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**TUESDAY, 15 OCTOBER**

**National consultation on development cooperation and humanitarian aid: 20 years of building partnerships**

**Opening of the 12th Slovenian Development Days: For a World without Hunger**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA**

**Ljubljana**

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| **Small Hall of the**  **National Assembly** | **National consultation on development cooperation and humanitarian aid: 20 years of building partnerships**  *Over the last 20 years, Slovenia has become a major donor of ODA, reflecting its commitment to sustainable development and poverty reduction in developing countries. This event will provide an opportunity to review Slovenia's achievements as an ODA donor to date and to discuss how to further improve the effectiveness and visibility of Slovenia's work in the international donor community. In this context, the discussion will focus on the recommendations received by Slovenia in the framework of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) peer review of its policies and implementation.* |
| **9:00–9:30** | **Registration and morning networking over coffee** |
| **9:30–9:45**  ***Lobby***  ***Great Hall of the National Assembly*** | **Visit of the exhibition of photographs of food security projects by Slovenian implementing institutions and NGOs**  **Photo opportunity**   * Tanja Fajon, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia * Urška Klakočar Zupančič, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia |
| **9:45–10:15** | **Addresses by:**   * Urška Klakočar Zupančič, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia * Tanja Fajon, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia   **Trends in Slovenian development cooperation and humanitarian aid, recommendations of the OECD DAC Peer Review**  Presentation by Edvin Skrt, Director-General, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs |
| **10:15–11:15** | **Slovenia as a development actor or an observer?**  ***Panel***  *Slovenia is enhancing its role as a donor of ODA by responding swiftly and effectively to humanitarian crises and forging strong partnerships. However, with limited financial resources, it faces challenges in keeping pace with international trends and fulfilling its commitments as a donor. To ensure the effectiveness of its development efforts, Slovenia should bolster multiannual and predictable funding for its partners and allocate sufficient resources to respond promptly to sudden humanitarian needs.*  *How can Slovenia move towards predictable and sustainable financing in light of its commitments to the 2030 Agenda? How should it approach implementing the OECD DAC Recommendation on the urgent need for an Action Plan to gradually increase ODA? Given the availability of adequate financial resources, the panellists will also explore Slovenia's role as a donor - what are its comparative advantages, and in which areas can it distinguish itself with its development expertise? Additionally, how can the private sector be engaged in Slovenia's ODA and climate change initiatives?*  Discussion moderated by: Prof. Dr Mojmir Mrak, School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana  Participants:   * Dr Melita Gabrič, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs * Saša Jazbec, State Secretary, Ministry of Finance * Matevž Frangež, State Secretary, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport * Uroš Vajgl, State Secretary, Ministy of the Environment, Climate and Energy |
| **11:30–13:15**  ***Small Hall of the National Assembly*** | **Slovenia's capacity in establishing partnerships: where, with whom and what it can contribute to global development**  ***Discussion***  Presentations:   * Matevž Raspet, Deloitte Slovenia * Dr Jana Arbeiter, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana   **In response to global development challenges and the need for more effective partnerships: capacity building for practitioners, innovative instruments for development cooperation, networking**  ***Discussion***  Presentations:   * Max Zimani, Director, Sloga Platform * Mitja Mavko, Secretary-General, SID Bank * Jana Repanšek, Director, Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF) |
| **13:15** | **Conclusion with a short summary by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Dr Melita Gabrič** |
| **13:30**  ***Lobby***  ***Small Hall of the National Assembly*** | **Lunch** |

