of the region include:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	The share of farmland in use with respect to the entire region (%)	24.5	2010	SORS
2.	The share of the area of crop fields with respect to the farmland in use (%)	27.3	2010	SORS
3.	Employees in agriculture, forestry and fisheries	764	2012	SORS
4.	Number of agricultural holdings	8,671	2013	SORS
5.	Agricultural holdings that sell directly to consumers (number)	879	2010	SORS
6.	Agricultural holdings pursuing organic farming	217	2010	SORS
7.	Annual forest increment in Slovenian forests taking 2012 as the baseline year with the estimates produced with the use of the Ljubljana FMU FMP (m ³)	991,206	2012	SFS
8.	Quantities harvested in Slovenian forests taking 2010 as the baseline according to the GGA and ownership categories – Ljubljana FMU (m ³)	393,512	2012	SFS

Measure 1.2.2: Building of tourism infrastructure and design of innovative tourism services

The measure is aimed at raising the quality of services and boosting the competitiveness of the Ljubljana urban region in the field of tourism.

The emphasis is on the development of innovative tourism services in order to raise the competitiveness of tourism in the region, promote and steer the development of new entrepreneurial initiatives, education and training aimed at raising the quality on all levels (from infrastructure to services) and the building and upgrading the (supporting) tourism infrastructure that will provide for the sustainable development of mainly green tourism. In addition to the above, it is urgently necessary to establish ties between tourism and other sectors such as culture, creative industries (especially services), agriculture, transport and sports. This will allow



tourism to become an important generator of new employment, which is in line with the adopted Strategy for the Development and Marketing of Tourism in the Central Slovenia Region in the 2012–2016.

The construction of tourist infrastructure will focus on connecting various trails and paths on the level of the region. The region will upgrade the cycling and hiking infrastructure, mountain trails and lodges, and will increase the use of alternative forms of transport or mobility in the region. In addition to the existing paths and trails, the LUR wishes to set up new ones and to expand the offer, which will be interesting to both tourists and those taking short trips, whereby these will include running paths, waterways and equestrian trails. The final objective is a uniform and extensive system of thematic trails in the LUR that is included in the region's tourist offer.

In addition to the construction of infrastructure, the region will develop and overhaul tourism infrastructure facilities, which will contribute to the attractiveness and competitiveness of the offer in the region. This involves both the renovation and preservation of cultural-historical heritage and repurposing of existing cultural monuments as well as their inclusion into the tourist offer. The region wishes to present its archaeological heritage as well as its flora and fauna (e.g. the Beaver Village (*Bobrova vas*) project) in a new way, use the latest methods for the interpretation of heritage and manage heritage strategically, whereby it will observe the educational and schooling potential of heritage in doing so.

The region simultaneously strives to develop tourism services that will bring new guests to the LUR – excursionists, domestic and foreign guests who will feel good in the region, discover its natural beauty, its cultural-historical heritage and cuisine, and will spend their free time or holiday actively – on bicycle, on foot, on waterways or equestrian trails; or who will visit one of its top level festivals. The services must be designed so that they ensure the visitors' satisfaction and cater to their needs and wishes. Only a satisfied guest will be happy to return to the region. This will allow for a gradual extension of the guests' stay (and the number of overnight stays) as well as an increase in the guests' daily spending. In order to achieve these objectives, it is necessary to prepare an attractive offer or interesting integral tourist products that will also affect the development of new jobs.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of overnight stays	995,472	2012	SORS
2.	Arrivals/number of guests	521,294	2012	SORS
3.	Average period of stay in the region (days)	1.95	2012	SORS
4.	Average daily spending in Ljubljana (in EUR)	126	2013	Ljubljana Tourism
5.	Number of projects in the area of quality development	0	2014	RRA LUR



	(increased quality of tourist services and products)			
6.	Number of (direct) new jobs – resulting from the projects that received support	0	2014	Project applicants
7.	Number of new parks in the region – resulting from the projects that received support	0	2014	Project applicants
8.	Number of new thematic trails (cycling trails) resulting from the projects that received support	0	2014	Project applicants

10.2. Priority 2: Preserved Environment and Sustainable Use of Resources

The world is facing serious environmental problems such as climate change, exhaustion of natural resources, air pollution and disappearance of biotic diversity. All of these problems are also reflected to a greater or smaller degree in Slovenia and in the Ljubljana urban region. The multi-annual financial framework of the EU for the 2014–2020 period features the preservation of the environment and sustainable use of resources as environmental challenges that will be of key importance for maintaining the prosperity and the high quality of life in the region.

As part of this priority, the objectives of the region will be geared towards optimum environmental protection and harmonised spatial development of the region as well as the assurance of a balanced infrastructural outfitting of the region. Programmes and measures will be geared towards the assurance of greater energy independence of the region, increase in energy generation from renewable sources, improved efficient use of energy and will as such represent a contribution to the objectives of a low-carbon society. Incentives will be aimed at the optimum protection of the environment through the assurance of a suitable environmental infrastructure, reduction of the quantity of waste and adaptation to climate change.

The projects that receive support will contribute to the long-term development of the Ljubljana urban region (and its inhabitants) as a climatically safe region as well as a region that is friendly in terms of energy and water supply.



The indicator for this priority is:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Funds allocated to investments for environmental protection as a % of the regional GDP	0.6	2011	SORS

In the previous financial perspective, the share of funds allocated to investments for environmental protection as a percentage of the regional GDP ranged between 0.6 and 0.7%. Considering that the measures planned envisage a continued constant dynamic of investment in this area, the goal by the year 2020 is to maintain the current level of investment, i.e. 0.6% of the regional GDP.

10.2.1. Programme 2.1: Climatically Safe and Energy-Friendly Region

Sustainable, competitive and safe energy represents one of the fundamental pillars of modern life. The main challenges of the Ljubljana urban region identified in the field of efficient use of energy and renewable energy sources are the assurance of sufficient use of local renewable energy sources, energy independence, economical energy consumption and greater awareness regarding the potential of local renewable energy sources. Slovenia has assumed the commitment to achieve a 25% share of renewable energy sources within the total energy consumption by 2020. Because the climatic-energy package leaves the method of selection of renewable energy sources to individual EU Member States, Slovenia will strive to make the best possible use of the available hydroelectric energy potential of rivers and to promote the use of forest biomass. Considering that more than 54% of the country's territory is covered by forest, there is great potential in wood as a renewable energy source.

Energy derived from biomass (especially wood) is the most widely used renewable energy source in the region for heating (17% of all resources in 2008), whereby water energy is most widely used for electricity production (17% of all resources in 2007). There are three district heating providers in the Ljubljana urban region (in the City of Ljubljana and in Grosuplje), all of which mostly use fossil fuels, but have also begun using biomass since 2008 (8%) (Local Action Plan, 2012).

The biggest potential of renewable energy in the Ljubljana urban region is represented by the water of the rivers Sava and Ljubljanica, and biomass. There is certain potential in geothermal and solar energy.

The self-supply of energy is only 20% in the Ljubljana urban region, with fossil fuels prevailing as a source for energy generation.



Measure 2.1.1: Renewable energy sources

Renewable sources are globally recognised as the sources of the future. Renewable energy sources have a positive effect on the climate, stability of energy supply and also provide long-term economic benefits. All of the positive effects are of great importance for the region, which is why the measures in the area of renewable energy sources will be geared towards the promotion of electricity generation from renewable energy sources, use of renewable sources for heating and cooling, and the promotion of the use of biofuels and other renewable fuels for driving motor vehicles.

The indicator at the level of the region is:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects in the area of renewable energy sources	0	2014	Municipalities

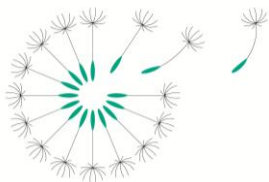
Measure 2.1.2: Energy-efficient region

Among others, the objective of the Ljubljana urban region is to improve energy efficiency in the region – including in the areas of transport, buildings, industry and the commercial and entrepreneurial sectors.

Using measures in the area of efficient use of energy, the Ljubljana urban region will pursue the objectives of energy efficiency at the country level. When compared to energy consumption at the country level, the Ljubljana urban region is wasteful in terms of energy, meaning that the region will have to exceed the national objective of a 20% increase in energy efficiency. Considering that the consumption of energy in the 2003–2007 period increased in all municipalities of the Ljubljana urban region, a lot of effort will have to be invested in achieving the set objectives.

The indicators at the level of the region is:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects in the area of energy efficiency	0	2014	Municipalities



10.2.2. Programme 2.2: Environmental Infrastructure

Environmental infrastructure includes the sub-fields of municipal waste water drainage and treatment, drinking water supply, waste management and management of water management facilities.

In the area of wastewater and rainwater drainage and treatment, the Ljubljana urban region is still facing a shortage of constructed local sewerage system networks and associated treatment plants as well as the lacking equipment for the sewerage system network and obsolescence of the existing network; in the area of drinking water supply, it is facing unsuitable water supply via local water distribution systems and obsolete infrastructure.

Analyses of waste management highlight the challenges of the collection and disposal of mixed, unsorted and unprocessed waste, burdening of the environment as a result of unsuitably arranged waste disposal sites and illegal dump sites, lacking regional level ties, limited use of waste for energy generation in terms of materials, and organisational disconnect between public and private services providers.

In the area of water management facilities and arrangements, the LUR is faced with challenges of adequate flood protection in certain parts of the region and suitable protection of watercourses from pollution through controlled quality of spilling and (un)treated water and sufficiently fast rehabilitation of watercourses which used to be used for swimming.

In addition to facing the above challenges, the region will strive to develop municipal utility infrastructure that is co-financed by the EU and will be implemented in the new programming period as well.

In order to develop the supply of drinking water and the drainage and treatment of waste water, we will provide support to investments for the construction and upgrading of the sewerage system and the construction, upgrading or reconstruction of the water distribution system with an emphasis on the secure supply of the population with drinking water. To this end, the area of water supply will receive support for investments into the activation of additional sources of drinking water.

As regards waste management, we will provide support for projects for the construction of the missing infrastructure, projects that contribute to increasing the share of municipal waste intended for recycling and preparation for re-use, and projects that improve the establishment of ties on the regional level. When it comes to the implementation of projects, the LUR will follow the European approach to waste management that is based on three principles: (i.) prevention of waste creation, (ii.) recycling and re-use of the maximum possible amount of waste materials and (iii.) improvement of the waste disposal system. This set of measures will include projects for the arrangement of waste disposal sites and illegal waste dumps – priority will be given to protected areas.



