

# **REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA** Investor Presentation

September 2024



Ministry of Finance Republic of Slovenia



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### Agenda

#### Country Overview

- Government Accounts
- Business Environment and Robust Banking System
- Economic Performance
- Debt Profile Characteristics
- Recovery and Resilience Plan
- Sustainability Bond Framework
- Inaugural digital bond



# Slovenia: Member of the EU, NATO, EMU, OECD

Image: NATO       Image: NATO	Key Facts	
Population       • 2.12 million (April 1, 2024) <sup>(1)</sup> GDP per capita in PPPs       • 91% of EU-27 average (2023); (Slovakia 73%, Portugal 83%, Poland 80%, Hungary 76%, Estonia 81%) <sup>(2)</sup> • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Location	
GDP per capita in PPPs       • 91% of EU-27 average (2023); (Slovakia 73%, Portugal 83%, Poland 80%, Hungary 76%, Estonia 81%)(2)       • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Territory	• 20,271 km <sup>2(1)</sup>
GDP per capita in PPPs       (Slovakia 73%, Portugal 83%, Poland 80%, Hungary 76%, Estonia 81%)(2)         Strong International Relationships         Declaration of Independence       Joined EU and NATO         Declaration of Independence       Joined EU and NATO         Operation of Independence       Joined EU and NATO         Operation of Independence       Joined EU and NATO         Operation of Independence       Joined EU and NATO         Operation of Independence       Joined EU (NATO)         Operation of Independence       Joined Operation of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)         Operation of Independence       Independence         Operation of Independence       Operation of Independence         Operation of Independence       Opera	Population	• 2.12 million (April 1, 2024) <sup>(1)</sup>
Declaration of Independence NATO NATO NATO NATO NATO NATO NATO NATO		(Slovakia 73%, Portugal 83%, Poland 80%,
Independence In	Strong International R	elationships
NATO Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)	Independence and	of and Schengen Council of the Single Supervisory
4004 2004 2005 2007 2008 2010 2044		NIATO
1991 2004 2005 2007 2008 2010 2014	1991 2004	2005 2007 2008 2010 2014

- Slovenia is a parliamentary republic
- Joined the EU in 2004 and adopted the Euro in 2007 as the first among new member countries. Slovenia is also part of Schengen, EEA and EFTA
- The Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia appointed in June 2022 was Dr. Robert Golob and the new President elected in November 2022 was Nataša Pirc Musar

1. Source: Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SORS), 3.9.2024 2. Source: Eurostat, 3.9.2024

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# **Slovenia: Highlights**

Key Data	<ul> <li>GDP growth in Q2/Q-1 (2024):</li> <li>General Government balance in 2023:</li> <li>General Government debt in 2023:</li> <li>Capital adequacy ratio 1Q/2024:</li> <li>NPE ratio 06/2024:</li> </ul>	<b>0.8%</b> (0.6% EA-20 and 0.8% EU-27) <sup>(1)</sup> -2.4% of GDP <sup>(2*)</sup> (-3.0% in 2022) <sup>(1)</sup> 68.3% of GDP <sup>(2*)</sup> (72.6% in 2022) <sup>(1)</sup> 20.6% (CET1 17.7%) <sup>(3)</sup> 1.0% <sup>(3)</sup>
Macro- Economic Strengths	-	<b>24</b> (well below EA-20 average of 6.4%) <sup>(1)</sup> <b>-20</b> (non-consolidated of 65.4% of GDP in 2023 <sup>(1)</sup> ) <b>-Income Ratio</b> of 41.3% in 2022 (EA average of
Prudent Debt Management	<ul> <li>Treasury Directorate was awarded the title oby the Risk magazine, London</li> <li>Established yield curve in Euro Debt Capital across currencies</li> <li>Effective prefinancing strategy and proactive Diversified investor base</li> <li>USD, JPY liabilities fully hedged back into F</li> <li>Strong debt affordability and ample liquidity</li> </ul>	ve duration management
1. Source: SORS, Euro		y bullers

1. Source: SORS, Eurostat, 3.9.2024

- 2. Source: SORS, 3.9.2024
- 3. Source: Bank of Slovenia, Monthly report on bank performance, 3.9.2024
- 4. Source: Eurostat, Non-financial transactions quarterly data, 3.9.2024



# **Key Policy Reforms Implemented**

1	Pension System Reform	Pension reform enhanced sustainability of public finances. The average age of retirement is continuously increasing. The average age of women upon retirement in 2023 was 61 years and 8 months (3 years and 2 months higher than in 2013). For men, the average age in 2023 rose to 62 years and 9 months (1 year and 10 months higher than in 2013). The effects of the pension reform from 2013, resulted in the change of growth rates of the average number of old-age pensioners decreasing from 4.0 per cent. in 2012 to 2.0 per cent. in 2023			
2	Labour Market Reform	Labour market reform streamlined employment protection, labour market flexibility, reduced labour market segmentation and equalized labour cost for people under 30			
3	Privatisation	State Asset Management Strategy being implemented by Slovenian Sovereign Holding			
<b>Strengthened</b> <b>Banking System</b> KBM d.d., NLB d.d. and Abanka d.d. (merged into Nova KBM d.d.) privatized Act adopted in 2021 relating to capital requirements and regulation of remuneration and audit power. In November 2023 introduced amendment to		Well-capitalized banking system. Stark reduction in non-performing loans ratio since 2013. Nova KBM d.d., NLB d.d. and Abanka d.d. (merged into Nova KBM d.d.) privatized. The new Banking Act adopted in 2021 relating to capital requirements and regulation of financial holding, remuneration and audit power. In November 2023 introduced amendment to the requirement to maintain a systematic risk buffer (syRB), in December a positive neutral CCyB set at 1%			
5	Bank Asset Management Company	Bank Asset Management Company (BAMC) restructured viable enterprises and ceased operations end of 2022. The SSH is the legal successor of the BAMC as of January 1, 2023			
6	Fiscal rule and Council	Constitutionally mandated balanced budget in place since 2013. Fiscal Rule bylaw in place since July 2015. The Fiscal Council has been in operation since 2017. In February 2018, Parliament adopted amendments to the Public Finance Act, including final implementing rules for prudent fiscal planning in accordance with the Fiscal Rule Act			



### **Disastrous floods in August 2023**

The severe flooding that hit Slovenia on August 4 was described as the worst natural disaster since independence. The government took swift action to accelerate flood relief to help people and economy.

First Flood Relief Measures	<ul> <li>Two-stage approach: first emergency law, then systematic measures (Reconstruction Act**) aimed at long-term mitigation and prevention of similar disasters.</li> <li>First intervention measures adopted by amending the Natural Disaster Recovery Act</li> <li>Emergency law* brings new intervention measures for reconstruction and aid</li> <li>A revised 2023 state budget to get flood relief funding underway</li> </ul>
EU Funding	<ul> <li>The EU Solidarity Fund will provide €400 million (€100 million for 2023, the rest in 2024-2025)</li> <li>Slovenia may also tap NGEU recovery fund and reprogramming of its cohesion funds</li> <li>For long- and medium-term reconstruction RRP and other sources</li> </ul>
Slovenia Reconstruction Fund	<ul> <li>National fund for financing reconstruction set up according to emergency law</li> <li>A special facility will pool together various types of finance, from budget allocations to EU funds and special contributions levied on business and households and other sources</li> </ul>
Post-flood Reconstruction	<ul> <li>Not only focus on the acute damage caused by recent floods but interdisciplinary in nature achieving future-proof vulnerable infrastructure</li> <li>Taking into account the realities of climate change</li> </ul>

\* Act Determining the Intervention Measures to Remedy the Consequences of the Floods and Landslides in August 2023 \*\*Act on Reconstruction, Development, and the Provision of Financial Resources (adopted in December 2023)



# **One-off floods relief measures and Fiscal Effects 2023-2024**

In 2023, 0.9% of GDP was spent on emergency measures. Most of the emergency measures have already been completed, but major renovation and flood protection projects, which will take years, are still in the planning phase.

Fiscal Effects of One-o	ff Measures	(% of GDP)

2023	0.9
E2024	1.7

Reconstruction focuses on improving and modernizing infrastructure to be resistant to the future climate risks and on supporting those affected by the floods

In 2023, the majority of flood expenditure was not on "gross fixed capital formation", but on "current expenditure" for immediate emergency aid following the floods in August. However, expenditure on reconstruction in the form of "gross fixed capital formation" will increase more strongly in 2024 (and thereafter).

