



Study on the extent to which and how Member States used the ESF and the ERDF in the programming periods 2007– 2013 and 2014–2020 to support their justice system

Member State Chapter Slovenia



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Study on the extent to which and how Member States used the ESF and the ERDF in the programming periods 2007– 2013 and 2014–2020 to support their justice system

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List of abbreviations

Abbreviation in English (as used in the report)	Full name/title in English	Full name/title in original language
AIR	Annual Implementation Reports	Letna poročila o izvajanju
C	Courts	Sodišča
CC	Constitutional Court	Ustavno sodišče
CSR	Country Specific Recommendations	Priporočila za posamezno državo
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund	Evropski sklad za regionalni razvoj
ESF	European Social Fund	Evropski socialni sklad
HRD	Human resources development	Razvoj človeških virov
JTC	Judicial Training Centre	Center za izobraževanje v pravosodju
MA	Managing Authority	Organ upravljanja
MJ	Ministry of Justice	Ministrstvo za pravosodje
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework	Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir
OP	Operational Programme	Operativni program
OP for HRD	Operational Programme for human resources development	Operativni program razvoja človeških virov
PA	Partnership Agreement	Partnerski sporazum
PP	Public Prosecution	Državno tožilstvo
PRS	Slovenian Business Register	Poslovni register Slovenije
SA	State Attorneys	Državno odvetništvo / Državno pravobranilstvo
SC	Supreme Court	Vrhovno sodišče
TO	Thematic objective	Prednostna os

Document checklist

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF)	National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013	Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
Partnership Agreement (PA)	Partnership Agreement between Slovenia and the European Commission for the period 2014–2020	Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Annex 1 (list of partners) to Partnership Agreement	Priloga 1 (seznam partnerjev) k Partnerskemu sporazumu	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Annex 2 (Ex-ante Conditionalities) to Partnership Agreement	Priloga 2 (predhodne pogojenosti) k Partnerskemu sporazumu	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Operational Programme (OP)	Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Operational Programme for strengthening regional development potentials for the period 2007–2013	Operativni program za krepitev regionalnih razvojnih potencialov	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Operativni program razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020	Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, as excluded in ISS
		Operational Programme za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, različica 2.0	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (A more up-to-date)

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Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020, Version 2.0	Operativni program za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, različica 2.1	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	version was included) Yes	Yes
	Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020, Version 2.1	Priloga 1 (predhodne pogojenosti) k Operativnemu programu	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Annex 1 (Ex-ante Conditionalities) to Operational Programme	Priloga 2 (seznam partnerjev) k Operativnemu programu	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as exclude in ISS
	Annex 2 (List of partners) to Operational Programme								
Needs assessments									

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Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Country Specific Recommendations	Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2012 of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2015	/	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in the ISS
	Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2013 of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2016	Priporočilo Sveta v zvezi z nacionalnim reformnim programom Slovenije za leto 2013 in mnenje Sveta o slovenskem programu stabilnosti za obdobje 2012–2016	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Council Recommendation of 9 July 2013 on the National Reform Programme 2013 for Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2016	/	/	Yes	/	yes	Yes	yes	Yes
	Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2014 and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme 2014	PRIPOROČILO SVETA v zvezi z nacionalnim reformnim programom Slovenije za leto 2014 in mnenje Sveta o slovenskem programu stabilnosti za leto 2014	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Council Recommendation of 14 July 2015 on the 2015 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2015 Stability Programme of Slovenia	/	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Council Recommendation of 12 July 2016 on the 2016 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2016 Stability Programme of Slovenia	/	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the 2016 national reform programme of Slovenia and delivering	/	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	a Council opinion on the 2016 stability programme of Slovenia								
Action Plans	Action plan e-justice	Akcijski načrt E-pravosodje	Yes	/	No	/	Yes	No (The document was not publicly available)	No
	Action plan to accelerate drawing of EU funds for the Convergence objective	Akcijski načrt za pospešitev črpanja evropskih kohezijskih sredstev cilja Konvergenca	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Action plan for e-justice 2014–2018 (EP resolution)	Akcijnski načrt za e-pravosodje 2014–2018 (resolucija EP)	/	yes	/	yes	yes	Yes/No (it mentions justice but does not refer to Slovenia)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Evaluation plan	Evaluation plan for implementation of operational programmes of EU cohesion policy in Slovenia 2007–2013: Goal 1, Operational Programme for human resources development in the period 2007–2013	Načrt vrednotenja izvajanja operativnih programov evropske kohezijske politike v Sloveniji 2007–2013: Cilj 1, Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Evaluation plan for the implementation of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020. Version 1.2	Načrt vrednotenja izvajanja Operativnega programa evropske kohezijske politike v Sloveniji v obdobju 2014–2020. Različica 1.2	/	yes	/	yes	no	yes (Relevant for planning of evaluation in second period)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Ex-ante evaluation	Report on Ex-ante Evaluation for the Operational Programme for Human Resources Development 2007–2013	Poročilo o predhodnem vrednotenju za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Ex-ante evaluation report and Environmental report for Operational Programme for strengthening regional development potentials for the period 2007–2013	Poročilo o predhodnem vrednotenju in Okoljsko poročilo za Operativni program krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Ex-ante evaluation of Operational Programme for human resources development 2007–2013 and operational programmes for EU regional development fund 2007–2013	Predhodno vrednotenje Operativnega programa za razvoj človeških virov 2007–2013 in operativnih programov za Evropski sklad za regionalni razvoj 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Ex-ante evaluation and comprehensive assessment of environmental impact with the addition of a protected area (Natura 2000)	Predhodno vrednotenje in celovita presoja vplivov na okolje z dodatkom za varovana območja (Natura 2000) za Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske	/	yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	for the Operational Programme for implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020, Environmental report (final document) Ex-ante evaluation and comprehensive assessment of environmental impact with the addition of a protected area (Natura 2000) for the Operational Programme for implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020, Addition to the final report	politike 2014–2020, Okoljsko poročilo (končno gradivo) Predhodno vrednotenje in celovita presoja vplivov na okolje z dodatkom za varovana območja (Natura 2000) za Operativni program za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Priloga h končnemu poročilu	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	No ¹	No, as excluded in ISS
Ex-post evaluation	ESF Ex-post Evaluation Synthesis 2007–2013 Country Report – Slovenia	/	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Final evaluation of implementation of ESS measures to support social inclusion and ensure equal opportunities in the period 2007–2013	Končno vrednotenje izvajanja ukrepov ESS za spodbujanje socialne vključenosti in zagotavljanja enakih možnosti v obdobju 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Ex post evaluation of Cohesion Policy programmes 2007–2013, focusing on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund (CF), Task 3 Country Report Slovenia	/	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Final evaluation of the operational programmes in the programming period 2007–2013 in Slovenia	Končno vrednotenje izvajanja operativnih programov programskega obdobja 2007–2013 v Sloveniji	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

¹ The document was reviewed but excluded, as it did not provide any relevant information for Task 1.

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Interim evaluation									
Annual Implementation Reports (AIR) (for each relevant OP)									
2007	2007 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational programme for Human Resources Development for the Period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2007 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2007 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2007 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2007 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2007 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2008	2008 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2008 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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	2008 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2009	2009 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Program for Human Resources Development for the Period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2009 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2009 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2009 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2009 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2009 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2010	2010 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2010 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2010 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007 – 2013	Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
2011	2011 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2011 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2011 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2011 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2011 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2011 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2012	2012 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2012 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2012 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2012 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2012 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2012 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2013	2013 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
			Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	2013 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2013 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013							Yes, as excluded in ISS
2014	2014 Annual Report on the Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the Period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2014 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure development for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007 – 2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	2007 Annual report on implementation of Operational Programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials for the period 2007–2013	Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2015	Annual and final reports on the implementation of the goal 'investments for growth and jobs', Version 2015.3	Letna in končna poročila o izvajanju cilja 'naložbe za rast in delovna mesta', Različica 2015.3	/	yes	/	yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
2016	Annual and final reports on the implementation of the goal 'investments for growth and jobs', Version 2016.0	Letna in končna poročila o izvajanju cilja 'naložbe za rast in delovna mesta', Različica 2016.0	/	yes	/	yes	yes	Yes	Yes

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Annual Progress Reports									
Annual Work Programme (AWP)									
Any other evaluation									
Any other relevant study previously undertaken									
Calls for proposals									
Consultation of stakeholders									
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Decision	Final Decisions of the 4th Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Končni sklepi 4. seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	yes	/	yes	no	no	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Minutes	Final Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Končni zapisnik 1. seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Final Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the	Končni zapisnik 2. seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020							
	Final Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Končni zapisnik 3. seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Draft of the Minutes of the 1st Correspondence Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Osnutek zapisnika 1. dopisne seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Final Minutes of the 2nd Correspondence Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Končni zapisnik 2. dopisne seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Final Minutes of the 3rd Correspondence Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Končni zapisnik 3. dopisne seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Draft of the Minutes of the 4th Correspondence Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Osnutek zapisnika 4. dopisne seje Odbora za spremljanje Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Study on ESF and ERDF support to justice systems - Member State Chapter for SLOVENIA

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Other									
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Report									
National Reform Programme	National Reform Programme 2011–2012	/	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	National Reform Programme 2012–2013	/	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (only mentions justice briefly)	Yes
	National Reform Programme 2013–2014	/	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (only mentions justice briefly)	Yes
	National Reform Programme 2014–2015	/	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (only mentions justice briefly)	Yes
	National Reform Programme 2016–2017	/	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (only mentions justice briefly)	Yes

Study on ESF and ERDF support to justice systems - Member State Chapter for SLOVENIA

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Other implementation reports	Final Report on the Implementation of the Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Final report on implementation of Operational Programme of environmental and transport infrastructure for the period 2007–2013	Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Final report on implementation of Operational Programme for strengthening regional development potentials for the period 2007–2013	Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa krepitve regionalnih razvojnih potencialov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Report on implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020 for the period January 2014–December 2016 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–december 2016 cilja Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (AIR 2016 summarised as contains more information)	Yes
	Report on implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020 for the period January 2014–September 2016 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–september 2016 cilj Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (AIR 2016 summarised as contains more information)	Yes
	Report on implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020 for the period January 2014–March 2016 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–marec 2016 cilja Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Report on implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020 for the period January 2014–June 2017 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–junij 2017 cilja Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	yes	yes
	Report on implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020 for the period January 2014–December 2016 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–december 2016 cilja Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	January 2014–June 2017 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–marec 2017 cilja Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (more up-to-date document was reviewed instead)	yes
	Report on implementation of European cohesion policy 2014–2020 for the period January 2014–March 2017 for Growth and jobs	Poročilo o črpanju sredstev evropske kohezijske politike 2007–2013 za Cilj Konvergenca obdobje januar 2015 – december 2015	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Report on drawing EU Cohesion Policy Funds 2007–2013 for the Convergence objective in the period January 2015 – December 2015	Poročilo o črpanju sredstev evropske kohezijske politike 2007–2013 za Cilj Konvergenca obdobje januar 2015 – september 2015	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Report on drawing EU Cohesion Policy Funds 2007–2013 for the Convergence objective in the period January 2015 – September 2015	Poročilo o črpanju sredstev evropske kohezijske politike 2007–2013 za Cilj Konvergenca obdobje januar 2015 – junij 2015	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Report on drawing EU Cohesion Policy Funds 2007–2013 for the Convergence objective in the period January 2015 – June 2015	Poročilo o črpanju sredstev evropske kohezijske politike 2007–2013 za Cilj Konvergenca obdobje januar 2015 – marec 2015	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Report on drawing EU Cohesion Policy Funds 2007–2013 for the Convergence objective in the period January 2015 – March 2015								

Study on ESF and ERDF support to justice systems - Member State Chapter for SLOVENIA

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Other – please specify	Resolution on National Developmental Projects 2007–2023	Resolucija o nacionalnih razvojnih projektih za obdobje 2007–2023	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Slovene Development Strategy	Strategija razvoja Slovenija	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	E-justice Strategy	Strategija e-pravosodje	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	B. Tovornik: E-services of e-justice (article)	B. Tovornik: E-storitve e-pravosodja (članek)	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Supreme court report for 2007	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča RS za leto 2007	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Supreme court report for 2008	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča RS za leto 2008	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Supreme court report for 2009	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča RS za leto 2009	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Supreme court report for 2010	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča RS za leto 2010	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS	

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Supreme court report for 2011	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča RS za leto 2011	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Supreme court report for 2012	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča za leto 2012	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Supreme court report for 2013	Poročilo o poslovanju Vrhovnega sodišča za leto 2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Annual report on efficiency and effectiveness of courts 2014	Letno poročilo o učinkovitosti in uspešnosti sodišč 2014	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Annual report on efficiency and effectiveness of courts 2015	Letno poročilo o učinkovitosti in uspešnosti sodišč 2015	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (Only minor information regarding EU funding)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Managing Authority Guidelines for planning, controlling, reporting and evaluating implementation of European cohesion policy in programming period 2007–2013	Navodila Organa upravljanja za načrtovanje, spremljanje, poročanje in vrednotenje izvajanja evropske kohezijske politike v programskem obdobju 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Managing Authority Guidelines for Evaluation of Operational Programmes in the period 2007–2013	Smernice organa upravljanja za vrednotenje operativnih programov v Republiki Sloveniji v programskem obdobju 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	no	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Strategic report on implementation of National strategic reference framework in Slovenia in the period 2007–2013 for 2012	Strateško poročilo o izvajanju Nacionalnega strateškega referenčnega okvira v Sloveniji za obdobje 2007–2013 za leto 2012	Yes	/	Yes	/	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Strategic report on implementation of National strategic reference framework in Slovenia in the period 2007–2013 for 2009	Strateško poročilo o izvajanju Nacionalnega strateškega referenčnega okvira v Sloveniji za obdobje 2007–2013 za leto 2009	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes/No (mentions justice in only one sentence)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Slovene Smart Specialisation Strategy S4	Slovenska strategija pametne specializacije S4	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (mentions justice in only one sentence)	Yes
	Criteria for the Selection of Operations Financed from European Social Fund within the Operational Programme for Human Resources Development in the period 2007–2013	Merila za izbor operacij financiranih iz sredstev evropskega socialnega sklada v okviru Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	yes
	Criteria for the Selection of Operations within the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020, version 1.2	Merila za izbor operacij v okviru Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za obdobje 2014–2020, verzija 1.2	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (more recent version included)	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Criteria for the Selection of Operations within the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020, version 2.0	Merila za izbor operacij v okviru Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za obdobje 2014–2020, verzija 2.0	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Ministry of Justice Manual for execution of operations within ESF framework	Navodila Ministrstva za pravosodje za izvajanje operacij v okviru Evropskega socialnega sklada	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (Document contains technical guidelines)	Yes
	Justice 2020 Strategy	Strategija pravosodje 2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Strategy for Human Resources Management in Justice by 2020	Strategija ravnanja s človeškimi viri v pravosodju do leta 2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Slovene Judiciary 2020	Slovensko pravosodje 2020	/	Yes	/	No	Yes	No (The document was not publicly available)	No
	Managing Authority Guidelines for planning, support of decision-making, controlling, reporting and evaluating implementation of European cohesion policy in programming period 2014–2020	Navodila organa upravljanja za načrtovanje, odločanje o podpori, spremljanje, poročanje in vrednotenje izvajanja evropske kohezijske politike v programskem obdobju 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Commission Staff Working Document Country Report Slovenia 2016 Including In-Depth Review on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances	/	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Ordinance on the implementation plan for the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Odlok o izvedbenem načrtu Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za programsko obdobje 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Ordinance on changes of the Ordinance on the implementation plan for the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020	Odlok o spremembah Odloka o izvedbenem načrtu Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za programsko obdobje 2014–2020	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Implementation plan for the Operational Programme for implementation of European cohesion policy for the programming period 2014–2020 by the Managing authority 4.1	Izvedbeni načrt Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za programsko obdobje 2014–2020 organa upravljanja 4.1	/	Yes	/	Yes	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
	Detailed Presentation of the Implementation Plan for the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 – 7th revision (14.06.2017)	Podrobnejši prikaz izvedbenega načrta Operativnega programa za implementacijo evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020 – 7. sprememba (14.06.2017)	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Detailed Presentation of the implementation Plan for the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 – 6th revision (05.05.2017)	Podrobnejši prikaz izvedbenega načrta, ki je razčlenjen po prednostnih oseh za programsko obdobje 2014–2020 – 6. sprememba	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (More recent version included instead)	Yes, as excluded in the ISS
	Description of the management and control system for the Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007–2013	Opis sistema upravljanja in nadzora za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013	Yes	/	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. Introduction

Member State	
Country Expert Name	Polona Mozetič
Data Collection Period Task 1	March–June 2017
Data Collection Period Task 2	June 2017
Number of regions/OPs covered	<p>Projects supporting the justice system were funded under 2 OPs:</p> <p>2007–2013: Operational Programme for Human Resources Development (ESF): 1 Operation (E-justice)</p> <p>2014–2020: OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy: 1 Operation (Efficient Justice)</p>

Relevant general documents (Task 1) for both programming periods are publicly available. However, it is sometimes hard to determine if a published document is the latest version. In searching for documents, standard Internet search tools were used, including an advanced search tool (Google). Webpages of relevant justice system bodies were searched specifically in order to find relevant information (for example, the Supreme Court webpage, Ministry of Justice webpage, Constitutional Court webpage and some others). No requests for additional documents or information were made regarding Task 1.

To collect information for Task 2 was more challenging. There are not many publicly available documents containing project-level information. In searching for Task 2 documents, standard and advanced Internet search tools were used first. Some webpages of justice system bodies were searched specifically in order to find relevant project-level information (Ministry of Justice, Supreme Court, Constitutional Court as beneficiaries). A national database of projects exists for both programming periods (list of projects for 2007–2013 and 2014–present is available here: <http://www.eu-skladi.si/sl/seznam-projektov>). However, in the period 2007–2013 only one operation was implemented in Slovenia in the field of justice, which consisted of several public procurements and other measures designed to introduce specific e-justice services in the justice system. The same holds for the programming period 2014–2020, where only one operation is being implemented with the help of several planned public procurements and other means. The national project database includes these two operations as two comprehensive projects. However, operations are implemented with numerous public procurements and other means of implementation, which are not listed in the national project database. The national database therefore provides only the basic information about both operations (such as total budget, timeframe, beneficiaries, etc.).

Detailed information for specific services implemented within the 2007–2013 operation E-Justice and for services planned for the 2014–2020 operation Efficient Justice are not publicly available. In order to obtain the relevant information, the Office for the Implementation of the Cohesion Policy at the Ministry of Justice as the IB and the Ministry of Justice and one of the three beneficiaries of the operation Efficient Justice (2014–2020) were contacted. A complete list of public procurements within Operation E-justice (2007–2013) (with their planned budget, spent budget, timeframe, etc.) was not disclosed. Instead, an analysis of Operation E-justice was shared, which is also publicly available in the Central Economics Library at the Faculty of Economics. The analysis covered some aspects of Operation E-justice based on the internal documents of the Ministry of Justice, which are not publicly available. Relevant findings of the analysis are included in this report. Publicly available information on the Efficient Justice operation planned for the programming period 2014–2020 is scarce. The Ministry of Justice also shared an Excel table with a list of services that are planned to be implemented, their planned budgets and timeframes.² The table is reviewed in this chapter.

² This Excel table was part of the application form for a decision to support the Efficient Justice operation. It functions as an action plan.

Intervention logic 2007–2013

According to the Slovene NSRF and the OP for Human Resource Development 2007–2013 (OP for HRD), the efficiency of the justice system is of key importance for creating a development-supporting environment. Both documents further point out that the main problem of the judicial system in Slovenia relates to large court backlogs and that one of the key contributors to this is that the information system of the judicial bodies is unsuitable. Yet, according to the Ex-ante evaluation of the OP for HRD 2007–2013, no analyses of the efficiency of the justice system existed. Needs and developmental priorities were most likely based only on experience, internal analyses of the justice system bodies and needs detected within justice system institutions. As stated in the Ex-ante evaluation, it was possible that the OP did not set the right development priorities regarding justice.

In the OP for HRD, the justice system was targeted within priority axis 5: 'Institutional and administrative capacity'. Within the framework of this priority axis, the following specific objective relates directly to justice: 'Ensure efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector, including in justice, comparable to the level to other developed EU Member States and valid standards'. Planned activities focused on the modernisation of justice, planned to be supported through the following activities: modernisation of procedures, informatisation, HRD. The implemented operation was in line with the OP for HRD.

In 2008 the Managing Authority directly approved Operation E-justice in the amount of EUR 22.83 million. It was financed within the framework of the OP for HRD 2007–2013 and 85% of the operation was funded from ESF. The operation ended in 2015. Consequently, EUR 23.13 million were spent for the operation E-justice. The objectives of the operation were to increase the efficiency of justice, modernise information infrastructure and services, introduce e-services in justice, enable e-commerce of justice and increase the productivity of the employees. The beneficiary of the operation was the Ministry of Justice. Its final recipients corresponded to the planned target groups. The operation was implemented mainly with public procurements. As a result of Operation E-justice, the average duration of juridical procedures in 2015 was 2.9 months shorter than the target value (6 months).

Intervention logic 2014–2020

The Partnership Agreement targeted justice within thematic objective 11: Enhancing the institutional capacity of justice system, public authorities and stakeholders and an efficient public administration. According to the PA, the following key needs are essential in the context of thematic objective 11 in the field of justice: improve the regulatory framework; better performance and enhanced efficiency of the judicial systems; accelerate settlement of disputes, faster enforcements, alternative forms of dispute settlement, optimise business processes in courts and insolvency proceedings; effectively tackle economic crime and corruption. With the aim of enhancing the efficiency of the justice system, Slovenia adopted an umbrella national programme for the development of the justice system: the Justice 2020 Strategy and the Strategy for Human Resources Management in Justice by 2020. Both strategies were recognised as ex-ante conditionalities and identified the needs of the justice system in line with the PA.

In the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) justice is targeted within priority axis 11: Rule of law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of social partners and NGOs (funded through ESF). As part of PA 11, specific objective 1 'Improve the quality of judicial proceedings by optimising them and improve the competences of justice system staff', Slovenia will focus on actions aimed at improving the efficiency of the justice system, with special emphasis on enhancing competitiveness. ESI funds will support investment in the development and upgrade of tools for the identification of key bottlenecks hindering the efficiency of the justice system. This specific objective will focus on investments to reform the operation of the justice system, develop the competences of justice system staff and promote the application of alternative dispute resolution methods. Within specific objective 1, the following planned actions are to be supported under the investment priority 'Investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and

public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance': promoting and ensuring quality in the justice system; updating business processes; promoting methods of alternative dispute resolution; and raising the qualifications of justice system staff. The expected results under this specific objective are: reformed judicial business processes; improved level of qualification of justice system staff.

In 2016 the Managing Authority directly approved the operation 'Efficient Justice'. The Operation is co-financed from the ESF (80% or EUR 26.32 million): EUR 10.4 million for the East Slovenia region and EUR 15.9 million for the West Slovenia region. The operation is implemented under the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) and is in line with the actions planned in the OP. The operation's aim is to undertake activities for promoting and guaranteeing quality of the justice system, the renewal of business processes and the improvement of competences among the employees in the justice system. It will be implemented mainly with public procurements. Beneficiaries are the Ministry of Justice, the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court. Final recipients include the Ministry of Justice, courts (including judges and court personnel), public prosecution and state attorneys, prison administration, notary, Chamber of insolvency administrators, other participants in criminal procedures (Police, minor offence authorities etc.), enforcement officers, procedural parties in court mediation procedures, and prisoners. The operation will end in 2023.

