



GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP MONITOR



THE INFLUENCE OF GEM ON POLICY 2017/18



Slovenia

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For more information about GEM Slovenia, go to the link:

<http://gemconsortium.org/country-profile/107>



In last years, the level of early-stage entrepreneurial activity in Slovenia increased, especially in 2016 when it reached the peak of optimistic 8 %. Even though TEA index declined in 2017 to 6.8 %, some indicators that show perception of societal values related to entrepreneurship and individual perceptions about entrepreneurship increased significantly. From record low 16% of adult population who in 2013 perceived promising business opportunities to start a new business, in 2017 this percentage rose to 25 %. Two thirds of adult population respects successful entrepreneurs and more than half believe they have the knowledge and skills to start a business.

The steady increase of entrepreneurial activity over the last 5 years and the improvement of social and individual perceptions is attributed to solid economic growth in Slovenia, decreasing financial crisis, and consolidation of banking system, as well as to a quality development of entrepreneurship ecosystem. To further the growth of entrepreneurship activity and its quality, a profound tax reform as well as the removal of administrative obstacles and the simplification of bureaucracy must be performed. Besides that, the quality of entrepreneurial education and training must be improved, and appropriate entrepreneurship-related content introduced to all levels of educational system.

SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SME) CONTRIBUTION TO GDP - 2015

63%

Entrepreneurial Intentions - 2017

14.2%

Total Entrepreneurship Activity (TEA) - 2017

6.9%

Entrepreneurial Employee Activity (EEA) - 2017

6.0%

Established Business rate (EB) - 2017

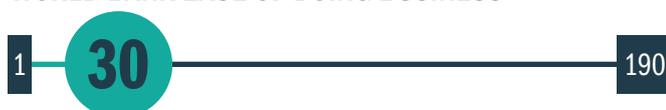
6.8%

CONTRIBUTION OF GEM TO POLICY

Slovenia joined the GEM consortium in 2002 and since then publishes annual national reports in the Slovenian language with an extensive executive summary written in English. Since inception GEM in Slovenia has established itself as a reliable source of data on Slovenian entrepreneurship, not only because it provides analysis of entrepreneurship in comparison to other countries, but also because policymaking suggestions are communicated in a clear and comprehensive manner. Every year GEM research results are published in numerous Slovenian media, portals and web pages. The website (www.ipmmp.um.si) of the Institute for Entrepreneurship at the University of Maribor, where GEM is based, had nearly 100,000 visitors in 2017. GEM results are also broadly used within academia in teaching and researching different entrepreneurship topics.

GEM research has brought into Slovenian policy discussions new and fresh insights about the entrepreneurial process in Slovenia. Policy makers and public administrators use GEM research findings when creating new or upgraded measures for enterprises, especially with respect to SMEs. Today, some of the most important Slovenian policy documents and entrepreneurship support programmes either refer to GEM data or use GEM indicators in the evaluation process of the successfulness of certain policy measure.

WORLD BANK EASE OF DOING BUSINESS



GEM ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT COMPOSITE INDEX



THE INFLUENCE OF GEM ON POLICY

STAKEHOLDERS WHO USE GEM

In last decade, stakeholders at different levels of impact (government, ministries, agencies, chambers and other organisations) created many policy documents that use GEM research. The most common GEM indicators exploited are TEA index, TEA necessity, TEA opportunity, TEA female, TEA male, new and nascent entrepreneurs, established companies, opportunity recognition, self-perception and societal values indicators, and NES indicators.

1. GOVERNMENTAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

The *Slovenian Industrial Policy* sets priorities for the development of industry and the economy for the period 2014 to 2020. It contains a range of measures intended to increase the competitiveness in the business environment, to strengthen entrepreneurship and the innovative capability of the economy as well as activities for the sustainable development of industry.

http://www.mgrt.gov.si/fileadmin/mgrt.gov.si/pageuploads/DPK/SIP/SIP-_vkladni_dokument_EN.doc

The *Slovene Smart Specialisation Strategy* is implementing document relating to the already-adopted strategic documents on research and innovation, industrial policy and digital agenda, as well as other specific and relevant strategies in the field of nature protection, energy, education, etc.

www.svrk.gov.si/fileadmin/svrk.gov.si/pageuploads/Dokumenti_za_objavo_na_vstopni_strani/S4_document_2015_ENG.pdf

The *Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014-2020*. The Programme plays a decisive role in encouraging economic development taking into account the specific characteristics of regions, and contributing to the achievement of the national targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Among others, the measures are designed to provide support to entrepreneurship.

www.eu-skladi.si/sl/dokumenti/kljucni-dokumenti/operational-programme-english-version.pdf

The *Operational Programme for Human Resources Development for the period 2007-2013* was aimed at achieving higher employment, social inclusion, higher quality of life, and eliminate regional disparities, by increasing investment into human capital.

