

URBAN AND RURAL ENVIRONMENT

• SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION AND FUNCTIONAL USE OF TERRITORY

Key questions and key findings

What are the trends in demographic development and urbanisation?

- In 2012, natural increase of population reduced significantly. Changes from year to year did not produce any deviations in already started demographic trends that have resulted, over the last 10 years, in reduced live birth rates and positive mortality trend. This has impacted the process of ageing significantly. Slovak population is ageing at an increasing speed. Compared the year 2012 to the demographic trend in 1993, the year 2012 has been characteristic for higher average age if men and women, as well as the average life expectancy at birth. From the perspective of urbanisation, proportion of urban population in Slovakia declined from 56.8% in 1991 to 56.2% in 2000, and further to 54.3% in 2012.

What is the trend in the structure of lots and surfaces in Slovakia?

- Within the process of surface structure development in Slovakia, there is a natural shift in soil types between agricultural land types and forest land, with the year 2012 being characteristic for further loss of agricultural and arable land types and increasing forest land.

Settlement and demographic trend

As of **December 31, 2012**, there were **5 410 838 inhabitants** in Slovakia, of whom 51.3% were women. In 2012, there was a significant decline in the natural increase of population, reaching the value of **3 098**, which was by 5 812 people less than in 2011. Slovakia gained 3 416 persons through international migration, which is 450 persons more than in the previous year. **Total increment** in population reached **6 514 persons**, which is 5 326 less than in 2011.

In 2012, no major changes between individual years occurred in Slovakia's demographic trend. Slovak population is continues ageing at an increasing speed.

Basic data about the migration of population in the SR (2012)

Territory	Live births	Dead	Natural increment (loss)	Migration increment (loss)	Total increment (loss)	Number of inhabitants
Bratislavský region	7 518	5 747	1 771	4 374	6 145	612 682
Trnavský region	5 273	5 443	-170	1 238	1 068	556 577
Trenčiansky region	5 145	5 771	-626	-401	-1 027	593 159
Nitriansky region	6 004	7 687	-1 683	519	-1 164	688 400
Žilinský region	7 208	6 469	739	-219	520	690 121
Banskobystrický region	6 022	7 008	-986	-652	-1 638	658 490
Prešovský region	9 501	6 863	2 638	-1 062	1 576	817 382
Košický region	8 864	7 449	1 415	-381	1 034	794 025
Slovak Republic	55 535	52 437	3 098	3 416	6 514	5 410 836

Source: SO SR

Of all the regions, most inhabitants live in the Prešovský region, least in the Trnavský region.

Structure of the settlement in the SR (2012)

Territory	Area (km ²)	Number of inhabitants per km ²	Number of independent municipalities	Average number of inhabitants per municipalities	Urbanization level (%)	
					Urban area	Rural area
Bratislavský region	2 052.6	298.5	73	8 392.9	81.0	19.0
Trnavský region	4 146.4	134.2	251	2 217.4	47.6	52.4
Trenčiansky region	4 502.0	131.8	276	2 149.1	56.2	43.8
Nitriansky region	6 343.8	108.5	354	1 944.6	46.0	54.0
Žilinský region	6 808.6	101.4	315	2 190.9	49.3	50.7
Banskobystrický region	9 454.3	69.6	516	1 276.1	53.3	46.7
Prešovský region	8 973.4	91.1	665	1 229.1	47.8	52.2
Košický region	6 754.5	117.6	440	1 804.6	56.1	43.9
Slovak Republic	49 035.6	110.3	2 890	1 872.3	54.3	45.7

Source: SO SR

Index trend in the SR area structure

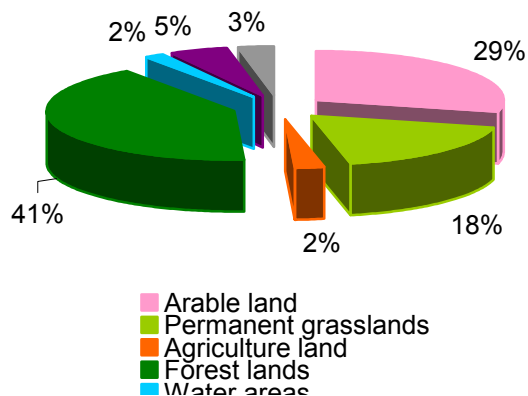
Trend in the structure of lands of Slovakia in 2012 was affected by further **loss of agricultural land types and arable land types**, giving way to forest land, non-agricultural, and non-forested land types, and by growth in forest land. Loss of agricultural land in 2012 (-4 841 ha) when compared with 2011 (-3 479 ha) is smaller by 1 362 ha. Loss of arable land in 2012 (-1 914 ha) when compared with 2011 (-980 ha) is greater by 934 ha. Increment of forest land in 2012 (1 723 ha) when compared with 2011 (1 086 ha) is greater by 637 ha.

