

Links to the European Semester

The objectives of cohesion policy and individual measures of the Partnership Agreement of the Slovak Republic 2021-2027 stem from the structural challenges identified by the European Commission in the European Semester process, in particular through the Slovak Reports, and address directly the Council's 2020 specific recommendations for Slovakia and the draft recommendations for 2022. The areas addressed are in particular in R & D & I actions, healthcare, inclusive education, inclusion of CLLD, renewables, circular economy and sustainable transport, an environment underpinning the functioning of SMEs, the quality of digital infrastructure and the conditions for the green and digital transitions. Moreover, EC's draft 2022 recommendations of 23 May 2022 highlights the need to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, diversify fossil fuel imports, and accelerate the deployment of low-carbon and renewable energy sources.

Reflecting on the follow-up of the Partnership Agreement to specific recommendations to Slovakia in the context of the European Semester

Specific recommendations for Slovakia	Proposed actions from PA (specific objectives/activities)
2019 CSR 2	
Improve the quality and inclusiveness of education at all levels and foster skills.	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe <u>Quality inclusive education</u> <u>Specific Objectives e, f</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ support for teaching and professional staff in schools and educational establishments ✓ promoting vocational education and training ✓ promoting skills and literacy ✓ fostering a new culture in schools, built on inclusion and wellbeing of all actors in education ✓ support for the emergence of partnerships between actors in education at local, regional and national level ✓ support of the role of learning coordinators in learning centres ✓ support for the professional development of teaching and professional staff in the field of inclusion ✓ prevention and solution of manifestations of socio-pathological phenomena in education ✓ creation, innovation and implementation of second chance programmes, including the removal of barriers to access to second chance education ✓ removing barriers to access to higher education
Enhance access to affordable and quality childcare and long-term care.	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe <u>Active inclusion and accessible services</u> <u>Specific Objectives h, k, l</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ promoting the social integration of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion, including the most deprived persons and children ✓ support for active inclusion to promote equal opportunities, non-discrimination and active participation and to improve employability, in particular for disadvantaged groups ✓ modernising social protection systems, including promoting access to social protection, with a particular focus on children and disadvantaged groups; improving the accessibility, including for persons with disabilities, efficiency and resilience of health care systems and long-term care services
<p>Promote integration of disadvantaged groups, in particular Roma</p>	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe</p> <p><u>Quality inclusive education</u></p> <p><u>Specific Objectives f</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ promoting children's participation in education, especially for children from the age of three (mainly MRC, disabled, migrants and others) ✓ promoting desegregation of education and training ✓ promotion of available leisure and interest activities and full-day education as a tool for inclusion ✓ promoting access to education for vulnerable groups (mainly MRC, disabled, migrants and others) ✓ the provision of more comprehensive counselling and support services in higher education, including MRC, migrants and others <p><u>Specific objective j</u></p> <p><u>Promoting the socio-economic integration of marginalised communities, such as the Roma</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensuring an integrated comprehensive approach with a focus on improving living conditions and emphasising the nature of the needs and specific problems of the localities identified in the Atlas of Roma Communities 2019 ✓ support for prevention and information programmes aimed at increasing civic responsibility and improving civic coexistence

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ providing legal, consultative and coordination support to municipalities with a MRC presence in the process of land settlement and regularisation of dwellings, including simple land modifications ✓ activation of young people in the MRC using an inclusive approach for successful integration into society ✓ support for the activation and development of work skills of the MRC population
2019 CSR 3	
Focus investment-related economic policy on healthcare,	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe <u>Active inclusion and accessible services</u> <u>Specific Objective 4.5</u> Ensuring equitable access to health care and increasing the resilience of health care systems, including primary care, and supporting the transition from institutional care to family and community-based care <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ building, reconstruction and debarring of socio-legal protection of children and social guardianship facilities ✓ establishment and/or promotion of stand-alone dispensaries in unattractive regions ✓ complementing the network of Integrated Health Care Centres on the basis of the Optimisation of the Hospital Network, mainly with the aim of transforming health care provision at the community level and providing accessible health care ✓ support for the modernisation of material and technical provision, especially of outpatient clinics of selected specialisations, including material and technical provision of mobile long-term health care services ✓ building/establishing community mental health services providing long-term care
research and innovation,	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe <u>Specific objective 1.1 Developing and expanding research and innovation capacities and the use of advanced technologies</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting cross-sectoral cooperation and increasing research and innovation capacities in enterprises

