

***Ministry of Environment
of the Slovak Republic***



***STATE OF THE
ENVIRONMENT REPORT
SLOVAK REPUBLIC
2010***



Slovak Environmental Agency

URBAN AND RURAL ENVIRONMENT

• SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION AND FUNCTIONAL USE OF TERRITORY

Key questions and key findings

◆ Key questions

- What are the trends in demographic development and urbanisation?
- What is the trend in the structure of lots and surfaces in Slovakia?

◆ Key findings

- Although there was still recorded a total population increment, in 2010 the growing trend in natural increment of population from the recent years stopped. The increasing life expectancy is perceived as a positive sign. In terms of the degree of urbanisation, proportion of urban population in Slovakia dropped from 56.9% in 2000 to the present 54.7%.
- 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 2010 being impacted by further loss of agricultural and arable land types and increasing forest land.

Settlement and demographic trend

As of **December 31, 2010**, there were **5 435 273 inhabitants** in Slovakia. Trend in increasing the natural population increment stopped and reached the value of 6 965 which was by 1 339 persons less than in 2009. Slovakia gained 3 383 persons through international migration, which are 984 persons less than in the previous year. **Total increment** in population reached **10 348 persons**, which are 2 323 less than in 2009. The most positive element in the demographic trend has been the ongoing growth in life expectancy.

Basic data about the migration of population in the SR (to 31st December 2010)

Territory	Live births	Dead	Natural increment (loss)	Migration increment (loss)	Total increment (loss)	Number of inhabitants
Bratislavský region	7 567	5 957	1 610	4 370	5 980	628 686
Trnavský region	5 574	5 608	-34	1 590	1 556	563 081
Trenčiansky region	5 940	5 833	107	-502	-395	598 819
Nitriansky region	6 539	7 840	-1 301	392	-909	704 752
Žilinský region	7 619	6 585	1 034	-262	772	698 274
Banskobystrický region	6 729	7 206	-477	-491	-968	652 218
Prešovský region	10 567	6 894	3 673	-1 241	2 432	809 443
Košický region	9 875	7 522	2 353	-473	1 880	780 000
Slovak Republic	60 410	53 445	6 965	3 383	10 348	5 435 273

Source: ŠO SR

Structure of the settlement in the SR (to 31st December 2010)

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	2 053	306.30	73	8 612	81.71	18.29
Trnavský region	4 147	135.79	251	2 243	48.13	51.87
Trenčiansky region	4 502	133.01	276	2 170	56.41	43.59
Nitriansky region	6 344	111.09	354	1 991	46.47	53.53
Žilinský region	6 809	102.56	315	2 217	49.90	50.10
Banskobystrický region	9 454	68.99	516	1 264	53.21	46.79
Prešovský region	8 974	90.20	666	1 215	48.76	51.24
Košický region	6 754	115.48	440	1 773	55.39	44.61
Slovak Republic	49 036	110.84	2 891	1 880	54.68	45.32

Source: SO SR

Index trend in the SR area structure

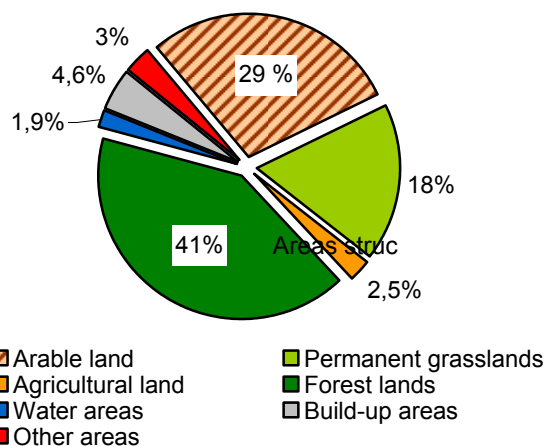
Trend in the land types of the SR in 2010 was marked by a continuing, though less significant, **loss of agricultural and arable land types** to forest, non-agricultural and non-forest land types, as well as by an increase in forestland at the expense of agricultural land, non-agricultural, and non-forest land types. Loss of agricultural land in 2010 (-3 642 ha) when compared with 2009 (-5 545 ha) is smaller by 1 903 ha. Loss of arable land in 2010 (-1 350 ha) when compared with 2009 (-3 869 ha) is smaller by 2 519 ha. Increment of forestland in 2010 (2 407 ha) when compared with 2009 (586 ha) is greater by 1 821 ha.