Table 1: Overview of the justice system

Institutions and bodies of the judiciary ³		Other institutions and bodies that are part of or supporting the justice system ⁴	
English	Original language	English	Original language
Courts with general jurisdiction - local courts - district courts - higher courts - Supreme Court - Land Register ⁵	Sodišča splošne pristojnosti: - okrajna sodišča - okrožna sodišča - višja sodišča - Vrhovno sodišče - Zemljiška knjiga	State prosecution ⁶ - district state prosecutor's offices - Department for the Investigation and Prosecution of Officials with Special Authorisations (known as the 'special investigation department') - Supreme State Prosecutor's Office (the highest-ranking prosecutor's office - supreme state prosecutors and higher state prosecutors - state prosecutors on temporary or part-time assignment	Državno tožilstvo: - okrožna državna tožilstva - Oddelek za preiskovanje in pregon uradnih oseb s posebnimi pooblastili (poznani kot 'posebni oddelek') - Vrhovno državno tožilstvo - vrhovni državni tožilci in višji državni tožilci - začasno in delno dodeljeni državni tožilci po odredbi generalnega državnega tožilca
Specialised courts - labour courts - labour and social court	Specializirana sodišča: - delovna sodišča - Delovno in socialno sodišče	Ministry of Justice	Ministrstvo za pravosodje - Center za izobraževanje v pravosodju

3 i.e. the judiciary as defined in the national legal framework and following the definition used for the purpose of this study.

4 i.e. justice system as defined for the purpose of this study

5 The Land Register is owned and managed by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia.

6 State prosecution holds a special place in the justice system, as it is an independent state authority, but also part of the executive branch of power.

Institutions and bodies of the judiciary ³		Other institutions and bodies that are part of or supporting the justice system ⁴	
English	Original language	English	Original language
-higher labour and social court - administrative court	- Višje delovno in socialno sodišče - Upravno sodišče	- Judicial Training Centre (JTC) ⁷ - National Prison Administration	- Uprava Republike Slovenije za izvrševanje kazenskih sankcij (UIKS)
Judicial Council of the Republic of Slovenia	Sodni svet Republike Slovenije	State Attorney's Office ⁸ - State Attorney-General - state attorneys and the state attorney's assistants ⁹	Državno odvetništvo: - Generalni državni odvetnik - državni odvetniki in pomočniki državnega odvetnika
Constitutional Court	Ustavno sodišče	Slovenian Business Register (PRS) is managed by the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services	Poslovni register Slovenije (PRS) vodi Agencija Republike Slovenije za javnopravne evidence in storitve (AJPES)
		Bar Association of Slovenia	Odvetniška zbornica
		Slovenian Chamber of Notaries	Notarska zbornica
		Slovenian Association of Mediators	Društvo mediatorjev Slovenije

⁷ The Judicial Training Centre is an affiliated body of the Ministry of Justice, responsible for continuous training of judges, state prosecutors and state attorneys, as well as for training of other court personnel.

⁸ The State Attorney's Office represents the state, its bodies and its administrative organisations that are legal persons before the courts, and performs other duties in accordance with the law. This institution has recently been reformed in order to improve its effectiveness: in 2017 'Državno pravobranilstvo' was replaced with 'Državno odvetništvo' (its English name, however, remained the same: 'State Attorney').

⁹ The State Attorney must represent the state ex-officio. He/she also represents the Republic of Slovenia in proceedings before the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights.

Table 2: Stakeholders contacted for Task 2

Name of institution in English	Name of institution in original language	Relevance to the study (MA, IB, beneficiary, part of target group, other)	Position (if known)	Method of information request (email exchange/phone call etc)	Did you hear back from the stakeholder? (y/n)	Date of conversation/email exchange
Slovenia (SI)						
Ministry of Justice	Ministrstvo za pravosodje	IB (for programming period 2013–2020)	Head of the Office for the Implementation of the Cohesion Policy at the Ministry of Justice	Email and phone, meeting in person	y	From 4 July to 29 November
Ministry of Justice	Ministrstvo za pravosodje	Beneficiary (in both programming periods)	Head of the Project Unit Effective Justice at the Ministry of Justice	Email and phone, meeting in person	y	From 4 July to 29 November

2. Funding Period 2007–2013

2.1. The needs of the Member State relating to the national justice system

There is no distinction between needs at a regional level and national level in relation to the Slovene justice system. According to the Slovene National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) and Operational Programme for Human resource Development 2007–2013 (OP for HRD), the efficiency of the justice system is of key importance for creating a development-supporting environment, and the main problem of the judicial system in Slovenia relates to large court backlogs.¹⁰ Among these, the most problematic are the ones that cause large, direct and indirect economic damage (blocking of assets). One of the key factors responsible for large court backlogs is the unsuitable information system of the judicial bodies. Its most important deficiencies include old hardware and software, which does not provide its users with modern services, does not guarantee data safety, and causes inconsistencies inside and outside the justice system.¹¹

Growth and development depend to a great extent on efficient governance and, therefore, it is vital to modernise the public administration and the public sector, especially by implementing ICT projects that increase competitiveness (including e-justice).¹² The Strategy for Computerisation of Justice in Slovenia addresses the same demands and needs that all contemporary justice systems confront today: enhanced need for e-commerce, managing large quantities of data; greater expectations of the public regarding availability of e-services in justice; need to guarantee quality justice service for the limited public funding; need to make connections between justice bodies and other state and EU institutions.¹³

According to the Ex-ante evaluation of the OP for HRD 2007–2013, the existing analysis of the institutional capacity of the public administration (including the justice system), on which the OP was based, was insufficient (it was more a presentation of the system and its activities than a needs assessment). The ex-ante evaluation further stated that there was no analysis of the efficiency of public administration, justice system and health system, and that needs and corresponding developmental priorities were most likely based on experience, internal analyses of the justice system bodies, and needs detected within responsible justice system institutions. Therefore, according to the evaluation report, it is possible that the OP did not set the right development priorities regarding justice or that it did not set all development priorities that can respond to the competency and needs of the Slovene economy and Slovene residents.¹⁴

Additionally, according to the National Reform Programme 2011–2012, resolution of cases in commercial matters, particularly bankruptcy proceedings and compulsory compositions, ought to be more transparent – to this end, the number of specialised courts and their departments should be reduced. In this way, better use could be made of the limited administrative capacity, and, first and foremost, of professional expertise and jurisprudence. For the system to become more efficient in settling commercial matters, some other measures will be required: to expand the confiscation and deprivation of property with reversed burden of proof; to speed up criminal proceedings by introducing negotiations between prosecution and defence; to define criminal acts related to public

¹⁰ In statistical terms, court backlogs are unsolved court files per individual judicial body whose number exceeds half of the average annual allotment to an individual judicial body in the Republic of Slovenia. (Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2008), Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir, Ljubljana, p. 48.)

¹¹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2008), Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir, Ljubljana, p. 38. Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008), Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 49. Vlada RS (2006), Resolucija o nacionalnih razvojnih projektih za obdobje 2007–2023 (Ed. A. Horvat), Ljubljana, pp. 34–35. Ministrstvo za pravosodje, E-pravosodje, Strategija informatizacije slovenskega pravosodnega sistema 2008–2013, pp. 4–5.

¹² Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2011), National Reform Programme 2011–2012, p. 20.

¹³ Ministrstvo za pravosodje, E-pravosodje, Strategija informatizacije slovenskega pravosodnega sistema 2008–2013, p. 8

¹⁴ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2007), Poročilo o predhodnem vrednotenju za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov 2007–2013 (Oikos, svetovanje za razvoj, d.o.o.), Ljubljana, pp. 26–27, 37, 39.

It should be noted that the Ministry of Justice disagrees with this statement taken from the ex-ante evaluation, claiming that needs and corresponding priorities were recognised and defined in various documents, programmes and resolutions.

finances; to establish a specialised Prosecutor's Office and specialised court departments to prosecute and decide in matters of commercial and organised crime.¹⁵

The recitals of the Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) for 2013 underlined that the "unduly long" bankruptcy procedure and first instance judicial proceedings in litigious civil and commercial cases needed to be addressed, "as they hamper business activity and reduce Slovenia's attractiveness for foreign direct investment".¹⁶ In this context the 2013 CSR stated that Slovenia should "build on previous efforts to further reduce the length of judicial proceedings at first instance in litigious civil and commercial cases and the number of pending cases, in particular enforcement cases".¹⁷

In addition the 2013 CSR recommended Slovenia to "adopt the necessary legal framework for out-of-court restructuring by September 2013, ensuring that it is coherent with the existing provisions on insolvency and provides incentives for both creditors and shareholders to reach out-of-court restructuring agreements" and to "improve the enforcement of corporate insolvency procedures and in-court settlements, including swiftly resolving pending court cases related to bankruptcy procedures, in order to maximise recovery value and to facilitate the timely and efficient resolution of non-performing loans".¹⁸

No other documents refer to the needs of the justice system.

2.2. **Planning stage:** The extent to which the Member State programmed support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

2.2.1. High-level objectives related to justice set in the programming documents

In line with the NSRF 2007–2013, key areas for the core developmental projects in Slovenia included strengthening institutional and administrative capacities. Activities were directed at improving the efficiency of the judicial system in Slovenia. These were considered urgent investments in the radical renewal and modernisation of processes and the completion of the ICT infrastructure. The optimisation and modernisation of processes also required appropriate education and training. Therefore, the NSRF supported activities relating to the efficiency of the justice system and projects aimed at modernising the justice system. These measures were combined with training activities.¹⁹

According to the NSRF 2007–2013 the modernisation of the justice system was meant to be carried out in several areas in parallel. These concerned: modernisation of the procedures in the broadest sense at all levels, a more adapted system of remuneration that took into account different levels of complexity and the quality and quantity of the work performed, and infrastructural support to efficient functioning of the justice system. Each of the areas listed contributes individually to better efficiency of the justice system but together they achieve a sustained effect.²⁰ The NSRF did not specify outputs, results, impacts, beneficiaries and target groups explicitly related to justice.

¹⁵ Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2011) National Reform Programme 2011–2012, p. 17.

¹⁶ Council Recommendation of 9 July 2013 on the National Reform Programme 2013 for Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2016. Recital 19.

¹⁷ Council Recommendation of 9 July 2013 on the National Reform Programme 2013 for Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2016. Recommendation 7.

¹⁸ Council Recommendation of 9 July 2013 on the National Reform Programme 2013 for Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2016. Recommendation 9.

¹⁹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2008), Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir, Ljubljana, pp. 105–106. Vlada RS (2006) Resolucija o nacionalnih razvojnih projektih za obdobje 2007–2023 (Ed. A. Horvat), Ljubljana, p. 12. Urad Republike Slovenije za makroekonomske analize in razvoj (2005), Strategija razvoja Slovenije, pp. 34, 36.

²⁰ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2008) Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir, Ljubljana, pp. 148–149.

OP for Human Resources Development – ESF

OP name in English	OP for Human Resources Development
CCI	2007SI051PO001
Relevant funds for the OP	ESF
Total OP budget (EC and national contribution) EUR	755.7 million
PA 5 Institutional and administrative capacity EUR	97.05 million

The Republic of Slovenia Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy was the Managing Authority for the OP for HRD.

According to the OP for HRD, the field of institutional and administrative capacities in the context of effective provision of public services – regarded as the key factor in states' competitiveness – appears as a novelty within the ESF framework. The very same segment left something to be desired according to the OP, given that Slovenia was characterised as 'considerably uncompetitive' in international comparative studies.²¹ Within the priority axis 5 'Strengthening institutional and administrative capacities', special measures aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector services for the population and economy, including the field of justice. An ambitious goal was set in the field of the effectiveness of justice: reducing the length of procedures and the share of court backlogs).²² Activities focused on modernisation of justice.²³

The **general objective** of OP for HRD was to achieve higher employment, social inclusion, higher quality of life and to reduce regional disparities, by increasing investments into human capital, to ensure higher levels of innovation, better employability and higher economic growth. The justice system was targeted within **priority axis 5: 'Institutional and administrative capacity'**.

The **objective** of priority axis 5 was the development of appropriate institutional and administrative capacities for effective structural adaptation, growth, new jobs and economic development.

Within the activities that were undertaken within the framework of this priority axis, the following **specific objective** relates directly to justice: Ensure efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector, including in justice, comparable to the level to other developed EU Member States and valid standards.²⁴

Modernisation of justice was planned to be enforced through numerous fields simultaneously undergoing development. These encompassed a radical modernisation of procedures, a more adapted award system which would take into consideration different demand levels for solving cases, quality and quantity of the work performed, and

²¹ As stated in the OP for HRD, it is not so much the structure of the expenditure of the state, but the effectiveness of ensuring public services that is the important factor of development. Analysis on the effectiveness of state operations, for example world scales of competition, place Slovenia very low. The institutional environment in Slovenia is among the least supportive for economic development and competitiveness. Among the greatest weaknesses is also the rule of law. OP for HRD refers to the estimates of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank. According to their estimates, the institutional competitiveness deteriorated somewhat in Slovenia between 2002 and 2005 (estimate based on the opinions of Slovene enterprises). In 2005, Slovenia was in 20th place amongst the 22 EU Member States (excluding Luxembourg, Cyprus and Malta) in terms of the index on the simplicity of business operation and in 63rd place among all countries included in the analysis (the World Bank). (Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008), Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 49).

²² Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008), Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 65.

²³ Ibid, p. 87.

²⁴ Ibid.

infrastructure support for the efficient functioning of justice.²⁵ The fields for enforcing modernisation of justice were planned to be supported through the following types of **activities**, specifically:

- (a) modernisation of procedures: revision of existing business processes for optimisation, adjustment to new technical solutions, introduction of new business processes, harmonisation with legislation,
- (b) informatisation: modernisation of existing infrastructure as a foundation for optimisation of processes, developing new systems for new business processes (G2C – Government to Citizen, G2B – Government to Business, G2G – Government to Government ...)
- (c) HRD: setting up a training system qualifying HR for successfully dealing with the contents, management, technology and modern tools.²⁶

The **planned result** relating to justice included reducing the average duration for judicial procedures from 9.5 months to 6 months.²⁷ However, the programming documents do not mention any outputs or impacts relating specifically to justice.

The **target groups** of modernisation of justice were, in particular: judges, prosecutors, state defenders, lawyers, assisting personnel/assistants, expert assistants in the judicial bodies, office of the public prosecutor, office of the state defenders and administration in other judicial bodies.²⁸ However, the OP does not distinguish specifically between target groups and the beneficiaries relating to justice.

Monitoring Committee documents for the first programming period are not publicly available. Annual Work programmes and Evaluation Plans either did not exist or did not refer to the justice system. Action Plan *E-Justice* is not publicly available and has been requested.

2.2.2. Planned projects listed in the programming documents aiming to support justice

No projects explicitly linked to justice support were planned.

2.3. **Implementation stage:** Support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

2.3.1. Support to the justice system: reported at programme level

According to the Guidelines for the selection of operations financed from ESF within the OP for HRD in the period 2007–2013, planned activities under the priority objective 5.1. 'Efficient and effective public administration' include modernisation of the justice system (modernisation of processes, computerisation, human resources development). The following must be taken into account in defining selection criteria within this priority objective, especially regarding the operations (modernisation – computerisation of the Slovene justice system) under the Ministry of Justice:

- operations are aimed at increasing the efficiency of the judiciary, creating efficient justice services, modernisation and optimisation of processes in the justice system;

- operations promote the development and implementation of the ICT solutions, upgrading of ICT infrastructure, connecting information systems of various stakeholders (courts, prosecutor's office, state attorney's office, Ministry of justice with its bodies, Constitutional Court, etc.) that need a high-quality institutional environment for competitive and safe

²⁵ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 89. Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2008), Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir, Ljubljana, pp. 148–149.

²⁶ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 90.

²⁷ Ibid, pp. 88, 126.

²⁸ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 91.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2009; updated and revised 2009 and 2010) Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 132.

business, economic growth, quality of life and security of citizens their and effective protection of their rights;

- operations promote the development of an efficient and user-friendly system for external users (citizens, private and public sector) and an efficient and friendly system for the implementation of processes within justice system bodies, which will be achieved through modern ICT (for example the e-Justice portal);

- operations promote HRD for the justice system staff to enable them to use ICT;

- operations are designed to meet the objectives of the strategy for the computerisation of the Slovenian justice system in the period 2007–2013;

- operations promote a positive impact on sustainable development, the environment or equal opportunities.²⁹

In 2008 the Managing Authority approved the operation E-justice with an amount of EUR 22,829,243.³⁰ It was financed within the framework of the OP for HRD 2007–2013 and 85% of the operation was funded from ESF.³¹ However, the operation did not end in 2013, but was extended until the end of 2015, when additional rights for the use of funds of the amount of EUR 300,000 were granted due to the extension of Operation E-justice and for its project on court mediation.³² Consequently, EUR 23,133,321.13 were spent on the operation E-justice by the end of 2015. Operation E-justice therefore actually spent 99.6% of the awarded funding.³³

The **objectives** of the operation were to increase the efficiency of justice, modernisation of information infrastructure and services, introduce e-services in justice, enable e-commerce of justice and increase the productivity of the employees.

The **expected impact** of the operation was a reduction of court backlogs, strengthened rule of law, greater equality before courts, and increased efficiency of the entire justice system.³⁴ No expected results were presented.

The main **beneficiary** of the operation was the Ministry of Justice.³⁵ However, in carrying out the operation, other judicial bodies were included based on the agreements with the Ministry of Justice,³⁶ meaning that certain projects were executed by the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court.³⁷

Target groups were: decision-makers/judges, prosecutors, state attorneys, lawyers (attorneys), assisting personnel/assistants, expert assistants in the judicial bodies, office of the public prosecutor, office of the state defenders and administration in other judicial

²⁹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2010), Merila za izbor operacij financiranih iz sredstev evropskega socialnega sklada v okviru Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Version 3.0, pp. 23–24.

³⁰ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2009, updated and revised 2009 and 2010), Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 11.

³¹

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/operacija_e_pravosodje/

³² Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2015) Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 104. Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2014) Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 90.

³³ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 126.

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/dosezki_operacije_e_pravosodje/

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http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/operacija_e_pravosodje/

³⁵ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2009, updated and revised 2009 and 2010), Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 136.

³⁶ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2009, updated and revised 2009 and 2010), Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 126.

³⁷ Ministry of Justice performed a role of the 'line ministry' (Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008), Opis sistema upravljanja in nadzora za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, pp. 76–79).

bodies, prison administration, notaries, procedural parties and interested individuals (the general public).

For each year the Ministry of Justice planned public procurements for the implementation of Operation E-justice,³⁸ as follows:

For **2008** one public procurement was planned for the Ministry of Justice: Computerisation of the registries at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district state prosecutors' offices and the State Attorney's Office. This included implementing an information system for the support of the registries (purchasing, maintaining and installing hardware and software, providing help to its users, development and installation of applications, training and education of users of these services, informing the general public and potential target groups regarding the usefulness of such services).³⁹

For **2009** the Ministry of Justice planned the following public procurements in the framework of Operation E-justice:

- purchasing hardware for the e-justice projects of the Ministry of Justice;
- alteration and integration of the existing records of imprisoned individuals, management of documents and undertaking of administrative and other processes into a unified information system for the support of the enforcement of criminal sanctions and implementation of this system to all prisons and to the Prison Administration;
- computerisation of documents in resolved matters from the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Court;
- alteration and construction of an information and documentation system for the Constitutional Court;
- PSP II – construction of a database (for the Supreme Court) and PSP III – establishment of e-commerce system (for the Supreme Court);
- alteration of an application for the calculation of interests on late payments;
- E-obligations;
- digitalisation of international agreements.⁴⁰

For **2010** the Ministry of Justice planned the following public procurements:

- alteration and integration of existing solutions for recording imprisoned individuals, managing documents and undertaking of administrative and other processes into unified information system for the support of the enforcement of criminal sanctions and implementation of this system to all prisons and to the Prison Administration;
- PSP III – system for e-commerce;
- MATRAflex 2;
- information system for supporting Ministry of Justice records;
- information system for supporting training activities and exams;
- centralised environment for managing files (e-file);
- central e-registry for courts;
- central calendar for courts (e-calendar);
- application for authentication of documents (e-authentication);
- alteration of information system for recording court decisions on minor offences and penalty points in traffic offences;
- central registry for minor offences procedures;
- PUND – renovation of the central registry for civil procedures.⁴¹

For **2011** the Ministry of Justice planned the following public procurements:

- central environment for managing documents (e-file);

³⁸ An action plan for e-justice exists, but it is not publicly available.

³⁹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008), Letno poročilo 2007 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 71.

⁴⁰ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2009, updated and revised 2009 and 2010), Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 141.

⁴¹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2010, updated 2010) Letno poročilo 2009 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 171.

- central e-registry for courts;
- central calendar environment for courts (e-calendar);
- renewal of Su registry (for the matters of court administration);
- judicial statistics – purchasing hardware;
- renovation of the information system for the Prison Administration;
- development of an information system to support processes in the judiciary at the Ministry of Justice;
- information system to support training and exams;
- renewal of information system for recording court decisions on minor offences and penalty points for traffic offences;
- information system to support implementation of processes of the sector for legislation;
- advanced generation of documents; information system to support decision-making in the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office and the State Attorney’s Office; promotion of e-justice.⁴²

For **2012** the Ministry of Justice planned the following public procurements in the framework of Operation E-justice (total value: EUR 4.5 million):

- information system for recording minor offences;
- advanced generation of documents;
- information system to support decision-making in the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office and the State Attorney’s Office;
- e-file;
- I-Prenova part 2;
- e-calendar;
- PUND;
- PSP II;
- e-Land Registry;
- and some others.⁴³

For **2013** the Ministry of Justice planned the following public procurements:

- mediation;
- implementation of electronic identification card into e-commerce of courts;
- interoperability backbone in justice;
- information system to support preparation of legislation at the Ministry of Justice;
- automatic voice recognition and recording of court decisions; and some others.⁴⁴

Data on actually realised public procurement procedures related to justice was only available in the Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs) for 2009 and 2011, as presented in the tables below.

For the year 2009 the Managing Authority approved 14 public procurements within Operation E-justice, together amounting to EUR 8,843,000, which were published in 2009⁴⁵:

Table 3: Value in EUR of public procurements within Operation E-justice published in 2009

Operation E-justice (funding instrument – public procurement)	Estimated value in EUR (excl. VAT)
Purchasing hardware for the e-justice projects of the Ministry of Justice	480,000

⁴² Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2011) Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007-2013, Ljubljana, pp. 198-199.

⁴³ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2013) Letno poročilo 2012 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007-2013, Ljubljana, p. 108.

⁴⁴ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2013) Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007-2013, Ljubljana, p. 92.

⁴⁵ Source: Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2010, updated 2010) Letno poročilo 2009 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007-2013, Ljubljana, pp. 166-167.

