



SLOVENIA

AID & PARTNERSHIPS

*(Advantages and Disadvantages of a)
Whole-of-Government Co-
ordination for Development
Cooperation of a Small Country
Case Study
Slovenia*



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

"How can a development co-operation system with limited human and financial resources support quality projects at scale?"

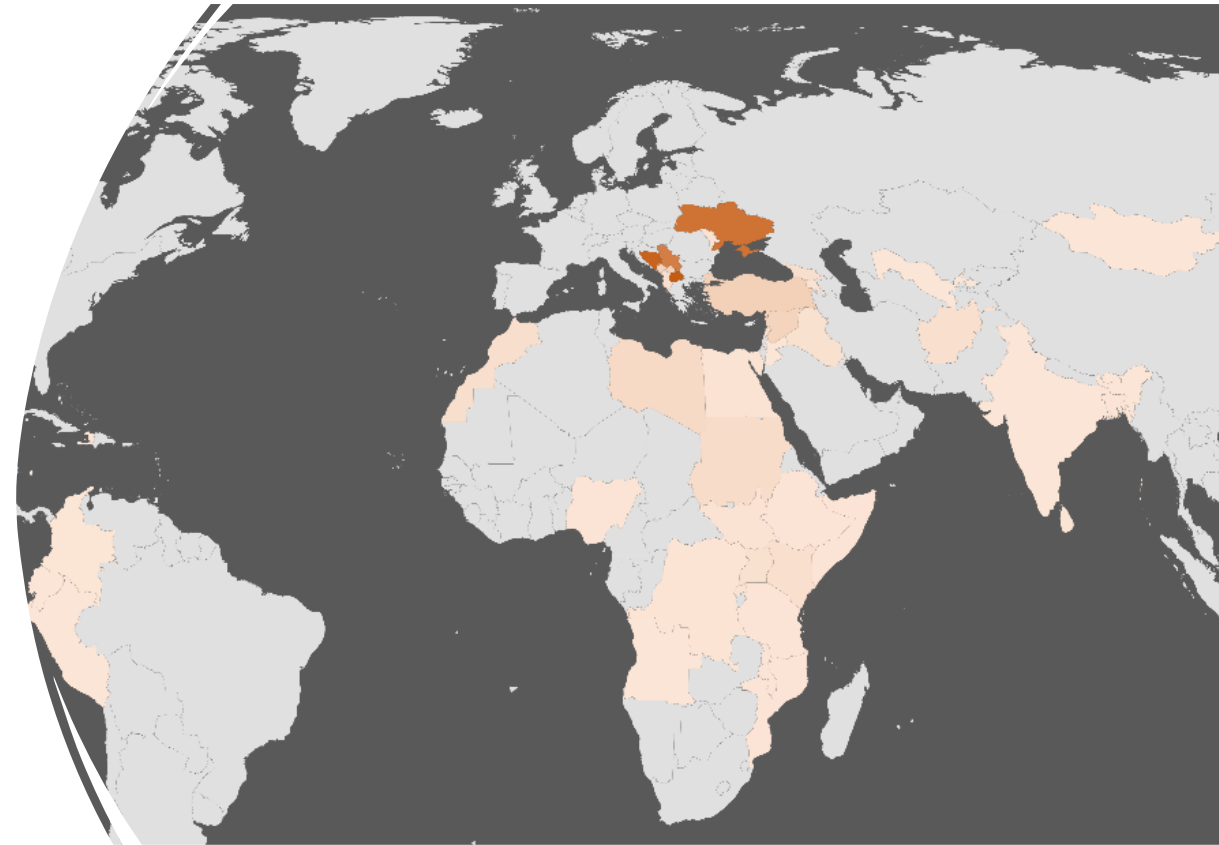
(Review of the Development Co-operation Policies and Programmes of Slovenia,
DCD/DAC/AR(2024)2/31, p. 6)