 Overall land categories to 31st December 2010 (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	73 179	-	4 476	4 561	932	9 385	92 533	75 041	5 755	16 240	15 686	205 255
TT	260 211	129	4 206	8 270	2 432	14 794	290 042	65 231	15 765	28 007	15 617	414 662
TN	97 633	354	83	8 073	2 548	756 955	184 647	221 345	6 379	23 671	14 157	450 199
NR	406 076	36	12 055	14 163	4 896	30 366	467 592	96 390	15 744	38 103	16 550	634 380
ZA	60 991	-	-	6 065	399	178 211	245 666	380 088	12 816	25 477	16 820	680 867
BB	165 677	-	3 333	11 047	1 848	233 347	415 251	463 889	7 950	33 410	24 943	945 444
PR	149 004	-	23	10 835	1 952	220 274	382 089	441 853	14 060	31 668	27 719	897 390
KE	203 861	-	2 915	13 515	2 027	114 152	336 471	267 412	16 291	34 012	21 260	675 447
Spolu	1 416 633	520	27 091	76 529	17 034	876 484	2 414 291	2 011 250	94 761	230 589	152 753	4 903 644

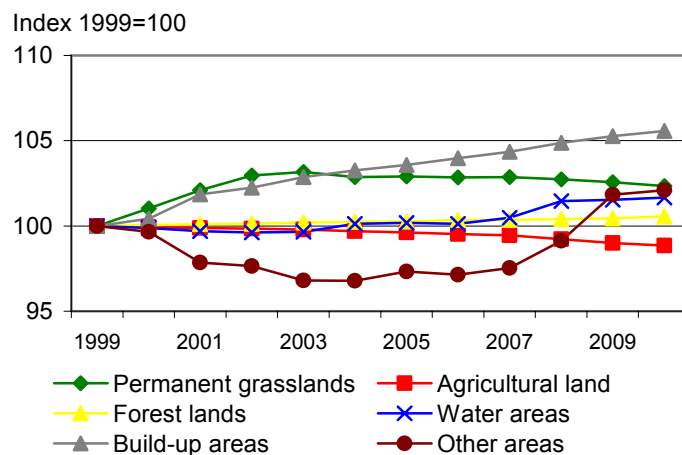
Source: IGCC SR

Areas structure in the SR (2010)



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. In the meantime, its draft was considered as a strategic document with possible trans-boundary impact pursuant to Act 24/2006 Coll. on environmental impact assessment and on amendment to selected laws.

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.

Municipal government is the pertinent authority for physical planning and creation of physical plans of the city, village, and zone at the **municipal level**. Every year, over the period of 2006 to 2010, the national government released funds to municipalities in order to create physical planning documentations. Following are the municipalities that receive **the subsidy**:

- 2006 total 1 mil. SKK (7 municipalities)
- 2007 total 1.9 mil. SKK (16 municipalities)
- 2008 total 7 mil. SKK (32 municipalities)
- 2009 total 7 mil. SKK (36 municipalities)
- 2010 total 170 000 EUR (24 municipalities).

• RURAL ENVIRONMENT

Key questions and key findings

◆ Key questions

- How has the care for the rural environment been ensured?