Renovation and upgrading of the information and documentation system of the Constitutional Court (Case Management System) and maintenance of this system	232,000
Capture and reliable conversion of public archives in the digital form	108,000
E-obligation (Supreme Court)	88,000
PSP II (Supreme Court)	375,000
E-Land Registry	1,000,000
Purchasing software and installation of a base and application architecture for the e-justice projects of the Ministry of Justice	250,000
Calculation of interests on late payments – IZO (Supreme Court)	54,000
Digitalisation of international agreements	37,000
Rental of a system for video-conferencing in court proceedings	667,000
Migration of E-Land Registry system	65,000
Rental of information solutions for effective servicing of clients in their dealings with the notary	167,000
Rental of an audio recording system for recording court hearings	5,000,000
E-commerce system for the court management – PSP III	320,000
TOTAL	8,843,000

In 2011 the Ministry of Justice informed the Managing Authority about 19 public procurements within Operation E-justice in the total amount of EUR 5.2 million⁴⁶:

Table 4: Value in EUR of public procurements within Operation E-justice published in 2011

Public procurements (1.1.2011–31.12.2011)	Estimated value in EUR
Developmental research project of the implementation of mobile tablet computer for the commerce needs at the Ministry of Justice	18,450
Documentation system SPIS 4, including e-signature, EventTrack application, and communication application AppX for National Prison Administration	160,000
Building data warehouse – PSP II – negotiations for additional work	65,637
Expert opinion on public procurement selection procedure for the project E-Prisons	5,000
E-Land Registry – negotiations for additional services	219,365.60
Functionality competition of the IT system for the support of registries at Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, district state prosecutor’s offices and State Attorney’s Office – negotiations for additional services	351,000
Statistical analysis – support for the reporting on the efficiency and effectiveness of courts	121,824
Leaflet for the project Audio recording of court hearings	2,470
Counselling and coordination for the project Development of E-Insolvency (e-INS) system	37,500
System for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies – additional services	7,800
Computerisation of registries at Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, district state prosecutor’s offices and State Attorney’s Office – copyright contract	700
Information system for the support of processes in justice at the Ministry of Justice	1,250,000
E-Prison	1,035,300
Printing video-conferencing recommendation	2,545
Digitalisation of postal delivery receipts in court proceedings (E-registry)	440,000
System to ensure traceability, reproduction, storage and content protection of audio recordings of court hearings and main hearings (system for audio recording rental – stage II)	994,648
Employment and payments for the increased amount of work from the operation	196,830
Renewal of SU registry	200,000
Application to support authentication of documents	125,000
TOTAL	5,234,069.60

⁴⁶ Source: Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2012), Letno poročilo 2011 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007-2013, Ljubljana, pp. 107–108.

Within Operation E-justice the Ministry of Justice carried out 17 projects, the Supreme Court 12 projects and the Constitutional Court 4 projects.⁴⁷ E-justice projects include⁴⁸:

1. Constitutional Court (CC):

- Renewal and construction of information and documents system of the CC
- Digitalisation of documents of all decided CC cases
- CMS module for working on mobile devices (tablets)
- Renewal and upgrading of a system for publishing CC decisions

2. Prison Administration Office:

- Renewal of the Prison Administration Office information system

3. Ministry of Justice projects:

- Registries at Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district prosecutor's offices, and State Attorney's Office
- Information system for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies
- Videoconference system for long-distance hearings
- Audio recording of court hearings
- Digitalisation of international agreements
- E-Notary
- Analytics – Judicial Council
- Information system for the support of registers at the Ministry of Justice
- E-justice infrastructure
- Court mediation
- Schools for judges at the Judicial Training Centre
- Symposium Cross-border communication in justice
- E-Justice promotion

4. Supreme Court:

- Data warehouse and business intelligence system (PSP II and PSP III)
- E-Land Registry
- Central registry for executions procedures
- E-Authentication
- Su registry
- E-Registry
- E-INS
- K-Registry
- Renewal of an application for calculation of interests on late payments (IZO)
- Implementation of smart cards in e-commerce in courts
- E-Obligations
- PUND – renewal of the central registry for civil proceedings

Within the operation 'E-justice' the following **outputs** were achieved (by the end of 2015):

- the 118 computerised records suitable for electronic data interchange were created,
- 456 training events were organised,
- 102 registers were computerised,
- 233 processes in the justice system were computerised.

According to the Final Report on the Implementation of the OP for HRD 2007–2013, both impacts were achieved: better institutional competitiveness and efficiency of state and better performance of the justice system.⁴⁹

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http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/operacija_e_pravosodje/

⁴⁸

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/dosezki_operacije_e_pravosodje/

Tovornik, Boštjan (2012) E-storitve e-pravosodja. Smartdoc by Media.doc, Ljubljana, pp. 56–62.

⁴⁹ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 126.

According to the ESF Ex-post Evaluation Synthesis 2007–2013, 'Strengthening Institutional Capacity' mainly allocated funds for ICT modernisation, including through activities under 5.1: Efficient and effective public administration. The aim was to modernise government programmes and speed up operations with e-systems (e-justice).⁵⁰ There are no other ex-post evaluations, interim evaluations or any other evaluation relating to the OP for HRD 2007–2013.

The overall positive assessment of results should be treated with caution. The final report on ESF achievements 2007-2013 of the Expert Evaluation Network states that in general the tracking of the results of the interventions was a weak point of the OP for HRD in Slovenia.⁵¹ In addition, some complementary activities also contributed to these impacts, especially project Lukenda,⁵² which had as its main objective the reduction of backlogs in courts and prosecution offices.⁵³ Therefore, auxiliary indicators (as explained below in more detail) were introduced to enable more adequate monitoring of the operation.

Monitoring Committee documents for the first programming period are not publicly available.

2.3.2. Support to the justice system: reported at project level (Task 2)

In the programming period 2007–2013 there were no public calls or calls for proposals for projects related to the justice system in Slovenia and, consequently, no specific project selection criteria linked to individual calls (see further explanation below). Besides Operation E-justice, no other projects related to justice were implemented within the scope of the 2007–2013 programming documents under the ESF or ERDF. In this programming period **only one operation was carried out as a directly approved operation: Operation E-justice**. Operation E-justice was funded under the OP for Human Resources Development for the Period 2007–2013 under the priority axis 5. 'Institutional and administrative capacity' and priority objective 5.1. 'Efficient and effective public administration'.⁵⁴ Operation E-justice was approved by the Managing Authority and can be considered a comprehensive project in line with the terms of this study; the beneficiary was the Ministry of Justice. According to the Managing Authority decision, Operation E-justice started on 19 May 2008, when it was approved, and ended on 31 December 2015.⁵⁵

How Operation E-justice was set up: public procurements and contracts

After Operation E-justice was approved in 2008, a **Project Council for E-justice** was established within the Ministry of Justice.⁵⁶ The Project Council for E-Justice included representatives of all stakeholders (from the judiciary, public prosecution, state attorneys, notaries, etc.) and as such guaranteed a comprehensive treatment of all services for the entire field of justice.⁵⁷

After the approval of the operation, an 'Analysis of procedures, legislation and IT equipment of judicial bodies in Republic of Slovenia' (Analiza procesov, zakonodaje in

⁵⁰ European Commission (2016) ESF Ex-post Evaluation Synthesis 2007–2013, Country Report – Slovenia (written by Metis GmbH, Fondazione Brodolini and Panteia), p. 25.

⁵¹ European Commission (2016) ESF Ex-post Evaluation Synthesis 2007–2013, Country Report – Slovenia (written by Metis GmbH, Fondazione Brodolini and Panteia), p. 26.

⁵² Lukenda is a national project, not funded from the EU funds. In December 2005 the ministry responsible for justice, in cooperation with the Supreme Court, prepared this joint national project entitled in order to eliminate court backlogs (Strategija Pravosodje 2020, p. 20).

⁵³ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2015) Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 104. Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2014) Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 90.

⁵⁴ <http://www.eu-skladi.si/kohezija-do-2013/skladi/primeri-dobrih-praks/op-ropi/projekt-e-pravosodje-za-modernizacijo-pravosodja-v-sloveniji-2007-2013>

⁵⁵ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, pp. 19–20.

⁵⁶ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Opis sistema upravljanja in nadzora za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, p. 76.

⁵⁷ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, p. 21.

informacijske opremljenosti pravosodnih organov RS)⁵⁸ was conducted. This study listed, for the first time, all procedures and processes in the justice system and prepared a proposal of services, i.e. a proposed action plan for Operation E-justice.⁵⁹

The **Action plan for the Operation E-justice** was then approved by the newly established Project Council for E-justice (at the Ministry of Justice). The Action plan included the list of concrete e-justice services, their planned budget, planned implementation, timeframes, and content.⁶⁰ However, the content and names of these services changed during the implementation of the operation (for example 'Renewal of the Prison Administration Office Information System' was initially considered as one service, but was later divided into two services: SPIS 4 and e-Prisons).⁶¹ Operation E-justice was then implemented through various public procurements, as well as through specific contracts.

The exhaustive list of all public procurements published (their number, budgets, etc.) within the operation is not publicly available. Public procurements were logically classified into individual e-justice services based on their content (with each service being implemented by one or more public procurement). This list of services is publicly available on the Ministry of Justice webpage.⁶² The Ministry of Justice named these services as the operation's 'projects'. However, they cannot be considered classic projects in line with the terms set out in this study, i.e. with public calls, project selection procedure, contracts, reports, etc. Instead, they were sets of logically inter-related public procurements intended to develop and implement e-services and e-solutions in the justice systems.

E-justice services were implemented simultaneously, and the implementation of some services took place in two or more phases because of gradual development (for example, in the first phase a public procurement was carried out in order to develop a certain IT system, and later in the second phase it was updated and/or maintained based on another public procurement). A list of the E-justice public procurements is given in the table below.

Table 5: E-justice public procurements with contract completion dates

E-justice public procurements with contract completion dates	Start	End
Renewal and upgrading of the information and documentation system of the Constitutional Court	16.12.2009	31.12.2013
Digitalisation of documents of all decided Constitutional Court cases	28.09.2009	28.03.2010
CMS module for working on mobile devices (tablets)	29.07.2014	03.11.2014
Renewal and upgrading of a system for publishing Constitutional Court decisions	09.06.2014	09.12.2014
SPIS 4	24.06.2011	29.10.2011
e-Prisons	20.09.2011	30.06.2015
Computerisation of registries at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district state prosecutor's offices and State Attorney's Office – information system to support the registries	15.04.2009	15.05.2015
Upgrading of the IS registries at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district state prosecutor's offices and State Attorney's Office	27.08.2014	30.06.2015
Integration of the registries system into unified management of e-justice infrastructure	17.06.2014	30.06.2015
Security check of the IS code	30.04.2014	30.11.2014
Information system for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies	29.12.2010	15.10.2011

⁵⁸ Analysis was done by IPMIT Institute for Project Management and Information Technology Ltd. (IMIT – Institut za projektni management in informacijsko tehnologijo d.o.o.). The study is not publicly available.

This study was the first and key step in the implementation of e-justice. The Ministry of Justice included all justice system bodies in the study. The purpose of the study was a comprehensive analysis of the computerisation of the Slovene justice system: detailed presentation of how equipped justice system bodies were with IT; detailed list of e-justice processes; detailed presentation of connections among e-justice services and other services and institutions; overview of good practises and potentials to use them in the Slovene context; setting indicators for the evaluation of the e-justice implementation (Ministrstvo za pravosodje (2008) Doseženi cilji na področju pravosodja v mandatu 2005–2008, pp. 182–183).

⁵⁹ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 127.

⁶⁰ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, p. 20.

⁶¹ http://www.arhiv.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/e_pravosodje/projekti_pregled_statusov/index.html

⁶² http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/dose_zki_operacije_e_pravosodje/

E-justice public procurements with contract completion dates	Start	End
Upgrading and maintenance of the Information system for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies at the Ministry of Justice	10.05.2013	30.06.2015
Basic maintenance of the Information system for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies at the Ministry of Justice	01.07.2015	30.10.2015
Videoconference system for long distance hearings	19.03.2011	15.08.2015
Renting/purchasing of additional equipment for video-conferencing for two or more court halls	28.10.2013	30.06.2015
Training experts for conduction interviews with children using video-conference and other technical means	21.06.2015	08.10.2015
Implementation of audio recording of hearings and questioning at courts	14.05.2010	30.06.2015
Automatic voice recognition and recording – pilot project	04.02.2013	01.09.2013
Computerisation of international agreements	11.09.2009	16.10.2009
e-Notary	26.09.2011	31.12.2014
Analytics – Judicial Council	25.10.2011	03.11.2014
Information system for the support of registers at the Ministry of Justice	03.02.2012	30.06.2015
Purchasing and upgrading hardware and systemic software for the e-justice projects	05.08.2009	20.11.2009
Upgrading hardware and systemic software for the e-justice projects	28.11.2013	30.06.2015
Systemic maintenance for e-services within the Operation E-justice	08.07.2014	30.06.2015
Court mediation	01.04.2013	25.11.2015
Symposium Cross-border communication in justice	28.11.2013	30.11.2013
Promotion of e-justice	25.02.2014	14.03.2014
Promotion of e-justice – end of operation	10.11.2015	30.11.2015
Building data warehouse – PSP II	22.09.2009	30.09.2011
Upgrading data warehouse – PSP II	07.11.2012	30.06.2015
Business intelligence system – PSP III	15.04.2010	30.09.2012
Upgrading business intelligence system – PSP III/1	19.03.2014	30.06.2015
E-Land Registry system (eZK)	30.10.2009	01.08.2010
Migration of E-Land Registry system	20.12.2009	01.10.2010
Upgrading E-Land Registry system in 2012-2014	11.09.2012	31.12.2014
Renewal of the central register for enforcement procedures, Phase I	07.04.2011	01.08.2012
Renewal of the central register for enforcement procedures, Phase II	25.10.2012	31.07.2014
Registry for enforcement procedures (I Prenova), Phase II, Act Amending the Claim Enforcement and Security Act (ZIZ-J)	07.01.2015	30.08.2015
Digitalisation of incoming mail and upgrading of information system i-l	15.09.2015	30.11.2015
Establishment of e-Authentication	06.02.2012	31.12.2014
Upgrading e-Authentication	29.01.2015	30.06.2015
Renewal of Su registry	13.07.2012	28.02.2014
Upgrading Su registry	08.10.2014	30.06.2015
Formation of e-registry	01.10.2012	31.12.2014
e-registry – printing of documents and machine enveloping	27.12.2013	30.06.2015
e-registry – computerisation of delivery receipts	23.09.2011	23.09.2012
e-registry – computerisation of delivery receipts, II. part	01.01.2013	31.12.2013
Formation of e-INS system	01.09.2010	31.03.2011
Upgrading e-INS	08.07.2013	31.12.2014
Upgrading e-INS in 2015	27.07.2015	30.10.2015
K-registry – integration with Central criminal record, Public prosecution and Prison Administration, Upgrading iK information system	14.05.2014	30.06.2015
Connection iK system with e-Prisons	16.09.2015	30.10.2015
Renewal of an application for calculation of interests on late payments (IZO)	21.09.2009	30.09.2010
Implementation of smart cards into e-commerce in courts	17.05.2013	17.06.2013
e-Obligations	31.07.2009	30.10.2010
PUND	28.03.2014	30.06.2015

Source: information provided by the Ministry of Justice.

However, Operation E-justice was implemented not only with public procurements, but also with other means. For example, with regard to court mediation the Ministry of Justice signed over 300 contracts with individual mediators and financed more than 6,000 mediation cases from 2013 to 2015.⁶³

⁶³ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, p. 24.

Table 6: Overview of operations supporting justice 2007–2013

Operation Name (in Eng)	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of project	Budget allocated ⁶⁴ in thousand EUR	Budget spent ⁶⁵ in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken
OP for Human Resources Development, 2007 SI 05 1 PO 001 (ESF)							
Operation E-justice Operacija E-pravosodje	19.05.2008	31.12.2015	7.5 ys	22, 829.243	23, 133.321	19, 663.323	<p>E-services and e-solutions implemented within the Operation E-justice aimed at modernisation of processes, digitalisation of the justice system and human resource development. Services were implemented with several public procurements. By using advanced information and communications equipment and its possibilities, new IT solutions were implemented and partial IT solutions were upgraded and connected. Training for participants in the operation and for the employees in the justice system (users of new e-services) was also carried out.</p> <p>Public procurements were logically classified into individual e-justice services based on their content. As such, Operation E-justice consisted of 33 services: the Ministry of Justice (MJ) carried out 17 services, the Supreme Court (SC) 12 services and the Constitutional Court (CC) 4 services.</p>

⁶⁴ Planned/ committed⁶⁵ Budget actually paid/ disbursed

The timeframe of the operation was extended: the deadline for the completion of activities was postponed from 15.09.2015 to 31.12.2015 and the deadline for the completion of the operation was postponed from 30.11.2015 to 31.12.2015.⁶⁶ The operation is now closed.

The approved budget for the operation increased twice⁶⁷ in 2015: the first time it was increased from EUR 22,829,243 to EUR 23,129,243 and the second time to 23,219,243 EUR. The biggest part of this additional funding was spent on court mediation.⁶⁸

Table 7: Number and budget spent (in thousand EUR) of projects supporting justice, funded by ESF and ERDF in the programming period 2007–2013

Fund	Number of projects supporting justice	Budget allocated in thousand EUR	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR
ESF	1 directly approved operation	22,829.24	23,133.321	19,663.323
ERDF	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	1 directly approved operation	22,829.24	23,133.321	19,663.323

The ESF contribution to Operation E-justice accounted for 85% of the project budget. However, complementary financing from the ERDF (9% of the operation's total value) was also planned, and this was spent on the purchasing IT hardware, as such investments were not considered eligible costs within the ESF.⁶⁹

Budget actually spent for Operation E-justice was EUR 23.1 million, representing 101.7% of the initially approved budget and 99.6% of the modified budget.⁷⁰

⁶⁶ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana: p. 22.

⁶⁷ The beneficiaries have been contacted to provide more details on this but no information has been received to date.

⁶⁸ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2015), Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 104.

Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, p. 22.

⁶⁹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2011), Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, pp. 196–197.

According to Article 34 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999, Operational programmes shall receive financing from only one Fund. Yet, the ERDF and the ESF may finance, in a complementary manner and subject to a limit of 10% of Community funding for each priority axis of an operational programme, actions falling within the scope of assistance from the other Fund, provided that they are necessary for the satisfactory implementation of the operation and are directly linked to it.

⁷⁰ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 126.

Project beneficiaries

Operation E-justice had only one beneficiary, namely the Ministry of Justice, classified under 'Relevant ministries' in Table 8 below.

Table 8: Number of times the following entities were the beneficiary of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Relevant ministries	Courts and tribunals	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Registry offices	Specialised training or research institutions	Other
ESF	✓						
ERDF							
Both							
TOTAL	✓						

Project activities undertaken related to support to justice

According to the Ministry of Justice webpage, Operation E-justice consisted of 33 services: the Ministry of Justice carried out 17 services, the Supreme Court 12 services and the Constitutional Court 4 services.⁷¹ However, the listing of services, published on the Ministry of Justice webpage (accomplishments of the Operation E-justice), lists only 14 services carried out by the Ministry of Justice. Namely, the listing considers the 'Renewal of the Prison Administration Office information system' as one service instead of two services (SPIS 4 and e-Prisons). Additionally, it does not include supporting activities and the pilot project 'Automatic voice recognition and recording'

The table below lists the 33 services included in Operation E-justice.⁷²

⁷¹ This list of services and their short descriptions were made based on:

- the list of operation E-justice accomplishments published on the Ministry of Justice webpage:

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/operacija_e_pravosodje/

- the list of services in: Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, pp. 22–26;

- lists and description of services in article: Tovornik, B. (2012) E-storitve e-pravosodja. Smartdoc by Media.doc, Ljubljana.

⁷²

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/dosezki_operacije_e_pravosodje/

Tovornik, B. (2012) E-storitve e-pravosodja. Smartdoc by Media.doc, Ljubljana, pp. 56–62.

Table 9: List of services included in Operation E-justice – funded under the 2007–2013 programming period

	Operation E-justice:	Short description:
Services carried out by the Constitutional Court (CC):		
1	Renewal and upgrading of information and documents system of the CC	Development of a CMS that supports business processes in dealing with documents, matters and decision-making. It supports e-registry and e-service and connectivity with other records (criminal records, records of imprisoned persons).
2	Digitalisation of documents of all decided CC cases	Capture of documents from the resolved CC cases and their conversion into a digital form. After conversion, documents are available to users, interested publics and courts, and at the same time are ready for electronic archiving.
3	CMS module for working on mobile devices (tablets)	Development of a CMS module that enables working on mobile devices.
4	Renewal and upgrading of a system for publishing CC decisions	Search engine for CC decisions was renewed and upgraded, a system for processing decisions was renewed, content was transferred to an external database, e-notification about CC decisions was renewed, a special application for search and e-notification for the IOS and Android was developed.
Services carried out by the Ministry of Justice:		
5	SPIS 4 – Renewal of the Prison Administration Office information system	The prison information system of the Prison Administration Office was renewed. It was expanded and upgraded into a single information system to support the execution of criminal sanctions. Paper files on the imprisoned persons were therefore abolished. Connectivity with IT solutions of other bodies was enabled.
6	E-prisons – Renewal of the Prison Administration Office information system	Renewal of the information system for support of processes related to execution of criminal sanctions. E-prison was one of the major initiatives of the E-justice operation. It covers business processes of the Prison Administration Office and penitentiary institutions. It consists of 18 modules: records of imprisoned individuals, timetables, records of temporarily seized objects, etc.
7	Computerisation of registries at Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district prosecutor's offices, and State Attorney's Office	Development of IT system for the support of registries. Centralised system of registries was established in order to ensure more optimised work and to provide comprehensive support for processes at the Public Prosecution and State Attorney's Office.
8	Information system for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies	Establishment of an automatic court reporting for the needs of judicial administration (court statistics).

	Operation E-justice:	Short description:
9	Videoconference system for long distance hearings/questionings	The introduction of video-conference systems to courts is an example of innovative solutions for the justice system. It contributes to reducing the duration of court procedures. Initiatives included the installation of equipment in all 11 district courts. In addition, 11 children-friendly rooms at the Social Work Centres were equipped, and three mobile sets of equipment were provided to ensure connectivity with local courts, hospitals, hidden locations, etc. One secret police location and a room in prison in Dob was also equipped. As a result, distance hearings of witnesses, experts, children, patients in hospitals or homes for the elderly, prisoners and others are now possible.
10	Audio recording of court hearings	Objectives of the introduction of audio-video recording devices in courts were: easy use of the system for recording court hearings; use of IT for fast and secure access to data needed; faster procedures and savings; modern presentation of evidence for a clearer understanding of procedural activities. All courts (3,592 halls) were enabled to record hearings. As a result: court hearings can be shorter, doubts about what was actually said during questioning can be minimised and as a result judges can be less burdened. There is no need to interrupt the hearings in order to sum up and dictate the statements. Consequently, witnesses, experts, relatives, etc., also spend less time in court.
11	Digitalisation of international agreements	Conversion of international agreements into digital form; published on the Ministry of Justice webpage.
12	E-Notary	Development of an IT solution that operates as a centralised system and provides electronic access to electronic databases of official records run by state and local institutions or bodies with public powers.
13	Analytics – Judicial Council	Analytics for the Judicial Council.
14	Information system for the support of records at the Ministry of Justice	An information system for supporting the management of records and registries run by the Ministry of Justice and for granting secure access to data.
15	E-justice infrastructure	Purchase of hardware and software, including system maintenance services for the needs of electronic services in the context of e-justice
16	Court mediation	Development and promotion of ADR, as an important step towards faster and more efficient dispute resolution. Within the project, the Ministry of Justice signed over 300 contracts with mediators and financed over 6,000 mediation cases in the period 2013–2015.
17	Schools for judges at the Judicial Training Centre	The Judicial Training Centre organised several training and education events for the justice system staff about the content of Operation E-justice.
18	Symposium Cross-border communication in justice	Organisation of a symposium (education event).
19	Promotion of e-justice	Promotion of e-justice services among potential users.