Source: Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024



### **Energy Measures and Estimated Fiscal Effects 2022-2024**

The measures amount to a total of around 1% of GDP in 2023. The minimum scope of the measures is planned for 2024, less than 0.2% of GDP

Most Important Measures in 2024

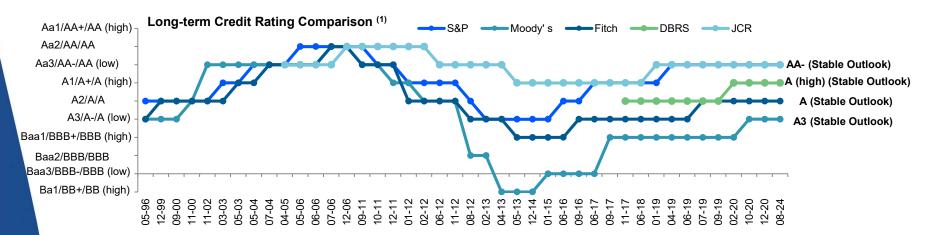
- Subsidies for the economy and to cover the price difference for gas and electricity traders (liabilities from previous years)
- Expansion of natural gas price regulation, specifically for households
- Set electricity prices with 10% consumption at market rates to encourage efficient energy use and implement multi-tariff billing based on different time blocks (i.e. within the day and during the year) → green transition targets

2022	1.1
2023	1.0
E2024	Less than 0.2%

After 2023, energy measures are gradually being phased out



### **Slovenia Sovereign Rating**



#### Credit Strengths<sup>(2)</sup>

- Existing fiscal and external buffers, following years of robust growth, are expected to allow Slovenia to weather the external shocks
- High debt affordability, strong debt management and large liquidity buffers
- High levels of income per-capita, strong external position, EU and EMU membership

#### Credit Challenges<sup>(1)</sup>

- Occasionally slow progress in implementing structural reforms related to population ageing
- Elevated government debt ratio compared to peers

Sovereign <sup>(3)</sup>	S&P	Fitch	Moody's
Germany	AAA	AAA	Aaa
Austria	AA+	AA+	Aa1
Ireland	AA	AA	Aa3
Czech Republic	AA-	AA-	Aa3
Slovenia 🛛 🛀	AA-	А	A3
Estonia	A+	A+	A1
Slovakia	A+	A-	A2
Lithuania	Α	A	A2
Latvia	А	A-	A3
Spain	A	A-	Baa1
Poland	A-	A-	A2
Portugal	A-	A-	A3
Croatia	BBB+	BBB+	Baa2
Italy	BBB	BBB	Baa3
Cyprus	BBB	BBB	Baa2
Hungary	BBB-	BBB	Baa2
Serbia	BB+	BB+	Ba2

<sup>1.</sup> Source: Moody's, S&P, Fitch and DBRS, 3.9.2024

<sup>2.</sup> Source: Selected drivers highlighted by rating agencies: S&P, Moody's and Fitch, 3.9.2024 Source: Current credit ratings, Bloomberg, 3.9.2024

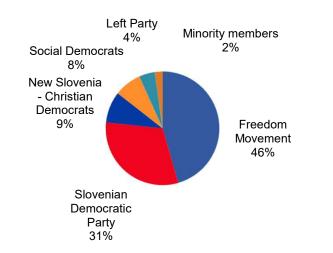


### **Political Leadership**

#### **Composition of the Government**

- The 15<sup>th</sup> Government of the Republic of Slovenia, led by Dr. Robert Golob, was appointed by the National Assembly on June 1, 2022
- The 15<sup>th</sup> Government consists of the Freedom Movement, the Social Democrats and the Left Party
- · Parliamentary elections were held in Slovenia on the April 24, 2022. The Freedom Movement won 41 seats in parliament, the Social Democrats 7, and the Left Party 5. coalition has 53 seats out of 90

**Distribution of Seats at the National Assembly** 



#### **Key Regular Election Dates**



**Presidential Election (October)** 

2027 Months Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun البرل Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec



# New Government's Policy Agenda

-

Key Priorities				
Goals	Envisaged actions			
Fiscal Reinforcement	<ul> <li>Tax optimization</li> <li>Gradual reduction of General Government debt and structural deficit.</li> <li>Fiscal policy to realign with Fiscal Rule</li> <li>Enhancing tax collection</li> <li>Improving effectiveness and efficiency of government expenditures</li> <li>Ensuring the sustainability of the pension system and pension adequacy</li> </ul>			
Implementation of Structural Reforms	<ul> <li>Smart and focused use of EU and domestic funds to achieve best return on domestic investments in line with adopted digitalisation and green transition development strategy</li> <li>Enhancing public procurement system, reducing administrative burden, implementing hybrid workplace model with minimal disruption within public sector</li> <li>Fostering social protection mechanisms and providing career guidance for reducing profile gap in labour market in an open economy</li> <li>Supporting young people to join the labour market (funded from Recovery and Resilience Facility)</li> <li>Strengthening vocational education via comprehensive reform of training system to bring down the profile gap</li> <li>Facilitating national non-profit social housing policy via promoting public house building</li> <li>Enhancing long-term care facilities by investing in public adult day care centres infrastructure</li> <li>Reform of the Health Sector</li> </ul>			



# New Government's Policy Agenda

Goals	Envisaged actions
Digitalisation and Climate Change Resilience	<ul> <li>Further investments in gigabit broadband to enhance connectivity for the digital transformation (partially funded from Recovery and Resilience Facility)</li> <li>Strengthening resilience to climate changes through investments in flood control and protection, drinking water supply care and wildfire prevention and protection</li> <li>Supporting investments in research capacities in the field of green hydroger and batteries</li> <li>Enhancing digital literacy in society</li> </ul>
Enhancing Business Environment	<ul> <li>Further improvement of business environment to support sustainable energy transformation with higher gross value added per person employed</li> <li>Policy supporting export diversification to increase market share on a global market (outside EU)</li> <li>Incentivise smart use of artificial intelligence in the working processes (incl. public sector)</li> <li>Accelerating investment in research and development is expected to achieve a strategic transition to innovation-driven growth</li> <li>Significant investments in infrastructure are expected to be made to take advantage of future growth opportunities (digital and green transformation)</li> </ul>



### Agenda

Country Overview

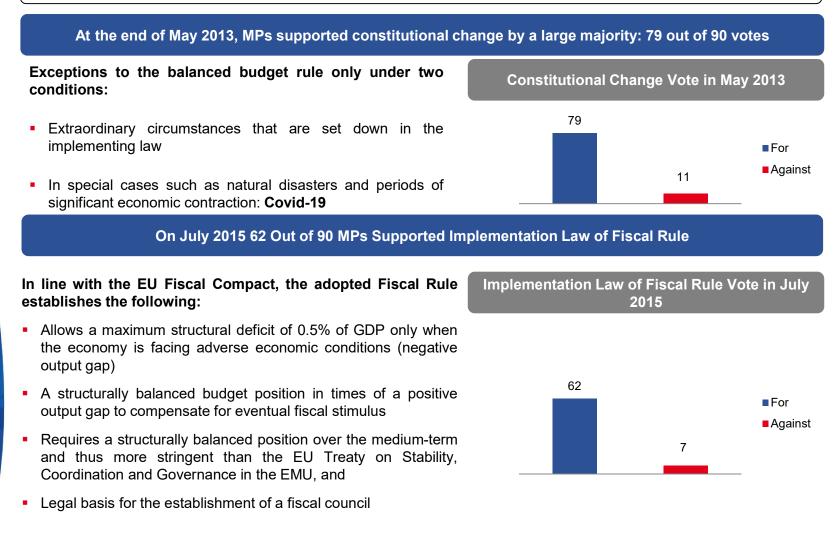
#### Government Accounts

- Business Environment and Robust Banking System
- Economic Performance
- Debt Profile Characteristics
- Recovery and Resilience Plan
- Sustainability Bond Framework
- Inaugural digital bond



### **Fiscal Framework**

#### Fiscal Council has been in operation since 2017



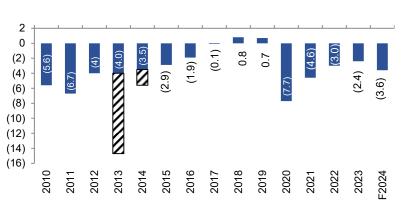


## **General Government Account (ESA 2010)**

#### **Fiscal Metrics**

- General Government deficit of -2.4%\* of GDP in 2023. The GG deficit is expected to be -3.6% of GDP in 2024, which is due to the extensive rehabilitation measures for the areas affected by the 2023 flooding
- General Government debt end 2023 of 68.3%\* of GDP well below the EA-20 average of 88.6% GDP.
   GG debt is expected at 68.6 % GDP end 2024
- Active and prudent debt management operations

General Government Balance (% of GDP)<sup>(1\*)</sup>



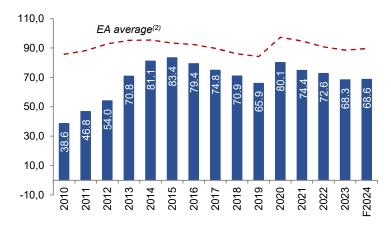
 Source: Eurostat, SORS (1st EDP notification on 19 April 2024, Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024

Headline deficit of -14.6% (one-offs of 10.7% of GDP due to banks recapitalization) in 2013. Headline deficit of -5.6% due (one-offs of 1.5% of GDP due to banks recapitalization) in 2014