As part of the adjustment to climate change, support will as a priority be provided to projects aimed at flood protection in the areas with a significant impact of flooding and projects that enable professional, more effective and efficient relief in the event of natural and other disasters.

Measure 2.2.1: Clean and quality environment

Support will be provided to projects involving new construction, expansion, renovation or reconstruction of the system for the drainage and treatment of municipal waste water. The investments carried out will contribute to the reduction of water pollution as discharges of waste water into surface-running bodies of water are one of the main causes of the poor chemical composition of watercourses.

The supply of drinking water remains one of the sensitive issues. In order to provide for the abovementioned supply, measures have been envisaged for investments in new construction, expansion, renovation or reconstruction of the water distribution system. Support will also be provided to investments in new wells and catchments serving as a backup source of water.

In the area of waste, the measure relates to the mitigation of the negative effects on the environment and the protection of natural resources. Measures will, therefore, be geared towards improving the performance of waste management at the source (separation by material flows such as waste packaging, waste electrical and electronic equipment, spent batteries and car batteries, etc.).

The share of waste that is merely disposed of in Slovenia is decreasing with each year, but is still quite a lot higher than the EU average. The measure, therefore, comprises all activities (both investment and non-investment) that will contribute to the prevention of waste creation, separate waste collection, waste processing and recycling, and the reduction of the quantities of unprocessed municipal waste that ends up at disposal sites.

In the area of municipal waste, measures will contribute to the Central Slovenia region transitioning from the status of a region that mostly deposits waste to a region that recycles it.

The measures will be geared towards achieving the highest possible level of municipal waste separation at the source and its maximum re-use.

Locations where different types of waste have been discarded illegally are known under the terms illegal or unauthorised waste dumps. Illegal disposal of any waste in the natural environment represents an action that is unacceptable in terms of health, ecology and social aspects. In order to reduce the quantities of illegally disposed waste, support will be provided for the rehabilitation of existing illegal waste dumps, education of the local population on the consequences of illegal waste dumping, marking of areas affected by frequent illegal waste dumping with warning signs and information boards, as well as the implementation of measures



to make access to areas affected by frequent illegal waste dumping more difficult (physical barriers, etc.).

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Length of the water distribution network (km)	3,300	2012	SORS
2.	Water losses (%)	30	2012	SORS
3.	Number of water distribution system connections (km)	93,748	2012	SORS
4.	Number of population that will benefit from improved and more secure drinking water supply	0	2014	Municipalities
5.	Length of the sewerage network (km)	1,913	2012	SORS
6.	Number of connections to the sewerage network	55,464	2012	SORS
7.	Quantity of treated municipal waste water (m3)	40,269,000	2012	SORS
8.	Separately collected municipal waste (% of total waste collected)	42.6	2012	SORS

Measure 2.2.2: Adaptation to climate change

This measure will serve to support investments that will be both active and passive in nature.

Measures will mitigate natural risks and will affect natural processes, the scope and intensity of which could cause natural disasters (both waterborne construction and alternative measures will be included). Measures will also focus on protection from the consequences of natural disasters (e.g. dykes) and mitigation of damage in case such disasters occur (e.g. protection of real estate, spatial planning that considers the maps defining threats and risks).

With the aim of ensuring protection and rescue operations in case of natural and other disasters, the measure will also provide support to investments in construction or the setup of a protection and rescue system. It will promote education and training for the provision of assistance in rescue operations.

The indicator at the level of the region is:



Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects in the area of risk prevention	0	2014	Municipalities

10.2.3. Programme 2.3: Nature Preservation

The Ljubljana urban region has a relatively well-preserved natural environment, high level of biotic diversity and a variegated natural landscape. As much as 27.2% of the territory of the entire region is classified under as special conservation areas of Natura 2000, with 12.3% of the areas termed protected areas of nature.

Nature preservation and care for nature are necessary both in its most valuable areas that have received a formal protection regime and in other open green areas (such as forests, waterfront areas, hedges, green urban and suburban areas and structures, recreational and sports areas in open spaces, etc.) as they together form the region's green system. A good green system of the region (with its areas, networks and corridors) has an enormous impact on the preservation of biotic diversity, variety of landscape and the assurance of ecosystem services, while it also affects the protection of natural resources, structuring of a landscape's image, improvement of climatic conditions, mitigation of the consequences of natural disasters and the quality of living. By planning, setting up and preserving the regional green system that encompasses the entire open space and green areas of the region, it is possible to ensure suitable preservation of the open space in the key areas of the region. The LUR can thus to a great extent avoid the undesirable effects of uncontrolled settlement and the continuation of unbridled construction.

The proposed measure will promote active protection, management, development and inter-linking of nature protection areas, the open landscape and other green areas as well as the activities there (e.g. sports, leisure activities, free time activities, tourism and agriculture).

We should highlight in this regard the complex and boutique-style activity of the Ljubljana zoo, its multidisciplinary activities in areas regulated by various ministries, whereby no ministry is competent for all areas. The zoo's activities include: (i) tourism with an emphasis on domestic and family tourism, (ii) activities in the area of the spending of free time by families, intergenerational cooperation and recreation, (iii) they are legally obligated to educate and build awareness, and are also important for the formal and most of all informal education of the public on nature after the members of the public had completed their studies, (iv) they are also legally obligated to conduct research in the areas of biodiversity and nature protection, (v) they are not tasked with *ex situ* nature protection (which receives co-financing) but are an important institution breeding endangered species as a potential in case a need for repopulation in nature arises, (vi) they are active in the field of animal welfare, which is regulated by the agricultural department of the ministry, but are not a classic animal welfare institution. The zoo's development is therefore recognised as one of the potentials for the development of the Ljubljana urban region.



Measure 2.3.1: Setup of a green system in the region to ensure the preservation of nature

The fact that the Ljubljana urban region is home to the country's capital city means that it benefits from the associated activities as well as the generally high development potential for the region, which in turn means extensive changes can be expected that may in the event of unsuitable measures or if things are left to develop randomly lead to permanent loss of the natural qualities of open space. The planning, setup and preservation of the region's green system is urgent in order to preserve nature and ensure favourable living conditions.

In order to preserve and improve the natural and living environments, measures will promote those spatial arrangements, programmes and services that ensure active protection of areas of nature, variety of landscape and the preservation of biodiversity as well as free-time activities in open spaces. These are activities such as nature-friendly recreation, sports, tourism and other free-time activities that contribute added value to active protection and sustainable development of the natural environment and nature.

They will be provided support by measures for the protection of the current level of biodiversity and its enhancement (e.g. green corridors for the passage of animals, sustainable regulation of embankments aimed at preserving/improving the habitats of species living on embankments, limitation of intensive agricultural activities or the promotion of sustainable practices, siting of infrastructure and buildings on existing routes and developed/brownfield land, renaturation, activities for animal welfare, etc.). Activities will be geared towards the preservation of habitat types in order to achieve an improved state of preservation.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Surface area of Natura 2000 areas in the Central Slovenia region	628.19 km ²	2014	IRSNC
2.	Surface area of protected areas in the Central Slovenia region	277.9 km ²	2014	IRSNC
3.	Number of implemented projects for the arrangement of renovation of open green areas in the region	0	2014	RRA LUR
4.	Total area of newly acquired open green areas	0	2014	RRA LUR
5.	Number of projects for the achievement of an improved state of habitat preservation	0	2014	RRA LUR
6.	Number of projects for the protection of the existing level	0	2014	RRA LUR



	of biotic diversity			
7.	Number of projects related to animal welfare	0	2014	RRA LUR

10.3. Priority 3: People-Friendly Region

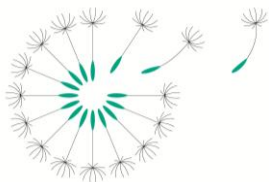
The Ljubljana urban region strives to ensure a high quality of life for its population and their prosperity in the broader sense that does not only involve the standard of living in the form of material goods but also equal opportunities in satisfying daily needs and the exploitation of opportunities for an arranged and preserved space of high quality.

As part of this priority, the development objectives of the region will be geared mainly towards the promotion of factors and services associated with the quality of life, such as: the right of residence; upbringing, education and vocational training; employment and favourable working conditions; health and access to medical care; inclusion of individuals into a network of social relations; social security; free time, culture and recreation. People's health and the possibility of establishing ties within the region and the region's accessibility enabled by sustainable mobility are crucial for the quality of life. The region's accessibility will be achieved through investments into public passenger transport by road and rail, the promotion of PPT and non-motorised modes of travel as well as other sustainable mobility measures. In order to achieve the region's development objectives that have been set, the LUR will promote comprehensive spatial planning on the level of the region. All of the above will be supported by an ICT network.

The projects that receive support will be those that contribute to the long-term development of the Ljubljana urban region (and its inhabitants) as a region with a high quality of living, a natural pulse and one that is in touch with nature, i.e. a bioregion.

The indicators for this priority include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Level of motorisation	515	2014	SORS
2.	Net disposable income per capita (in EUR)	11,265	2014	SORS
3.	Drawn up regional spatial plan	0	2014	RRA LUR
4.	Number of built/renovated cultural and sports infrastructure buildings	0	2014	Project applicants



This priority envisages measures that aim to achieve the following objectives by 2020 in terms of the defined indicators: (i.) level of motorisation: decrease to 500, (ii.) increase in net disposable income per capita to EUR 14,000, (iii.) drawn up regional spatial plan, (iv.) 20 realised projects in terms of the built/renovated cultural and sports infrastructure buildings indicator.

10.3.1. Programme 3.1: Sustainable Mobility

The LUR is the main destination for migration flows in Slovenia. The region attracts commuter workers and students from neighbouring regions. The City of Ljubljana is the gravitational centre of the Ljubljana urban region and the point where the main regional, inter-regional and international flows converge (these come from the Jože Pučnik Airport). It is also one of the more important hubs of the European core network that will gain in importance with the accession of new members from the Balkans to the EU.

