

**NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF SPORT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
2014-2023**

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1 INTRODUCTION

Sport enriches the quality of peoples' lives and has an important influence on society through its impacts. Sport has exceptional potential to bring people together and to touch each person regardless his/her age or social origin. People participate in the vast majority of sports activities as amateurs, however, for some people sports is their profession. People participate in sport in an unorganised way or they can unite themselves into clubs and associations or other sports organisations.

In the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 of the Republic of Slovenia from 2014–2023 (hereinafter National Programme of Sport 2014-2023) the concept of sport is being applied based on the definition of the Council of Europe¹. Sport means all, by the sports expertise agreed and determined forms of physical activity which, through casual or organised participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels. In addition sport contributes to various forms of thinking and to the development of personality.

The social role of sport is based on the scientific evidence on the significance of sport for health (physical, mental and social), on socialisation and on economy². Sport has also been recognised as having an important role in the encouragement of voluntary work and active participation in society, in raising solidarity, tolerance and responsibility, in contribution to sustainable development and other positive social values³ and national identity⁴. Due to all those influences sport is of public interest and thus co-financed from public funds, and therefore an appropriate systematic environment is established for its development.

Sport, as any other social activity, has its own deficiencies: inhumane treatment of athletes, spectator violence, doping, no-transparent operation of sports organisations, manipulation with sports results, and adverse impact on the environment, violation of human rights, etc. one of the objectives of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 is to prevent or reduce the negative sides of sport.

The network of sport's social functions results in its transversal connections with other social areas: health, education, economy, environment, tourism, culture, finances, traffic, etc. The development of sport thus cannot solely depend on sports organisations as well as the state and local authorities supporting sport. From the same reason particular areas of sport cannot be separated from each other in reference to the organisations implementing and providing sports programmes. National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 therefore provides strategic actions which are in certain aspects connected with other social areas, since this is the only way actions

¹ European Sports Charter (1992). Rhodes: Council of Europe.

² Vuori, I., Fentem, P., Svoboda, B., Patriksson, G., Andreff, W., Weber, W. (1995). The significance of sport for society. Strasbourg: Council of Europe Press.

³ White Paper on Sport (2007). Brussels: Commission of the European Communities.

⁴ Kovač, M., Starc, G., Doupona Topič, M. (2005). Šport in nacionalna identifikacija Slovencev (*Sport and national Identification of Slovenians*). Ljubljana: Fakulteta za sport (*Faculty of Sport*).

can create conditions for the development of sport in the entire society. From the aspect of its implementation the National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 has to be followed by the action plan defining the roles and responsibilities of individual mandatory organisations and transversal cooperation. National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 is therefore dedicated primarily to the public, state and local institutions and is of principle, orientation and political character. It particularly focuses on regulating professional, organisational and managerial tasks being closely related to sport. These tasks are determined by the annual programme of sport co-financed each year by the state and local budgets as well as from the financial resources of the Foundation for Sport. In the part where sports is intertwined with other social sectors it determines the basis for the positioning of sport into the strategies and policies of those sectors and thus ties to promote their mutual action for the common public good. While doing that it benefits from the rich experiences of the National Programme of Sport 2000–2010 (hereinafter: NPS 2000). Basic elements of the programme also follow the guidelines of the Council of Europe, European policies of several sectors referring to sport and physical activity connected to health, international conventions in sport ratified also by the Republic Slovenia, and the European extracurricular model of sport based on sports clubs and associations.

Sport is a fundamental right of every citizen, every child, youngster, adult, senior citizen and within those groups also all people with special needs. Sport activity is important for the wellbeing of all the citizens of the Republic of Slovenia. Due to its influence on the development of young people and consequently on the formation of their healthy lifestyles, as well as on their acquisition of social competencies, sport activity of children and young people represents a first priority content of the National Programme of Sport. However, regular sports recreational activity of adults is equally exceptionally important and it should not become a victim of discrimination based on socio-economic status.

2 MISSION

Through the National Programme of Sport 2014–2023, the state helps create conditions for the development of sport as an important element of the development each individual and society and contributes to the reduction of inequality regarding access to sports exercise. National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 defines public interest put in place by the responsible organisations carrying out Slovenian sport activities. We shall achieve the public interest objective by doing the following:

- a) providing each individual with the opportunities of active participation in sport in a safe and healthy environment;
- b) ensuring that all young people have quality extracurricular sports activities which shall jointly with the quality physical education enable them to acquire physical and other competencies at such a level that sport becomes a part of their healthy lifestyle;
- c) providing each individual up to his/her interest and capabilities a possibility of improving his/her personal achievements with confirmation in organised international sport and with the possibility of public recognition of his/her importance, leading to an increase of the country's reputation at the international level;

- č) safeguarding and encouraging the enforcement of moral and ethical values in sport, and by respecting human dignity and security of all connected with sport;
- d) creating in accordance with the guidelines of sustainable development an encouraging environment for the development of various types of sports activities for all groups of society, active daily transport of people (walking, cycling, roller skating, etc.), their socialising and spending leisure time together (playgrounds, parks, natural pathways, etc.);
- e) strengthening the role and importance of those sports associations which provide society with quality sporting services, and have a character of public good and as such occupy an important part of civil society and which mostly through their voluntary activities, strive for the benefit of the entire society.

3 STATE OF AFFAIRS

A number of indicators (the share of sports active population, number of sports organisations, number of medals at major sports competitions, new training and competition sports surfaces, etc.) demonstrate that sport in the Republic of Slovenia has undergone an all-round growth and quality progress in the last 15 years. An important contribution to this was provided by the state and the local communities as outlined in the v NPS 2000. Other supporting elements have been as follows: the role of sport in other social (particularly in educational system), self-initiative of associated sports organisations, expansion of private initiative in sport, expressed interest of Slovenian citizens and Slovenian economy for private financing of sport. Similar analysis of sport in the Republic of Slovenia has been done in the monographic study *»Analysis of the National Programme of Sport of the Republic of Slovenia 2000 – 2010«*⁵, and below there is a summary of the actual situation at the end of the ten year period together with the updated information on recent years which is a scientific basis for the preparation of further strategies.

Table 1: Slovenian sport in figures⁶

Total public expenditure in sport	154.910.945€
Average annual household expenditure for sport	308,4€
Number of active sports organisations	10.201
Number of active sports associations and their federations	6.286
Total revenue of sports associations and their federations	214.828.059€
Funds of the annual programme of sport per capita	75,36 €
Indoor sports area (m ² per capita)	0,33
Outdoor sports area (m ² per capita)	3,18

⁵ Kolar, E., Jurak, G., Kovač, M. (ur.) (2010). Analiza Nacionalnega programa športa v Republiki Sloveniji 2000-2010 (*Analysis of National Programme of Sport in the Republic of Slovenia 2000-2010*). Ljubljana: Fakulteta za šport.

⁶ Data in Table 1 have been collected by the Institute of sport Planica and mostly refer to the year 2012. The data on total public expenditure in sport refer to the year 2011, since the data for 2012 and data from local communities were not available yet. The data on the surface of sport area per capita refer to 2010 (source MŠŠ). The information on the revenue of sports clubs and associations are summarised from the collection of AJPEŠ (public services) for 2010. The information of SURS-a (Statistics office) on average annual household expenditure on sport including larger equipment for sport and leisure time, sports equipment, hunting, camping and open air recreation, services for sport and recreation as well as cycle, refer to 2010. The information on the share of adult citizens being sport active, dates from 2008 (source: Study on Slovenian public opinion.). The number of operational sports organisations is taken from the collection of Ministry of Interior, and the number of sports organisations from AJPEŠ; both information refer to 2012. The information on mountain pathways and huts is taken from the collection of the Alpine Association of the Republic of Slovenia in 2013.

Mountain pathways and mountain huts	9.000 km mountain pathways, 176 mountain huts and bivouacs
Number of compulsory physical education lessons per week in the educational system	2-3 lessons (45 min) per week in primary schools, 1 do 3 in secondary schools and 0 at university
Minutes of free choice leisure time physical education in the educational system	45-90 min in the last triad of primary schools
Share of adult citizens participating in sports activities (2008)	64%
Number of children in sports programmes "Zlati sonček" (Golden Sun) and "Krpan"	87.236
Number of awarded medals in the programme "Ciciban planinec" (Ciciban Mountaineer) and "Mladi planinec" (Young Mountaineer)	8.464
Share of swimmers among 12 year children	92,60 %
Number of registered athletes in competition systems of national sports federations, where they compete for the title of national champion	122.052
Number of categorised athletes	5.110
Number of top level athletes	1.051
Number of world class athletes	131
Number of sports disciplines with categorised athletes	115
Number of municipalities with categorised athletes	134
Number of children and young people included in the project of national sports schools	12.135
Number of young athletes - scholarship holders	163
Number of organisations implementing programmes professional staff education and training	63 delivery organisations, 333 programmes
Number of researchers in sport	101
Number of held World and European Championships	5

In the last decade the organisational aspect of sport has been growing. In 2012 there were 10.201 active sports organisations from which there were 6.286 or 61,62 % of sports associations. The number of sports organisations since 2001 has increased by 147 % or by 2.541 entities. Private sector increased particularly both in the number of organisations and in the revenue they generate. Despite this the model of sport outside educational system is still based on sports associations which are the main drivers of the Slovenian competitive sport. In 2012 there were 122.052 registered athletes⁷ that were competing in the competition systems of the national sports federations for the title of national champion (estimation for 2000 was 15.000). In the same year 5.295 athletes complied with the conditions of having one of the statuses of categorised athlete⁸. The number of sports disciplines, the number and the share of Slovenian municipalities with categorised athletes, the number of top level and the number of medals won at major sport competitions has increased in the whole period from 2001, which points at a more and more dispersed quality and top level sport. From 2001 to 2012 the number of top level athletes increased for 51,87 %⁹ or by 359 top level athletes. The number of medals won at major international sports competitions (Olympic games, World and European championships) steadily increased between 2001 and 2012 by 9,46 % per year. The Republic of Slovenia won five medals in the Beijing Olympics and four in the London Olympics and was placed fifth and fourth in medals won per capita¹⁰ and in third place with three medals won at the Winter Olympic in Vancouver¹¹. The Republic of Slovenia is among five European countries – and by far the smallest among them

⁷ Olympic Committee of Slovenia-Association of Sports Federations (2013). Electronic mail 26.6.2013.

⁸ Olympic Committee of Slovenia-Association of Sports Federations (2007). Pogoji, pravila in kriteriji za registriranje in kategoriziranje športnikov v Republiki Sloveniji (*Conditions, regulations and criteria for registration and categorisation of athletes in Slovenia*). Ljubljana: OKS_ZŠZ.

⁹ Till 2009 the number of elite athletes was growing steadily, in 2009 criteria were changed, which resulted in the increase of athletes above all in perspective class (junior categories!), mostly on behalf of prolongation of the status of perspective class up to two years, which was before 2009 limited to one year.

¹⁰ <http://www.medalspercapita.com>

¹¹ Zaključno poročilo o projektu (*Final report on the project WOG Vancouver*) ZOI Vancouver 2010 (2010). Ljubljana: OKS-ZŠZ.

- (France, Germany, Serbia and Spain) which qualified from 2010 onwards with their selections for World Cups in football and basketball as well as in handball in 2010 and 2012.

That success was achieved through the implementation of different systematic actions. The professional expertise of work with children and young people has increased particularly due to the co-financing well educated sports professionals working with this sensitive population within the project of national sports schools. Measures included providing athletes with the acquisition of desired education and finding solutions in the area of flexible school and sporting obligations of talented athletes (sports classes, scholarships, learning tutorship and other types of school obligations adjustments)¹².

By applying different sports programmes for children ("Zlati sonček" (*Golden Sun*), "Krpan", "Naučimo se plavati" (*Let's Learn to Swim*), "Hura, prosti čas" (*Hurray, it's leisure time*), "Ciciban planinec" (*Ciciban Mountaineer*), "Mladi planinec" (*Young Mountaineer*), "Zdrav življenjski slog" (*Healthy Lifestyle*)) improved in ten years in terms of contents, staff and from material aspect the physical activity of pre-school children as well as curricular and leisure time physical education of primary school children. However, the positive trends in the organised leisure time sports activity of children have not neutralised the negative changes in the lifestyles of children and young people. The consequences may be seen in the increase in the number of overweight and obese children, particularly at the age between 8 and 13, and negative changes in the indicators of aerobic endurance of children and young people¹³. Negative trends are much lower than in other European countries.

With the provision of infrastructure conditions to organise sports activities and by the intensive investments of local communities a network of sports areas has been established ensuring 0,33 m² of indoor and 3,18 m² of outdoor sports surface per capita. In this regard we have not succeeded to set out a register of sports facilities which would provide adequate overview and a more efficient network. Some local communities have constructed very complex facilities and will be unable to maintain them properly due to the insufficient budgetary resources. Generally, the construction of a network of sports facilities has been regionally dispersed and mostly multipurpose sports facilities have been constructed. Looking per capita, areas of least exercise sports are in Ljubljana and Maribor; the existing infrastructure in Maribor is the oldest¹⁴.

The network of sports surfaces ensures access to sport activities to most of the population which has been shown also by international studies. We, Slovenians, are in the first place regarding the use of natural sports surfaces and among the most sports active nations in the European Union.¹⁵ Up to 64 % of the population is sports active and regular sport exercise is practiced by 39% of the population¹⁶.

¹² Jurak, G., Kovač, M., Strel, J., Starc, G., Žagar, D., Ceci Erpič, S., Paulič, O. et.al. (2005). Športno nadarjeni otroci in mladina v slovenskem šolskem sistemu. (*sports talented children and youth in Slovenian education system*). Ljubljana: Fakulteta za šport.

¹³ Strel, J., Bizjak, K., Starc, G., & Kovač, M. (2009). Longitudinal comparison of development of certain physical characteristics and motor abilities of two generations of children and youth, aged 7 to 18 in Slovenian primary and secondary schools in the period 1990-2001 and 1997-2008. And B. Bokan, International scientific conference Theoretical, methodology and methodical aspects of physical education (p. 21-33). Belgrade, December 11-12, 2008. Belgrade: Faculty of Sport and Physical Education of the University of Belgrade. Kovač, M., Jurak, G., & Leskošek, B. (2012). The prevalence of overweight and obesity in Slovenian children and adolescents from 1991 to 2011. *Anthropological Notebooks*, 18(1), 91-103.

¹⁴ Jurak, G. in sod. (2012). Analiza šolskega športnega prostora s smernicami za nadaljnje investicije. (*Analysis of school sports area with guidelines for further investments*). Ljubljana: Univerza v Ljubljani, Fakulteta za šport.

¹⁵ Special Eurobarometer (2010). Dosegljivo 24.6.2013 na: http://ec.europa.eu/sport/library/documents/d/ebs_334_en.pdf.

¹⁶ Sila, B. et.al. (2010). Športno rekreativna dejavnost Slovencev. (*Sports recreational activity of Slovenians*), Šport, 67 (1-2), priloga.

In the previous decade we also established the second sports development infrastructure. We managed to establish the system of education, training and specialisation as well as the system of promotion of professional staff in sport. At all levels of staff development we have put in place adequate programmes which are provided by competent organisations (three public organisations providing university and higher education programmes and one private organisation; there are 284 programmes of education and training provided by 63 organisations). In the past decade 1130 experts successfully completed their studies in university and higher education degree in sport. In the entire period 9679 professional staff have been trained and qualified in sport. In terms of support to the knowledge transfer sports and other organisations annually publish about 70 works of scientific and professional literature in sport. There are nine laboratories within the Institute of Sport at the Faculty of Sport of the University of Ljubljana and one laboratory at the University of Primorska supporting athletes and monitoring athletes' physical prowess; in addition there are various private organisations providing the same services. Despite reduced financing, scientific and research work in sport remains quite extensive and successful, and is due to the general national strategy of science oriented towards publishing scientific results at the international level and less towards studying practical problems at home. In doping prevention the Slovenian Anti-doping Organisation has been established, which discovered 20 cases of doping violations.