Legal & Strategic Framework

- ✓ The International Development Co-operation of the Republic of Slovenia Act (*April 2018*)
- ✓ Decree on implementing development cooperation and humanitarian assistance of the Republic of Slovenia (*November 2018*)
- ✓ Resolution on development cooperation and humanitarian assistance of the Republic of Slovenia (*September 2017*)
- ✓ Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid Strategy of the Republic of Slovenia until 2030 (*December 2018*)

Geographic priorities of the Republic of Slovenia in Int'l Development Cooperation

- Western Balkans
(programme countries: Montenegro and North Macedonia)
- Eastern and Southern European Neighbourhood
- Sub-Saharan Africa with an emphasis on LDCs



Thematic Priorities

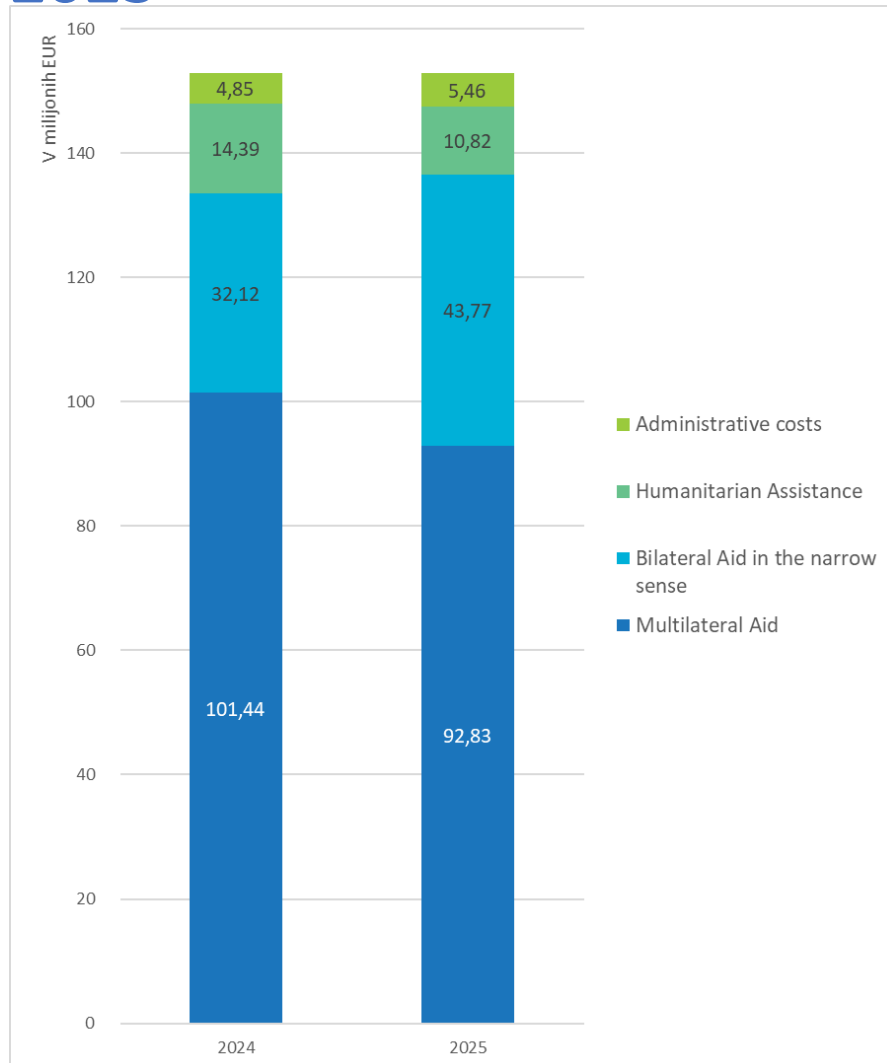
- promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, with a particular emphasis on good governance, equal opportunities, including gender equality, and quality education
- fight against climate change, focused on the sustainable management of natural and energy resources