	Operation E-justice:	Short description:
20	Supporting activities (labour of the employees, attending seminars, workshops, trainings)	
21	Automatic voice recognition and recording – pilot project	Judges use recorders to dictate court decisions. Later their clerks listen to a dictation and write a draft of a decision. Judges review these drafts, clerks make corrections according to judges' instructions, and so on. These steps may be repeated several times and contribute to the long duration of legal procedures. The pilot project tested the usefulness of a system for speech recognition (which is also used in medicine in radiology) in the judiciary – an innovative approach in the field of the judiciary in Slovenia. The pilot project included 50 judges. After three months of using the system, the accuracy of speech recognition was more than 97%. The project was evaluated as successful, and users expressed a positive attitude to using such a system in the future.
Services carried out by the Supreme Court:		
22	Data warehouse and business intelligence system (PSP II and PSP III)	Building Data Warehouse (PSP II): the system collects data from various sources and merges them into a single central data warehouse. It provides an overview over the performance of judges and supporting staff. The upgrade of this business information system is so-called 'President's Panel', i.e. concentrated tabular and graphical representations of key data for decision-making. Business Information System (PSP III) allows additional analysis with business intelligence tools, thus minimises the need to prepare reports manually. It serves as a tool for quality management and strategic governance on all levels of Slovenian justice system.
23	E-Land Registry	The development of the E-Land Registry was one of the biggest e-justice initiatives. The system enables electronic submission of proposals, management of procedures in electronic format, etc. It simplified the acquisition of information and certificates from the land register for external participants. It ensures an even distribution of work among courts (the computer distributes cases) and a single decision-making time for Land Registry matters (it does not depend on the location of the real estate).
24	Central registry for enforcement procedures	Renewal of the central register for enforcement procedures with the implementation of new functionalities in accordance with changes in enforcement legislation (single-entry-point registration, receipt of e-proposal/application, insight in procedures etc.)
25	E-Authentication	Development of an application to support authentication of documents.
26	Su registry	The Su registry is intended for recording and storing documentation related to the court administration. An application with features of an electronic registry was developed. The renewed Su registry has the e-file functionality, it is connected to the central e-calendar and the e-registry.
27	E-Registry	Single entry point for e-commerce with courts or their IT systems. It also includes a common e-business exit point (e-service of documents).

	Operation E-justice:	Short description:
28	E-INS	An IT solution that enables faster and more efficient submission of documents by clients and administrator in bankruptcy proceedings; they are practically only involved in e-commerce with the court.
29	K-Registry	Upgrading registry for criminal proceedings.
30	Renewal of the application for calculation of interests on late payments (IZO)	An application for the calculation of interests on late payments was renewed. It also allows conversions among foreign currencies. From 1 October 2009, it has been available (published on the Supreme Court's website) to the general public.
31	Implementation of smart cards in e-commerce in courts	IT security mechanisms in accessing electronic data.
32	E-Obligations	IT support for payments of court fees, advance payment, bails, fines, costs, etc.
33	PUND – renewal of the central registry for civil proceedings	Renewal of the central registry for civil proceedings. It is also a pilot solution for the renewal of IT support for the management of court registries; it sets the future standard for information systems for the management of court cases, which will be able to completely replace the existing technologically and functionally diverse information systems.

Source: http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijaska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/dosezki_operacije_e_pravosodje/; Tovornik, B. (2012) E-storitve e-pravosodja: pp. 56–62; short descriptions of services are also available at: http://www.arhiv.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/e_pravosodje/projekti_pregled_statusov/index.html

The list of services as initially approved on the first meeting of the Project Council for E-justice included 35 services. This list does not correspond exactly to the list of actually realised services within Operation E-justice, due to minor financial, timeframe and content-related adjustments made during the implementation of the operation.⁷³

Table 10 below shows the types of activities which were funded through the 33 E-justice services. As can be seen in the table, Operation E-Justice funded a wide range of activities, including training, ADR (mediation), purchase and rental of ICT systems, though there is no information about which activities featured most prominently across the services.

⁷³ Information provided by the Ministry of Justice in February 2018, for the purpose of this study.

Table 10: The types of activities undertaken as part of Operation E-justice, by Fund

	Training	Activities relating to ADR/ODR	Developing /upgrading business processes at courts	Developing/upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary	Introduction of case management system	Digitalisation of court services	Purchase of ICT systems (hardware and software)	Putting in place/upgrading the cooperation and communication within the judiciaries	Development and circulation of best practices	Evaluations and studies	Support to reform initiatives	Upgrading physical infrastructure at courts	Other, specify
ESF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
ERDF													
Both													
TOTAL	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

Project final recipient related to support to justice

The table below shows the types of final recipients of the operation E-justice.

Table 11: Number of times the following entities were the final recipient of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Relevant ministries	Courts and tribunals (incl. court personnel such as judges)	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Registry offices	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary (e.g. Council for the Judiciary)	Other specify
ESF	✓	✓	✓				✓
ERDF							
Both							
TOTAL	✓	✓	✓				✓

Operation E-justice had several final recipients: judges, prosecutors, state attorneys, lawyers (attorneys), assisting personnel/assistants, expert assistants in the judicial bodies, office of the public prosecutor, office of the state defenders and administration in other justice system bodies, prison administration, notaries and procedural parties. The actual final recipients match with the target groups identified in the programming documents.

Despite the fact that the Ministry of Justice was the only beneficiary of Operation E-justice, other judicial bodies participated in the implementation of the operation. The Ministry of Justice⁷⁴ made agreements with the Constitutional Court and with the Supreme Court to act as participants (but not beneficiaries) in the operation. These agreements served as legal bases to include other judicial bodies in the implementation of the cohesion policy in the field of justice and to define their roles, obligations, content of individual projects, budgets, timeframes, work plans etc.⁷⁵

Project outputs, results and impacts related to support to justice

Although the programming documents for 2007–2013 do not mention any outputs or impacts relating specifically to justice (only a planned result which is shown in reduced average duration of judicial procedures), the Final Report on the Implementation of the OP for HRD 2007–2013 provides that within Operation E-justice the following **outputs** were achieved (by the end of the operation in 2015):

- around 33 services were implemented,
- 118 computerised records suitable for electronic data interchange were created,
- 456 training events were organised,
- 102 registers were computerised,
- 233 processes in the justice system were computerised.⁷⁶

⁷⁴ According to the document 'Description of the system of management and control for the OP for HRD in 2007–2013', the Ministry of Justice performed the role of 'line ministry' (Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politico (2008) Opis sistema upravljanja in nadzora za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, pp. 76–79).

⁷⁵ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, p. 20.

⁷⁶ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 127.

According to the Final Report on the Implementation of the OP for HRD 2007–2013, both impacts were achieved: better institutional competitiveness and efficiency of state and better performance of the justice system.⁷⁷

In 2012, a study of the impact of computerisation on the efficiency of the justice system was published. It was financed by the national research agency. During the study, an analysis of the justice computerisation by individual services from the E-justice Action Plan was carried out. Individual services were addressed in terms of their impact on the level of computerisation and thus indirectly on the social utility. The study used a reference system defined by 17 indicators, where each indicator showed the level of realisation of each function in a specific IT solution. The study analysed the current state of digitalisation and the realisation of e-justice by individual services listed in the Action Plan for E-Justice. Only services that were already implemented by the end of 2011 were analysed. Therefore, the study did not cover the entire E-justice operation which was completed at the end of 2015. An individual service was evaluated as successful, if:

- difference between planned costs and spent budget was lower than 20%;
- difference between planned implementation time and actual time was lower than 20%;
- difference between planned and actual functionality of an IT solution was lower than 5%.

The following services were evaluated⁷⁸:

Table 12: Services evaluated (2007-2013)

Service	Evaluation from the point of view of:		
	Costs	Time	Functionalities
<i>Renewal of the application for calculation of interests on late payments (IZO)</i>	S*: Budget spent was 7.23% lower than budget planned.	S: Implementation time was same as planned.	S: Service's functionalities did not deviate from planned functionalities.
<i>Digitalisation of documents of all decided CC cases (since independence onwards)</i>	S: Budget spent was 46% of the budget planned.	S: Implementation took twice as long as planned. However, on the analysis of causes for this delay, it was nevertheless established that this fact did not affect its successfulness.	S: Actual functionalities correspond to planned functionalities.
<i>Renewal and construction of information and documents system of the CC</i>	S: Budget spent was much less than budget planned (i.e. only 55.92% of the planned budget).	S: Implementation time did not deviate significantly from planned.	S: Functionalities did not deviate significantly from planned.
<i>Digitalisation of international agreements</i>	S: Budget spent was much less than planned (i.e. only 29.98% of the budget planned).	S: Implementation time was much shorter than planned (i.e. only 14.29% of the planned time).	S: Functionalities were same as planned.
<i>E-justice infrastructure (purchase of hardware and software for the MJ services – by the end of 2011)</i>	U: Budget spent was 27.68% bigger than budget planned.	S: Time spent was the same as planned.	S: Computerisation level at the MJ raised for 50% (from initial 0%).
<i>Audio recording of hearings</i>	S: Only 75.12% of the planned budget (i.e. EUR 6 million) was spent.	S: Implementation time was same as planned.	U: Achieved functionalities deviated significantly from the planned (only 73.33% level of computerisation was achieved and not 90% as planned).
<i>Data warehouse – PSP II</i>	S: Budget spent was 23.21% less than planned.	S: Implementation time was 16.67% shorter than planned.	S: Functionalities were same as planned.

⁷⁷ Ibid, p. 126.

⁷⁸ Bogataj, J. et al. (2012) Studija vpliva informatizacije na učinkovitost pravosodnega sistema. Druga faza: Realizacija informatizacije pravosodja po posameznih projektih iz akcijskega načrta e-pravosodje. Ljubljana, pp. 43–83. Study is publicly available.

Service	Evaluation from the point of view of:		
	Costs	Time	Functionalities
<i>E-Obligations</i>	S: Budget spent did not deviate significantly from planned (only 4.32% bigger than planned).	U: Implementation time was 50% longer than planned.	S: Functionalities were same as planned.
<i>Information system for statistical monitoring of the functioning of the judicial bodies – judicial statistics</i>	S: Budget spent was 50.29% lower than planned.	U: Implementation time was twice as long as planned.	S: Functionalities were same as planned.
<i>Videoconference system for long distance hearings/questionings</i>	S: Budget spent was 9.89% bigger than planned.	S: Implementation time did not differ significantly from planned.	S: Functionalities were same as planned

* S (successful), U (unsuccessful)

At the beginning of Operation E-justice it was expected that other activities (outside the OP for HRD and E-justice operation) may influence the realisation of the impact indicators. Therefore, the results and development of Operation E-justice were monitored using with four additional auxiliary indicators, which were suggested in 2008 in the 'Analysis of procedures, legislation and IT equipment of judicial bodies in Republic of Slovenia' (Analiza procesov, zakonodaje in informacijske opremljenosti pravosodnih organov RS). These four indicators (also called: indicators on a macro level) measured the effect of computerisation. In the 2008 analysis the following auxiliary indicators were suggested:

- K1: number of computerised registers/records, suitable for electronic data interchange with external users of registries/records;
- K2: number of issued certificates to participates in training event for work with IT-supported processes;
- K3: number of computerised registers/records at justice system bodies;
- K4: level of computerisation of justice system bodies.

K4 was supposed to be measured with a methodology based on 17 sub-indicators (indicators on micro level) showing the level of computerisation of every individual process (e-file, e-delivery of documents, e-connectivity with other registers, e-signature, e-archive, advanced generation of documents, etc.).

The Ministry of Justice used the auxiliary indicators in preparing reports for ESF. However, the indicators were modified in order to make monitoring of the OP (ESF) easier, and were changed into:

- K1: number of computerised records in the justice system suitable for electronic data interchange;
- K2: number of organised training events to work with IT-supported processes;
- K3: number computerised registers in the justice system;
- K4: number of computerised processes in the justice system.

Regarding K1, the modified indicator measured only computerised records and not records and registers together. Therefore K3 was modified to measure only computerised registers. Regarding training indicator K2, the modified indicator did not measure number of certificates for participants of training events, but instead the number of organised training events.

The most significant modification occurred regarding K4, which does not measure computerisation level, but number of computerised processes. According to the 2012 'Study of the computerisation impact on efficiency of justice', the changed K4 indicator was more difficult to calculate and was no longer compatible with the initial model for evaluating computerisation of individual justice system bodies that were recipients of Operation E-justice.⁷⁹ According to the same study, this changed K4 indicator did not provide a good explanation of the computerisation impact on the efficiency of justice and it was proposed

⁷⁹ Ibid, pp. 36–42.

Lesjak, B. (2013) *Učinkovitost pravosodja v Republiki Sloveniji*. Doktorska disertacija, Fakulteta za management Univerze na Primorskem, Koper, pp. 85–87.

to abandon it. It indicated only the level of computerisation as a result of individual IT solution and not the impact on the efficiency of the justice system.⁸⁰

Auxiliary indicators are presented in shares, which indicate the planned and actual realisation of indicators in percentages. For example, for K3 it was planned that 95% of all registers used in the justice system would be computerised at the end of the operation, while at the beginning of the operation 55% of registers used in the justice systems were already computerised. Unfortunately documents do not provide the absolute numbers behind the baseline and planned (target) values.⁸¹

Absolute numbers for the reported values at the end of 2015 are: 118 computerised records suitable for electronic data interchange, 456 organised training events, 102 computerised registers, 233 computerised processes.⁸²

As there is just one operation and the indicators do not fit into the groups outlined in this study, the original indicators are listed in Table 13 below.

Table 13: Project output indicators and data

Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available ⁸³
Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the Period 2007–2013				
<i>Priority axis (number and name): 5 'Institutional and administrative capacity'</i>				
Indicator 1: Number of computerised records in the justice system suitable for electronic data interchange (K1) ⁸⁴	Share in percentage (%)	15%	92%	78%
Indicator 2: Number of organised training events to work with IT-supported processes (K2) ⁸⁵	Share in percentage (%)	0%	48%	63%
Indicator 3: Number of computerised registers in the justice system (K3)	Share in percentage (%)	55%	95%	141%
Indicator 4: Number of computerised processes in the justice system (K4)	Share in percentage (%)	30%	85%	207%

Source: Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 127.

Table 14: Achieved values of the auxiliary indicators in every year (shares):

Indicator	Baseline 2007	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of computerised records in the justice system suitable for electronic data interchange	15	25	35	45	51	71	74	78

⁸⁰ Bogataj, J. et al. (2012) Studija vpliva informatizacije na učinkovitost pravosodnega Sistema. Druga faza: Realizacija informatizacije pravosodja po posameznih projektih iz akcijskega načrta e-pravosodje. Ljubljana, pp. 36–42. Study is publicly available.

Lesjak, B. (2013) Vpliv pravnih e-storitev na učinkovitost pravosodja v Republiki Sloveniji. Doktorska disertacija, Fakulteta za management Univerze na Primorskem, Koper, pp. 85–87.

⁸¹ Ibid, p. 88.

⁸² Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 127.

⁸³ At the end of 2015, when the operation ended.

⁸⁴ Number of records/registries at justice system bodies, for which electronic data exchange with external users was introduced. By 'external users' other justice system bodies or external actors are meant.

⁸⁵ Number of training or education events organised by Judicial Training Centre or by individual justice system body.

Number of organised training events to work with IT-supported processes	0	0	5	22	27	47	52	63
Number of computerised registers in the justice system	55	55	50	64	69	123	137	141
Number of computerised processes in the justice system	30	35	50	160	165	170	191	207

Source: information provided by the Ministry of Justice).

Planned values for three out of four auxiliary indicators were achieved in 2015 and even substantially exceeded.

Table 15: Result indicator and data

Aggregate indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available
Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the Period 2007–2013				
Priority axis (number and name): 5 'Institutional and administrative capacity'				
Type of indicator 1: Reduced average duration time for juridical procedures	months	9,5	6	3,1

For Operation E-justice, a **result indicator** was determined to measure the realisation of objectives from the OP for HRD through reduced average duration time for juridical procedures (in months). The indicator is determined from the initial value for year 2007, when the average duration of juridical procedure was 9.5 months. Operation E-justice did not end in 2013, but was instead extended until the end of 2015. The planned target value to be achieved at the end of the operation in 2015 was 6 months, but this target was already reached by 2010. The end value, actually achieved, was even lower: average duration of juridical procedures in 2015 was 2.9 months shorter than the target value.⁸⁶ The original indicator is outlined in Table 15 above, as it cannot be categorised to the groups outlined for this study.

2.4. Relevant programme output and result indicators

2.4.1. Programme indicators

OP for HRD determined a **result indicator** to measure the realisation of objectives from the OP for HRD (under the priority axis 'Development of appropriate institutional and administrative capacities for effective structural adaptation, growth, new jobs and economic development') through reduced average duration time for juridical procedures (in months).

The indicator is determined from the initial value for year 2007, when the average duration of juridical procedure was 9.5 months. The planned target value to be achieved in 2013 was 6 months.⁸⁷

Table 16: Summary table programme indicators

Relevant justice Indicator	Unit of measurement	OP it relates to (ICC)
Reduced average duration time for juridical procedures – result indicator	Months	OP for Human Resources Development (2007SI051PO001)

⁸⁶ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 126.

⁸⁷ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, p. 88.

OP for HRD determined a **result indicator** to measure the realisation of objectives from the OP through reduced average duration time for juridical procedures (in months). The baseline is set at the initial value for year 2007, when the average duration of judicial procedure was 9.5 months. The planned target value to be achieved at the end of the operation in 2015 was 6 months, but this target was already reached by 2010. The end value actually achieved was even lower: average duration of judicial procedures in 2015 was 2.9 months shorter than the target value.⁸⁸

The table below presents the reduced average duration of judicial procedures (in months):

Table 17: Reduced average duration of judicial procedures (in months)

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
9.5	n/a	n/a	5.6	4.5	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.1

Source: Republika Slovenija (2017), *Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013*, Ljubljana, p. 126.

Realisation of the results of Operation E-justice was also evaluated with additional auxiliary indicators:

Table 18: Auxiliary indicators Operation E-justice

Auxiliary indicators:	Baseline 2007	Target for 2015 (as extended)	Achieved value in 2015
Number of computerised records in the justice system suitable for electronic data interchange	15%	92%	78%
Number of organised training events to work with IT-supported processes	0%	48%	63%
Number of computerised registers in the justice system	55%	95%	141%
Number of computerised processes in the justice system	30%	85%	207%

Source: Republika Slovenija (2017) *Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013*, Ljubljana, p. 127.

According to the Final Report on the Implementation of the OP for HRD for the Period 2007–2013, the majority of auxiliary indicator targets were met, even above the planned value. The reason for better final values compared to target values of indicators is the fact that the operation was implemented more effectively than planned in 2008. A suggestion to monitor the informatisation of justice with auxiliary indicators was made in 2008 in a study – ‘Analysis of procedures, legislation and IT equipment of justice bodies in Republic of Slovenia’ (Analiza procesov, zakonodaje in informacijske opremljenosti pravosodnih organov RS). This study listed, for the first time, all procedures and processes in the justice system and prepared a proposal of contents, i.e. a proposed action plan for Operation E-justice.⁸⁹

Follow-ups:

In 2012, a Study of the computerisation impact on the efficiency of the justice system was published (627 pages), financed by the Slovene Research Agency. The study is an outcome of a research project, which was divided into three phases. The second and the third phase of the study were not directly related to the implementation of Operation E-justice, but to developing an econometric model.⁹⁰

In the first phase, which was completed by 15.9.2011, the analysis of the state of justice computerisation by individual projects was carried out. Individual services from the Action plan of e-Justice were addressed in terms of impact on the level of computerisation and thus indirectly on the social utility. The analysis was performed by using a reference system defined by 17 indicators, where each indicator showed the level of realisation of each functionality in a specific IT solution.

⁸⁸ Republika Slovenija (2017) *Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013*, Ljubljana, p. 126.

⁸⁹ Ibid, p. 127.

⁹⁰ Information provided by Ministry of Justice in February 2018, for the purpose of this study.

In the second phase, which ended on 30.11.2011, the researchers analysed the state of computerisation and the realisation of e-justice by individual services in the Action Plan of E-Justice. They performed an analysis of the entire justice system on the basis of econometric models and analysed the effectiveness and efficiency of implementation for each individual service. Based on available data, they made a comparison of the situation in Slovenia with good practices from abroad, and verified compliance of the computerisation with the E-Justice Strategy 2008–2013. They analysed the contribution of the then existing e-justice on efficiency of Slovenian justice both from a content and process point of view.

The third phase ended on 31.5.2012. Researchers designed models, concrete proposals and recommendations for further computerisation. They identified key performance indicators of computerisation, analysed existing micro and macro indicators and designed methodology for calculating the contribution of each key performance indicator to the main indicator – shortening the average duration of individual litigation (in months). They developed a model of effective e-justice and established a model for measuring the effectiveness of the justice system. They reviewed the possibilities of e-dispute resolution including enforcement based on a credible document as an important way to increase the efficiency of the justice system. They determined the changes necessary at the organisational level to achieve optimal effects of computerisation of the justice system, and prepared recommendations for further computerisation of the justice system and renewal of strategy.

The study analysed the state of computerisation and the realisation of e-justice by individual services listed in the Action Plan for E-Justice. Only services that were already implemented by the end of 2011 were analysed. Therefore, the study did not embrace the whole of Operation E-justice, which was completed at the end of 2015.

Developed and implemented e-justice services were presented as good practice examples at various domestic and international conferences and international visits.

'Judicial Data Warehouse and Performance Dashboards',⁹¹ implemented within PSP II and PSP III (Supreme Court), received special recognition as one of the finalists at the international competition organised by the Council of Europe – the Crystal Scales of Justice Prize (2012).

Whilst they are not exactly follow-ups, below is a list of the promotional activities (sent by the SC) related to the services financed from Operation E-justice:

a) for PSP II and PSP III (SC):

- Informatics in Public Administration Conference, 23.11.2010: lecture 'From Modernisation of registries to business Intelligence'
- Conference of Good practices in the Judiciary, 26.11.2010: lecture 'Presentation of Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence'
- JUSTPAL (Justice Sector Peer-Assisted Learning Network), 28.9.2012, Brijuni, Croatia: lecture 'From the Data Warehouse to Business Impact'
- European Day of Civil Justice, Vilnius, Lithuania, 25.10.2012: lecture 'Judicial Data Warehouse and Performance Dashboards'
- Conference of Good practices in the Judiciary, December 2012: lecture 'Business Data Warehouse and President's Dashboards'
- Informatics in Public Administration Conference, 9.12.2013: lecture 'Business Intelligence, New Concept in Courts Administration'
- JUSTPAL (Justice Sector Peer-Assisted Learning Network) in cooperation with Supreme Court of Georgia, 11.1.2013, Tbilisi, Georgia: lecture 'Court Performance Dashboard, the Slovenian experience'
- Visit of the delegation from the Austrian Ministry of Justice at the SC, 19.4.2013: lecture 'Business intelligence and data warehousing, the Slovenian experience'
- Visit of the delegation from the Croatia Ministry of Justice at the SC, 14.6.2013: lecture 'Business intelligence and data warehousing, the Slovenian experience'
- Visit of the delegation from the Macedonian Ministry of Justice at the SC, 1.10.2013 and 14.10.2015: lecture 'Business intelligence and data warehousing, the Slovenian experience'
- Presentation of the system PSP II / PSP III during visits of delegations, Ministry of Internal Affairs, 18.7.2014 and 14.11.2014

⁹¹ https://www.coe.int/t/dghl/cooperation/cepej/events/EDCJ/Cristal/2012/CSJ_presentation_GST_2210.pdf

- Visit of the delegation from the Moldova Ministry of Justice, 26.5.2016: lecture and presentation of the system PSP II /PSP III
- Visit of the delegation from the Azerbaijan Ministry of Justice, 31.5.2016: lecture and presentation of the system PSP II /PSP III

b) Application E-Authentication (SC)

- eAPP forum, Izmir, Turkey, 2012, and The Hague, Netherlands, 2016
- Conference of Good practices in the Judiciary, 2012
- Informatics in Public Administration Conference, 2013 and 2015

c) E-registry (SC)

- Conference of Good practices in the Judiciary, 9.12.2015: presentation of EVIP (evidence of income and outcome mail)
- Faculty of Administration, 11.3.2016: presentation of EVIP
- Bank Association of Slovenia, 16.11.2016: presentation of the use of Laurentius (i.e. one of the EVIP modules)
- JavaSI'17 Conference, 16.10.2017, Portorož, Slovenia
- ZEIDES Conference, 26.10.2017, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2.4.2. Annex XXIII data

Table 19: Annex XXIII output indicators and data

Annex XXXIII output indicator	Project (or OP) indicator relates to	Priority axis indicator relates to	Reported value
Total number of participants	N/A	N/A	N/A
Employed participants	N/A	N/A	N/A
Participants with tertiary education (ISCED 5 and 6)	N/A	N/A	N/A

For Slovenia, Annex XXIII data is not available. According to the Ministry of Justice, in the programming period 2007–2013 it was not mandatory to measure Annex XXIII data on the participants in ESF operations for priority axis 5: 'Institutional and administrative capacity'.

