

**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)
Actions by Slovak Republic**

Country: Slovakia

Title:

Establishment of the Green Education Fund

Overarching action with the focus on the Area 9: Promote public participation and education for sustainable development

Description of the action: The Ministry of Environment of Slovakia has launched the Green Education Fund – an innovative instrument bringing together businesses, civil society and state administration. The initiative is supposed to be a systemic, longer-term solution, supporting the environmental awareness and eco-education projects.

Pilot phase: end of 2017 (first call for projects until December 1st)

Focus areas:

- climate action and low carbon mobility;
- circular economy;
- quality of life and green infrastructure;
- eco-innovations

Financial support and beneficiaries: The amount of financial support allocated for the pilot phase is 140.000€ comprised of contributions by private sector (100.000€) and state (40.000€). The eligible beneficiaries will include civil associations; non-profit organizations; foundations and professional associations. The amount of support could scale up to 10.000€ for the projects with the country-level impact, and up to 5.000€ for the projects with the regional-level impact.

Process: Inclusive and transparent process – creation of Joint Committee (representatives of civil society, business and state administration), which would evaluate and decide based on the projects excellence.

Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate: After the evaluation of the pilot phase, the instrument will be further elaborated and another calls for projects might be announced.

Type of action: All three types of actions are relevant within the programme, whereby a main focus lies on “type (c) information, education-based, capacity-building and voluntary instruments” as the idea is that the government triggers and facilitates the environmental / sustainable awareness and education, rather than dictates it.

Economic sectors: Economy-wide

Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:

<http://zelenyvzdelavacifond.sk/en/node/7>

Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:

- Promotion of environmental awareness and eco-education through practical trainings, competitions, interactions, education programmes

- Promotion of public awareness and participation, with the focus on: climate action and low carbon mobility; circular economy; green infrastructure; eco-innovations
- Incentivize the interest and participation of youth in environmental issues and sustainable practices

SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement: 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15

***Implementation of Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR)
Recommendations, as appropriate: -***

Partners: Slovak Environment Agency, private sector, civil society, possibly other Ministries

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