ODA Data

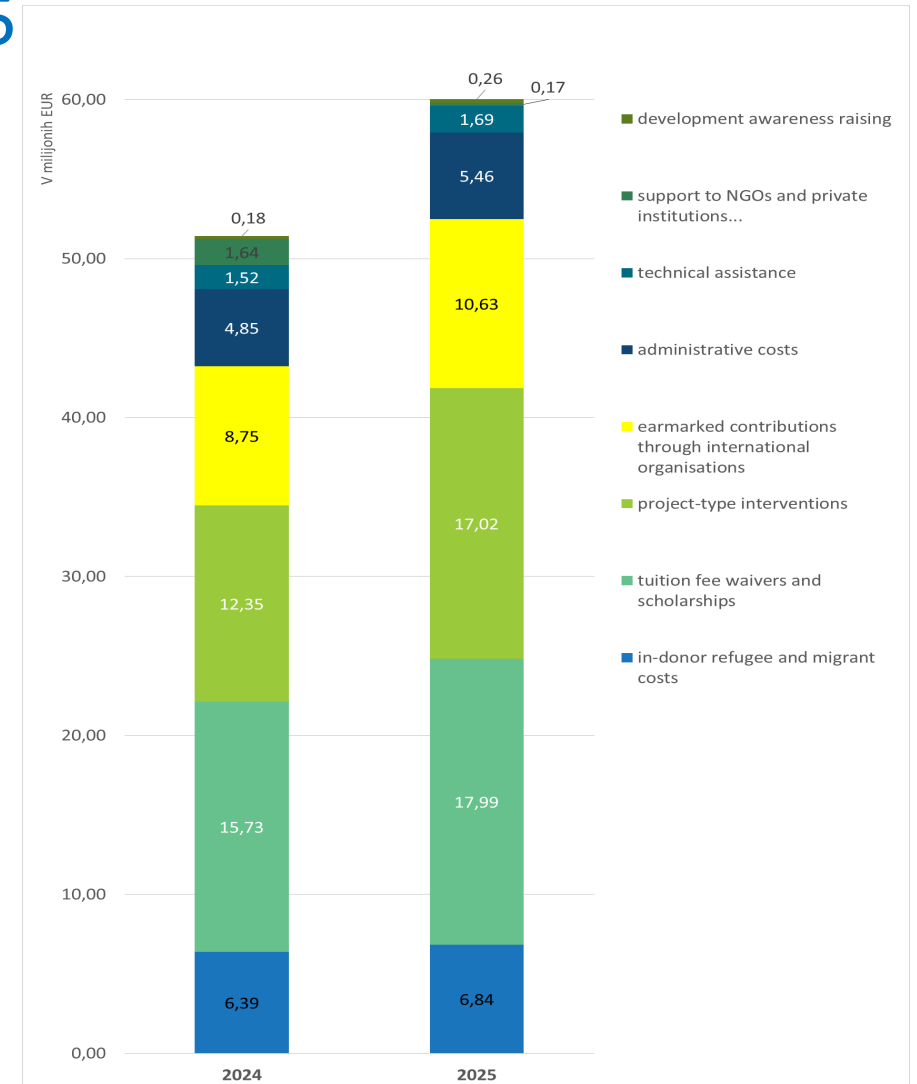
Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*
Bilateral ODA	38.960.070	82.314.795	64.272.764	51.360.936	60.044.442
Multilateral ODA	59.291.930	77.343.239	88.437.046	101.444.826	92.826.909
Total	98.252.000	159.658.033	152.709.809	152.805.762	152.871.351
ODA as a share of GNI	0,19 %	0,29 %	0,24 %	0,23%	0,22%*

* Preliminary data. The ODA share of gross national income (GNI) is based on available SURS data (as at 30 June 2026).