 Overall land categories to 31st December 2012 (ha)

Region	Arable land	Hop-field	Vineyard	Gardens	Orchards	Permanent grasslands	Agricul. land	Forest lands	Water areas	Built-up areas	Other areas	Total area
BA	72 553	.	4 504	4 587	781	9 236	91 661	75 121	5 820	16 434	16 228	205 263
TT	259 583	126	4 189	8 354	2 462	14 822	289 537	65 249	15 773	28 979	15 102	414 639
TN	97 298	352	83	8 120	2 524	75 287	183 665	221 776	6 374	23 761	14 622	450 197
NR	405 478	37	11 914	14 108	4 900	30 369	466 805	96 613	15 735	38 099	17 127	634 379
ZA	60 701	.	.	6 044	395	176 851	243 990	380 648	12 816	25 783	17 622	680 859
BB	165 516	.	3 324	11 032	1 848	232 239	413 959	464 487	7 988	33 552	25 445	945 431
PR	148 691	.	23	10 820	1 926	219 434	380 895	442 159	13 932	31 838	28 514	897 337
KE	203 918	.	2 926	13 504	2 024	113 086	335 458	268 007	16 328	34 155	21 503	675 451
Spolu	1 413 739	515	26 964	76 568	16 861	871 324	2 405 971	2 014 059	94 764	232 599	156 163	4 903 557

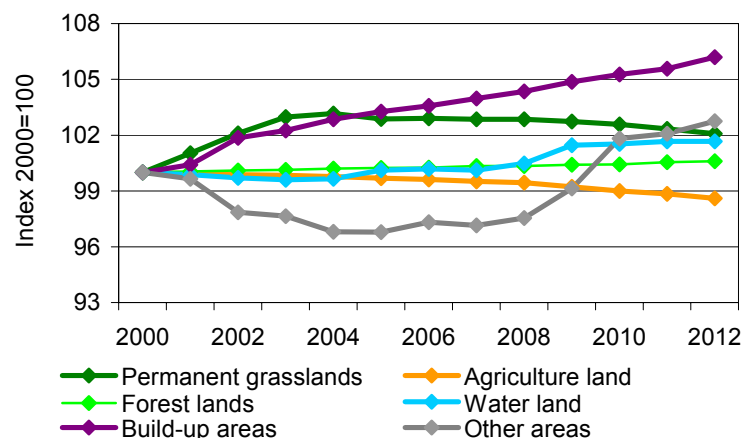
Source: IGCC SR

Areas structure in the SR (2012)



Source: IGCC SR

Index trend in areas structure of SR



Source: IGCC SR

Spatial planning

The process of updating the **Regional Development Strategy of Slovakia 2001** (KURS 2001) pursuant to Act 50/1976 Coll. on physical planning and construction code (the Building Act) as amended was terminated in 2010.

All local governments at **the regional level** validated their physical plans that are updated on an ongoing basis, in accordance with the provisions of the Building Act.

Every year, since 2006, the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic has been supporting municipalities through subsidies for drafting their physical planning documentation pursuant to Act 226/2011 Coll. on subsidizing the process of creation of the physical planning documentation.

Following are the municipalities that receive **the subsidy**:

- 2006 total 1 mil. SKK (33 194 EUR) 7 municipalities
- 2007 total 1.9 mil. SKK (63 068 EUR) 16 municipalities
- 2008 total 7 mil. SKK (232 357 EUR) 32 municipalities
- 2009 total 7 mil. SKK (232 357 EUR) 36 municipalities
- 2010 total 170 000 EUR 24 municipalities
- 2011 total 364 267 EUR 45 municipalities
- 2012 total 468 398 EUR 103 municipalities.

• RURAL ENVIRONMENT

Key questions and key findings

How has the care for the rural environment been ensured?

- Of all residential units in Slovakia, 95.2% are villages, with 45.7% of inhabitants living in the country.
- In 2012, 15th cycle of the Village Renewal Programme was implemented. Subsidies were given as part of the Programme, in the sum of 459 377.38 Euro for 122 subjects. The village of Oravská Lesná, winner of the Village of the Year national competition in 2011, represented Slovakia at The European Village Renewal Award competition in 2012. The village of Oravská Lesná made a very good impression and left with the European Village Renewal Prize for exceptional performance in individual areas of village renewal.

Care of the rural environment

Four fifths of the EU territory is characterised as rural landscape typical for food production and its role as the regional culture creating agent. Rural environment represents ecological and historical-cultural qualities of the environment.

The existing natural conditions predispose Slovakia to having a part of its population connected to the rural environment. Of 2 890 residential units, 2 752 are villages, i.e. 95.2%, and 138 are cities and towns, i.e. 4.8%. Proportion in the number of urban to rural inhabitants is 54.3% to 45.7%.

◆ Village Renewal Programme

Village Renewal Program (VRP), over fifteen years of its existence showed, that is one of the popular and successful instruments for rural development in developed European countries. Countries and regions that are part of the European working community for village renewal and rural development (with headquarters in Vienna) have been applying this instrument for more than 20 years. **Slovakia** has been a member of this community through its Ministry of Environment since 1997, and has been implementing this Program since 1998.

The VRP builds on the process of awareness raising and promotion in the area of renewal of tangible, natural, and spiritual environment as it relates to programming and planning processes, and on monitoring the interest of villages, as well as on positive examples of implementation with the aim of their further spreading through the Village Renewal School approach. Slovak Environment Agency at performing its statutory activities under Resolution 222/1997, carries out the mentioned activities. The agency has been commissioned to administer the whole programme (processing applications, formal control, communication with the applicants, financial accounting), evaluate project applications, organize a national competition called The Village of the Year, and officially represent the Ministry of Environment in international bodies.