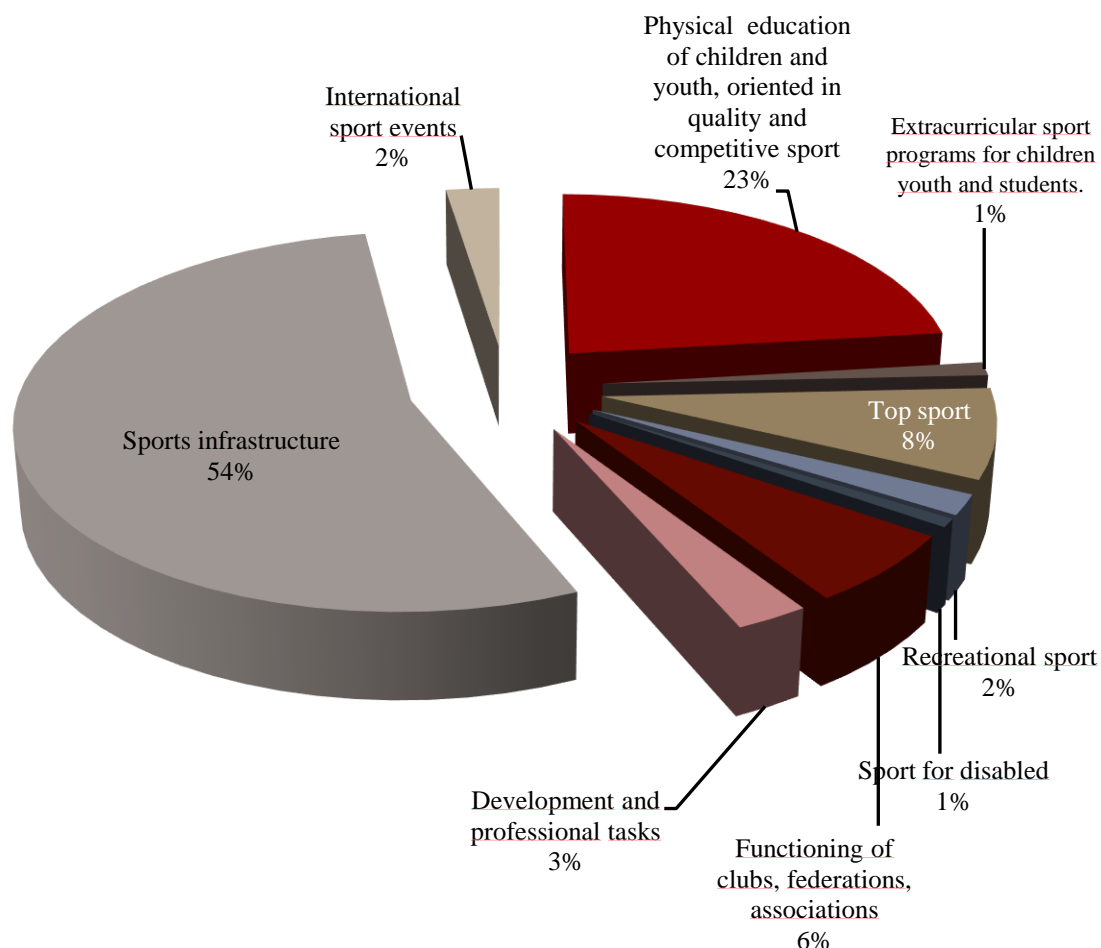
The analysis of Slovenian sport financing has shown that the annual expenditure on sport nominally increased in the previous decade, but due to the larger investments into traffic infrastructure decreased in relation to GDP. In 2001 we recorded 433,9 million € (2,38 % GDP), and in 2007 up to 597,5 million € (1,93 % GDP) of expenditure on sport. The relationship between private and public expenditure has not changed in the course of the years; on average, private expenditure represents 84 %, and public expenditure 16 % of all expenditure in sport. The share of public expenditure is lower than in several other EU countries. The expenditure of Slovenian citizens represents almost half of all expenditure in sport. We spend the most on sports products (78,2 % - sportswear and footwear as well as outdoor sports equipment), and more than three time less on sports services (21,8 % - sports courses, sports clubs membership fees, training fees, ski tickets, and sports events tickets). On average a Slovenian household spends 308,4 €¹⁷ on sport, and company expenditure on sport (mostly sponsorships) represent on average 18,1 % of all expenditure in sport.

The revenue of sports organisations increased in the previous decade from 158,9 million € to 300,3 million €. Despite extensive increase private sector revenue the revenue of sports organisations has steadily increased. In 2010 their revenue was 214,8 million €¹⁸, however the average revenue of sports club or association stagnates due to the increasing number of the latter.

¹⁷ Data accessible at SURS for 2010, <http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/temp/0811201S201392347939.xls>.

¹⁸ Entire revenue of all sports associations in Slovenia equals the revenue of the football club Juventus from the Italian first league (Deloitte, 2010), which points at relative financial weakness of sports associations in Slovenia compared internationally.

Figure 1: Structure of public expenditure in 2011 according to the contents of the National Programme of Sport



In 2011, up to 154,9 million € was allocated for sport from the public funds¹⁹ and in 2001 up to 63,4 million €. The funds of local communities in 2011 represent 70,5 %, and the state funds 29,5 % of all public expenditure in sport (from this figure 15.754.607€ or 10,1 % was allocated from the European Structural Funds). This indicates that we have a decentralised model of financing comparable to Western European countries. The realisation of specific contents of the NPS 2000 was quite diverse. The best realisation was recorded in the area of sports facilities construction. That was also the item that got the highest amount of public funds and in addition to that its share within total public expenditure was increasing steadily. In 2001 its share was at 48,1 %, and in 2011 it was 54,1 % of the total public expenditure for sport (Figure 1).

However, certain supportive mechanisms for Slovenian sport were not put in place in the previous decade. We have been facing difficulties in the promotion of physical education programmes throughout the entire vertical of the education system, in the promotion of athletes' health care, in our endeavours for holistic personal development of top level athletes and in the establishment

¹⁹ The concept includes funds of local budgets for sport, state budget and funds of FSO – Foundation for sport organisations. The sum above does not include funds for the employment of athletes and coaches in public administration, which in 2011 were up to 1.664.000 €.

of statutory rights of coaches and trainers, in the development and promotion of the sports activities of children and young people with special needs and in sports activities of disabled, in the rationalisation of the use of public sports surfaces and facilities as well as in the insufficient exercise infrastructure for certain sports disciplines. We have also noticed an excessive dependence of some national sport federations on public funding and chronic financial difficulties of professional sports teams. Wrong political decision in 2006 regarding the functioning and development of sports information system brought the lack of adequate information for decision making process. We also did not manage to ensure balanced media coverage of various forms of sport. The media mostly report from top level sport and high-level sport events and they are, to a lesser extent, fulfilling their mission in the promotion of sport as an important element of healthy lifestyle. The civil sport movement also comments on its weaker involvement in the decision process regarding public sports financing and in the implementation of sport at the local level. We have also noticed the absence of incentives regarding sustainable practices which are very important in the construction and functioning of sports facilities as well as during the organisation of sport events. All that might threaten further development of Slovenian sport.

4 VISION

Sport shall remain an important part of our nation's culture, and each individual sport shall become or remain an indispensable part of healthy lifestyle and positive life attitudes.

The purpose of public funds is to keep sport accessible to individuals, to athletes of all ages and to all involved to various forms of sport.

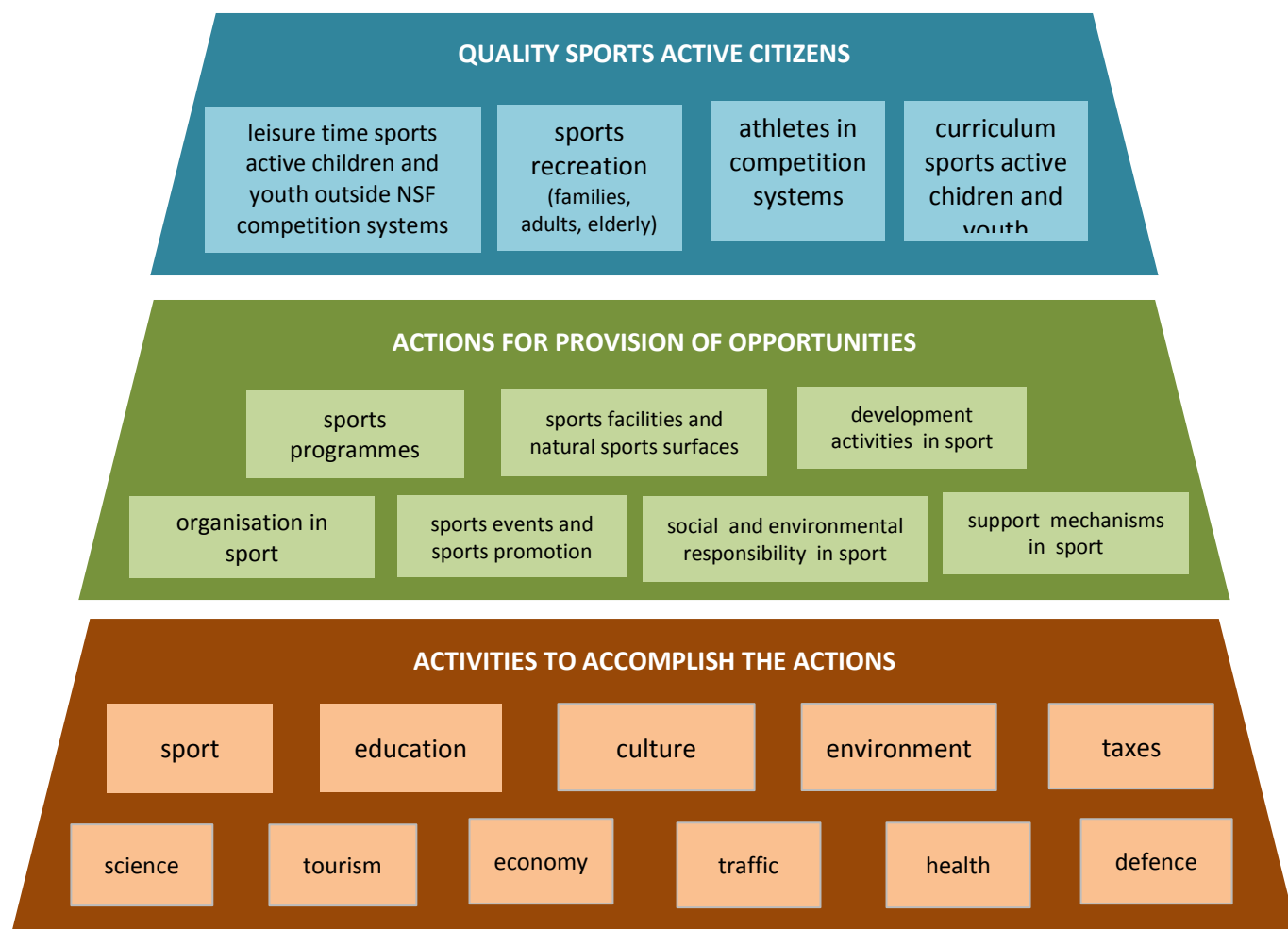
5 OBJECTIVES

Due to the more scientifically proven positive effects on individuals and society, the public interest of the Republic of Slovenia is that its citizens are more quality sports active. In accordance with the mission and vision the core objectives of the National Programme of Sport to 2023²⁰ are as follows:

1. to increase the share of sports active adult citizens of the Republic of Slovenia up to 70 %,
2. to increase regularly sports active adult citizens of the Republic of Slovenia in the total percentage of sports active by 5 per cents,
3. to increase the share of sports active citizens in professionally managed sports programmes for 3 per cents,
4. to raise the number of athletes in the competition systems for 3%,
5. to keep the number of top level athletes,
6. to increase the recognition of sport as an important social sub-system.

²⁰ Objectives are given for the entire period – till 2023 and arise from the following initial situations: 1st objective: 64 % in 2009, 2nd objective: 33 % in 2009, 3rd objective: 25 % in 2008, 4th objective: 122.052 in 2012, 5th objective: 1.051 in 2012.

Figure 2: Connection of objectives with actions and social areas which will put in place the actions of the National Programme of Sport



To achieve the objectives (quality sports active residents) National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out measures in several sub-structures of sports and activities for the implementation of these measures, which affect a variety of areas of society and often require multi area treatment and cross-sectorial coordination (Figure 2). People of the Republic of Slovenia engage in various forms of sports which can be mutually intertwined.

6 ACTIONS

The overall purpose of the measures is to provide opportunities for quality sport by increasing access to sport for the people of the Republic of Slovenia, by the competitiveness of sports organisations and through the quality of sports programmes. The actions of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 are presented in seven sections:

1. sports programmes (substantive basis of sport),
2. sports facilities and areas for sport in nature (material basis for the implementation of sport),
3. development activities in sport (support for adequate and secure implementation of sports activities for each individual),

4. organisation in sport (ensuring competitive and transparent functioning of sport organisations),
5. sports events and sports promotion (strengthening of sport promotion and creating social and economic benefits),
6. social and environmental responsibility in sport (ensuring an encouraging and sustainable environment for the development of sport),
7. support mechanisms for sport (supportive social environment for the development of sport and prevention of abuse in sport).

Sections are divided into the areas where in line with the main objectives of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 the strategic objectives in these areas are determined. Actions are based on those objectives. To measure the achievement of strategic objectives in specific areas special indicators are proposed. Objectives and actions result from the findings of the previous, NPŠ 2000⁵, analysis.

Objectives and actions will be operationalised and put in place through a variety of activities and projects that will be identified in the Implementation Plan of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023.

Hereinafter the following abbreviations are applied:

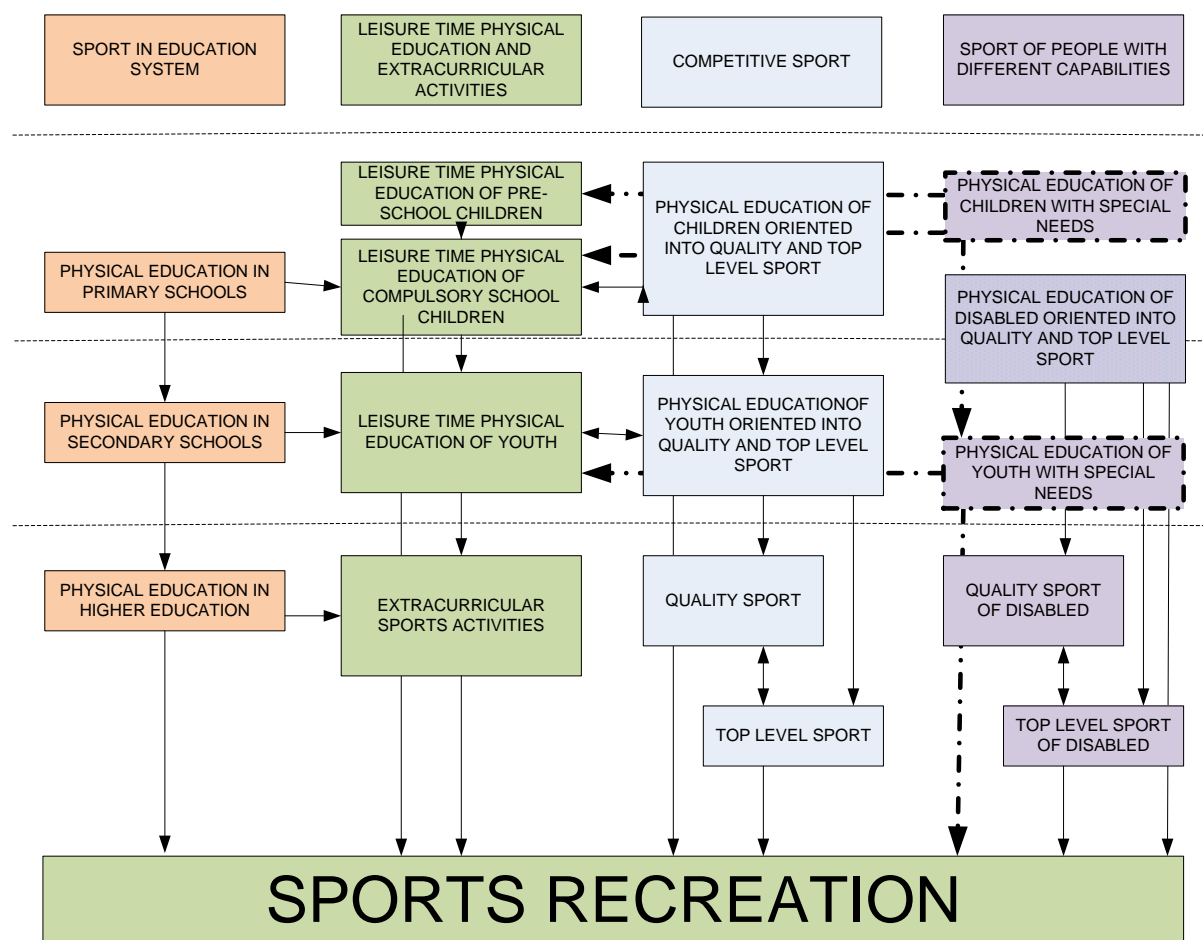
Abbreviation	Title
ARAS	Agency for Research Activities of the Republic of Slovenia
ECh	European Championships
ESF	European Structural Funds
FDHO	Foundation for Financing of Disabled and Humanitarian Organisations
FSO	Foundation for Sports Organisations
MESS	Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
MEDT	Ministry of Economy, Development and Technology
MIS	Ministry of Infrastructure and Space
MODS	Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MH	Ministry of Health
MLFSE	Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Welfare and Equal Opportunities
NSF	National Sports Federations
OG	Olympic Games
OCS-ASF	Olympic Committee of Slovenia – Association of Sports Federations
SLOADO	Slovenian Antidoping Organisation
WCh	World Championships
SURS	Statistics Office of the Republic of Slovenia
ADSS-PCS	Association for Sport of Disabled Slovenia – Paralympic Committee of Slovenia

6.1 Sports programmes

Individual forms of sport have different goals and in terms of programmes are tailored to different groups of people, their abilities (knowledge, skills, attributes and motivation) and their age. Sports

programmes, as the most visible part of sport, as a rule represent a professionally organised and managed sports exercise²¹.

Figure 3: Sports programmes and their intertwining



The National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 defines sports programmes, which are schematically shown in Figure 1. Sports programmes are carried out by different contractors for whom different implementation organisations are responsible, so for their success networking and connecting the content, spatial and financial responsibility of the individual delivery organisations (families, schools, clubs, local communities, private sector, ministries, etc.) are crucial and not the separation of sports programmes in relation to these agents.

Depending on the desired quality activity of the population within sports programmes inside and outside them the sports recreation represents the manifestation of sport which reflects the adoption of habits for a healthy lifestyle and a positive life attitude. People acquire these habits through other various forms of organised sports activities that have an impact on the target

²¹ Exception is sports recreation where an important proportion of people does exercises outside sports organisations.

groups and which interconnect and interact²². All sporting activities are characterised by the following common goals - sustainable sporting habits, motivation for an active, healthy and interesting leisure time in all stages of life, the possibility of self-confirmation, for improving physical fitness and taking responsibility for one's own health.

6.1.1 Sport in the education system

In the Slovenian kindergartens movement is designated as part of the curriculum and, throughout the vertical educational system pupils and students have a compulsory subject called sport or physical education in varying degrees of weekly hours (1 to 3 hours of 45 minutes). On the first two stages of the Bologna process the subjects with different names and involving sports contents are included only in some courses as electives subjects.