 $\langle \rangle \rangle$ 

After the crises of 2020–2023, when governments implemented extensive packages of measures to mitigate COVID-19, the energy crisis and inflation, the general government deficit fell to  $2.4\%^*$ 





2. Source: Eurostat, EC Forecast Autumn, SORS, Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024

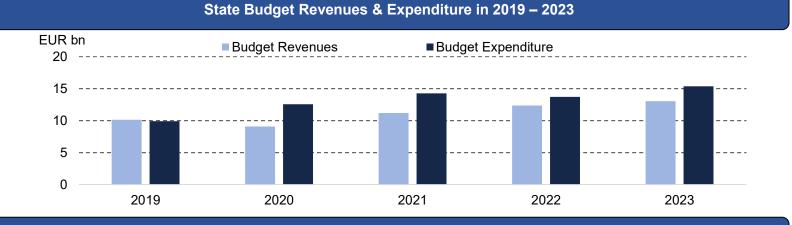
\*Note: share of GDP for Slovenia is calculated according to SORS GDP Revision 2024, 30.8.2024



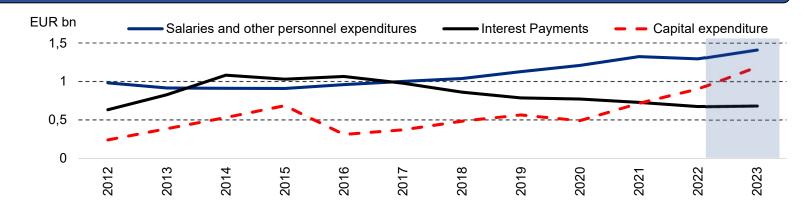
### State Budget 2019 - 2023

#### **Fiscal Metrics**

- State Budget Balance of -3.6%\* of GDP in 2023 (-2.4%\* of GDP in 2022). The deficit has been affected also by financing post-flood aid after devastating natural disaster in August 2023
- Budget revenues in 2021 surpassed the level from 2019 (pre-pandemic Covid-19 year). Stark capital expenditure increase since 2021 (RRP plan EU NGEU)



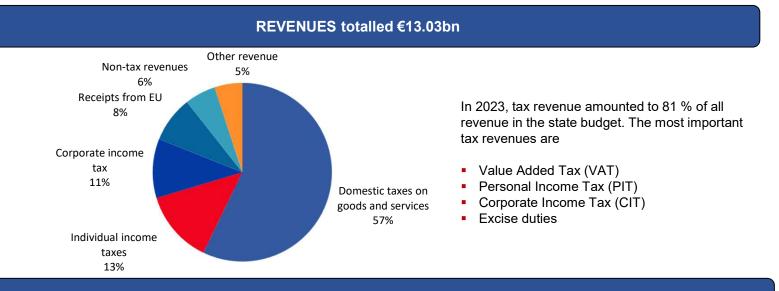
State Budget Expenditure Items in Focus 2012 – 2023



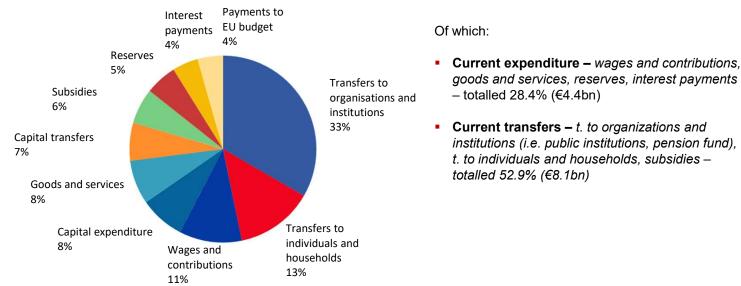
Source: Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024 \*Note: share of GDP is calculated according to SORS GDP Revision 2024, 30.8.2024



## The structure of the State Budget 2023



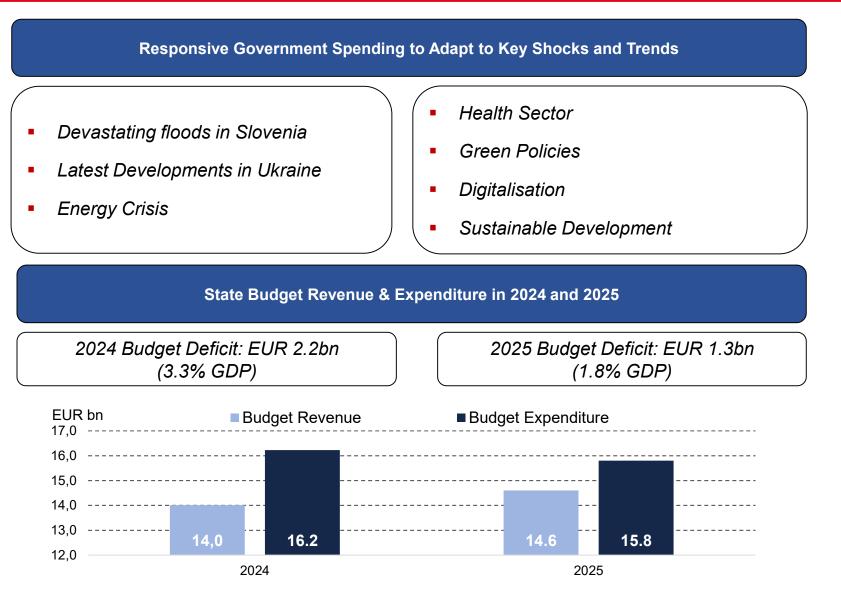
#### **EXPENDITURE** totalled €15.35bn



Source: Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024



## State Budget Outline for 2024 and 2025



Source: Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024



y-o-y

### State Budget revenue and expenditure in 1H 2024

#### REVENUE

#### EXPENDITURE

2023

2024

	2023 01 - 06	2024 01 - 06	y-o-y growth
	€m	illion	%
Tax revenues	5.347	6.087	13.8
Of which: PIT CIT* VAT Excise duties	922 742 2.376 800	1.148 1.013* 2.545 780	24.4 36.5 7.1 -2.5
Non-tax revenues	331	362	9.3
Capital Income	104	64	-38.3
Donations received	4	14	271.2
Transfer revenues	22	0	-97.7
Received from the EU	473	435	-8.1

	01 - 06	01 - 06	growth
	€	%	
Current expenditure	1.847	2.202	19.2
Of which: Wages and contributions Exp. on goods and services** Interest payments Reserves***	844 424 378 201	885 555** 445 317***	4.9 30.8 17.8 57.4
Current transfers	4.003	4.305	7.6
Of which: Subsidies Transf. to individuals and households Curr. tr. to municipalities Curr. tr. to social funds Curr. tr. to public institutions	466 979 65 879 1.420	390 1.014 78 1.134 1.473	-16.2 3.6 20.2 29.0 3.7
Capital expenditure and transfers	514	504	-1.9
Payments to the EU budget	325	297	-8.7
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6.689	7.308	9.3

\*A temporary increase in the tax rate by 3 percentage points to help companies cope with the consequences of the floods last August also contributed to the increase in CIT in the first half of 2024

6.281

6.962

10.8

TOTAL REVENUE

\*\* Increase in expenditure in 1H2024 mainly due to flood relief measures

\*\*\* The increase in reserves in 1H2024 is mainly due to a higher allocation to the Recovery and Resilience Budget Fund in June this year and allocations to the Slovenian Reconstruction Fund in the amount of EUR

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Source: Ministry of Finance, Preliminary data as published on 31.7.2024, 3.9.2024
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### **Fiscal policy targets in 2024**

#### Transition from old to new EU fiscal rules

- 2020-2021 (COVID-19), 2022-2023 (energy& high costs crisis): temporary derogation from fiscal rules; 2024: conditions for exceptional circumstances (one-off measures) for Slovenia
- 2024: the new EU framework for economic governance comes into force
- Medium-term fiscal structural plan 2025-2028\* will be available in autumn 2024

#### **Fiscal policy 2024**

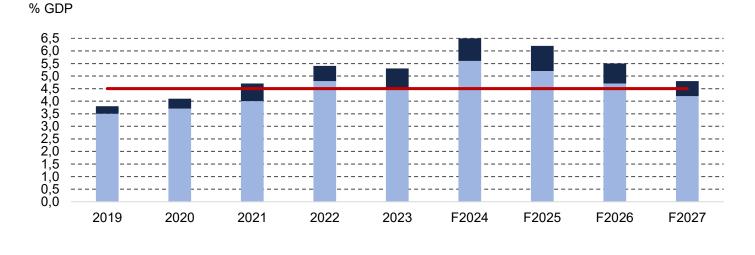
- **Rebuilding the areas affected by the floods** while promoting growth and gradual consolidation (deficit below 3% of GDP without one-off measures)
- Measures related to the energy crisis and the high cost of living are no longer planned at a high level, covid-19 measures expired in 2023
- Investments will remain at a high level (around 6% of GDP)\*\*
- Government debt ratio will be one of the key indicators for the sustainability of public finances

Note: \*The Ordinance on the framework for the preparation of the general government budget for 2025-2027 adopted in April 2024 included indicative targets that will be updated with the medium term fiscal structural plan. \*\*See government investment trends on the next slide



### **Government investments trends**

- Government investment plays a pivotal role in bolstering productivity and fostering potential economic expansion
- Slovenia recognizes the importance of sustained public investment. The share of Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) remains above the long-term average during the period 2024–2027, aligning with EU recommendations
- This commitment positions Slovenia to tackle upcoming challenges, particularly in the realms of digitalization and green transition



GFCF national funding GFCF EU funding

GFCF average 2010-2023

Slovenia had one of the highest levels of general government GFCF as a percentage of GDP in the EU27 in 2022 and 2023 and will maintain its high share of government investment in 2024 and 2025, according to the Commission's Spring 2024 Forecast.