The development of the transport system in Slovenia to date proceeded mainly in the direction of the improvement of road infrastructure and consequently the improvement of mobility of personal vehicle users, while the development of the railway network and public passenger transport stagnated and even deteriorated. The construction of the motorway network in the past has indeed increased the mobility of the inhabitants of the Ljubljana urban region, but also brought an increase in the consumption of imported fossil fuels, lowered the state of the environment in urban centres, increased congestion and decreased the mobility of less privileged social groups. Consequences can be seen in the poorer mobility of non-motorised traffic participants, traffic congestions, exceeded exhaust gas values, noise, unsatisfactory traffic safety and increasingly greater suburbanisation and uncontrolled urban sprawl. Over the last 20 years, the surrounding municipalities have significantly increased their developed (built up) areas as compared to the City of Ljubljana.

The most important objective for the Ljubljana urban region is to lower the high levels of emissions and noise from traffic as well as traffic congestion, improve the quality of living in the region through greater mobility, reduce the use of personal vehicles and promote the transition to public transport and non-motorised means of travel.

Measure 3.1.1: Promotion of the use of public transport

The transition to public transport can be achieved through measures that prioritise the setup of quality infrastructure of PPT and its development and measures that will increase the competitiveness of public transport through improved services and offer. It is important to provide for the construction of an intermodal transport chain that will enable transfers between personal transport, public transport and non-motorised transport (cycling and walking) – including additional transport modes and the option of transferring between such modes. It is important to ensure integration of all public transport modes in the region through mutually



coordinated transport timetables of the regional railway and the system of city buses as well a joint intermodal price and payment system.

The network of intermodal transfer points (P+R) needs to be completed as it enables transfers from private to public transport modes in urban centres as private transport modes will remain an important part of the population's mobility because of dispersed construction and the high-capacity motorway cross. In order to increase the speed of public transport means in urban centres, it is necessary to separate public transport from the remaining transport (at least on the main roads) by establishing express bus and tram lines in separate lanes, which should be followed by the gradual introduction of faster and more energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly vehicles. The policy for parking and the spatial limitation of the width of traffic surfaces will additionally lower the attractiveness of personal vehicles in favour of public transport, cycling and walking. The promotion and engagement of the public in the drafting of plans and the strategy can provide an additional incentive for the use of sustainable forms of mobility, and can first and foremost contribute to facilitated and faster implementation and greater acceptability of the set measures.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects aimed at the promotion of the use of public transport	0	2014	Project applicants
2.	Number of built P+R facilities	0	2014	Project applicants
3.	Number of low-carbon PPT vehicles (Euro V)	130	2013	PPT

Measure 3.1.2: Updating and optimisation of the railway network

Ljubljana has for a long time represented an important point in international transport corridors connecting the Mediterranean Sea and maritime routes with Central, Eastern and Western Europe as the gateway to the Balkans and onwards to the Middle East. In the middle of the 19th century, the highly important Southern Railway of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy was built through Ljubljana and has since then served as the crucial connecting infrastructure integrating Ljubljana, the Ljubljana urban region and the entire Slovenia into the European space; it also acted as an important driver of economic development. With the boom in the use of road-going vehicles and the construction of the motorway cross, the development of the railway network lagged behind so that even the maintenance of the existing infrastructure is recently no longer meeting the needs of the region.



In order to increase the mobility of the population, boost energy efficiency and environmental acceptability of transport, it is urgent to revitalise the railway network that will allow Slovenia and Ljubljana as part of the network of core European cities to attain economic competitiveness. It is also necessary to ensure the overhaul, additional construction and electrification of regional railway lines that will allow the introduction of regular passenger transport in all directions; a railway connection with the central Jože Pučnik Airport and the second railway track in the direction of Jesenice; a suitable solution for the Ljubljana railway hub and the Central Railway Station needs to be found for the uninterrupted flow of cargo transport so that the Station allows intermodality with other transport modes. Intermodality should be ensured through the construction of new railway stations and stops that will, in combination with the P+R intermodal point system, provide for the integration of all forms of public transport.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects implemented in the area of the railway network	0	2014	Project applicants
2.	Length of newly constructed railway lines (km)	0	2014	Project applicants
3.	Length of modernised railway lines (km)	0	2014	Project applicants

Measure 3.1.3: Promotion of non-motorised mobility

The modern way and pace of life as well as the personal attachment to personal vehicles have to a certain extent pushed cycling and walking to the sidelines. Cycling and walking are still popular in urban centres where the density of traffic and the lack of parking space make these the fastest modes of travel, however, suitable measures could make non-motorised mobility attractive in other areas as well. The flatland character of the Ljubljana Basin coupled with the relatively favourable climate ensure favourable conditions for the popularisation of cycling and walking between the individual densely populated areas and between individual urban centres. Suitable cycling trails and paths supported by other infrastructure (e.g. secure bicycle storage facilities, bicycle racks on buses and trains) could represent an incentive for daily commuters to cycle or walk i.e. health-friendly modes of transport) to their destination. Measures at the level of the region will be geared towards the construction of a network of cycling paths that will represent a high-quality connection between and within urban centres; measures will also aim to take advantage of the potential represented by nature preservation and green riverside areas as an additional incentive for pleasant and safe travel.



Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects implemented in the area of non-motorised mobility	0	2014	Project applicants
2.	Length of newly constructed cycling paths (km)	0	2014	Project applicants
3.	Length of recreational trails established (km)	0	2014	Project applicants

10.3.2. Programme 3.2: Spatial Management

Space is a limited commodity that requires careful coordination of long-term public interests and short-term private interests, which can only be attained through a sustainability-oriented spatial planning that considers economic, social and environmental aspects and is implemented on the state, regional and municipal levels. Owing to the fragmented local self-government and centralised sectorial authority, it is that much more important to have effectively, economically and sustainably planned regional spatial development that is based on the arrangement, renovation and management of urban, suburban and rural space (including the brownfield, unused or underutilised space) and their mutual spatial and traffic connections.

The envisaged measure will to this end provide support for the establishment and implementation of regional spatial planning, while individual measures will provide support for projects that promote sustainable polycentric development at the level of the region through the renovation, arrangement and management of the urban and rural areas and the improvement of traffic and other important environmental infrastructure.

Measure 3.2.1: Regional spatial planning for sustainable polycentric development

Today, strategic and implementation spatial planning is carried out in the RS at the level of the state or municipalities, while the regional level of spatial planning has never really taken root. Spatial planning legislation envisages merely the production of implementing regional spatial plans, while the legislation does not provide for strategic spatial planning. The fragmentation of municipalities, joint projects by several municipalities and the raising of effectiveness and economy of spatial planning in connection with development planning are all tasked with the search for solution within the scope of regional spatial planning. The areas requiring comprehensive regional solutions in particular are flood safety, water and waste water management, road and cycling path planning, waste management, development of the settlement pattern in connection with the development of PPT and management of protected areas.



The interactive regional geographic information system (hereinafter: GIS), the establishment of a framework for regional strategic planning and its implementation as well as implementation planning of the key regional projects will be the priorities of the Ljubljana urban region in the coming period.

The indicators of the measure include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of adopted instruments for the promotion of spatial planning at the level of the region	0	2014	Ministry of Infrastructure
2.	Number of adopted regional strategic plans (in the LUR territory)*	0	2014	Ministry of Infrastructure

* the former "Regional Spatial Development Design" (RSDD) or a strategic spatial plan on the level of the region equal to RSDD.

Measure 3.2.2: Renovation and arrangement of urban and village areas

Deurbanisation and restructuring of certain parts of cities and the urbanisation of the countryside have contributed to the undesirable drain of the population in certain areas, poor utilisation and unsuitable use of the housing stock as well as the occurrence of new needs within the narrow and broader living environments. The terms regeneration, renovation and arrangement of the living environment in general are a key component of sustainable development that is binding on the LUR under both domestic legislation and EU guidelines.

The objective that we wish to achieve with the measure is the increase in the quality of the physical, social and cultural environments; the revitalisation of cities, communities and their parts; the preservation and strengthening of the local identity of cities, settlements and individual buildings as well as the raising of the standard of living and the standard of the dwelling, working and cultural environments. The measure will serve to finance mainly the physical renovation and arrangement of urban and village areas and individual buildings that will serve various common interest activities for an improved local government, intergenerational socialising as well as cultural, artistic, sports and other free time activities of the population.



The indicators for the measure include:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of implemented projects for the arrangement or renovation of urban and village areas	0	2014	RRA LUR

Measure 3.2.3: Other infrastructure

Well-planned, executed and maintained infrastructure provides good conditions for life, work and progress, which is why it can be considered as one of the most important factors of development. Owing to fragmented settlement in the Ljubljana urban region, it is difficult to ensure that all areas are covered by public transport infrastructure. Private means of transport are, therefore, required as the only possibility for mobility in certain areas. The construction of road and other traffic and ICT infrastructure in these areas increases the possibilities for mobility and the supply of households and the economy. There are also municipalities in the region that require broadband networks.

The measure supporting the construction of suitable traffic and other public infrastructure (municipal utilities, telecommunications, etc.) aims to ensure conditions within the Ljubljana urban region for coordinated development within the region.

The indicators for the measure include:

Indicator name		Value	Year	Data source
1.	Transport - kilometres by road category (total for public roads)	5,711.4	2010	SORS
2.	Number of implemented projects	0	2014	RRA LUR

10.3.3. Programme 3.3: Social Networking and Equal Opportunities

At the time of the financial and global economic crisis, it is urgent to devote attention to the general values of life that ensure better quality of life and prosperity for the population. It is the improvement of the prosperity of the people that is one of the important development objectives of the Ljubljana urban region. The programme features the vision of a change in the economy and the society aimed at the assurance of equal opportunities and the increase in the prosperity of current and future generations with account taken of improved education



institutions and nurseries, spatial development strengths, environmental limitations and the care for people's health. We must not forget in this regard the importance of the assurance of (financial) literacy of different generations and the inclusion of different stakeholders, i.e. schools, financial institutions, ministries, consumer safety agencies, etc.

The programme's objectives are mainly the improvement of the quality of life in the bioregion and the increase in personal social capital. The establishment of ties in the society in the broader sense involves intergenerational cooperation that is already reflected as a trend in the overcoming of differences between generations, in the improvement of possibilities for the fundamental development of young people, the equalisation of opportunities for people with special needs and the disabled, as well as the assurance of better living conditions and most importantly in the development of healthcare and social services.