◆ Key findings

- Of all residential units in Slovakia, 95.2% are villages, with 45.3% of inhabitants living in the country. In 2010, 13th cycle of the Village Renewal Programme was implemented. Subsidies were given as part of the Programme at the sum of 659 528 Euro (39% of subsidies asked for) to 182 subjects. The village of Dobrá Niva, winner of the Village of the Year national competition in 2009, represented Slovakia at The European Village Renewal Award competition in 2010.

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 2 891 residential units, 2 753 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 54.7% to 45.3%, while developed countries show this proportion as high as 80% to 20%. Based on the EUROSTAT data and the OECD statistics, Slovakia is characterised as a rural country.

The idea of village renewal finds its significant place within the whole framework of rural awareness. The ideas behind the village renewal initiative are connected with a better future of the rural area on the basis of activating its inner strengths. Global goal of the **Village Renewal Programme** is to keep the man in the village.

◆ Village Renewal Programme

Village Renewal Program (VRP), over thirteen 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 programme is based on the process of POD 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. SEA makes sure the mentioned activities are part of its legal scope of work, pursuant to the Slovak government Resolution 222/1997. The Agency, through its advisers and VRP office keeps track of the applications from villages and rural micro-regions, it also organises a national competition called the **Village of the Year**, and officially represents the ministry in international structures.

Beside the indirect support, the Programme also provides for financial form of government support - this is a system of small subsidies, typically several thousand EUR per municipality. In 2010, the **VRP support** reached total volume of **659 528 EUR**. Subsidy categories were adjusted to take into consideration the preferences of the SR Ministry of Environment.

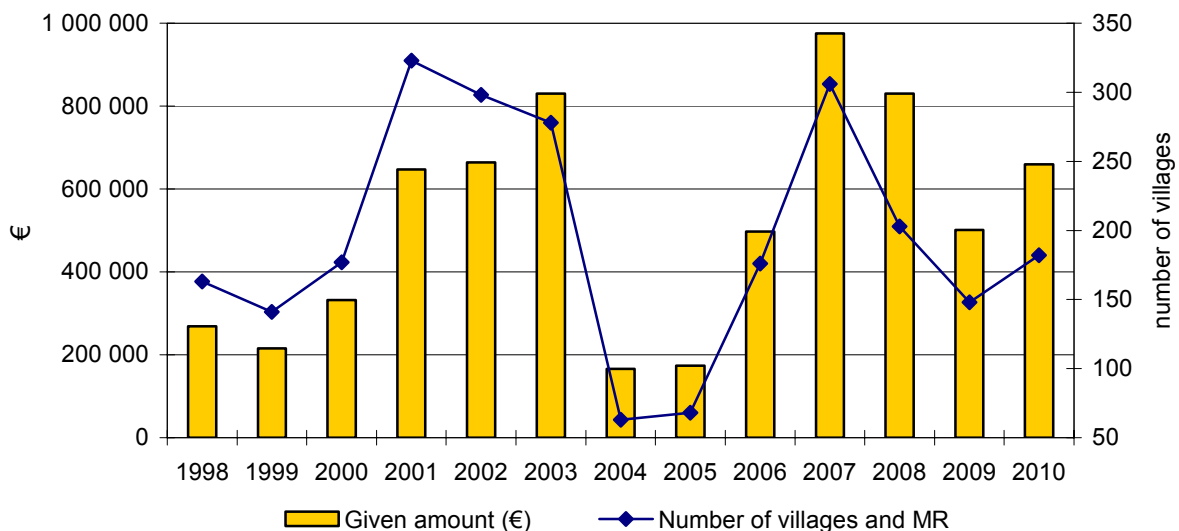
Total overview of allocating the subsidies to VRP in 2010 (EUR)

C8/ studies, project documentations and SD programmes *		C9/ small realizations		C10/ edification and advertising		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 (€)
46	160 532	71	251 235	13	52 100	52	195 661	182	659 528

* SD – sustainable development ** MR – micro-regions

Source: SEA

Trend of allocating the subsidies to VRP



Source: SEA

Total **average subsidy per 1 applicant** was **3 624 Euro**, while % of **approved** applications reached the value of **33.6%**.