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- Government Accounts

#### Business Environment and Robust Banking System

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### **Enhancing the Business Environment**

#### The Labour Relations Act Aims to Reduce Segmentation and Enhance Flexibility

- Limiting possibilities for the use of temporary employment contracts
- Simplifying procedures for concluding and terminating employment contracts and disciplinary proceedings
- Decreasing the difference in rights arising from different forms of employment contracts

#### Improved Insolvency Framework

Facilitates prompt resolution of non-viable companies and reallocation of resources

#### **Tax Collection Simplification**

• **Tax collection simplification** (pre-filled forms, extended deadlines, extending the instalment payments period, modernizing the collection of excise duties, electronic refunds, exemptions to small producers, informatisation of all processes of tax filling and collection)

#### Modernizing Public Procurement to Enhance Accessibility of SMEs

 New legal framework and simplified requirements (electronic execution, mandatory e-auctions and ereversed auctions). Cost effectiveness, i. e. savings estimated to 5-10%



### **Privatisation and Performance of SOE's**

- The privatisation was completed for the following companies on the list: Helios d.d., Fotona d.d., Letrika d.d., Aerodrom Ljubljana d.d., Žito d.d., Nova KBM d.d., Elan d.d., Adria Airways Tehnika d.d., Adria Airways d.d., Paloma d.d., Cimos d.d., NLB d.d. and Abanka d.d. (merged into Nova KBM d.d.)
- State Asset Management Strategy (2015) providing basis for further privatisation, led by the Slovenian Sovereign Holding (SSH)

RS + SSH	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	E2023**
Assets Book Value (EUR (bn))	10.1	10.3	9.9	10.3	11.2	12.2
Dividends received (EUR (m))	487.3	252.9	85.9	151.3	190.7	175.5
Dividend- to-Equity Ratio	4.50%	2.50%	0.80%	1.50%	1.9%	1.6%
Portfolio ROE	6.20%	6.90%	4.30%	6.10%	2.80%	8.60%

\* State-Owned Enterprises (SOE)

\*\* Note: Estimation for 2023.

In July 2024, the National Assembly adopted a **new state asset management strategy** that is adapted to the current situation and defines increasing the **productivity of companies** as a key economic objective. The document also provides a basis for construction of **affordable public housing**.

Source: Slovenian Sovereign Holding (SSH), 3.9.2024



### **Slovenian Banking System**

#### **Banking System Highlights**

- EUR 53.6bn Banking System Total Assets of 80.2% of GDP end 06/2024 (EUR 53.1 bn end of December 2023 (83.0% of GDP)<sup>(1)</sup>
- Loan-to-deposit ratio (LTD) reduced from 161.5% in 2008 to 65.6% in 2023, at 67.4% by March 2024<sup>(2)</sup>
- After-tax profit of EUR 469.2m in 1-6/2024 (EUR 466.8m in 1-6/2023)<sup>(1)</sup>
- Net impairments and provisions of EUR -7.5m in 1-3/2024 (EUR -10.2m in 2023)<sup>(1)</sup>
- The Capital Adequacy Ratio at 20.6% and CET1 at 17.7% Q1/2024<sup>(1)</sup>

#### **Overhaul of the Banking System since 2013**

- EUR 3.2bn capital increase at four banks: NLB, Nova KBM, Abanka and Banka Celje (2013-2014)
- Factor banka and Probanka winding down process concluded in 2015 (market share at that time of about 2%)
- Merger of Abanka and Banka Celje concluded in 2015

Source: Bank of Slovenia, Financial Stability Review, 3.9.2024

- Bank Resolution Authority and Fund established (banks provided EUR 195m funds)
- Resolution and Compulsory Dissolution of Credit Institutions Act adopted
- Nova KBM fully privatized in 2016, NLB (75% 1 share) privatisation finalised in 2019, Abanka fully privatized in 2019
- Merger of Nova KBM and Abanka concluded in 2020. OTP Group: NKBM acquisition in February 2023, merger with SKB (OTP Group since 2019) in September 2024.
- The process of legal merger of N Banka d.d. (Sberbank d.d.) with NLB d.d. successfully closed to preserve financial stability



#### Ownership structure of the banking system

Banks under domestic ownership majorityBanks under foreign ownership majority



### Agenda

- Country Overview
- Government Accounts
- Business Environment and Robust Banking System

#### **Economic Performance**

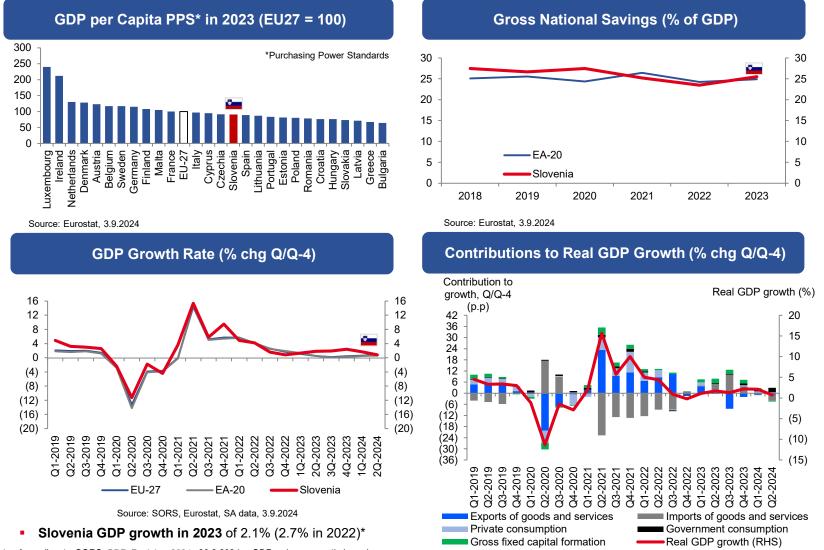
- Debt Profile Characteristics
- Recovery and Resilience Plan
- Sustainability Bond Framework
- Inaugural digital bond





# High Income Country Converging Towards the EU Average

Among highest GDP per capita PPP among CEE Countries (91% of the Average of EU-27 as of 2023)



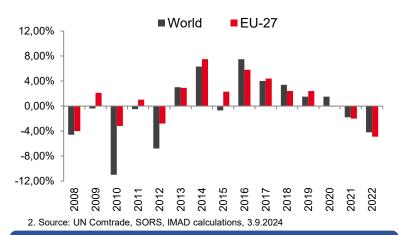
\* Note: According to SORS <u>GDP Revision 2024</u>, 30.8.2024 - GDP volume growth based on annual data sources is 0.5 of a percentage point higher than the quarterly estimate published on 14 February 2024.



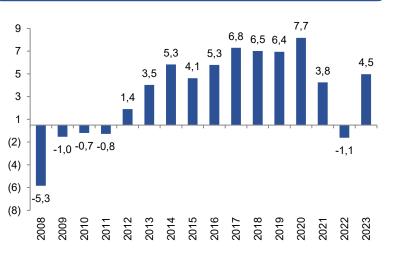
### **Current Account Position**

- Current Account surplus 5.4% of GDP 2Q/2024
- The current account balance moved to surplus last year 4.5% of GDP 2023 (-1.1% of GDP in 2022)

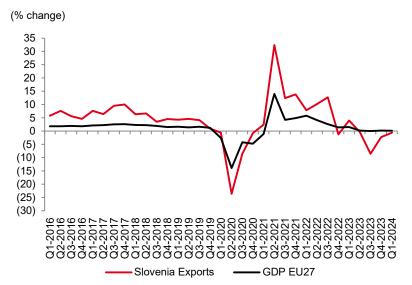
Change in Slovenia's Market Shares on the Global Market and in the EU (% chg Y-o-Y)<sup>(2)</sup>



