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 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

**Contact point:**
Secretariat of GEF
Slovak Environmental Agency
Tajovskeho 28
975 90 Banska Bystrica, Slovakia
E-mail: zvf@sazp.sk
Tel.: 048/ 4374 197
Tel.: 048/ 4374 177