2.5. Budget information

Overall budget information for projects supporting the justice system funded through the ESF and ERDF was generally available. However, there is no universally accepted taxonomy for project budget owners to classify budgets according to type of activity or final recipient. Moreover, many projects involve multiple activities and/or multiple final recipients. Whether and how budgets for these complex projects are analysed by activity or final recipient varies across project owners and countries. This militates against using reported data to make meaningful comparisons between projects and Member States.

For the purpose of this study, the researchers have therefore created a high-level taxonomy in order to enable an analysis of budget allocations for activities and final recipients of the identified projects funded through the ESF and ERDF supporting the justice system. Information from interviews and documents has been used to apply this taxonomy and allocate budgets based on the main focus of the projects as well as the final recipients. In cases where it has not been possible to determine budget allocations for projects with **multiple final recipients**, these have been classified as 'multiples' (further details and explanations have been provided in the text below). Where a project had **multiple activities** and/or included activities which did not fall under one of the focus categories, the categorisation of that project reflects its aim and not necessarily all individual activities undertaken in the context of this project. This approach is further explained in the Final Report.

Table 20 Budget spent in thousand EUR by project focus category

Project Name	Improving internal processes	Digitalisation & ICT	Training & Raising awareness	Research and evaluation	Activities related to ADR/ODR	Upgrading physical infrastructure	Other	No information available
ESF		23,133.32						
ERDF								
Both								
TOTAL		23,133.32						

As stated before, Operation E-justice had several final recipients: judges, prosecutors, state attorneys, lawyers (attorneys), assisting personnel/assistants, expert assistants in the judicial bodies, office of the public prosecutor, office of the state defenders and administration in other justice system bodies, prison administration, notaries and procedural parties. Therefore, the budget spent has been categorised as 'Multiple' in the table below.

Table 21: Budget spent in thousand EUR by final recipient category

Project Name	Courts and Tribunal	Relevant ministries	Land registry offices	Regional administration	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Multiple
ESF										23,133.32
ERDF										
Both										
TOTAL										23,133.32

2.5.1. Additional budget data from publically available sources and estimates provided by the Ministry of Justice

Some of the information provided below was collected from publically available reports, as well as estimates provided by the Ministry of Justice, for the purpose of this study.

Operation E-justice was mostly implemented with the help of public procurement procedures. At the beginning of the operation, the beneficiary detected deviations from the planned timetable due to preparation of technical specifications for public procurements and due to obtaining approvals for the execution of public procurement from the Managing Authority. The usage of available funds was low in the first and the second year of the implementation of the operation. However, in 2010 it increased to EUR 3.4 million. By 2014 the usage of funds was relatively constant. The biggest amount of funds was used in 2014, when EUR 5.2 million were spent for Operation E-justice (see table below).

Table 22: Budget spent per year (in thousand EUR) on Operation E-justice

Year	Budget spent per year (in thousand EUR) on Operation E-justice
2008	4.38
2009	810.82
2010	3,406.83
2011	3,735.45
2012	3,273.72
2013	3,319.64
2014	5,157.24
2015	3,425.26
<i>TOTAL (ESF)</i>	23,133.32

Source: information provided by the Ministry of Justice.

Information on how the budget of Operation E-justice was spent according to these types of activities is not publicly available, however estimates prepared by the Ministry of Justice for the purpose of this study can be found in the table below. This table provides budget data by activity, using the same activity categories as used in section 2.3.2., but do therefore not correspond to the project focus activities presented in table 20 above.

Some sources exist (2012 Study, national database of public procurements), but it is not clear what expenses they include: the 2012 study only covers activities by the end of 2012 and the national database of public procurements only contains information for some public procurements (however it is not clear how many and what public procurements make up each individual e-justice service). Some public procurements cover several activities (for example purchase or rental of IT equipment + training) and do not divide their budget according to these types of activities.⁹²

⁹² See for example: https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=109529

Table 23: Budget spent in million EUR by activity undertaken (by Final recipient and in Total)⁹³

	Training	Activities relating to ADR/ODR	Developing/upgrading business processes at courts	Developing/upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary	Introduction of case management system	Digitalisation of court services	Purchase of ICT systems (hardware and software)	Putting in place/upgrading the cooperation and communication within the judiciaries	Development and circulation of best practices	Evaluations and studies	Support to reform initiatives	Upgrading physical infrastructure at courts	Other	Total
SC			3.6835	0.9730	0.3700	1.3015		0.3935						6.7215
CC			0.0477		0.2430	0.0600								0.3507
MJ	0.3400	0.9790	6.5000	1.5969	2.4890		2.0140	1.9970	0.0450	0.1000				16.0609
TOTAL (ESF)	0.3400	0.9790	10.2312	2.5699	3.1020	1.3615	2.0140	2.3905	0.0450	0.1000				23.1331

⁹³ Estimates were prepared by the Ministry of Justice especially for this study.

With the MA decision to directly approve Operation E-justice, the Ministry of Justice was granted financial means for activities and costs of the operation that related to the implementation of services and for the supporting activities (for example employments). An exact list of services or public procurements was not part of the decision to approve the operation. With the decision the following activities were approved:

- research, studies, development,
- development and purchase of licensed and non-licensed software,
- training and education for justice system staff,
- renting, purchasing and maintaining computer hardware,
- informing and communicating with the publics and potential target groups about benefits and possible uses of services,
- employments to work on the operation.⁹⁴

The following costs were approved as eligible:

- labour costs (for example salaries),
- cost for informing and communicating (events, seminars, webpage, advertising, promotion),
- costs for external contractors (for research, studies and development),
- investments (purchasing computer equipment),
- costs for renting software and hardware (renting hardware, servers, communication equipment, licensed and other software and their maintenances),
- intangible investments or intangible long-term assets (purchasing and maintaining licensed and non-licensed software),
- services of external contractors (computer services, legal counselling, administrative services)
- (VAT was also an eligible cost).⁹⁵

Approved funding for groups of activities and costs had changed during the eight-year implementation period of Operation E-justice. Altogether, ten proposals made by the Ministry of Justice to change decision to approve operation were permitted. These changes did not relate only to alterations in the structure of funding (according to activities and costs), but also to increasing the amount of funding for the operation and to extending its timeframe. During the operation budget by activities and eligible costs had also been changing and adjusting according to the actual use of funds.⁹⁶

The table below provides an overview of the budget spent according to types of activities:

Table 24 Budget spent in EUR according to types of activities

Types of activities:	Budget spent in thousand EUR	% (form the value of entire operation)
Development and purchasing of licensed and non-licensed software	10,169.35	44%
Renting, purchasing and maintaining computer hardware	8,373.73	36%
Research, studies and development	2,836.43	12%
Employment/work on Operation E-justice	993.34	4%
Training of the justice system staff	691.94	3%
Information and communication to the public	68.52	0.3%
<i>Together</i>	23,133.32	

Source: information provided by the Ministry of Justice.

It is impossible to make a comparison between the budget planned and budget actually spent according to the types of activities; owing to a change in the budget distribution by activities in 2010, such a comparison would not cover the same content. As confirmed by the beneficiary, this change in the budget allocation by activities in 2010 was a result of the common modality of monitoring in the information system. However, it is possible to establish that for the information and communication it was initially planned that EUR 1

⁹⁴ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo, Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana, p. 21.

⁹⁵ Ibid, pp. 21–22.

⁹⁶ Ibid, p. 2.

million would be spent and only EUR 50,000 for the employment costs of those working on the operation (employees at the MJ and the SC).⁹⁷

Table 25: Budget spent in EUR for individual costs of Operation E-justice

Individual costs of Operation E-justice	Budget spent in thousand EUR	% (from final available budget)
Purchasing licence, patent and similar rights	6,693.83	29%
Other external services	4,861.80	21%
VAT	3,620.80	15.6%
Renting computer and software	3,079.34	13.3%
Renting servers and communication hardware	2,324.24	10%
Salaries (with social benefits)	993.34	4.3%
Purchasing computer equipment	538.10	2.3%
Purchasing servers and communication hardware	508.05	2.2%
Purchasing computer and related equipment	331.91	1.4%
External services	65.42	0.3%
Information and communication	48.97	0.21%
Purchasing other ICT equipment	48.32	0.2%
Daily allowance, accommodation and traveling costs	19.21	0.08%

Source: information provided by the Ministry of Justice.

The largest e-justice services according to the amount of funds spent are listed in the table below.

Table 26: Largest e-justice services according to the amount of funds spent (in EUR)

E-justice services	% of the value of Operation E-justice:
Introduction of audio recordings of court hearings	23.4%
Computerisation of registries at Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district prosecutor's offices, and State Attorney's Office	9.4%
E-justice infrastructure	8.7%
E-Land Registry information system	7.6%
Renewal of the Prison Administration Office information system	6.5%
E-registry	4.9%
Videoconference system for long distance hearings	4.7%
Information system for the support of registers at the Ministry of Justice	4.4%

Source: information provided by the Ministry of Justice.

The AIR 2010 provides information on budget actually spent for individual public procurements within Operation E-justice. Latter AIRs do not provide such information anymore. From the start of the operation in 2008 until the end of 2010 the Ministry of Justice signed contracts with the contract providers for the following activities (these contracts were not necessarily also paid at the end of 2010):

Table 27: Value of the signed contracts (by 31.12.2010) in thousand EUR by public procurement within Operation E-Justice

Public Procurement:	Value of the signed contracts (by 31.12.2010) in thousand EUR
Legal assistance for the public procurement for computerisation of registries at Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district state prosecutor's offices and State Attorney's Office – information system for the registries' support	4.38
Computerisation of registries at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, district state prosecutor's offices and State Attorney's Office	1,404.86
IT support for the record of imprisoned individuals, counselling and providing a new IT system model for the support of the record of the imprisoned individuals, proposal of support and upgrading of the IT system for the support of the register of imprisoned individuals	45.48

⁹⁷ Ibid, p. 29.

Public Procurement:	Value of the signed contracts (by 31.12.2010) in thousand EUR
Purchasing hardware for the e-justice projects of the Ministry of Justice	569.35
Renovation and upgrading of the information and documentation system of the Constitutional Court (CMS)	290.00
Purchasing software and installation of a base and application architecture for the e-justice projects	324.39
Capture and reliable conversion of public archives in the digital form	60.35
Services for the system development for E-obligation	110.58
Services for building a data warehouse PSP II	345.54
E-commerce system for the court management - PSP III	241.55
Migration of E-Land Registry system	91.06
E-Land Registry system	1,152.60
Renewal of an application for the calculation of interests on late payments	60.30
Digitalisation of international agreements	44.97
Rental of an audio recording system for recording court hearings	5,298.09
Designing logo visual identity and its placement for Operation E-justice	5.08
System for the statistical monitoring of justice system bodies	74.48
Accommodation (hotel services) for the two-day seminar on video-conferencing	4.90
Counselling and coordination for the project E-Insolvency (e-INS)	31.50
Audio recording leaflet	2.96
Expert help for the audio recording project (copyright agreement)	12.90
TOTAL	10,175.32 (i.e. 44% of the value of the operation)

Source: Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2011) Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana, pp. 192–193.

Budget spent by Final recipient

The budget actual spent for Operation E-justice was distributed among these three bodies:

Table 28: Budget spent in EUR by Final recipient

Final recipients	Budget spent in EUR
Supreme Court	6,721,581
Constitutional Court	350,744
Ministry of Justice (with Prison Administration Office)	16,060,995
<i>Together:</i>	<i>23,133,320</i>

Source: Ministry of Justice

3. Period 2014–2020

3.1. The needs of the Member State relating to the national justice system

The **Commission Staff Working Document, Country Report Slovenia 2016**, identified the following needs of the Slovene justice system:

- despite the improvements, backlogs and lengthy court proceedings remain a challenge for the functioning of civil and commercial courts⁹⁸;
- further improvements are needed in the quality of the justice system (developing quality standards with a focus on training new judges, the quality of judgments and timeframes; actions to promote procedural fairness; further digitalisation projects; improvements in the e-service);
- a reform of the Judicial Council is needed as its low administrative capacity appears to hinder its ability to follow and analyse the situation in the judiciary;
- regarding insolvency, liquidation proceedings remain lengthy and ineffective despite the improved framework for corporate restructuring⁹⁹;
- there is still scope for achieving clear efficiency gains and improving the quality of the justice system. Tackling backlogs and ensuring the swift delivery of justice, while enhancing quality, is a priority, also because of its impact on the business environment and the investment climate.¹⁰⁰

According to the **Ex-ante Evaluation for the OP for the Implementation of European Cohesion Policy in 2014–2020**, in order to strengthen the rule of law and optimise the functioning of the judicial system it is necessary to:

- improve the resolution of enforcement cases and eliminating bottlenecks in enforcement matters by upgrading the business process, implementing organisational solutions and fast-track procedures, and by training the relevant stakeholders;
- improve the insolvency proceedings and court, as well as out-of-court, dispute resolution mechanisms, to support mechanisms of systemic deleveraging¹⁰¹, including with faster processing (fast-tracking procedures) of civil and commercial matters¹⁰²;
- implement alternative methods of dispute resolution between business entities;
- improve the efficiency of detection and prosecution of economic crime and corruption¹⁰³;
- plan a more efficient functioning of the judicial system and establish mechanisms for measuring or identifying non-optimal aspects of the functioning of individual judicial bodies.¹⁰⁴

The **Partnership Agreement (PA)** between Slovenia and European Commission for the Period 2014–2020 targeted justice within thematic objective 11: Enhancing the institutional capacity of justice system, public authorities and stakeholders and an efficient public administration.

⁹⁸ According to the CSR 2015, reforms to improve the efficiency of civil justice are needed to help reduce the length of proceedings (Council Recommendation of 14 July 2015 on the 2015 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2015 Stability Programme of Slovenia: recommendation no. 4).

⁹⁹ See also CSR 2016: Council Recommendation of 12 July 2016 on the 2016 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2016 Stability Programme of Slovenia, paragraph (13).

¹⁰⁰ European Commission (2016) Commission Staff Working Document, Country Report Slovenia 2016, Including an In-Depth Review on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, pp. 62–63.

¹⁰¹ Systemic deleveraging is out-of-court financial restructuring of an indebted company (decrease of its financial leverage) in order to prevent insolvency proceedings and to enable the company to continue with its business.

¹⁰² According to the CSR 2013, it is needed to improve the enforcement of corporate insolvency procedures and in-court settlements, including swiftly resolving pending court cases related to bankruptcy procedures, in order to maximise recovery value and to facilitate the timely and efficient resolution of non-performing loans. (Council Recommendation of 9 July 2013 on the National Reform Programme 2013 for Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2012–2016: recommendation no. 9).

¹⁰³ See also CSR 2014: PRIPOROČILO SVETA v zvezi z nacionalnim reformnim programom Slovenije za leto 2014 in mnenje Sveta o slovenskem programu stabilnosti za leto 2014, paragraph 8.

¹⁰⁴ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2013, 2014-modified) Predhodno vrednotenje in celovita presoja vplivov na okolje z dodatkom za varovana območja (Natura 2000) za Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020. Okoljsko poročilo (final), Ljubljana, p. 86.

The following key needs for the programming period 2014–2020 are essential in the context of thematic objective 11 in the field of the justice system:

- improve the regulatory framework;
- better performance and enhanced efficiency of the justice systems;
- accelerate settlement of disputes, enforcements, alternative forms of dispute settlement, optimise business processes in courts and insolvency proceedings;
- effectively tackle economic crime and corruption.¹⁰⁵

According to the PA, rule of law is a prerequisite for the functioning of all systems of the state, as well as its social subsystems, in particular the economy. Simultaneously, enhancing the efficiency of the judicial system has a significant anti-corruption effect. The justice system is of vital national and strategic significance in the protection of citizens' rights, economic development and prosperity. Enhancing the efficiency of Slovenia's justice system is intended to indirectly enhance employability, the growth and competitiveness of the economic sector and thus prosperity for citizens, as the faster and more efficient settlement of court cases should indirectly preserve jobs and enhance foreign direct investments and thus enable additional employment and social security.¹⁰⁶

Thematic areas within this thematic objective are to be financed under the **ESF**. In territorial terms, the ESF allocations are available for the whole of Slovenia. The funds will be distributed on the basis of certain criteria which will be defined and justified in the OP within the relevant priority axes. Slovenia is divided into two regions, namely the region of West Slovenia (Zahodna Slovenija) and the region of East Slovenia (Vzhodna Slovenija).¹⁰⁷ The needs in both regions are great, though West Slovenia is more developed. Regarding justice, a distribution key will be used for the territorial distribution of funds between both regions. Namely, distribution of funds will be proportional to the distribution of courts of first instance in the regions: the region of West Slovenia has 62%, and the region of East Slovenia has 38% of all courts of first instance in the state.¹⁰⁸

Within thematic objective 11 (Enhancing the institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and an efficient public administration), the PA identified the following areas that relate to justice:

- **Efficient judicial system**

As reported by the PA, the level of confidence in the rule of law and the institutions of justice is low in Slovenia, which has a negative effect on economic competitiveness and prevents smooth social and economic development. A structural abyss was noted between the functioning of the justice system and the actual economy, since business entities usually encounter the functioning and significance of justice authorities only when it is too late (e.g. when a company is already in trouble).¹⁰⁹

As per sectoral strategy on human resource management, higher competences for justice system's officers and their support staff will be required, including the optimisation of their intellectual capital utilisation. For a more efficient justice system, as a priority Slovenia will also invest in areas associated with accelerated (fast track) procedures for resolving justice matters to relieve officers (triage), and the areas intended for the optimisation of the network of justice authorities and mobility of justice system's officers and staff. According to the PA, justice administration is hampered by an inability to easily identify the causes of anomalies, measure them and, consequently, plan concrete measures for their effective

¹⁰⁵ Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014-2020 (2014), p. 86.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid, p. 85.

¹⁰⁷ In the new programming period Slovenia will be divided into two regions at the NUTS 2 level, i.e. the more developed region of West Slovenia and the less developed East Slovenia. The region of East Slovenia has eight statistical regions with a total area of 12,212 km². The region of West Slovenia has four statistical regions with a total area of 8,061 km². Development problems are more concentrated in the region of East Slovenia, which reached only 82.7% of the Slovenian average GDP in 2010, while the region of West Slovenia has slightly fewer problems, reaching 119.5% of the national average GDP in the same year. Since Slovenia is divided into two regions for the 2014–2020 programming period, regional development is monitored for each of these two regions, while the territorial dimension of development is monitored for each of the 12 statistical regions for which indicators for measuring the development level of a region at the national level are used for statistics. Monitoring indicators for the 2014–2020 programming period will also be provided at the NUTS 2 level. (Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020 (2014), pp.15-16).

¹⁰⁸ Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020 (2014), p. 86.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

and sustainable elimination. Modelled on good practices of certain Member States which have already implemented similar mechanisms (e.g. Germany and Austria), Slovenia will invest in systemic solutions to identify bottlenecks in individual justicial authorities and will plan measures for the more effective functioning of the justice system.¹¹⁰

As stated in the PA, the competitiveness of Slovenian enterprises is heavily burdened by the current culture of resolving commercial disputes. It is therefore very important to ensure effective mechanisms to resolve disputes more quickly before they are transferred to the court. In the 2007–2013 programming period, the justice administration supported measures (from the ESF) for alternative dispute settlement for the general population, namely for non-commercial disputes. In the 2014–2020 financial perspective, actions will be focused on alternative methods of resolving disputes between business entities (also funded from the ESF).¹¹¹

The PA also makes reference to the Council recommendations (CSRs)¹¹².

The 2014 CSRs stated that Slovenia should “promote the use of the available legal mechanisms and international best practices to all stakeholders in the restructuring process” and to “evaluate recent changes in the insolvency legislation by September 2014, being ready to introduce any additional necessary measure”.¹¹³

In addition the 2014 CSRs noted that while “recent positive trends in litigious civil and commercial cases have been maintained”, Slovenia should “further reduce the length of judicial proceedings at first instance in litigious civil and commercial cases including cases under the insolvency legislation, and the number of pending cases, in particular enforcement and insolvency cases”.¹¹⁴ The 2015 CSRs underlined that even though “some progress in reducing the length of judicial proceedings has been made” in this regard, “the length of proceedings and the number of unresolved cases backlogs remain significant”.¹¹⁵ In this context the 2015 CSR recommended Slovenia to “Ensure that the reforms adopted to improve the efficiency of civil justice help reduce the length of proceedings”.¹¹⁶

The 2016 CSR did not include a recommendation on this topic, but did note the following in the recitals: “In the justice system, the length of trials has been shortened further and the number of pending cases has been reduced from very high levels, partly helped by a smaller number of incoming cases. The decrease is also, to a certain extent, determined by changes in the procedural and statistical treatment of enforcement cases. The Supreme Court continues to update business processes in courts and to reform case management systems. Despite an improved insolvency framework, offering businesses increased opportunities for reorganisation, liquidation proceedings remain lengthy and ineffective”.¹¹⁷

- **Enforcement procedures**

As stated in the PA, lengthy civil and commercial proceedings and enforcement procedures are significant obstacles to business activity. For more effective enforcement, Slovenia will primarily invest in the optimisation of resolving enforcement matters both in direct court proceedings as well as in proceedings with enforcement officers. In line with the PA, this will be accomplished through selected tools to accelerate enforcement, and organisational measures and targeted computerising solutions for elimination of bottlenecks throughout

110 Ibid, pp. 86–87.

111 Ibid, p. 87.

112 Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020 (2014), p. 109.

113 Council Recommendation of 8 July 2014 on the National Reform Programme 2014 of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2014. Recommendation 6.

114 Council Recommendation of 8 July 2014 on the National Reform Programme 2014 of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Slovenia, 2014. Recital 19 and Recommendation 6.

115 Council Recommendation of 14 July 2015 on the 2015 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2015 Stability Programme of Slovenia, Recital 13.

116 Council Recommendation of 14 July 2015 on the 2015 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2015 Stability Programme of Slovenia, Recommendation 4.