School subjects called sports or physical education represent the only regular sports activities for the whole population of children (aged 6 to 15 years) and for a large proportion of young people (more than 95% of young people between 15 and 17 years, and about 80% of young people between 17 and 19 years), so their extent and quality are of the utmost importance for healthy development, for the creation of a healthy lifestyle and for proper socialisation of children and youth²³.

Funding of school physical education falls within the scope of education covered by the ministry responsible for education. As a result of major changes in lifestyles²⁴ it makes sense that to all involved in education programmes, from kindergarten to the end of schooling in line with the European Parliament Resolution²⁵ at least 180 minutes of high-quality school physical education a week is ensured. According to experts, this is the minimum amount that may by quality teaching and appropriate size of the training groups ensure the neutralisation of the negative effects of modern lifestyle. World Health Organisation guidelines require at least 60 minutes of moderate to intense physical activity a day for adolescents seven days a week²⁶. This extent can be achieved with an appropriate volume of high-quality sports training in school and outside it. In line with this by 2020 an analysis of the advisability of introducing one lesson per day of physical education in elementary and secondary schools should be done.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>With good quality and regular physical education (at least 180 minutes per week) to increase the physical capacity of pre-school children / pupils / students by 5%</i> - <i>For pre-school children / pupils / students to develop sustainable habits of regular sports activity and the acquisition of healthy lifestyle</i> - <i>Through the implementation of primary school curricula to ensure pupils have free of charge swimming courses and cycling test</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of minutes devoted every day to movement in kindergartens</i> - <i>Number of minutes of compulsory subject (sport or physical education) on individual stages of education</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of hours of leisure time school physical education on individual stages of physical education</i> - <i>Share of pre-school children / pupils / students involved in leisure time sports programmes</i> - <i>Average number of children / pupils / students in the exercise group</i> - <i>Share of hours in the first and second triad, where joint teaching of class teacher and sports teacher takes place</i> - <i>Share of children / pupils / students that are overweight or obese</i> - <i>Changes in motor development and other indicators of physical competence of children and youth</i> - <i>Share of swimmers</i> - <i>Opinion of parents / pupils / students on the programmes quality</i>
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In the past decade, the first decrease in the number of hours of physical education in some technical and vocational schools occurred; with the introduction of the Bologna reform, physical education was excluded from the regular curriculum, which is in high contrast with the needs of today's youth. Among children and youth the so-called sedentary lifestyle is increasingly present; there has been an extreme increase in the proportion of overweight and obese, and a decrease in their movement competencies²⁴. Strategic objectives, which should be materialised by the ministry responsible for education by 2023 are therefore aimed at providing adequate amounts of exercise for all children and young people and improve their quality²⁷. All this requires different norms in terms of practice group size which carry out lessons and different ways of education and professional training of future teachers who teach physical education at all school levels. Given the above said the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the following steps²⁸:

1. increase the amount of compulsory physical education lessons,
2. increase the amount of physical education elective lessons,
3. raise the quality of physical education,
4. follow up systematically the physical and motoric development as well as other indicators of motoric competencies on the entire population of primary, secondary schools and students..

6.1.2 Leisure time physical education of children and youth

Many experts agree that a professionally managed, sufficiently intense, high-quality structured and regular sports exercise is the only activity that can neutralize the negative effects of today's predominantly sedentary life and inadequate nutrition habits of contemporary young generations²⁹. The fundamental purpose of sports exercises, especially in childhood and adolescence, is that a child or adolescent becomes physically competent and educated person³⁰. Its characteristics are: adequate movement efficiency; acquisition of skills and knowledge that enable the individual to participate in various sports activities; regular exercise or sporting activity and understanding of the role of movement and sport and their impact on the establishment of a healthy lifestyle.

Co-financing of activities in leisure time physical education of children and youth from pre-school up to secondary school levels fall within the yearly sport programme at the state and local level,

and in elementary school it is a part of the expanded programme of school (extracurricular activities) also financed from the resources of education. Leisure time physical education of children and youth this covers a wide range of sporting activities from after-school sports programmes available to all children and youth who are not part of competition systems of sports federations and are provided by federations and clubs or private entities.

Due to the influence of physical activity and sport on different aspects of a young person's development the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 exposed a priority concern for all forms of sports activities for children and youth. With these programs we want to implement the recommendations of the various resolutions, for example, Recommendations of the World Health Organisation²⁶, which require that every child and adolescent should have at least an hour of quality sports training per day. Active involvement of various fields is therefore essential education (classroom, sports days, free interest leisure time sports programmes and school sports competitions; concern for the education of young athletes), health (nutrition habits policy), transport (provision of safe routes to allow access to school on foot, by bicycle, scooter or roller skates), labour, family and social affairs (enabling family leisure activity), tourism (free offer in tourist centres). Due to a very modest funding of this area over the last decade⁵ we need to increase the proportion of funding programmes at the local level. The quality and efficiency of leisure sports programs will increase if the programmes are led by educated and more qualified staff. Due to the complexity of working with young people and their security only well-educated sports experts can work with youth, and exceptionally also professionals who have at least the second level of competency to carry out educational work in sport.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Increase the share of daily sports active children and young people by ten percent</i> - <i>Improve motor abilities of children and youth</i> - <i>Help certain children and young people by way of sports exercise (children and young people with special needs, socially excluded, etc.) to acquisition of social competencies and healthy development</i>
<i>indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Share of children and young people who in their leisure time (on weekdays, school holidays) regularly or occasionally participate in sports activities</i> - <i>Number of children and young people in National Programme of Sport programmes Mali sonček (Little Sun), Zlati sonček (Golden Sun), Krpan, Hura, prosti čas (Hurray, it is leisure time), Naučimo se plavati (Let's learn to swim), Šolska športna tekmovanja (School sports Competitions), Ciciban planinec (Ciciban Mountaineer), Mladi planinec (Young Mountaineer), Zdrav življenjski slog (Healthy Lifestyle), etc.</i> - <i>The number of children and young people actively participating in the activities in nature</i> - <i>Changes in physical and motoric development as well as other indicators of motoric competencies of children and young people</i> - <i>Body mass index (from the data provided by Sports Educational Chart)</i> - <i>Number of children and young people included in special exercises dedicated to children and young people with special needs, socially excluded, etc.,</i>

	- <i>Opinion of parents / children / youth on the contents and quality of programmes</i>
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In the past decade we perceived a substantial increase in the proportion of children and adolescents that are overweight and obese, as well as declining motor abilities, especially those who are associated with prolonged work, so the strategic objectives up to 2023 are aimed at providing at least an hour a day of intensive enough, and quality controlled, sports exercise. Actions in the field of leisure time physical education of children and youth require the active involvement of different policies, so some of the measures are listed in other areas of the National Programme of Sport²²:

1. ensure at least an hour of quality led sports exercise daily for all age groups of children and youth,
2. modernise as well as increase quality and attractiveness of the existing physical activity leisure time programmes for children and youth,
3. ensure at least two hours of free of charge, quality led physical activity leisure time programmes weekly for pupils.

6.1.3 Physical education of children and youth with special needs

According to their interest children and young people with special needs may participate in these programmes. These include children and young people who, due to congenital or acquired defects and disabilities, conditioned or caused by physical and social environment, cannot themselves partially or fully satisfy the needs of personal, family and social environment in which they live, so they need specially modified practice of physical activity programmes with additional professional help. Physical education for children and youth with special needs is primarily intended for appropriate care for the integration of young people into everyday life and represents a logical continuation of their regular school sports activities. Success in sports activities affects their successful social integration, full and prosperous life. Forms of activities that fall within the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023, are sports exercise, sports events and courses or specific physical activity programmes for different types of deficits or barriers²³.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	- <i>Improve connections among schools, sports clubs and associations, providing programmes for children and young people with special needs</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	- <i>Number of physical activity programmes for children and young people with special needs</i> - <i>Number of children and young people with special need involved in physical activity programmes</i>

²² Ensuring access to sports facilities and outdoor sports areas for children and youth is placed in the chapter Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature. Improving competencies of expert staff organising and delivering interest sports programmes for children and youth is presented in the chapter Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport.

²³ An upgrade to those programmes are sports programmes of disabled, oriented into quality and top level sport, quality sport of disabled, elite sport of disabled (all that covers the chapter Sport of disabled) and sports recreation or sport for all (also in a separate chapter).

In the past decade, the scope of physical education of children and youth with special needs has been poorly financed. The National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 provides for the future promotion of the participation of all entities in this area and comprises the following action²⁴:

1. Encourage connections among schools and sports, charity and other associations at the local level to implement physical activity programmes children and young people with special need.

6.1.4 Extracurricular sports activities

Extracurricular sports activities are an important component of students' lives and complementary to their intellectual work. They help to counteract the negative effects of a sedentary lifestyle, which is mainly caused by studies, and to contribute to the full realisation of their personality.

Study period can be seen as an extended period of adolescence, where it is necessary to continue the incentives regarding the path to physically competent personality, therefore, during this period we will also follow our objective of an hour of quality sports exercise a day.

Extracurricular sports activities represent a variety of organised and self-organised²⁵ forms of sports activities on the studies location or place of residence of the student. For the organisation of such activities in addition to student (sporting) organisations higher education institutions are responsible.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ensure better conditions for active participation of students in sport in their leisure time up to 50 % of students</i> - <i>Improve motoric capacities of students by 10 %</i> - <i>Increase the number of students in sports programmes by 20 %</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Share of students practicing sports activities in their leisure time regularly or occasionally</i> - <i>Number of students in extracurricular sports programmes and in the university sports competitions</i> - <i>Changes in the physical and motoric development as well as other indicators of motoric competencies of students</i> - <i>Opinion of students on the quality of programmes</i>

In the past decade there were many changes in the field of students' sport having a bad impact on it⁵. It will be necessary to increase the public funding of these activities, particularly at the local community level. Universities and independent higher education institutions should establish an effective system of quality extracurricular sporting activities which will attract more students. According to the character of students the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 defines the following action in this area:

²⁴ Other actions referring to physical education of children and youth with special needs are presented in the chapters Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport and Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature.

²⁵ In case of self-organised types students are only provided with space for carrying out sports activities.

1. Modernise and increase the quality and attractiveness as well as the price accessibility of extracurricular sports activities.

6.1.5 Physical education of children and youth oriented into quality and top level sport

Quality sporting activity for children and youth involved with the sport to attain high achievement is a prerequisite for the subsequent sports performance. These programmes include systematic concern for young athletes on their way to achieving top results comparable to the achievements of their peers internationally. The programmes are based on the quality physical education which takes place in the sports associations and their federations, and is upgraded into the training of an individual sport discipline performed by an educated expert or professional staff that has at least a second level of competency to carry out educational work in sport. Programmes should, besides sport activities allow Athlete to successful education. In this context, systematic support is provided for young athletes²⁶.

Co-financing of physical education of children and youth-oriented into quality and top level sport falls within the annual sports programmes at the state and local level.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Increase the number of children and young people in competition systems by 5 %</i> - <i>Increase the number of athletes of junior category by 5 %</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of children and adolescents who are involved in competitive programmes of national sports federations</i> - <i>Number of athletes of junior category</i>

In the past decade we established a system of national sports schools, which has improved the quality of work with talented young athletes, and future activities shall be aimed at bringing these positive practices at local level and to improve the quality of work with this sensitive population. Providing opportunities for quality physical education of children and youth-oriented into quality and top level sport enters several areas of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023²⁷, thus, only one action is provided here:

1. Providing a quality physical education of children and youth in competition systems organised by sports federations (national and municipal sports schools, support to programmes).

²⁶ Presented in the chapter Education of talented and top level athletes.

²⁷ Improving competencies of expert staff organising and delivering leisure time sports programmes of children and youth is presented in the chapter Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport. Support given to athletes in the education system is presented Education of talented and top level athletes. Measurements and monitoring of training level is determined in the chapter Monitoring of athletes' preparedness and advice in sports training.

6.1.6 Quality sport

Quality sport is an upgrade of physical education of children and youth-oriented into quality and top level sport. All athletes and sports teams in the senior age categories who do not qualify for the status of top athletes, compete in competitions organised by national sports federations to the title of national champion and international competitions, and are registered in accordance with the terms of the OCS are classified into the quality sport programmes⁸. Development of high quality sport is an important factor in spreading of involvement of a greater number of athletes in the sport for result²⁸ and the establishment of competitive environment in individual sports at the national level. Better quality and a wider competitive environment at the national level is an important factor and promoter of the development of professional sports. A special place within the field of quality sports is occupied by athletes and sports teams who in accordance with the terms of the OCS⁸ acquire the status of national class athletes, as it represents achievement of the highest level of sports performance of athletes or sport teams at national level or adequate level of performance in the international arena. Due to the above said quality sport is co-financed from public funds through the annual programmes of sport. It excludes, however, the payment of athletes for their sport activities.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	- <i>Maintaining the number of athletes with national class status</i>
<i>Indicator</i>	- <i>Number of athletes with national class status</i>

In the quality sport the number of athletes involved in competitive systems (registered) has increased in the past decade, as well as the number of athletes with the status of national-class athlete ⁸. An important shortcoming of the period analysed was primarily the provision of the significance of athletes with the status of national class who represent the highest level of success within the field of quality sport. National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 therefore attributes greater attention to the organisation of the internal affairs of public spending in the area of quality sport. Statutory rights of athletes that belong to the field of quality sports are presented in a separate chapter. Accordingly, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 in the field of quality sport defines the following action:

1. Increasing the competitiveness of quality sports programmes (effective use of sports facilities).

6.1.7 Top level sport

Achieving high and the highest sporting results in the world is first and foremost a great act for the individual, and the incidence of online media, the national importance of sport and social visibility it may also be important for the broader community (local community, region, country and international release).

²⁸ Sport for result represents sports activity in which athletes' main aim is to achieve the best possible ranking or public acknowledgement of their sports activity.

Top level sport represents one of the highest forms of human creativity in the field of sport. It is often referred to as a sporting activity to demonstrate the ultimate limits of human physical and mental abilities. This emanation of sport plays an important role for other aspects of sport, in particular the involvement of young people in sport. Top athletes are role models for young people, their achievements are often identified by all members of the imagined national community (i.e., the national identification)⁴. Top level sport is also an area where through achievements at the international level the benefits of the country may be realised (e.g., visibility). Top sports achievements indirectly reflect the development of sports industry, pointing to its structure, affecting the sports industry, trade, tourism, media, and indirectly guide modes (active and passive) of how people spend their leisure time. The complexity of top sporting achievement is so big that it is difficult to analyse, but certainly it is necessary to harmonise the ability of an athlete, coach, the given material and financial opportunities, scientific findings and hard and systematic work.

Some ways to the top sporting achievements, as well as the effects of professional sport are often contradictory, so the side effects of professional sport (doping, inhumane treatment of athletes, manipulation of sports results) are specially dealt with in the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023²⁹. However, top level sport has so many positive values for the individual and for the nation that every society supports with a particular interest its athletes in achieving top level results. In humane societies special attention is paid to work with the youngest athletes, where expertise or unprofessional approach can be decisive for whether the athletes achieve their potential, keep an appropriate level of motivation and achieve their personal goals.

In elite sport athletes can forge their role in society through the achievements in sports competitions. Top level sport has an extraordinary tradition in the Republic of Slovenia and the people of the Republic of Slovenia can be argued to have a special appreciation for athletes and top sports achievements⁴. Top athletes' production of top level performances requires from athletes in addition to their sports talent a lot of hard work, perseverance, often including denial, appropriate working conditions and a combination of other investments. Therefore, achieving top sports results is the result of planned, technologically sophisticated, individualised process; not only training, which involves more people, often including several sports organisations. The main actors in top level sport are athletes and their coaches and sports clubs and their national federations. Also other supportive environments are important: family (athlete's private life), school (balancing school and sports commitments), sports team (health monitoring and preparedness of athlete) and professional environment (harmonisation of work and sporting commitments).

Top sport and the top athlete in the Republic of Slovenia is conventionally defined according to the categorization of athletes⁸. The model for the classification of athletes into classes is based on the premise that Top creative achievement can be attained only in absolute international competition, i.e., in the competitions where all the best athletes in particular sports feature. According to this model, the evaluation of the results of athletes is derived from the characteristics of the competition, in which the result is achieved, i.e., on the international competitiveness of national importance of sports discipline as well as on the basis of other criteria⁸.

²⁹ Dealt with in the chapter Support to humanity in sport.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Maintaining the number of top level athletes</i> - <i>Maintaining the number of medals won at the Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships, and in final classifications of World Cups</i> - <i>Versatile development of top athletes during their sporting careers and after</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of top level athletes</i> - <i>Number of medals won at Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships, and in final classifications of World Cups</i> - <i>Satisfaction of athletes with the acquired status of top level athlete</i> - <i>Satisfaction of trainers with the acquisition of status of top level trainer</i>

Measures taken in the previous decade had a favourable and positive impact on the growth and development of professional sports in the Republic of Slovenia. Development of professional sport is not only reflected in the increasing number of top athletes and continuous increase in the number of medals won at the largest international sporting competitions, but it is also visible in the successes of the Slovenian national teams in team sports. We have also noticed a quality dispersion of top level sports among constantly growing number of sports⁵.

Top sports achievement is a service with costs similar as everywhere in the world and constantly increasing. Because we want to remain competitive the National Program of Sport 2014-2023 in the future pays even more attention, in addition to the implementation of top level athletes' programmes, to the provision of statutory rights of top athletes and top coaches, to creating a favourable environment for the integrated development of top athletes during sporting career and after as well as to the improvement of spatial opportunities for preparation and performances of Slovenian athletes. Accordingly, we shall, on the basis of existing opportunities, put in place and combine in terms of programmes the Olympic, national and municipal sports centres. To provide a comprehensive technical support to programmes a professional sports Olympic centre will be set up³⁰. For coordinating the study and training commitments, we will establish an Olympic University Sports Centre ³¹ for the training of top level athletes – students in Ljubljana.

