

The VNR in a Nutshell – National Strategies for SDGs.

Slovenia

Capital	Ljubljana
Population	2.065 Million
Area (in sq. km)	20,273 km ²
Language(s)	Slovene
Human Development Index	0.465
Gross domestic product (GDP)	21,304.57 USD
International	
Tourist Arrivals (2015)	2707

Sources: UNDP, World Bank



The recognition of the role of tourism in sustainable development and the emphasis placed in the SDGs on the development of public policies for sustainable tourism is a landmark breakthrough that provides a unique opportunity for all governments to create a sound and favourable policy foundation.

The first two years of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda have shown that countries are making headway in aligning national strategies, adapting institutional frameworks and adjusting policies to realize the SDGs.

The countries' efforts have been reported in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), presented by UN Member States during the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2016 and 2017

Title of VNR: Voluntary National Review on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda Report to the UN High Level Political Forum 2017 on Sustainable Development

Presenter for VNR: H.E. Minister Alenka Smerkolj, Minister for Development, Strategic Projects and Cohesion

National Thematic Focus:

The central goal of the strategy will focus on ensuring a high quality of life for all. It will be achieved through a balanced economic, social, and environmental development that creates the conditions and opportunities for the current and future generations. At the level of an individual, a high quality of life is reflected in: (i) good opportunities for work, education, and creativity, (ii) a decent, safe, and active life in a healthy and clean environment, and (iii) inclusion in democratic decision-making and in the co-management of society.

Institutional Arrangement:

The **Minister for Development and European Cohesion Policy** is responsible for implementing the SDGs in close cooperation with the **Minister for Foreign Affairs** and all other ministers.

In 2017, Slovenia established the **Permanent Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Development Policies** to promote policy coherence, raise awareness about the 2030 Agenda among ministries, and maintain partnerships with all stakeholders. It is headed by the **Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy** and composed of two representatives from each ministry, who serve as focal points for development policies and the 2030 Agenda at their respective ministries.

SDG Incorporation to National Framework:

The 2030 Agenda is closely aligned with the **Vision of Slovenia**, released in 2017 following extensive public consultations.

In December 2017, Slovenia's Government adopted also the National Development Strategy 2030, which is a strategy for implementing country's long-term vision. The strategy specifically aligns the priorities and goals of the SDGs with national priorities and targets. The Slovenian Development Strategy 2030 establishes key strategic orientations, and focuses on ensuring a better quality of life for all through balanced and inclusive economic, social, and environmental development.

Furthermore, Slovenia is in the process of the general overhaul of the regulatory framework of the international development cooperation.

Tourism Ministry /NTA portfolio:

[Directorate for Tourism and Internationalization, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology](#)

Tourism and SDG in Slovenia:

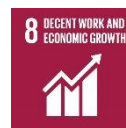
Opportunities:

- **Sustainable Consumption and Production**



- The GSST is the central mechanism in developing and promoting sustainable tourism in Slovenia. This national programme is designed to promote **sustainable tourism based on the European ETIS and global GSTC criteria**. The programme, which allows comparison with other sustainable destinations around the globe, includes the national character, which makes Slovenia unique. In terms of communication, the scheme has been supported by the Slovenia Green Destination brand, which is awarded to destinations, and the **Slovenia Green Accommodation brand**, which is awarded to accommodation facilities. Ljubljana was the first city to receive the Slovenia Green Destination award, and since then the Slovenia Green mark has been awarded to 21 destinations, 13 providers, and three parks. This certification scheme works as a tool for consumers to verify green and sustainable efforts and as a platform for organisations to build upon in order to follow our slogan Slovenia. Green. Active. Healthy. and to achieve the goal: Slovenia – 100% green. Achieving the Sustainable Development

- **Partnerships**
- **Waste Management**
- **Industry, Transport and Infrastructure development**
- **Tourism diversification**
- **SMEs and Entrepreneurship promotion**



- **Building Tourist Infrastructure:** Slovenia as a Responsible Global Citizen supports environmental infrastructure projects in partner countries, especially in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe. In the Žabljak community in the north of Montenegro, we contribute to developing mountain tourism and focus on completing the environmental infrastructure (wastewater treatment, waste-sorting centre, and remediation of landfills) and building tourist infrastructure, thus promoting entrepreneurship in connection with sports and environment protection.

- **Employment creation**
- **Youth employment**
- **SMEs and Entrepreneurship promotion**



- Slovenia, recently selected as one of the top green destinations, is renowned for its sustainable tourism. Not only in the private sector, but also in the **youth sector**. Youth centres across Slovenia are developing **youth tourism** through sustainable and environment-friendly solutions, cooperation with local product and service providers, the use of natural materials, and the introduction of self-sustainable practices. Such practices, supported with public funds, create jobs for young people and promote local culture and products

Threats:

- **Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Protection**



- FRISCO1 is one of Slovenia's measures to reduce the **flood risk** and to improve the system of flood risk management. The main goal of the planned FRISCO1 measures is protecting human lives and property and reducing damage in the event of floods. Apart from the increased flood safety in these cross-border river basins, **the conditions for sustainable tourism development**, and the preservation of the rich biological diversity of the border area will also be improved.

Resources and Useful Links

[Slovenia VNR 2017](#)