THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Vojkova cesta 55, 1000 Ljubljana

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE FOR 2013

Number: 0100-127/2013-34
Date: 27 May 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MINISTER'S ADDRESS....4

MILITARY DEFENCE....7

1 SCOPE AND STRUCTURE OF THE SAF....7

2 SAF MILITARY TRAINING AND EXERCISES....8

3 DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING OF SAF CAPABILITIES....12

4 MAINTAINING THE LEVEL OF READINESS OF THE SAF....13

5. MODERNIZATION OF THE SAF....14

6 SAF OPERATION IN SUPPORT OF THE SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS....15

7 SAF CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY....17

8 INVESTIGATIONS OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS....21

9 THE IMPACT OF THE REDUCTION OF FINANCIAL PLANS ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF THE SAF....23

PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS....25

1 PREVENTION ACTIVITIES....25

2 PREPAREDNESS OF THE SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS AND PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF FORCES....27

3 DISASTER RESPONSE AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT....38

4 EDUCATION AND TRAINING....44

5 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION....55

6 INSPECTION ACTIVITY IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS....58

DEFENCE SYSTEM AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT....60

1 DEFENCE POLICY....60

2 SLOVENIA'S CRISIS PREPARATIONS AND RESPONSE MEASURES....65

3 DEVELOPMENT OF CIVILIAN CAPABILITIES....67

4 INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OPERATIONS....69

5 EQUIPPING, REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT, STANDARDIZTION AND CODIFICATION....70

6 COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM (CIS)....73

7 INSPECTION AND INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF DEFENCE....74

8 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION 75

9 NORMATIVE ACTS 78

10 RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECTS 80

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOURCE PLANS 81

1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL PLAN 81

2 PERSONNEL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION 87

3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE STATE'S PHYSICAL ASSETS 93

4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR THE SALE OF STATE PROPERTY 98

5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EDUCATION, TRAINING AND ADVANCED TRAINING PLAN . 100

6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PLAN 102

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RISK REGISTER 104

MINISTER'S ADDRESS

Roman Jakič, Minister of Defence

Ladies and gentlemen!

This is the Report of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for 2013 which, in a transparent manner, covers its functioning in the previous year. Despite the difficulties and challenges associated with the very limited financial resources, the list of successfully accomplished tasks and achievements in the area of defence and protection against natural and other disasters is extensive, which we can all be rightly proud of.

The consequences of the economic and financial crisis were observed throughout the defence area, and had an impact, in particular, on the most important element of the defence system - the military defence - since they affected the readiness of its main body, the Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF). Nevertheless, the SAF successfully continued with its reorganization. Combining the strategic and operational levels, it attempted to establish a more rational structure, whereas at the tactical level, it established two infantry brigades and a logistics brigade and transformed the aviation and maritime units and special forces. In the area of training and exercises, which is associated with one of its most important tasks, the SAF was focused on maintaining the achieved level of training and readiness.

The SAF continued to successfully meet its responsibilities in international operations and missions (IOM), under the auspices of various international organizations (UN, NATO, and EU), of which the Republic of Slovenia (RS) is a member. In 2013, the activities of the SAF in the IOM were also focused on the Western Balkans. On an annual basis, on average 402 SAF members participated in IOM, mostly in the Allied KFOR operations in Kosovo and ISAF operations in Afghanistan. The size of the SAF contingent in Afghanistan gradually reduced, and the nature of its tasks was also partly changing, while respecting the principle of Allied solidarity. At the end of 2013, in the spirit of neighbourly solidarity, a SAF contingent participated with a multi-purpose military boat Triglav 11 in a humanitarian operation of the Italian Security and Defence Forces called Mare Nostrum - Lampedusa. In this way, Slovenia provided assistance to the friendly and Allied country, with which it cooperates closely in IOM, whereas the boat Triglav 11, for the first time, demonstrated its multi-functionality in an operation on the high seas and thus justified its purpose.

With its capabilities, the SAF also intensively participated in the field of protection against natural and other disasters, with an emphasis on the helicopter rescue, emergency medical aid, response to natural disasters, and fire-fighting.

In the system of protection against natural and other disasters, significantly less financial resources were available for the maintenance, renovation and modernization of its key capabilities. The main focus was, therefore on maintaining the readiness to respond to natural and other disasters, as well as on preventive activities and planning, especially raising public awareness in the field of fire protection. Priority was given to the supplementation of threat assessments and the update of disaster response plans, in accordance with the new bases related to normative law. In spite of the harsh economic circumstances accompanying operations, the competent services and units quickly and appropriately responded and demonstrated their willingness and dedication, especially after heavy winter snowfall, summer fires and autumn floods. Again, the 13 regional notification centres operated in all shifts (24/7), which enabled a more effective response to emergency calls to the telephone number 112. The average operators response time after calls to 112 was a bit more than four seconds, which means that 90 per cent of all those who called received operator response in less than nine seconds. An international system for the automatic emergency call from vehicles (i.e. e-Call) began to operate for a trial period; the system is designed in such a way that in the event of a traffic accident, after which the injured driver is unconscious, the e-Call system is activated, sending information automatically to the competent service receiving emergency calls.

In the framework of five out of a series of Protection and Rescue Days carried out in cooperation with the Municipality of Velenje, the national and local as well as professional and voluntary forces presented themselves, as usual, and their protection, rescue and relief equipment. Moreover, national aptitude tests for the first aid teams of the RS Civil Protection and the Slovenian Red Cross were conducted.

International activities in the field of protection against natural and other disasters were primarily focused on the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and regional integration of countries, the provision of development assistance to the Western Balkan countries, and the ensuring of an active role of Slovenia in international organizations.

In the area of defence policy, the MoD continued its activities in the framework of NATO, EU's Common Security and Defence Policy, as well as bilateral and multilateral international cooperation. One of the important decisions taken at the NATO ministerial meetings was that the NATO common funds, which had so far been dedicated to the operation in Afghanistan, be channelled into the financing of the Allied infrastructure. An important part of activities in the area of international cooperation was the support provided to the countries of the Western Balkans, especially to Montenegro, in their implementation of defence reforms and efforts to join the Euro-Atlantic structures. In this respect, it is important to point out the first comprehensive regional ministerial meeting, which was held in October at Brdo pri Kranju and was dedicated to the harmonisation of the defence and security cooperation in the Western Balkans and in South-Eastern Europe. The meeting was attended by 11 Ministers of Defence, 3 Deputy Ministers, Deputy Secretary General of NATO, Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, 28 delegations and a total of 150 representatives of countries and international organizations. In the context of this event, the MoD representatives conducted more than 50 high-level bilateral meetings.

Noticeable progress was made in the fields of crisis management and crisis response measures, as their most important normative bases were updated. With the rationalization of its contents, the defence planning was adapted to the level of threat to the country, whereas the national and NATO crisis response measures were standardized, allowing for a more effective response in crisis situations.

In the field of equipping, purchases were mainly focused on the equipment for ensuring the safety of the SAF members and their regular operation and training, along with some small purchases of light infantry weapons and combat equipment. Investment funds were further reduced by as many as 41 per cent (12 million EUR), so that the investment cycle was suspended. Due to the increasing age and wear of equipment, the cost of its maintenance went

up sharply. The upgrade of the second Cougar helicopter was carried out, as well as preparations for the start of the upgrade of the third helicopter of this type in 2014. In addition to the multi-purpose military boat Triglav 11, the aircraft Falcon 2000 EX was introduced into operational use, performing 25 flights for government bodies, as well as the mobile hospital Role 2 LM, which was handed over for use for two years to the General Hospital Jesenice for the needs of the medical care of local population. 2013 also saw a successful continuation of modernization of the Cerklje military airfield, which is partly financed by NATO. Greater emphasis was also placed on the registration of real estate managed by the MoD in the land register, which resulted in a decrease in the proportion of unregistered flats and parcels.

