

Slovenian Institute for Adult Education

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Slovenian Institute for Adult Education

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About SIAE

- SIAE was founded in 1991 by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia to promote the development of adult learning and education in the country.
- SIAE is the umbrella public institute in the field of adult learning and education in Slovenia.
- SIAE is in charge of research, development, education and guidance, information and promotion work in adult learning and education.



Vision

SIAE will continue to be the leading national institution for the development of and research into adult learning and education. In addition, SIAE will act as partner in the implementation of the strategy of lifelong learning.



Mission

- To ensure **access** to and a high **quality** of education and learning for all people in accordance with the principles of **free choice and equal rights**.
- We contribute to the **development of human, cultural and social capital**, for we believe that the biggest comparative advantage of our country is self-confident, educated citizens involved in lifelong learning, capable of facing changes and determined to constantly improve their living and working environments.



SIAE's role is based on:

- Act of Establishment of SIAE (1991, 1999)
- Statute of SIAE (1991, ..., 2008)
- *Director's developmental vision*
- Adult Education Act (1996 ...)
- Organisation and Financing of Education Act (1996 ...)
- National developmental strategies in various fields of public life
- EU documents on adult learning and education as well as on lifelong learning
- Declarations of international organisations



SIAE and the system of AE

- **Resolution on the National Plan of Adult Education until 2010** (endorsed by the Parliament in 2004)
- **Annual Adult Education Programme** (since 2005 →) defining goals and activities in three priority areas:
 - General Non-Formal Education
 - Formal Education
 - Education and Training for Work as well as infrastructural activities.



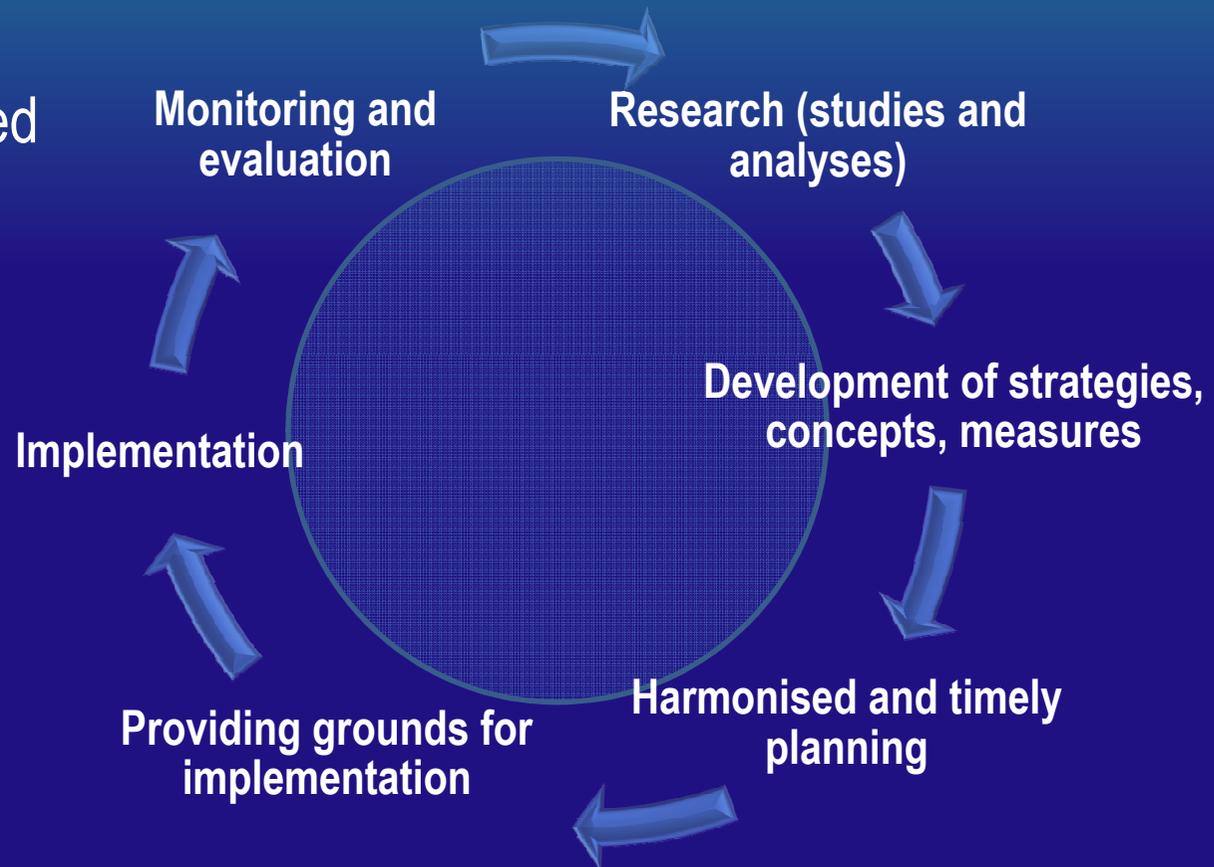
Financing scheme (2010)

- **Government of Slovenia (72 %)**
 - Ministry of Education and Sport (70 %)
 - Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs (30 %)
- **European Social Fund (26 %)**
- **Other sources (2 %)**



Developmental spiral

SIAE's work is a series of intertwined and interdependent processes:



Thematic areas

- Development of the adult education (AE) system
- Development of quality in AE
- Information and guidance in AE
- Adult education training
- Adult literacy
- Development of non-formal learning
- Validation of non-formal learning
- Promotional activities
- AE information support



Projects and activities

SIAE's work is organised in three units:

- Research and development,
- Quality nad education
- Guidance and validation,
- Information and promotion.