The Ljubljana urban region – bioregion possesses all the prerequisites for the assurance of a better quality of life as it has both the economic development base, which is intertwined with the natural features enabling healthy living, and the innovation base for the recognition and development of potentials on any generational point and thereby the formation of human resources with high potential and the mitigation of the risks of poverty and/or social exclusion.

Measure 3.3.1: Quality educational institutions and nurseries

The measure aimed at educational institutions and nurseries is geared towards the development and improvement of premises where the younger inhabitants of the Ljubljana urban region are educated and schooled. The offer of new possibilities and the improvement of the quality of education through the redesign, expansion or additional construction of educational units will contribute to improved quality of life in the bioregion, i.e. primarily at the local level of the region. The improvement of possibilities for the quality education of the young has long-term positive impacts as it serves to develop the population that will be active in terms of work and in social terms and will thus serve as the primary reflection of the high quality of life in the Ljubljana urban region.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects implemented for the assurance of quality educational institutions and nurseries	0	2014	Municipalities



Measure: 3.3.2: Intergenerational solidarity and social networking

Intergenerational socialising is one of the forms of sharing knowledge, findings and experience that strengthens the working, intellectual and creative potential of the region.

By building intergenerational centres and establishing ties between newly constructed and existing centres, we will achieve the aim of improving the conditions for intergenerational connectedness and opportunities for strengthening intergenerational solidarity.

In addition to intergenerational centres, attention will be devoted to youth centres that represent a place where young people of all ages and world views can create and develop various club activities such as informal education, youth training and cultural, socialisation, free-time and other animation activities as well as various youth initiatives, etc.

As an answer to the above, this will provide support for projects (both investment and non-investment) that promote the transfer of knowledge and experience between generations, their socialising and strengthening of an individual's physical and psychological level of preparedness or that contribute in general to maintaining the quality of life. The implementation of projects will help ensure conditions that will allow individuals in association with other individuals in the family, work and living environments to cooperate creatively and realise their development potential so as to achieve a high quality of life through their activities.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects associated with the implementation of the social protection system	0	2014	Municipalities
2.	Number of projects in the area of social networking	0	2014	Municipalities
3.	Number of new buildings and equipment	0	2014	Municipalities

Measure 3.3.3: Right of residence

The right of residence stems from the assumption that dwelling (and the associated flat as a primary dwelling space) is an important commodity for humans. Starting from the above assumption, the measure is aimed at incentivising the increase in the offer of flats accessible in terms of price, i.e. at the level of the region or municipalities. The measure relates to vulnerable groups of the society – including the groups with lower income that frequently do not have access to suitable flats for financial reasons. It also does not limit municipalities in the more daring housing policies: approaches that focus on the segments of the population that are important in the economic sense (on the municipality level: young researchers, employees in creative professions, etc.).



The quality of living does not only depend on the flat or the physical infrastructure, but also on the services that can contribute to the quality of daily life. These can be geared towards vulnerable groups requiring a larger scope of diverse services as well as the elderly, persons with special needs and the disabled. The measure does not limit the development of services with the objective of boosting the quality of living at the level of the daily life of different groups of the society (e.g. the Roma).

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of flats in the region	217,885	2011	SORS
2.	Number of vacant flats in the region	40,755	2011	SORS
3.	Number of implemented projects	0	2014	Municipalities

Measure 3.3.4: Accessibility of healthcare and social services

Improved accessibility to healthcare and social services in the region will be ensured with the improvement of the infrastructure and programmes relating to healthcare and social services. Health is a highly important indicator of the quality of life in an individual region. Improvement of the healthcare system contributes to the country's prosperity. The prolongation of the length of an individual's healthy and active life in the region allows more years of work activity of the population, decreases social differences and most of all allows individuals more time to be more actively involved in the society.

The Ljubljana urban region has all of the prerequisites for the development of top level healthcare services as the region has a concentration of development, research and supply institutions as well as sufficient natural features for an active, diverse and healthy way of life for its population.

In order to enable a higher quality of life, regional development in the area of healthcare and social services over the coming years will be geared towards the improvement of prevention of chronic and severe diseases through enhanced promotion of a healthy lifestyle, diet and living. The above objective requires an improvement and supplementation of the social services infrastructure that are geared mainly into increasing the offer of dwelling units and the transformation of the existing units into a network of dwelling and residential units for the elderly and a network of centres offering support to mentally handicapped person and the terminally ill (palliative care). Focus will be on the establishment of a network of support services for special needs persons and dwelling units for socially deprived groups, which will contribute to the reduction of social differences and create equal opportunities for all generations.



A Regional Implementing Plan for Social Care in the 2014–2016 Period for the Central Slovenia statistical region was drafted at the level of the region and it defines in greater detail the measures in the area of social protection (these are substantively additionally supported by the present document).

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of persons in care at social protection institutes	19,600	2012	SORS
2.	Number of projects for the assurance of improved accessibility to healthcare and social services	0	2014	Municipalities

Measure 3.3.5: Support for NGOs

This measure will serve to strengthen the favourable support environment for the development and functioning of NGOs as well as strengthen the non-governmental sector in general, its role and capabilities as well as the level of qualifications and development of NGOs, and will eliminate systemic barriers and encourage civil and social dialogue.

The beneficiaries under the measure are NGOs.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects implemented to support NGOs	0	2014	Project applicants

10.3.4. Programme 3.4: Culture

The starting point for the development of culture at the level of the region is bringing cultural creation closer to the inhabitants in their daily lives. This is why it is necessary to develop a network of cultural institutions that are also accessible to people in their daily lives: i.e. institutions located in the various municipalities of the region. It is also important from the point of view of the development of culture that the development of cultural institutions is not based on presenting cultural contents to a passive crowd of visitors (onlookers, listeners, etc.), but for the institutions to encompass in their activity the possibility of more active involvement of local



inhabitants in cultural endeavours. The potential of culture and art in promoting inclusion are well-known, while ambitious cultural policies associate the development of cultural institutions with economic progress. In order to achieve the above, it is reasonable to think about the contribution of the network of cultural institutions to the socio-economic progress at the level of a town or municipality or even the region. To this end, support will be provided to the establishment of ties between cultural institutions and other sectors – mainly the economy and science.

Measure 3.4.1: Improvement of conditions and promotion of the development of cultural creation and the protection of the cultural heritage of the local environment

Culture and creativity represent important elements of local and regional development and can contribute significantly to the quality of life in the local environment. It is only through an approach involving the mobilisation of all stakeholders in the field of culture in a particular local area and the intensive engagement of local communities that the programmes for the promotion of the development of culture can be successful. The strengthening of the hubs for cultural creation and social inclusion of local inhabitants is so important because it entrenches the local identity and recognition and creates cultural products that can in cooperation with other sectors (industry, tourism and education) create a unique value of space that is relevant on the European level.

The cultural and spatial identity of an individual local community are created by cultural heritage and built up by the cultural protection concept. Using modern approaches of sustainable development and an inclusive society, both can become sources of economic, social and local development. It is necessary to promote approaches to the comprehensive preservation of cultural heritage and provide for the assurance of its recognition and accessibility to all groups – including through innovation arising from traditional techniques and knowledge, whereby such approaches can contribute to the development of new models, products and services with an emphasis on the user.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	Number of projects implemented in the area of cultural heritage	0	2014	Municipalities
2.	Number of projects implemented in the area of public cultural infrastructure	0	2014	Municipalities



10.3.5. Programme 3.5: Sports

Sport has positive effects on individuals and the society as it improves the quality of life and health of the citizens and encourages social inclusion, which is why it is important for the population to pursue sports as much as possible and for these activities to be of high quality.

The role of local and regional authorities is central to the development of sports as they help provide sports-related services for citizens when discharging their institutional authority.

Sport is an activity that enriches the quality of an individual's life and also importantly affects the society on account of its networking and health impacts. The potential of sport lies in its positive impact on an individual's health, its potential of bringing people together and reaching everyone – irrespective of age or social affiliation.

It is necessary to create an environment for the development of sports – mainly in the area of sports programmes and sports facilities as well as to provide all individuals equal opportunities and the same accessibility to pursue sports as well as high-quality sports programmes.

Measure 3.5.1: Improvement of conditions for sports and recreation, and the promotion of development and inter-linking of sports programmes

Because sport is a significant aspect of a healthy lifestyle and the development of each individual, the objective of the measure is to improve conditions for sports and recreation and promote the development of sports programmes. It is important to develop sports centres in a dispersed manner at the level of the region so that each individual is provided with equal opportunities for participation.

One other subject of the measure is the promotion of sports activities in everyday life in order to improve the quality of life and health of the inhabitants as well as to broaden social inclusion.

Indicators at the level of the region include:

	Indicator name	Value	Year	Data source
1.	New and renovated sports surfaces (m2)	0	2014	Municipalities
2.	Number of new and renovated sporting facilities and training areas	0	2014	Municipalities



11. Overall Financial Assessment of RDP Value⁴

11.1. Verification of the Compliance of Priorities, Objectives and Measures from the Draft RDP with the Investment Priorities in the Latest Drafts of National Strategic Documents

One of the basic principles for the preparation of development documents is their compliance with the strategic and programming documents/policies. This chapter provides an overview of the compliance of the RDP with the latest available versions of the most important strategic/programming documents, i.e. the Development Strategy of Slovenia (hereinafter: DSS), the Partnership Agreement (hereinafter: PA) and the Operational Programme (hereinafter: OP).

Table 13: Compliance of the proposed LUR RDP for 2014-2020 with the proposed strategic/programming documents

		DSS	PA	OP
1.	GROWTH OF COMPETITIVENESS OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMY	+	+	+
1.1.	Innovation, creativity and knowledge for a competitive economy	+	+	+
1.1.1.	Strengthening of scientific-development entrepreneurial hubs for the establishment of ties with the economy	+	+	+
1.1.2.	Strengthening of entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial support environment with an emphasis on comprehensive solutions and innovation	+	+	+
1.1.3.	Creative industries as the driver of economic development	+	+	+
1.1.4.	Strengthening of the European metropolis role	+	+	+
1.1.5.	LUR Regional Development Fund	+	+	+
1.2.	Green economies	+	+	+
1.2.1.	Sustainable agriculture, forestry and wood economy as the foundation for the regional self-supply	+	+	+
1.2.2.	Building of the tourism infrastructure and innovative tourism services	+	+	+
2.	PRESERVED ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES	+	+	+
2.1.	Climatically safe and energy-friendly region	+	+	+
2.1.1.	Renewable energy sources	+	+	+
2.1.2.	Energy-efficient region	+	+	+
2.2.	Environmental infrastructure	+	+	+

⁴ Sub-chapters 11.1 and 11.3 are summarised as appropriate from the document of the Institute for Economic Research, 2013.