With regard to the provision of financial resources, the MoD had to again face the fact that the trend of reducing the scope of the financial plan continued in 2013. Since 2009, the scope of the MoD financial plan had been reduced in nominal terms by almost 200 million EUR, or 37 per cent. In 2010, the share of the realised expenditure for defence in the gross domestic product was still 1.64 per cent, whereas in 2013 it was 1.09 per cent, which is the farthest away from the target of two per cent. At the MoD level, the total amount of funds for salaries went down by 9 per cent (22.8 million EUR) in 2013, and current expenditure was further reduced by 14 per cent (11.5 million EUR).

During the implementation of the MoD personnel plan, the number of civil servants in its administrative part decreased by 27 persons or two per cent, which is within the agreed social dialogue between the Government of the RS and the public sector trade unions. The number of SAF members decreased by 123 or 1.7 per cent. Thus, during the implementation of the financial and human resources plans, the MoD mainly relied on the search for internal reserves.

According to my estimation, the functioning of the MoD in 2013 can, in spite of these problems and challenges, generally be judged quite successful, since all the most important tasks were carried out. The merit goes mostly to the employees, who, in these difficult times, with their enthusiasm, knowledge and experience, significantly contribute to the successful meeting of challenges of the defence system and the system of protection against natural and other disasters. However, due to drastic budget cuts in the last five years dedicated to the areas of defence and protection against natural and other disasters, one cannot avoid making the conclusion that the risk for timely and comprehensive response to potential threats to national security in the areas of defence and protection against natural and other disasters increases, and that our ability to participate in IOM and to fulfil other assumed obligations towards international organizations, to which Slovenia is member, is approaching a critical point.

Roman Jakič, Minister of Defence

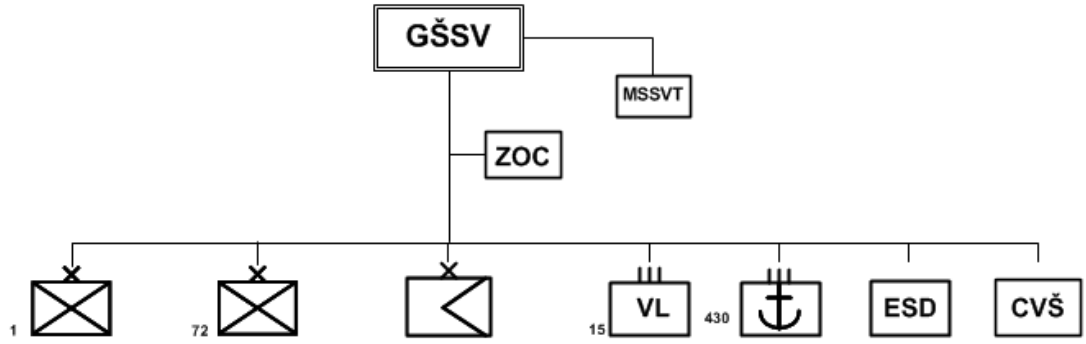
MILITARY DEFENCE

1 SCOPE AND STRUCTURE OF THE SAF

In 2013, the Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF) introduced a more rational organizational structure by joining the strategic and operational levels of command, and by reducing the number of mostly branch commands. Through the establishment of two infantry brigades at the tactical level, it balanced the structure and ensured the creation of four infantry cores for the development of joint warfare of branches in battalion battle groups. In the logistics brigade, the SAF integrated its logistics capabilities and enabled their sharing. In addition, an air force unit, a navy unit and a special forces unit were transformed and strengthened at the tactical level.

On the basis of medium-term planning documents, the scope of the SAF was set at 7600 members of the active component and 1500 members of the contract reserve component. The government measure aimed at reducing the number of employees in the state administration was also reflected in the SAF, since the number of its members reduced based on the government personnel plan. The continuation of the reduction trend will have a negative impact on the functioning of the SAF at home, as well as on its ability to meet the obligations of Slovenia towards the Alliance.

Organisational Structure of the SAF



2 SAF MILITARY TRAINING AND EXERCISES

2.1 Overview of Important Training Courses of SAF Members and Units

Training and exercises of SAF units were, also due to transformation, rather dynamic and focused on the training of individuals for obtaining the relevant competencies, and for maintaining the achieved level of training and readiness of the SAF. The SAF commands and units were trained in performing the tasks arising from the SAF mission, which are to ensure the ability to perform national defence tasks, participation in international operations and missions, operation in the system of protection against natural and other disasters, task-based training of units for their operation within the Alliance and the achievement of planned operational capabilities.

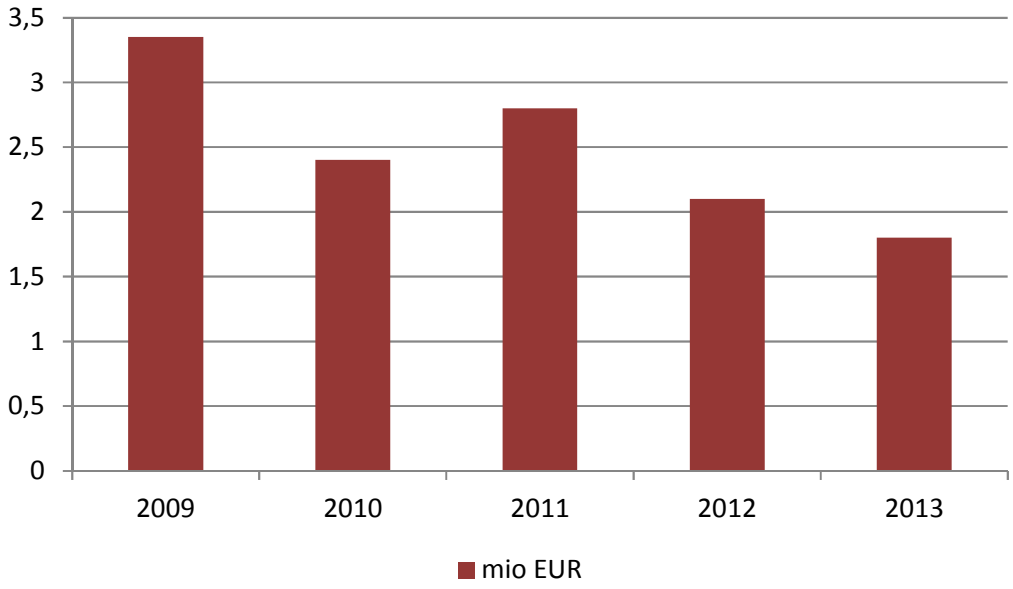
At the SAF Initial Training Centre, basic military training was carried out for individuals who had signed up for voluntary military service. In the end, a total of 198 candidates were employed for voluntary military service. It was performed at four locations in Slovenia (Vipava, Murska Sobota, Bohinjska Bela and Novo mesto).

The SAF units and commands participated in 40 international exercises and collective training courses abroad (Italy, Germany, Poland, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, USA, Romania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Turkey, Belgium, Greece, Serbia, Denmark and Lithuania).

In Slovenia, 28 major exercises and collective training courses for maintaining readiness and building capacities were carried out, attended also by members of other armed forces of the Alliance. In total, more than 2,500 SAF members participated in exercises in Slovenia and abroad.

Due to budget cuts (four revised budgets) in recent years, we had to reduce the number of already planned exercises and training courses. For this reason, only 74 per cent of planned exercises and training courses were carried out in 2013. Some ambitions for the development and establishment of planned capabilities also needed adjustment according to the available funds. The reduced number of exercises and training courses in Slovenia and abroad affects the level of training, particularly for performing combat operations. Priority was given to the provision of training and exercises for maintaining the level of readiness of SAF units for carrying out basic tasks arising from the mission.