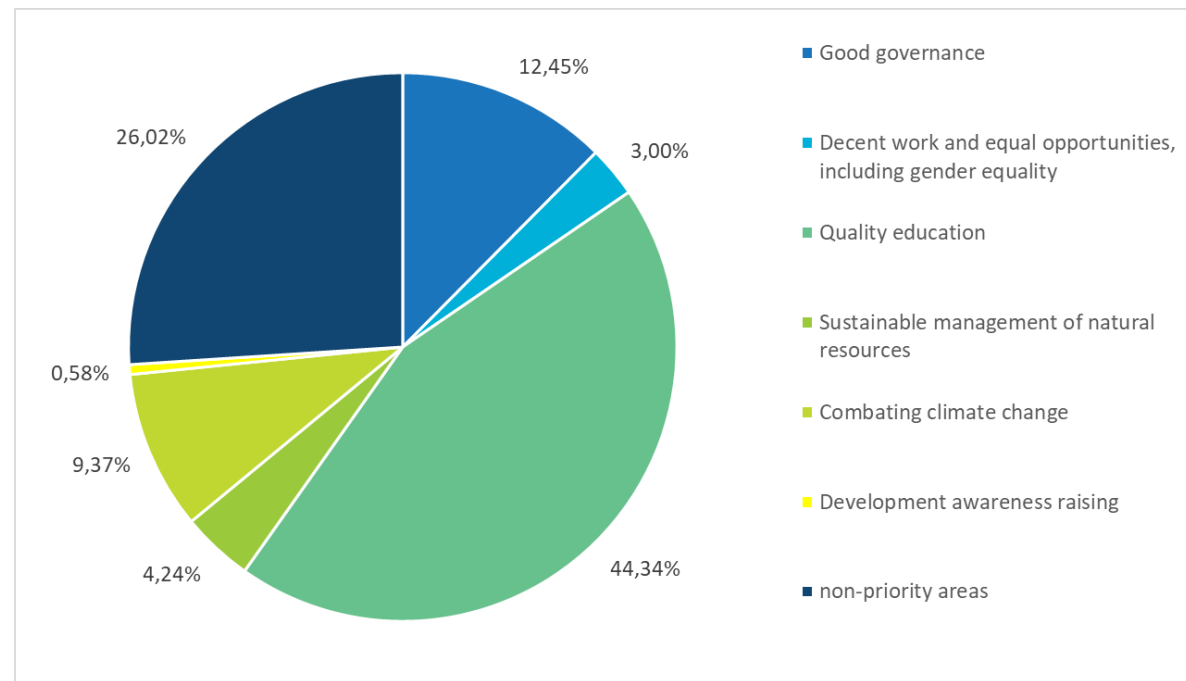
Key ODA categories in 2024 and 2025



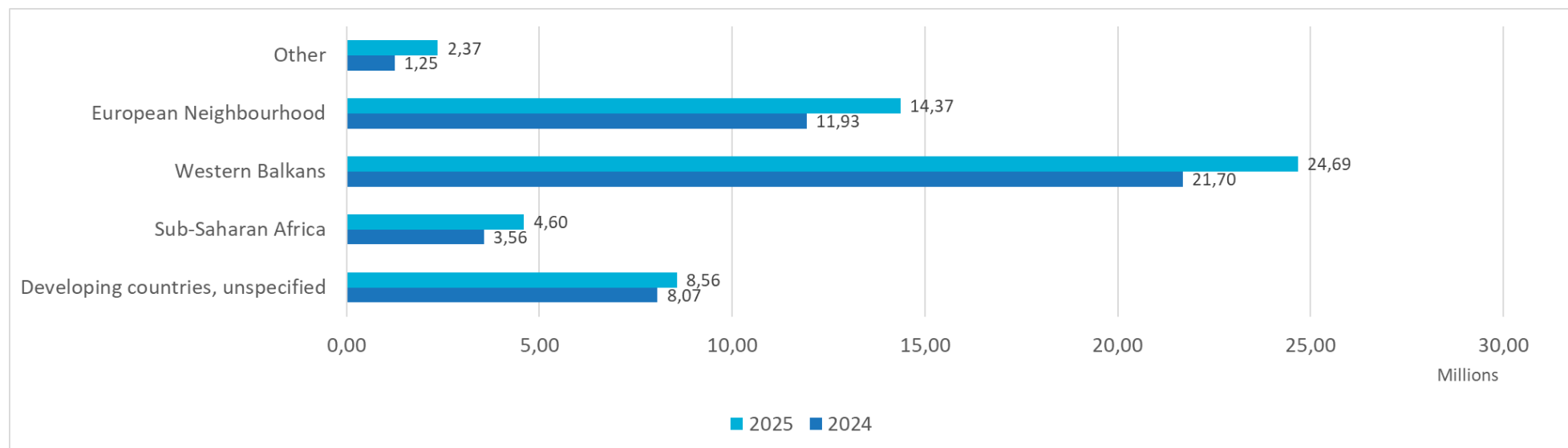
Key bilateral ODA categories in 2024 and 2025