Top sport is co-financed from the annual programmes of sport, but the purpose of public funding should not be to pay athletes for their appearance. The National Programme identifies in the field of professional sports the following actions³²:

1. increasing the competitiveness of top level sport programmes (support to programmes, incentives for top athletes and their coaches, Olympic University Sports Centre),
2. system determination for the enforcement of their rights as top athletes and top coaches (employment of top athletes and top coaches in public administration, job search assistance to former athletes, coordinating the study and sports careers).

³⁰ Olympic sport centre is described in the chapter Development tasks.

³¹ Olympic university sport centre is described in the chapter Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature.

³² Development tasks for the promotion of top level sport are dealt with in the chapter Development tasks in sport, assistance in coordinating school and sporting requirements of top level athletes are described in the chapter Education of talented and top level athletes, preventing negative sides of elite sport in the chapter Support to humanity in sport, establishing spatial possibilities to practice sport in the chapter Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature.

6.1.8 Sport of disabled

Sport of people with disabilities³³ has got in all its diverse forms an important psychosocial impact (possibility of rehabilitation by means of movement, social integration), but also sporting events (the possibility of achieving top results and engage in sports and recreation). Thus, in some forms of reduced ability of human physical activity distinctly dominate top-level achievements (Paralympic sports, Olympics of deaf), while elsewhere psychosocial aspects (Games Special Olympics) are in the forefront of the more. There are other forms of sports for the disabled (Non-Paralympic sports).

The variety of sporting activities in the field of sports for the disabled also shows the composition of the central branch association in the sport for the disabled in the Republic of Slovenia, i.e., Sports Federation for Persons with Disabilities Slovenia - Slovenian Paralympic Committee, which brings together the largest national organisations of disabled³³.

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of the sport of disabled people, the area is intertwined with various social sectors, among which the most important are health and education. In addition to sports clubs and other sports organisations, also entities from these sectors are involved in its growth and development. Sports for disabled children and young people takes place mostly in regular schools. These programs are not included in the annual sports programmes, but are accepted as part of the curricula and school programmes and a very important element in the establishment of sports activities and the promotion of sports culture of people with disabilities.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Improve relations between sports associations and charity organisations implementing programmes for disabled</i>- <i>Establish sport for disabled at the local level</i>- <i>Increase the number of sports active disabled persons involved in sports programmes in the area of sports recreation and competitive sport by 200 %</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Number of sports programmes for disabled</i>- <i>Number of sport associations for disabled</i>- <i>Number of disabled top level athletes</i>- <i>Number of disabled people included in sports programmes for recreation and competitive sport</i>

In Slovenia, there are approximately 170,000 people with disability status. In the area of leisure time physical education there are currently very little programmes for this population, from both, the competitive and recreational aspect. Raising the quality of programmes, and the number of people with disabilities who are involved in sports and recreation activities, will be achievable, particularly in cooperation between the POC, currently the sole representative of the disabled

³³ The cited federation has got the acronym ASDS-POC (Slov., ZŠIS-POK) and includes the following members in: Association of blind and Association of the Blind and Partially Sighted of Slovenia, Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Slovenia, Paraplegics Association of Slovenia, Association of Disabled Workers of Slovenia, Sunshine - Association for Cerebral Palsy Slovenia, Harmony - Association to help people with intellectual disabilities Slovenia (Association of symbiosis) Muscular Dystrophy Association of Slovenia, Multiple Sclerosis Association of Slovenia, Association CIV Slovenia, Slovenian Association of Disabled Students, Association of War Veterans, Association of disability associations ILCO Slovenia, Slovenia laryngoectomated Association, Association of paralysis of Slovenia and the Slovenian Association of rheumatics.

sport in Slovenia, and the municipal sports federations, national sport federations, government bodies and other stakeholders in sporting activities.

In the past decade the set objectives in the field of sports for the disabled were only partially achieved because the ASDS-POC did not have the support of the relevant professional organisations and relevant ministries. For the future, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 provides the cooperation between all the stakeholders within the actions arising from the Convention on the Rights of Disabled³⁴ and determines their rights in the field of sport. In general, the Republic of Slovenia committed itself by ratifying it to take measures to provide persons with disabilities with the same opportunities as other people to participate in the leisure sports activities. Their major element represents is the gradual integration of people with disabilities in the school system and national sports federations, where there is interest.

National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 includes in the area of sport for disabled the following actions³⁴:

1. encouraging cooperation between sports and disabled organisations as well as charity organisations at the local level in order to implement sports programmes for disabled,
2. promote the competitiveness of disabled top level sport (ensuring adequate organisational infrastructure for competitions, support to top level disabled athletes through ASDS-POC ZŠIS-POK),
3. providing statutory rights of top level disabled athletes,
4. implementation of the model of inclusion of disabled in the education system,
5. encourage cooperation between individual national sports federations and ASDS-POC.

6.1.9 Sports Recreation

Sports Recreation is a logical continuation of compulsory and leisure physical education, physical education for children and youth with special needs, extracurricular sports activities and also programmes of competitive sports (athletes should remain active in sports after completed sports career). It represents sporting activity of adults of all ages and families with the aim of maintaining health, wellbeing and vitality, social integration, competition or fun. In terms of the public interest such effects of sports exercises are particularly important, which undoubtedly proves that regular, high-quality structured and appropriately intense sports recreation is very helpful for the health of individuals and, consequently, for public health³⁵. Such exercise³⁶ reduces

³⁴ Other actions related to sport of disabled are presented in the chapters Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport and Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature.

³⁵ Public health is defined as science and expertise regarding prevention and community health enhancing through education, promotion of healthy lifestyle and researches on the prevention of illness and injuries. Public health helps improving health and wellbeing of people.

³⁶ All other sports programmes have equal effects, however, in some of them certain negative health side-effects appear (e.g., injuries, damages in top level and quality sport). Nonetheless, even these programmes are very positive in health and cost balance. The calculations, which take into account injuries in sports, point to a direct treatment costs due to physical inactivity from 104 USD to 1305 USD per capita (v: Oldridge, N. (2006). Costs of physical inactivity. V: Abstract book of 11th World sport for all congress. Physical Activity: Benefits and Challenges, pp. 9. Havana: Cuban Olympic Committee).

diseases and mortality³⁷, reduces body weight, ensures better balance of blood fat³⁸, as well as the amount of body fat³⁹, it raises the level of protective cholesterol - HDL and reduces the level of harmful cholesterol - LDL⁴⁰ and increases bone density⁴¹.

Sports Recreation therefore represents an active, useful and enjoyable fulfilment of daily, weekly and annual people's leisure time. It has various forms. Due to the formation of a healthy lifestyle it is especially recommended for the planning of family sports activities. Hereby it is not only important to have a greater internal cohesion and quality of family life, but also scientific findings that sport is a means of effective entertainment and quality leisure time, as well as prevention and treatment of socio-pathological phenomena. Sport of elderly people increasingly becomes an important part of sports recreation due to demographic trends. Sports Recreation is an important factor in the development of sports tourism, for which Slovenia has excellent features. Sports and active tourism is a means by which it is possible to accelerate the promotion of participation in sports, both within families as well as among individuals. And, there is a growing need for the sports activities within work organisations, in the form of active breaks during the working process and for the recreation of employees outside working hours, adjusted according to the characteristics of the workplace and the personal traits of the employees who perform the work.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Increase the share of sports active adults to 70 %</i> - <i>Increase the share of sports active people in professionally managed sports programmes by 3 per cent</i> - <i>Increase the share of sports active tourists</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Share of sports active citizens (regularly, occasionally, in professionally managed programmes)</i> - <i>Share of sports active tourists</i>

In the past decade we recorded a significant progress in sports recreation. Sports activity of Slovenes increased⁴; due to the influence of mothers on the leisure activity of families⁴² and the higher presence of women in sport recreation was noted as particularly important. The offer sports recreation programmes also increased. Here private offer⁵ was the driving force for development. However, we cannot ignore that sport recreation is based on the financial contributions of population⁵, thus in the past equal conditions were not provided for all the citizens of Slovenia to have equal access to it. Therefore, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out an increase in the accessibility particularly by measures in the field of outdoor sports facilities and the use of natural areas for sport in a way that they involve minimizing negative impacts on the environment. Sports recreation in these areas can be a very good neutralisation to today's workloads that are characterised by prolonged sitting indoors in front of

³⁷ Blair, S.N., Kohl, H.W., Barlow, C.E., Paffenbarger, R.S., Gibbons, L.W., Macera, C.A. (1995). Changes in physical fitness and all-cause mortality. A prospective study of healthy and unhealthy men. *Jama*, 273(14):1093-8.

Haskell, W.L., Leon, A.S., Caspersen, C.J., Froelicher, V.F., Hagberg, J.M., Harlan, W. et al. (1992). Cardiovascular benefits and assessment of physical activity and physical fitness in adults. *Med Sci Sports Exerc*, 24(6 Suppl):S201-20.

³⁸ Leon, A.S., Sanchez, O.A. (2001). Response of blood lipids to exercise training alone or combined with dietary intervention. *Med Sci Sports Exerc*, 33(6 Suppl):S502-15; discussion S528-9.

³⁹ Kromhout, D., Bloemberg, B., Seidell, J.C., Nissinen, A., Menotti, A. (2001). Physical activity and dietary fiber determine population body fat levels: the Seven Countries Study. *Int J Obes Relat Metab Disor*, 25(3):301-6.

⁴⁰ Sasaki, J., Shindo, M., Tanaka, H., Ando, M., Arakawa, K. (1987). A long-term aerobic exercise programme decreases the obesity index and increases the high density lipoprotein cholesterol concentration in obese children. *Int J Obes*, 11(4):339-45.

⁴¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (1997). Guidelines for school and community programmes to promote lifelong physical activity among young people. *MMWR Recomm Rep*; 46(RR-6):1-36.

computer screens, and can also function as a social corrective due to their free use. Free diverse possibilities of practicing sport and recreation, such as exercise free of charge, free use of school playgrounds in the afternoon, extracurricular activities, etc., affect either the improvement of the level of physical activity as well as significantly contribute to reducing inequalities between individuals⁴².

Implementation of strategic objectives in the field of sports recreation, in addition to the activities mentioned in other chapters⁴³, shall be realised through the following measures:

1. increasing access to quality sports recreation,
2. increasing the awareness of everyone about the importance of sports activities for their own health in the broadest sense of the word and the possible negative impacts of sporting activities on the natural environment,
3. promotion of various forms of physical exercise in the workplace,
4. sport recreation by prescription
5. reinforcing the image of the Republic of Slovenia as a tourist destination for sporting active holiday.

6.1.10 Sport of senior citizens

Demographic projections suggest that by 2060 every third inhabitant of the Republic of Slovenia will be 65 years of age, and almost every seventh person will be older than 80 years. On the other hand, the number of young people reduces⁴³. The aging of society will have inevitable social changes, so sport for senior citizens, despite the fact that by its content it belongs to sports recreation, is highlighted in a separate chapter, as it will in the future represent an important area of development of sport and society at large.

Sport for senior citizens can be defined as a sport and recreational activity of people aged over 65⁴⁴. This is usually a period when people retire, due to aging and changes in certain biological characteristics of the human body, so elderly people fall ill more often. For society, sport for senior citizens may represent an important means to reduce expenditure on the public health fund, as the effects of quality physical exercise reduces morbidity. And, for an individual, regular sport activity during this life period means a sound and independent aging, maintenance of physical, mental, emotional and social health, social inclusion, reduces treatment costs and maintains creative life energy.

Sport for senior citizens represents a continuation of sports recreation of adulthood, with adjustments depending on the capabilities of an individual resulting from the aging process; results show that it is possible to expect positive changes of regular exercise in people who began to practice only in old age.⁴⁵

⁴² Ferreira I, van der Horst K, Wendel-Vos W, Kremers S, Van Lenthe FJ, Brug J. Environmental correlates of physical activity in youth – a review and update. Journal compilation. The International Association for the Study of obesity. Obesity reviews 2006; 8: 129-54.

⁴³ SURS (Statistics Office) (2009). Prebivalstvo Slovenije danes in jutri (*Population of Slovenia today and tomorrow*), 2008-2060. Projekcije prebivalstva EUROP2008 za Slovenijo. Ljubljana: Statistični urad RS. Dosegljivo na: <http://www.stat.si/doc/pub/prebivalstvo2009.pdf>.

⁴⁴ This age limit is in place in most developed countries (<http://www.who.int/healthinfo/survey/ageingdefnolder/en/>).

⁴⁵ Chodzko-Zajko, W. J., Proctor, D. N., Fiatarone Singh, M. A., Minson, C. T., Nigg, C. R., Salem, G. J., et al. (2009). American College of Sports Medicine position stand. Exercise and physical activity for older adults. *Med Sci Sports Exerc*, 41(7), 1510-1530.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Increase the share of sports active senior citizens up to 50 %</i> – <i>Increase the share of sports active senior citizens in professionally managed sports programmes by 10 per cent</i>
<i>Indicator</i>	– <i>Share of sports active senior citizens (regularly occasionally, in professionally managed sports programmes)</i>

The proportion of sports active elderly people in the past decade rose to 38%, but this share is markedly lower than in the age group of the population between 55 and 64 years, which amounts to 62.3%⁴⁶. In the future, in order to achieve the strategic objectives, the programme will have to be expanded with specially educated and professionally qualified staff, sports facilities and their equipment will have to be adjusted for the elderly, the use of natural resources for recreation made more efficient, and the cooperation of sports pensioners' and health care organisations will have to be more integrated. Accordingly, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 in the field of sport of senior citizens and the elderly comprises the following actions:⁴⁷

1. ensuring at least two hours of free of charge, quality managed sports activities per week for senior citizens,
2. encouraging intergenerational cooperation through sport .

6.2 Sports facilities and outdoor natural sports areas

An important factor in sports activities is also the material environment⁴⁸, thus, one of the priorities of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 is efficient and affordable network of quality sports facilities and areas for sport in nature. The co-financing of activities in the field of sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature fall within the annual sports programmes at the state and local level.

In the past decade, we provided decent infrastructure conditions^{5, 49} - with the exception of training infrastructure in major urban centres, in particular in Ljubljana and Maribor ⁵⁰. So, it makes sense to promote the best possible use of existing public and those private sports facilities where there is a huge public interest in their integration into the network of sports facilities (e.g., facilities of sports clubs, where a large content of the National Programme of Sport is carried out), and to build the missing multi-purpose sports training facilities.

Sports facilities in schools should be better used to cater for the needs of pupils, students, parents and clubs outside of school days. Thus, it is possible to create links between sport in the family, school and clubs. Facilities for sports recreation should be accessible to all population groups. The popularity of so-called urban sports among young people requires the construction of sports

⁴⁶ Sila, B. et.al. (2010). Športno rekreativna dejavnost Slovencev (*Sports recreational activity of Slovenians*). Šport, 67 (1-2), priloga.

⁴⁷ Other actions dealing with sport of senior citizens are presented in the chapter Sports recreation, Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport and Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature.

⁴⁸ Sallis, J. F., Prochaska, J. J., & Taylor, W. C. (2000). A review of correlates of physical activity of children and adolescents. *Medicine and Science in Sport and Exercise*, 32(5), 963–975.

⁴⁹ Slovenia is in the capacity of sports facilities per million citizens on the 24th place among 140 countries according to the study of T&T Competitiveness Report (WEF, 2013). The indicator is important as it shows »benevolence of the state to sport«, where Slovenia classifies very high.

⁵⁰ Jurak, G. idr. (2012). Analiza šolskega športnega prostora s smernicami za nadaljnje investicije (*Analysis of school sport space with the guidelines for further investments*). Ljubljana: Univerza v Ljubljani, Fakulteta za šport. Dosegljivo na: http://www.fsp.uni-lj.si/COBISS/Monografije/Analiza_skupaj3.pdf

facilities for these sports in urban communities. Safe routes to sports surfaces should be adequately provided.

The corporate image of sport and sports awareness should be reflected in well organised natural space for sporting purposes. Using nature as the biggest sports surface requires not only relationship to what has been constructed, but also to all naturally given, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development, particularly with balanced environmental management.

Facilities for quality and competitive sport must follow the ongoing development of individual sports. To improve the spatial possibilities for the preparation and performance of athletes the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the program and infrastructural integration of certain exercise sports areas into the sports centres at state and local communities' level⁵¹.

The constructed network of sports facilities and training areas for sport in nature will need to be properly maintained and updated according to the principles of sustainable development. It is necessary to ensure transparent public investment, which will enable the cooperation and support of public funding organisations, regardless of the ownership and with the expressed public interest.

Sports event facilities represent the public interest that goes beyond the scope of sport, so their construction must be associated with the development potential of integration with other social segments (tourism, culture, etc.). Depending on the density of population and other infrastructural requirements, facilities of this kind are built, in principle, in the largest cities.

One of the key justifications for the new construction of sports surfaces must be the appropriately educated and well trained staffs that are able to adequately exploit and maintain sports surfaces. Relevant standards and norms which prescribe the construction of sports facilities, their maintenance and equipment, are dictated also by raising the quality of sports activities in clubs and schools. On this basis it is possible to design a sport- technology step forward that will provide high-quality sports surfaces and thus modern sports facilities⁵².

Particular attention will have to be focused on sustainable urban development of sports infrastructure within the capacity of the environment and natural resources. Urban development should ensure the sustainability of the improvement of the economic, social and environmental well-being without the depletion of environmental capital and destroying the urban environment and the preservation of housing values and raising the standard of living of all citizens.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Quality exploitation and management of sports facilities and surfaces for sport in the nature</i> - <i>Ensuring 0,35 m2 of indoor and 3,2 m2 of outdoor sport area per capita being adequately placed in space</i> - <i>Ensuring sports facilities and surfaces for sport in the nature that will be constructed, upgraded and managed along the principles of sustainable development</i>
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⁵¹ Presented in the chapter Top level sport.