		DSS	PA	OP
2.2.1.	Clean and quality environment	+	+	+
2.2.2.	Adaptation to climate change	+	+	+
2.3.	Nature preservation	+	+	+
2.3.1.	Setup of a green system in the region to ensure the preservation of nature	+	+	+
3.	PEOPLE-FRIENDLY REGION			
3.1.	Sustainable mobility	+	+	+
3.1.1.	Promotion of the use of public transport	+	+	+
3.1.2.	Updating and optimisation of the railway network	+	+	+
3.1.3.	Promotion of non-motorised mobility	+	+	+
3.2.	Spatial management	+	+	-
3.2.1.	Regional spatial planning for sustainable polycentric development	+	+	-
3.2.2.	Renovation and arrangement of urban and village areas	-	+	-
3.2.3.	Transport and other infrastructure	+	+	+
3.3.	Social networking and equal opportunities	+	+	+
3.3.1.	Quality educational institutions and nurseries	-	-	-
3.3.2.	Intergenerational solidarity and social networking	+	+	+
3.3.3.	Right of residence	+	+	+
3.3.4.	Accessibility of healthcare and social services	+	+	+
3.3.5.	Support for NGOs	+	+	+
3.4.	Culture	+	+	+
3.4.1.	Improvement of conditions and promotion of the development of cultural creation and the protection of the cultural heritage of the local environment	+	+	+
3.6.	Sports	-	-	+
3.6.1.	Improvement of conditions for sports and recreation, and the promotion of development and inter-linking of sports programmes	-	-	+

Source: Own presentation.

11.2. Estimated Value of RDP

Based on the available information, we have estimated the financial value of the LUR RDP 2014–2020. We have selected the 'bottom-up' approach to try and estimate the total value of the RDP.

The Regional Development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region (hereinafter: RRA LUR) has invited all stakeholders to submit projects on a prepared form. Based on the submitted projects and the defined development priorities of the region, we estimated the value of the RDP for the 2014–2020 period. The valuation does not include the value of national projects. The financial estimate is provided in Table 14 below.



Table 14: Estimated financial value of LUR RDP 2014–2020 (in EUR)

Priorities	Programme	Measures	In EUR		
			EU funds	Other sources	Total
Priority 1: Growth in the competitiveness of the region's economy			282,209,833	80,130,779	362,340,613
			227,652,162	57,799,087	285,451,249
	Programme 1.1: Innovation, creativity and knowledge for a competitive economy	Measure 1.1.1: Strengthening of scientific-development entrepreneurial centres for the establishment of ties with the economy	163,734,000	41,651,000	205,385,000
		Measure 1.1.2: Strengthening of entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial support environment with an emphasis on comprehensive solutions and innovation	20,141,762	5,203,987	25,345,749
		Measure 1.1.3: Creative industries as the driver of economic development	13,616,400	3,404,100	17,020,500
		Measure 1.1.4: Strengthening of the European metropolis role	560,000	140,000	700,000
		Measure 1.1.5: LUR Regional Development Fund	29,600,000	7,400,000	37,000,000
			54,557,671	22,331,692	76,889,364
	Programme 1.2: Green economies	Measure 1.2.1: Sustainable agriculture, forestry and wood economy as the foundation for the regional	25,897,320	10,537,680	36,435,000
		Ukrep 1,2,2,: Building of tourism infrastructure and design of innovative tourism services	28,660,351	11,794,012	40,454,364
Priority 2: Preserved environment and sustainable use of resources			625,848,031	213,082,013	839,255,214
	Programme 2.1: Climatically safe and energy-friendly region		46,472,660	14,438,590	60,911,250
		Measure 2.1.1: Renewable energy sources	17,162,400	7,796,850	24,959,250
		Measure 2.1.2 Energy-efficient region	29,310,260	6,641,740	35,952,000
	Programme 2.2: Environmental infrastructure		523,286,813	181,799,355	705,086,172
		Measure 2.2.1: Clean and quality environment	491,506,813	173,359,355	664,866,172
	Measure 2.2.2: Adaptation to climate change	31,780,000	8,440,000	40,220,000	



Priorities	Programme	Measures	In EUR		
			EU funds	Other sources	Total
Priority 3: People-friendly region	Programme 2.3: Nature preservation		56,088,558	16,844,068	73,257,792
		Measure 2.3.1: Setup of a green system in the region to ensure the preservation of nature	56,088,558	16,844,068	73,257,792
			331,242,120	303,896,439	635,960,295
	Programme 3.1: Sustainable mobility	Measure 3.1.1: Promotion of the use of public transport	158,702,405	237,531,651	396,234,055
		Measure 3.1.2: Updating and optimisation of the railway network	156,688,238	236,650,818	393,339,055
		Measure 3.1.3: Promotion of non-motorised mobility	0	0	0
			2,014,167	880,833	2,895,000
			82,295,753	27,013,921	109,309,676
	Programme 3.2: Spatial management	Measure 3.2.1: Regional spatial planning for sustainable polycentric development	21,995,620	5,554,380	27,550,000
		Measure 3.2.2: Renovation and arrangement of urban and village areas	36,487,370	10,163,555	46,650,927
		Measure 3.2.3: Other infrastructure	23,812,763	11,295,986	35,108,749
			52,666,737	17,058,606	69,733,343
	Programme 3.3: Social networking and equal opportunities	Measure 3.3.1: Quality educational institutions and nurseries	14,912,967	7,039,043	21,952,010
		Measure 3.3.2: Intergenerational solidarity and social networking	24,116,359	6,369,754	30,494,113
		Measure 3.3.3: Right of residence	1,582,960	420,740	2,003,700
		Measure 3.3.4: Accessibility of healthcare and social services	8,961,951	2,521,569	11,483,520
		Measure 3.3.5: Support for NGOs	3,092,500	707,500	3,800,000
Programme 3.4:		14,036,237	8,242,891	22,602,662	



Priorities	Programme	Measures	In EUR		
			EU funds	Other sources	Total
	Culture	Measure 3.4.1: Improvement of conditions and promotion of the development of cultural creation and the protection of the cultural heritage of the local environment	14,036,237	8,242,891	22,602,662
	Programme 3.5: Sports		23,540,989	14,049,370	38,080,559
		Measure 3.5.1: Improvement of conditions for sports and recreation, and the promotion of development and inter-linking of sports programmes	23,540,989	14,049,370	38,080,559
Total value of the RDP for the 2014–2020 Period:			1,239,299,984	597,109,231	1,837,556,122

Source: Own presentation.



11.3. Other Potential Sources of Financing

11.3.1. Rural Development Programme

Owing to the limited general government funds, it is necessary to obtain funds for projects from other sources as well. In addition to the cohesion policy funds, another important source of funds will be the Urban Development Programme (see Table 15). The Urban Development Programme will also not distribute funds based on regional criteria, but we nevertheless expect to secure certain "LEADER" funds.

Table 15: Rural Development Programme of the Republic of Slovenia for the 2014–2020 Period

THEMATIC OBJECTIVE OF THE SSO (SKUPNI STRATEŠKI OKVIR)	MEASURES UNDER THE EAFRD
1. Strengthening of research, technological development and innovation	Consulting Participation
3. Increasing the competitiveness of SMEs, the agricultural sector (EAFRD) and the fisheries and maritime industry (EMFF)	Investments Young farmers Quality scheme Producer group Animal welfare
5. Incentivising adjustment to climate change and the prevention of the risk associated with such change	Agricultural, environmental and climate payments Organic farming Areas with limited factors
6. Preservation and protection of the environment, and the promotion of sustainable use of resources	Agricultural, environmental and climate payments Organic farming Areas with limited factors
8. Promotion of sustainable and quality employment and labour force mobility	Investments in non-agricultural activities Investments in forestry
9. Promotion of social inclusion and the fight against poverty and any type of discrimination	LEADER
10. Investments in education, skill-building and life-long learning	Knowledge sharing
Technical assistance	Technical assistance

Source: MEDT, Presentation of the Partnership Agreement, 2013



11.3.2. Cross-Border Projects

Cross-border and transnational projects will also represent an important source of funds. Even though municipalities and other development organisations from the Central Slovenia region were insufficiently involved in territorial cooperation projects in the 2007–2013 period, such involvement should/will be more extensive in the 2014–2020 financial perspective. Slovenia has at its disposal EUR 64 million worth of funds and will participate in 13 European territorial cooperation (ETC) programmes in the 2014–2020 programming period.

Funds will be allocated based on public calls for tenders, which is why it is difficult to assess the potential volume of funds.

11.3.3. Centralised Programmes

In addition to decentralised programmes, centralised programmes also hold a prominent position. In certain areas (CI, culture, nature protection), centralised programmes can be an important source of funds for the implementation of projects included in the LUR RDP 2014–2020.

Table 16: EU centralised programmes

THE PROGRAMME	FOCUS
Horizon 2020 (instead of 7, OP)	Excellent science, competitive industry, better society
COSME	Entrepreneurship and SME competitiveness, association with Horizon 2020
Connecting Europe Facility	Energy sector, transport, broadband connections, digital networks
Life +	Environment, efficient use of resources, biodiversity and nature, environment management and provision of information
Programme for Social Change and Innovation (PSCI)	Comprehensive programme for employment, social policy and inclusion
Creative Europe	Cultural and creative industries
ERASMUS for All	Programme for education, training, youth and sports (EUR 238 million)
Health for Growth	Innovative and sustainable healthcare systems, improved access to healthcare, promotion of health
Youth Employment Initiative	Fight against youth unemployment

Source: Derry City Council, Councillors Info Session NI EU Structural Funds 2014–2020: 20 March 2013.



11.3.4. Regional State Aid

When incentivising development at the regional level, regional state aid plays an important role. While eligibility and amount of co-financing were set at the state level in the previous programming period, they are set at the level of the two cohesion regions in the 2014–2020 period.