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| **15:00–15:45**  ***ITF* *Enhancing Human Security***  ***Trg republike 3 (ground floor)***  ***Ljubljana*** | **Mine Victims Assistance and Beekeeping: Sweet Results of a Successful Partnership**  ***Round table discussion***  *Beekeeping is an activity that has proven to be an excellent tool for empowering mine victims in post-conflict countries such as Bosnia and Herzegovina. It provides a stable source of income and contributes to the social and economic inclusion of vulnerable groups, including people with disabilities. As it does not require complex technology, beekeeping is suitable for less developed areas with limited resources and can be practiced by both men and women. Funded by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the project successfully combines mine action and food security efforts, providing sustainable solutions to the long-term challenges faced by mine victims.*  Moderator: Ambassador Tomaž Lovrenčič, Director of ITF Enhancing Human Security  Speakers:   * Beritan Hussain, ITF office in Syria * Valentina Cvjetković, Agricultural Institute of Slovenia and Beekeeping Academy of Slovenia * Sabahudin Hodžić, project participant, UDAS Bihać * Nikola Popovič, project participant, UDAS Laktaši * Željko Volaš, President, Organization of Amputees UDAS * Gostimir Radulović, project participant, UDAS Banja Luka   *Organised by: ITF Enhancing Human Security*  *Registration: https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=CEcacIGBkE2ZJkYwHkLhvCL3Ra37RjZJp95NK6ac0-BURTVEVDhEWEw2T0tHTDMwREVSSUVKQlQ1Ui4u&route=shorturl* |

**WEDNESDAY, 16 OCTOBER**

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| **7:30–9:30**  **PREŠEREN SQUARE**  **Ljubljana** | **Awareness-raising campaign with the traditional distribution of the Slovenian edition of the "World's Best News" newspaper**  In cooperation with the SLOGA Platform, the Diplomatic Corps and partner organisations |

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| **8:30–10:00**  **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SLOVENIA**  **Ljubljana** | **Presentation of the Development Cooperation Report 2023 at the meeting of the Committee on Foreign Policy at the National Assembly of Slovenia**   * Tanja Fajon, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia |

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| **16:00–19:00**  **PREŠERNOV TRG**  **Ljubljana**  *(in case of rainy weather, the event will be held at youngCaritas Centre, Poljanska cesta 4, Ljubljana)* | **Slovenian Development Days Festival**  *The Festival aims to raise public awareness of global food security. In addition to music of DJ Simba, there will be workshops, presentations on the work of NGOs in the field of food security, quizzes and debates.*  Programme:  **16:00: Opening of the Festival**   * Edvin Skrt, Director-General, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia * Robert Križanič, President of the Board of SLOGA platform * Peter Tomažič, Secretary General, Slovenian Karitas   **16:30: Joseph Rakotorahalahy with guests (concert)**  **17:00: Workshops and quizzes on food security**  **18:00: Student debate: Let's talk about food security**  *Organised by: SLOGA Platform* |

**THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER**

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| **12:30–13:30**  **Miran Jarc Public Library**  **Novo Mesto** | **Sustainable Development Goals for Change**  ***Opening of the travelling exhibition and roundtable discussion***  *The exhibition showcases projects and best practice examples of Slovenian NGOs responding to the challenges of sustainable development.*  *On the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, the roundtable discussion at the opening of the exhibition will focus on two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – No Poverty (Goal 1) and Zero Hunger (Goal 2).*  Moderator: Nataša Novak, SLOGA Platform  Speakers:   * Max Zimani, Director, SLOGA Platform * Branka Bukovec, Chairman, Association for Developing Voluntary Work Novo Mesto * Lukáš Zorád, Programme Director at Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia * Albin Keuc, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia   *Organised by: SLOGA Platform* |