⁵² Več v: Jurak, G., Kolar, E., Kovač, M., Bednarik, J. (2012). Management športnih objektov. Od zamisli do uporabe (*Management of sports facilities. From the concept to application*). Ljubljana: Fakulteta za šport.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Improving effectiveness of the public sports facilities use</i> - <i>Inclusion of private sports facilities in the network of sports facilities in order to realise public interest in sport</i> - <i>Ensure adequate quality network of sports facilities and surfaces for the entire programme substructure of sport <</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Area of indoor and outdoor public sports facilities in reference to sports disciplines</i> - <i>Area of private sports surfaces included in the network of sports facilities realising public interest in sport</i> - <i>Area of school sports halls and outside playgrounds and sports surfaces per pupil</i> - <i>Number of sports facilities adapted for physically handicapped</i> - <i>Occupancy of sports facilities with sports programmes</i> - <i>Time proportion of sports facilities occupied by the National Programme of Sport</i> - <i>Length of marked organised pathways in the nature (mountaineering, cycling, running, etc.)</i> - <i>Number of Olympic, national, regional and municipal sports centres</i> - <i>Extent of voluntary work in clubs and associations regarding the construction and reconstruction of sports facilities</i> - <i>Energy consumption in sports facilities</i> - <i>Share of renewable energy resources in sports facilities</i> - <i>Number of urban sports facilities and surfaces for sport in the nature in the cities</i> - <i>Number of sports facilities constructed or renewed and maintained according to the principles of sustainable development</i>

In the past decade, we ensure good infrastructure conditions⁵, so the strategic objectives of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 are aimed at the efficient use of the network of sports facilities, its improvement and efficient management of sports facilities, maintenance of constructed facilities and modernisation of the outdated as well as exploiting the natural resources of the Republic of Slovenia in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. In this view, the following measures are designed in the field of sports facilities and outdoor surfaces for sports in nature:

1. to promote sustainable and sports technological modernisation of existing public sports facilities and their effective use as well as the management of public sports areas,
2. to encourage the inclusion of private sports facilities in the network of sports facilities for the implementation of public interest in sport,
3. to raise the quality and the number of publicly accessible sports areas in the urban (sports for all islands, trim paths, outdoor school and pre-school playgrounds, etc.) and natural environment (mountain, running, cycling pathways; natural pools, etc.),
4. to establish connections with other social areas and private sector while constructing and using sports facilities,
5. to eliminate existing disproportions in the extent of exercise sports areas among local communities in largest cities,

6. to improve the placement of sports facilities in the urban environment and the pathways ensuring active access (walking, by bicycle, by scooter or rollers),
7. to put in place a network of sports centres for particular sport at different levels for quality development of competitive sport.

6.3 Development tasks in sport

Development activities serve as a support to all other sports activities. They are mostly expert tasks that are mutually intertwined, so it is sometimes difficult to separate them. They ensure success in all areas of sport. Without the implementation of these tasks Slovenian sport would not be as quality, wide spread, safe, educative and competitive against sport of developed countries. As a small nation: we need to further strengthen the basic options for sports performance, to achieve international excellence. Their purpose is to provide opportunities and standards for carrying out sports activities, comparable to the sports cultural sector of the developed world.

National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the next development substructure:

- Education, training and development professionals in sport
- The status rights of athletes, coaches and professional support programs,
- Publishing in sport,
- Scientific-research activity in sport,
- Information and communication technology and analytics in sport.

Organisations implementing these activities are quite diverse. Higher education and research institutions in the field of sports and other institutions that educate expert professionals in the field of sports, are responsible for the care of expert and professional work in sport, and thus must be actively involved in addressing the problems of sports practice, educate and cooperate with the OCS-ASF and national sports federations to train sports professionals and be committed to continuous improvement of their knowledge. Sport practice should also stay in touch with the progress in the field of expert professional support and effectively exploit all its advantages. For effective and coordinated permanent link between providers and users it is therefore sensible to set up a permanent organisational structure at the national level - the Olympic Centre of Expertise. Municipal sports federations must ensure the conditions for the implementation of development activities in local environments.

6.3.1 Education, training and specialisation of expert professionals in sport

Quality professional personnel and experts in sport are the key to its development and success. The highest professional level is represented by professionally qualified personnel who completed university or higher education study programmes in the field of sport (kinesiology). These programs are in the domain of the education system. In parallel with the university and

higher education there are also programmes of training and specialisation expert professionals and other workers related to sports that are part of the annual programmes of sport.

The training of expert professionals in sport is understood as the programmes where different skilled personnel are being trained in individual sports disciplines, which allows them to work in sports. Training programs are shorter programs for personnel who have been already educated or trained to work in sports, but wish, or are required to, upgrade their knowledge. These programs, together with self-education, give support to lifelong learning as one of the priorities of the European Union.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Increase the level of general and expert professional knowledge of staff in sport</i> - <i>Quality improvement of existing education and training programmes</i> - <i>Ensure an appropriate number of quality educated and trained staff to work in sport</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of well-educated sports experts and professionals</i> - <i>Number of well-educated sports experts and professionals working in sport</i> - <i>Number of expert professional staff in the education and training programmes in sport</i> - <i>Number of education and training programmes in sport</i>

In the last decade a system of education, training, development and promotion of professional experts in sport has been established⁵ developed in collaboration with higher education and research institutions, the OCS-ASF and national sports federations. For all levels of staff development in sport separate programmes are in place, and in the future, we want to increase the quality and competitiveness of professional staff by establishing individual responsibility of professional staff working in sport, by enhancing their competencies, with the availability of education and training programmes, and by increasing the diversity of supply and competitiveness of these programmes. In this reference the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 identifies the following actions:

1. to improve the competencies of expert professional staff who are organising and carrying out sport programmes,
2. raise the quality of education and training programmes of the expert professional staff in sport.

6.3.2 Statutory rights of athletes, coaches and expert support to programmes

6.3.2.1 Education of talented and top level athletes

Humanity aspect of work in the sport is reflected in the care of the athletes' education. Providing equal educational opportunities for gifted ⁵³ and top athletes is an important responsibility of the state. Most Slovenian top level sport is not sponsorship interesting, and the level of education is closely associated with social status at the end of the sports career. Therefore, talented and top level athletes may be given an opportunity, with adaptations of their school or study and sporting commitments to have a profession at the end of their sporting careers, thereby reducing the threat of one of the side effects of professional sport.

The path to the top sporting achievement is very long, so it is often necessary to systematically work to start very early. It requires many sacrifices and adaptation to various obligations of athletes and their families. For the top sports accomplishment it is normally necessary to start with systematic work in some sports in school life or even earlier (e.g., gymnastics, skating). Only good coordination of commitments, both at school and in sports, can guarantee the success of a young athlete in both areas. Taking into account the different position of sports talented students and consequently their special needs is one of the key elements of successful organisation athlete's classes. The affirmative actions (sports departments in high schools, sports schools of national importance, scholarships to talented students and world-class athletes), innovative approaches in the educational process and system solutions in the legislative field, the state is responsible for all schooling athletes.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Keep the number of sports classes in grammar schools and increase the quality of their work</i> - <i>Establish sports classes in at least five secondary technical or vocational programmes</i> - <i>Increase the basic amount of scholarships for pupils and students – talented and top level athletes by 20 % in reference to the actual salary ratios</i> - <i>Increase the number of top level athletes finishing their secondary and higher education</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of sports classes in secondary schools</i> - <i>Number and amount of all scholarships for pupils and students – talented and top level athletes</i> - <i>Number of top level athletes finishing their secondary and higher education</i>

The Republic of Slovenia has a comparable starting point for working with gifted sports with developed European countries ⁵⁴.

School legislation states that schools must provide for the upbringing and education of gifted students in sports. The focal point of the school and professional sport is quality and professionally managed physical education of talented children, so this program should be given the highest support in terms of content, and methodological and substantive financial support. Educational programme (e.g., sports classes) is the responsibility of the ministry responsible for

⁵³ As talented athletes are considered those young athletes who are recognized by their sports expertise as above average capable, dedicated to sports training and creative in their sport activities. A measure of talent is mostly sporting achievement.

⁵⁴ Jurak, G., Kovač, M., Strel, J., Starc, G., Žagar, D., Ceci Erpič, S. Paulič, O. et al. (2005). Športno nadarjeni otroci in mladina v slovenskem šolskem sistemu (*Sports talented children and youth in Slovenian education system*). Ljubljana: Fakulteta za šport.

education, while the Annual Programme of Sport should provide appropriate conditions for the development and support (monitoring of physical prowess of these athletes, material conditions, scholarships, etc.).

Different models of coordination of teaching obligations and sports careers⁵⁵ provide young athletes with more equal opportunities for education in primary and secondary level, while in higher education in the past we have not yet established appropriate practices. National Programme of Sport me 2014-2023 in this area therefore defines the following measures⁵⁶:

1. raise the quality of incentives to sports talented pupils (support in coordination of schooling and sporting obligations,),
2. increase the number of sports classes in non-grammar programmes,
3. improve the quality of sports classes functioning in secondary schools..

6.3.2.2 Monitoring of athletes' physical prowess, training advice and expert support to programmes

Determining and monitoring of physical prowess of athletes at all levels (excellent, talented, recreational athletes), and advice to parents of children forms the basis of professional strategic work in sport (with proper exercise, nutrition, hydration and lifestyle). In reference to talented and top athletes this means a humanization of working with athletes and a cornerstone of their competitive performance; and in children with developmental problems it means an effective support to their holistic development.

This part of the National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 includes the following tasks:

- determining the level of physical prowess of athletes and monitoring their development,
- developing a system of preparations for athletes and advice in the planning and execution of training,
- developing of modern training methods and new measurement procedures,
- effective coordination of the various forms of professional support programmes,
- advice on involving children in various sports training,
- advice for parents of children with mental disabilities,
- monitoring and evaluation of psychosomatic status of recreational sports people,
- transfer of expert information and scientific findings into sports practice.

Monitoring certain indicators of preparedness of athletes can be implemented during training process by simple measuring equipment, and other monitoring is possible with more complex

⁵⁵ Status of athlete in elementary school and the status of prospective or a top level athlete (individual adjustment of learning commitments), sports classes in secondary schools (a smaller number of students in the class, support of teaching and sports coordinator in coordinating commitments, additional classes – individual assistance, personalized teaching methods and forms of learning, foreseen questioning, schedule adjustment, adjustment of some content to the needs of sports training - part of the training at school, the possibility of increased absence from classes, conditional advancement, exams by the end of the school year, an extension of student status for two years, the possibility of multiple attending the same year, the possibility of entry in the maturity preparation course, option to stay in students hostel or at home and individual education assistance in his/her spare time in the sports classes of hostel type).

⁵⁶ Actions for the improvement of the education of those experts who work with such athletes are given in the chapter Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport.

technology that requires specially trained or qualified personnel, and often specially equipped room (laboratory)⁵⁷.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Improving evaluation of sports training processes</i> - <i>Improving quality and coordination of expert support to programmes</i> - <i>Increasing the application of diagnostics in sport by 20 per cent</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of athletes included in the national strategy of monitoring athletes' prowess and expert support</i> - <i>Opinion of athletes and coaches on the processes of monitoring athletes' prowess and expert support</i> - <i>Number of measurements of competing athletes within the fr national strategy of preparedness monitoring</i> - <i>Number of advice regarding children's inclusion in sport</i> - <i>Number of evaluations of psychosomatic states of recreational sports people</i>

The umbrella sport organisation, the OCS-ASF should, for the purpose of the achievement of its objectives, in cooperation with national sports federations, prepare and adopt a national strategy for monitoring the preparedness of athletes and expert support for the Olympic cycle. Organisations implementing the strategies must meet the above requirements to perform these tasks, and the OCS enters into a special agreement with them for the implementation of national strategies of monitoring of athletes' preparedness and giving technical support. On the basis of available resources the OCS defines the annual implementation of this strategy. The National strategy for monitoring the preparedness of athletes is established so that a comprehensive treatment of the athlete is covered; to this end, the connection to the system of preventive health checks and other systems of professional support is needed.

At the local level, the monitoring of talented athletes' preparedness is coordinated by municipal sports associations in collaboration with national sport federations. For this purpose, the associations mostly use portable diagnostic equipment that can be borrowed from the selected providers of monitoring.

The functioning of the monitoring strategy of athletes' preparedness at the national and local level, the evaluation of psychosomatic status of recreational sports people and advice on involving children in sports requires the development of appropriate diagnostic procedures and appropriate equipment, thus the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 includes the development and procurement of such technologies where feasible.

In reference to the above, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 regarding the monitoring of preparedness of athletes, giving advice on sports training and providing expert professional support includes the following actions:

1. national strategy of athletes' preparedness monitoring,
2. athletes' preparedness monitoring at the local level,

⁵⁷ Such conditions were by a mix of financial resources from sports, science and economy to the fullest extent established at the Institute of Sport, Faculty of Sport, University of Ljubljana, to a lesser extent also in the Science and Research Centre of Koper, University of Primorska.

3. development of diagnostics in sport and evaluation of measurement results,
4. monitoring of recreational sports people preparedness,
5. giving advice on children's inclusion in sport.

6.3.2.3 Health care of athletes

Physical strain present in sports training require a healthy athlete - where health is not understood only as the absence of disease but also a state of physical, mental and social well-being. It is the result of good physical condition, proper nutrition, a healthy environment, effective stress management and responsibility for one's own health⁵⁸.

Health care of athletes is the result of health policy and capacity for its implementation; of the willingness to invest in the health of athletes, knowledge, equipment and organisation of health care. The aim of athletes' healthcare is to maximize the health of the athlete as an individual and society as a whole. The same as health care in general, the health care of athletes covers medical and other measures to:

- strengthen athletes' health,
- prevention of diseases, injuries and damages of athletes,
- early detection of diseases,
- treatment,
- health care,
- rehabilitation.

Health care of athletes is integrated into the general health care system, so according to its organisation it may be divided into:

- primary level – basic health care services (school medicine, occupational medicine and sports specialist services, ambulance, laboratory tests, X-rays, physical medicine and rehabilitation),
- secondary level – hospital,
- tertiary level – clinics.

At primary level, the most important role is played by sports medicine, which through its preventive orientation and multipurpose organised orientation, performs all the tasks of active healthcare in sport.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Taking care of athletes' health by increasing inclusion of preventive exercises, which reduces the frequency of negative side effects of sports practice into programmes for athletes</i> - <i>Improve the connection and coordination between the medical support to athletes and sports programs</i> - <i>Increase awareness of athletes on the importance of preventive medical controls for their health</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The number of annual preventive health checks for registered athletes</i> - <i>Number of periodical preventive medical examinations for top athletes</i>

⁵⁸ According to definition of World Health Organisation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The number of premium health insurance (above standard) for top athletes</i> - <i>Opinion of athletes and coaches on the quality of medical support and coordination</i>
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Preventive medical examinations of athletes are performed in order to ensure that sport is practiced by those to whom their health status permits. We thereby protect the health of athletes, figure out the correct orientation of training; prevent diseases, injuries and damages as well as any disabilities of athletes with all the consequences. National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 therefore includes preliminary preventive medical examinations for all registered athletes, annual preventive medical examinations for all categorised athletes and targeted periodic preventive health examinations for all top-level athletes (e.g., participants at the Olympic Games, etc.).

Athletes who wish to participate in competition systems organised by sports federations and categorised athletes undergo preventive medical examinations, in which authorized physicians determine the potential risks associated with the selected sporting activity of athlete. They report their findings to the child's or adolescents' legal representatives and issue a certificate of ability in sports participation. These examinations take place within the regular school systematic preventive medical examinations.

Categorised athletes are, in addition to these preventive examinations, provided with additional periodic preventive health examinations, and top level athletes also have the occasional above-standard health checks.

Providing adequate health care requires adequate professionally educated, trained and licensed staff, from trainers, doctors, physiotherapists, masseurs to psychologists.

Health care of athletes in the secondary and tertiary levels (curative) shall be resolved in the context of the selection of athletes for above-standard health insurance that provides cover for emergency medical services without waiting time (surgeries, diagnostics, medicines, prostheses, etc.). Funds for above-standard insurance of top athletes are provided within the annual program of sport and from the contributions of athletes and their sports federations. Other athletes can pay this insurance by themselves.

National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 thus includes the following actions:

1. carrying out preventive medical examinations for athletes (preliminary for registered athletes, annual for categorised athletes and targeted periodical for top athletes),
2. above-standard health insurance of top level athletes,
3. promoting establishment of the network of organisations providing health care support to athletes .

6.3.2.4 Top level athletes and top level coaches employment in state administration as well as in business companies (dual career)

An important measure of the State is employment of top athletes and top coaches in the state administration bodies, since a top athlete as well as a top trainer can only be successful if in

addition to appropriate conditions for training and competition he is also provided with social and economic security. The state and the state authorities have recognized in top athletes their own interest and the expected overall impact of their employment in state bodies following the example of most European Union countries.⁵⁹

Strategic objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Employment of 150 athletes and coaches in public administration by 2023</i> – <i>Putting in place the directions of the European Union⁶⁰ referring to dual career of athletes</i>
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of employed top level athletes in public administration</i> - <i>Number of employed coaches in public administration</i> - <i>Number of enforced activities from the directions of the European Union⁷⁵ referring to dual career of athletes</i>

Recruitment of top athletes and their coaches in public administration is oriented to the systemic approach of employment at the Ministry of Defence - the Slovenian Armed Forces, Ministry of Internal Affairs - Police and the Ministry of Finance - Customs Administration. Employment depends on strong political commitment and on the upgrading of the existing agreement on employment.