www.eu-skladi.si/kohezija-do-2013/other/operational-programmes/op-rv_eng

2. MINISTERIAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

Ministry of Economic Development and Technology designed *Programme of Measures to Promote Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness for the Period 2007 – 2013* as the action document for implementation of measures required by superior documents. More recently, the *Programme of implementing the financial incentives 2015-2020* has been prepared. The intention of latter document is to bind financial incentives of the Ministry by focusing on key development goals to achieve synergies in promoting the development of long-term economic growth.

www.mg.gov.si/fileadmin/mg.gov.si/pageuploads/DPK/Program_DPK_za_usklajevanje__17.5.2006.pdf

www.mgrt.gov.si/fileadmin/mgrt.gov.si/pageuploads/Programi/Program_MGRT_22.4.2015_FINAL.pdf

Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities uses GEM indicators in the policy document *Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2015–2020*, emphasising the need to promote female entrepreneurship.

www.mddsz.gov.si/fileadmin/mddsz.gov.si/pageuploads/dokumenti__pdf/enake_moznosti/NFMPublikacijaResolucijaAN.pdf

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food used TEA index in *Rural Development Programme of the Republic of Slovenia for the period 2007 – 2013*. The Programme is a uniform implementing document of the rural development policy applying to the whole territory of Slovenia.

http://www.arsktrp.gov.si/fileadmin/arsktrp.gov.si/pageuploads/Aktualno/Aktualno/2010/RDP2007-2013__en.pdf

3. AGENCIES' AND CHAMBERS' DOCUMENTS

GEM research has had impact also at the level of different government agencies, chambers and other organisations. Few examples:

SPIRIT Slovenia - Public Agency for Entrepreneurship, Internationalization, Foreign Investments and Technology supports Slovenian entrepreneurship in named areas. It uses a whole range of GEM indicators when preparing and implementing programmes to facilitate the development of entrepreneurial sector in Slovenia and to measure the results of the programmes.

www.spiritslovenia.si/resources/files/2016/Razpisi/Program_in_financi_nart_SPIRIT_Slovenija_2016_in_2017.pdf

IMAD - Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development of the Republic of Slovenia is an

independent government office, monitoring, analysing and evaluating current trends, as well as the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development. Their analyses that use also the GEM data serve as a basis for strategic decision-making and preparing economic and development policy measures.

http://www.umar.gov.si/fileadmin/user_upload/razvoj_slovenije/2017/Angleski_grafi_indikatorji/apor2017_splet.pdf

Employment Service of Slovenia is the key national labour market institution. It is an independent legal entity with public institute status operating uniformly across the entire country. In the document *Evaluation of self-employment and active employment policy measures in the period 2007-2013* a range of GEM indicators was used.

www.ess.gov.si/_files/9960/Koncno_vrednotenje_ukrepa_samozaposlovanja_2007_2013.pdf

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia used GEM data as an argument in the *Agenda for Small Businesses 2016* demanding some changes and upgrades of current policy measures.

www.gzs.si/Portals/SN-Staliska-In-Komentarji/Vsebine/novice-priponke/AgendaMG_2016_070616.pdf

WHERE ARE MEDIA ARTICLES PUBLISHED?

The media write numerous articles about the GEM research in Slovenia. Annual results of GEM study are published in all major daily newspapers in Slovenia, such as business journal "Finance", "Delo", "Večer" and "Dnevnik".

<https://live.finance.si/35257/Med-Slovinci-vec-zanimanja-za-podjetnisko-pot>

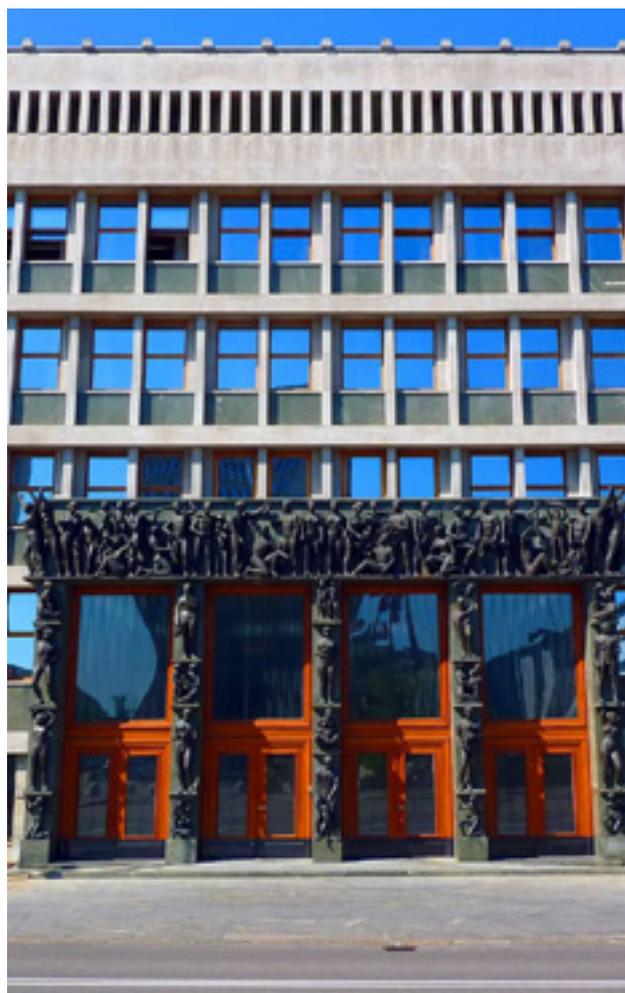
<https://manager.finance.si/8853868/V-Sloveniji-koncno-vec-zgodnje-podjetniske-aktivnosti>