The VRP includes both, indirect support as well as funding from the State. In 2012, VRP support reached the total value of **459 377.38 EUR**. Additional titles were adjusted so they take into consideration the interests of the Ministry of environment.

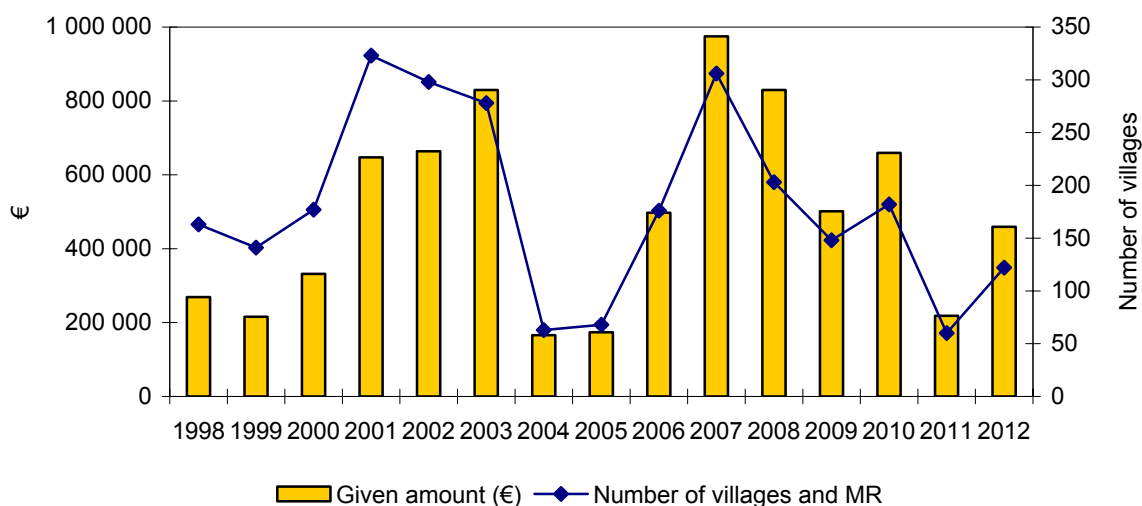
Total overview of allocating the subsidies in 2012

C8/ project documentations		C9/ small realizations		C10/ promotional, awareness-raising, and educational activities		Combined criteria		Total all subsidy categories	
Number of villages and MR*	Given amount (€)	Number of villages and MR*	Given amount (€)	Number of villages and MR*	Given amount (€)	Number of villages and MR*	Given amount (€)	Number of villages and MR*	Given amount (€)
17	65 280	62	219 817,38	9	45 480	34	128 800	122	459 377.38

MR* – micro-regions

Source: SEA

Trend of allocating the subsidies to VRP



Source: SEA

Total average subsidy per 1 applicant was **3 765 EUR**, while the % of approved applications reached the value of **24.2%**.

◆ The Village of the Year competition

Every two years since 1990, European Working Community for Rural Development and Village Renewal organises a competition for the "**European Award for Village Renewal**". For the first time ever, in 2002, Slovakia sent its representative – winner of the national competition called „**Village of the Year**“. It was the Soblahov village from the district of Trenčín, in 2004 it was the village of Hrušov in the district of Veľký Krtíš as the winner of the Village of the Year competition in 2003, in 2006 it was the village of Vlachovo in the district of Rožňava as the Village o the Year 2005, in 2008 it was the village of Liptovská Teplička in the district of Poprad as the Village of the Year 2007, in 2010 it was the village of Dobrá Niva, in the district of Zvolen as the Village of the Year 2009, and in 2012 it was the village of Oravská Lesná as the Village of the Year Dedina 2011.

The competition was declared by the Slovak Ministry of Environment, the Slovak Environment Agency, Society of the Renewal of Village, and the Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia.

In 2012, the European Village Renewal Award was titled **On the track to the future** and hosted 29 European villages. The winner was a Swiss village called Vals, from the region of Graubünden. The village of Oravská Lesná made a very good impression and left with the "European Village Renewal Award for exceptional performance in individual village renewal areas".

• URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Key questions and key findings

How has the care for the urban environment been ensured?

- In 2012, 54.3% of inhabitants lived in 138 towns and cities. The rest of the population lived in 2 752 villages. Environmental challenges have been mainly present in the cities, with a growing intensity from year to year. Cities and towns address the issue of environmental quality by implementing different strategies, programmes, and initiatives.
- In 2012, resolutions adopted at the 23rd session of the Steering Committee of the UN Habitat Programme in 2011 were gradually implemented into the strategies of individual signatory states. Resolutions have also been implemented for the Slovak Republic as one of the UN Habitat signatories.

What is trend in the size of public green spaces in the Slovak Republic?

- In 2011, the size of public green spaces in the Slovak Republic was 11 621 ha, which is 22 m² per capita. Compared to 1996, the trend suggests an increase by 532 ha (4.8%), while over the middle-term perspective (since 2000) the increase has been by 421 ha (3.8%). From year to year, there has been an increase in public green spaces by 141 ha following after the previous decline. On the contrary, proportion of park green spaces declined from a long-term perspective, while it grew again compared to 2010. Size of green area per capita has not changed over an extended time period or rose only by as little as 5%.