In the future it will be necessary to set up a system of recruitment of some top level athletes also in the Slovenian economy during their sporting careers (i.e., dual career) and after it.

According to this, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 defines the following action:

1. upgrading of the employment of top level athletes and top level coaches in public administration and enterprises (dual career) and pensions for top sporting achievements.

6.3.3 Publishing in sport

Each issued professional and scientific book or journal in the field of sport in the Slovenian language is of great importance for Slovenian sport, because our language area is narrow, however, due to the growth of all sport in the Republic of Slovenia, the need for expert professional sports publications are increasing. At the same time, the Slovenian sports terminology, which is the foundation of any professional and scientific research, is evolving. Public interest is represented in particular by the sports publications with the interpretative role⁶¹. The latter provides them with the opportunity of interpreting events and information, so that the audience can formulate an opinion about a particular phenomenon in the field of sport.

⁵⁹ Repenšek, D. (2011). Zaposlovanje vrhunskih športnikov v javni upravi na preizkušnji (*Employment of top level athletes in public administration under scrutiny*). Uprava, IX(2), 105–129.

⁶⁰ EU Guidelines on Dual Careers of Athletes (2013). Luxembourg. Publications Office at the European Union.

⁶¹ After communicational theory the mass media have, in addition to the interpretative role, also informative, socialisation, entertaining and mobilizing role.

Accordingly, through the annual programs of sports for different media (print version and e-versions) periodic and monographic literature and promotional publications that support the quality of the work in sport and encourage people to understand the sport and its effects are co-financed.

Periodic literature:

- expert professional journals for theoretical and practical questions of physical education, sports training and sports recreation and parts of journals dealing with the topic,
- scientific journals in the field of sport,
- papers from expert professional and scientific conferences.

Monographic literature:

- - professional and scientific works in the basic and frontier areas of sport,
- - professional and scientific works in the field of physical education, sports training and sports recreation,
- - textbooks and materials for the purposes of training, education and training of professional staff.

Promotional publications, aimed at raising awareness and promoting the active involvement of the population in sport.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Maintaining the annual volume of newly issued expert and scientific sport literature – Raising the quality and attractiveness of published expert and scientific sports literature
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of issued expert and scientific periodical publications in sport - Volume of wide range magazines with expert and scientific sports contents - Number of non-periodical expert and scientific sports literature (books, textbooks, DVD, CD, computer programmes, etc.).

Quality sports publishing will be, while keeping the same extent, achieved by the following measures ⁶²:

1. strategic partnerships from the point of view of target groups ,
2. promoting accessibility to periodical and monographic literature in sport,
3. raising quality of expert and scientific texts and publications form sport.

6.3.4 Scientific and research work in sport

The purpose of scientific research activities in sport through basic and applied research is to gain basic knowledge of kinesiology⁶³, and especially to transfer research results into sports practice through applied and development research in the field of sport.

⁶² Actions are presented under the current note No. 5.

⁶³ Kinesiology – science on the movement of human body. .

From the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 the scientific research, which provides an appropriate transfer of scientific knowledge into sports practice, is co-financed. Responsible organisations for scientific research activities are public research institutions in collaboration with civil sport movement or business. These are defined in terms of interest in the transfer of research results into sports practice.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Ensuring 30 FTE of research activity in sport a year</i> – <i>Increasing the volume of applicative researches in sport</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Volume of FTE scientific research activity in sport</i> - <i>Volume FTE scientific research activity in sport, financed from National Programme of Sport</i> - <i>Share of FTE scientific research work in sport in reference to entire scientific research work activity in the Republic of Slovenia</i>

The Republic of Slovenia's implements the strategy of Europe 2020, a strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth ⁷⁹, which gives to knowledge and creativity the role of the main driver of growth and employment. Since us, the humans are being responsible for the development measures, the development of the society has to improve the prospects of every human being for a long, healthy and quality life while respecting the principles of sustainable development. Sport, with its features, satisfies these criteria, but in the past decade it was not given the appropriate position within the strategy of national research funding⁵. Therefore, the strategic objectives are linked to declared social visibility of kinesiology as a highly interdisciplinary science, which is an important part of the research priority areas of "health and life sciences" within the natural sciences, and in several areas of research within the social sciences and humanities, and to improve the practical efficiency of research. Accordingly, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 identifies the following action:

1. proper placement of kinesiology within the national research activities,
2. defining meaningful targeted research projects for all forms of sport.

6.3.5 Information communication technology in sport

Sport is an important part of leisure activities and thus also of related industries, where development is dictated by information and communication technology (ICT). In the past decade sport lost some market share in the leisure time industry⁶⁴, and an important reason for that lies in the use of ICT.

Digitisation, that is, digital content, digital services and public accessibility to all forms of electronic media in the field of sport are not only important for sports marketing and related fields of leisure industry and tourism economy, but they also represent a basis for the direct use of digital sports content in the processes of education, training, lifelong learning and research in sport. Likewise, ICT is increasingly positioning itself as a direct support for the efficient and

⁶⁴ Bednarik, J., Kolar, E., Jurak, G. (2010). Analysis of the sports services market in Slovenia. *Kinesiology*, 42(1).

friendly (harmonious and healthy) participation in sport and for ongoing analysis and monitoring of impact levels.

Public interest in the area of e-sport⁶⁵ includes the development of original and translated computer tools, the wide accessibility of digital sports contents as a basis for recognition of the Republic of Slovenia in the world, all with the goal of creating added value in the field of sports and related industries, as well as a contribution to creativity for a better quality of life. Restructuring and increasing the competitiveness and efficiency of public and private sports organisations will be easier to achieve if they are ready to assume the role of e-sport main providers. For the restructuring, initial investments in ICT are needed. The Republic of Slovenia will also accomplish the tasks given by requirements of the European Union.⁶⁶

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>By applying ICT in sport to increase the competitiveness of sport in the leisure time industry market</i> – <i>By applying ICT effectively acquire, monitor, analyse and provide information in support to the decision making and determining actual situation at different levels and areas</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Volume of information on the offer in the area of sport</i> - <i>Number of established new modern ways from ICT to the services and goods related to sport</i> - <i>Number of inter-organisational business processes supported by ICT</i>

Based on past experience and the current state of information infrastructure National Programme of sport 2014-2023 sets out the next measures:

1. to increase the access to information on all forms of sports, sports facilities and natural areas and sports organisations,
2. to improve the quality of operations and decision making in sport organisations by using information and communication technology,
3. to establish a systematic and analytical monitoring of the implementation and realisation of the National Programme of Sport.

6.4 Organisation of sport

6.4.1 Functioning of sports organisations

The cornerstone of the European model of sport outside of school systems are sports clubs. Associations and clubs are based on free interest, are voluntary associations of citizens, in which they largely through voluntary work exercise common interests. They represent the basis of top level and quality sport and in addition, they are a very important stakeholder and provider of sports programmes for children and youth as well as families. By improving programmes of sports clubs and associations we want to increase the number of members of associations and thus the

⁶⁵ Z IKT podprti poslovni procesi športnih organizacij.

⁶⁶ White Paper on Sport – SEC(2007) 936; EU Strategy 2010 – European Information Society 2010.

number of sports active citizens, their sporting awareness, the volume of professionally carried out voluntary work in sport and adherence of individuals to sport. Functioning of associations and their federations represents the public interest, thus the state encourages and supports materially the associations' activities.

Sports clubs and associations as the basic sports organisations unite at the local level into the municipal sports federations, and at the national level into the national sports federations⁶⁷. Most of the local and national sports federations and other sports associations are united into representative Slovenian umbrella sports organisation, the OCS-ASF. Also public institutes for sport at the local and national level function as public non-profit sport organisations. For basic functioning of those non-profit sport organisations, i.e., sports clubs and their associations and public institutes of sport, funds are provided from the annual programme of sport to cover the basic material costs and employees' salaries.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	– <i>Ensuring basic functioning of non-profit sport organisations</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of sports clubs, associations and their federations</i> - <i>Number of members in sports associations</i> - <i>Extent of public funds for the functioning of sports clubs and associations as well as their federations</i> - <i>Extent of public funds for the functioning of sports institutes</i>

By providing the basic functioning and operation of non-profit sport organisations we shall maintain the basic organisational infrastructure of sport outside of the education system. Analyses indicate a growing number of sports clubs and associations in the past decade⁶⁸, which was not reflected in the public financial support or support of volunteering as one of the important features of associations' functioning. In reference to this the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 defines the following action⁶⁹:

1. selective ensuring the basic functioning of non-profit sport organisations by the scope and importance of the work carried out by them.

6.4.2 Voluntary work in sport

Voluntary work⁷⁰ is a voluntary activity that is not paid or volunteer for it receives a refund for expenses. Voluntary work is a very important source of the Slovenian and European sport outside of the education system⁷¹. Despite the fact that volunteers work for free their work must be as professional as possible.

⁶⁷ At present there is no organised sport at the level of regions.

⁶⁸ In 2008, we had 6.115 sports clubs and associations in Slovenia. Their share in the structure of sports organisations is 82 %, and is steadily decreasing – particularly on the account of private sector (vir: Kolar, E., Jurak, G. (ur.) (2010). Analiza Nacionalnega programa športa v Republiki Sloveniji 2000 – 2010 (*Analysis of National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 in the Republic of Slovenia 2000-2010*). Ljubljana: Fakulteta za šport).

⁶⁹ Promotion of voluntary work of professionally qualified staff in sports associations is presented in the chapter Voluntary work, and reducing bureaucratic burdens in the functioning in the chapter Friendly environment for sports organisations.

⁷⁰ In accordance with the Law on Volunteering (Official Gazette of RS, no. 10/11, 16/11-corr.) the work done by the individual on his own free will and without any expectation of payment or direct or indirect material benefits for themselves for the benefit of others or the general benefit.

⁷¹ The average volunteer in Slovenian sport makes four hours of volunteer work per week, which is comparable to the European average. Estimated economic power of voluntary work in the Slovenian sport represents 0,311 % GDP (source Jurak, G., Bednarik, J.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– <i>Maintaining the volume of voluntary work while raising the quality of voluntary workers</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Extent of voluntary work per 100 members of sports club or association</i> - <i>Number of professionally qualified volunteers</i>

Besides the economic power the proportion of volunteers is influenced by tradition of such work, which is reflected through the values of the society. Accordingly, we will ensure systemic conditions for the social recognition of voluntary work and raise the level of competence of volunteers.

This will be achieved by improving the competencies of volunteers in⁷² and by the following actions:

1. by the promotion of voluntary work in sport⁷³,
2. by improving management of volunteers in sports associations and clubs⁷⁴.

6.4.3 Professional sport

In professional sport - unlike amateur - athletes get for their appearance a payment which exceeds the agreed conventionally defined annual earning. Top level athletes who are employed in public administration are also included among professional athletes.

Some experts believe that this kind of sport represents the opposite of the primordial foundation of sports activities, i.e. participating in it for their own satisfaction, health and socialising. However, in terms of sports creativity professional sport is the part of top level and quality sport, which is the most commercially interesting. Professional sport is globalised, media extremely supported and therefore the most visible part of sport. Due to media exposure it is very attractive for sponsorship and is connected with complementary services (e.g., sports betting, fashion). Media is an important factor in sports promotion and popularisation, as it encourages viewing of sports, attending sporting events, the use of sports and sports-related products and services. As a result, it has an impact on the economic development of sport-related economic activity.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– <i>Transferring of associations' business relations with sports professionals into the sports economic companies and increasing their revenue</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of sports economic companies</i> - <i>Volume of revenues of sports economic companies</i>

The objectives of organising professional sports go beyond the mission of sports clubs and associations, thus this part of sport ought to be organised similarly to business companies.

(2006). Economic strength of voluntary work in non-governmental sports organisations in Slovenia. V Abstract book of 11th World sport for all congress. Physical activity: benefits and challenges. Havana: Cuban Olympic Committee.).

⁷² Education and training of volunteers is given in the chapter Education, training and specialisations of expert staff in sport.

⁷³ Activities of this measure are presented in: Jurak, G., Bednarik, J., Tušak, M. (2007). Managing volunteers in non-governmental sports organizations in Slovenia. In: Jurak, G. (ed.). Some performance indicators of sport organizations in Slovenia, pp. 151-166. Koper: University of Primorska, Science and Research Centre, Institute for Kinesiology Research, Annales.

⁷⁴ The second paragraph of Article 12 of the Law on Volunteering (Official Gazette of RS, no. 10/11, 16/11-popr.) provides that abuse or exploitation of a volunteer is any use of volunteer work in order to obtain or increase one's property.

Sports circles which shall have the opportunity to compete in the global market of professional sports should be further professionalised and should restructure their organisation. The proposed direction of restructuring of professional part of clubs or associations' organisation has several advantages:

- opportunities to access the capital market for business companies,
- motivation to invest and participation in sharing profit in commercial companies,
- reducing the risk of sports clubs or associations (especially for the amateur part and the part of association, which deals with the education of junior athletes categories),
- transparent relations between the clubs or associations and the company.

The National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 therefore provides for a tax favourable environment for the development of professional sports as well as identifying the following actions:

1. promoting the transformation of professional part of sport into business companies,
2. promoting solidarity among professional athletes.

6.4.4 International cooperation in sport

Sport is an increasingly important global phenomenon, and the international cooperation in sport is therefore an everyday necessity for any national and other sports organisations. It is important for integration and cooperation in resolving international issues of sport, for the transfer of national practices and the organisation of international sports events. Participation of our experts in the international sports organisations and associations in the field of sports expertise and science increases the impact and importance of the Slovenian expertise in wider international context.

International activities in sport includes cooperation with Slovenes in neighbouring countries and abroad, temporarily working abroad, with neighbouring countries and other countries on the basis of signed international protocols, the cooperation of national sports federations with associations of other countries, cooperation with expert and scientific associations as well as specialists in the sports science in the international arena and with international sports federations as well as cooperation with other governmental and non-governmental international organisations.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– Maintain the existing number and quality of international cooperation in sport
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of international connections in sport - Number of Slovenian representatives in leadership structures of international sports organisations and scientific and professional associations

All international cooperation activities are financed by the state budget items for protocol, and international collaboration of national sports federations is financed from the funds for their functioning and their own resources. International activities in sport will be supported by the following measures:

1. support to international cooperation in sport.

6.5 Sports events and promotion of sport

Sports events are the main part of the organisational culture of sport with an impact on the promotion of the environment in which they take place (local, regional, state), and on the development of tourism and other economies. At the same they are of great importance for the development and nurturing of sports culture as they can promote motivation for sport and physical activity and therefore represent the most important form of sports promotion. Other forms of promotion of sport are: sports tourism, which can promote sport activities related to the natural features of a tourist destination, public information in sport - as an important element of mass communication - and museums in sport - as an element of promotion of sport through a rich national heritage in this area.

6.5.1 Sports events

Among sports events are the following major international sporting events (Olympic Games, Mediterranean Games, Universiade, World Championships, European Championships, World Cups, Grand Prix), competition of senior selection teams of Slovenia and clubs competing in champions leagues in team sports, mass sports events and other local sports events (sports events relevant to the local environment) and of national importance (congresses, symposia ...).

Organisation of sports events is important for sports organisations which organise events, as well as for the local environment and the country where sports events take place. Many sports organisations use particularly large sports events as a means to create and strengthen relationships with target markets and users. Sports events mostly have positive effects on people and society but some of their effects may also be negative. The benefits of organising sports events can be broadly divided into economic and non-economic benefits. Economic benefit represents additional spending in the economy due to the organisation of sporting events, and non-economic benefits represent the socio-economic, promotional, sports, cultural and infrastructure (spatial) benefits that may arise from events⁷⁵.

Possible negative impacts of sporting events in the environment may be energy consumption for heating, cooling, ventilation, hot water and electricity, consumption of natural resources, waste and greenhouse gases that may arise in organising sports events. There may be other impacts of sports events on the environment, such as increased light output and noise, threats to existing ecosystems and biodiversity. The key to reducing the negative and increasing the positive impacts lies in the effective planning of sports events in order to achieve a positive legacy of competitions⁸⁰. From this aspect the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 pays particular attention to sports events, which may have benefits to society and minimize negative impacts on the environment.

⁷⁵ Kolar, E. & Zaletel, Z. (2013). Management (športnih) prireditvev (*Management of sport events*). Ljubljana: Agencija Poti d.o.o.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Organisation of sports events based on the adequate feasibility study, and potential effectiveness and on the assessment, on the negative effects on the environment and society with the pre-planned measures for their reduction</i> – <i>Intensifying the organisation of sports events at the local level (international competitions, national competitions, other regional competitions, other mass sports events)</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Proportion of invested public funds and other assets arising from the organisation of sports events</i> - <i>Economic effects (higher consumption in the economy, increased number of tourist arrivals and overnight stays, ...)</i> - <i>The non-economic effects (number of new sports in the country, the development of new tourism products, the number of new routes, several companies with sports and tourist attractions, the number of active and passive participants, number of nights, number of participants, the revitalization of degraded areas established infrastructure for sustainable mobility)</i> - <i>The number of approvals issued by local communities and other derivative sports events, co-financed by local budgets</i> - <i>Number of sustainable sporting events by criteria "Net Win"</i>

Sport is due to its association with a large number of stakeholders a unique opportunity to be placed as the leading medium in creating awareness about the importance of sustainable development; sporting events represent the most visible part of the sport. This is an opportunity we will try to put into practice through the following measures:

1. rational decision-making in granting approvals for organising sports events,
2. promote the organisation and implementation of major international sport and other events, which take into account sustainability criteria,
3. designing trademark on sporting events in the Republic of Slovenia (linking sport and tourism promotional resources to increase the effectiveness and visibility of sports events),
4. evaluation of sports events legacy.