In the Guidelines for Regional State Aid in the 2014–2020 Period, the European Commission set the criteria for the definition of areas that meet the conditions for the granting of regional aid referred to in Article 107(3)(a) and (c) of the Treaty of the European Union: Areas that meet the said conditions and which a Member State wishes to designate as areas 'a' or 'c', must be designated in the regional aid map that must be declared to the European Commission and approved by the latter before regional aid can be granted to companies in these areas. The map must also indicate the highest levels of intensity of the aid applied in these areas. Regional aid schemes must be an integral part of the regional development strategy with clearly defined objectives and must contribute to the achievement of the latter. The form for the submission of information on regional aid maps provided under the 2014–2020 Guidelines stipulates that a Member State must submit information for each of the following area categories:

- area 'a',
- former areas 'a'.

The share of the population eligible for regional state aid has been determined for the Republic of Slovenia in Appendix I to the 2014–2020 Guidelines, i.e. by areas (see Table 17).

Table 17: Shares of the population eligible for regional state aid in 2014-2020

SLOVENIA	NUTS REGION	GDP PER CAPITA	PERCENTAGE OF THE COUNTRY'S POPULATION
Area 'a'	SI01 Vzhodna Slovenija (Eastern Slovenia)	71.67	52.92%
Previously designated areas 'c' (former areas 'a')	SI02 Zahodna Slovenija (Western Slovenia)	104	47.08%
Total eligible share of the population, 2014–2020			100.00%

Source: Guidelines for Regional State Aid in the 2014–2020 Period



The entire Eastern Slovenia is classified (according to NUTS 2) as area 'a', while the entire Western Slovenia is classified as area 'c'. According to the current programming period, there will be a general decrease in the intensity of regional state aid, which is presented in Table 18.

Table 18: Regional state aid intensity

ENTERPRIS ES	1. January 2007 - 30 June 2014	1 July 2014 - 31 December 2017		1 January 2018 - 31 December 2020	
		Vzhodna Slovenija	Zahodna Slovenija	Vzhodna Slovenija	Zahodna Slovenija
Large	30%	25%	15%	25%	10%
Medium	40%	35%	25%	35%	20%
Small	50%	45%	35%	45%	30%

Source: Proposed Decree on the regional aid map for 2014-2020

Aid intensity in areas 'a' (Vzhodna Slovenija) may not exceed 25% of the gross equivalent of non-refundable funds for NUTS 2 region, the GDP per capita of which is higher than 60% of the EU-27 average. The intensity of aid in areas 'c' (Zahodna Slovenija) may not exceed 10% of the gross equivalent of non-refundable funds, but may increase in certain former areas 'a' (Zahodna Slovenija) by up to 5% from 1 July 2014 to 31 December 2017. The maximum aid intensity levels thus determined may be increased by a maximum of 20% for small-sized enterprises or by a maximum of 10% for medium-sized enterprises. The 'gross equivalent of non-refundable funds' represents the discounted value of aid expressed as a percentage of the discounted value of eligible costs as calculated at the time of the granting of the aid based on a reference rate applied at the time of granting.

Increased aid intensity levels for SMEs will not be used for aid approved for large investment projects whereby a 'large investment project' represents an initial investment with eligible costs that exceed EUR 50 million calculated based on prices and exchange rates as at the date of the granting of the aid.



12. System for Monitoring, Evaluation and Organisation of RDP Implementation

Procedure for the Drafting of the RDP

The following regional level bodies are included in the RDP drafting procedure:⁵

- Regional Development Council of the LUR with committees;
- Council of the Region;
- Development Council of the Region with committees;
- RDA and
- other development stakeholders represented through the region's development network.

The Development Council of the Region conducts and directs the drafting of the RDP; expert, technical and administrative tasks that are part of the drafting of the RDP are performed by the RDA in cooperation with other development institutions in the region in accordance with the programme for the drafting of the RDP.

The start of the drafting of the RDP was determined by the adoption of the Decision on the Drafting of the RDP and the Programme for the Drafting of the RDP, which is adopted by the Development Council of the Region (both documents were adopted on 8 November 2012 by the Regional Development Council of the LUR, while the Programme for the Drafting of the RDP was adopted on 9 November 2012 by the Council of the LUR).

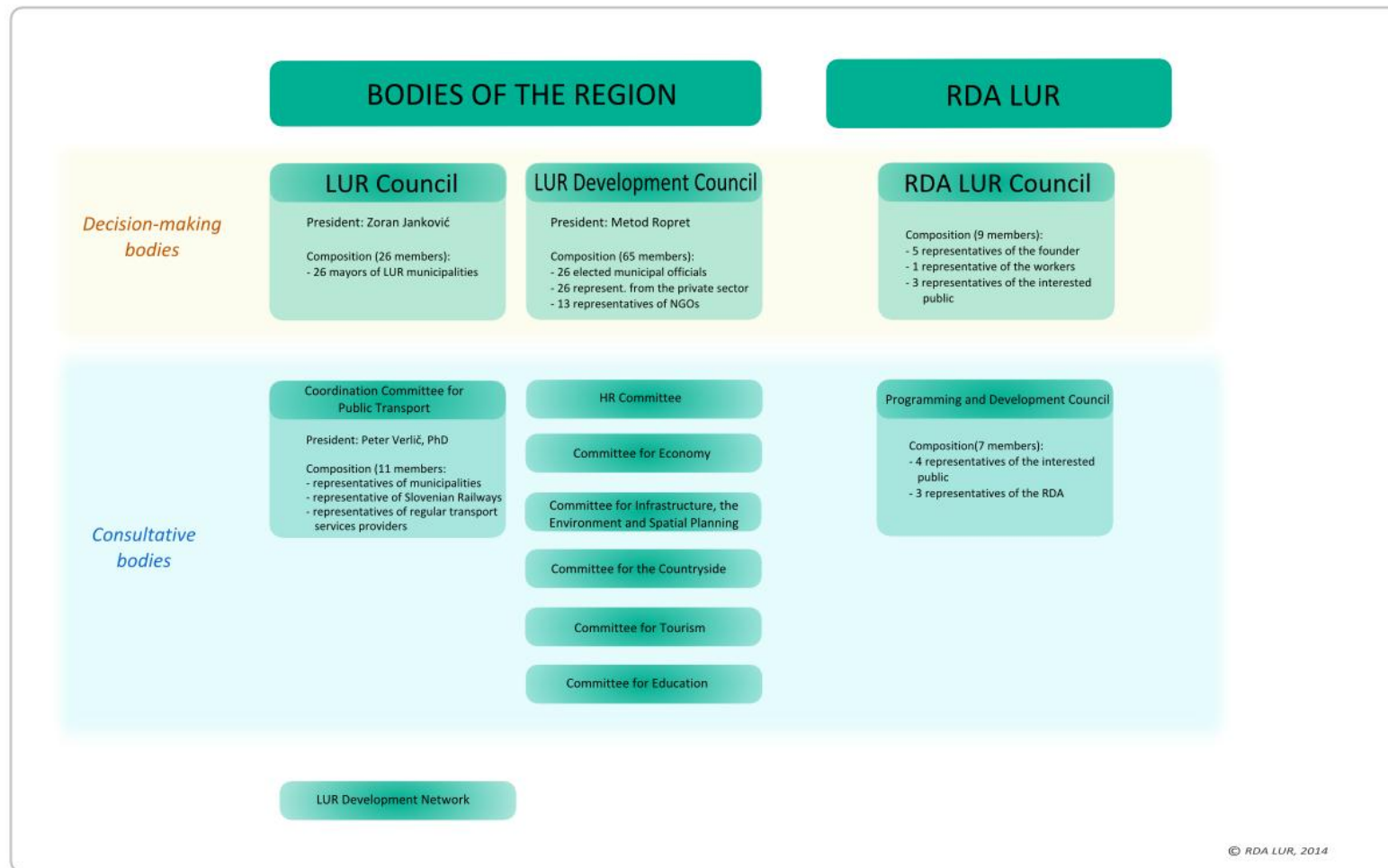
Figure 24 shows the bodies at the level of the region and the RRA LUR as well as their decision-making and consulting powers.

⁵ Development decisions at the level of the region and the cohesion region are adopted by the Development Council of the Region
Council of the Region and
Development Council of the Cohesion Region.

The Ljubljana urban region has not set up the new Development Council of the Region and the Development Council of the Cohesion Region at the start of the procedure for the drafting of RDP 2014–2020. The Council of the Region established pursuant to the Promotion of Balanced Regional Development Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, Nos. 93/05 and 127/06 – ZJZP) which is still discharging its duties as at the date of the entry into force of the Act proceeded to work in accordance with the Act. Until the new council is set up, its tasks will be performed by the Council of the Region and the Regional Development Council which were entered in the records of the Service as at the date of the entry into force of the Act. The Council of the Region is the decision-making body, while the Regional Development Council is its consultative body. The Development Council was established in the LUR on 12 December 2013.



Figure 24: Bodies of the region



Source: RRA LUR, 2014.



The Decision on the Drafting of the RDP includes an indication of the area of RDP drafting and the obligations of other development institutions in the region, provided they take part in said drafting in addition to the RDA.

The Programme for the Drafting of the RDP includes:

- an indication of the manager of the project for the drafting of the RDP and the members of the project group;
- an indication of other legal entities, the majority ownership of which is publicly owned, provided they take part in said drafting in addition to the RDA; and
- the timeline and financial plan for RDP drafting.

The RDP project manager is accountable to the Development Council for the substantive and operational management of RDP drafting. The project group includes the heads of committees of the Development Council.

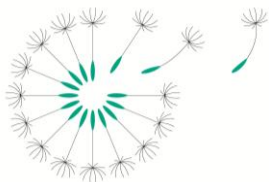
The Programme for the Drafting of the RDP must observe the timeline for the drafting of the national programme of development priorities and investments so that they are drafted in a coordinated manner. The RDP must be harmonised with national documents on development planning, i.e. the Development Strategy of Slovenia and the national development policies. It must comply with the national strategic spatial planning act. The region must also obtain guidelines regarding the spatial development of the region from the ministry responsible for spatial planning when drafting the RDP. The RDP must comply with the protection and development documents of protected and special protection areas, and must show the method development of the comparative advantages of the region vis-à-vis neighbouring regions and in terms of international development-related networking.

12.1. Organisation of RDP Implementation

The organisation of the implementation of the RDP document is laid down by the Decree on regional development programmes.