Care of the urban environment

Inhabitants in towns and cities are forced to face more and more the consequences of deteriorated and even damaged environment, and these consequences impact their health. To help the cities and towns, the EC prepared a number of strategies and initiatives that look for the solution to environmental issues existing at the regional and local levels.

Slovak cities and towns as part of the EU programming period were building the environmental infrastructure especially through the **Operation Programme of Environment**. Cities and towns had the possibility to participate in different initiatives for the support and protection of the environment, such as:

- **URBACT II**. with the goal to support cooperation in the area of urban development and strengthen the exchange of experience between European cities, in line with the Lisbon strategy.
- The **CIVITAS** initiative (since 2000) that supports the cities and towns from the funds of the framework programme for research and development and development and support of project funding focusing on environmental objectives, power industry, more effectiveness and more ecology friendly municipal transport.

- **Smart Cities** with the objective to encourage willing and able cities and towns to test new technologies and innovative solutions. It includes strengthening their competitive position to become more and more attractive for investors and professionals.
- **JESSICA** is a special assistance tool created to strengthen the efficiency of national and European sources for funding urban development and infrastructure through project support.

At the same time, Slovak towns and cities became involved in **European competitions and initiatives:**

- European Green Capital (Bratislava)
- European Capital of Biodiversity (Kremnica - capital of biodiversity of 2011, other cities include Prievidza, Zvolen, Trnava, Zábiedovo, Prešov)
- European Mobility Week (13 Slovak cities participated in 2012)

◆ UN Habitat

International initiative in the area of **promoting the quality of urban living** is **The UN programme for human settlements - UN Habitat**, with the mandate by the General Assembly to support the social and environment sustainable urban development with the goal to create an adequate shelter for all.

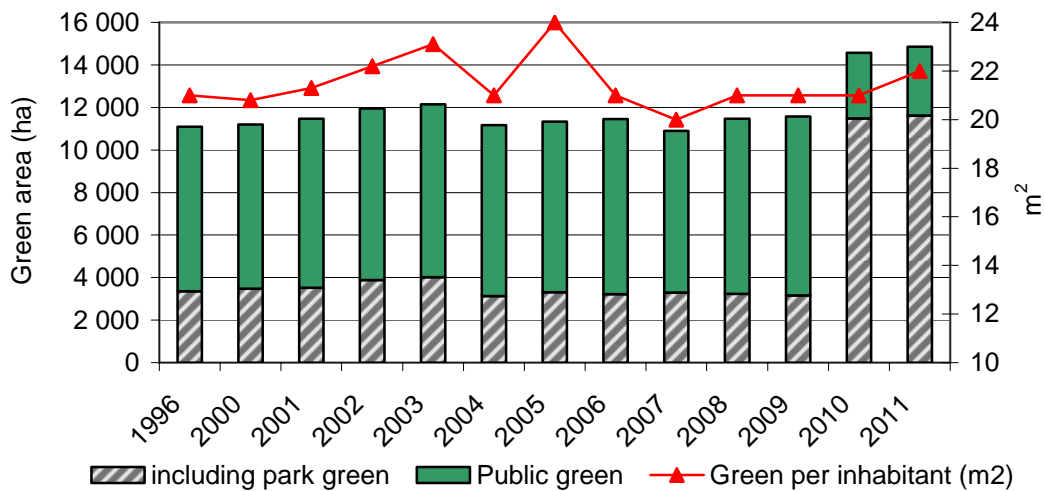
Slovakia has been actively participating in the UN HABITAT programme on the basis of its active registration. As a consequence of this, the country is obliged to transpose resolutions adopted at the steering committee sessions. Adopted resolutions will be included into **National Action Plan for the Development of Settlements and Housing in the Slovak Republic** and compliance is to be regularly assessed every two years.

Green in residential areas

Green in residential areas is considered the most effective, spatial, protective, healing, and decorative element. Basic **functions of municipal green areas** include the **hygienic-health** function (*decreasing the temperature, creating shades through tree foliages, increasing their humidity, decreasing the wind speed, filtration impacts of the greenery, reduction in noise level in the urban environment*). Greenery plays also other important functions, among them for example psychological, aesthetic, recreational and other.

As of **2011**, size of green areas in towns and villages in Slovakia was **11 621 ha**, which is 141 ha more than in 2010. Of this, park green was 27.8%. Share of public green per one inhabitant was **22 m²**. Greatest size of public green spaces exists in the Nitra region, (also when calculated per capita), while the least number of public green spaces is in the Žilina region. Compared to 2010, size of public green spaces grew most in the Trnava region. On the contrary, the size has been declining in the Košice region and mostly in the region of Banská Bystrica.

Trend of public green spaces in the SR



Source: SO SR

• VALUE DIFFERENTIATION, LANDSCAPE PROTECTION AND CREATION

Key questions and key findings

How is the landscape protection and creation and its values ensured?