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for building human resources in research, development and innovation ✓ Stimulating international cooperation in science, research and innovation ✓ Support for the optimisation, development and modernisation of research infrastructure
transport, notably on its sustainability,	<p>Policy Objective 3 A more connected Europe <u>Specific Objective 3.1 The development of a smart, safe, sustainable and intermodal ten-t resilient to climate change</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Removing key bottlenecks on rail infrastructure through the modernisation and development of main railway lines and junctions <p><u>Specific Objective 3.2 Developing and strengthening sustainable, smart and intermodal national, regional and local climate-resilient mobility, including improved access to ten-t and cross-border mobility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Removing key bottlenecks in rail infrastructure through the modernisation and development of railway lines and increasing the attractiveness and quality of rail public passenger transport services through the renewal of mobile assets
digital infrastructure,	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe <u>Specific Objective 1.2 Reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, businesses, research organisations and public administrations</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for computerisation and digital transformation. ✓ Supporting the development of smart cities and regions.
energy efficiency	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe <u>Specific Objective 2.1 Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improving energy efficiency in enterprises ✓ Reducing the energy performance of buildings ✓ Supporting the development of regional and local energy ✓ Promoting the efficient introduction of alternative drives in enterprises <p><u>Specific Objective 2.2 Promotion of renewable energy in accordance with Directive (EU)</u></p>

	<p><u>2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in enterprises based on active electricity consumers, self-consumers of energy from RES and communities producing energy from RES ✓ Promoting the use of RES in energy supply systems ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in households (innovation of the project "Green Households") ✓ Promoting the search and exploration of geothermal energy resources in order to make them available for energy purposes
competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises,	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific objective 1.3 Strengthening the sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including through productive investment</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for small and medium-sized enterprises ✓ Internationalisation of SMEs ✓ Promoting networking between businesses
and social housing, taking into account regional disparities	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 4.3 Promoting the socio-economic inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including housing and social services</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ completing community centres and improving their facilities ✓ providing accessible and affordable infrastructure for the needs of social services for crisis intervention, including their equipment ✓ providing rental housing infrastructure
2020 CSR 1	
Strengthen the resilience of the health system in the areas of health workforce, critical medical products and infrastructure.	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe</p> <p><u>Active inclusion and accessible services</u></p> <p><u>Specific Objective 4.5</u></p> <p>Ensuring equitable access to health care and increasing the resilience of health care systems, including primary care, and supporting the transition from institutional care to family and community-based care</p>

	<p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ building, reconstruction and debarring of socio-legal protection of children and social guardianship facilities ✓ establishment and/or promotion of stand-alone dispensaries in unattractive regions ✓ complementing the network of Integrated Health Care Centres on the basis of the Optimisation of the Hospital Network, mainly with the aim of transforming health care provision at the community level and providing accessible health care support for the modernisation of material and technical provision, especially of outpatient clinics of selected specialisations, including material and technical provision of mobile long-term health care services ✓ building/establishing community mental health services providing long-term care
<p>Improve primary care provision and coordination between types of care.</p>	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe <u>Active inclusion and accessible services Specific Objectives k</u> <u>Improving equitable and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services, including services that support access to housing and individualized care, including health care;</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensuring sufficient professional capacities of health personnel, reflecting the requirements of modern health professions ✓ Promoting healthy lifestyles and improving disease prevention ✓ Supporting the further training of health professionals
<p>2020 CSR 2</p>	
<p>Provide adequate income replacement and ensure access to social protection and essential services for all.</p>	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe <u>An adaptable and accessible labour market Specific Objective a</u> <u>Improving access to employment and activation measures for all jobseekers, especially young people, in particular through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee, the long-term unemployed and disadvantaged groups in the labour market and the inactive, as well as through the promotion of self-employment and the social economy</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ensuring an individualised and comprehensive approach to disadvantaged jobseekers ✓ the creation of sustainable jobs for disadvantaged jobseekers, including individualised support for their placement in the jobs created ✓ the provision of financial contributions to disadvantaged jobseekers to start self-employment
Strengthen digital skills.	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific objective 1.4 Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transformation and entrepreneurship</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Digital skills adapted to RIS3 domains and the needs of industrial and green transformation
Ensure equal access to quality education.	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe</p> <p><u>Quality inclusive education</u></p> <p><u>Specific Objectives 4.2 Improving equitable access to inclusive and quality education, training and lifelong learning services by developing accessible infrastructure, including strengthening resilience for distance and online education and training</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ debarring of schools and school facilities ✓ material equipment and technical provision of schools and school facilities ✓ building/upgrading classrooms, including outdoor classrooms ✓ construction and reconstruction of school sports grounds
2020 CSR 3	
Effectively implement measures to ensure liquidity for small and medium-sized enterprises and self-employed.	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific objective 1.3 Strengthening sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including through productive investments</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for small and medium-sized enterprises ✓ Internationalisation of SMEs ✓ Promoting networking between businesses
Close digital infrastructure gaps.	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific objective 1.5 Increasing digital connectivity</u></p>