6.5.2 Sports tourism

Sports tourism is defined as tourism for the enquiries of those who have a special interest in tourist destinations where they can be active in sport or consider sport as a major reason for traveling⁷⁶. The most prevalent forms of sport tourism are: sports - active tourism (individuals, families that are sports-active while traveling⁷⁷), sporting events (participation in sporting events) and watching sports sites (traveling required to view sporting attractions, e.g., sports facility) or the use of sports destinations for organising the preparations of foreign athletes. Due

⁷⁶ World Tourism Organization, International Olympic Committee: Sport and Tourism: Sport activities during the outbound holiday of Germans, the Dutch and the French. Lausanne, Switzerland: UN WTO and IOC, 2001.

⁷⁷ Tourism sector applies also the term »sports active«.

to the natural resources of the Republic of Slovenia, which have a significant impact on the sporting activity in nature, our mountain tourism has a special role. This includes a variety of sports and tourism services, which include walking, skiing, climbing, mountain biking and specific infrastructure (accommodation facilities, a network of hiking trails, ski lifts ...).

There is more and more interest for sports tourism. In our country the proportion of sports active tourists is around 9%⁷⁸, however, Slovenia has natural resources, climate conditions and terrain, enabling the development of sports tourism.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Increase the share of sports-active tourists among domestic tourists by 5 %</i> - <i>Increase the share of foreign tourists coming to Slovenia because of sport (events, activities, site seeing..)</i> - <i>Increase the number of overnight stays in Slovenia subject to big sports events</i> - <i>Develop offer linked with sports-related facilities and natural areas as tourist attractions</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The share of sports-active tourists among domestic tourists</i> - <i>The share of sports-active tourists among foreign tourists</i> - <i>Consumption of sports-active tourist per day</i> - <i>Average number of overnight stays made by the sports tourists in Slovenia (domestic and foreign)</i> - <i>The number of sports-related facilities and natural areas, which are a tourist attraction</i>

The National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 promotes the development of sports tourism, which in accordance with the Development Strategy of Slovenian Tourism 2012-2016 stems from the vision that tourism in Slovenia is based on sustainable development and will be, as a successful economic sector of the national economy, a key contributor to social well-being and to reputation of our country in the world. Accordingly, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 in the field of sports tourism defines the following actions:

1. development of sports tourism in the Republic of Slovenia,
2. connection of sport with the Development Strategy of Slovenian Tourism 2012-2016⁷⁹ and the provision of cohesion of both areas.

6.5.3 Public information about sport

Mass media is a key element of mass communication. Because of its great influence and importance to the growth of sports culture of the population it is particularly important in their explanatory role. The state can enforce the implementation of this role in public mass media, especially public television and radio.

⁷⁸ SURS

⁷⁹Strategija razvoja slovenskega turizma 2012-2016 (*Development Strategy of Slovenian Tourism*). Dostopno na: http://www.mgrt.gov.si/fileadmin/mgrt.gov.si/pageuploads/turizem/Turizem-strategije_politike/Strategija_turizem_sprejeto_7.6.2012.pdf (31.1.2014).

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	– <i>Establish a regular balanced information about sport on public TV and radio</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Scope of information on sport on public TV and radio</i> - <i>Quality of articles on sport on public TV and radio</i> - <i>Extent of carried out promotional activities</i>

Issues concerning the attitude of the media (especially television and the Internet) to sport have become very important as television rights are the primary source of income for professional sport in Europe⁸⁰.

In contrast, sport media rights are a significant source of content for many media. This has resulted in a mutual circle of professional sports, media and sponsors. The result is a distorted media image of sport since media mostly reflect the commercial part of sport to the public⁸¹. More media attention should be paid to sport for children and young people as well as to sports recreation, environmental and social responsibility in sport and to other factors of a healthy lifestyle, as this can increase people's awareness of the importance of their responsibility for their own health and, consequently, the number of people active in sports. For this purpose the following actions shall take place in the field of public information about the sport:

1. balanced presentation of sport on public TV and radio,
2. national campaign to encourage regular participation in sports, more physical exercise, a healthy diet and maintaining a healthy living environment.

6.5.4 Sports heritage and sport museums

Sport and physical culture has a long tradition and heritage in Slovenia which could be traced down by all of the scenes on the urns, in barbellling or boxing in the 1st millennium BC., Medieval tournaments and various games (e.g. "play with ball" in "balovžih") and skills (fencing, shooting activities, "voltižiranje" et al.) or Bloke skiing, mountain tracking, modern training and competitions. Through the modern associative organising and socialising our sports tradition and heritage was formed. With the development of media and information technology the collection of resources is expanding. The legacy is institutionally kept by private owners, at the Faculty of Sport and in various state and local museums, for example, the one on hiking in the Gornjesavski Museum; in 2000 the National Museum on sport was established which was, however, abolished in 2013 and transformed into a sports collection within the responsibilities of the Institute for Sport of the Republic Slovenia Planica. Both collections are institutionally in a subordinate position, and undernourished.

Museum activity in sport comprises the collection, conservation, documentation and presentation of movable heritage of Slovenian sport. Without the historical mirror sport remains merely

⁸⁰ Montel, J., Weelbroeck-Rocha, E. (2010). The different funding models for grassroots sports in the EU. Brussels: Amnyos & Eurostrategies.

⁸¹ Some European countries have therefore introduced solidarity mechanisms, such as the share of the TV rights for sports broadcasts intended for sports educational contents. In Slovenia, the expenditure for TV rights is very low and therefore such mechanisms are not feasible.

transient social phenomenon. The museum activities can promote values that have emerged in this heritage.

For the further development of the museum activities it will necessary to provide a suitable location of the institution which will enable permanent display on the history of sport in Slovenia, appropriate storage of materials according to museum standards, and to develop all the necessary museum activities aimed at different publics. In addition, the Museum of sport will have to be appropriately placed in the scheme of public museums and an organisational structure put in place which will, apart from the museum works as a public service, generate and implement activities with market orientation, which will ensure adequate financial effects (admission, museum shop, etc.). It will be necessary to establish cooperation with other institutions, which hold important collections of national sport, as well as include experts on the history of sport into educational programmes of Slovenian museums.

The museum activity in sport has to bear in mind in the exhibition complex that the perception of sports events is largely channelled through intermediaries, created by new technology: radio, television, the World Wide Web. In doing so, the museums play a role in sport as an ethical cultural body of the society and from this aspect to highlight the actual problems of sport.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Establishing conditions for further development of museum activities in sport</i> - <i>Permanent exhibition "History of Physical Culture in Sport in Slovenia"</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of materials collected and the number of items inventoried and documented</i> - <i>Number of promotional exhibitions and other events</i> - <i>Number of permanent collections of sports in the network of Slovenian museums</i> - <i>Number and structure of the museum visitors</i> - <i>Number and quality of museum products</i> - <i>The financial impact of the museum marketing activities in sport</i>

According to the above said the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the following actions:

1. supplement and gather museum collections in different sports and their presentation,
2. establish effective organisational structure of the Museum of sport,
3. organise communicative national museum institution which shall be attractive for visitors, sponsors and donors.

6.6 Social and environmental responsibility in sport

National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 is based on humanism and active responsibly towards the environment, and strives for human rights protection and promotion of ethical values in sport, taking into account its rules and regulations and sustainable development. The key preventive

action in the field of humanism is a sporting behaviour⁸² of all participants in sport, and other measures interfere in the field of prevention of abuse in sport. The central challenge of environmental and social responsibility are to reduce adverse impacts on the environment (taking into account the realities and constraints) and increasing the beneficial social effects in their efforts to make a positive legacy for future generations.

6.6.1 Sporting behaviour

The most recognisable feature of sport is competition, which represents a good opportunity for each individual to learn about his/her individual abilities and limitations. Thus, they can accept different life obstacles easier as a challenge. On the other hand, sports competition represents a stress to the contestants, as well as a source of discrimination, intolerance and violence. It is thus very important how all participants in sport (competitors, spectators, parents, teachers and coaches, judges, organisers, sponsors, etc.) perceive sports competition.

Sporting behaviour means finding and securing competitive advantage in sport in accordance with the rules of the game, without causing injury intentionally and psychological or verbal harassment (offensive cheer, remarks, etc.), or the use of prohibited substances and methods, dignified acceptance of defeat and victory, respectful attitude towards other participants in competitive sport and the environment in which the competition takes place, respect the outcome as a result of the effort, appreciating its achievements and the achievements of others, respect for diversity, arising from ethnicity, sexual orientation, lifestyle, different opinions and beliefs, as well as strengthening other ethical values in sport (e.g. help weaker).

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– <i>Establish the perception of sporting behaviour as the highest value in sports activities</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The number of national sports federations which put sporting behaviour among the objectives of their own performance in the highest legal act or an appropriate code of honour</i> - <i>The number of cases of discrimination, intolerance and violence in sport</i> - <i>Number of cases of sporting behaviour</i> - <i>Number of awarded prizes for sporting behaviour to individuals and organisations by the EFPM⁸³ and CIFP⁸⁴</i> - <i>Number of appointed Ambassadors for Sport, Tolerance and Fair Play</i> - <i>Number of ambassadors' participations at the sport competitions and events</i>

In the past, we have established the institution of the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia for Sport, Tolerance and Fair Play, and some projects for the promotion of sporting behaviour (e.g., Sportikus), which are worth upgrading. A particular role can be played by the media at the most

⁸² »Športno obnašanje« in Slovenian equals international term »fair play«.

⁸³ Evropsko gibanje za športno obnašanje – The European Fair Play Movement

⁸⁴ Mednarodni komite za športno obnašanje – The International Committee for Fair Play

high-profile sporting events. According to this the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 identifies the following actions⁸⁵:

1. national campaign to promote the sporting behaviour,
2. functioning of the Ambassador for Sport, Tolerance and Fair Play.

6.6.2 Prevention of doping in sport

Among the most important rules in sport is the one of fairness by all the participants from whom it clearly requires that in order to achieve better results they should not use all available means, including the use of prohibited substances and methods to improve competition results and personal achievements as well as aesthetic effects (recreational athletes).

The national programme on prevention of doping in sport is based on the protection of the fundamental rights of the athlete to train and compete in a sport without doping, which in other words means the concern for the protection of health, fairness and equality of athletes. The national programme has to ensure a coordinated and effective programme to combat doping in the detection, rejection and prevention of doping in sport.

Organisations implementing sports programmes, athletes and athlete support personnel are obliged to comply with the World Anti-Doping Code⁸⁶ together with the international standards and Antidoping regulations of the SLOADO⁸⁷. Responsible institution for the implementation of programmes to prevent the use of prohibited substances and methods in sport in the Republic of Slovenia is the Slovenian anti-doping organisation (SLOADO), an independent anti-doping organisation and acting in line with the global programme to combat doping.

The emphasis of SLOADO activities is on raising awareness of athletes and other participants in all forms of sport, on preparing national registered test group of athletes in order to perform unannounced out-of competitions testing and to be permanently present in national competitions of national sports federations in order to perform tests in competitions and other activities as defined by UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport⁸⁸.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– <i>Providing the fundamental right of athletes to train and to compete in a sport without doping</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The number of athletes involved in prevention programmes to raise awareness about the dangers of doping in sport</i> - <i>The number of sports federations active in doping prevention programmes</i> - <i>The number of doping tests for athletes</i> - <i>Extent of control over the import and distribution of prohibited substances</i>

⁸⁵ Actions are linked with the actions of Public information about sport.

⁸⁶ <http://www.sloado.si/pravila-in-krsitve/mednarodna-pravila/>

⁸⁷ <http://www.sloado.si/pravila-in-krsitve/nacionalna-pravila/>

⁸⁸ International Convention Against Doping in Sport 2005. Dostopno na: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=31037&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html (31.1.2014).

Previous work in preventing doping was focused mainly in high-level sport, even though doping represents the harmful use of prohibited substances also in recreation and quality sport. Therefore, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the following actions:

1. doping testing at the national level,
2. prevention of prohibited substances and methods distribution in the entire sport,
3. placement of content on the abuse of doping in athletes awareness programmes and education and training for professionals in sport,
4. national campaign on the abuse of doping in competitive and recreational sport.

6.6.3 Athletes' Ombudsman

Sports may through the wrong approach lead to inhumane treatment of athletes (performance despite the injuries, overtraining, improper training methods for young competitors, forcing or solicitation to unfair sport, physical violence against athletes in training or competition, humiliation and insults, sexual exploitation, etc.). Every athlete and sports worker is entitled to all the rights and freedoms defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁸⁹ and in the Convention on Children's Rights⁹⁰, thus the National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 determines also measures for the protection of athletes' rights and the rights of sports workers.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– <i>Institutional protection of athletes' rights and sports workers' rights</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	- <i>The proportion of successfully resolved complaints to the Ombudsman of Athlete's rights</i>

The OCS-ASF within its organisation scheme identifies the Athlete's Rights Ombudsman. The Ombudsman of Athlete's Rights in his operations, mutatis mutandis, applies ethical principles of sport and the Olympic Movement and the rules of the OCS-ASF. National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the following action:

1. functioning of the Ombudsman of Athletes' Rights.

6.6.4 Sustainable aspects in sport

With the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 we would like to limit potential negative impacts of sport on the environment and society⁹¹ and to encourage such development of sport that will contribute to the sustainable development⁹² of our country. This is closely linked with

⁸⁹ Splošna deklaracija človekovih pravic (*General declaration on human rights*). Dostopno na: <http://www.varuh-rs.si/pravni-okvir-in-pristojnosti/mednarodni-pravni-akti-s-podrocja-clovekovih-pravic/organizacija-zdruzenih-narodov/splosna-deklaracija-clovekovih-pravic> (31.1.2014).

⁹⁰ Konvencija o otrokovih pravicah (*Convention on children's rights*) (OZN). Dostopno na: <http://www.varuh-rs.si/index.php?id=105> (31.1.2014).

⁹¹ Described in the chapter Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature and Sports events.

⁹² Podrobneje v: Agenda 21 (1992), New York: Združeni narodi.

the concept of sports legacy⁹³ and is based on three pillars: economic development, social development and environment protection.

Strategic objective	– <i>Development of sport which will contribute to the sustainable development of society (positive legacy of sport)</i>
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of constructed and renovated sports facilities on the principles of sustainable development</i> - <i>Number of sustainable sports events⁹⁴</i> - <i>The share of sporting organisations who enact the principles of sustainable development</i>

Measures to promote sustainable development in sport are intertwined throughout various areas of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023: sports facilities and areas for outdoor sports, sports events, sports programmes and development activities in sport. Even more than the ramifications of these actions within the sport, it is important to have its integration and coordination of sustainability aspects in sport into such strategies and policies in other areas (environment, nature, infrastructure, space, transport, health, employment, education, tourism, etc.) and the appropriate placement of the role of sport in them. This must be a result of the dialogue between governmental and non-governmental sports and other organisations dealing with sustainable development. Accordingly, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 sets out the following priority actions⁹⁵ in the area of sustainable development in sport:

1. connections with other strategies on sustainable development,
2. national campaign for education and training as well as encouragement of sustainable management in sport.

6.7 Support mechanisms for sport

The programme part of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 cannot be realised without appropriate support mechanisms of the state. The state pursues the public interest by encouraging tax policy for the development of sport that will be one of the specific tasks realised in cooperation between the OCS-ASF and the relevant government departments, by creating a supportive regulatory environment that protects the public interest, but it is from the point of view of administration friendly to sports organisations and by the prevention of abuses and irregularities in the implementation of the National Programme of Sport 2014 – 2023.

6.7.1 Friendly business environment for sports organisations

⁹³ ang. sport legacy; več v: Kolar, E. in Zaletel, Z. (2013), *Management (športnih) prirediteljev*, Ljubljana: Agencija Poti; Jurak, G., Kolar, E., Kovač, M. in Bednarik, J. (2012), *Management športnih objektov*, Ljubljana: Fakulteta za šport.

⁹⁴ After the standards of the project Pure victory or similar international standards.

⁹⁵ Sustainable aspects in sport are given also in some actions in previously enumerated chapters of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023/2014–2023.

The complexity of administrative procedures requires more of this kind of work and higher costs of sports organisations. This represents a burden for them, and it is necessary to carefully weigh the importance of these processes and sports organisations to create a business friendly environment. This can be ensured by computerization and streamlined procedures. At national level, the task of reducing, preventing, or eliminating administrative burdens take the OCS-ASF, FSO and the relevant government agencies at the local level, municipal sports associations and municipal services.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	– <i>Reduce administrative tasks for sports organisations</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of laws and sub legislation that take into account the principle of de-bureaucratisation of sport</i> - <i>Number of practical solutions for the reduction of bureaucratic procedures o sports organisations</i>

Some of the solutions in other sectors show that it is possible to establish more favourable administrative environment for sport. Accordingly, the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 defines the following action⁹⁶:

1. De-bureaucratisation of sport.

6.7.2 Prevention of abuse in sports betting

Sports' betting represents a complementary activity of professional sports, acting as the promoter of this part of sports. However, in many countries it represents a source of financing for sport. In Slovenia, the FSO is financed from these and other games of chance.

Due to globalisation sports betting is becoming increasingly important economically. Internet gaming is the fastest growing sector in the activities of games of chance, and within them sports betting has got a predominant role⁹⁷. Because of this sports betting in addition to compromising the integrity of sport poses a risk for corruption, money laundering and other financial crimes related to sport; their organisation must therefore be under constant surveillance, and the state must have in place adequate regulatory mechanisms, relevant to the changing conditions in the market of sports betting.

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Preventing manipulation in sport</i> – <i>Preventing advertising and organisation of illegal sports betting as well as participation in the illegally organised sports betting</i>
<i>Indicators</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of discovered manipulations in sport</i> - <i>Number of cases of prevented advertisements of illegal sports betting</i> - <i>Extent of illegal payments in sports betting</i>

⁹⁶ In addition, this area is related to action of the chapter Information and communication technology in sport that define meaningful use of already collected information on sports organizations.