Reduction of Resources for Training and Exercises



Important exercises which the SAF organised or participated in in 2013:

- Central tactical exercise of the SAF commands and units MOVEMENT 2013 (PREMIK 2013), in the framework of which the international military exercise ADRIATIC STRIKE 2013 (JADRANSKI UDAR 2013) took place and in which the SAF, in cooperation with the Allied countries, trained forward air controllers/joint terminal attack controllers, and exercise KARST 13 (KRAS 13), where the attainment of capabilities of companies organic to an Infantry Regiment was verified.
- International exercise of the US response forces in Europe, in which the SAF participated with the command and company battle group of a Mountain Regiment which was preparing for operation in the KFOR forces.
- Exercise STEADFAST JAZZ, in which the SAF cooperated with forces constituting the NATO Immediate Response Force. The exercise was participated by representatives of special forces and a group of joint terminal attack controllers.
- Training of Slovenian contingents in the joint multinational training centre in Hohenfels, Germany, before departing to KFOR and ISAF missions.
- Exercise CRYSTAL EAGLE 13 lead by the NATO Multinational Corps Northeast (NATO MNC NE) in Poland;
- Exercise COMBINED ENDEAVOR 2013 organised by the United States European Command.
- Fire-fighting and rescue exercise AIRCRAFT 2013 (LETALO 2013) in Krško.
- Central protection and rescue exercise VELENJE 2013.

In the area of individual training, 40 different training courses were planned for military occupational specialties (MOS), and it was estimated that 455 members would participate in the courses. 36 training courses were carried out, with the participation of 424 members.

2.2 Training of Aviation Units

In 2013, aviation units trained in the provision of air support to the SAF commands and units, with the emphasis on the training in close air support, airspace interception and the provision of air and medical transport.

In the area of individual training, courses for military occupational specialty "aviation soldier" were planned and carried out for 15 members who successfully completed the training.

Members of aviation units were sent to various specialist and functional training courses abroad, especially to Great Britain (tactical simulator Cougar), the Czech Republic (simulator for the renewal of license for the aircraft L-410) and France (crew training for the vessel FALCON 2000SX).

Aviation units participated in 13 important exercises in Slovenia and abroad. In addition to the above-mentioned exercise ADRIATIC STRIKE 2013, these particularly include exercises TANGO SCRAMBLE, AIR DEFENCE TRAINING ACTIVITY 2013, RAMSTEIN GUARD 2013 and BROKEN WING 2013 (ZLOMLJENO KRILO 2013).

Participation of the SAF Helicopters at an Exercise

2.3 Important Training Courses of the Naval Unit

In the field of naval unit training, focus was on the preparation and participation in the exercise ADRION LIVEX 2013, on the attainment of operational capabilities of individual units and on the training of the crew of the multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 before its departure to the mission MARE NOSTRUM – Lampedusa.

In the area of individual training, courses were planned and carried out for the training of seven members for the military occupational specialty "sailor", as well as of two members for the military occupational specialty "diver". All the members successfully completed the training.

In addition, members of the 430th Naval Division participated in various functional training courses.
Naval units also participated in ten important exercises in Slovenia and abroad.

2.4 Training of the SAF Contract Reserve Component

In 2013, 68 call-ups were planned for 257 days. Eight call-ups for 22 days were actually carried out. The reason for such a low number of call-ups was the cancellation of all training courses in the second half of 2013 due to the reduction of the SAF financial resources. Consequently, members of the contract reserve component, who are deployed to individual SAF units, do not reach the planned level of training.

The Training of SAF Members

2.5 Practice and Military Camps

In 2013, professional practice in the SAF was successfully completed by 17 participants.

The military camp was attended by 81 university and secondary school students. The camp took place from 1 to 13 July 2013 at the following locations: Kadetnica (former officer candidate school) Maribor, Bohinjska Bela Military Post, the Mačkovec firing range and training area, and the surroundings of the Bohinjska Bela Military Post. Professional practice at the camp was successfully completed by 13 students of the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security. The MoD and Youth Camp was attended by 40 secondary school students. In the framework of the study programme, Military Practice III was attended by 10 students, whereas Military Practice IV was attended by 26 students of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

3 DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING OF SAF CAPABILITIES

In accordance with the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025 (ReSDPROSV 2025) from 2010 and through the process of defence planning in NATO, the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018 (SOPR 2013–2018) was prepared as well as endorsed by the Government.

The Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018 is in line with the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the SAF up to 2025, as well as with the agreed NATO capability goals. With these goals, Slovenia assumed, on the basis of the principle of just burden-sharing, obligations in the development of certain capabilities and in the contribution of the RS to collective security. Slovenia aims at maintaining the achieved level and eliminating shortcomings in the quality of already developed capabilities (Light Battalion Battle Group (LBBSK), CBRN Defence Battalion), and forming a medium Battalion Battle Group (SRBBSk), which will, in the next medium-term planning period, through the purchase of additional equipment, develop into a mechanized battalion battle group (MEHBBSk), capable of operating in all potential Alliance operations. The trend of several years of cuts in defence budget and thus the funds for the operation and development of the SAF already has a significant impact on the SAF capabilities and reduces the capability of Slovenia in the area of defence. With the gradual reduction of the SAF financial resources from 2010 to 2013 and continuing of this trend in the years 2014 and 2015, it is clear that Slovenia will not achieve the development of SAF capabilities and its commitments towards the Alliance planned in the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018 and in the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the SAF up to 2025.

The reduction of resources affects the functioning of the SAF and brings about the increase of national defence risks in the provision of the planned defence capabilities and interoperability, due to technological lag and the decreased ability of operation of the RS in Slovenia and within the Alliance. Such risks cannot be completely avoided; however, the SAF has to restrict them to the greatest possible extent. The transformation of the SAF aimed at limiting the negative impacts of the reduction of resources on its operation. Nevertheless, the consequences of several years of reduction are becoming more and more visible.

4 MAINTAINING THE LEVEL OF READINESS OF THE SAF

The SAF provided and maintained capabilities for its operation in IOM and fulfilled other obligations towards the Alliance. It supported the system of protection against natural and other disasters and was willing to assist other state bodies and organizations in ensuring the safety and welfare of citizens of the RS.

Economy measures, which were implemented primarily in the areas of modernization and maintenance of infrastructure and vehicle fleet, and provision of working conditions, accommodation and personal equipment of the SAF members, had an important negative impact on ensuring the required level of readiness.

To a limited extent, the SAF provided the available capabilities for the provision of military defence of the RS within the framework of the Alliance.

The available financial resources did not enable the building and development of the SAF capabilities, planned in the medium-term and long-term planning documents.

The effects of further reductions in funding could no longer be mitigated without detriment to the readiness of the SAF. The impact of budget cuts on the maintenance and development of capabilities is reflected in the reduction of the ability of the SAF to provide military defence of the RS within the framework of the Alliance. In the long term, the budget cuts jeopardize the provision of the required and necessary readiness of the SAF and its development in accordance with the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the SAF up to 2025.

Preparation of the SAF Units and Members for Operation in IOM

5 MODERNIZATION OF THE SAF

The equipping of the SAF was conducted in accordance with the equipping plans and the available financial resources. In 2103, the following important projects were thus carried out:

- Purchase of 16 new 7.62 mm machine guns for the equipping of units and operational reserve.
- Purchase of 1500 sets of new battle dress uniform.
- Purchase of 1200 patrol rucksacks.
- Purchase of 2446 combat helmets.
- The planned quantities of ammunition and training resources were acquired for the preservation of stocks and training.
- Within the project of upgrading the Cougar transport helicopters, the upgrade of the second helicopter with the systems for communication, navigation and protection and systems for minimization of thermal images was completed, and the third helicopter was prepared for the start of upgrades in 2014.
- Purchase of demolition sets, as well as mining and demining sets.

Introductions were completed and orders were issued on the introduction into operational use of the following important capabilities and resources:

- COPAS training simulation system.
- SAF security and control centre.
- Falcon 2000FX aircraft.
- Drager X-am stethoscope and detector.
- Modular Armoured Tactical Shoot Combat House.

In the framework of the U.S. military assistance programmes, spare parts for 4x4 HMMWV light wheeled armoured vehicles were supplied, as well as camouflage nets, helicopter crew helmets and a shoot house for the Škrilj training area.

The revitalisation of the Cerklje ob Krki military airfield, which is scheduled for completion in 2016, was also carried out as planned.

Information systems to support the functioning of medical units, and an application for the planning of meals and monitoring of business operation of kitchens in the SAF were introduced into operational use. The information system for monitoring the training of units was upgraded with a module for keeping an electronic logbook for shooting in the SAF. In 2013, the operating system Windows XP was replaced with Windows 7 on workstations that were suitable for the new operating system. The most urgent modernisation works and replacements of equipment on the server infrastructure were also carried out.