117 Council Recommendation of 12 July 2016 on the 2016 National Reform Programme of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2016 Stability Programme of Slovenia, Recital 13.

enforcement procedure. Training for the full spectrum of stakeholders involved in implementing enforcement procedures will also be supported in a complementary manner. The above-mentioned action is in line with Country Specific Recommendation No. 6¹¹⁸ for Slovenia to reduce the number of pending cases, particularly enforcement cases.¹¹⁹

- **Economic crime and corruption**

As stated in the PA, due to commercial crime and corruption, Slovenia is characterised by a high level of distrust in the justice system, which discourages foreign investors. Slovenia will therefore provide for the detection and effective prosecution of economic crime and corruption. In line with the PA, Slovenia will enhance the effectiveness of mechanisms to confiscate assets of unlawful origin. To prosecute the worst forms of economic crime and corruption effectively, Slovenia will use mechanisms to optimise its legislative and organisational structures, investing in human resources development in the wider field of the prosecution of economic crime and investing in improving the connectivity of information systems.¹²⁰

According to the **OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020** (Version 2.1),¹²¹ confidence in the justice system and its enhanced efficiency are essential in order to revive the economy. Predictable, timely and enforceable court decisions which help ensure the stability of economic cycles are crucial, as they preserve existing jobs and encourage the establishment of new enterprises, and also contribute to fulfilling contractual obligations in due time, attracting new investments and the protection of property and other rights. An efficient justice system improves market competitiveness. A justice system that ensures the efficient and rapid execution of contracts contributes to a reduction of the transaction and opportunity costs of companies. Deficiencies in justice systems, on the other hand, result in higher borrowing costs. According to European Commission figures, Slovenia faces issues of poor efficiency of its justice system. Judicial proceedings at the first instance are still excessively long: the average expected time for resolving economic and civil cases in Slovenia is approximately 400 days. In terms of efficiency, Slovenia faces a large number of unresolved cases, i.e. more than 14 unresolved first-instance non-criminal cases per 100 inhabitants, ranking the country at the very bottom of the EU Member States. Judges are overburdened with their routine adjudication work, which is why their intellectual potential is not fully utilised. The current organisation and level of computerisation of operations does not facilitate an equal workload among all the judges and the courts. The 2007–2013 financial perspective provided IT support only for certain segments of the justice system operation. For this reason, external access of users to e-services in the justice system is still not provided equally. There is also a need to ensure broader integration of European judicial services into Slovenia's justice system environment. As a result of adapting the legal framework to the challenges of the economic crisis, justice system staff need to acquire new skills and knowledge.¹²²

With the aim of enhancing the efficiency of the justice system, Slovenia adopted an umbrella national programme for the development of the justice system, the Justice 2020 Strategy¹²³ and the Strategy for Human Resources Management in Justice by 2020.¹²⁴ Both strategies were recognised as ex-ante conditionalities. The Justice 2020 Strategy identified the following needs:

- Security measures in justice
- Improvements in the functioning of the justice administration:

¹¹⁸ Priporočilo Sveta v zvezi z nacionalnim reformnim programom Slovenije za leto 2014 in mnenje Sveta o slovenskem programu stabilnosti za leto 2014.

¹¹⁹ Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020 (2014), p. 87–88.

¹²⁰ Ibid, p. 88.

¹²¹ In relation to the field of justice this version of the OP does not introduce any significant novelty compared to the first version of the OP. It only added a few beneficiaries within the specific objective 1 of PA 11.

¹²² Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (last modified 2016), p. 362.

¹²³ Ministrstvo za pravosodje in javno upravo, Strategija pravosodje 2020.

¹²⁴ Vlada RS (2014) Strategija ravnanja s človeškimi viri v pravosodju do leta 2020.

See also: Priloga 2 (predhodne pogojenosti) k Partnerskemu sporazumu (2014), pp. 65–66. Priloga 1 (predhodne pogojenosti) k Operativnemu programu (2014), pp. 64–65.

Slovenian judiciary: amicable settlement of disputes; ensuring quality of the judiciary that accords with the expectations of the public; preserving independence and strengthening relations with the general and professional publics and the other two branches of power; organising business processes to relieve judges of non-judicial tasks; encouraging court staff to undergo training in the use of IT technology; increasing the trust of the general and expert publics in the work of the judicial system; etc.

- State Prosecutor's Office: strengthening the principle of the rule of law; ensuring appropriate criminal prosecution for all criminal offences; using human and material resources in a cost-effective manner; strengthening the quality of state prosecutors' work; maintaining the independence of state prosecutors; optimising the organisation of business processes; strengthening the trust of the general and expert publics in the operation of the Prosecutor's Office.
- State Attorney's Office: strengthening the role of the State Attorney's Office and its independence in making decisions before international courts and in preliminary proceedings; strengthening the legal order for the purpose of preventing the acquisition and use of assets of illegal origin; relieving state attorneys of administrative tasks and transferring them to specialist staff and clerks; increasing occupational mobility and the ability to adapt more quickly to work processes; training in the relevant areas; establishing a search engine for state attorney and court case-law; etc.
- Enforcement of criminal sanctions: introduction of probation service; security in the prison system; peaceful conflict resolution in prisons; etc.
- Information and communication support to the functioning of the justice system, accessory subsystems and links with other stakeholders and participants in the justice system: successful and efficient functioning of the justice system by means of IT solutions for electronic operations; increasing the use of electronic services by external users of the justice system; developing standards and mechanisms to ensure the secure and controlled exchange of data and documents within the justice system, as well as between the justice system and other public authorities and managers of databases; electronic support to cross-border justice services.
- Increasing environmental awareness throughout the whole justice system and other relevant implementation and support systems: intelligent environmental solutions for the premises and furnishings of justice authorities; etc.

The Strategy for Human Resources Management in Justice by 2020 highlights the importance of developing a model of competences for the employees in the justice system in order to achieve goals set in the Justice 2020 Strategy.¹²⁵

3.2. **Planning stage:** The extent to which the Member State programmed support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

3.2.1. High-level objectives related to justice set in the programming documents

According to the Partnership Agreement, **expected results** for the TO 11 are: shortening expected average times to resolve cases, fewer older cases pending at courts, reducing costs of courts' operations, improved quality of court decisions, improved competences of justice system staff.¹²⁶ The PA does not refer to expected outputs or impacts, beneficiaries and target groups explicitly related to justice.

OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) – ESF (as well as CF, EFDF, YEI)

OP name in English	OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1)
CCI	2014SI16MAOP001
Relevant funds for the OP	CF, EFDF, ESF, YEI
Total OP budget (EC and national contribution) in EUR	3,756.24 million

¹²⁵ Vlada RS (2014) Strategija ravnanja s človeškimi viri v pravosodju do leta 2020, p. 6.

¹²⁶ Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020 (2014), p. 109.

PA 11 Rule of law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of social partners and NGOs	ESF: 31.4 million for less developed region + 46.2 million for more developed region: 77.6 million
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According to the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 (Version 2.1), the country will allocate EUR 52 million (1.73% of total funds, 7.26% **from the ESF**, 2.8% in the less developed region of East Slovenia, 4.46% in the more developed region of West Slovenia) to TO 11 as part of the investments in institutional capacity and efficiency.¹²⁷ The Government office for development and European cohesion policy is the Managing Authority of the OP.

Justice is targeted within **priority axis 11: Rule of law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of social partners and NGOs (funded from ESF)**.

The PA 11 (ESF) will focus on finding innovative solutions to enhance the effectiveness of the justice system, to optimise the resolution of enforcement and associated matters, to improve the execution of insolvency proceedings in companies, alternative methods of resolving disputes between corporate entities, and to enhance the efficiency of detecting and prosecuting economic crime and corruption. Within the scope of transnational cooperation Slovenia will continue to join projects in the field of the justice system which are initiated by other Member States. All the aforementioned activities will establish synergies in various areas which impact the creation of conditions for boosting the economy's competitiveness and creating a healthy business environment for SMEs.¹²⁸

In order to enhance the efficiency of the justice system, Slovenia adopted the Justice 2020 Strategy¹²⁹ and the Strategy for Human Resources Management in Justice by 2020.¹³⁰ Activities designed in the strategies will be co-financed with the help of EU Cohesion Policy in the programming period 2014–2020.¹³¹ According to the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 (Version 2.1), these strategies lay down uniform nationwide actions for all levels of operation of justice bodies in both cohesion regions. In light of the fact that these are system-wide actions, they will be centrally implemented at the national level. The funding of these system-wide actions will be divided territorially on the basis of the number of first and second instance courts, i.e. 61% in the cohesion region of West Slovenia and 39% in the cohesion region of East Slovenia. The distribution of competences is determined on the basis of the ratio between the percentage of employees in the justice system in the two cohesion regions (57% in West Slovenia and 43% in East Slovenia).¹³²

As part of PA 11, **specific objective 1 'Improve the quality of judicial proceedings by optimising them and improve the competences of justice system staff'**, in order to improve the quality of the justice system, Slovenia will focus on actions aimed at improving its efficiency, with special emphasis on enhancing competitiveness. Investments will be made in actions to reduce the length of proceedings in the justice system for the purpose of accelerating decision-making by defining and monitoring time standards.

ESI funds will support investment in the development and upgrade of tools for the identification of key bottlenecks hindering the efficiency of the justice system. To enhance the efficiency of the justice system it is necessary to establish high standards throughout the justice system. This specific objective will thus focus on investments to reform the operation of the justice system, develop the competences of justice system staff and promote the application of alternative dispute resolution methods.¹³³

¹²⁷ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (last modified 2016), p. 45.

¹²⁸ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), p. 385.

¹²⁹ Ministrstvo za pravosodje in javno upravo, Strategija pravosodje 2020.

¹³⁰ Vlada RS (2014) Strategija ravnanja s človeškimi viri v pravosodju do leta 2020.

¹³¹ Ministrstvo za pravosodje in javno upravo, Strategija pravosodje 2020, pp. 76–77.

¹³² Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), p. 360.

¹³³ Ibid, p. 362.

This specific objective focuses on Slovenia's need to improve efficiency and quality, raise the level of expertise and enhance accessibility of the justice system, which is a precondition for improving the business environment, boosting economic growth and enhancing the competitiveness of enterprises. Prompt decision-making and user-friendly access to justice services will have a positive effect on improving financial discipline, thereby stimulating the growth and development of SMEs and strengthening the trust of potential foreign investors.¹³⁴

Within specific objective 1, the following **planned actions** are to be supported under the investment priority 'Investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance':

- Promoting and ensuring quality in the justice system:
 - business tools for the identification of bottlenecks in management decision-making within the justice system (such as data warehouse, analytical tools);
 - IT systems will be upgraded to support triage and fast-track procedures;
 - joint services (e.g. printing, enveloping, digitalisation, archiving);
 - measuring satisfaction and the level of confidence in the justice system.
- Updating business processes:
 - IT solutions in the justice system (such as upgrading the registers, additional e-services, web portal, digitalisation of case files, access to external records, payment of court fees);
 - tools for the advanced management of documents in justice matters;
 - IT environment to facilitate external operations for judges/prosecutors and their support staff;
 - integration of European judicial web services into the IT environment of Slovenia's justice system;
 - tools for a uniform exchange of data relating to criminal and minor offences;
 - voice recognition for audio recording of court hearings;
 - optimisation of the legislative procedure in the justice system, including the development of tools for identifying problems in relation to the implementation of law in the justice system.
- Promoting methods of alternative dispute resolution:
 - informing companies about the possibilities, methods and advantages (lower costs, etc.) of alternative dispute resolution and promotion of court mediation;
 - informing training companies' representatives about methods of dispute resolution (also through employers' associations);
- Raising the qualifications of justice system staff:
 - competency model for the justice system staff;
 - training and education within the competency model focusing on four vertically (hierarchically) set levels: staff working in courts, the state prosecutor's office and state attorney's office (Level 1); judges, state prosecutors and state attorneys (Level 2); heads of internal organisational units, directors (Level 3); court presidents, heads of state prosecutor's and state attorney's offices (Level 4); and training for the use of systems which will be developed to ensure quality of the justice system and to update business processes;
 - permanent support for users, including the establishment of a supporting IT system.¹³⁵

The **expected results** under this specific objective are:

- reformed business processes in the justice system;
- improved level of qualification of justice system staff.¹³⁶

¹³⁴ Ibid, pp. 362–363.

¹³⁵ Ibid, pp. 369–370.

See also Ex-ante Evaluation: Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2013, 2014-modified), Predhodno vrednotenje in celovita presoja vplivov na okolje z dodatkom za varovana območja (Natura 2000) za Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020. Okoljsko poročilo (final). Ljubljana, p. 86.

¹³⁶ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), p. 363.

Target groups: justice authorities, judges, prosecutors, justice authority staff.¹³⁷

Beneficiaries: the Ministry of Justice will act as the Intermediate Body to implement the actions, and the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Justice and other bodies, who can contribute with their activities to the achievement of goals set, are the beneficiaries.¹³⁸

The implementation will take place via direct approval of projects/programmes through public procurement procedures supported under ESF.¹³⁹

The OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) briefly mentions justice also within **TO 2 'Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies'**. It makes a reference to e-justice among other services and applications of e-administration, but does not refer to justice explicitly anywhere else. For the entire e-administration services and applications (including e-justice), ERDF will provide EUR 9.77 million for the less developed region and EUR 8.73 million for the more developed region.¹⁴⁰ According to the Justice 2020 Strategy, there are activities – planned within ERDF's TO 2 – for e-services in the justice system, for modernisation of the justice system by investing in IT equipment and improving access to justice services for citizens.¹⁴¹

Based on further research for Task 2, funding is also provided under **TO 4 'Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon society, form the ERDF'**: investment in the buildings used by the justice system in order to improve their energy efficiency, including with the use of renewable sources of energy for heating and cooling.¹⁴²

No other annual programming documents related to this OP, such as Action Plans, existed for the period 2014–20. Monitoring Committee decisions and minutes exist and were reviewed, but did not include any information on justice.

3.2.2. Planned projects listed in the programming documents aiming to support justice

There are no publicly available documents referring to planned projects supporting justice.

3.3. Implementation stage: Support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

3.3.1. Support to the justice system: reported at programme level

Within **PA 11**, in addition to the horizontal principles,¹⁴³ selection of operations under investment priority 'Investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance' and **specific objective 1** will take into account the following criteria: actions which contribute, to the greatest extent possible, to creating conditions to enhance the economy's competitiveness, a healthy business environment for SMEs and a healthy economic climate for the inflow of foreign investments, and actions that contribute to shortening court proceedings. The supported actions complement one another, supplementing each other in terms of a synergistic effect aimed

¹³⁷ Ibid, p. 370

¹³⁸ Ibid.

¹³⁹ Ibid.

Ministrstvo za pravosodje (2017), Navodila Ministrstva za pravosodje za izvajanje operacij v okviru Evropskega socialnega sklada. Version 2. Ljubljana, p. 8.

¹⁴⁰ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014-2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), pp. 93–94.

¹⁴¹ Ministrstvo za pravosodje in javno upravo, Strategija pravosodje 2020, pp. 76–77.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ The selection of projects/programmes under the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 will be based on two sets of principles; that is, horizontal principles, which will be applied in the selection of projects/programmes for all priority axes, and specific principles, which are identified under each priority axis in the relevant section. (Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), p. 21). Horizontal principles are: sustainable development, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, equality between men and women (Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014-2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), pp. 543–547).

at achieving the common objective – the improvement of justice proceedings, conducting proceedings and the staff's attainment of new competences.¹⁴⁴

In the process of the **project selection** (eligibility) the following conditions must be met:

- compliance with Justice Strategy 2020 and the Strategy of human resource management in the judiciary 2020,
- appropriate target groups,
- contribution to the effective functioning of the justice system bodies, contribution to a faster conflict resolution.

At least the following conditions to determine eligibility must be met:

- compliance with the objectives and results of the priority axis or priority investment,
- consistency with the strategic plans and normative,
- appropriate target groups,
- possible implementation in the selected period and the suitability and competence of beneficiaries.

Projects must ensure that some or all of the evaluation criteria are represented:

- development of skills and competencies of employees in the justice system,
- green ICT solutions in the field of providing IT support to the justice system,
- financial savings in the management of the justice system,
- interoperability of justice system bodies by ensuring synergies and transparent functioning of justice,
- increased use of alternative dispute litigation.¹⁴⁵

In August 2015 the Managing Authority started to approve measures from the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020. Among the biggest projects supported in 2016 was the directly **approved operation 'Efficient Justice'** (under priority investment 11.1). It is co-financed from ESF (80% contribution from ESF): EUR 10.4 million for the East Slovenia region and EUR 15.9 million for the West Slovenia region.¹⁴⁶

The operation's **aim** is to undertake activities for promoting and guaranteeing the quality of the justice system, renewal of business processes and improvement of competences among the employees in the justice system.

Expected results include faster and more efficient functioning of the justice system as a whole. This will contribute to an increase of confidence in the rule of law and to solving the problem of inefficient justice.

Beneficiaries are the Ministry of Justice, the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court. Other justice system bodies will be included in the implementation of the project. Other bodies are also included, such as State Attorney's Office, Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, Chamber of Notaries, Chamber of Executory Officers.¹⁴⁷

Planned activities within the operation 'Effective Justice' are designed to:

- support alternative dispute resolution with active promotion of mediation
- establish a system for the detection of critical issues in the justice system
- analyse possibilities for triage in faster procedures in specific parts of court processes, and to upgrade existing information system in order to enable faster procedures
- reform the network of courts to optimise the number of courts

¹⁴⁴ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), p. 372.

¹⁴⁵ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2016) Merila za izbor operacij v okviru Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za obdobje 2014–2020. Version 2.0. Ljubljana, pp. 81–82.

¹⁴⁶ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2017) Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014 – december 2016, p. 10.

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20142020/obvescanje_in_komuniciranje_z_javnostmi/operacije_upravicenci_in_gradiva/

¹⁴⁷ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2016), Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014 – september 2016. Ljubljana, p. 15.

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20142020/obvescanje_in_komuniciranje_z_javnostmi/operacije_upravicenci_in_gradiva/

- establish a probation service
- connect court registers to European registers and information systems
- support the mobility of judges and other court staff and prosecutors
- improve business processes of the notary and executors
- upgrade and restructure some existing systems (registers, digitalisation of files, access to databases, payment of court fees)
- upgrade administration of documents in judicial matters, especially from the point of generating, transmitting, retention and access to all types of documents (including audio and video contents).
- implement green IT in the justice system
- raise competences of employees in the justice system with implementation of a knowledge and competences model and with training and education events for the employees.

According to the AIR 2016, in the framework of **priority axis 4** (Sustainable consumption and production of energy and smart grids) and priority investment 4.1 (Supporting energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructures, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector) the Managing Authority decided to support a pilot project aimed at a complete energy renovation of three court buildings (Celje, Murska Sobota and Slovenj Gradec) according to the principle of the public-private partnership (EUR 0.56 million from Cohesion Fund).¹⁴⁸ An additional pilot project for an energy-saving restoration of a building in Šmarje pri Jelšah (which includes court premises) under a public-private partnership was awarded EUR 0.28 million from the Cohesion Fund.¹⁴⁹

Justice (specifically e-justice) was also mentioned in the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) within TO 2: 'Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies'. However, there are no projects or operations targeting justice financed under TO 2.

3.3.2. Support to the justice system: reported at project level (Task 2)

In the programming period 2014–2020 there are no specific project selection criteria which are linked to individual calls for projects relating to the justice system in Slovenia. There are no projects implemented or planned outside the scope of the programming documents for 2014–2020.

For this programming period the MA **approved only one operation: 'Efficient Justice'**. It was approved by the MA on 21.9.2016. Activities within the operation Efficient Justice will promote and ensure better quality, update business processes and improve the skills of the employees in the justice system. Operation Efficient Justice will be implemented with public procurements.

The estimated value of the operation is EUR 34 million. Its total budget is: EUR 32.9 million. Operation Efficient Justice is co-financed by the ESF (80% contribution from ESF or EUR 26.32 million): EUR 10.4 million for the East Slovenia region and EUR 15.9 million for the West Slovenia region.¹⁵⁰

Operation Efficient Justice is implemented under the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) and financed under the thematic objective 11 'Enhancing the institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and an efficient public administration'. It is implemented under the priority axis 11 'Rule of

¹⁴⁸ Ibid, p. 12.

Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2017) Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014-2020 za obdobje januar 2014-junij 2017 cilja Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta, Ljubljana, p. 16.

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20142020/obvescanje_in_komuniciranje_z_javnostmi/operacije_upravicenci_in_gradiva/

¹⁴⁹ Letna in končna poročila o izvajanju cilja 'naložbe za rast in delovna mesta', Različica 2016.0, p. 6.

See also: Podrobnejši prikaz izvedbenega načrta Operativnega programa za izvedbo evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014-2020 – 7. sprememba (14.06.2017), p. 22.

¹⁵⁰ AIR 2016, pp. 9, 365.

http://www.mp.gov.si/fileadmin/mp.gov.si/pageuploads/mp.gov.si/novice/2016/161227_seznamoperacij.xlsx

law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of NGOs and social partners', investment priority 11.1: 'Investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administration and public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance' and specific objective 11.1.1: 'Improve the quality of judicial proceedings by optimising them and improve the competencies of justice system staff'.

The Operation started on 1.1.2016 (4.7.2016 for the Constitutional Court) and will end on 31.12.2023, meaning it is currently ongoing.¹⁵¹

In line with the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1), within specific objective 1 the following sets of planned actions are to be supported under the investment priority:

1. Promoting and ensuring quality in the justice system;
2. Updating business processes;
3. Promoting methods of alternative dispute resolution;
4. Raising the qualifications of justice system staff.

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http://www.mp.gov.si/fileadmin/mp.gov.si/pageuploads/mp.gov.si/novice/2016/161227_seznamoperacij.xlsx

Table 29: Overview of projects supporting justice 2014–2020

Operation Name (ENG)	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of project	Budget allocated ¹⁵² in thousand EUR	Budget spent ¹⁵³ in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken
<i>Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1), 2014SI16MAOP001 (ESF)</i>							
Operation Efficient Justice Operacija Učinkovito pravosodje	1.1.2016 (4.7.2016 for Constitutional Court)	31.12.2023	8 ys	32,900	N/A	N/A	The operation's aim is to undertake activities for promoting and guaranteeing the quality of the justice system, renew/update business processes and improve competences among the employees in the justice system, for example through the introduction of a knowledge and competency model. The operation will be implemented with public procurements, introduce 11 developed systems (including e.g. the establishment of a system for managing information protection, and the renewal and upgrading of the system for processing and publishing decisions and development of an application for mobile devices) and include 2000 participants in education/training events.

¹⁵² Planned/ committed¹⁵³ Budget actually paid/ disbursed

Table 30: Number and budget allocated (in thousand EUR) of projects supporting justice, funded by ESF and ERDF in the programming period 2014–2020

Fund	Number of projects supporting justice	Budget allocated in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR
ESF	1 ¹⁵⁴	32,900	N/A
ERDF	N/A	N/A	N/A
Both (ESF and ERDF)	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	1	32,900	N/A

Project beneficiaries

Operation Efficient Justice has three beneficiaries, namely the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional Court and Supreme Court: the same as planned in the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1). Other justice system bodies will be included in the implementation of the project, such as State Attorney's Office, Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, Chamber of Notaries, and Chamber of Executory Officers.¹⁵⁵

In Table 31 below, the Ministry of Justice is categorised as Relevant Ministries and the Supreme Court and Constitutional Court as Courts and Tribunals.

Table 31: Number of times the following entities are the beneficiary of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Relevant minis-tries	Courts and tribunals	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Registry offices	Specialised training or research institutions	Other
ESF	✓	✓					
ERDF							
Both (ESF and ERDF)							
TOTAL	✓	✓					

Activities of projects in tendering process and of ongoing projects related to support to justice

Within the Efficient Justice operation, the four sets of planned actions, mentioned at the beginning of section 3.3.2 from the OP are translated into three sets of activities:

1. Activities for the renewal of business processes;
2. Activities for promoting and assuring quality in justice;
3. Activities for improving the competences of employees in the justice system. The promotion of methods of alternative dispute resolution, planned in the OP, was

¹⁵⁴ As a directly approved operation

¹⁵⁵ NRP 2017–2018, p. 28.

http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20142020/obvescanje_in_komuniciranje_z_javnostmi/operacije_upravicenci_in_gradiva/

included in the activities for promoting and assuring quality in justice at the operational level.

These three sets of activities will be implemented by the beneficiaries during the operation Efficient Justice. Each set of activities consists of several processes or education/training events (outlined in the tables below). Each *process* will result in a *developed system*. Hence, 11 processes of the operation Efficient Justice will implement 11 systems in the East and West Slovenia regions by the end of 2023. The milestone for year 2018 is five developed systems. With 11 developed systems by the end of 2023, an output indicator from the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1) will be realised.

Furthermore, within each process, one or more services are planned. A system is considered *developed* when its implementation phase is finished (meaning all its services are completed) and it may then enter an operating phase. In the operating phase, a system is actually used and consequently supports quality improvements of the justice system processes and optimisation of procedures. In the operating phase, the needs of the system's users (i.e. employees at the stakeholders or members of general public, who use certain solutions) are being redefined as a result of legislative changes or the advancement of new technologies, standards and systems. Accordingly, an already developed system may be adjusted and upgraded during its operating phase, as was shown in the 2007–2013 programming period.