#### Exports of Goods & Services (% chg Q/Q4)<sup>(3)</sup>



#### Current Account Balance (% of GDP)<sup>(1)</sup>

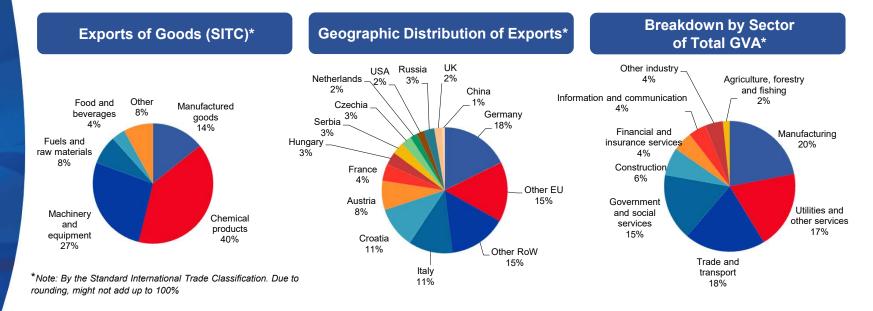




## **Diversified and Open Economy**

#### Manufacturing and Services Driven Growth

- EUR 53bn of exports of goods and services (83% of GDP) and EUR 49bn (77% of GDP) of imports of goods and services in 2023<sup>(1)</sup>
- Exports of goods and services is driven by manufacturing, services, and the growing tourism industry
- ¾ of exports of goods is exported to EU
- More than 50% of goods are exported to Germany, Italy, Croatia, Austria and France
- Main trading partners are Germany, Italy, Croatia and Austria. France, Serbia and the Russian Federation are also important partners
- In the period 2019-2023 annual inward foreign direct investment stock average growth was 7.1 % per year. The stock of inward FDI in Slovenia is estimated to EUR 21.4bn (33.5% GDP) at the end of 2023

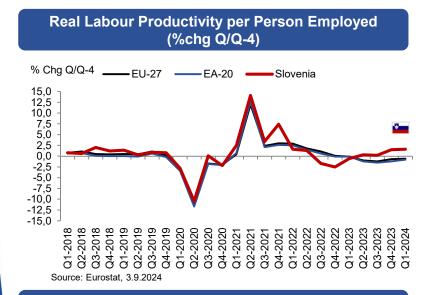


Source: Eurostat, SORS, Bank of Slovenia, 3.9.2024 (Note: share of GDP is calculated according to SORS <u>GDP Revision 2024</u>, 30.8.2024 )



### **Educated Labour Force and Strong Labour Market Performance**

- Productive and well-educated labour force
- One of the lowest unemployment rates in the EU and EA



**Unemployment Rate (%)** EA-20 EU-27 Slovenia France Slovakia Italv 

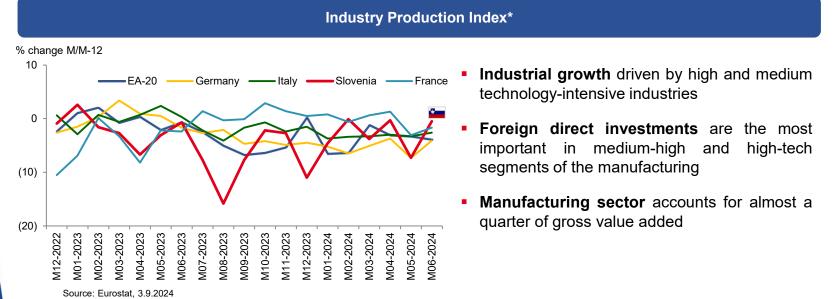
- Real Labour productivity in Slovenia, measured as GDP per person employed, increased by 1.5% in Q1/2024 compared to the same quarter of the previous year (in EA-20 decreased by -0.8% and in EU-27 by -0.6%).
- One of the lowest unemployment rates in the EU. Unemployment rate (ILO methodology) in 2023 stood at 3.7% (EA-20 average 6.5%, EU-27 average 6.0%)
- Unemployment rate (ILO methodology) end 07/2024 stood at 3.3% in Slovenia (EA-20 average 6.4%, EU-27 average 6.0%)



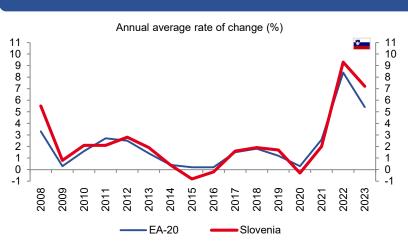
**Employment (Based on National Accounts, 000)** 



### **Industry Production Performance and Prices Level**



\*Industrial production encompasses Mining and quarrying, Manufacturing, Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air conditioning supply



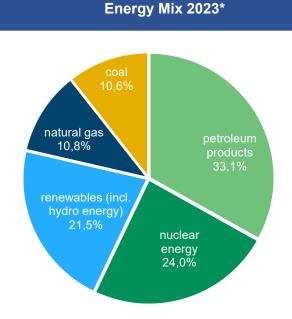
#### HICP – Inflation Rate

- HICP (average) inflation rate of 7.2% in 2023 (EA-20 5.4%, EU-27 6.4%)
- HICP inflation in August 2024 1.1% (in the same period last year was 6.1%)
   EA-20 inflation was 2.2% (5.2% in August 2023)



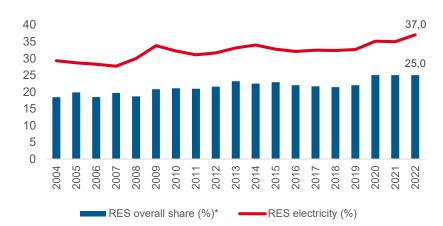
### Sources of energy supply

- Domestic energy sources covered 53% of domestic energy demand, the energy dependency ratio was 47% in 2023 and therefore lower than in 2022 (52%)
- *Petroleum products were fully covered by imports and dominated the energy supply*
- Between 2020 and 2023, households in Slovenia consumed between 215 and 400 GWh of electricity per month.



\* The total primary energy supply of Slovenia was 6.0 million toe (= 249 PJ). The total amount of domestic energy sources amounted to 3.3 million toe (= 138 PJ) in 2023.

#### Renewable Energy Sources (%)



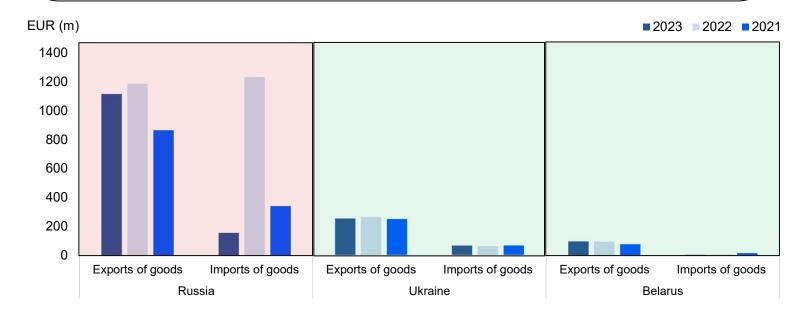
\* Share of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption (Directive 2009/28/EC)

In Slovenia, the share of electricity from renewable energy sources (i.e. hydropower, solar energy, wood biomass, biogas, wind energy, etc.) in gross final energy consumption in 2022 was 37.0%, 7.7 percentage points higher than in 2004, when it was 29.3%.



## **Slovenia External Trade with Russia, Ukraine and Belarus in 2023**

- In 2023, Slovenia recorded in total current account surplus of EUR 1278m (2.0%\* GDP) with Russia (EUR 972m), Ukraine (EUR 214m) and Belarus (EUR 92m).
- The direct exposure of the Slovenian economy to Russia and Ukraine was low before the war; the high dependence on fossil fuel imports and the exposure of Slovenian pharmaceutical and chemical activities.
- In 2022, imports from Russia, especially of petroleum products, increased significantly in value, but were almost brought to a standstill in May 2023 due to the imposed EU sanctions.



\*Note: share of GDP is calculated according to SORS GDP Revision 2024, 30.8.2024



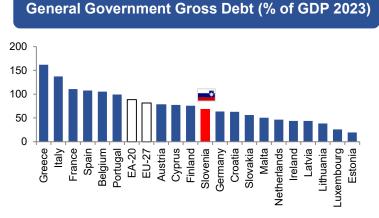
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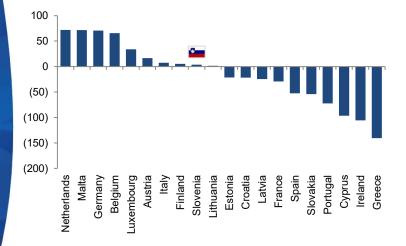


### Private Sector is One of the Least Indebted in the Euro Area



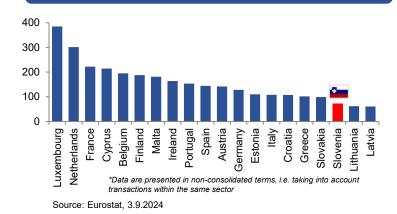
Source: Eurostat, 3.9.2024

Net International Investment Position (% of GDP 2023)



Source: Eurostat, Bank of Slovenia, 3.9.2024

Private Sector Debt\* (% of GDP 2022)



