



Poslovni nasvet pred vašimi vrati

The Enterprise Europe Network has 6 Offices in Slovenia. The Consortium Involves the following partners:

JSI - The Jožef Stefan Institute (Coordinator)
<http://www.ijs.si/>

MDA – Maribor development Agency
<http://www.mra.si>

CIMRS - Center for interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research and studies University of Maribor
<http://www.cimrs.si>

CCIS – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia
<http://www.gzs.si/>

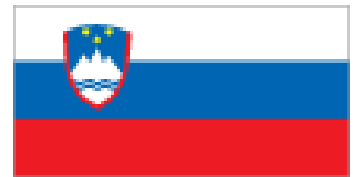
CCS – Chamber of Craft and small Business of Slovenia
<http://www.ozs.si>

UPSRC – University of Primorska-Science and Research Centre of Koper
<http://www.zrs.upr.si>

Enterprise Europe Network Slovenia web page: www.een.si

COUNTRY FACT SHEET

Slovenia



BASIC DATA

Area: 20,273 km²
 Population: 2,001,114 (30.6.2005)
 Population density: 98.7 inh. per km²
 Language: Slovene; also Italian and Hungarian in nationally mixed areas
 Nationalities: (2002 census): Slovenian 1,631,363; Italian 2,258; Hungarian 6,243; other Nationalities: 149,259; nationality undeclared: 174,913;
 Religion: Roman Catholic (82%)
 Capital city: Ljubljana
 Other major cities: Maribor, Celje, Kranj, Velenje, Ptuj, Koper, Novo Mesto, Jesenice, Trbovlje, Nova Gorica, Murska Sobota
 Administrative divisions: Slovenia is divided into 210 municipalities of which 11 have urban status.
 Time zone: Central European Time (UTC) GMT+1

Currency: euro (since 1 January 2007)
 Political system: parliamentary republic
 Electricity: 220V/50Hz (European plug)
 Calling Code: + 386

Economic Data (2008):
 Currency: Euro (EUR)
 GDP (EUR million) 35,691
 GDP per Capita: 17,382
 Real GDP growth 3,5%

Structure of GDP
 Agriculture, forestry and fishing: 2%
 Industry and construction: 29,4%
 Manufacturing: 19,5%
 Services: 55,6%

Inflation: 5,7%

Key Industries
 Automotive
 Chemical & Pharmaceutical
 Electrical and electronics Industry
 ICT
 Distribution & Logistics
 Machining & Metalworking

Political data:
 State organisation: Republic
 Political System: parliamentary democracy
 President: Danilo Türk
 Prime Minister: Borut Pahor
 Membership of International Organisations: UN, NATO, EU, CEI, CEFTA,

WHY INVEST IN SLOVENIA

1. Location Advantage&Climate

Slovenia is distinguished by the varied mosaic of its landscape which stretches between the Adriatic Sea and the Alps. Lying at a junction of natural trading routes, Slovenia is sometimes also referred to as the revolving door of Europe. In the last decade and a half, Slovenia has raised itself from anonymity to a top country among the EU member states. It is proud of its policies, and enviable rich industrial history, traditional openness to the world, rational economic development. As a member of the European Union, Slovenia now has trade links primarily with Western Europe. It is known as a small, but reliable partner, with a rational way of doing things, and a highly educated labour force. Moreover, Slovenes are very proud to be known as a very hard-working nation.

2. Slovenian Infrastructure

When it comes to outsourcing business services or offshoring your operations, Slovenia is a superb choice. Slovenia's geographical advantage, multiple languages, cultural diversity, excellent infrastructure and cost-effective support functions give it a cutting edge for big and small international companies seeking entry into the markets of East and Southeast Europe. Transport by rail and road prevails over air traffic due to Slovenia's short distances. The transport system consists of nearly 27,000 km of modern roads, 1,228 km of railway lines, three airports for international passenger and freight transport, an international cargo port and several smaller ports. Slovenia's marinas and the Port of Koper serve the businesses in the land-locked Central European countries to send and receive goods by sea and as a starting point for family cruises or regattas. The deep-water port boast a broad line-up of facilities for the thriving container operations, auto and bulk business. It provides the shortest link for transporters to the Mediterranean, and through the Suez Canal to the Middle and the Far East. Cargo sent by train to the distribution centre in the Port of Koper travels ten days less than cargo sent by sea from North European ports. The port operator is planning a range of new facilities, as well as distribution and logistics functions to strengthen its status of an entry/exit port for the European internal market.

Slovenia's national air carrier Adria Airways has a modern fleet that carries

well over one million passengers annually aboard scheduled flights to 27 European cities. Ljubljana boasts a recently modernised airport and caters to over 1.5 million passengers, and over 21,700 tonnes of goods a year.

3. Economic Advantage

There are many attributes that make Slovenia a location of choice for a broad spectrum of investors. The country's capital is geographically located within one- hour drive of 450 million consumers in Europe in all directions. This makes it very central for foreign investment to serve the emerging markets on the Balkans at reasonable overall business costs. Slovenia pulls much of its strength from its workforce, providing a well-educated and internationally savvy workforce; the citizens are multilingual and friendly. Slovenia's pivotal position at the cross-roads of transport routes, well-developed ITC and physical infrastructure, technological networks and platforms, centres of excellence and clusters as evidence of a high-level innovation activity, make it a location of choice for many types of businesses. Strong commercial contacts across Easter and Southeastern Europe, excellent infrastructure, a major Adriatic port, and a highly educated work force have attracted many foreign companies. Positive economic effects of Slovenia's integration into the internal EU market are expected to keep its real economic growth well above 4% also by deploying the EU structural aid for technological development. Foreign investors initiating ventures of more than € 0.5 million may apply for an investment bonus package under government cost-sharing grant schemes. Effort to attract inward investment in the second part of the decade focuses on jobs created in a medium/high technology manufacturing sector, in an internationally traded service activity or in research & development.

INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

Slovenia attempts to encourage investments from foreign residents. The following are among the reasons that foreign investors are attracted to Slovenia:

Fiscal incentives

The general corporate tax rate is among the lowest in Europe (21% of the taxable base in 2009, lowering to 20% in 2010).

Financial incentives-Foreign companies making direct investments in Slovenia may apply for financial grants. Grants are

available for investments in industry, strategic services (Customer Contact Centres, Shared Services Centres, Logistics and Distribution Centres, Regional Headquarters) and R&D.

Local incentives

Municipalities may offer different forms of incentives which are negotiated on a case-by-case basis. These incentives may include easy access to industrial sites, utility connections and holidays from local taxes.

Employment incentives

The Employment Service of Slovenia applies a series of measures to encourage employment through which it advises and finally supports employers that employ new workers. Employers who intend to hire unemployed persons may apply for free training and retraining provided by local employment offices throughout Slovenia.

Export incentives

The SID Bank (similar to the German Hermes or French Coface companies) provides relief intended to stimulate and protect exports (see Insurance and financing of Slovenian exports).

Sources:

<http://www.investslovenia.org>

<http://www.gzs.si>

<http://www.stat.si/>