The following tables present detailed structures for each activity planned within the operation Efficient Justice¹⁵⁶.

¹⁵⁶ For some systems, upgrades and changes are anticipated because of the changes in legislation, new technologies, standards and systems.

Table 32: Description for the activity “Renewal of business processes” within the operation Efficient Justice (2014-2020)

Beneficiary	Processes	Service	Description	Total estimated value of service at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
MJ	P1 – Renewal, supplementation and upgrading of the information systems in the justice system (registries, additional e-services, Internet portals, computerisation of files, access to external records, payment of court fees, etc.),	Extension of the information system of the Prison Administration	Extension of the prison administration IS in order to cover all key processes in treatment of imprisoned individuals.	11,307.43	1.7.2016	1.6.2023
MJ		Ensuring security of the IT system in justice	Securing accuracy and completeness of data and computer software, protecting sensitive information and preventing unauthorised access to such information, guaranteeing information and computer services for users when needed, increasing level of awareness on data protection, etc.		1.1.2017	1.6.2023
MJ		Upgrading Central criminal record	The Central criminal record will be upgraded with new functionalities with the aim being to optimise business processes and to computerise procedures.		1.6.2017	1.9.2020
MJ		Optimisation of processes for keeping records according to the law	Continuation of the ‘Information system for the support of records at the MJ’ implemented within Operation E-justice (2007–2013). It did not cover all business processes at the MJ. Additionally, it is necessary to alter some of the already computerised processes.		1.9.2016	1.3.2021
MJ		Upgrading Internet entry point of the MJ	Expanding the existing system for managing identities and protecting Internet services and central managing of all IT system users.		1.1.2017	1.4.2017
MJ		Improving information system and business processes at the State Attorney and the Public Prosecutor’s office	Improving IT system and business processes in order to abolish work demanded by the paper documents, to provide more quality information for the SA and PP, to relieve users and to reduce		1.8.2016	1.6.2023

Beneficiary	Processes	Service	Description	Total estimated value of service at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
			the number of errors in data entry, to enable appropriate data storage, etc.			
MJ		Upgrading the information system for the Notary	Upgrading the IT used by the notary in order to assure faster and better-quality business processes between individuals and providers of notary services.		1.8.2016	1.3.2023
MJ		INSOL-PRODAJA	Development of a platform at the Chamber of insolvency administrators.		1.9.2016	1.3.2017
CC		Renewal and upgrading of the information and documentation system (US_CMS3)	Renewal and upgrading of the entire central information system used for case management and administrative tasks. Focus will be on the renewal of business processes in order to improve efficiency and increase legal certainty.		15.6.2018	15.9.2018
CC		Computerisation of documents of closed CC case for the e-archive from 2008 onwards (US_DIGI2)	Computerisation of all original documents from closed CC cases from 2008, transfer of original and electronic documents to the national archive, long-term e-storage of documents.		15.4.2017	15.7.2017
CC		E-submission and e-service (US_EVV)	Development of a system for e-submission and e-service to enable electronic communication and e-commerce with the CC. The existing IT system already enables e-commerce; however, it is necessary to develop an interface with the central information and documentation system and establish connections with the existing system.		15.1.2017	15.4.2017
CC		Establishment of a system for managing and protecting information (SUVI)	Establishment of an efficient system for managing and protecting information, identification and management of risks in the field of information protection		1.6.2017	1.9.2017

Beneficiary	Processes	Service	Description	Total estimated value of service at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
			according to the relevant standards and legislation.			
CC		Renewal and upgrading of the system for processing and publishing decisions and development of an application for mobile devices (US_ODLUS2)	Renewal of the system for processing and publishing decisions. As a result, the quality of business processes will increase and the public will be better informed about the CC decisions.		1.10.2018	1.2.2019
CC		Upgrading and maintenance of the information and documentation system (US_CMS2_UPDATE)	Adding new functionalities in order to improve business processes and efficiency. In 2020 it is planned to upgrade and modernise the system with new technologies available by then (CMS3).		1.6.2016	31.12.2020
SC		Network and organisation of courts	Preparation of criteria for the new network of courts. Its aim is to optimise the number of courts and distribute workload equally among them. This initiative will implement solutions, defined in the initiative 'Renewal and consolidation of business process'.		1.1.2017	1.10.2021
SC		E-Court Internet portal (e-Sodišče)	Implementation of individual online court services and elimination of administrative barriers (for example, performing procedural acts, access to e-services, implementation of additional e-services, payment of court fees, etc.).		1.1.2017	1.9.2023
SC		Management of digital content	Development of a system for managing business processes, documents and other electronic contents, and their archiving, which will bring about technical consolidation of information systems in the judiciary.		1.9.2016	1.9.2023
SC		PIRS – providing legal information	Better publication and provision of information on substantive court decisions		1.10.2016	1.9.2023

Beneficiary	Processes	Service	Description	Total estimated value of service at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
			which are an important factor in the harmonisation of case-law, publicity, certainty and equality of law.			
MJ	P2 – Development of capacities for the advanced management of documents in judicial matters	Optimisation of the Judicial Training Centre business processes	Development of a comprehensive IT system to support processes at the Judicial Training Centre.	196.00	1.6.2016	31.12.2016
CC		Establishment of long-term e-storage (US_EHRAMBA)	Establishment of a long-term e-storage system for archives and documents in accordance with relevant legislation.		15.3.2017	15.6.2017
MJ	P3 – Establishment of an information environment to enable efficient external operations for judges/prosecutors/state attorneys and the support staff	Improving public prosecutor's and state attorney's mobility	Controlling the entire IT system used by PP and SA from one (instead of several) location. Simplifying maintenance of equipment. Building missing business tools and updating existing tools for the identification of bottlenecks in the justice system.	3,275.37	1.8.2016	1.3.2023
SC		Mobile judge	Organisation and information environment for work from home and for external commerce.		1.1.2018	1.9.2023
SC	P4 – Integration with cross-border judicial services	EU citizen	Providing EU online services (for example European order for payment) with a focus on the technical integration of the judiciary with foreign systems and the establishment of standardised information exchange services.	160.00	1.1.2016	1.10.2019
SC	P5 – Development of capacities for a uniform exchange of data relating to criminal and minor offences	Criminal Justice X-change	Establishment of a unified electronic exchange among main stakeholders in penal procedures.	270.00	1.6.2017	1.10.2019
MJ	P6 – Implementation and upgrading of audio-visual solutions (audio	Upgrading, implementation and establishment of audio visual gadgets for	Upgrading and purchasing system for video-conferencing and its maintenance, upgrading system for audio recording of	2,763.80	1.7.2016	1.6.2023

Beneficiary	Processes	Service	Description	Total estimated value of service at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
	recording, video-conferencing, etc.) for easier and faster resolution of cases at court	easier and faster work of judges and court staff	court hearings, study of possibilities to connect video-conferencing and audio recording systems, training for using these systems, conference on the exchange of good practices in using audio-visual technology in justice.			
MJ	P7 – Optimisation of the legislative procedure in the justice system – development of specific tools for identifying problems in relation to the implementation of law in the justice system	Optimisation of legislative processes in justice	Development of a tool for detecting problems in the implementation of legislation in justice and for providing feedback to institutions that prepare legislation.	150.00	1.3.2017	1.6.2017
TOTAL				18,122.60		

Source: Excel table provided by the Ministry of Justice

Table 33: Description of the activity “Promoting and assuring quality in justice” within the operation Efficient Justice (2014-2020)

Beneficiary	Processes	Service	Description	Total estimated value of datability at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
MJ	P8 – Development of the missing business tools and upgrading of the existing ones (elimination of bottlenecks in management decision-making within the justice system (data warehouse, interactive and dynamic analytical tools – business intelligence, etc.)	Distribution of e-justice services	The existing information centre at the MJ serves as platform for the implementation of all e-justice services. However, during Operation E-justice it turned out that the existing centre needs to be expanded and a secondary location is needed.	2,275.00	1.1.2017	1.9.2017
MJ		System for managing data of justice system bodies	A system designed for preparing statistical reports and providing information for business decision-making.		1.8.2016	1.6.2023
MJ		Access to registers of registered motor and trailer vehicles	Upgrading software to enable enforcement officers to gain direct access to registers in order to check the ownership of vehicles in enforcement procedures.		1.9.2016	1.1.2017
SC		Support for the management of the judiciary	Upgrading the system with data from other sources and with addition business intelligence functionalities in order to support business decision-making of the judicial administration.		1.6.2016	1.9.2023
MJ	P9 – Study on the feasibility of triage and fast-track procedures on individual levels of judicial procedures and upgrading of the IT systems with functionalities to support triage and fast-track operations.	Identification and implementation of tools for the promotion of court mediation	Promotion of alternative dispute resolution by informing business entities about possibilities, methods and advantages of alternative dispute resolution and providing training for their representatives. Active promotion of court mediation.	4,447.30	1.1.2016	1.10.2023
SC		Renewal and consolidation of the business process	Support for the introduction of new concepts into business processes aimed at reducing judges’ workload, concentrating and centralising individual business functions, consistent using of e-commerce and renovating and consolidating business processes.		1.9.2016	1.9.2023

MJ	P10 – Analysis, studies, pilot sub-activities, etc. with the aim of implementing joint services and supporting instruments	Establishment of a system for starting a probation service	Implementation of probation service as an example of new model and pilot .	2,442.00	1.9.2016	1.9.2019
SC		Green court procedure	Development of a green strategy and implementation of green policies to reduce negative impact on the environment (regarding electricity consumption, health, noise reduction, recycling and returning of outdated equipment, compliance of materials with ecology regulation, etc.).		1.10.2016	1.10.2019
SC	P11 – Measuring satisfaction with and trust in justice system services	Procedural justice	Facilitation of providing information about procedures and available judicial content to users of judicial services, establishment of an information point, video presentations, brochures, leaflets, online access.	600.00	1.5.2017	1.10.2022
TOTAL				9,764.30		

Source: Excel table provided by the Ministry of Justice

Table 34 Description of the activity "Improving competences of employees in the justice system" within the operation Efficient Justice (2014-2020)

Beneficiary	Output indicators (realisation) from the OP/ education + training events (2000 participants)	Service	Description	Total estimated value of datability at the process level (in thousand EUR)	Planned start of the public procurement procedures	Planned end of the public procurement procedures*
MJ	I1: Implementation of a knowledge and competency model and education and trainings in the justice system	Implementation of a competence model of knowledge and skills and education and training in the justice system	In line with the strategic documents, the necessary legislative changes will be prepared and a new competence model for justice will be developed. This model will provide for required knowledge, skill and personal integrity. A programme for education and training of the employees in the justice system and other stakeholders will be developed.	3,990.00	1.3.2016	1.10.2023
CC	I2: Other professional education at home and abroad (consultations, conferences, working visits/practices, etc.)	International conference '25 years of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia'-developmental opportunities (US_25_LET)	International conference to celebrate 25th anniversary of the CC. It will improve competences of employees in the justice system.	690.00	15.1.2016	1.8.2016
CC		Professional training for the advisers and other court staff of the CC (US_EDU)	Trainings for CC employees in order to improve their professional competences.		1.6.2016	1.10.2023
SC		Judge's assistant	Analysis of necessary knowledge and skills needed by the judicial staff who participate in decision-making, in using information technology.		1.9.2016	1.10.2022
MJ	I3: Establishment and implementation of pilot sub-activities in the field of education and training, as well as establishment of	E-training in the prison cell	Installing a customised multifunctional computer (communication device) in a prison cell for training, informing and maintaining contact with family members. The aim is to enable prisoners with long-term prison sentences to maintain and develop basic skills of using modern	333.10	1.9.2016	1.7.2019

	supporting information-communication systems		communication devices in order to be able to return to society more easily after the sentence is served.			
TOTAL				5,013.00		

Source: Excel table provided by the Ministry of Justice

As highlighted in the table above, within the operation Efficient Justice a total of 40 services are planned to be implemented. From their short descriptions it is possible to assume:

- 26 services are designed to renew business processes and that 11 of these will include developing or upgrading business processes at courts, 2 will include introduction of CMS, and 5 will include digitalisation of court services.
- An additional 9 services are planned to promote and assure quality in justice; among them one clearly relates to mediation (ADR/ODR) and 4 possibly include developing or upgrading business processes at courts.
- 5 sub-activities designed to improve competences of employees in the justice system clearly include training activities (from development of a competence model for the justice system to training of prisoners).

Since the eligible costs of the operation dedicate around 42% of the budget for the investment, it is possible to assume that planned services will include the purchase of ICT systems. However, from the short descriptions of individual services it is not possible to conclude which and how many services include such purchases.

From the short descriptions of services it is possible to speculate that some will include training and/or studies, but it is not possible to draw a definite conclusion on this.

The table below shows which types of activities are being implemented as part of the operation Efficient Justice.

Table 35: Number of times a type of activity is foreseen/ongoing as part of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Training	Activities relating to ADR/ODR	Developing /upgrading business processes at courts	Developing/upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary	Introduction of case management system	Digitalisation of court services	Purchase of ICT systems (hardware and software)	Putting in place/upgrading the cooperation and communication within the judiciaries	Development and circulation of best practices	Evaluations and studies	Support to reform initiatives	Upgrading physical infrastructure at courts	Other, specify
ESF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
ERDF													

Both													
TOTAL	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Project final recipient related to support to justice

The table below shows the types of final recipients of the operation Efficient Justice.

Table 36: Number of times the following entities were the final recipient of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Relevant ministries	Courts and tribunals (incl. court personnel such as judges)	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Registry offices	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary (e.g. Council for the Judiciary)	Other specify
ESF	✓	✓	✓				✓
ERDF							
Both							
TOTAL	✓	✓	✓				✓

Final recipients categorised in table as 'other' include: state attorneys, notary, Chamber of insolvency administrators, other participants in criminal procedures (police, minor offence authorities, etc.), enforcement officers, procedural parties in court mediation procedures and prisoners.

Project outputs, results and impacts related to support to justice**Table 37: Project output indicators and data**

Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available
Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1)				
<i>Priority axis (number and name): 11. Rule of law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of NGOs and social partners</i>				
Indicator 1: Number of established systems used in the justice system – for the less developed (East) region	Number	N/A	11	N/A
Indicator 2: Number of established systems used in the justice system – for more developed (West) region	Number	N/A	11	N/A
Indicator 3: Number of participants in education/training to improve the competences of the justice system staff – for less developed (East) region	Number	N/A	854	N/A
Indicator 4: Number of participants in education/training to improve the competences of the justice system staff – for more developed (West) region	Number	N/A	1,146	N/A

According to the AIR 2016, the target value is planned to be reached at the end of the operation, 31 December 2023. For the indicator 'number of established systems used in the justice system' a milestone was set in 2008: five for systems in the less developed region and region in the more developed region.¹⁵⁷ This is in line with the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1).¹⁵⁸

As there is just one operation and the indicators do not fit into the groups outlined in this study, the original indicators are listed above, and in Table 20 below.

Table 38: Result/ impact indicators and data

Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available
Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020 (Version 2.1)				
<i>Priority axis (number and name): 11. Rule of law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of NGOs and social partners</i>				
Share of established systems used in courts – for the less developed region*	Share (%)	100%**	100%	N/A
Share of established systems used in courts – for the more developed region*	Share (%)	100%**	100%	N/A
Share of participants to complete the supported training in justice system – for the less developed region	Share (%)	100%***	100%****	N/A
Share of participants to complete the supported training in justice system – for the more developed region	Share (%)	100%***	100%****	N/A

* In the framework of two actions (Promoting and ensuring quality in the justice system and Reforming business processes) 11 systems will be developed and used by all courts (the actions are of a systemic nature and will be implemented in a centralised manner).

** The baseline value for the result indicator is 100% – experiences gained in the 2007–2013 programming period indicate that 100% of the systems that were developed are actually in use.

*** The baseline value is the ESF-supported trainings carried out in the 2007–2013 programming period in the framework of Operation E-justice. All participants successfully completed the training programmes, which is why the baseline value, i.e. the share of participants to complete supported training in the in justice system, is set at 100%.

****A total of 2,000 participants in training in the justice system are planned. On the basis of past experience we foresee that all participants will successfully complete the supported training in the justice system (completed education means that the participants received a certificate proving their participation) – 100% share.

For the operation Efficient justice there are no impact indicators.

3.4. Relevant programme output and result indicators

3.4.1. Programme indicators

Programme indicators specific to justice are included in the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy (Version 2.1).

¹⁵⁷ Letna in končna poročila o izvajanju cilja 'naložbe za rast in delovna mesta', različica 2016.0 (2017), pp. 261–262.

¹⁵⁸ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (2016 – last modified), pp. 386–387.

Table 39: Summary table programme indicators

Relevant justice Indicator	Unit of measurement	OP it relates to (ICC)
<i>Number of established systems used in the justice system – for the less developed (East) region</i>	Number	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Number of established systems used in the justice system – for the more developed (West) region</i>	Number	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Number of participants in education/training to improve the competences of the justice system staff – for the less developed (East) region</i>	Number	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Number of participants in education/training to improve the competences of the justice system staff – for the more developed (West) region</i>	Number	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Share of established systems used in courts – for the less developed region</i>	Share	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Share of established systems used in courts – for the more developed region</i>	Share	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Share of participants to complete the supported training in justice system – for the less developed region</i>	Share	2014SI16MAOP001
<i>Share of participants to complete the supported training in justice system – for the more developed region</i>	Share	2014SI16MAOP001

EP of the Implementation of the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy does not refer to indicators covering justice.

Result indicators, for which a baseline value was defined (according to the investment priority and categories of regions) (for ESF):

Table 40: OP level Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Indicator measurement unit	Baseline value	Measurement unit for baseline and target value	Baseline year	Target value (for year 2023)
11.1	Share of established systems used in courts	Less developed	%	100	Ratio	2014	100
11.2	Share of participants to complete the supported training in justice system	Less developed	%	100	Ratio	2015	100
11.1	Share of established systems used in courts	More developed	%	100	Ratio	2014	100
11.2	Share of participants to complete the supported training in justice system	More developed	%	100	Ratio	2015	100

Source: OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy (Version 2.1), p. 368.

Output indicators (according to priority investment, divided according to categories of regions for ESF):

Table 41 : OP level Output indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region (if relevant)	Target value (for year 2023)
11.2	Number of established systems used in the justice system	Number	ESF	Less developed	11
11.7	Number of participants in education/training to improve the competences of the justice system staff	Number	ESF	Less developed	854
11.2	Number of established systems used in the justice system	Number	ESF	More developed	11
11.7	Number of participants in education/training to improve the competences of the justice system staff	Number	ESF	More developed	1.146

Source: OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy (Version 2.1), pp. 374–376. Performance framework for priority axis 11 (according to funds and categories of regions):

Table 42 OP level Output indicators

ID	Indicator type	Definition of the indicator or implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Fund	Category of region	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2023)	Explanation of the relevance of the indicator, where appropriate
11.12	Output indicator	Number of established systems used in the justice system	Number	ESF	Less developed	5	11	30.10% of ESF funds under priority axes 11 for cohesion region Vzhodna Slovenija
			Number	ESF	More developed	5	11	31.93% of ESF funds under priority axis 11 for cohesion region of Zahodna Slovenija

Source: OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy (Version 2.1), pp. 386–387.

According to the Evaluation plan for the OP for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy, evaluations are planned at the end of the programming period. Evaluation of the impact of ESI for the priority axis 11 (Rule of law, enhancing institutional capacity, efficient public administration and capacity building of social partners and NGOs) is planned between 2020 and 2021. An interim evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of ICT measures implemented under priority axis 11 is planned for 2019. Evaluation of the energy restoration project is planned for 2018. Evaluations will be done by the Managing Authority together with the Ministry of Justice.¹⁵⁹ The evaluation plan does not include indicators on the relevant justice related priority axis.

So far, no evaluations have been carried out for the operation. Additionally, no follow-ups have been reported so far.¹⁶⁰

3.5. Budget information

Overall budget information for projects supporting the justice system funded through the ESF and ERDF was generally available. However, there is no universally accepted taxonomy for project budget owners to classify budgets according to type of activity or final recipient. Moreover, many projects involve multiple activities and/or multiple final recipients.

¹⁵⁹ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2015): Načrt vrednotenja izvajanja Operativnega programa evropske kohezijske politike v Sloveniji v obdobju 2014-2020. Version 1.2, pp. 16–20.

¹⁶⁰ The Ministry of Justice has been contacted to confirm this statement but no information to the contrary has been received to date.

Whether and how budgets for these complex projects are analysed by activity or final recipient varies across project owners and countries. This militates against using reported data to make meaningful comparisons between projects and Member States.

For the purpose of this study, the researchers have therefore created a high-level taxonomy in order to enable an analysis of budget allocations for activities and final recipients for projects funded through the ESF and ERDF supporting the justice system. Information from interviews and documents has been used to apply this taxonomy and allocate budgets based on the main focus of the projects as well as the final recipients. In cases where it has not been possible to determine budget allocations for projects with **multiple final recipients**, these have been classified as 'multiples' (further details and explanations have been provided in the text below). Where a project had **multiple activities** and/or included activities which did not fall under one of the focus categories, the categorisation of that project reflects its aim and not necessarily all individual activities undertaken in the context of this project. This approach is further explained in the Final Report.

For the 2014–2020 programming period it is also important to note that the majority of projects are still ongoing. The tables below therefore only provide an overview of the **budget allocated** for project activities and final recipients.

Table 43 Budget spent in thousand EUR by project focus category

Project Name	Improving internal processes	Digitalisation & ICT	Training & Raising awareness	Research and evaluation	Activities related to ADR/ODR	Upgrading physical infrastructure	Other	No information available
ESF	32.9							
ERDF								
Both								
TOTAL	32.9							

Table 44: Budget spent in thousand EUR by final recipient category

Project Name	Courts and Tribunals	Relevant ministries	Registry offices	Regional administration	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Multiple
ESF										32.9
ERDF										
Both										
TOTAL										32.9

Operation E-justice had several final recipients including the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional Court and Supreme Court, and therefore the budget was categorised as 'Multiple' in Table 44 above.

3.5.1. Additional budget data from publically available sources and estimates provided by the Ministry of Justice

The information provided below was collected from publically available reports, as well as estimates provided by the Ministry of Justice, for the purpose of this study.

The budget planned by activity type for the operation Efficient Justice is shown in the table below. This table provides budget data by activity, using the same activity categories as used in section 3.3.2., but do therefore not correspond to the project focus activities presented in table 43 above.

Table 45: Budget planned by activity type for the operation Efficient Justice

Budget planned in million EUR by activity (Efficient Justice operation) ¹⁶¹ :														
	Training	Activities relating to ADR/ODR	Developing/upgrading business processes at courts	Developing/upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary	Introduction of case management system	Digitalisation of court services	Purchase of ICT systems (hardware and software)	Putting in place/upgrading the cooperation and communication within the judiciaries	Development and circulation of best practices	Evaluations and studies	Support to reform initiatives	Upgrading physical infrastructure at courts	Other	Total
SC	0.7520		1.9810	1.1215	2.5510	1.4505	0.8300	0.3805	1.1530	1.3500	0.2205			11.7900
CC	0.1000		0.0300		0.0860	0.0400	0.4190			0.0150				0.6900
MJ	3.9000	3.0000	2.7000	0.1500	1.2700		5.8000	1.0000	0.2000	0.4000	2.0000			20.4200
TOTAL (ESF)	4.7520	3.0000	4.7110	1.2715	3.9070	1.4905	7.0490	1.3805	1.3530	1.7650	2.2205			32.9000

Information is available on the eligible costs within the operation, i.e. the permissible spending areas:

Table 46: Eligible costs for the operation Efficient Justice

Eligible costs	In thousand EUR
Investments:	
<i>Equipment and other tangible fixed assets</i>	1,948.68
<i>Investments in intangible fixed assets</i>	12,092.79
Investments together	14,041.47
Labour costs and related reimbursements:	0.00
<i>Salaries</i>	6,180.34
<i>Travel costs</i>	336.51

¹⁶¹ Estimates were prepared by the Ministry of Justice especially for this Study.

