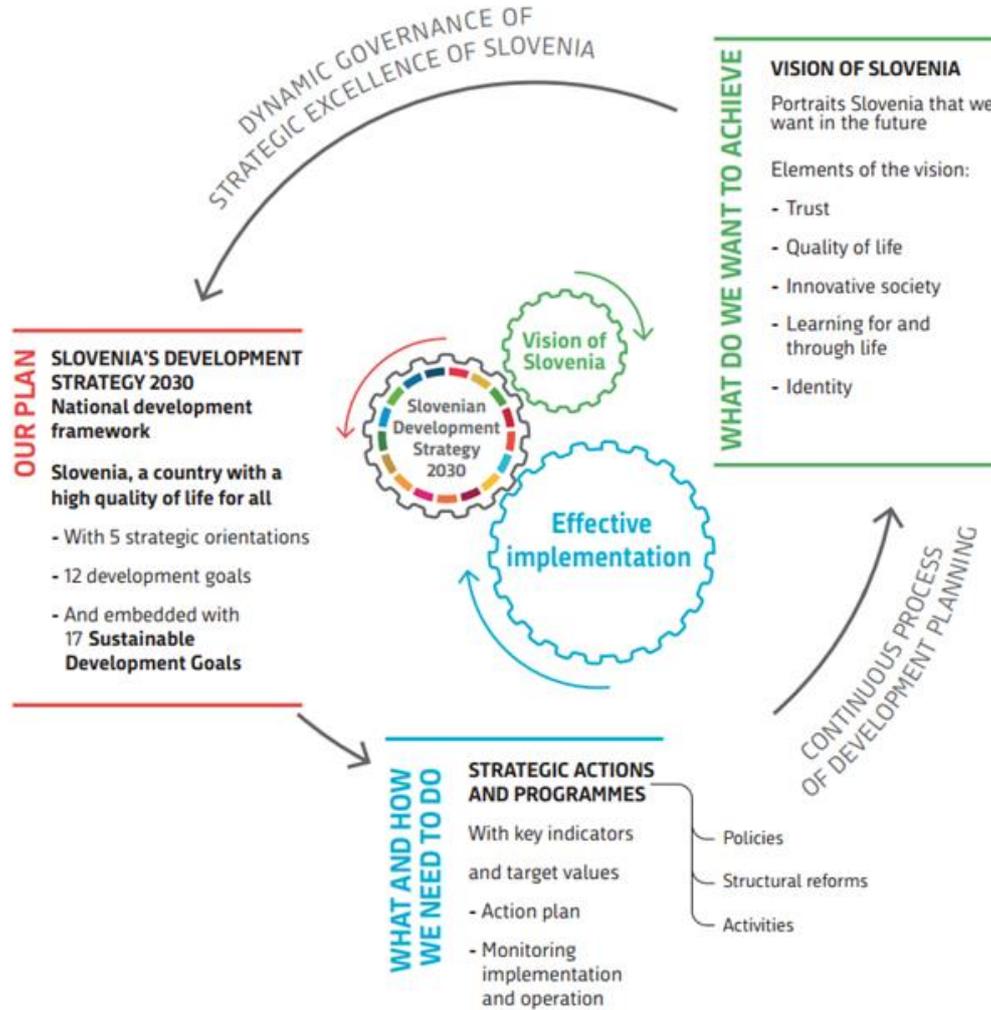




A new national development strategy aligned with the SDGs lays the foundation for enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development. The *Slovenian Development Strategy 2030* adopted by the government in December 2017 builds on the Vision of Slovenia 2050 and incorporates the SDGs. With an overarching objective to provide a high quality of life for all, it sets out five strategic orientations and twelve interlinked national goals mapped to each SDG: highly productive economy that creates added value for all; resilient, inclusive safe and responsible society; well-preserved natural environment; efficient and competent governance driven by cooperation; and learning for and through life. The strategy highlights the need to consider interconnections, cross-cutting elements and integrate policies at the national level. It also emphasises the need to establish better mechanisms for horizontal and multilevel cooperation. Implementation will be guided by a four-year national development policy programme (NDPP) and a medium-term fiscal strategy as well as corresponding horizontal and sectoral, regional and municipal strategies, programmes and operational measures (Government of the Republic of Slovenia, 2017^[1]).