- In 2012, the second annual **Award of the Slovak Republic for Landscape** took place. The awarded subject was **Čiernohorská železnica n.o. /Čiernohorská railway non-government association/** with the winning project of **Rescue, renovation and operation of Čiernohorská railway in Čierny Balog.**
- Slovakia became the **presiding country** of the **Carpathian Convention** in 2011. In 2012, the country took part in the implementation of adopted protocols under the Convention through the committee for implementation of the Convention and through individual working groups. Works on the preparation of the Protocol on sustainable transport and relating infrastructure started. The works also involved preparatory activities for the 2. Carpathian Network of Protected Areas Conference (CNPA) in 2013 in Slovakia. Preparatory works also started regarding Strategy to the Protocol on sustainable tourism and Strategy to the Protocol on sustainable forest management. Representatives of pertinent ministries and regions of Slovakia and Austria signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the protection of the Alpine-Carpathian corridor.
- There has been observed a long-term **increase in the number of national monuments** (by 31.2% compared to 1993, by 21.4% compared to 2000 and by 2.1% compared to the previous year) with a dominant share of architectural monuments. Share of the state as **the owner of these monuments** gradually declined from 23% in 1993 to 15% in 2000, and to 9.2% in 2012. However, it grew by 0.2% compared to the previous year. **Construction and technical state** of these monuments have partly been stabilised thanks to grant schemes, with almost 70% of all monuments being in satisfactory conditions in 2012.
- Slovakia has been taking part on the protection of **the world heritage** under the Convention concerning the protection of the world culture and natural heritage assisted by UNESCO, with **seven sites in Slovakia** being added to the World Heritage List to 2012.
- As of 2012, there were **3 managed territories of national geoparks**: the geopark of Banská Bystrica, the geopark of Banská Štiavnica, and the Novohradský geopark. **Activities of expert group** started and the Slovak Government **approved the Report on the implementation of the Slovak Geoparks Strategy.**

Value differentiation of landscape and landscape diversity

Pursuant to the European Landscape Convention (ELC), **preservation of diversity of the European countries** as values of the common natural and cultural heritage has been a significant need for the whole of Europe. Current European trends have focused on **value-significant landscape properties** and the preservation of those characteristic landscape features that represent them and are the result of the natural and historical development.

In order to carry out the European Landscape Convention (ELC) implementation, the signatory countries bound themselves to **analyse their own landscape types** on their whole territory, analyse their characteristics, record their changes, specify the driving forces and pressures that form them,

and assess the selected types with regard to their specific values assigned to them by the involved parties and the public.

Goal of the **landscape typology of Slovakia** under the ELC is to identify mutual relations between the natural, cultural, historic, and socio-economic conditions, and to strengthen conservation of biodiversity of Slovakian landscape types.

In terms of methodology of assessment of Slovakia, approval of the **Methodology of identification and assessment of the landscape characteristics** is becoming an important landmark.

In order to **preserve landscape values**, it is necessary to provide complex and regular **landscape conservation**. In this respect, there exists a need to revise Act No. 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection.

European Landscape Convention

European Landscape Convention (ELC) as the Council of Europe's Convention **focuses on landscape protection, management, landscape planning, and organisation of European cooperation in this area**. The Convention was signed in Slovakia on May 30, 2005, its ratification took place on August 9, 2005. **The Convention became effective in Slovakia on December 1, 2005**. By signing the European Landscape Convention, the member states instituted a tool that focuses on securing a sustainable development based on balanced and harmonic relationships between social partners, economic activities, and the environment.

Slovak Ministry of Environment is the competent authority to coordinate, ensure compliance with obligations, and coordinate cooperation with other affected resorts within the ELC implementation in Slovakia. **Slovak Environment Agency is the executive body** of the Slovak Ministry of Environment within the process of the Convention's implementation.

Assessment of implementation of the European Landscape Convention in 2012

Slovakia took part in the award-winning process of the **Award of the Slovak Republic for Landscape** first time in 2010 as a signatory of the ECL. **In 2012, the second annual** award giving ceremony of the Award took place, nominating projects submitted by four subjects. The **award winner** was **Čiernohorská železnica n.o.** /*Čiernohorská railway, non-government organisation*/ with the project: **Rescue, renovation and operation of Čiernohorská railway in Čierny Balog**. By giving this award, the professional evaluation committee hailed the return of the people back to the landscape through the restoration of technical infrastructure within the landscape, giving back the identity to the region of Čierny Balog, and preserving its cultural heritage. The award-winning project was subsequently nominated by the permanent representation of the Slovak Republic to the Council of Europe for the Council of Europe Award for Landscape in 2013.

Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Carpathians (so-called **Carpathian Convention**) was adopted and signed by seven central-European and eastern-European countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovakia, and Ukraine) in May of 2003 in Kiev and became effective in 2006. **The Convention's objective** is to secure cooperation between individual parties to the convention, as well as a comprehensive approach to sustainable development of the Carpathians.

In 2012, Slovakia took part in the **implementation** of adopted **protocols** under the Carpathian Convention through the implementation committee to the Convention as well as through individual working groups - mainly the Working Group for the protection of sustainable development of biological and landscape diversity, Working Group on adaptation to climate change, Working Group on sustainable forest management, and Working Group on sustainable industry, energy, transport, and infrastructure.

Slovakia registered within the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas **21 "large-size" protected areas** (9 national parks, 12 protected landscape areas) and other more than 40 protected areas above 100 ha. A number of protected areas organized events to commemorate the Day of Carpathian Parks. Slovakia is also the coordinator of the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative (CWI)

Monument fund

In 2012, there was again a slight increase in total number of immovable (and movable) cultural monuments, compared to 2011.