◆ **The Village of the Year competition**

Every two years since 1990, European Working Community for Rural Development and Village Renewal (ARGE) 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, while in 2004 it was the village of Hrušov from the district of Veľký Krtíš that had won the competition in 2003, in 2006 it was the village of Vlachovo from the district of Rožňava that had won the competition in 2005, in 2008 it was the village of Liptovská Teplička from the district of Poprad that had won the competition in 2007 and in 2010 it was the village of Dobrá Niva from the district of Zvolen, winner the competition in 2009.

The Village of the Year competition is announced and organised in Slovakia by the SEA in cooperation with the Village Renewal Association and the Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia, supervised by the Slovak Ministry of Environment.

In 2010, the village of Dobrá Niva represented Slovakia at the 11th European Village Renewal Award competition. The competition was titled: "New energy for strong neighbour relationships". Of 30 contesting municipalities from 11 European countries, the winning municipality became Langenegg from Vorarlberg. The village of Dobrá Niva made a very good impression and left with the "European Village Renewal Prize for exceptional performance in a number of village renewal areas". The village of Oravská Lesná belongs to the top candidates for 2011.

• URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Key questions and key findings

◆ Key questions

- How has the care for the urban environment been ensured?

◆ Key findings

- Trend in the urbanisation of the Slovak Republic is slower than in the other European countries, with the share of urban population representing 54.7%. In 2009, a methodology for the urban landscape of the Environmental Action Plan was developed, based on the 6th EAP - Thematic strategy for the urban environment. Within the UN Habitat Agenda, the Slovak Government created a National Action Plan for the development of settlements and housing in Slovakia. The plan is being updated regularly, every 2 years. Size of green areas in towns and villages in 2009 reached 11 570 ha in 2009 (6.1% more than in 2007), when calculated per capita, the size of green areas over a long time period has been around 21 m².

Care of the urban environment

Global trend suggests that the 21st century is the **era of the cities**. 80% of all EU citizens live in urban area, which means that four out of every five EU citizens live primarily in the cities. Every year, 60 million people become new inhabitants of the European cities. Almost six billion people will have been living in urban areas by 2050.

In **Slovakia**, the dominant type of population is urban - **54.7%**. Trend in the **urbanisation** measured by the proportion of urban population to total population is slower when compared to developed European countries.

◆ Thematic strategy on the urban environment

In 2004, the European Commission approved a Note by the EC to the Council and the European Parliament on **Thematic strategy on the urban environment** (COM(2005)0718). **Objective** of the strategy is to contribute toward improvement in the quality of the urban environment in all activities of man.

Important measure included within this thematic strategy is a recommendation to municipalities to address the issue of urban environment at the level of local governments through so-called **environmental urban planning (EUP)**. The European Commission **recommends** implementing this strategy to all levels, including the national, through regional, and down to local authorities' level, which is to lead to the improved environment in cities.

◆ Environmental Urban Action Plan

In 2009, a **methodology** for the **Environmental Urban Action Plan** was developed by the SEA, based on the 6th EAP - Thematic strategy for the urban environment.

The present need for solution to environmental issues gave rise to the idea of creating a **professional forum** able to address this complex issue. On October 28, 2010, the Slovak Environmental Agency organised in the city of Žilina the 3rd annual **Conference on urban environment** with international participation. Its central topic was *The quality of urban environment*.

◆ UN Habitat

Another 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.