⁹⁷ Zagoršek, H., Jaklič, M., Zoroč, J. (2007). Analysis and guidance on the appropriate scope of supply of classic and special games of chance in Slovenia. Ljubljana: Faculty of Economy, Institute for games of chance studies.

Measures to prevent abuse in sports betting are aimed at preventing abuses, at control of organising and playing sports betting as well as the detection of abuse. These activities make part of the following measure of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023:

1. prevention of abuse in sports betting.

6.7.3 Inspection in sport

One of the elements of quality assurance implementation of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 is the supervision of the implementation of programmes of sports. It is performed by a variety of inspection services under the statutory authority granted, special emphasis is given to control over the substantive implementation of all the programmes performed by sports providers in the Republic of Slovenia. The inspection acts as a body within the ministry responsible for sports, and they cooperate, where appropriate, with various government bodies. Inspection in sport is open to the public.

<i>Strategic objective</i>	– <i>Increase overview of the substantive and organisational implementation of National Programme of Sport by 100 %</i>
<i>Indicator</i>	- <i>Number of inspection cases</i>

The work on sports inspection so far indicates⁵ that that it needs to be more clearly defined, that the inspection exercises the control over all contractors of sports programmes, and not just those who are recipients of public funds, and that the volume and quality of inspection performance should be increased, which will require a greater number of inspectors. Accordingly the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 defines the following action:

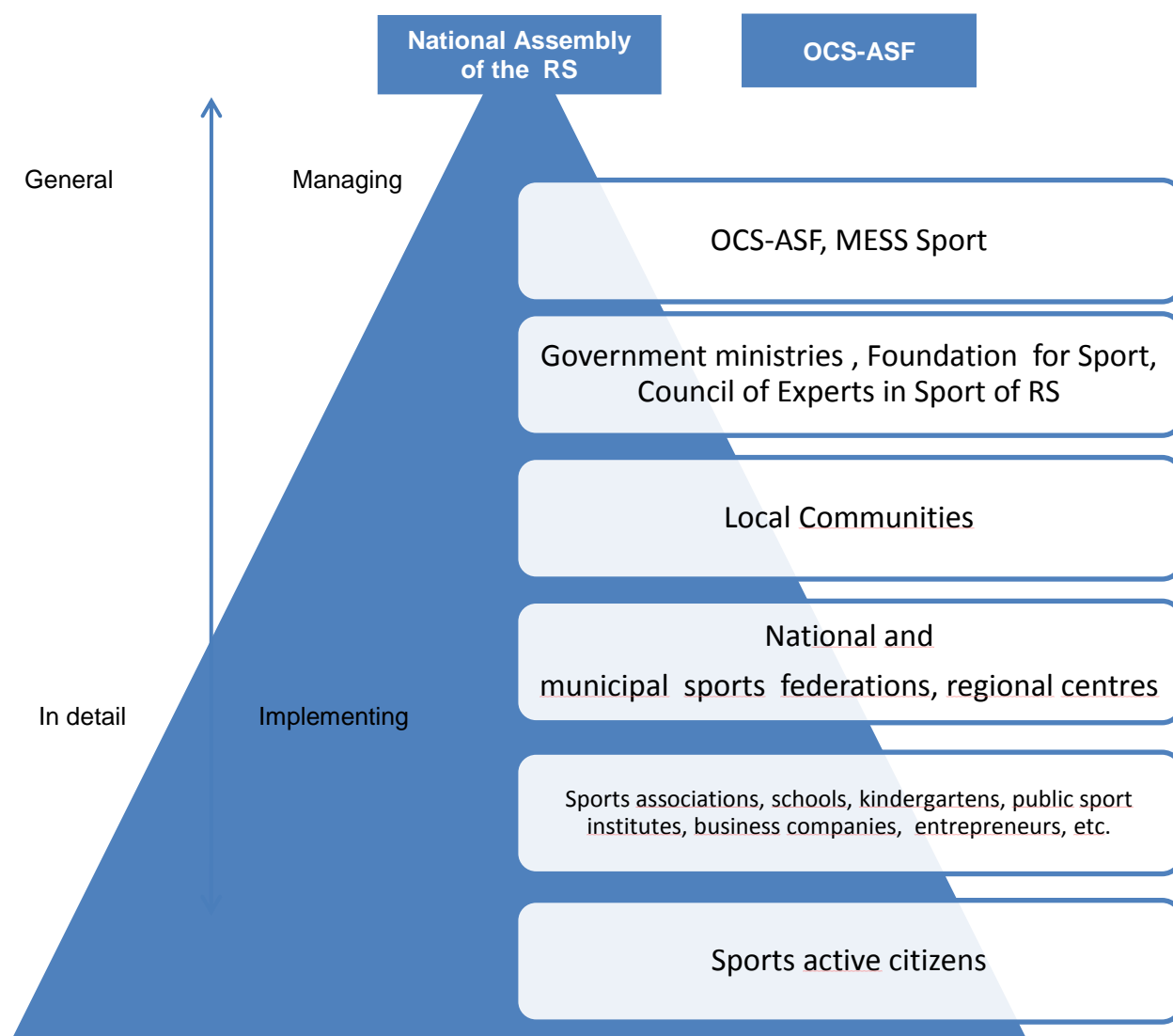
1. Increase the scope of sports inspection activities.

7 MANAGEMENT

Management⁹⁸ of the National Programme of Sport 2014–2023 is based on the integration of all administrative, technical and organisational tasks of all involved in the execution of individual activities of the national programme. For the implementation of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 all organisations carrying out the national programme are co-responsible (the OCS, local communities, ministries, etc.) with the other organisations delivering the national programme (associations, federations, institutions, schools, companies, etc.).

Figure 4: Managing the National Programme of Sport

⁹⁸ Management equals Slovenian »ravnanje« ali »ravnateljstvo«.



The national sport programme is adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Slovenia on the proposal of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. In accordance with the law, governing the sport area, the Expert Council on Sport of the Republic of Slovenia and the OCS-ASF also participate in the preparation of a draft National Programme of Sport. The central responsibility regarding the management of the national programme of sport at the national level is in the hands of the OCS-ASF and the ministry responsible for sports. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall report annually to the Parliament of the Republic of Slovenia on the implementation of the National Programme of Sport.

The OCS-ASF is a representative sports associative organisation that brings together national and local sports associations and some other sports organisations. It is responsible for the strategic management of the National Programme of Sport. It functions as a partner to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in the negotiations on the realisation of the National Programme of Sport. Through its representatives, it has got a significant influence on the functioning of the Expert Council of the Government of RS on Sport and the FSO Board, and it participates, in accordance with the law, governing the sport, in the coordination and execution of the annual programmes of sport.

Ministry, responsible for sport, is responsible for the networking activities of all actors while being helped by government agencies. It takes care in linking the National Programme of Sport with other national strategies and policies. To this end, the ministry responsible for sport draws up an implementation plan for the realisation of the National Programme of Sport, by which it defines the activities and institutions responsible for those activities in order to achieve the objectives of the national programme. The implementation plan should be a dynamic document that responds to the findings of the realisation of the national programme in specific areas (monitoring the indicators) and changes in other sectorial strategies and policies.

The ministry, responsible for sport, also manages and coordinates the activities of all entities involved in the implementation of the annual programmes of sport. The latter represents those content of the National Programme of Sport which are funded from the budget items for sport at the national and local levels, and by the FSO. The ministry, responsible for sports, and FSO are obliged prior to the adoption of their annual programme to obtain the opinion on them from the OCS-ASF.

Sectorial ministries (e.g. Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning) are involved in the implementation of various activities of the National Programme of Sport or are responsible for carrying out the activities by themselves. Their work with the help of government departments is coordinated by the Directorate of Sport at the relevant ministry for sport.

The Expert Council of the Government of RS on Sport is responsible for making decisions on expert professional matters, on technical issues in sport and for technical assistance in decision-making as well as for the preparation of regulations.

FSO is a public funder of sport, and is financed mainly from concessional duties on games of chance and distributes these funds, for sports programmes, at the state and local level. FSO is a major actor in the execution of the National Programme of Sport; therefore, the conditions and criteria for the allocation of its resources should be in line with the National Programme of Sport. In addition to MIZŠ, the FSO realizes annual sports programmes at the state level. It also provides for stable funding for sport from games of chances and gives suggestions and proposals to regulate various issues in sport.

Local authorities' bodies and organisations, responsible for sport, manage and coordinate activities the annual programme of sport at local level. Local communities have to appoint at least half of the sports experts into these authorities on the proposal of the municipal sports federations and other sports organisations that represent local clubs/associations activities at the local level. The tasks of these bodies are primarily as follows:

- identifying basic principles and guidelines for the execution of the sport programme at the local level,
- defining the strategic orientation of sport at local level,
- preparing the annual sports programme at the local level,
- allocating resources to execute the annual sports programme at the local level,
- determining sporting facilities of local and regional importance,
- monitoring and evaluating the execution of the sport programme at the local level,
- making suggestions and proposals for the regulation of other important issues in sport.

Annual sports programmes at the local level are adopted by the municipal councils. Adoption procedure is carried out so, that local community responsible body draws up the annual programme of sport, which is the basis for the placement of the sport in the municipal budget. On the basis of the adopted budget the authority of local communities for sport with the consent of the municipal sports federations prepares the allocation plan of resources to execute the annual sports programme at the local level. In the event that the municipal sports association does not exist, the consent is given by other representative civil sports organisation.

Educational and research institutions in the field of sport, together with the OCS-ASF coordinate the implementation of development tasks for the National Programme of Sport and together with the expert professional councils of national sports federations assist in the enforcement of expertise in practice.

Inspectorate for sport exercises the supervision over the implementation of programmes based on the National Programme of Sport and the implementation of the annual programmes of sport.

Organisations executing the national programme are: sports clubs and their associations, public institutions related to sport, kindergartens, schools, business companies in the field of sport, entrepreneurs, private sports professionals and other sports organisations. Most of them are also responsible for the execution of the annual sport programme under the law, governing sport. They acquire this status by signing the contract on the execution of the annual sport programme with the ministry, responsible for sport, or with FSO at the state level and with the local community authorities at the local level.

Directorate of Sport of the responsible ministry is obliged to establish an information system for the needs of the National Programme of Sport. This system should include monitoring of indicators to check the effects of the individual actions of the National Programme of Sport. It must also allow the keeping the registers which are provided by the law, governing sport. On doing so it is careful not to not to bureaucratised the functioning of sports organisations. Data entry is the duty of the organisations, responsible for execution of the activities from the National Programme of Sport. The liabilities of the organisations executing the programme are defined in the contracts for the implementation of the annual sports programme.

8 FINANCING

One of the central issues of National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 is the volume of programmes which the programme should provide with the public finances. The objectives of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 will otherwise be achieved with a substantial co-financing of the population, enterprises and with voluntary work⁹⁹; however, public finances and support

⁹⁹ Public funds for sport outside the school system represent only 15% of all expenditure on sport. Households contribute the most for sports. They spend on sports products and sports services around € 308 per year or 1.51% of the family budget. Companies (sponsorship, TV rights) spend on sport 18% of total expenditure on sport (source: Bednarik, J., kolar, E., Jurak, G. (2010). Analysis of the sports services market in Slovenia. *Kinesiology*, 42(1).). Volunteering in the Slovenian sport represents about 0,311% of GDP (vir: Jurak, G., Bednarik, J. (2006). Economic strength of voluntary work in non-governmental sports organisations in Slovenia. V *Abstract book of 11th World sport for all congress. Physical activity: benefits and challenges*. Havana: Cuban Olympic Committee.)

mechanisms operate as a multiplier of these funds as they promote the development of sports activities. In order to achieve the desired impact of sport on the culture of the nation, it will be necessary to retain these resources and to raise the level of public resources to the level significant for the developed European countries, i.e., at least € 100 per capita¹⁰⁰. National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 is thus co-financed by several public resources in accordance with the determined activities and their delivery organisations.

Funds for the annual programme of sport are provided by the following budgetary resources:

- state
 - MESS
 - MOD
 - MEDT
 - MISP
 - MIA
 - MLFSW
 - MF
 - MH, etc.
- European structural and social funds
- FSO
- FDHO
- local communities.

The resources necessary for carrying out annual programmes of sport at the national level shall be determined by the ministry, responsible for sport, for the state appropriations, and the Council of the FSO for funds from games of chance.

On the proposal of the competent local authorities the municipal councils place in the annual sport programmes those sports contents of the national programme, which are important for the local community and take into account the traditions and the specificity of sport in the local community.

Selection of programmes to deliver the annual sports programme should be carried out according to a specific procedure defined by the law, governing sport. It derives from the meaningful application of law, governing general administrative procedure (public call, decision, the appeal body), and supports the reduction of bureaucratisation of sports organisations' functioning (databases, electronic application, a contract for the implementation of the sports programme without a public call for contractors who solely meet conditions, etc.).

Conditions and criteria for the allocation of funds are conditioned by the type of programs. The basis for the evaluation of programmes of competitive sports is classification of sports into groups according to various indicators (e.g., international competitiveness and the prevalence of sport discipline, quality of sporting achievements, the prevalence of sport discipline in the Republic of Slovenia, the importance of sport discipline for the environment, the number of adequately qualified and trained personnel, etc.). Local communities determine the number of classes and the level of valuation indicators. For other programmes that are more of a single nature (e.g. the construction of sports facilities, sports events, books), it is necessary to define the importance of

¹⁰⁰ Public expenditure on sport (state and municipal budgets and lottery funds) in Slovenia in 2011 amounted to € 75 per capita, while in the group of developed European countries from 85 € (Belgium) to 304 € (Ireland). Currently, Slovenia is lagging behind certain countries with comparable GDP (e.g. Estonia, Cyprus) in this type of financing

the programme for the implementation of the national programme actions in sports, the degree of realisation of the programme or the ability to put it in place and quality aspects of the programme, as for example contributing to the sustainable development, the proportion of trained personnel or the extent of voluntary work with professionally trained personnel.

Elements of definition of co-financing of the sport programme shall be defined primarily in relation to the quantitative aspects of the programme: the programme, the size of the training group, the value of professional staff hours of work, the value of hiring a sports facility, the material costs for carrying out the programme, etc.. With a view to promoting high-quality professional work in sport, the programmes, guided by a professionally more educated and trained staff, should be on equal terms, co-financed more.

In preparing the conditions and criteria for the allocation of resources of the sport programme at the state level (MESS - Sport and FSO) must be included the representatives of the OCSASF, and at local levels, the municipal sports federations and other sports organisations that represent local club/association activities at the local level.

Local communities and the state may in order to perform public services¹⁰¹ in sport establish public institutes or according to the law, governing public procurement, sign concession contracts with other sports organisations complying conditions to perform public service.

Table 2: Desired change of expenditure structure for annual programmes of sport

Contents	2011 (%)	2018 (%)	2023 (%)
SPORTS PROGRAMMES	34,78	40,00	45,00
Leisure time sports activity of children and youth	1,36	2,28	3,50
Physical education of children and youth with special needs	???	0,02	0,04
Extracurricular sports activities	0,05	0,10	0,20
Physical education of children and youth, oriented into quality and top level sport	23,15	23,00	23,00
Quality sport	???	2,00	2,20
Top level sport	7,59	8,00	9,40
Sport of disabled	0,72	0,80	0,80
Sports recreation	1,91	3,00	4,36
Sport of senior citizens		0,80	1,50
SPORTS FACILITIES AND NATURAL SURFACES FOR SPORT	51,99	43,50	35,25
DEVELOPMENT TASKS IN SPORT	3,01	4,00	5,00
ORGANISATION OF SPORT	6,18	7,00	8,00
SPORTS EVENTS AND SPORTS PROMOTION	3,91	5,30	6,50
SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY IN SPORT	0,13	0,20	0,25

Desired change of expenditure structure of annual programmes of sport (Table 2) is based on occurred public expenditure on sport so far. In 2011, public expenditure reached € 159,430,852. Larger part of this was dedicated to the construction of sports facilities (€ 82,884,535) and the sport of children, youth and students (€ 37,241,239).

¹⁰¹ Public service is socially necessary activity through which certain needs for public goods and services are satisfied; in the public interest they are permanently provided and ensured by the state or local communities, where and to the extent that they cannot be provided by the market, and while its primary goal is not profit making.

It is expected that the funds allocated for the annual programme of sport at the national level will begin to increase in line with GDP growth on an annual basis.

Besides the local communities, the ministry, responsible for sport, and the FSO, additional budgetary funds shall be needed to implement the actions where the responsible delivery organisations are other ministerial sectors and private resources in order to deliver the programme of sport.

9 PRIORITIES

The National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 as a whole will be realised gradually, in line with the growth of public funds to be allocated for sport at national and local levels, as well as with the enforcement of other actions. In case the available funds in a given year will not be sufficient for the implementation of the National Programme of Sport 2014-2023 as a whole, the priority sequence of implementation actions, co-financed through the annual programmes of sport, will be considered and classified into two groups.

Group one:

- Leisure time physical education of children and youth
- Physical education of children and youth oriented into quality and top level sport
- Sports facilities and surfaces for sport in nature
- Sports recreation
- Sport of senior citizens
- Top level sport
- Education, training and specialisation of expert staff in sport
- Statutory rights of athletes, coaches and expert support to programmes
- Functioning of sports organisations
- Voluntary work in sport
- Prevention of doping sport
- Sport of disabled
- Public information about sport
- Sustainable aspects in sport

Group two:

- Extracurricular sports activities
- Physical education of children and youth with special needs
- Sports events
- Publishing in sport
- Ombudsman of athletes' rights
- Scientific – research work in sport
- Information-communication technology in sport
- Quality sport
- Museum activity in sport
- Sporting behaviour
- Sports tourism