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| **11:00–13:00**  **EPEKA**  **Tyrševa 15, Maribor** | **Food Self-Sufficiency in the Context of Housing Cooperatives - Planting spices and herbs in raised beds**  ***Workshop***  *Workshop by Lucija Kinkel, master in horticulture from Plantella, will teach how to properly design and build a raised bed and provide practical tips on how to care for and maintain raised beds and crops throughout the year.*  *Organised by: EPEKA* |
| **15:00–16:30**  **Eurostars uHotel**  ***Salon Orhideja***  **Miklošičeva 3, *Ljubljana*** | **Slovenia's role in global development: Do we know what international development aid means for Slovenia?**  ***Round table discussion***  *The discussion will highlight the benefits of development aid for Slovenia, including the improvement of global security and the enhancement of Slovenia's international reputation. It will also highlight the importance of private sector involvement, Slovenia's cooperation with international partners and public awareness of the importance of international development cooperation.*  Moderator: Prof. Dr Maja Bučar, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana  Speakers:   * Matevž Frangež, State Secretary, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport of Slovenia * Urška Cvelbar, Director-General, Financial System Directorate, Ministry of Finance of Slovenia * Edvin Skrt, Director-General, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia * Dejan Prešiček, Director, Centre for International Cooperation and Development (CMSR) * Jelka Klemenc, Centre for European Perspective (CEP)   *Organised by: CMSR in cooperation with CEP*  *Registration: https://form.jotform.com/242803477618059* |

**FRIDAY, 18 OCTOBER**

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| **8:30–9:30**  ***Regional Chamber of Craft and Small Business Ljubljana - Vič***  ***Tržaška 207***  ***Ljubljana*** | **Involvement of Companies in International Sustainable Development Projects and Humanitarian Aid Projects with NGOs**  ***Entrepreneurs' Breakfast***  *The event will present best practice examples of cooperation between Slovenian companies and NGOs in projects in sub-Saharan Africa, the Western Balkans and other parts of the world: how companies can get involved (e.g. transfer of skills, technology, etc.), what benefits they can gain from such cooperation (e.g. publicity, opportunities to access new markets, etc.), while at the same time expressing their social responsibility. By participating in such projects, companies can also contribute to the food security of the most vulnerable. The final part of the event will offer an opportunity for discussion and networking over refreshments.*  Moderator: Peter Tomažič: Secretary General, Caritas Slovenia  Speakers:   * Edvin Skrt, Director-General, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs * Marko Štirn, Damahaus prestige d.o.o. (Rwanda project) * Eva Ivačič, GeoCodis, Information Systems d.o.o. (projects Rwanda and South Sudan) * Darja Sekula Krstič, FER – Forum for Equitable Development * Jana Lampe, Caritas Slovenia   *Organised by: Caritas Slovenia*  *Registration:* [*https://forms.gle/oadn7NsceQptpJUJ9*](https://forms.gle/oadn7NsceQptpJUJ9) |

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| **10:00–11:30**  ***Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF)***  ***Cankarjeva 18***  ***Ljubljana*** | **Learning and Knowledge Management for Effective, Accountable and Open Public Institutions**  ***Panel discussion***  *In an era of constant change, and in the face of the challenges of climate change, economic uncertainty, ageing populations and staff turnover, investing in knowledge has become crucial. Only public institutions that invest in the knowledge and skills of their employees can contribute to a prosperous economy and a just society. Such public institutions are called learning organisations.*  *The debate will be an opportunity to present examples of best practice and the importance of investing in lifelong learning in public institutions. Lifelong learning is essential for organisational culture and development.*  *We support the development and networking of those key actors in Slovenia who believe that inward investment (employees) strengthens outward links (partnerships and learning communities). Such partnerships can also be international partnerships in the framework of Slovenia's development cooperation with partner countries.*  Moderator: Ajda Turk, Leadership and Learning Ecosystems, CEF  Speakers:   * Edvin Skrt, Director-General, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs * Mojca Pirnat, Director-General, Budget Directorate, Ministry of Finance * Peter Pogačar, Director-General, Public Sector Directorate, Ministry of Public Administration * dr. Vlado Dimovski, Department of Management and Organization, School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana * Ivana Nedižavec Korada, Deputy Director, Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF)   *Organised by: CEF Registration: https://cef-see.org/apply?id=7589* |

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| **11:00–19:00**  ***Ljubljana marketplace*** | **Open Kitchen (*Odprta kuhna*): For a World without Hunger**  **Raising awareness about reducing food consumption, managing waste and food waste, cooking workshops and promoting responsible food consumption**   * Live cooking - making tasty dishes from food leftovers * "Living Library" with experts on food security * Quiz with prizes   *In cooperation with SLOGA Platform* |

**MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER**

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| **10:00–12:00**  ***Edvard***  ***Igriška 5***  ***Ljubljana*** | **Food Security – Enough Food for Everyone!**  ***Roundtable***  *In an era overshadowed by climate change, economic challenges and geopolitical tensions, ensuring sufficient and quality food is one of the most important issues for the future of humanity. The "Food Security - Enough for Everyone!" roundtable will discuss key challenges and opportunities for food security at local and global levels. The event will bring together experts, academics, NGO representatives and other stakeholders for an in-depth discussion on complex food security issues, strengthening international cooperation and sharing best practices.*  Moderator: Živa Kavka Gobbo, Chair of the association Focus  Video presentation of the project Beekeepers as carriers of positive changes in Zambia:   * Kennedy Habasimbi, Director, ADRA Zambia   Speakers:   * Liam Wegimont, Executive Director, GENE - *Global Education Network Europe* * Dr Žiga Malek, Researcher, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana * Lidija Lipič Berlec, EU Coordination and International Affairs Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food * Uroš Brezovšek, Vice President, Slovenian Association of Friends of Youth * Dr. Mensah Cocou Marius, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Maribor   **After the event, the World's Best News newspaper will be distributed in front of the hall.**  *Organised by: SLOGA Platform* |

**TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER**

**12th Slovenian Development Days and 2nd Slovenian Humanitarian Forum: For a World without Hunger**

***High-level international conference***

**CENTER ROG**

**Ljubljana**

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| **9:30–10:30** | **Registration and morning networking over coffee** |
| **10.30–11.00** | **Opening of the 2nd Slovenian Humanitarian Forum: For a World without Hunger**  **Opening address: Dr Nataša Pirc Musar, President of the Republic of Slovenia and Honorary Patron of the 2nd Slovenian Humanitarian Forum**  **Presentation of awards to the winners of the "For a World Without Hunger" student contest**  **The signing of the Declaration of Commitment of the Republic of Slovenia to join the School Meals Coalition** |
| **11:00–12:30** | **The Vicious Circle Between Armed Conflict and the Food Crisis**  ***High-level panel***  *After decades of progress in food security, hunger and malnutrition are on the rise. The vicious circle of armed conflict remains a major cause. Humanitarian aid in conflict zones is crucial to prevent the worst consequences of a food crisis – but how can we ensure that aid reaches those in need?*  *In 2018, the UN Security Council established a mechanism to sound the alarm in cases of conflict-induced famine, known as the White Note. Since then, the Security Council has responded to such an alert seven times, twice during Slovenia's membership of the Security Council – for Sudan and for Gaza. Both are clearly a final warning before certain catastrophe. The year 2024 is a stark reminder that in their quest for military dominance, parties to conflicts still resort to means prohibited by international humanitarian law to achieve their goals, including the starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare.*  *Conflicts, often accompanied by economic shocks and severe climate crises, lead to the destruction and degradation of farmland, food production and distribution infrastructure and water systems. Violations of international humanitarian law by parties to conflicts, such as attacks on food storage and production systems, obstruction of humanitarian access, attacks on humanitarian workers and disruption of their activities, both cause and exacerbate hunger among civilians. The impact lingers long after a conflict has ended, as farmland remains contaminated by unexploded ordnance. It is essential that the response to food crises goes beyond material aid in food. The conditions must be in place to increase food security, strengthen local agriculture and build the resilience of local communities. Addressing the root causes of crises in an integrated and timely manner must ensure an effective response from the humanitarian community.* |
|  | *Food security is one of the priorities of Slovenian humanitarian aid. As a signatory to the Food Assistance Convention, Slovenia allocates part of its humanitarian activities to food security every year. Since 2021, it has increased its funding for food security by a factor of six. Our first and most urgent response to crisis situations is provided through the Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief and through our strategic partner Caritas Slovenia, which has provided food to Ethiopia, Haiti, Malawi, Morocco and Ukraine in 2021–2023. Contributions to international humanitarian organisations and their teams on the ground, which are often the only hope for the affected populations, are an important part of the aid. Slovenia has entered into a partnership with the ICRC, which ensures predictability of humanitarian contributions and strengthens professional cooperation. It is strengthening its partnership with the WFP, the UN's specialised food aid agency*.  *So how do we ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access in crisis situations and protect critical civilian infrastructure? How do we support the work of organisations and humanitarian workers on the ground? And how can we create safe conditions for food production, including through humanitarian demining and effective management of arable land and water resources? Above all, how can food security be better integrated into conflict prevention and peacebuilding frameworks?* |
|  | Moderator: Ervin Hladnik Milharčič, journalist, writer and translator  *Speakers:*   * Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, Tanja Fajon **–** confirmed * Carl Skau, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the World Food Programme (WFP) **–** confirmed * Philippe Lazzarini, Commissioner-General, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) **–** confirmed * Catherine Russell, Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) * Mirjana Spoljaric, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) * Maciej Popowski Director General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, European Commission * Chimwemwe Nyambose Ndhlovu, Secretary General, Caritas Malawi **–** confirmed |
| **12:30–14:00** | **Lunch** |