#### Indebtedness Compared to EMU Countries

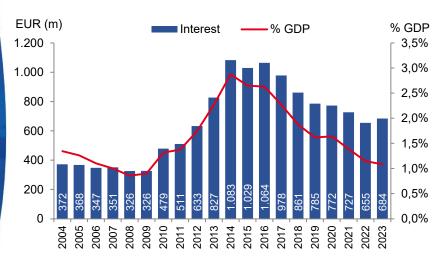
- 3rd lowest non-consolidated\* private sector debt to GDP ratio among EA countries in 2022 at 71.5% (65.4% of GDP in 2023)
- Net international investment position of 3.7% of GDP in 2023 (-1.5% of GDP in 2022)
- Net External Debt-to-GDP ratio of -9.4% in 2023 (Italy 46.5%, Spain 53.2%, Austria 17.6% and Germany -9.6%)
- One of the lowest Gross Household Debt-to-Income Ratio of 41.3% in 2022 (EA-20 87.0%, Germany 86.2%, Austria 80,7%, Italy 61.9% and Spain 84.8%)



## **State Budget Debt Profile Key Servicing Figures**

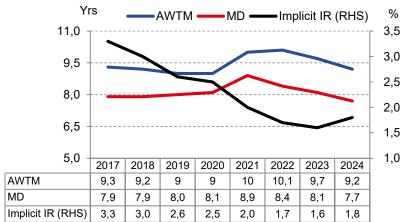
#### Key Treasury Objectives Met

- Key focus of the state treasury was to extend the duration of the debt portfolio, hence reducing rollover risk, while reducing implicit interest rate at the same time
- Extended modified duration of the debt portfolio (from 4.7 yrs in 2014 to 7.7 yrs in 2024) while at the same time implicit interest rate was reduced (from 4.4% in 2014 to 1.8% in 2024)
- Since 2014 the long-term financing cost of the state budget has been reduced significantly. Interest bill of 2.9% GDP in 2014 reduced to 1.1% GDP in 2023



State budget Interest Servicing Cost



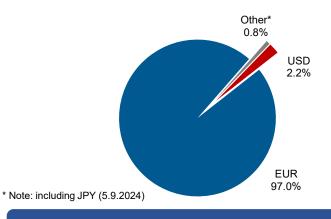




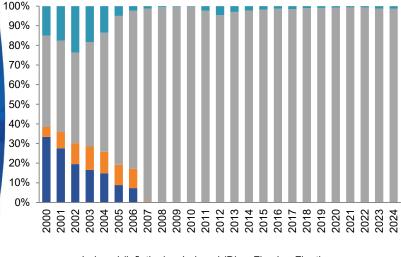
## **State Budget Debt Composition Profile**

- High majority of outstanding the Central Government debt is denominated in domestic currency (euro)
- No exposure to FX volatility, as USD bonds are fully hedged into EUR
- 27.9% of existing budget debt has residual maturity of more than 10 years

#### Composition by Type of Currency



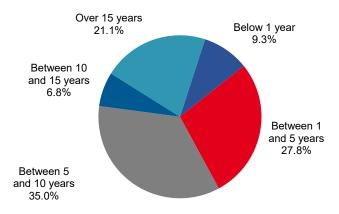
### Composition by Interest Rate



■ Indexed (inflation) ■ Indexed (D) ■ Fixed ■ Floating

Composition by Maturity

	Share	€m
Bonds	93.8%	38,898.16
T-bills	1.1%	444.72
Loans	5.2%	2,147.70



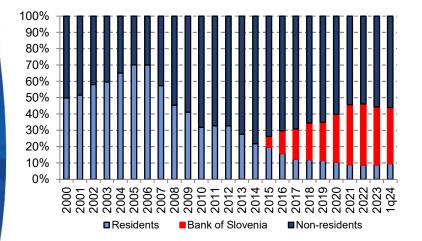


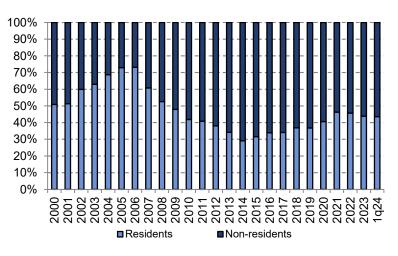
### **Debt Composition by Residence of Investors**

- Share of Non-Resident Investors decreased from 80% in 2014 to 54% in 2022 taking into account the secondary market flows
- Since 2007, i.e. EUR adoption, well diversified domestic EUR investor base and liquidity premium reduced
- On the back of PSPP and PEPP Bank of Slovenia has become significant sole holder of SLOREP bonds (~36%)



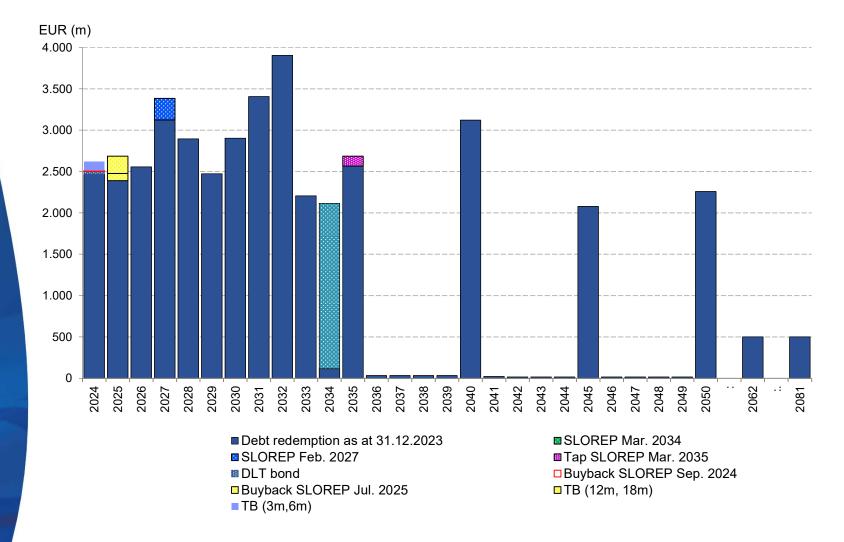








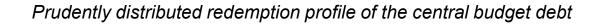
## **2024 Financing Programme Execution Through Redemption Optics**

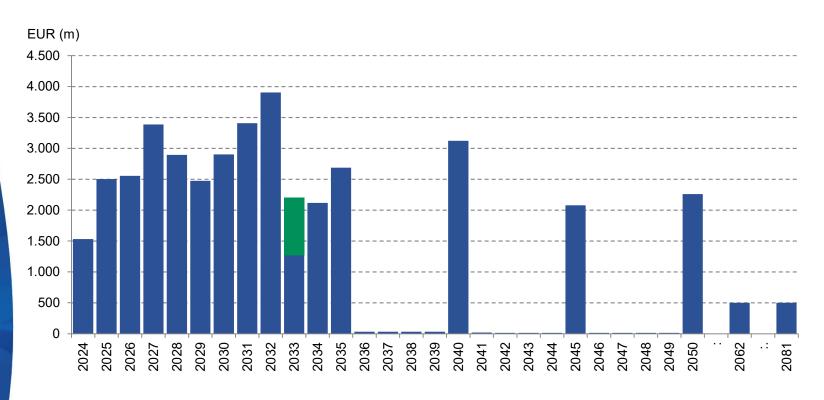


Note: Marked Maturity Buckets depict Newly Issued EUR debt (bonds and T-bills) in 2024.



### **Central Budget Debt Maturity Profile**





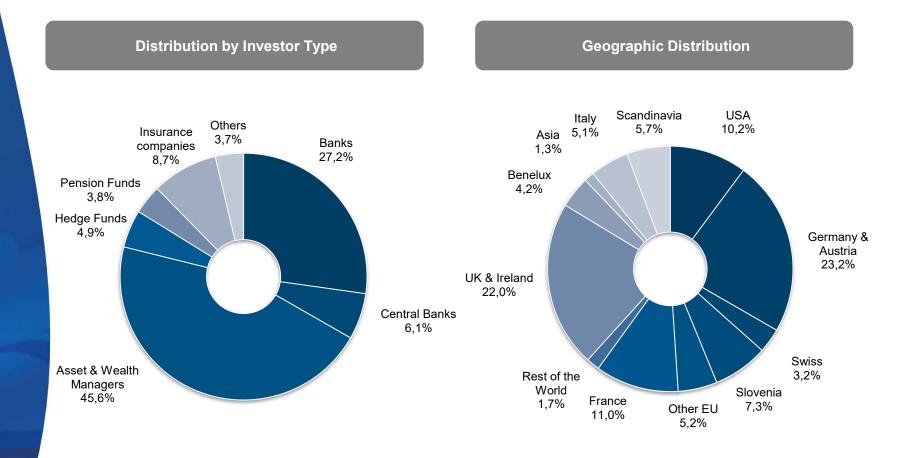
EUR Debt Principal repayments

USD Debt Principal repayments



## **EUR Benchmark Size Bonds Issued on Primary Market**

Institutionally well diversified investor base by opted for long dated EUR bond issuances (pension funds, insurance companies, fund managers etc...)