Due to the significant reduction in funding in recent years as well as in 2013, tactical military communication and information systems could not be modernised. For several years already, due to the lack of financial resources, the equipping of a mobile computer centre could not be conducted. In 2013, no money was dedicated to the modernisation of the data network.

The required investment documentation for the start-up of purchase projects is ready for other key projects, the implementation of which is planned in the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018 (equipment of forward air controller/joint terminal attack controller groups, equipment of the UXO disposal unit, drones, and mortars).

6 SAF OPERATION IN SUPPORT OF THE SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS

The SAF actively supported the operation of the system of protection against natural and other disasters and participated in it with its capabilities, with an emphasis on the helicopter rescue, emergency medical aid, response to natural disasters, and fire-fighting. Intervention forces, which are properly trained and in constant readiness for operation in Slovenia, were available for immediate assistance. With respect to the performance of already defined military tasks in Slovenia and in international operations and missions, the SAF could, in the event of an emergency, help to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters with more than 1500 members and the available material resources.

6.1 Helicopter Rescue and Assistance

In the military part of the Jože Pučnik Airport in Brnik, a SAF helicopter is in a 15-minute standby each day during the day for mountain rescue. In addition to the rescue in the mountains and hard to access areas, the duty crew also performs emergency helicopter transports in the framework of helicopter emergency medical assistance. For putting out large-scale forest fires, the SAF forces provide a Bell 412 helicopter with a 1000-liter, and a HE AS532 AL Cougar helicopter with a 2500-liter basket for transporting water, as well as drinking water road tankers with the capacity of 79,000 litres of water.

Overview of the Participation of the SAF Helicopters in Rescue and Assistance in 2012 and 2013

Number of Rescue Operations/Injured Persons and Total Flying Hours	2012	2013	Change Index
Mountain Rescue	97	85	88
Helicopter Emergency Medical Assistance	85	56	66
Wildfires	19	14	74
Total Number of Rescue Operations	202	155	77
Total Number of Helicopter Flying Hours	339:10	257:12	76
Total Number of Injured Persons	180	145	81

In 2013, the duty crew of the 151 Helicopter Squadron carried out 155 rescue operations, out of which 85 were mountain rescue operations, 56 were operations for the provision of emergency medical helicopter assistance, and 14 were operations in response to wildfires in the areas of Rogatec, Trstelj, Mali Grintovec and Poljanska dolina. The crew transported 145 injured or sick persons, 368 emergency responders, 20 tons of first aid equipment and 800,000 litres of water, which totalled in 257 flying hours.

Participation of a SAF Helicopter in Putting out Wildfires

7 SAF CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY

The SAF activities in international operations and missions (IOM) were conducted in line with the RS Government decisions, MoD guidelines, and plans for the SAF operation abroad. During the planning of the participation of the SAF forces in IOM and the preparation for and deployment of the SAF contingents to IOM, great emphasis remains on lessons learned, which contributed to the preparation and operation of the Slovenian contingents in IOM.

Overview of the SAF Member Deployments to IOM in 2013

Operation	International Force	Area of Operations	Operational Leadership	Rotation	Number of Members in 2013
UNTSO	UN	Middle East	UN	12 months	4
UNIFIL	UN	Lebanon	UN	6 months	14
Joint Enterprise	KFOR	Kosovo	NATO	6 months	306
	HQ NATO NLO, MLO	Sarajevo, Skopje, Belgrade	NATO	6 months/ 12 months	5
ISAF	ISAF	Afghanistan	NATO	6 months	57
ATALANTA	EU NAVFOR	Northwood	EU	6 months	1*
ALTHEA	EUFOR	BiH	EU	6 months	11
EUTM	EUTM	Mali	EU	6 months	3**
Mare Nostrum – Lampedusa	Italy and Slovenia	Sicily	Italy	1.5 months 15 December 2013– 31 January 2014)	42
Total on Average					**402**

** Participation ended in June 2013.*
*** Participation started in March 2013.*

7.1. NATO Operations

Activities of the SAF were focused on KFOR forces in Kosovo and ISAF forces in Afghanistan. In addition, the SAF participates in the NATO HQ in Sarajevo, in the NATO military liaison office in Belgrade and in the NATO liaison office in Skopje.

KFOR (Kosovo)

In accordance with the fundamental strategic interests of the Republic of Slovenia pertaining to areas such as foreign affairs, security and others, the majority of the SAF members participating in IOM performed their duties in the Western Balkans. There, the emphasis was laid on the operation of the KFOR Allied Forces in Kosovo, in which over 300 SAF members and one civilian functional expert took part.

Under the KFOR mandate, Slovenian members' activities were focused on maintaining a secure and stable environment and freedom of movement, protecting facilities of special importance, monitoring security and general conditions in the area of operations, providing helicopter transport, rapid response forces and tactical reserve, and performing staff duties. Members of the Slovenian contingent also provided support to the development of Kosovo security forces and the Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces. The contingent operated mostly in the area of central Kosovo, whereas a part of operational activities of the SAF units were also carried out in the North of the country.

At the end of September 2013, a SAF brigadier general, who had successfully carried out duties of the KFOR Deputy Commander for more than one year, completed his term. The post represents the highest position ever assumed by a SAF member in the NATO command structure. The assumption of this duty was recognition of endeavours Slovenia had made and the activities it had performed in support of peace, security and stability in Kosovo or the Western Balkans.

In addition, the MoD provided air transport with an aircraft of the national air carrier at the July visit of the delegation of the North Atlantic Council (NAC) and operational partner countries in the KFOR operation in Kosovo. The MoD also participated in the preparation of information and promotion materials for delegation members, whereas SAF members were actively involved in the conduct of the event.

With its visible enthusiasm in the organization of the visit, Slovenia again proved to be a credible and reliable ally that plays a special role in Kosovo and the wider region. Due to the fragility of the security situation in Kosovo, especially in its northern part, the MoD, at the international level, continuously defended Slovenia's position that it is necessary to prudently and gradually address the issue of further reduction and changes in the posture of the KFOR forces, taking into account the security situation on the ground and all the other relevant factors and conditions.

Training of SAF Members in KFOR Forces in Kosovo

ISAF (Afghanistan)

In 2013, Slovenia continued its efforts to stabilize and rebuild Afghanistan (AFG) with its military and civilian capabilities, in accordance with its international commitments and the principles of Allied solidarity. The SAF continued with the training of Afghan Security Forces (ANSF). The gradual handing over of the responsibility for security to the ANSF and the reduction of international forces were reflected in the progressive reduction of the scope of the Slovenian Contingent (SVNKON) and partial change in the nature of its duties.

At the beginning of the year, the Slovenian contingent numbered approximately 78 members. As part of two Military Advisory Teams (MAT), the members trained an infantry battalion and a combat support battalion in Farah, whereas some of the members worked in the ISAF command structure (RC-C Kabul, RC-W Herat), in the Afghan army (ANA) military police school in Kabul and in Special Police Training Centre in Wardak. In April, the Slovenian contingent was further reduced to approximately 60 members (omission of manning the MAT for combat support, participation in the military police school and some support elements). Since September, Slovenia participates in ISAF with approximately 34 members who operate in the engineering Military Advisory Team advising to ANA, train special forces or carry out duties in

the ISAF command structures. In 2013, four civilian functional specialists joined the Slovenian contingent. Two of them carried out duties in the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Herat (until April) and Farah (until July). Since April, the other two worked in the ISAF Headquarters in Kabul, with only one of them still present in Kabul (since November). The reduction of Slovenian civilian efforts was influenced by financial constraints, the transformation and the reduction of the ISAF forces. In 2014, the scope and composition of the Slovenian contingent will adjust to the dynamics of the mission and will be further reduced.