Thematic distribution of bilateral ODA in narrow sense



Geographical distribution of bilateral ODA in 2025



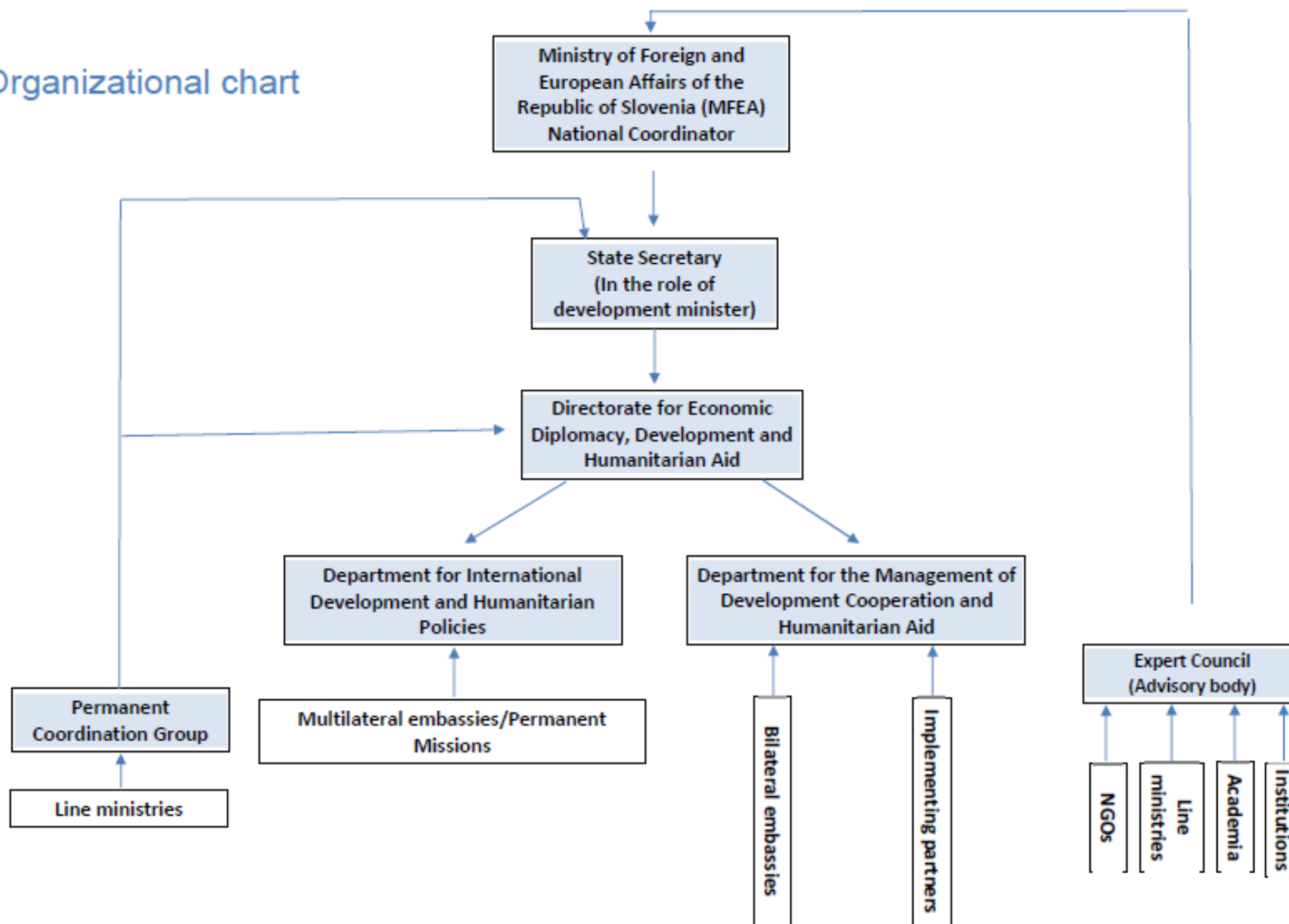
Organisational Structure

The main planning and implementing stakeholders:

- the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (as National Coordinator),
- the Permanent Coordination Group,
- the Expert Council for Development Cooperation,
- other ministries and
- the implementing partners: implementing institutions, NGOs and the private sector.