Basic tasks of research and development cluster

Development of the adult education (AE) system

- expert analyses,
- research,
- evaluation studies providing expert grounds for the development of the AE system;

Adult literacy

- research,
- development of literacy programmes for different target groups (family, rural, workplace, people with special needs),
- training of literacy teachers;

Development of non-formal learning

- study circles (SLO only),
- reading circles,
- learning exchange,
- self-directed learning,
- project learning for young adults,
- lifelong learning centres;



Basic tasks of education and quality cluster

Development of quality in AE:

- development of approaches to self-evaluation and external evaluation,
- counselling and training of people responsible for the development of quality,
- providing related professional literature;

Adult education training:

- devising and implementing training programmes for work in adult education and for supporting the implementation of development projects in practice,
- development of teaching materials and new approaches to training



Basic tasks of guidance and validation cluster

Information and guidance in AE:

- providing guidance to individuals and institutions,
- developing and monitoring guidance centres (IGAE project),
- guidance corner,
- database of publicly valid AE programmes;

Validation of non-formal learning:

- portfolio,
- e-portfolio
- sistem of APL,
- training of counsellors and evaluators



Basic tasks of promotion and information cluster:

Promotional activities:

- promotional campaigns and events – Lifelong Learning Week,
- Awards for outstanding learning achievements,
- 'Role Models Attract' campaign
- Adult Education Colloquium,
- bulletin e-Novičke, series of professional literature, monographs, video and multimedia publications
- miscellaneous small promotional material;

AE information support:

- Survey on adult education providers and programmes in Slovenia,
- databases and indicators,
- Info-mozaik
- expert library,
- SIAE website,
- intranet.



SIAE's Governing Board

1 representative of the **Ministry of Education and Sport**

1 representative of the **Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs**

1 representative of the **Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology**

1 representative of the **University of Ljubljana** as well as **Maribor**

1 representative of the **Association of Adult Education Centres**

3 representatives of **SIAE's staff**



SIAE staff

- From 1996 until 2007 more than 72 people have contributed to the work of SIAE.
- At the moment **39 employees**, **33 professionals** with university and 38 % of them with post-graduate degrees;
- **Educational background:**
 - 46 % pedagogues and adult educators,
 - 16 % sociologists,
 - 5 % psychologists,
 - 33 % from other fields
- **Average age: 41 years.**



Partners

SIAE acts in cooperation with a network of partners, i.e. institutions active in the field of adult learning and education in Slovenia:

- adult education centres (folk high-schools),
- private enterprises,
- units for adult education located at secondary schools,
- various other institutions, NGOs, societies and associations, etc.



International cooperation

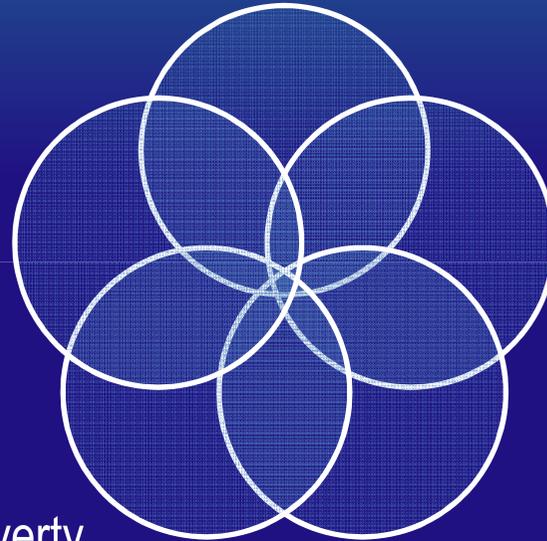
- Throughout the years, SIAE has set up a network of international contacts stemming from cooperation in international research and other projects, as well from memberships in international organisations, project groups and editorial boards.
- International relations are supported by publishing the English version of SIAE's bulletin e-Novičke, along with bilingual publications and the English website, and by taking part in international conferences and study visits, as well as publishing articles in foreign publications.



Present challenges

Financial, economic and social crisis and globalisation processes (migrants);

Permanent and rapid ICT development ...



Shortage of qualified working force and constantly changing demands of the labour market;

Social stratification, poverty, marginalisation of certain groups;

Aging population (active aging);

The best response to these challenges: LIFELONG LEARNING