Labour costs and related reimbursements together	6,516.84
Indirect costs	12.34
Information and communication costs	162.50
VAT	4,818.31
External contractors	7,348.55
Eligible costs together:	32,900.00

Source: Excel table provided by the Ministry of Justice.

* From the table of eligible costs.

Information about planned budget for every service within the operation Efficient Justice is not available.¹⁶² Planned budgets are available for groups of planned services, as are details of the services to be implemented by each beneficiary, as outlined below.

Services to be implemented by the Supreme Court

The estimated value of the 12 services planned to be implemented by the Supreme Court is EUR 11.79 million. Budget distribution among the 12 services is not publicly available.

In the implementation of these services, the Supreme Court will participate with individual courts and other stakeholders: the Ministry of Justice (including its Judicial Training Centre and Prison Administration), Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, State Attorney's Office, Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of the Interior, Police, key chambers and associations and NGOs.

Services planned to be carried out by the Supreme Court are based on four standard components (4K) of the Supreme Court, which are intertwined: law-making, organisational, technological, and business component. It is a continuation of activities that were carried out in the framework of Operation E-justice. It relates to and serves as support for the priority areas of the Supreme Court activities in the field of judicial administration. The aim of the services is to contribute to the improvement of the quality and efficiency of the Slovenian courts and, consequently, of the overall justice system, through promotion and quality assurance, upgrading of business processes and improvement of the skills of employees in the courts. During the implementation, cooperation with public and state administration, chambers and associations in the judiciary, and representatives of the economy, NGOs and associations, is expected.

The final objectives of the services planned to be implemented by the Supreme Court are:

- Users will be able to do business electronically in all court procedures.
- Employees in the courts will use information technology for the efficient management of court proceedings.
- Court procedures and business processes in courts will be upgraded to a high quality.
- Judicial procedures will be fully supported by the IT.
- Slovenian courts will operate fully electronically.¹⁶³

According to the national database of public procurements, the Supreme Court published the following public procurements within the Efficient Justice operation by the end of January 2018:

¹⁶² The operation's beneficiaries have been contacted to confirm this but no information to the contrary has been received to date.

¹⁶³ Vrhovno sodišče RS, Letno poročilo o učinkovitosti in uspešnosti sodišč 2016, pp. 120–121.

'Slovensko pravosodje 2020' leaflet: http://www.sodisce.si/mma_bin2.php?nid=2016102515240295&static_id=20161025152231

- Participation in the development of E-Land Registry (eZK)¹⁶⁴;
- Participation in the development of the information solutions in the field of judiciary¹⁶⁵;
- Software for publishing court decisions (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 136,640.00, planned budget: EUR 112,500.00+VAT)¹⁶⁶;
- Support for data warehouse (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 218,624.00, planned budget: EUR 200,000.00+VAT)¹⁶⁷;
- System for the communication between the court and the publics (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 193,235.80, planned value: EUR 170,100.00+VAT)¹⁶⁸;
- Modernisation of the business intelligence system (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 178.846,67, planned value: 150.000,00+VAT)¹⁶⁹;
- Development of new functionalities of the E-Land Registry (eZK) information system (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 329.400,00, planned value: EUR 337,500.00+VAT)¹⁷⁰;
- Development of the e-Catalogue information system (eKatalog).¹⁷¹

Services to be implemented by the Ministry of Justice

According to the webpage of the Ministry of Justice, by the end of January 2018 the Ministry of Justice published the following public procurements within the operation Efficient Justice:

- purchase of 130 energy efficient laptops with docking stations (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 148,291.00, planned value EUR 120,000.00+VAT)¹⁷² for the public prosecutors (as the final recipients),
- purchase and installation of 10 sets of IR (infrared) translation systems (contract value incl. VAT: EUR 125,862.15; planned value: EUR 110,025.98+VAT).¹⁷³

The establishment of a system for starting a probation service is one of the services planned within the Efficient Justice operation. Slovenia did not previously have a single organised 'umbrella' probation service.¹⁷⁴ Probationary duties were performed by the State Prosecutor's office, centres for social work and prisons, while house arrest was supervised by the courts alone or in cooperation with the police. In 2016 the Government of Slovenia adopted Probation Action Plan¹⁷⁵ and in 2017 the wording of the Draft Probation Act.¹⁷⁶ The Probation Act came into force in June 2017. It established a single probation authority, which will combine the carrying out of probationary duties at a single location. The new law sets out the purpose and content of the institution of probation, its method of implementation, the bodies competent for its implementation and individual probationary

¹⁶⁴ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=218178

¹⁶⁵ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=215737

¹⁶⁶ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=210998

¹⁶⁷ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=209124; https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=219398

¹⁶⁸ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=220373; https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=231953

¹⁶⁹ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=221210; https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=230438

¹⁷⁰ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=241985

¹⁷¹ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=238698

¹⁷² https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=195069

¹⁷³ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=238048

¹⁷⁴ Vlada RS, Nacionalni reformni program, 2017, p. 28.

¹⁷⁵ http://www.mp.gov.si/si/medijsko_sredisce/novica/archive/2016/7/select/sporocilo_za_javnost/article/12447/7287/

¹⁷⁶ http://www.vlada.si/en/media_room/government_press_releases/press_release/article/slovenian_government_discusses_several_topics_today_59482/

duties. According to the Probation Action Plan, there are EUR 2,042,000 for the project Probation within the operation 'Efficient Justice'. This funds for probation are planned to be spent in four-year period:

- in 2016: EUR 25,000.00
- in 2017: EUR 420,000.00
- in 2018: EUR 700,000.00
- in 2019: EUR 897,000.00

From this amount EUR 1,015,000.00 will be spent for labour costs (salaries). Another EUR 1,027,000.00 will be spent for computer equipment, vehicles, development of programmes, training, travel expenses, conferences and seminars, analysis and research, and promotion.¹⁷⁷

Services to be implemented by the Constitutional Court

According to the national database of public procurements, the Constitutional Court published the following public procurements within the operation Efficient Justice by the end of July 2017:

- Upgrading of the Case Management System (including Su module): contract value incl. VAT: EUR 102,780.48¹⁷⁸;
- Printing services for the CC: contract value incl. VAT EUR 43,291.70¹⁷⁹;
- Computerisation of decided CC cases in the period 2008–2011: contract value incl. VAT EUR 32,354.40.¹⁸⁰

By the end of December 2017 the budget spent for the operation Efficient Justice, by each beneficiary, was:

Table 47: Budget spent (in EUR) on operation Efficient Justice, by beneficiary

	Budget spent by the end of December 2017 (in EUR):
SC	179,706.55
CC	138,824.44
MJ	1,036,280.15
Total:	1,354,811.14

¹⁷⁷ Ministrstvo za pravosodje, Akcijski načrt ustanovitve probacijske službe s predlogom potrebnih institucionalnih in normativnih sprememb, 2016, p. 32.

¹⁷⁸ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=215791

¹⁷⁹ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=215739

¹⁸⁰ https://www.enarocanje.si/Obrazci/?id_obrazec=214627

4. Overview of existing national and regional data and documentation related to the ESF and ERDF

4.1. Ex-ante evaluations and needs assessments

Programming period 2007-2013:

The Report on Ex-ante Evaluation for the Operational Programme for Human Resources Development 2007-2013¹⁸¹ was compiled by evaluator Oikos, svetovanje za razvoj, d.o.o. in order to optimise redistribution of funding in the OPs and to improve the quality of programming. It includes an assessment of medium- and long-term needs. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia approved the **National Reform Programme 2011-2012**.¹⁸² The goal of the NRP 2011-2012 is sustainable economic growth, achieved by economic and structural measures and institutional adaptation. The document provides for structural changes; measures were selected on the basis of their impact on eliminating so-called bottleneck points.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia approved the **National Reform Programme 2012-2013**.¹⁸³

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia approved the **National Reform Programme 2013-2014**¹⁸⁴ as a mid-term plan defining priority measures and projects aimed at realising the objectives defined in the Europe 2020 growth strategy. The document is linked to the stability programme. NRP 2013-2014 includes Slovenia's response to specific recommendations made by the European Council in June 2012. It also includes crucial measures which, among others, the Government plans to implement as a priority to restart growth while considering the existing macro-economic basis and limitations imposed by the second priority, fiscal consolidation. NRP 2013-2014 is based on several assumptions, including that Slovenia suffers from institutional deficiencies in the decision-making process, which impede its ability to respond swiftly, decisively and effectively to changes.

Programming period 2014-2020

Ex-ante evaluation and comprehensive environmental impact assessment with the addition for a protected area (Natura 2000) for Operational Program for the implementation of the European Cohesion Policy 2014-2020¹⁸⁵ is an environmental report and evaluation of the OP.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia approved the **National Reform Programme 2014-2015**,¹⁸⁶ which was the Government's medium-term plan on priority measures and projects focused on meeting the Europe 2020 Strategy. Among other needs, a need to improving the business environment (greater effectiveness of court proceedings, eliminating administrative obstacles) was identified in the NRF 2014-2015.

The government approved the **National Reform Programme 2016-2017**,¹⁸⁷ which defined crucial directions of Slovenia's economic policy in 2016-2017. The two vital goals were to promote growth and consolidate public finances by gradually reducing the general government debt. Therefore, priority measures were defined to increase productivity and launch an investment cycle and jobs, including measures on the labour market to improve employment prospects. Measures implemented concurrently were designed to improve the business environment by making it more simple, predictable and transparent in order to increase the trust of investors and consumers. There were also further measures to expand capacities and improve management in public administration, including the judiciary.

¹⁸¹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2007) Poročilo o predhodnem vrednotenju za Operativni program razvoja človeških virov 2007-2013, Ljubljana.

¹⁸² Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2011) National Reform Programme 2011-2012.

¹⁸³ Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2012) National Reform Programme 2012-2013.

¹⁸⁴ Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2013) National Reform Programme 2013-2014.

¹⁸⁵ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (modified 2013, 2014), Predhodno vrednotenje in celovita presoja vplivov na okolje z dodatkom za varovana območja (Natura 2000) za Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike 2014-2020. Okoljsko poročilo (final). Ljubljana.

¹⁸⁶ Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2014) National Reform Programme 2014-2015.

¹⁸⁷ Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2016) National Reform Programme 2016-2017.

In the **Council Recommendation of 2013**, Slovenia was recommended to “Build on previous efforts to further reduce the length of judicial proceedings at first instance in litigious civil and commercial cases and the number of pending cases, in particular enforcement cases”.

In the **Council Recommendation of 14 July 2015 on the 2015 National Reform Programme** of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2015 Stability Programme of Slovenia, Slovenia was recommended to improve the efficiency of civil justice within the period 2015–2016 to reduce the length of proceedings.

In the **Council Recommendation of 12 July 2016 on the 2016 National Reform Programme** of Slovenia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2016 Stability Programme of Slovenia it was noted that the length of trials has been shortened and the number of pending cases has been reduced. Despite an improved insolvency framework, offering businesses increased opportunities for reorganisation, liquidation proceedings remain lengthy and ineffective.

4.2. Programming documents

For the period 2007–2013 the following programming documents serve as basis for the implementation of EU Cohesion Policy in Slovenia:

National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013¹⁸⁸: Slovenia prepared the NSRF at the first level as a programming document which defines the general strategy for achieving faster convergence.

Slovenia developed three operational programmes for the period 2007–2013 on the basis of the NSRF:

- (1) **OP for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials** (ERDF);
- (2) **OP for Human Resources Development**¹⁸⁹ (ESF);
- (3) **OP of Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development** (CF and ERDF altogether).

The OP which targets justice is OP for HRD and provides the basis for drawing from ESF.

Key documents serving as a basis for European Cohesion Policy implementation in Slovenia in the programming period 2014–2020 are:

Partnership Agreement between Slovenia and the European Commission for the period 2014–2020¹⁹⁰: the strategic document for the implementation of Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020. It covers the analysis of development needs, disparities and growth potentials on the basis of which it identifies investment priorities and the expected results. The PA also identifies the horizontal principles, such as partnership, enhancing equality of men and women, combating any discrimination and accessibility, and sustainable development.

Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020¹⁹¹: Slovenia has prepared one single OP for the period 2014–2020. The OP the implementing document serving as the basis for the absorption of the EUR 3.2 billion available in the period 2014–2020 under the ERDF, the ESF and the CF. The OP identifies the priority areas which will be subject to Slovenia’s investment in the seven years in question, complies with the Partnership Agreement between Slovenia and the European Commission for the Period 2014–2020, follows the Europe 2020 strategy and meets the Fund-specific requirements in order to establish economic, social and territorial cohesion.

Slovenia’s Smart Specialisation Strategy¹⁹² was adopted in September 2015 by the Slovenian Government and in November by the European Commission. For the preparation of Slovenia’s Smart Specialisation Strategy, the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy invited the relevant stakeholders to identify the potential technological areas and product directions of Slovenia’s Smart Specialisation Strategy.

¹⁸⁸ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalni razvoj (2008), Nacionalni strateški referenčni okvir, Ljubljana.

¹⁸⁹ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Operativni program razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

¹⁹⁰ Partnerski sporazum med Slovenijo in Evropsko komisijo za obdobje 2014–2020 (2014).

¹⁹¹ Operativni program za izvajanje Evropske kohezijske politike v obdobju 2014–2020, Version 2.1 (last modified 2016).

¹⁹² Slovenska Strategija Pametne Specializacije S4 (2015).

4.3. Implementation reports

For the period 2007–2013:

For the programming period 2007–2013 the Government Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy annually produced **Annual Reports on Implementation of Operational Program for Human Resources Development** (together eight AIR from 2007 to 2014).¹⁹³ It also published a **Final Report on Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development**, which covered the implementation of the OP in the entire period 2007–2013.¹⁹⁴

National Strategic Report 2009 on the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013 for Year 2009¹⁹⁵ adopted by Slovenia was prepared by the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy. The report refers to data on financial implementation, programme indicators and the commitment of EU financing to operations selected under the Operational Programmes (OPs) covering the 86 priority themes.

For the period 2014–2020:

Report on Implementation of European Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 for the Period January 2014–September 2015, for the Goal Investments for growth and employment¹⁹⁶ and **Report on Implementation of European Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 for the Period January 2014–December 2015**, for the Goal Investments for growth and employment¹⁹⁷ do not give detailed information regarding justice.

4.4. Interim and ex-post evaluations

ESF Ex-post Evaluation Synthesis 2007–2013, Country Report – Slovenia¹⁹⁸ covers the programming period up until the end of 2014 and includes the analysis of expenditure, outputs and results in Slovenia across all policy themes. It builds on the Human Capital, Social Inclusion and Access to Employment ex-post evaluations, Annual Implementation Reports and other available ESF evaluations carried out in Slovenia.

4.5. Other non-project level documents

Slovenia's Development Strategy¹⁹⁹ sets out the vision and objectives of Slovenia's development, including five development priorities with the corresponding action plans. The strategy does not focus solely on economic issues but also concerns social, environmental, political, legal and cultural issues.

¹⁹³ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Letno poročilo 2007 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2009, updated and revised 2009 and 2010) Letno poročilo 2008 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2010, updated 2010), Letno poročilo 2009 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2011), Letno poročilo 2010 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2012) Letno poročilo 2011 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2013) Letno poročilo 2012 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2014) Letno poročilo 2013 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2015) Letno poročilo 2014 o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

¹⁹⁴ Republika Slovenija (2017) Končno poročilo o izvajanju Operativnega programa razvoja človeških virov za obdobje 2007–2013, Ljubljana.

¹⁹⁵ Služba Vlade RS za lokalno samoupravo in regionalno politiko (2008) Stratesko poročilo o izvajanju Nacionalnega strateskega referenčnega okvira v Sloveniji za obdobje 2007–2013 za leto 2009. Ljubljana.

¹⁹⁶ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2016) Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–september 2016, cilj Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta. Ljubljana.

¹⁹⁷ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2017) Poročilo o izvajanju evropske kohezijske politike 2014–2020 za obdobje januar 2014–december 2016, cilj Naložbe za rast in delovna mesta. Ljubljana.

¹⁹⁸ European Commission (2016) ESF Ex-post Evaluation Synthesis 2007–2013, Country Report – Slovenia (written by Metis GmbH, Fondazione Brodolini and Panteia).

¹⁹⁹ Urad Republike Slovenije za makroekonomske analize in razvoj (2005) Strategija razvoja Slovenije (Šušteršič, J., Rojec, M., Korenika, K., Eds.). Ljubljana.

The government approved **Resolution on National Developmental Projects 2007–2023**,²⁰⁰ which is an implementation document accompanying Slovenia's Development Strategy. It outlines key development and investment projects which will facilitate faster development of Slovenia, while considering social aspects and the environment. The resolution outlines 35 projects (including modernisation of justice), each worth at least EUR 50 million, and with a total value of almost EUR 24 billion.

Strategy E-Justice²⁰¹ is a strategy for computerisation of the Slovene justice system in the period from 2008 to 2020.

Supreme Court annual reports present data on the effectiveness and efficiency of the judiciary, including duration of procedures and backlogs.

Commission Staff Working Document, Country Report Slovenia 2016, including an In-Depth Review on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances.²⁰²

The Justice 2020 Strategy²⁰³ is a strategic basis for integration into the emerging development strategy of Slovenia for the period 2014–2020, to analyse the existing situation and the reasons for its emergence, and to redefine the development opportunities that exist throughout the justice system. The main guiding principle in the preparation of the strategy involves an attempt to provide answers to the question of how justice, through a range of specific measures, can contribute to solving the crisis in the Slovenian economy and creating competitive conditions for economic growth and prosperity.

Strategy on Human Resources in Justice²⁰⁴

Ministry of Justice Manual for Operations in the Framework of European Social Fund (for PA 9 & 11)²⁰⁵

Criteria for the Selection of Operations in the Framework of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of European Cohesion Policy 2014–2020²⁰⁶

4.6. Project-level data sources

For the programming period 2007–2013 there are not many publicly available documents containing project-level data. Therefore, project-level data sources included various analysis, theses and studies:

- Gradišar, M. et al., **Study of the IT Implementation Impact on the Efficiency of the Justice System** (2012)²⁰⁷: Report of the study of the impact of computerisation on the efficiency of the justice system. The study was financed by the national research agency and is publicly available. During the study, an analysis was carried out of computerisation by individual services in the E-justice Action Plan. Individual services were addressed in terms of their impact on the level of computerisation and thus indirectly on their social utility. The study analysed the current state of digitalisation and the realisation of e-justice by individual services listed in the Action Plan for E-Justice. Only services that were already implemented by the end of 2011 were analysed. Therefore, the study did not cover the entire E-justice operation which ended in 2015.
- Kugler, K., **Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Implementation of the Cohesion Policy in the Field of Justice** (2016)²⁰⁸: Analysis of Operation E-justice, which is publicly available in the Central Economics Library at the Faculty

²⁰⁰ Vlada RS (2006) Resolucija o nacionalnih razvojnih projektih za obdobje 2007-2023 (Horvat, A., Ed.), Ljubljana.

²⁰¹ Ministrstvo za pravosodje, E-pravosodje, Strategija informatizacije slovenskega pravosodnega sistema 2008–2013.

²⁰² European Commission (2016) Commission Staff Working Document, Country Report Slovenia 2016, Including an In-Depth Review on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances.

²⁰³ Ministrstvo za pravosodje in javno upravo, Strategija pravosodje 2020.

²⁰⁴ Vlada RS (2014) Strategija ravnanja s človeškimi viri v pravosodju do leta 2020.

²⁰⁵ Ministrstvo za pravosodje (2017) Navodila Ministrstva za pravosodje za izvajanje operacij v okviru Evropskega socialnega sklada. Version 2. Ljubljana.

²⁰⁶ Služba Vlade RS za razvoj in evropsko kohezijsko politiko (2016), Merila za izbor operacij v okviru Operativnega programa za izvajanje evropske kohezijske politike za obdobje 2014–2020. Version 2.0. Ljubljana.

²⁰⁷ Gradišar, M., in drugi (2012) Studija vpliva informatizacije na učinkovitost pravosodnega sistema. Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana.

²⁰⁸ Kugler, K. (2016) Analiza uspešnosti izvajanja kohezijske politike na področju pravosodja. Specialistično delo. Ekonomska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani. Ljubljana.

of Economics at the University of Ljubljana. The study is also based on the internal documents of the Ministry of Justice, which are, however, not publicly available. Relevant findings of the analysis are included in this report.

- Lesjak, B., **Impact of legal e-services on the efficiency of the justice system in the Republic of Slovenia** (2013)²⁰⁹: This PhD thesis deals with the use of ICT and legal e-services in the justice system.
- Tovornik, B., **E-services of e-justice** (2012)²¹⁰: This article presents an overview of the e-justice projects, emphasising the transition from paper-based to electronic business, stating that this is an excellent opportunity for the optimisation of e-justice business processes.

The national project database (eu-skladi.si) does not provide much project-level information, only basic information about Operation E-justice: <http://www.eu-skladi.si/kohezija-do-2013/skladi/primeri-dobrih-praks/op-ropi/projekt-e-pravosodje-za-modernizacijo-pravosodja-v-sloveniji-2007-2013>

A list of the services implemented with Operation E-justice is available on the MJ webpage: http://www.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/evropska_kohezijska_politika/programsko_obdobje_20072013/dosezki_operacije_e_pravosodje/

Short descriptions of services implemented with Operation E-justice are available on the MJ webpage: http://www.arhiv.mp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/e_pravosodje/projekti_pregled_statusov/index.html

A publication published by the MJ in 2008 titled **Reached Goals in the Field of Justice in the Mandate 2005-2008**²¹¹ makes reference to the 'Analysis of procedures, legislation and IT equipment of judicial bodies in Republic of Slovenia' (Analiza procesov, zakonodaje in informacijske opremljenosti pravosodnih organov RS), which was the first and key step in the implementation of Operation E-justice.

Important sources of project-level data were the Annual Reports on Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development and the Final Report on Implementation of Operational Programme for Human Resources Development (see above).

For the programming period 2014–2020 there are even fewer publicly available documents containing project-level data. The Ministry of Justice made available an **Excel table on Efficient Justice** with a list of services that are planned to be implemented through the operation Efficient Justice, their planned budgets and timeframes. The table is not publicly available.

Publicly available is the **Action Plan for the implementation of probation**,²¹² which is planned to be implemented within the Efficient Justice operation.

The national database provides only the basic information about the operation Efficient Justice (such as total budget, timeframe, beneficiaries, etc.): <http://www.eu-skladi.si/sl/dokumenti/seznam-projektov/operacije-na-dan-06-07-2017.xls>

Published public procurements are also available in the national database of public procurements.

The **Supreme Court Annual Report for 2016**,²¹³ which is publicly available on the SC webpage, contains some project-level data regarding part of the Efficient Justice operation planned to be carried out by the SC.

²⁰⁹ Lesjak, B. (2013) Vpliv pravnih e-storitev na učinkovitost pravosodja v Republiki Sloveniji. Doktorska disertacija. Fakulteta za management Univerze na Primorskem. Koper.

²¹⁰ Tovornik, B. (2012) E-storitve e-pravosodja. Smartdoc by Media.doc. Ljubljana.

²¹¹ Ministrstvo za pravosodje (2008), Doseženi cilji na področju pravosodja v mandatu 2005–2008. Ljubljana.

²¹² Ministrstvo za pravosodje (2016) Akcijski načrt ustanovitve probacijske službe s predlogom potrebnih institucionalnih in normativnih sprememb. Ministrstvo za pravosodje. Ljubljana.

²¹³ Vrhovno sodišče RS (2017) Letno poročilo o učinkovitosti in uspešnosti sodišč 2016.

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