Organizational chart



National Coordinator

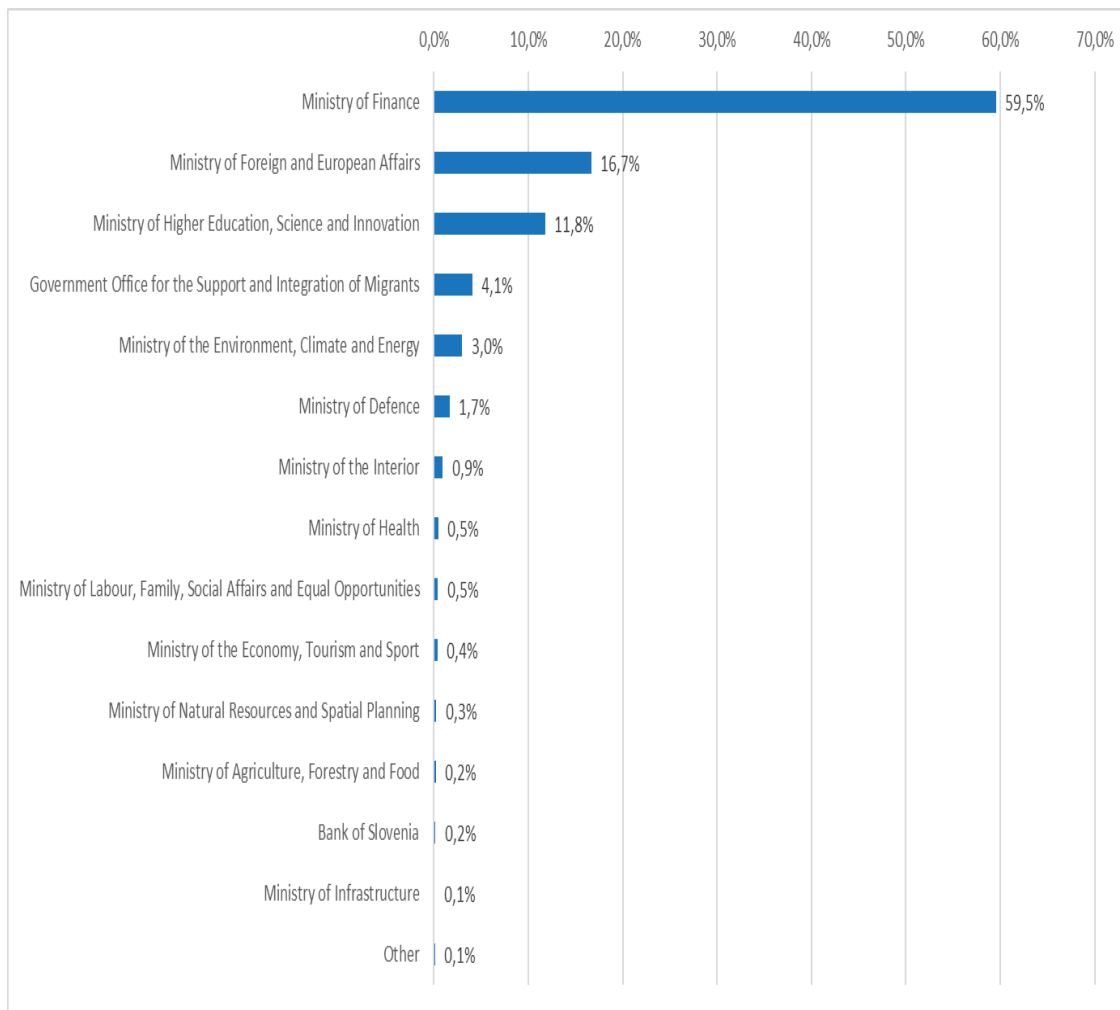
- ❖ Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
- ❖ drafts the legislative and strategic framework for efficient planning, implementing, monitoring, and raising awareness of these activities
- ❖ chairs the Permanent Coordination Group and the Expert Council; also the main financer of bilateral ODA
- ❖ Importance of diplomatic missions