	<p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for broadband
<p>Front-load mature public investment projects and promote private investment to foster the economic recovery.</p>	<p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific objective 1.1 Developing and expanding research and innovation capacities and the use of advanced technologies</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting cross-sectoral cooperation and increasing research and innovation capacities in enterprises <p><u>Specific objective 1.3 Strengthening sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including through productive investments</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for small and medium-sized enterprises
<p>Focus investment on the green and digital transition, in particular on clean and efficient production and use of energy and resources,</p>	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 2.1 Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improving energy efficiency in enterprises ✓ Reducing the energy performance of buildings ✓ Supporting the development of regional and local energy ✓ Promoting the efficient introduction of alternative drives in enterprises <p><u>Specific Objective 2.2 Promotion of renewable energy in accordance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in enterprises based on active electricity consumers, self-consumers of energy from RES and communities producing energy from RES ✓ Promoting the use of RES in energy supply systems ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in households (innovation of the project "Green Households") ✓ Promoting the search and exploration of geothermal energy resources in order to make them available for energy purposes <p><u>Specific Objective 2.3 Development of smart energy systems, networks and storage outside the trans-European energy network (TEN-E)</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting smart energy systems, including energy storage <p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 1.2 Reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, businesses, research organisations and public administrations</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for computerisation and digital transformation. ✓ Supporting the development of smart cities and regions.
sustainable public transport,	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 2.8 Promoting sustainable multimodal urban mobility</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Development of public transport ✓ Promotion of cycling ✓ Sustainable mobility BSK
and waste management.	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 2.6 Transition to a circular economy with an emphasis on waste management</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for selected waste prevention activities ✓ Support for the collection and completion, intensification and extension of sorted municipal waste collection systems ✓ Promotion of waste preparation for re-use, waste recycling, including anaerobic and aerobic treatment of biodegradable waste
2022 CSR 1	
Increase public investment in green and digital transformation	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 2.1 Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improving energy efficiency in enterprises ✓ Reducing the energy performance of buildings ✓ Supporting the development of regional and local energy ✓ Promoting the efficient introduction of alternative drives in enterprises <p><u>Specific Objective 2.2 Promotion of renewable energy in accordance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in enterprises based on active electricity consumers,

	<p>self-consumers of energy from RES and communities producing energy from RES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting the use of RES in energy supply systems ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in households (innovation of the project "Green Households") ✓ Promoting the search and exploration of geothermal energy resources in order to make them available for energy purposes <p><u>Specific Objective 2.3 Development of smart energy systems, networks and storage outside the trans-European energy network (TEN-E)</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i> Promoting smart energy systems, including energy storage</p> <p>Policy Objective 1 A smarter and more competitive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective 1.2 Reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, businesses, research organisations and public administrations</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support for computerisation and digital transformation. ✓ Supporting the development of smart cities and regions.
<p>Continue temporary and targeted support to households and firms most at risk from rising energy prices and people fleeing Ukraine</p>	<p>Policy objective 4 Social and Inclusive Europe</p> <p><u>Specific Objective i</u></p> <p><u>Promoting the socio-economic integration of third-country nationals, including migrants</u></p> <p><i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ networking of responsible structures at national, regional and local level ✓ individualised assistance to persons granted asylum or subsidiary protection, including through financial contributions ✓ implementation of good practice activities in the field of integration of foreigners ✓ counselling activities aimed at better integration of foreigners, including their family members ✓ individualised educational support, including language courses ✓ volunteer programmes aimed at strengthening understanding and belonging between local society and foreigners ✓ integration of highly skilled foreigners into the labour market, effective communication with the relevant authorities

2022 CSR 3	
<p>Reduce overall dependence on fossil fuels and diversify fossil fuel imports. Accelerate the deployment of renewable energy sources</p>	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe <u>Specific Objective 2.2 Promotion of renewable energy in accordance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in enterprises based on active electricity consumers, self-consumers of energy from RES and communities producing energy from RES ✓ Promoting the use of RES in energy supply systems ✓ Promotion of the use of RES in households (innovation of the project "Green Households") ✓ Promoting the search and exploration of geothermal energy resources in order to make them available for energy purposes <p><u>Specific Objective 2.3 Development of smart energy systems, networks and storage outside the trans-European energy network (TEN-E)</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i> Promoting smart energy systems, including energy storage</p>
<p>Adjust renovation policies to speed up and incentivise deep renovation of buildings</p>	<p>Policy Objective 2 A greener, low-carbon Europe <u>Specific Objective 2.1 Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions</u> <i>Examples of activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improving energy efficiency in enterprises ✓ Reducing the energy performance of buildings