The RDP is adopted by the Development Council of the Region. The decision of the Development Council on the RDP and the agreement on the development of the region must then be confirmed by the Council of the Region that is composed of the mayors of all municipalities in the region.

RDP is realised through agreements on the development of the region (hereinafter: AoDR). The AoDR is defined as the key regional policy instrument that is concluded for a four-year period by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology (hereinafter: MEDT) and the Development Council of the Region. The procedure for the drafting of the AoDR begins with a



plan for the drafting of the agreement that is prepared together with the national programme of development priorities and investments, with which the AoDR must comply. The plan is drafted by the RDA. In addition to regional projects, the AoDR will include certain sectorial projects that are of importance for the region. Projects will be selected in agreement between the state and the region that will be achieved through a territorial development dialogue, which is a legally prescribed term defined as the method for the resolution of development problems and coordination of development decisions between different territorial levels.

The AoDR is drafted based on the invitation of the MEDT sent to the Development Council of the Region.

The role of the RDA in the formulation of the agreement on the development of regions is to verify or ensure the following upon the preparation of the proposed agreement on the development of the regions:

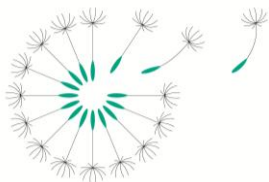
- financial feasibility of a project/programme and
- feasibility from the point of view of project siting;
- cooperation with joint municipal administrations (hereinafter: JMA), which have been set up for the area of spatial planning, when formulating the agreement on the development of the region.

12.2. Monitoring and Evaluation of RDP Effects

The method and system for the monitoring and valuation of the RDP are also laid down by the Decree on regional development programmes. The RDP must include the following in order to ensure effective monitoring:

- definition and description of the region's development priorities with quantified indicators and the indication of the sources of data for indicator monitoring;
- definition and detailed description of measures within an individual priority with quantified indicators and indicator monitoring sources;
- presentation of the most important regional projects with each project being provisionally presented so as to include a description of the indicators and the sources of data for indicator monitoring.

The Development Council of the Region is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the RDP and the realisation of the set RDP objectives. The same council is also responsible for adopting annual reports and the final RDP implementation report – all of these are prepared by the RDA. The RDA monitors the RDP indicators and the implementation of agreements on the development of regions using the ministry's information system, into which the RDA enters the data from the adopted RDP, agreement and projects.



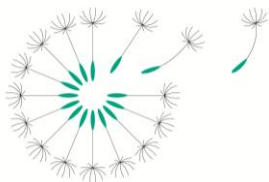
Annual reports and the final report on RDP implementation include the following:

- short indication of changes that are important for RDP implementation and their impact on the achievement of RDP objectives;
- progress in achieving the quantified objectives using physical and financial indicators;
- effects achieved after the implementation of individual measures and projects and
- summary of important difficulties in RDP implementation and measures taken to eliminate the same.

The annual report is submitted to MEDT within three months of the end of the calendar year, while the final report is submitted within six months of the end of the programming period.

As appropriate, the Development Council also proposes amendments to the RDP. The provisions of the decree regulating the procedure for the drafting of the RDP apply by analogy to the procedure for the drafting of amendments of the RDP.

The valuation of the RDP is performed by the RDA so that independent valuation experts are provided for each individual content or the entire programme.



13. System for the Provision of Information to and Notification of the Public on RDP Planning and Implementation

RRA LUR will communicate the information on the progress of the drafting of the RDP 2014–2020 by:

- organising professional events (conferences, consultations, workshops, meetings with the press);
- issuing publications (brochures, leaflets and flyers);
- preparing materials (for journalists and the professional public);
- providing information to media (press conferences, media releases and materials);
- publishing information on the website (Decision on the Drafting of the RDP, Programme for the Drafting of the RDP, adoption of the RDP, announcement of events, notices, reports on events, descriptions of regional projects, etc.).

The agency's communication activities associated with the notification of the public on the drafting and implementation of the RDP will relate to all of the stakeholders indicated below (see Figure 25 for a graphic presentation):

Relations with municipalities included in the LUR

LUR municipalities are one of the most important members of the agency's public as they make up the agency as the holder of a cross-section of development interests of municipalities that form the Central Slovenia region. Cooperation with municipalities is especially important in the phase of the preparation of long-term regional development programmes and their implementation. Regular, bilateral and inclusive communication is of the utmost importance for the successful realisation of the region's development.

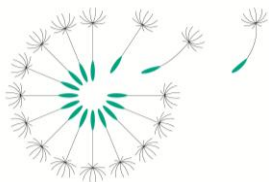
RRA LUR communicates with the municipalities mainly by:

- organising regular sessions with members;
- preparing materials for sessions;
- holding consultations with mayors; and
- advertising in the municipalities' newsletters.

Relations with economic stakeholders and the non-governmental sector stakeholders involved in regional development

The stakeholders that are involved in regional development are informed and involved by the RRA LUR in various ways depending on the needs and objectives of the RDP. Communication takes place mainly through:

- the organisation of professional consultations and various workshops as well as cooperation at such events;



- preparation of various materials and publications.

Relations with stakeholders involved in regional development projects and the development network

Communication tools similar to those outlined above are used by RRA LUR for the stakeholders that are involved in development projects. RRA LUR organises the following for them:

- participation in professional consultations and workshops;
- materials (project presentation materials, project presentations, etc.) and various publications.

Relations with stakeholders in the international environment (project partners, institutions in EU Member States and EU institutions)

RRA LUR devotes a lot of attention to the establishment of relations in the international environment and the formation of international consortia for the purposes of project implementation. For this reason, RRA LUR will prepare the following for the key regional projects:

- presentations for workshops and conferences for partner projects;
- presentations for the services of the European Commission and Parliament;
- presentations for professional excursions visiting other related organisations in the EU.

Media relations

Media are also an important public for the region. Relations with the media are built with the aim of establishing a positive image and positioning of the region's development needs in the eyes of the public. Media also serve as a way for the agency to reach the public that cannot be reached or addressed directly.

RRA LUR will use the following tools in its relations with the media:

- messages for the media;
- press conferences;
- materials for journalists;
- event invitations to journalists and
- participation in thematic media supplements.

Relations with the political public at the national level

It is not only the MEDT, but also the other development ministries and bodies that importantly influence the realisation of the region's strategic objectives over the 2014–2020 period. Relations with political decision-makers is not necessarily associated solely with the provision of funds for the implementation of the regional development programme – they are also associated with the general recognition of the Central Slovenia region.

In the past, RRA LUR communicated with the national level political decision-makers mainly through:

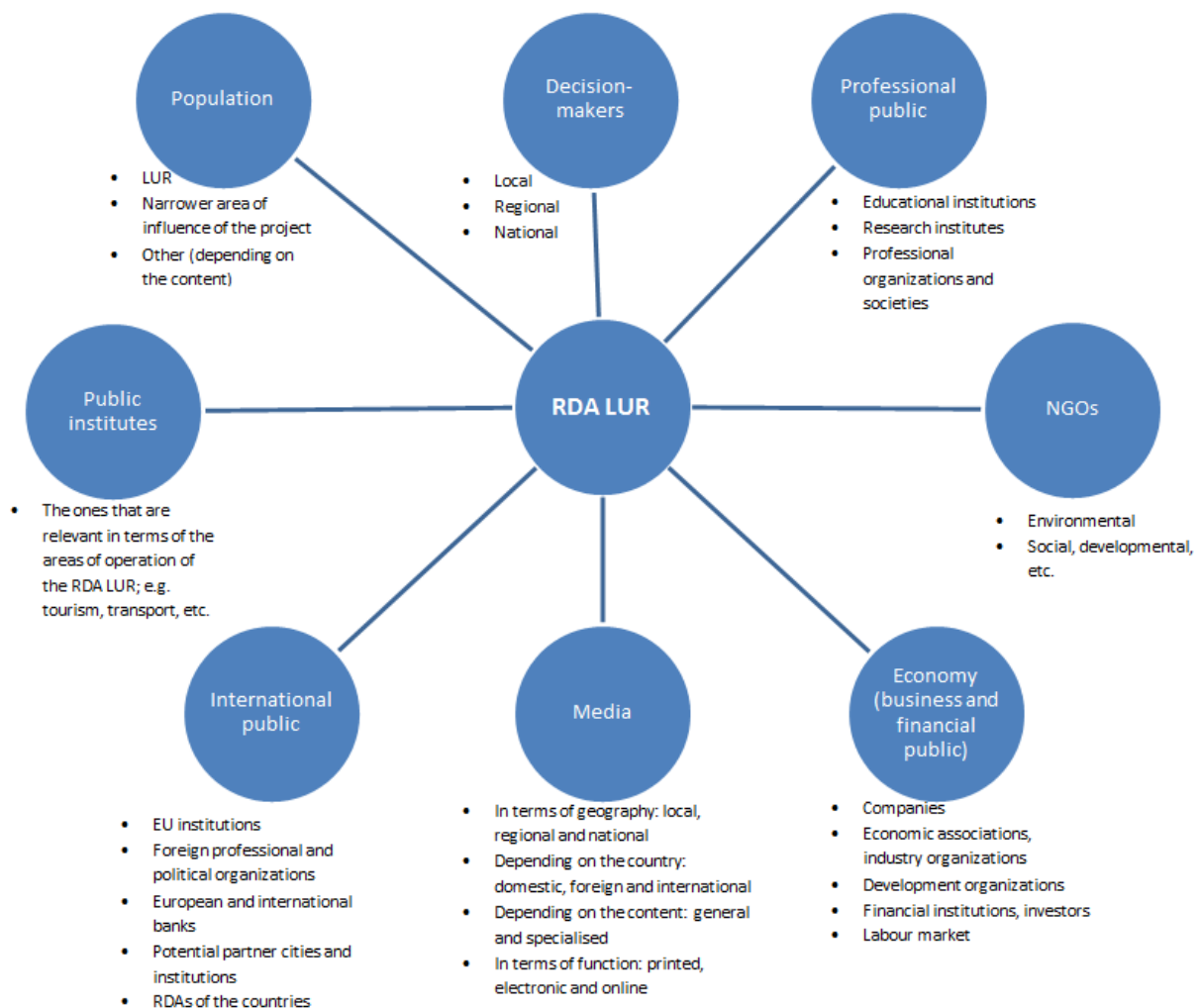


- written and other materials and
- active involvement in the preparation of regional development programmes.

