



# Country case of Slovenia: Governance of ALE / LLL sector

Teja Dolgan

Head of Adult education unit

Upper Secondary, Short-Cycle Higher Vocational and  
Adult Education Directorate, Ministry of Education,  
Slovenia



# General facts and features about Slovenia

Country area: total 20.273 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: cca. 2 million - aging quickly; increasing due to migrations, births growing slowly

Neighbouring countries: Austria, Italy, Hungary, Croatia

The capital: Ljubljana (pop. 294.000)

Landscape: The territory of Slovenia is geographically divided into four basic types of landscape - Alpine in the north, Mediterranean in the south-west, Dinaric in the south and Pannonian in the east.

Unemployment: 3.4 %

GDP: SI for 2023: 1.6 %



# Public expenditure on education

Public expenditure on education reached cca 5.3 % of GDP in 2023.

Annual Adult Education Programme for 2024: 92.5 mio EUR.



# In the domain of the Ministry of Education

- pre-school education,
- compulsory basic education (integrated primary and lower secondary education),
- basic music education,
- upper secondary education,
- short-cycle higher education,
- adult education.





# Adult Education in Slovenia

- basic public interest principle: **lifelong education and learning for all.**
- Adult Education Master Plan, adopted by the National Assembly on the proposal of the Government, typically for a period of 10 years.
- Adult Education Master Plan supports the systematic regulation of the field, helps to identify priorities and content related activities for the development of adult education, as well as to allocate public funds (state and ESF) by ministries that participate in joint planning.



# Adult Education: stakeholders

- ministries,
- Slovenian Institute for Adult Education,
- chambers,
- associations,
- trade unions,
- NGOs ...



# Building the system of ALE

- ministry cooperates with stakeholders at the national and regional level,
- our main collaborators are representatives of various associations and organizations,
- we include them whenever important issues are on the table,
- we try to bring our points of view closer together,
- we try to understand each other's views



# Building the system of ALE - Important things happened

- civil society helped establish SIAE,
- The Government established the **Professional Council for Adult Education** to decide on professional matters in adult education and to provide professional assistance in making decisions and preparing regulations,
- important representatives were members of the working group for the preparation of the **Act on Adult Education**,
- stakeholders were involved in numerous public debates upon the adoption of the law; many initiatives have been considered,
- we even defined our cooperation in law,



# Building the system of ALE - building a relationship

- treating stakeholders as equal partners,
- get to know each other,
- recognize when to include each of them,
- stakeholders recognize the advantage of joint action between them (stronger together)



Thank you for your attention.

[teja.dolgan@gov.si](mailto:teja.dolgan@gov.si)