New institutional mechanisms aim to strengthen coordination, stakeholder involvement and policy coherence. At the beginning of 2017 the government established the Permanent Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Development Policies (IMWG) to foster an integrated approach and promote policy coherence. The group is coordinated by the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, and consists of two representatives from each ministry who act as focal points for development policies and the 2030 Agenda at their ministries. Representatives of the National Statistical Office and the Institution for Macroeconomic Analysis and Development are also members of the IMWG (Government of the Republic of Slovenia, 2017^[2]). The group operates as a mechanism for horizontal collaboration in preparing the *Slovenian Development Strategy 2030* and the VNR. Policy coherence efforts could be enhanced by giving the IMWG a policy arbitration mandate (OECD, 2017^[3]). The government plans to establish a new special advisory body, the Council for Development, to oversee the delivery of the Slovenian Development Strategy 2030. The Council will include a range of stakeholders including private sector, civil society, representatives of regional and local communities and the government (OECD, 2017^[4]).

Figure 1. Slovenian development planning model



Source: Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2017₍₁₎).

Table 1. Institutional Mechanisms for PCSD in Slovenia

PCSD Building Blocks

Political commitment	Commitment to more coherent and centralized policy planning for sustainable development is expressed in the new National Development Strategy 2030, adopted in December 2017. Slovenia further outlined its long-term development plans in its Vision 2050. A public financing Act was renewed to ensure that the sustainable development planning (implementation of the Slovenia's Development Strategy 2030 through preparation of the Action plans) is integrated into the budgeting cycle.
Policy integration	A Council for Development will be established to make policy proposals that take into account inter-linkages between economic, social and environmental dimensions of policy, as well as to ensure consistency with international engagements. The Slovenian Development Strategy 2030 is supported by sectoral, regional and municipal strategies.
Intergenerational timeframe	Vision 2050 and Slovenia's Development Strategy 2030 have been elaborated through an open, transparent and inclusive approach stressing the universality of the 2030 Agenda with objectives going beyond the present governmental term. The Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Development Policies was established as a permanent body.
Policy effects	Policy effects are considered as part of environmental and regulatory impact assessments, as well as through assessments of economic values. Mechanisms are currently being developed to adjust policies in light of new information on potential negative impacts during implementation.
Coordination	The Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy takes the overall implementation, coordination and monitoring responsibility for the 2030 Agenda. It is supported by the permanent Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Development Policies, which meets on a monthly basis and promotes policy coherence by sharing information and solving policy conflicts. The Group is composed of two representatives from each ministry working as focal points for development policies and the 2030 Agenda, and also includes representatives of the National Statistical Office and the Institution for Macroeconomic Analysis and Development. The Government Office advises the government and manages the implementation of EU documents. This coordination mechanism aims to consider both domestic and international objectives related to SDG-implementation in close collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Local involvement	The national organization of municipalities was involved in drafting the <i>Vision 2050</i> and <i>Slovenian Development Strategy 2030</i> and will be part of the Council for Development being established to foster an open and transparent dialogue with stakeholders. Local actors can currently take part in meetings/briefings and through co-organizing events and conferences.
Stakeholder participation	The new National Development Strategy commits the government to establish a Council for Development that will bring together all stakeholders and act as an advisory board to the Inter-Ministerial Working Group, a forum and a watchdog for sustainable development policies.
Monitoring and reporting	The Council for Development will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and publish annual reports. The Slovenian Development Strategy 2030 includes five strategic orientations and twelve development goals that are mapped to each SDG and provides a first set of performance indicators. The supreme audit institution (SAI) supports national monitoring and implementation efforts. The Court of Audit identifies implementation gaps for making decisions on what to audit and points out areas where problems might occur. Reports are critical towards past issues but also visionary about the future.

Source: OECD (2017^[4]; 2018^[5]) and Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2018^[6]).

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