In January 2013, the RS Government adopted the Amendment to the Strategy of Operation of the RS within the International Community's Efforts to Stabilise Afghanistan, which represents the framework for possible participation of Slovenia in international efforts for the stabilisation of that country in the area of politics, security and development also after the end of ISAF. Accordingly, and taking into account the Cooperation Strategy of the RS in International Operations and Missions and the current Alliance's planning dynamics for the setting up of a new mission in Afghanistan after 2014, intense inter-ministerial coordination at various levels on possible forms of full participation of Slovenia took place in 2013. Concurrently, transparent information communication, consultation and exchange of views were carried out with the RS National Assembly.

NATO Response Force (NRF)

Following the proposal of the MoD, the Slovenian Government adopted a resolution in May 2013 defining the SAF participation in the NRF in the next five years. On this basis, the MoD or the SAF plans to participate, in the framework of NRF, with those units in the future which contribute the highest added value in the process of the SAF transformation, and in those "niche" areas that are of greatest importance for the preparedness and further development of the SAF. In 2013, Slovenia participated in immediate readiness forces (IRF/NRF) with its motorized SAF company.

NATO's Peacetime Operation Air Policing in the Slovenian Airspace

In 2013, the MoD negotiation team harmonised the amended bilateral agreement between the governments of Slovenia and Hungary on military cooperation in the fields of aviation and air defence from 1996, which, after its formal ratification by the parliaments of both countries, will enable the inclusion of Hungary (besides Italy) in the above-mentioned NATO operation.

NATO HQ in Sarajevo and NATO Liaison Offices in Belgrade and Skopje

The presence of five SAF members was maintained in NATO HQ in Sarajevo and in NATO liaison offices in Belgrade and Skopje. Those five members were involved in performing the tasks that are important in terms of carrying out defence and military reforms and partnership programmes in host countries, and in terms of their progress towards Euro-Atlantic structures.

7.2 UN Operations

UNIFIL, UNTSO (Middle East)

Middle East is one of the priority areas of cooperation of Slovenia in IOM. Therefore, the MoD endeavoured to maintain an appropriate level of contribution of the SAF to the UN missions UNIFIL (14 members) and UNTSO (4 members), which support the maintenance of peace in the region. After the deterioration of security situation in the Golan Heights in Syria, the Slovenian Government, at the proposal of the MoD, adopted a resolution in June 2013 on the geographical restrictions for the operation of the SAF members in the UNTSO mission.

7.3 EU Operations

EU NAVFOR ATALANTA (Horn of Africa), EUTM Mali (Mali)

In June 2013, Slovenia completed its participation in the maritime operation EU NAVFOR ATALANTA in the waters off the Horn of Africa, where the SAF had been present for almost four

years. By participating in the operation, Slovenia had actively contributed to the international burden-sharing in the fight against piracy, while also gaining valuable operational experience as a maritime country. Due to the deterioration of the security situation in Mali and its impact on the wider region, the EU responded by setting up a training mission for Malian armed forces (EUTM Mali), which indirectly contributes to the improvement of the security situation in the country and to its stabilization. Despite the complexity of the African environment, Slovenia adopted the decision to participate in the mission with up to four SAF members, with three SAF members actually participating in it.

EUFOR ALTHEA (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

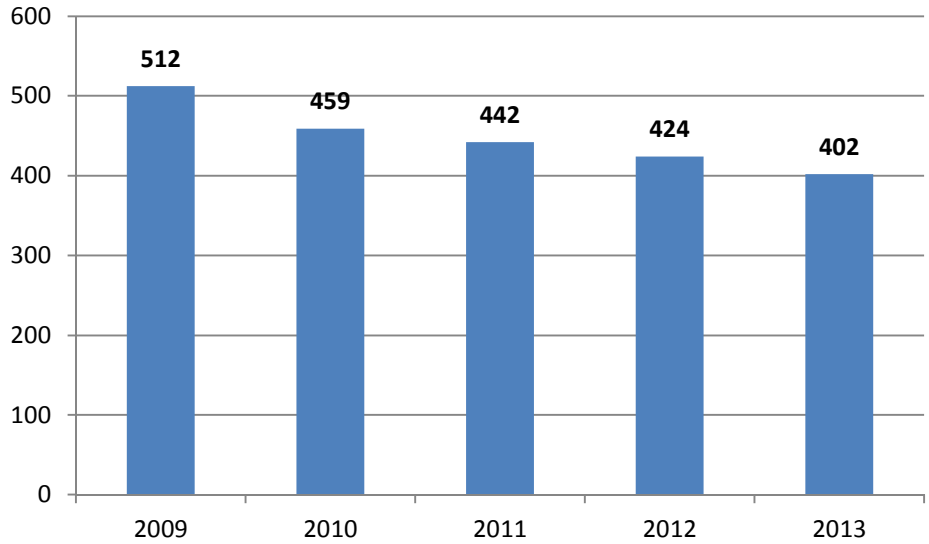
The SAF continued its participation in the EUFOR operation ALTHEA with approximately 11 members. Slovenia thus continued its military contribution to the strengthening of peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to the joint efforts for the establishment of properly trained, professional and efficient armed forces of that country. Activities of the Slovenian contingent were primarily focused on the performance of staff and logistics support tasks, and on gathering information for the operation on the situation on the ground. During the year, several training courses were also conducted for members of the engineering battalion of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Armed Forces. By the end of June 2013, a motorized SAF company with 120 members became a part of the regional reserve force of the EUFOR operation ALTHEA. In the second half of 2014, a decision was adopted on the resumption of participation of the SAF company in the reserve segment of that operation. With the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the MoD participated in the preparation of a common "non-paper" of eight EU member states in support of the extension of the operation's mandate.

7.4 Humanitarian Operations

Mare Nostrum – Lampedusa (Mediterranean Area)

In 15 December 2013, for one and a half months, the SAF participated in the humanitarian operation of the Italian Security and Defence Forces "Mare Nostrum" (in Slovenian, Naše morje – Lampedusa) with its multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 and a crew of approximately 40 members. In the spirit of solidarity, the MoD thus quickly and proactively responded to the pressing problems faced by the neighbouring Italy in relation to the immigration in the Mediterranean Sea. In this way, Slovenia was the first to provide assistance to that Allied country and received very positive responses in the Italian and the wider international public.

Average Participation of the SAF Members in the IOM



The SAF is willing and able to support, to a greater extent, the ambitions of the Slovenian foreign and defence politics. However, due to budget cuts, it is forced to gradually reduce the participation of its members in IOM.

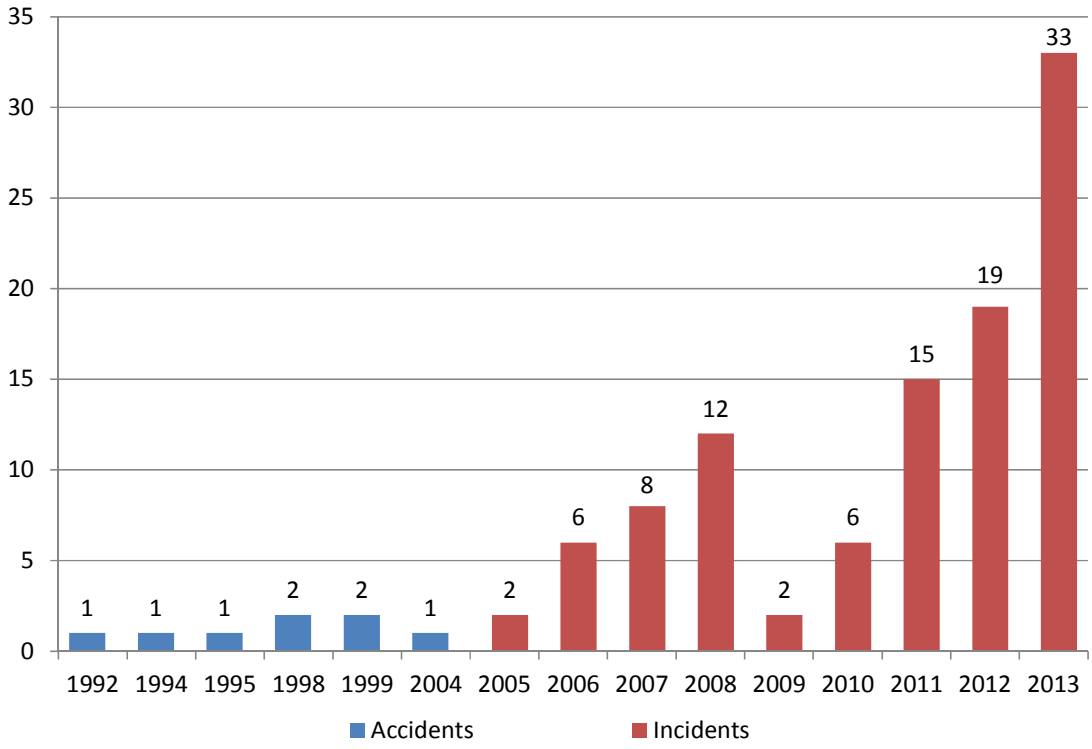
8 INVESTIGATIONS OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS

Based on the findings of investigations of aircraft accidents and incidents, the issuing of safety recommendations represents the implementation of measures to reduce or prevent new threats and risks to military air traffic. The investigation of accidents and incidents does not include the determination of guilt or responsibility of those involved in an accident or incident.