Cooperation among ministries and Permanent Coordination Group

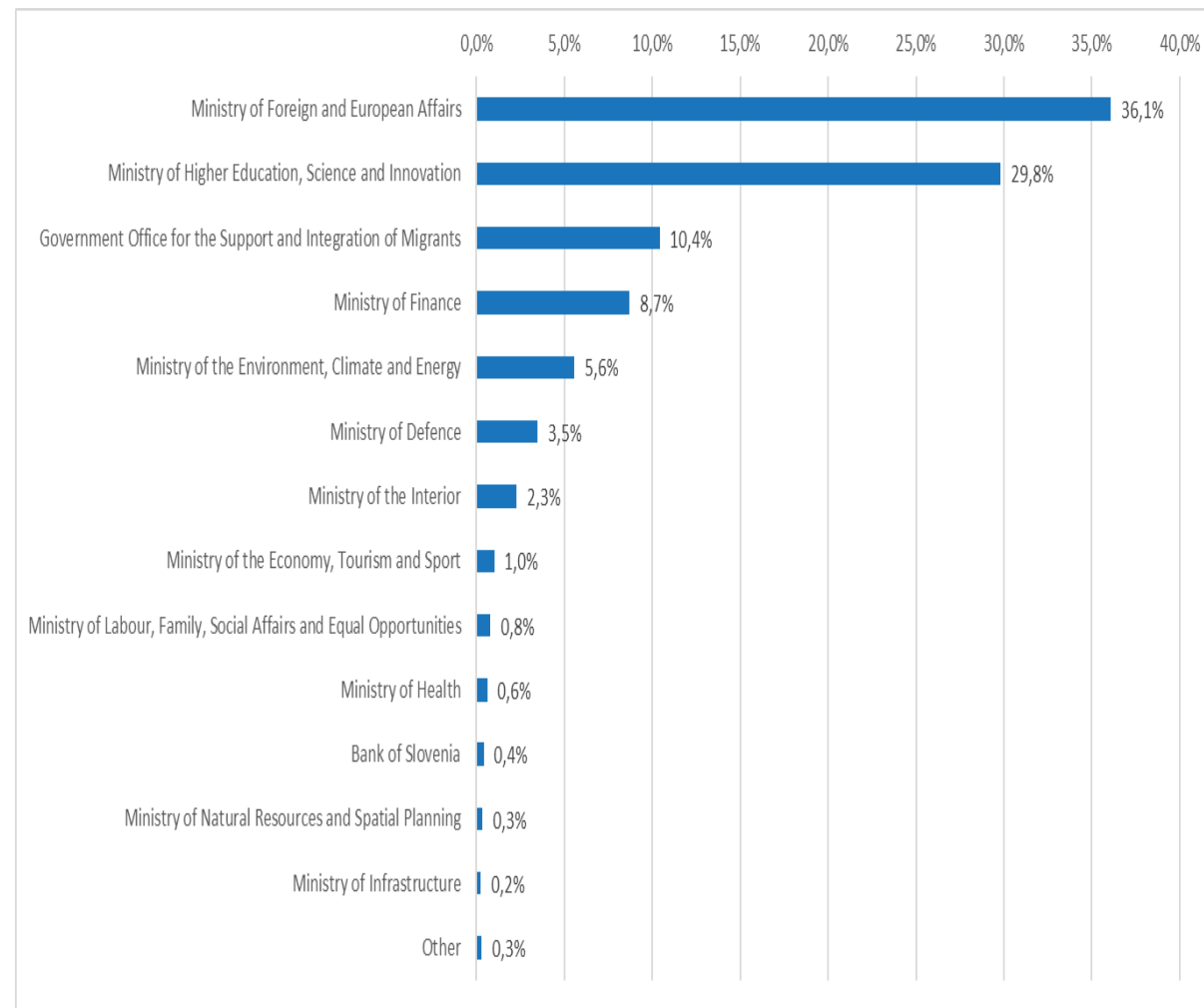
- ❖ Line ministries and government offices:
 - implementing and funding partners at the same time
 - responsible for financing, planning and organising multilateral aid and bilateral assistance in their domain