## **Republic of Slovenia Contributions to EU Financial Assistance Programmes**



#### Republic of Slovenia Contributions to EU Financial Assistance Programmes

Programme	2015 EUR (m)	2016 EUR (m)	2017 EUR (m)	2018 EUR (m)	2019 EUR (m)	2020 EUR (m)	2021 EUR (m)	2022 EUR (m)	2023 EUR (m)	1q2024 EUR (m)
EFSF <sup>(1)</sup>	891.6	891.6	891.6	891.6	881.5	881.5	881,5	881,5	872,8	865,6
ESM <sup>(2)</sup>	342.1	342.1	342.1	342.1	376.9	376.8	376,2	376,2	375,9	375,9
GREECE (LFA <sup>(3)</sup> )	263.7	263.7	263.7	263.7	263.7	260.2	249,9	223,6	197,2	197,2
Total										
(part of General	1,497.4	1,497.4	1,497.4	1,497.4	1,522.1	1,518.6	1,507.7	1,481.3	1,445.9	1,438.8
Government Debt)										
% of GDP	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.2

1. European Financial Stability Facility

2. European Stability Mechanism

3. Loan Facility Agreement

Republic of Slovenia contributions to EFSF, ESM and Greece were EUR 1.4 bn as end of 1q2024 which represents 2.2% of GDP



## 2024 State Budget Financing Programme

Central Government financing operations will take into consideration meeting the target level of the General Government debt at the end of 2024 of 68.6% of GDP

2024 Central Government Budget Financing Needs (- I II. + III IV. + V.= VI.)	EUR 4.66 bn
I. Deficit of Balance A	2.22
II. Deficit of Balance B (Lending and Repayment Account)	0.49
III. Change (reduction) of the state budget cash position	0.60
IV. Debt redemption in 2024	2.55
V. Prefinancing executed in 2023 and privatisation proceeds	0.00
VI. Central Government Budget Financing Needs for 2024	4.66

Estimated Central Government Budget Debt Principal Repayments in 2025 and 2026	EUR 4.95 bn
Central Government budget debt principal repayments in 2025	2.39
Central Government budget debt principal repayments in 2026	2.56

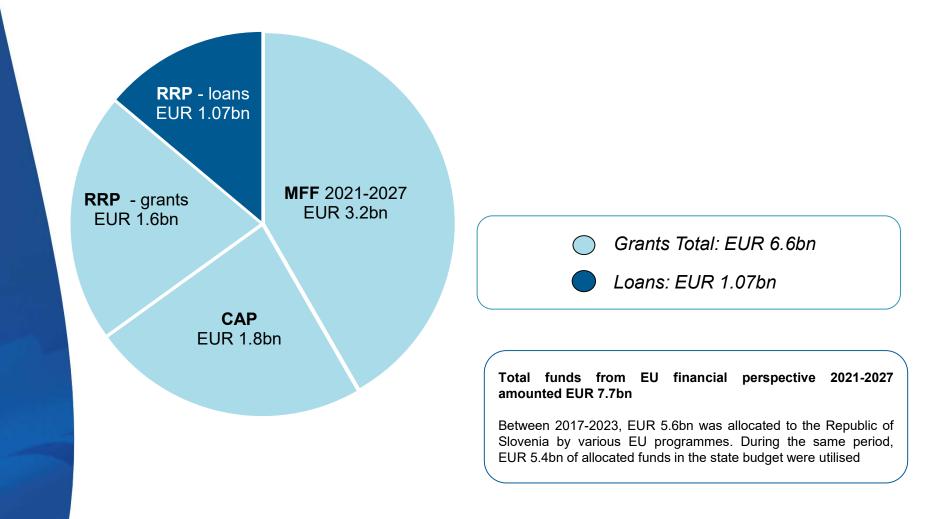
Source: Ministry of Finance, 3.9.2024



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# Funds From EU Funding Mechanisms Available to Slovenia by 2030

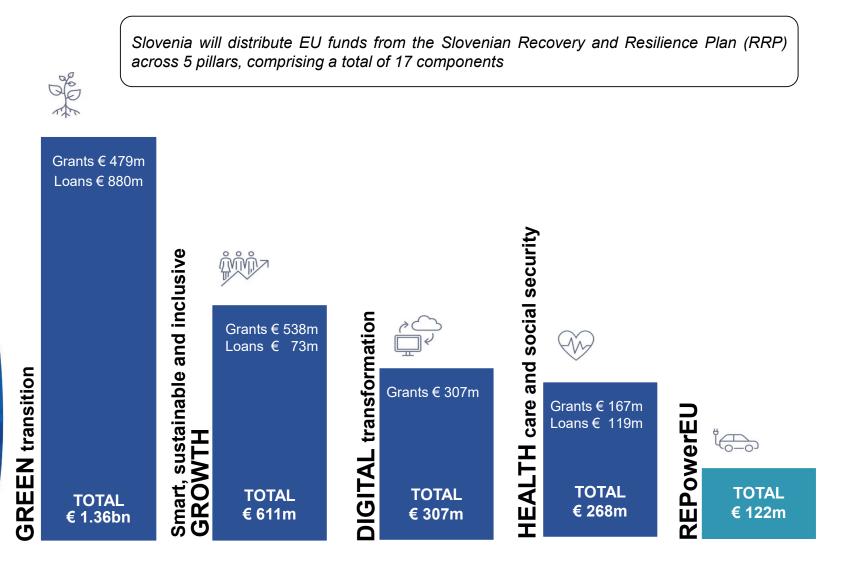


CAP – Common Agricultural Policy, MMF – Multiannual Financial Framework, RRP – Recovery and Resilience Plan

Source: Ministry of Finance, Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Recovery and Resilience, 3.9.2024



## **Recovery and Resilience Plan – EU NGEU**





### **RRP Implementation: Key Investments 2021-2026**

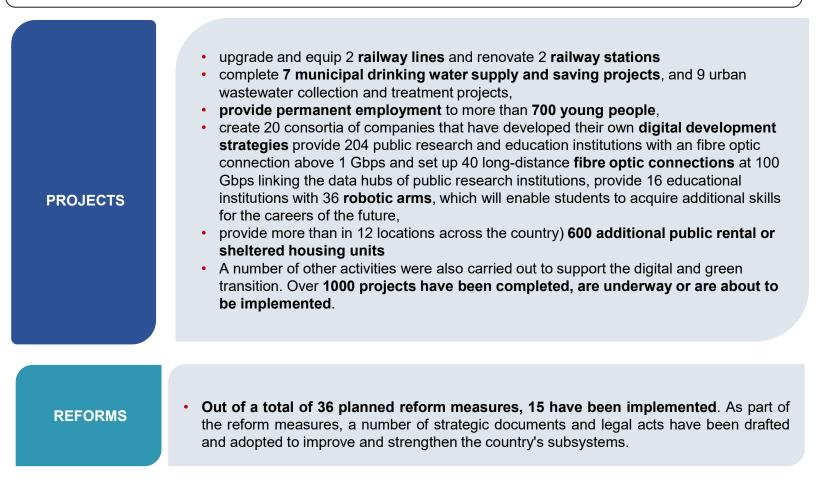
On October 17, 2023, the Council of the EU adopted the amendment to the RRP with the new REPowerEU chapter to accelerate the transition to clean energy, diversifying energy supply and improve energy efficiency

Infrastructure Projects	<ul> <li>Flood safety (€ 265m)</li> <li>Railway infrastructure (€ 701m)</li> <li>Education infrastructure (€ 113m)</li> <li>Electricity distribution network and electricity production from renewable sources (€ 130m)</li> </ul>
Digitalisation Projects	<ul> <li>Digitalisation of education (€ 64m) and health systems (€ 83m)</li> <li>Digitalisation of public sector and public administration (€ 62m)</li> </ul>
Improving Energy Efficiency of Buildings	<ul> <li>Upgrading of clinics for infectious diseases (UKC Maribor and UKC Ljubljana) (€ 70m)</li> <li>Energy renovation of public sector buildings (€ 88m)</li> <li>Construction of public rental housing (€ 60m)</li> <li>Construction of homes for elderly citizens (€ 59m)</li> </ul>
REPowerEU	<ul> <li>Energy efficient restructuring of district heating systems with the use of renewable sources (€ 20m)</li> <li>Energy efficiency and decarbonisation of the economy (€ 42m)</li> <li>Strengthening the electricity distribution network (€ 20m)</li> <li>Promoting the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in transport (€ 40m)</li> </ul>



### Three years of the RRP in figures

Slovenia has submitted three payment requests to date, and the Plan underwent its first transformation last autumn.





### **RRP Milestones & Envisaged Draw Down**

- The government has **submitted** 3 payment requests to Brussels to date, i.e. for 4 instalments of grants and 2 of loans (64 milestones and targets in total).
- Slovenia has to date received EUR 841m, of which EUR 531m of grants and EUR 310m of loans.
- On the other hand, the state budget has already paid half a billion euros to the final recipients or project sponsors for the activities carried out.