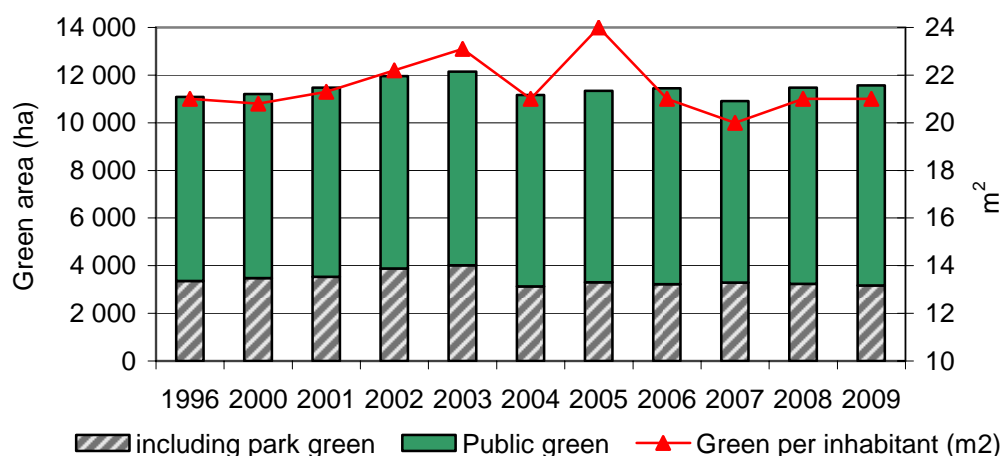
The Slovak Government, based on its binding accession to the Habitat Agenda, created the **National Action Plan for the Development of Settlements and Housing in the Slovak Republic**. The Ministry of Environment by its decision initiated the creation of the **National Habitat Committee in the SR** as a permanent advisory body for the monitoring and coordination of the Habitat Agenda implementation in Slovakia. **National Action Plan for the Development of Settlements and Housing in Slovakia** is being periodically updated on the basis of resolutions adopted at the meetings of the Executive Board for the Habitat Programme, which take place regularly, every odd year.

Green in residential areas

Green in residential areas is considered the most effective, spatial, protective, healing, and decorative element. Basic functions of municipal green sites 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 **2009**, size of green areas in towns and villages in Slovakia was **11 570 ha**, which is 99 ha more than in 2008. Of this, park greenery was 27.4%. Share of public green per one inhabitant was **21 m²**.

Trend of public green in the SR



Source: SO SR

• VALUE DIFFERENTIATION, LANDSCAPE PROTECTION AND CREATION

Key questions and key findings

◆ Key questions

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

◆ Key findings

- In 2010, the Slovak Ministry of Environment approved the Methodology for the Identification and Assessment of Landscape Characteristics. For the first time ever, the Slovak Ministry of Environment awarded the National SR Landscape Award at the national competition organized as part of Slovakia's participation in the 2nd year of the Council of Europe Landscape Award under the European Landscape Convention, which was given to the Ekopolis foundation.
- There has been observed a long-term increase in the number of national monuments (by 16.9% compared to 2000) with a dominant share of architectural monuments. Slight increase is also recorded for the number of movable cultural monuments, 98% of which are of religious character. Share of the state as the owner of these monuments gradually declined from 36% in 1989 to 15% in 2000, and to 9.7% in 2010. 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 2010.
- 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 in 2010.
- As of 2010, there were 3 managed territories of national geoparks: the geoparks of Banská Bystrica, Banská Štiavnica, and Novohradský, the last of these becoming the 37th member of the European Geoparks Network, and the 66th member of the Global Geoparks Network assisted by UNESCO.

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 heritage has been a significant need for the whole of Europe.

In order to define the value of our country within the European context, it is necessary to identify the unique, specific traits of the landscape determined by the natural and cultural-historical characteristics, and consequently attribute exceptional status and significance to them through the evaluation criteria (national, European, World).

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. The methodology was elaborated at the SEA in cooperation with the Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Science of the Zvolen Technical University, and the Slovak Ministry of Environment (Jančura, P., Bohálová, I., Slámová, M., Mišíková, P., 2010). After being subject to professional scrutiny and internal discussions, the Methodology was approved at an operative meeting of the

Slovak Ministry of Environment in February 2010, and officially published in July 2010 in the Bulletin of the Slovak Ministry of Environment.