Trend in the structure of immovable national cultural monuments (NCM) by types

Categorization of immovable NCM*	1993	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012
Architectural monuments	6 999	7 515	7 738	8 408	8 927	9 073
Archaeological monuments	344	340	360	407	408	464
Historical monuments	1 478	1 397	1 386	1 399	1 164	1 214
Historical gardens and parks	320	333	340	382	409	444
Folk architecture monuments	1 508	1 821	1 833	2 099	2 197	2 199
Technical monuments	423	451	454	520	593	601
Art work monuments	660	818	1 005	1 603	1 379	1 393
Total	11 732	12 675	13 116	14 818	15 077	15 388

Source: MB SR

* Presented is the number of monument buildings, which comprise the immovable NCM.

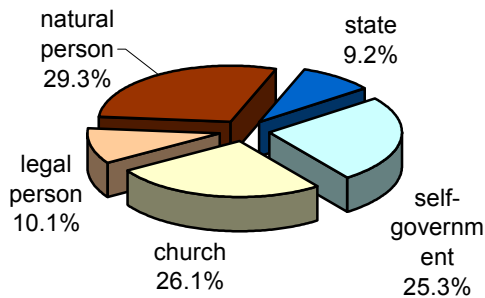
To 31st December 2012, there were **9 808 immovable national cultural monuments** in Slovakia consisting of **15 388 monument buildings** and **14 782 movable national cultural monuments** (98% of it has sacral character), which consist of **33 165** cultural articles.

Literary sources point to the past existence of 300 **castles** in Slovakia. Presently, the 9 808 immovable national culture monuments include 100 **castles** and 437 **mansions**. **Monument objects** within the NCM in 2012 register:

- 569 mansions and family households
- 100 castles
- 66 monasteries
- 1 592 churches
- 930 people's government houses
- 2 379 manor houses
- 235 palaces and villas
- 34 road sculptures and crosses
- 483 commemorative wall tablets and commemorative sites
- 66 cemeteries (with the exception of church graveyards)
- 45 graves (individual and mass)
- 49 vaults

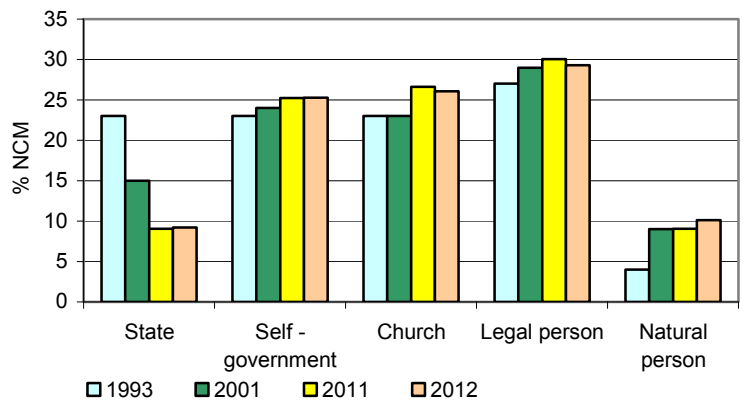
112 NCM were declared and 36 NCM were removed within the process of **legal protection** national cultural monuments in 2012.

Ownership form of immovable NCM in 2012



Source: MB SR

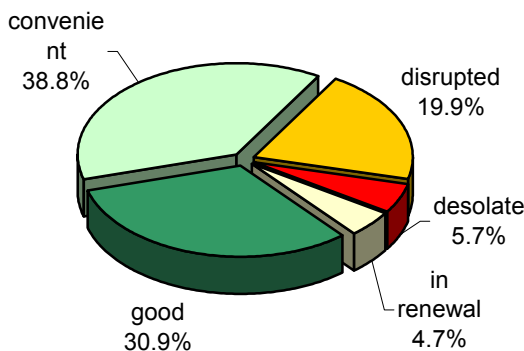
Trend in ownership form of immovable NCM



Source: MB SR

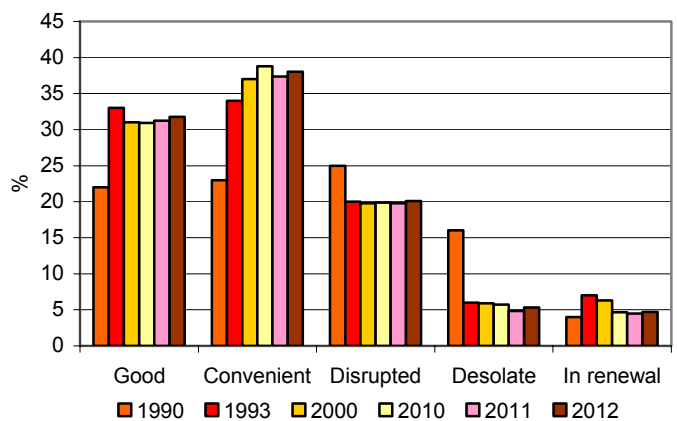
No major changes occurred in the trend of the monuments **ownership form**. This state has remained balanced for several years. No major differences were recorded between individual years. The only slight growth was recorded in the proportion of monuments owned by legal person.

Construction and technical state of immovable NCM in 2012 (expressed in % of monument objects comprising the NCM)



Source: MB SR

Trend in construction and technical state of immovable NCM



Source: MB SR

Note: Percentage share of construction and technical state of national cultural monuments is calculated from the total value of 15 029 monument objects that include national cultural monuments showing the construction and technical state in the interval of 1 to 5 (from "good" to "in renovation") The table does not include 359 monuments with the mentioned condition showing the value of: 6 (loss monument value due to renovation), 7 (renovation discontinued), 8 (AG - with not representation), 9 (physical extinction).