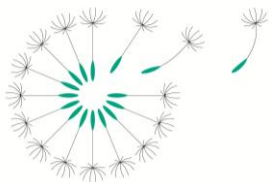
The RDA plans to prepare the following for the purpose of promotion of the LUR RDP 2014–2020:

- presentation folder;
- presentation leaflet;
- materials on regional projects;
- PPT presentations;
- promotion of the RDP and of the activities for the drafting of the RDP on the RRA LUR website.

Figure 25: Target publics of RRA LUR



Source: Own presentation.



14. Presentation of the Most Important Regional Projects

The projects presented in this chapter are divided into five sets according to their respective content.

The first set of projects includes national projects of strategic importance for the region. The projects can be classified under the following groups: economy, innovation, environment and transport. The following projects have been identified as being of national importance:

- development of arts academies;
- Ljubljana intermodal logistics terminal (ITL);
- construction of a hydroelectric power plant on the Sava River;
- Ljubljana passenger centre (Emonika);
- single PPT ticket;
- integration of all passenger transport systems;
- single PPT management point;
- act governing PPT;
- updating of regional railways;
- efficient operation of the regional railway network;
- upgrading of railway infrastructure;
- Ljubljana railway hub;
- rail connection to the airport at Brnik;
- regular passenger railway lines with neighbouring hubs;
- urban and suburban railway (USR) – design of new railways in the RS;
- Škofljica ring road;
- Želodnik - Vodice connecting road;
- Polhov Gradec ring road;
- IOC - Logatec ring road;
- Šentjakob - Stanežiče (Nemška cesta) ring road;
- Trzin - Študa connecting road and the Študa motorway entrance ramp;
- Brezovica motorway exit ramp and a connecting road to Notranje Gorice;
- Rovte ring road;
- northern ring road around Vrhnika;
- southern ring road around Vrhnika;
- Jeprca – Stanežiče – Brod connecting road;
- broadening of the Koseze – Kozarje motorway section into a 6-lane motorway;
- Šmarje Sap motorway ramp;
- Vrhnika motorway ramp;
- expansion of the Ljubljana ring road and inbound roads;
- renovation of a bridge on the Sava River in connection with a grade-separated crossing.

The second set of projects includes joint regional projects that will be implemented across Slovenia or one of the cohesion regions. The table below shows rough estimated of the project value for each joint regional project as well as the planned amount of EU co-financing.

The following joint regional projects have been identified:



Table 19: Indicative list of joint regional projects

in EUR millions

Project		Project value (LUR)	Planned EU co-financing
1.	Regional development fund	30.0	24.0
2.	Entrepreneurially into the Business World project 2014–2020	2.1	2.1
3.	Uniform regional scholarship schemes 2014-2020	2.5	2.0
4.	Implementation of the EU Community-Led Local Development initiative	10.0	8.0
5.	Support to smaller-scale projects by the NGO sector	2.8	2.2
6.	Sustainable mobility	60.0	51.0
7.	Technical support for regional development	4.2	3.4
8.	Technical support for international cooperation and international investment assistance	2.8	2.2
9.	Energy-oriented overhaul of public infrastructure	30.0	25.5
10.	VEM (one stop shop)	0.9	0.7
11.	Regional destination organisations 2014-2020	1.4	0.3
Total:		146.6	121.4

The third set of projects represents the most important regional projects. These will presumably also be subject to an agreement on the development of regions and will as may be envisaged be confirmed by way of the instrument for the direct confirmation of operations.

Criteria defined in the Decree on the implementation of endogenous regional policy measures will be observed for regional projects included in the agreement on the development of regions, i.e.:

- a.) content or purpose-related criteria:
 - effect on economic growth and jobs;
 - effect on the development of human potential;
 - positive impact on the environment;
 - contribution to the objectives of the region's spatial development;
- b.) criteria relating to the synergistic effects:
 - between the purposes referred to in the previous point;
 - with other projects;
 - regional integrity, development specialisation and inter-regional cooperation;
- c.) financial efficiency-related criteria:
 - effect of the project versus the funds invested.

Each project was designated a priority axis from the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the 2014–2020 Period (OP), from which an individual project will be financed. Certain projects meet the criteria of several priority axes of the OP in terms of content, but we nevertheless classified a project provisionally under the axis, the content of which is dominant for such a project,



Table 20: Indicative list of the most important regional projects

in EUR millions

Project	Project value (LUR)	Planned EU co-financing	Priority axis of OP
1. Ljubljana innovation crossroads	200.0	160.0	1
2. Construction and setup of a network of collection centres for the collection of waste/raw materials	10.2	8.7	1
3. Creative LUR	17.0	13.6	1
4. Bioregions of Europe - connected for the future	0.7	0.6	2
5. Development of sustainable tourism on the Ljubljana Marsh	7.6	5.9	3
6. Regional entrepreneurship centres	3.0	2.3	3
7. Social entrepreneurship incubator	0.6	0.6	3
8. PUSH HRP project - boosting the growth of fast-growing enterprises	2.6	1.9	3
9. dOffice - network of creative entrepreneurial spaces	1.7	1.3	3
10. Low-carbon vehicles of public services	10.3	8.8	4
11. Buses 110+	50.0	40.0	4
12. P+R point network	56.5	48.0	4
13. Assurance of flood safety in the LUR	34.0	27.2	5
14. Urban development (CTN)	25.0	20.0	6
15. Environmental and transport infrastructure - cohesion			6
16. Modern direct PPT lines*			7
17. Network of regional cycling connections*			7
18. Regional spatial planning	1.0	0.8	7
19. Self-supply of the Central Slovenia region	8.0	6.4	8
20. Social incubator	2.6	2.1	9
21. Network of intergenerational centres in the LUR	17.9	14.2	9
22. Career competence model	2.0	1.6	10
Total:	450.6	363.7	

*The estimated value of these projects is observed in the joint regional projects.

The fourth set comprises other projects. The projects reasonably merge the 495 project proposals that RRA LUR received during the phase of project recording within the scope of the procedure for the drafting of the RDP and during the phase of the supplementation of the 1st and 2nd working drafts. The list of projects is provided in Appendix 1 to this document.

The fifth set includes cohesion projects that were approved by the Ministry of the Environment in its role of an intermediary body and were then sent by it for confirmation to the management body or the projects are still being formally harmonised by the intermediary body. These are projects that already have finally selected works contractors and are prepared for implementation and thus represent minimum risk of loss of funds from the European cohesion policy for the 2007–2013 period. In order for these projects to be confirmed, the decision of the Government of the RS of 14 November 2013 requires the granting of a free right of use within the scope of the regular funds granted under the OP ETID and additional rights of use. In its decision, the Government of the RS namely stipulated that the MEDT-OU may issue decisions on the granting of funds for the said projects only after it had received a written notification from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food in its role of an intermediary body on the free rights of use for the co-financing of an individual project. The Government of the RS also issued a decision on 6 November 2014 on the priority treatment of 11 projects of 34 municipalities that meet the conditions from the new financial perspective.

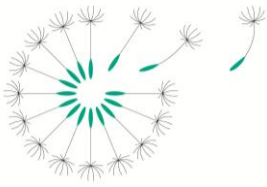


Table 21: Indicative list of cohesion projects affecting LUR territory

in EUR millions

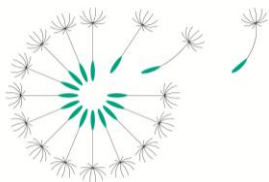
Project		Municipalities included in the project	Project value (LUR)	Planned EU co-financing	Priority axis of OP
1.	Construction of phase III of the Ljubljana Central Waste Water Treatment Plant	City municipality of Ljubljana	40.2	34.2	6
2.	Upgrade of the system for the drainage of municipal waste water in the Medvode and Vodice municipalities and the construction of the C0 lateral line in the CLJ	City municipality of Ljubljana, Medvode, Vodice	28.7	24.4	6
3.	Drainage and treatment of waste water from the territory of Domžale - Kamnik	Kamnik, Cerklje na Gorenjskem, Domžale, Komenda,	23.9	20.3	6
4.	Drinking water supply in the territory of Domžale - Kamnik	Domžale, Kamnik, Mengeš, Moravče	11.0	9.0	6
5.	Drinking water supply – Ljubljanica; lot 2	Brezovica, Log- Dragomer, Logatec, Škofljica	6.7	5.7	6
6.	Drainage and treatment of waste water in the catchment area of the Ljubljanica River - lot 3 (Log- Dragomer Municipality)	Log-Dragomer	11.5	7.4	6
7.	Drinking water supply in the territory of Suha krajina	Žužemberk, Mirna Peč, Dolenjske Toplice, Dobropolje, Kočevje	35.7	21.2	6
8.	Drinking water supply in the territory of the Upper Sava River - lot 1	Cerklje na Gorenjskem, Komenda, Kranj, Šenčur, Vodice	19.4	10.9	6
Skupaj:			177.2	133.2	

The Central Slovenia statistical region is facing the lowest share of treated municipal waste water (44%). The region has also not yet resolved the issue of the outfitting of agglomerations with a joint load that is equal or greater than 2.000 PE and do not yet meet the requirements of



Directive 91/271/EEC. The construction of the missing infrastructure for the supply of drinking water will ensure long-term suitability (in terms of quantity and quality) of water sources, the connection to the public water distribution system and the reduction of water losses. The execution of investments into the public utilities infrastructure will enable the attainment of relevant environmental standards, further development of municipalities and the region (economic, social, tourism, etc.), and will also ensure a high quality of living for the region's population. The implementation of projects follows the development priorities of the region for the growth of the competitiveness of the regional economy, preservation of the environment and sustainable use of resources as well as the goal of the Ljubljana urban region being a people-friendly region.

Activities and projects on the regional level are also underway and some of them with concrete results are already being sited (e.g. construction of P+R points). Expert groundwork for projects on the level of the region has been produced and represents expert groundwork for the drafting of the regional spatial plan of the Ljubljana urban region. These cover the area of railway transport such as Railway Hub Cities and TEN-T network, Urban Railway Hubs: an essential element of transport connections in South-Eastern Europe. Expert groundwork has been produced for the navigability of the Ljubljanica River. A map has been produced for projects that presents locations of individual activities. This map will serve as an example for maps that will be produced for projects that will be drafted in the 2014-2020 period.



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