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.**

Support for the ELC implementation in 2010 was obtained through the creation of suitable conditions for institutional support of the convention, securing its continuous promotion, education and training in the area of landscape protection, winning a support through the national and international cooperation, and carrying out applied research in the area of landscape assessment and monitoring.

Pursuant to article 11 of the ELC, the Council of Europe Landscape Award has been awarded for selected party/ies. Slovakia has been participating in the 2nd year of the Award scheme through organising a national competition. **It was in 2010** when the Slovak Ministry of Environment awarded its first **Award of the Slovak Republic for Landscape**. The Award was given to the **Ekopolis foundation** for their Project of sustainable care of landscape through the Foundation's grant schemes. Specialised 2010 national landscape award Commission gave special recognition certificates to other two nominated projects.

The winning project was consequently nominated by the national coordinator for the **2011 Council of Europe Landscape Award**. As part of the ELC support and exchange of information within the process of landscape protection and care, there were two major conferences organised in Slovakia in 2010. The 14th annual international conference of "Landscape - Man - Culture" was organised in May of 2010, addressing the topics relating to the 10th anniversary of the ELC, International Year of Biodiversity, and the declaration of the first annual Slovakia Landscape Award. The conference called EKOPOLIS "Landscape in Town, Town in Landscape" was organised in October with the following slogan: European Landscape Convention as a new challenge for urban and peri-urban landscape. 127 people from ten countries attended the Conference.

Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Carpathians signed by the ministers of environment of the countries of Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovakia, and Ukraine became effective in 2006.

The Convention **supports** a complex approach and cooperation in the area of sustainable use of the Carpathians. Its **objective** is to protect and restore the unique, rare and typical natural complexes and objects of recreational and other importance, located in the heart of Europe.

Slovak Republic, under the supervision of the Slovak Ministry of Environment, was required to prepare and implement in 2011 the III. Conference of the signatories to the Carpathian Convention, COP 3.

Monument fund

In 2010, there was again a slight increase in total number of movable (and immovable) cultural monuments, compared to 2009.

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

Categorization of immovable NCM*	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Architectural monuments	7 738	7 799	7 802	8 069	8 092	8 408
Archaeological monuments	360	368	369	376	393	407
Historical monuments	1 386	1 382	1380	1394	1 401	1 399
Historical gardens and parks	340	341	344	344	373	382
Folk architecture monuments	1 833	1 823	1 821	1 902	2 055	2 099
Technical monuments	454	484	496	500	526	520
Art work monuments	1 005	1 015	1 007	1 367	1 506	1603
Total	13 116	13 212	13 228	13 952	14 346	14 818

Source: MB SR

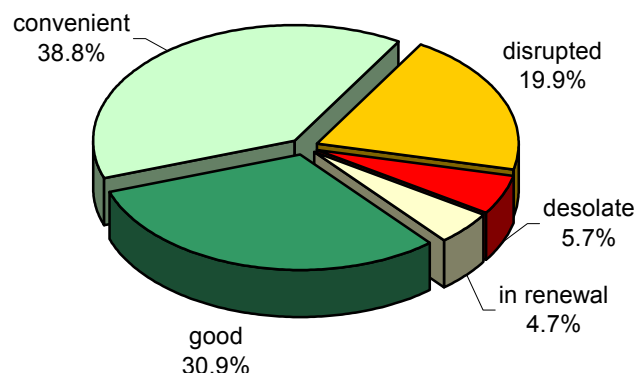
* Presented is the number of monument buildings, which comprise the immovable NCM.

To 31st December 2010, there were 9 681 **immovable national cultural monuments** in Slovakia consisting of **14 818 monument buildings** and **14 654 movable national cultural monuments** (98% of it has sacral character), which consist of **32 492** cultural articles.