Number of monuments showing good to convenient state has grown only slightly, compared to the previous year. Nevertheless, due to the growing influence of climate changes, climate conditions, construction and other economic human activities, and deteriorating hydro-geological and hydrological conditions, the values of immovable property decline in monument areas. This has been witnessed by an increased number of NCM showing impaired **construction and technical state**. The mentioned causes also contributed to the increased number of buildings in a desolate state. Thanks to the additional system of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic under the programme "Let us renovate our house" the number of national monuments under reconstruction increased.

Besides the preservation of the historical monuments – the objects as solitaires, the monument fund **is also area preserved** in the monument areas: monument reserves (MR) and monument zones (MZ). No changes have been recorded compared to the previous year in this category of monuments as well as in the category of historical preserved parks - elements within MR and MZ (70 of these parks). Number of monument zones **grew** in 2012 from 84 (2011) to 86.

Town reserves

Historical settlement structures		
Town reserves	Proclamation	Number of CM
1. Banská Bystrica	18.5.1955	200
2. Banská Štiavnica	11.6.1950	191
3. Bardejov	11.6.1950	131
4. Bratislava	5.10.1954	264
5. Kežmarok	11.6.1950	256
6. Košice	2.2.1983	500
7. Kremnica	11.6.1950	116
8. Levoča	11.6.1950	339
9. Nitra	21.1.1981	23
10. Podolínec	11.6.1991	63
11. Prešov	11.6.1950	257
12. Spišská Kapitula	11.6.1950	24
13. Poprad - Sp. Sobota	11.6.1950	89
14. Svätý Jur	23.5.1990	26
15. Štiavnické Bane	15.8.1995	20
16. Trenčín	11.9.1987	112
17. Trnava	11.9.1987	139
18. Žilina	11.9.1987	58

Source: MB SR

Folk architecture reserves

Historical settlement structures		
Folk architecture reserves	Proclamation	Number of CM
1. Brhlovce	14. 9. 1983	25
2. Čičmany	26. 1. 1977	36
3. Osturňa	3. 10. 1981	135
4. Plavecký Peter	23. 5. 1990	28
5. Podbiel	14. 9. 1977	56
6. Sebechleby	21. 1. 1981	89
7. Špania Dolina	10. 1. 1979	83
8. Veľké Leváre	21. 1. 1981	25
9. Vlkolínec	26. 1. 1977	73
10. Ždiar	14. 9. 1977	183

Source: MB SR

◆ Restoration of cultural monuments

In 2012, there was **5.5 mil. EUR** in contributions by the MoC SR to the restoration of national cultural monuments in the SR, which is **17.7%** more than in the previous year. The funds came from the **programme "Let us renovate our house"**, within **547 projects**. It is a complex development programme that supports renewal of national cultural monuments.

Contributions of MoC SR for the restoration of national cultural monuments from the programme "Let us renovate our house"

	1993	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012
Number of projects	57	143	323	317	451	547
Total funding (€)	4 065 923	761 800	3 141 738	4 637 615	4 701 579	5 531 497

Source: MB SR

World Heritage

The efforts to create cultural and natural heritage were crowned by adopting the **Convention Concerning the Protection of World Culture and Natural Heritage** at the UNESCO general conference session in Paris in 1972 with Slovakia ratifying it on 15/11/1990.

◆ Sites enlisted under the World Heritage List

In 2012, no Slovak site was added on the World Heritage List.

Trend in total number of sites in World Heritage List

	2002	2005	2010	2011	2012
Number of enlisted sites	730	811	921	936	962
including cultural	563	630	714	725	745
natural	144	159	180	183	188
mixed	23	23	27	28	29
Number of Convention signatory countries	125	137	153	153	157

Source: MoC SR

World Heritage List as of 2012 contained **962 sites** from all around the world, which is an increase by 26 sites compared to 2011. Similarly, 4 new **member states** to the Convention were added.

In Slovakia, seven sites were put on the World Heritage List **as of 2012**:



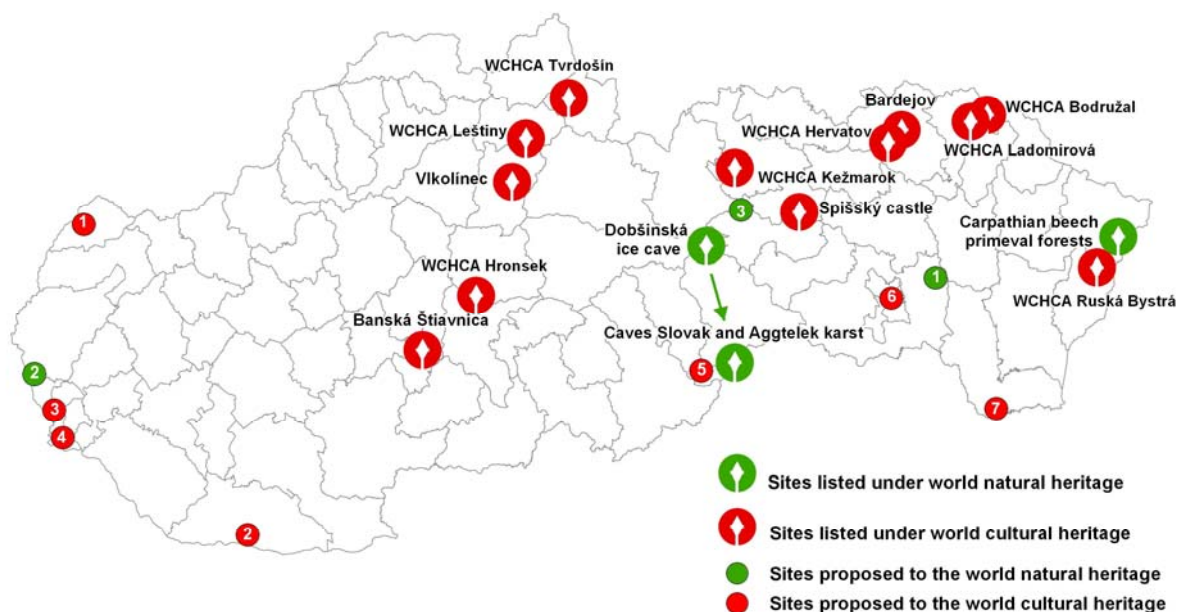
Under cultural heritage

- **Vlkolínec** Folk Architecture Reserve, local district of Ružomberok (Cartagena, 1993),
- **Levoča, Spišský castle** and related cultural monuments (Spišská Kapitula, Spišské Podhradie, Church of the Holy Ghost in Žehra), historic center of Levoča and handiwork of Master Paul in Levoča (Cartagena, 1993, 2009),
- **Banská Štiavnica** with neighbouring technical monuments (Banská Štiavnica, Hodruša–Hámre, Štiavnické Mines, Banská Belá, Voznica, Vyhne, Banský Studenec, Počúvadlo, Kopanica, Kysihýbel, Antol, Ilija; especially 23 water dams - tajchas) (Cartagena, 1993),
- Historical Town Reserve of **Bardejov** also with the protective zone, including the Jewish suburb (Cairns, 2000),
- **Wooden churches** of the Slovak part of the Carpathian arch (wooden churches - Hervatov, Tvrdošín, Leštiny, Kežmarok, Hronsek, Bodružal, Lodomírová, Ruská Bystrá) (Quebec, 2008).

Under natural heritage

- **Caves of the Slovak and Aggtelek karsts** (Berlín, 1995), to which was added **Dobšinská ice cave** in 2000, including Stratenská cave and Psie diery cave as a one cave system in Duča hill (Cairns, 2000),
- **Carpathian Beech Primeval Forests** (10 primeval forests; Christchurch, 2007) and **old beech forests of Germany** (5 primeval forests; enlargement in 2011), common site with Ukraine and Germany.

World culture and natural heritage in the SR



WCHCA – Wooden churches of the Slovak part of the Carpathian arch

Source: SEA

◆ Sites proposed to be placed on the World Heritage List

The **proposed sites** to be placed on the list for nomination to the world heritage to 2012 include:

Under cultural heritage

1. **Great Moravian settlements:** Slavic fortification complex in Mikulčice and the St. Margaret Church in Kopčany,
2. **Komárno – fortification against the Turks** (together with Hungary),
3. **Monument to Chatam Sófer** in Bratislava,
4. **Limes Romanus – Roman monuments on the middle Danube** (together with Austria, Hungary, in Slovakia only Iža and Rusovce),
5. **Gemer and Abov churches with medieval wall paintings** (planned project with Hungary),
6. **Historic Centre of Košice** (lens-shaped square),

7. **Tokay vineyard area** (Černov, Veľká Tàňa, Malá Tàňa, Slovenské Nové Mesto, Černočov, Bara, Viničky; inclusion into the Tokay vineyard area in Hungary).

Under nature heritage

1. **Geyser in Herľany**
2. **Nature and cultural landscape in the sub-Danubian region** (anticipated common proposal with the Czech Republic, Austria and Hungary)
3. **Karst valleys of the West Carpathians** (together with Poland).

Comparison of the number of World Heritage (WH) sites with the surrounding countries to 2012

Country	Number of WH sites (cultural + natural)
Slovakia	5 + 2
Czech Republic	12 + 0
Poland	12 + 1
Hungary	7 + 1
Austria	9 + 0
Ukraine	4 + 1

Source: UNESCO

Geoparks

Geopark represents a territory including one or more scientifically important sites, not only from the biological point of view, but also in terms of its archaeological, economic, or cultural uniqueness of the European significance.

Support in geopark building in Slovakia is based on the Slovak Geoparks Strategy approved by the SR Government Resolution 740 of October 15, 2008 and No. 74036673/2012 to the Report on the Slovak Geoparks Strategy of October 31, 2012.

In 2012, there were three managed territories of national geoparks:

- Novohrad Geopark (a geopark located across the national border with Hungary: Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark)
- Geopark of Banská Štiavnica
- Geopark of Banská Bystrica

The most significant progress in territorial management was recorded in the Nógrád geopark that is the only geopark in Slovakia that belongs to the European Geoparks Network (EGN) and the Global Geoparks Networks (GGN) that operates under the patronage of UNESCO. **Activity of the expert group** started at the national level. The group comprises representatives from the existing geoparks, and professional and academic representatives involved in the revision of the Slovak Geoparks Strategy.