205 Milestones & Targets36 Reforms50 Investments	17 Components	TOTAL EUR 2.7bn* EUR 1.61bn in grants* EUR 1.07bn in Ioans
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#### **RRP Envisaged Draw Down**

RRF	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Grants EUR (m)	113.25	117.75	80.75	314.57	484.40	502.80	1,613.52
Loans EUR (m)	0.00	0.00	310.09	116.10	0.00	646.18	1,072.37
Total	113.25	117.75	390.84	430.67	484.40	1,148.98	2,685.89

\* REPowerEU funds in the amount of EUR 122m are included in grants.

Source: Ministry of Finance, Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Recovery and Resilience, 3.9.2024



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## Sustainability Bond Framework Structure



Slovenia's Sustainability Bond Framework is aligned with Green Bond Principles 2021, Social Bond Principles 2021 and the Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2021.

1 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	
Use of Proceeds	<ul> <li>To finance or refinance sustainable projects:</li> <li>Eligible Green Projects (Green Bonds)</li> <li>Eligible Social Projects (Social Bonds)</li> <li>Both Eligible Green and Social Projects (Sustainability Bonds)</li> </ul>
Process for Project Evaluation and Selection	<ul> <li>A Sustainability Bond Working Group has been established to:</li> <li>Evaluate and select Eligible Green and Social Projects,</li> <li>Monitor Eligible Green and Social Projects, and identify replacements as required</li> <li>Approve Annual Allocation Reports,</li> <li>Approve Annual Impact Reports.</li> </ul>
Management of Proceeds	<ul> <li>Ministry of Finance oversees and tracks the allocation of bond proceeds</li> <li>Sustainability Bonds to be allocated to eligible expenditures from the budget year preceding issuance, the budget year of issuance, and the two budget years following issuance</li> </ul>
Reporting	<ul> <li>The Republic of Slovenia is committed to provide two levels of reporting until full allocation:</li> <li>Annual Allocation Report</li> <li>Annual Impact Report</li> </ul>
Framework	<ul> <li>A Sustainability Bond Framework has been published</li> <li>Available on Slovenia's debt management office website (<u>https://www.gov.si/en/topics/investor-relations/</u>)</li> </ul>
External review	<ul> <li>Second Party Opinion – obtained by external opinion provider Morningstar Sustainalytics</li> <li>External verification on post issuance reporting</li> </ul>

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## Sustainability Bond Framework Use of Proceeds



#### **Issuance types**

Slovenia may issue Green, Social and/or Sustainability Bonds, where an amount equal to the net proceeds
will be exclusively used to (re)finance eligible expenditures falling within, respectively, the Eligible Green
categories, the Eligible Social categories, or both the Eligible Green and Social categories

#### Eligible Green categories:

- 1. Low carbon transport
- 2. Energy efficiency
- 3. Sustainable environmental management
- 4. Climate change adaptation

Eligible Social categories:

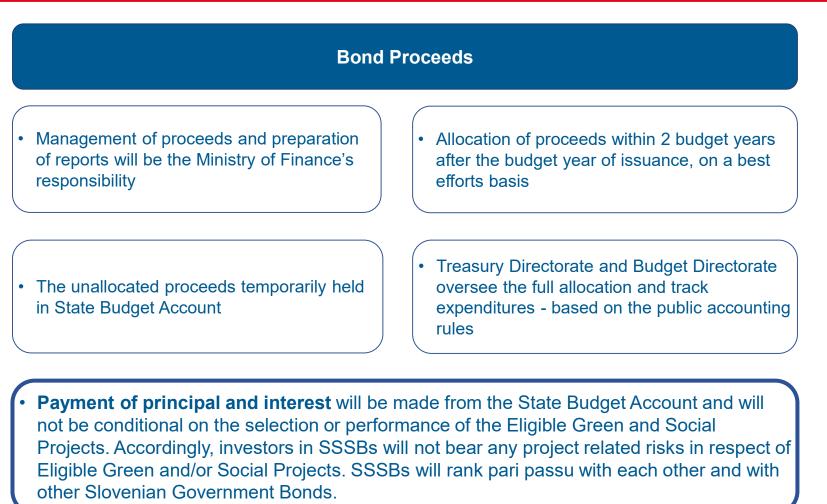
- 1. Access to essential services Education
- 2. Access to essential services Healthcare
- 3. Access to essential services Social inclusion
- 4. Employment generation and socioeconomic advancement and empowerment

#### **Expenditure exclusion criteria**

- Expenditures already financed via a dedicated funding source, in order to avoid any "double counting",
- Expenditures that support or promote the following activities:
  - Burning of fossil fuel for power generation and transportation
  - Rail infrastructure dedicated for transportation of fossil fuels
  - Nuclear power generation
  - Weapons, tobacco, gaming, or palm oil industries.

## Sustainability Bond Framework Management of Proceeds







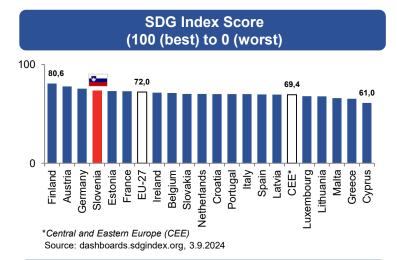
The Slovenian Sovereign Sustainability Bond Framework is credible and impactful and aligns with the Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2021, Green Bond Principles 2021 and Social Bond Principles 2021.

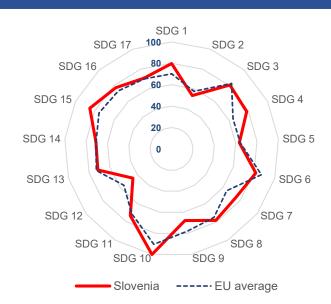


The Framework's four green use of proceeds categories, which map to 12 economic activities in the EU taxonomy, are aligned with the applicable TSC of the EU Taxonomy.



### SDG Dashboards and Trends for Slovenia 2023/24





Average performance by SDG

Overall Performance: **8/34** European countries\* Country score: **73.7** 

#### PEOPLE



\* The Europe Sustainable Development Report 2023/24 is the 5th edition of independent quantitative report on the progress of the European Union, EFTA countries, the UK and candidate countries towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The data work was conducted between August and October 2023.

Source: UNSDSN, Europe Sustainable Development Report 2023/24, 3.9.2024



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#### Details

On 25 July 2024, the Republic of Slovenia has issued the inaugural digital bond. The landmark transaction is the **first such transaction of an EU sovereign**, and one of the first sovereigns worldwide.

Issuance: 25 July 2024 Maturity: 25 November 2024 Nominal size: EUR 30m Coupon: 3.65% p.a.; one full quarterly and one partial quarterly coupon

Issued on private and permissioned **CANTON** blockchain and administered by **BNP Paribas** via proprietary **Neobonds platform**.

- Issued in the context of the ECB wholesale central bank money settlement experimentation program.
- The settlement of the bond was performed onchain with wholesale central bank digital currency through the Banque de France's (BdF) interoperable and tokenized cash solution (DL3S).

#### **Neobonds & CANTON**

- Neobonds is a platform for the issuance, corporate actions and full lifecycle management of securities developed and maintained by BNP Paribas. The functionality of the Neobonds platform brings a different approach to the established practices in custody, trading, settlement and corporate actions of conventional securities.
- BNP Paribas acts as registrar (maintaining the book of holders on the Neobonds DLT platform on behalf of the issuer) and paying agent for this transaction. The DLT Bond will not be registered with a Central Securities Depository.
- **CANTON** is a private permissioned blockchain that allows for native smart contracts written in DAML programming language. There are various access levels and optional privacy of transactions.



#### **Key Takeaways**

- General Government Debt at 68.3% of GDP in 2023, well below the EA-20 average of 88.6% of GDP.
   Estimated at 68.6 % GDP end of 2024.
- In 2024, Slovenia has already provided EUR 2.772bn financing by issuing long-term euro bonds, including JPY50.0bn inaugural dual-tranche Social Samurai bond transaction. Total average weighted issued yield stands at 3.120% with average weighted time to maturity 8.4 years.
- Slovenia has made history by becoming the first European Union member to issue a sovereign digital bond. The landmark issuance in July, valued at 30 million euros, represents a significant advancement in using blockchain technology for sovereign debt instruments.
- Smooth redemption profile, 27.9% of existing State Budget Debt has a residual maturity of more than 10 years.
- Well **diversified investor base** by opting for long-dated bond issuances (pension funds, insurance companies, asset managers, etc...).
- In the Q2 2024, real GDP grew by 0.8% compared to the same period in 2023. According to a flash estimate published by Eurostat, GDP increased by 0.6% y-o-y in the EA-20 and 0.8% in the EU-27.
- The banking system's capital position remained sound and liquidity remained solid (CAR 20.6% and CET1 17.7% in the 1st quarter of 2024).
- Recent severe flooding has highlighted the importance of climate risk mitigation. The Slovenian government has been proactive in implementing measures to manage and mitigate these risks. One year on, functional and climate-resilient reconstruction will continue in accordance with a programme, which provides for measures until 2028.



**Republic of Slovenia** Ministry of Finance

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