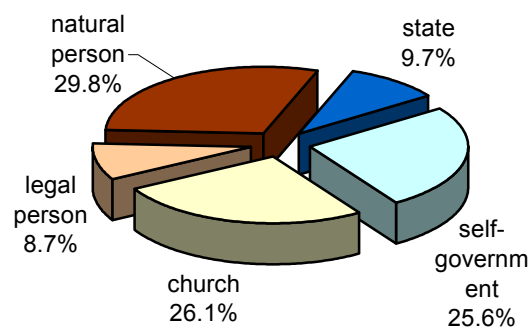
Literary sources point to the past existence of 300 **castles** in Slovakia. Presently, the 9 681 immovable national culture monuments include 112 **castles** and 437 **mansions**. **Monument objects** within the NCM in 2010 register:

- 566 mansions and family households
- 112 castles
- 79 monasteries
- 1581 churches
- 1 251 people's government houses
- 2 379 manor houses
- 226 palaces and villas
- 673 road sculptures and crosses
- 504 commemorative wall tablets and commemorative sites
- 31 cemeteries and individual graves

As of 2010, there were 51 **unused** cultural monuments in Slovakia (according to the MB SR catalogue).

Construction and technical state of immovable NCM in 2010 (expressed in % of monument objects comprising the NCM)


Source: MB SR

Ownership form of immovable NCM in 2010


Source: MB SR

Construction and technical state of monuments has been partly stabilised, thanks to grant programmes. State of the majority of monuments moved under the category of satisfactory, from 33% to almost 39%. **When added to the monuments in good state, there were 70% of monuments that were in satisfactory state in 2010.**

Besides the preservation of the historical monuments – the objects as solitaires, the monument fund **is also area preserved** in the monument areas: monument reserves and monument zones.

Historical settlement structures in the SR

Historical settlement structures	2009	2010
Town reserves	18	18
Folk architecture reserves	10	10
Historical preserved parks	48	70
Monument zones	85	83

Source: MB SR

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. Víkolínec	26. 1. 1977	73
10. Ždiar	14. 9. 1977	183

Source: MB SR

Act 208/2009 Coll. adopted in 2009 amended the Act 49/2002 Coll. on the protection of monuments as amended by the Act 479/2005 Coll., and became effective on June 1, 2009.

In 2010, the Ministry of Culture of the SR drafted the **Resolution 253/2010 Coll.** executing the Act 49/2002 Coll. on the protection of monuments as amended.

◆ Restoration of cultural monuments

In 2010, there was 4 637.6 thous. EUR in contributions by the MoC SR to the restoration of national cultural monuments in the SR within **317 projects**. The funds came from the **programme "Let us renovate our house"**. 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"

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of projects	323	513	389	370	396	317
Total funding (€)	3 141 738	3 861 615	3 640 510	5 413 978	11 062 751	4 637 615

Source: MB SR

World Heritage

◆ Sites enlisted under the World Heritage List

In 2010, the **World Heritage List** of the UNESCO contained **921** sites (including 673 cultural, 180 natural, and 27 mixed) from **153** signatory countries to the *Convention concerning the protection of World culture and natural heritage*, and has been ratified by 187 states as to date.

Trend in total number of sites in World Heritage List

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of enlisted sites	721	730	755	788	811	851	878	887	890	921
including cultural	554	563	582	611	630	660	679	688	689	714
natural	144	144	150	154	159	166	174	174	175	180
mixed	23	23	23	23	23	23	25	25	26	27
Number of Convention signatory countries	-	125	134	134	137	141	145	148	151	153

Source: MoC SR

In Slovakia, seven sites were put on the World Heritage List as of 2010:



Under cultural heritage

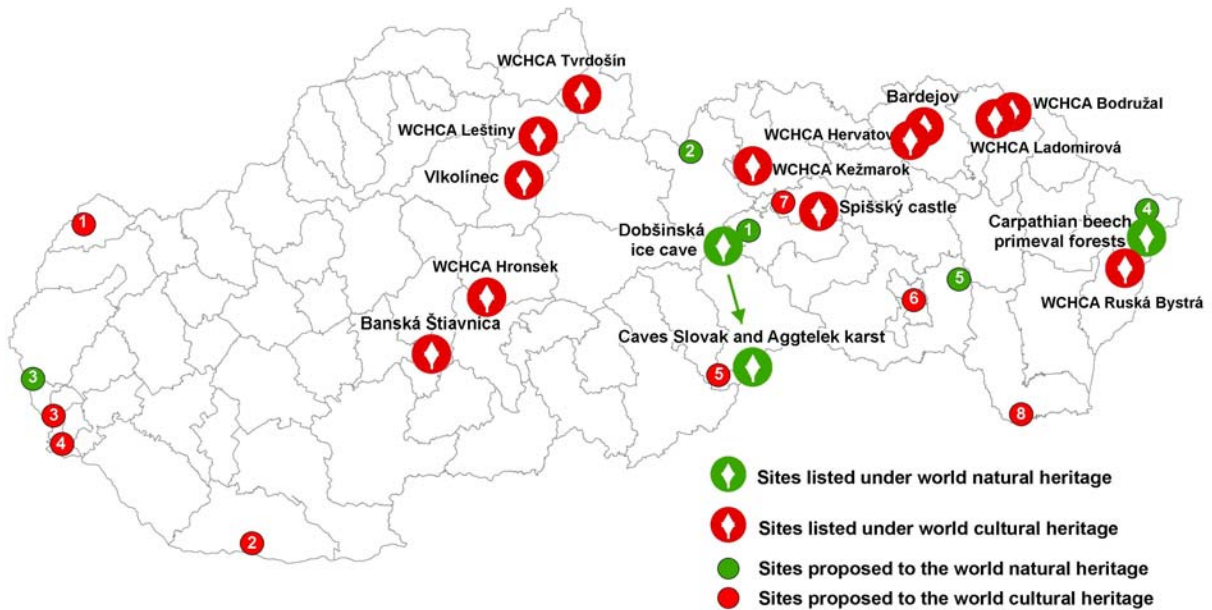
- **Vikolínec** Folk Architecture Reserve, local district of Ružomberok (Cartagena, 1993),
- **Levoča, Spišský castle** and related cultural monuments (Spišská Kapitula, Spišské Podhradie, Church of the Holy Ghost in Žehra), historic center of Levoča and handiwork of Master Paul in Levoča (Cartagena, 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, Ladamírová, 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** (Christchurch, 2007), together with Ukraine (10 primeval forests) are to be added old beech forests (5) in Germany.

World culture and natural heritage in the SR



WCHCA - Source: SEA

Comparison of the number of World Heritage (WH) sites with the surrounding countries to 2010

Country	Number of WH sites (cultural + natural)
Slovakia	5 + 2
Czech Republic	12 + 0
Poland	12 + 1
Hungary	7 + 1
Austria	8 + 0
Ukraine	3 + 1

Source: UNESCO

◆ 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 2010 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, Černochoch, Bara, Viničky; inclusion into the Tokay vineyard area in Hungary).

Under nature heritage

3. **Nature and cultural landscape in the sub-Danubian region** (anticipated common proposal with the Czech Republic),
5. **Geyser in Herľany.**

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.

In 2010, there were **three** managed **territories of national geoparks**:

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

Activities within the areas have been focused primarily on building management structures, international cooperation, building of infrastructure, implementation of own strategies and projects. Most significant progress in area management exists in the case of Novohrad Geopark that successfully defended its documentation and became the 37th member of the European Geoparks Network (EGN) at the 4th global geoparks conference organised in April 2010, and the 66th member of the Global Geoparks Network assisted by UNESCO.