<https://startaj.finance.si/8853737/Dobra-novica-Koncno-vec-zgodnje-podjetniske-aktivnosti>

<http://www.delo.si/gospodarstvo/podjetja/dve-tretjini-prebivalstva-ima-pozitiven-odnos-do-podjetnistva.html>

<http://www.delo.si/arhiv/vecje-zanimanje-za-podjetnistvo.html>

www.vecer.com/podjetja-se-rojevajo-in-propadajo-6249150



The National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, in Ljubljana.

<https://www.dnevnik.si/1042769764/posel/gazela/podjetnistvo-spostujemo-a-se-ga-se-bojimo>

<https://www.dnevnik.si/1042758929/posel/novice/konkurencnost-evropskega-gospodarstva-zvisujejo-skriti-podjetniki>

<http://svetkapitala.delo.si/aktualno/zanimanje-za-podjetnistvo-v-sloveniji-spet-vecje-1138>

GEM results are regularly reported also on the most visited Slovenian media portal *24ur.com*.

<http://www.24ur.com/manj-kot-tri-odstotke-slovenk-je-podjetnic.html>

Besides mentioned media, GEM results are also published and summarized by different websites and portals:

STA – *Slovenian Press Agency* (for example: <https://www.sta.si/2379003/gem-slovenija-2016-dve-tretjini-prebivalstva-imate-pozitiven-odnos-do-podjetnistva>)

siol.net (for example: <http://siol.net/posel-danes/novice/raziskava-uspesni-podjetniki-v-sloveniji-uzivajo-ugled-439828>)

times.si (for example: <http://www.times.si/gospodarstvo/kako-smo-pozabili-na-industrijski-potencial--b1ebbcd-4c47e9e719fb7943159fa691387c05cee/>)

data.si (for example: <http://data.si/blog/2016/02/11/podjetnistvo-v-sloveniji-slovinci-imajo-dovolj-znanja-a-se-za-podjetnistvo-ne-odlocajo/>)

podjetniski-portal.si (for example: <https://www.podjetniski-portal.si/e-publikacije/45571-GEM-Slovenija-2015-lzsla-je-znanstvena-monografija---Podjetnistvo-med-priloznostjo-in-nujo/>)

podjetnik.si (for example: <http://www.podjetnik.si/clanek/nezaznavanje-podjetni%C5%A1kih-prilo%C5%BEnosti-20130912>)

INDIRECT POLICY IMPACT

The GEM Slovenia policy impact also stems from the research done by GEM team members, who are actively engaged in publishing their research in peer-reviewed journals, present papers at conferences, contribute book chapters, publish monographs, etc. In last 15 years, they published nearly 200 bibliographic units that were either directly based on GEM databases or used GEM own results as a part of discourse.

A long-run impact is also achieved in classrooms, as all team members are university teachers. Two doctoral dissertations were recently completed exploiting GEM data, as well as some master thesis and undergraduate diplomas.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMMES

Slovenia has numerous programmes for entrepreneurship. Below are some examples.

The project “*Entrepreneurially into the world of business*” introduces a model of mentoring and additional training in order to prepare the participants to acquire the core competencies to develop their business ideas. The target group for this project are highly educated unemployed

individuals in Slovenia under 35 years old who have a higher education, master or doctoral degree, regardless of school, study programme or type of study. This scheme achieved increasing success rates at helping participants start a business. In recent cohorts, more than half of them successfully launched their ideas.

http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/industry-and-services/inclusive-business-creation/entrepreneurially-into-the-world-of-business-slovenia_9789264251496-21-en

Slovene Enterprise Fund is a public fund with purpose of improving the access to financial resources of SMMEs. It offers different financial instruments, such as *Start Up Incentives* to young enterprises (start-ups less than 12 months old) in the first development phase, *Seed Capital* to young enterprises (less than 5 years old) in the second development phase and their entrance on the market, and *Venture Capital* for the fast-growing innovative enterprises in the third development phase. It also offers *Microcredits* at an affordable contractual interest rate and *Guarantees* as collateral for bank loans with interest rate subsidy.

www.podjetniskisklad.si/en/

There is also much useful information for entrepreneurs accessible through various web portals:

Slovenia Business Point (<http://eugo.gov.si/>)

Entrepreneurship Portal (*Podjetniški portal*, www.podjetniski-portal.si)

I have an Idea! – the portal for innovators (*Imam idejo! - portal za inovativne*, <https://www.podjetniski-portal.si/ustanavljam-podjetje/inovativno-okolje/Imam-idejo---portal-za-inovativne>)

Initiative Start:up Slovenia (<http://www.startup.si/en-us>)

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