Timely implementation of security measures affects the elimination or reduction of the possibility of the loss of human lives and material damage to military equipment and facilities on the ground. In 2013, a total of 33 incidents were recorded, of which 8 were serious. This led to the instigation of 8 investigations, of which 5 were completed with a final report. Within the system of reporting on aircraft accidents and incidents, a total of 21 safety recommendations were issued, which had a direct and indirect impact on greater flight safety. Ten investigations from the previous years (before 2013) also remained uncompleted. The Service for Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents participated in the investigation of a hot-air balloon accident.

Individual findings of investigations and the issued safety recommendations were presented to the inspection bodies, the military aviation body at the SAF General Staff responsible for the control of flight safety of military aircraft, civilian aviation investigation body, and the RS Agency for Civil Aviation, as well as members of the NATO organisation AFFSC. The above-mentioned institutions can, in their professional controls, determine the compliance with safety recommendations. With the timely implementation of measures, they can improve flight safety and legality of flight operations in Slovenia and IOM.

The target value of completed investigations in 2013 was not achieved 100 per cent. That was due to an increase, for nearly a third, of detected aircraft incidents and the reduction of staffing in the Service for Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents resulting from the absence of a member due to her participation in IOM.



All the new permanent technical assistants were trained in accordance with the annual plan. Due to the lack of funding, the equipping of permanent technical assistants with personal protective equipment was not carried out. A pilot from the Service for Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents was entered in the training registry at the SAF Flight School.

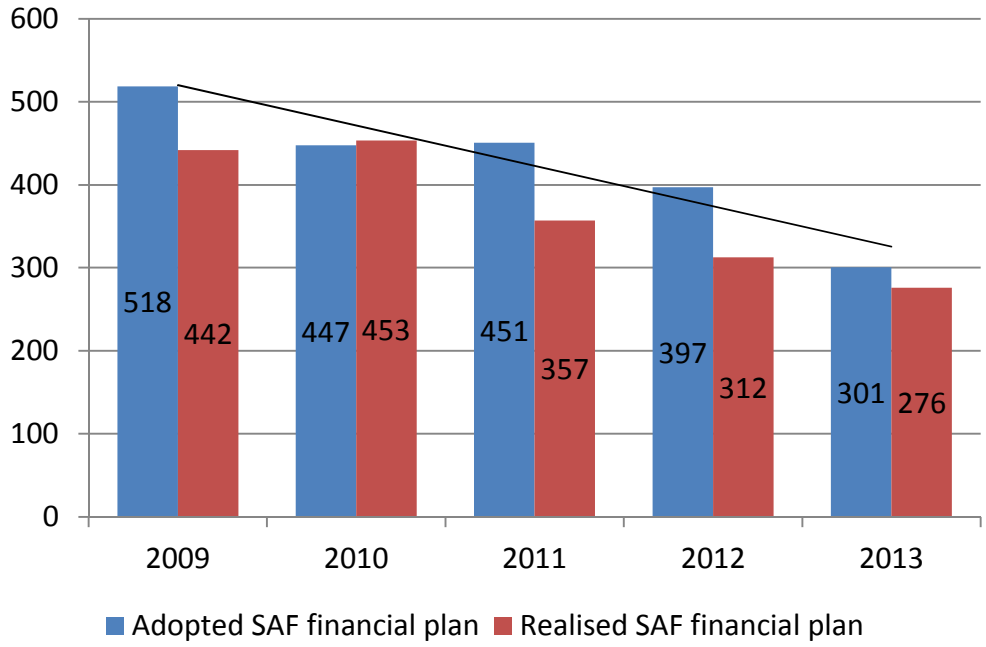
International cooperation activities were carried out as planned and represent a contribution to flight safety and regulation of formal and legal matters relating to the implementation of investigation procedures in the event of an accident or serious incident of a military aircraft outside Slovenia. Members of the Service for Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents are involved in the projects of installation of CVFDRs (black boxes) in the SAF aircraft and test the proper functioning of such devices on aircraft that have them already installed.

In the context of the accreditation of the investigation laboratory according to ISO 9001 standards, minor building works were performed, as well as the installation of burglary protection windows in the forensic laboratory.

9 THE IMPACT OF THE REDUCTION OF FINANCIAL PLANS ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF THE SAF

The consequences of the economic and financial crisis were also very much felt by the SAF, which, in the past five years, lost EUR 274 million of planned financial resources earmarked for its functioning, mainly due to the modernization. Based on the adopted economy measures of the Government, the SAF financial plan decreased by EUR 77 million in 2009, by EUR 93 million in 2011, by EUR 85 million in 2012, and by EUR 25 million in 2013, depending on the adopted financial plan.

Adopted and Realised Financial Plan of the SAF



Due to the deepening of the financial and economic crisis, the SAF financial plan for 2013 was the lowest in the last five years.

Taking into account the realization from previous years, the SAF had to carry out the following actions in 2013: further lowering of labour costs in the framework of the measures of the RS Government, reduction in the recruitment of soldiers, reduction of the SAF participation in IOM, and selective extensions or early terminations of contracts to members of the contract reserve component. Fewer resources were also allocated to education and training, the purchase of uniforms and replacement of worn uniform parts.

In the framework of the financial plan for 2013, the SAF lacked EUR 2.7 million necessary to fulfil international obligations, such as the payment of contributions to the budgets of NATO and the EU, and the payment of contributions to joint international projects within the Alliance. The funding allocated to the cooperation with the local environment and co-investment in the local infrastructure was also reduced. Consequently, the total of less than EUR 200,000 was allocated out of the necessary approximately EUR 1.1 million.

For the second year in a row, the available financial resources failed to enable the development, planned in the framework of the strategic guidance and planning documents as well as of international commitments defined in the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025, the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018, and the agreed NATO capability objectives for Slovenia. Insufficient allocation of funds for the operation and modernisation of the SAF is already affecting its ability to fulfil its basic mission and perform statutory duties, build the planned capabilities, maintain the appropriate level of their readiness, provide military defence, fulfil international commitments, pursue national interests through the participation in IOM,

provide dual-purpose capabilities to participate in the tasks of protection and rescue, and provide support to other government authorities.

According to NATO standards, member states should allocate 50 per cent of defence spending to the costs of staff, 30 per cent to operations and maintenance, and 20 per cent to acquisition and construction. Given the fact that the RS National Assembly approved the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025, and the RS Government adopted the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018, which provides for 7600 members of the active component and 1500 members of the contract reserve component, we should be aware that personnel costs according to current laws amount to EUR 210 million for members of the active component and EUR 5.5 million for members of the contract reserve. The calculation according to the methodology shows that the financial plan of the SAF should amount to at least EUR 380 million, with 55 per cent allocated for personnel costs, 25 per cent for the area of operations and 20 per cent for equipping and modernization. Of the last five years, Slovenia was close to this ratio in the years 2009 and 2010, whereas in 2011–2013, the ratio was thrown out of balance, mainly in the area of equipping and modernization.

PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS

1 PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

The basic focus of prevention activities in the field of protection against natural and other disasters, including fire protection and protection against drowning, is on the system-wide measures as well as regulatory framework for the systematic implementation of individual activities of the broadest spectrum of professional and lay public.

Several changes were introduced in the field of fire protection at the regulatory level in the context of the proposal for the Decree on Wildfires, such as the redefinition of measures for the protection against wildfires during the declared fire hazard, and the determination of basic principles for the introduction of on-call fire-fighting service during the declared very high fire hazard in the natural environment in certain areas, etc. With the introduction of these changes, an updated application will also be available in the context of geographic information system (GIS), as an aid in making decisions on the declaration of fire hazard to the natural environment. In the field of fire protection, the Rules on Fire Safety Concept and Studies introduced system-wide changes related to fire safety concept and studies, whereas some system-wide changes related to the maintenance of fire extinguishers are being prepared.

In the area of protection against drowning, the Rules Amending the Rules on Measures against Drowning in Public Bathing Areas introduced system-wide amendments, taking into account the prescribed technical or technological equipment of public bathing areas, which in turn affects the potential reduction of the number of lifeguards present at public bathing areas. In the area of protection against drowning, periodic checks of competence of lifeguards were continuously conducted, as well as activities associated with the regulatory requirements.

In 2013, priority was given to the amendment of threat assessments and preparation of disaster response plans, also in conjunction with the implementation of the new Regulation on the Subject Matter and Preparation of Disaster Response Plans.

In the field of planning and preparation of threat assessments, the new Seismic Threat Assessment for Slovenia and the new National Threat Assessment for the Occurrence of Communicable Diseases in Humans were prepared, and the Treat Assessment for Nuclear or Radiological Accidents in Slovenia was updated. The Government adopted the National Disaster Response Plan for Outbreaks of Trans boundary Animal Diseases and the Slovenian Civil Protection Headquarters considered the proposal of the National Disaster Response Plan for the Occurrence of Earthquakes, which will be sent to the Government for adoption in 2014. The National Disaster Response Plan for Nuclear and Radiological Accidents was also updated.

As regards the implementation of the National Disaster Response Plan for Nuclear And Radiological Accidents, potassium iodide (KI) pills are still being distributed, on a preliminary basis, in the area of ten kilometres around the Krško Nuclear Power Plant, and coordinated action associated with the implementation of the Plan for the Distribution of Potassium Iodide Pills is being carried out.

As regards the implementation of the new European legislation (Decision on an EU Civil Protection Mechanism) at the normative level, basic principles for the development of risk assessments for disasters are being prepared, following the guidelines of the European Commission for developing risk assessments. Activities will continue in 2014, with the opening of a wider inter-ministerial debate.

On the basis of fire protection public interest,122 administrative cases for the implementation of fire protection measures were resolved (inspection and testing of the installed active fire protection systems, maintenance of fire extinguishers, inspection and testing of hydrant networks, implementation of fire safety, implementation of fire protection measures). 179 guidelines were issued, as well as 178 opinions on spatial planning documents in the field of

protection against natural and other disasters and fire protection. As regards fire protection, the Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (ACPDR) participated in 68 procedures for issuing operating permits for facilities for it which gave its consent to the building permit documents up to 2013.

In the field of fire protection and protection against drowning, preventive activities, with a variety of materials, consultations and seminars, were aimed at both the professional public as well as the broadest target group, i.e. the population. Particular emphasis was placed on raising the awareness of the population in the area of fire protection and protection against drowning and permanent training of the professional public. To this end, several activities taking different approaches were carried out for different target groups. In particular, recommendations and guidance for carrying out personal and mutual protection to deal with natural and other disasters, fire, and in the field of protection against drowning, were issued online and on the television, in publications, competitions, leaflets, web applications, during Protection and Rescue Days, etc.

In the framework of the Protection and Rescue Days, the ACPDR conducted a consultation for the expert public on the topic of installed active fire protection systems, as well as a consultation on fire extinguishers. The consultations were primarily aimed at technical examiners and persons authorized to carry out fire protection measures. The general public was also able to test the use of fire extinguishers. In the framework of the Protection and Rescue Days, two consultations in the area of protection against drowning were carried out for the expert public: one was on the topic of safe bathing and the other one on protection against drowning in white water.

Consultations in the area of planning were carried out for target groups from local communities, for operators who are subject to provisions of the Seveso Directive, and for employees of the ACPDR and Inspectorate of the RS for Protection against Natural and Other Disasters (IRSPANOD) branch offices, with the aim of exposure to specific topics, presentation of novelties, etc. A consultation on nuclear accidents was organised for first responders, titled Protection Measures and Monitoring after Nuclear and Radiological Accidents. Consultation materials are available on the ACPDR website at: *http://www.sos112.si/slo/page.php?src=sv11.htm*.

The leading topic of the Fire Safety Month, which took place in the month of October, was fire extinguisher. Activities were carried out in cooperation with the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia and the Slovenian Fire Protection Association. Many other organizations and institutions were also present, according to their subject area. The report is available on the ACPDR website at: *http://www.sos112.si/slo/page.php?src=sv114.htm*. The purpose of the activities was to raise the awareness among various population target groups about the fire hazards and the benefits of fire extinguishers in putting out the initial fire, to systematically motivate the population for the introduction of fire extinguishers into residential buildings and private vehicles, and to train different target groups in the proper selection and effective use of fire extinguishers.

The ACPDR also carried out other preventive activities to raise the awareness of the population through the preparation of various materials, publications, and advertising campaigns aimed at children and teenagers on the topic of the 112 telephone number, in relation to the provision of fire safety during the Christmas and New Year celebrations, preventive measures during floods and storms, and activities at the event called Children's Bazaar, etc.

Leaflet for Raising the Awareness of the Population

Advertising campaigns were carried out for the general public on the topics of chimney fires, carbon monoxide, preventive measures during the Christmas and New Year celebrations and in the time of declared fire hazard in the natural environment, and on protection against drowning, fire protection for children, etc., in order to raise the awareness about the hazards and the implementation of preventive measures in the context of personal and mutual protection.

2 PREPAREDNESS OF THE SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS AND PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF FORCES

2.1 Operational Planning and Preparedness

Operational preparedness of the system of protection against natural and other disasters is provided through continuous operation of notification centres and public rescue services, and through the preparedness of other rescue services, commissions, units and civil protection (CP) headquarters. Trained, equipped and motivated members of rescue services, commissions, units and CP headquarters ensure an adequate and coordinated response to natural and other disasters. Due to several cuts in resources in 2013, the focus was on maintaining the previously achieved preparedness to respond to natural and other disasters. Of particular importance was the purchase of decontamination trailers and equipment for radiological detection, electronic and personal dosimetry and decontamination for fire-fighting forces of general importance, which will undoubtedly affect the preparedness and responsiveness of the system in the event of accidents with dangerous substances.

Through the implementation of the Programme for the Formation of National Material Reserves for Protection, Rescue and Relief during the Period 2009–2015, the materiel and equipment are provided from the state reserves to help the population at risk and the affected people after natural and other disasters, as well as personal and collective equipment for the operation of the protection, rescue and relief (PRR) forces.

The ACPDR provides a comprehensive and responsive logistics system of 13 regional logistics centres to support the protection, rescue and relief forces at the regional level, and of the National Logistics Centre to support the national civil protection units.

Testing of First Aid Teams

2.2. Monitoring, Notification and Warning

With regard to emergency calls to 112, the introduction of new technologies continued. The ACPDR re-established the SMS112 service, which did not work in the first half of 2013 due to the implementation of the decision of the previous Minister in 2012. Consequently, a decision to start the procurement procedure for the selection of a contract maintainer was approved, with a six-month delay.

The ACPDR also carried out all the activities for the start of a trial operation of the automatic emergency call from vehicles, called e-call. The introduction of trial operation will represent the achievement of the first goal planned under the project Heero, in which Slovenia participates since September 2012 as an associate member. The achievement of the goal is also a condition for the regular functioning of the system at the beginning of 2015.

