

Slovenia – some facts

- 20.000 km²
- 2 million inhabitants
- 1.370 km of borders, 4 neighbouring countries
- 212 municipalities
- no regional level



- Madrid convention and two additional protocols
Slovenia signed in 1998, ratified in 2003
- Protocol no.3 (ECG) Slovenia signed in 2009,
ratified in 2011
- ECG entry into force March 2013, 6 ratifications

Harmonisation of the Slovene legislation was not needed



Periods of CBC

- period to y.1994
- period from 1994 to 2004 – EU pre-accession aids for Central and Eastern Europe (2000 – 2006 programs PHARE and INTEREG III)
- period after Slovenian membership to EU in y. 2004

Areas of cooperation:

- cooperation on the working areas of municipalities (sport, culture, tourism)
- projects co-financed by EU (“soft projects” and investments in infrastructure)
- cooperation at natural disasters (fireman brigades in civil protection)



Complementarity of EU regulation with Slovenian legal system

Decree of Slovene government on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation specify:

- entities established under Slovenian law, which can establish, participate in the establishment or join the EGTC;
- acquirement of legal personality, the right to operate in Slovenia and the scope of the legal capacity of the EGTC and the registration;
- the authority responsible for granting participation in the establishment of an EGTC established in Slovenia and the membership of entities from Slovenia into an EGTC established in another member state of the EU, and the authority responsible for approving the amendment to the EGTC convention;
- the procedure for approval participation in the establishment of an EGTC established in Slovenia and for the membership of legal entities from Slovenia into an EGTC, and
- the procedure for approval of membership of an entity from a third country bordering at least one of the member states of EU whose entities are members of an EGTC established in Slovenia.



Obstacles to the CBC in Slovenia

There are still obstacles that slow down CBC:

A. Administrative obstacles

- Slovenian administrative system is not fully comparable with systems in neighboring countries (no regional level)
- general administrative obstacles in Slovenia
- Border municipalities are mostly small
- Weak financial capacity of border municipalities

B. "Real life" obstacles

- weak traffic connections
- depopulation trends and emigration of young population
- high unemployment rate,
- dependence on traditional industries and lack of entrepreneurial climate
- lack of information, knowledge and organizational structures



Challenges to the CBC

All forms of CBC we estimate as positive !

Challenges:

- choice to build appropriate structure under ECG or EGTC – legal texts are flexible enough
- grass-root approach with assistance of higher administrative levels (ministries in SLO case)
- different possible approaches - combined:
 - ✓ multi-level governance structures
 - ✓ a wide range of policy areas (culture, sport, environment, civile protection)
 - ✓ small-scale cooperation structures