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| **14:00–15:30** | **Introductory remarks: Urška Klakočar Zupančič, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia**  **Food Security and Building Sustainable Food Systems**  ***High-level panel***  *Food security is one of the key challenges of our time. The main causes of growing food insecurity include the geopolitical impacts that the international community has faced over the last decade – the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic crises, conflicts (in particular the Russian aggression against Ukraine) and climate change.*  *As a result of more frequent climate shocks, many communities are facing the loss of conditions for their primary activities (agriculture, livestock farming), affecting the food security of these societies. The response to these challenges lies in supporting partner countries to build resilient and sustainable food systems, including by strengthening self-sufficiency and locally produced food. Quality and healthy food, short supply chains, resilient societies and sustainable solutions must be ensured. Small-scale farmers, who make up 85% of the world's farms and face difficulties in accessing finance, have an important role to play.*  *The global and local transition to sustainable food systems requires a coordinated and holistic approach and a collective response. The global School Meals Coalition, launched at the Food Systems Summit 2021, is an exemplary case of long-term investment in human development. Its comprehensive approach, which includes nutrition, education, health and social security for the well-being of children, brings together humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts.*    *Supporting and empowering vulnerable communities and groups provides new sources of income and food, for example through training in beekeeping, sustainable agriculture, and water and forest management. Slovenia is working with the World Food Programme (WFP) and with Slovenian and local partners on an innovative project in Kenya focusing on climate change adaptation through pollinators.*  *What are the main challenges in transforming food systems and what is the role of UN agencies? How can we achieve a world without hunger and can Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) be achieved by 2030? Which regions are most vulnerable and how can we help them? How has the volatility of food prices in recent years affected food security and what is the likely trend for the future? How can the humanitarian aid – development (food security aspect) – peace nexus be ensured? What are examples of best practice in ensuring food security?* |
|  | Moderator: Nataša Briški, editor and journalist  *Speakers:*   * Carsten Staur, Chair of the Development Assistance Committee, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD DAC) **–** confirmed * Ms. Yulia Svyrydenko First Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine Minister of Economy of Ukraine * Tatiana Molcean, Executive Secretary, United nations economic commission for Europe (UNECE) **–** confirmed * Rilli Lappalainen,President of CONCORD, European Confederation of NGOs working on sustainable development and international cooperation **–** confirmed * Dr Melita Gabrič, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs **–** confirmed |
| **15:30** | **12th Slovenian Development Days closing address**   * **Dr Melita Gabrič, State Secretary in the capacity of Minister for Development, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs** |