- ❖ **Permanent Coordination Group** (main coordinating body, chaired by MFEA)
 - members: representatives of relevant line ministries and government offices
 - meets annually at the level of state secretaries and twice per year at the level of deputies (director-general, head of department etc.)
 - exchange of information, consultation on strategic documents, adoption of guidelines and other documents, consolidating ODA plans for next years, awareness-raising

Slovenia's total ODA in 2025 – sectors



Slovenia's bilateral ODA in 2025 – sectors



Expert Council

- ❖ advisory body to the minister responsible for development cooperation
- ❖ in place since 2006
- ❖ members appointed by the minister responsible for foreign affairs from among representatives of key line ministries engaging in development cooperation and humanitarian aid, representatives of implementing partners, experts, and representatives of chamber of commerce

Planning and Implementation

Bilateral development cooperation

1. programme-based or project-type cooperation with partner countries and
 2. earmarked humanitarian aid
- ❖ implementing partners :
 - ministries and government offices, mostly providing bilateral technical assistance;
 - 3 development cooperation institutions (co-)founded by the Government;
 - NGOs;
 - international organisations through earmarked contributions
 - ❖ project selection process and criteria defined

Multilateral development cooperation

- ❖ greater part (approximately two thirds) of ODA
- ❖ Funds are allocated to the EU, the CEF, UN and other international institutions and organisations

Humanitarian aid

- ❖ (1) earmarked funds to areas affected by a long-term crisis and (2) regular responses to sudden humanitarian disasters
- ❖ channels:
 - mostly donations to international organisations (primarily via UN agencies and the ICRC) and
 - bilateral projects led by the ITF and Slovenian NGOs
- Multi-year strategic partnerships with the ICRC and humanitarian NGO
- ❖ greater focus on combining humanitarian aid with development cooperation, especially reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring

- ❖ Project monitoring: reporting every 6 month, monitoring visits (by diplomatic missions and/or MFEA staff), annual review of the intended use of funds, reporting on long-term effects prepared 3 years after the completion of the project
- ❖ Annual reports to the Government and the Parliament

Evaluation

- ❖ Strategic partnership 2026 – 2030
- ❖ Project evaluation: for projects above 200.000 EUR

- ✓ MFEA budget on development cooperation has doubled since 2022; humanitarian aid funds have also doubled, humanitarian contributions to international organisations have increased 5x
- ✓ Implementation of OECD DAC Peer Review Recommendations
- ✓ Good practices of inter-ministerial cooperation:
- ✓ Dedicated budgetary line for development cooperation by some line ministries

Questions and dilemmas

- Mechanisms are in place, but more importance to development cooperation and humanitarian aid – ownership of development cooperation by all stakeholders
- Consensus on how to implement strategic directions
- Better Coordination <-> enhanced ownership of line ministries <-> more funds <- depend on political will
 - Fixed or flexible coordination
 - centralised or decentralised system
- Key role of awareness-raising and training
- Development Agency an added value for Slovenia? Not without sufficient human and financial resources

Thank you.