In 2013, all the regional notification centres together received more than 500,000 calls, of which the majority was for the emergency medical assistance. 789 SMS messages to 112 were also received, which is 258 less than in 2012. The average response time of operators was a bit more than four seconds, which means that 90 per cent of callers to 122 got through to the operator in less than nine seconds. The average duration of the call was a bit less than half a minute, and 90 per cent of all the calls were shorter than one and a half minute.

In the framework of the Sub-Commission for 112, the Permanent Slovenian-Croatian Joint Commission for Protection against Disasters, the agreement was reached on the switching of calls to 112 between the two countries, and on the enhanced cooperation of the border call centres for receiving calls to 112.

The ACPDR also participated in the preparation of amendments to the Rules on the Quality of Service for the Single European Emergency Call Number 112, which set the criteria for determining the quality of SMS messages to the 112 call number.

On 11 February, the day of the 122 emergency call number, a well-recognised press conference was organised in the regional notification centre in Nova Gorica. In other regions, visits of students from individual schools to notification centres were organised. Visits of emergency medical assistance teams to schools were also organised, including the demonstration of the application of the 112 call number in the event of the need for reanimation of injured persons.

The Spin application (system for reporting on interventions and disasters), which is available on the website *spin.sos112.si/spin2/javno*, was updated with new reviews and analyses of data on events, disasters and interventions, which are available to the public. An automatic transfer of individual data on accidents to the social network Facebook was enabled, and the application for the reception of micro locations after large-scale events was prepared.

For the purpose of preparing analyses, the ACPDR set up a 2D GIS display of data from the current 3D GIS display. The ACPDR also prepared a web application SMOK, the purpose of which is to monitor the water status, fire hazard, weather and the risk of avalanches.

Regional Notification Centre

2.3 Informatics and Communications of the System of Protection against Natural and other Disasters

As far as the taking over and renewal of the public warning system at the local level is concerned, the ACPDR continued with the renewal of sirens. Of the planned 93 renewals, 33 sirens were actually renewed. The low realisation is due to the reduced financial resources. In accordance with the Protection against Natural and Other Disasters Act, the renewal and taking over of the public warning system at the local level should have been completed in 2011. However, due to insufficient financial resources, the process was prolonged. Up to now, 799 sirens have been renewed out of the total of 1496, which is approximately 53 per cent.

The Regional Notification Centre Celje was moved to a new location. During the movement process, all radio links to repeaters and the "paging" transmitters of the ZARE communications system were re-established, the radio access points of the public warning system were moved, the functioning of the protection and rescue computer system and all applications was ensured, the telephone switchboard with all the lines was moved, and the reception of emergency calls to the 112 number at the new location was ensured.

The functioning of the protection and rescue computer network and all the applications that run on the network, including an application for paperless operation (information solution for the management of documents), was ensured, and technical assistance to users was provided. The functioning of all communication systems in the field of protection against natural and other disasters was ensured.

During the Protection and Rescue Days in Velenje, access to the Internet and live Internet coverage of the activities in the tent were provided. Demonstrations of the functioning of applications, such as the system Video Karst, the mobile siren and communications, were also carried out.

Within the cross border exercise of the protection and rescue forces "Karavanke 2013", the possibility of wireless transmission of images and data from the tunnel at greater distances was tested. The experiment confirmed the theoretical models developed within the framework of the international project MONET. For the first time, an image was successfully transmitted at a distance of 4000 metres, i.e. from more than half of the 7864 metre-long Karavanke tunnel. The experiment was successful, as it was possible to watch the transmission of the entire exercise in the tunnel without problems and interruptions. An additional camera was placed on the platform in front of the tunnel, so that due to the projection of images on the screen in the premises of the motorway base in Hrušica, the professional public was able to watch the activities taking place at two exercise venues. On the basis of attempts made so far to transmit images and data in tunnels, it is estimated that such equipment would be very suitable for installation in tunnel ambulances. In the tent in front of the tunnel, the incident commander could monitor the rescue and all other activities in the tunnel without interruptions. He could follow the movement of emergency responders, which would enable a faster and more appropriate command of the intervention and easier decision-making.

2.4 Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces

In 2013, 13,429 different events happened in Slovenia (natural and other disasters, traffic accidents, fires and explosions, pollution, accidents with dangerous substances, nuclear and other events, findings of unexploded ordnance, supply disruptions, damage to facilities and technical and other assistance). In addition to other services, the protection, rescue and relief forces also responded to those events.

Protection and Rescue Forces – Training of the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Units

Events in 2013

Event	Number
Natural Disasters	544
Other Disasters	1178
Traffic Accidents	2361
Fires and Explosions	4161
Pollution, Accidents Involving Dangerous Substances	629
Nuclear and other Events	7
Findings of UXO, Supply Disruptions and Damage to Facilities	780
Technical and other Assistance	3769
Total	**13,429**

A closer look at the events reveals that the accidents resulted in 1620 interventions with 11,244 members of various protection, rescue and relief forces. The majority of interventions took place in November (393), followed by July (367), February (169) and March (132). Timely and effective response and help to the affected population by the protection rescue and relief forces undoubtedly contributed to the mitigation of damage and other consequences caused by these disasters.

Natural Disasters and Interventions in 2013

Events	Number of Interventions	Number of Participants	Number of the Injured
High Sea Tide	21	60	0
Floods	571	3483	1
Avalanches	119	723	0
Deep Snow	138	860	0
Hail	19	316	0
Strong Wind	725	5660	3
Lightning Strike	14	89	0
Drought	2	4	0
Intense Heat	3	16	0
Disruptions of Traffic due to Natural Phenomena	7	24	0
Epidemics and Infections of People, Animals and Plants	1	9	0
Total	**1,620**	**11,244**	**4**

The major part of problems was caused by strong wind, floods, deep snow and avalanches. These disasters affected the entire country. Strong wind, which occurred in two periods (January/February and September/November) affected 125 municipalities and caused material damage (fallen trees, uncovered roofs) and difficulties in the supply of electricity. Floods and avalanches, which occurred throughout the year, affected 121 municipalities and caused considerable material damage (buildings, watercourses). Heavy snowfall throughout the winter and material damage (trees, power lines) lead to the increased consumption of salt and grit for salting and gritting the roads, and high costs of winter services. An analysis of data from 98 municipalities revealed that the costs of winter services along with the grit materials increased by 70 per cent as compared with the average of the last four seasons.

In accordance with the regulatory framework for civil protection units, services and bodies and the Rules on Registration, Allocation and Calling-up of Members of Civil Protection Service and other Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces, the development of the application Civil Protection Record aimed at keeping records of persons involved the protection, rescue and relief forces, continued in 2013. The main objective of the administrative body responsible for the protection against natural and other disasters is to prepare and manage a friendly application aimed at regulating the keeping of records of Civil Protection members, public employees in the area of protection, rescue and relief, citizens who perform professional protection, rescue and relief duties and who, during the performance of these duties, have the status of Civil Protection members, as well as citizens who perform voluntary and non-professional protection, rescue and relief tasks and have the same rights and obligations as Civil Protection members. The tasks were focused on the upgrading of the application with a software module enabling the calculation of payments to contract members.

Based on the Decree on Civil Protection Service, the ACPDR, as the founder, organizes Civil Protection units, services and bodies at the national and regional levels, and prepares plans for the conclusion of contracts of service in the Civil Protection, in accordance with the decision stipulating priority manning with contract Civil Protection members. Budgetary constraints and the reduction of resources for the field of protection against natural and other disasters affected the manning of Civil Protection with contract members, and influenced the decision on the reduction of the on-call allowance for 10 per cent (from 1 July 2013). In 2013, conditions were thus created for further manning of Civil Protection units, services and bodies. As a priority, contracts of service in the Civil Protection were concluded for the manning of the mobile dispensary, NBC decontamination unit, unit for search and rescue in urban areas, medical treatment team, logistics and catering teams, and notification centres. Together with 24 new contracts, the ACPDR has concluded 115 contracts of service in the Civil Protection for the most critical duties, which is far from covering all the needs and thus from reaching the planned capabilities.

At the end of the year, the Civil Protection records listed a total of 43,675 members of protection, rescue and relief forces, of which 25,560 were members of duty units and 18,115 were volunteers. The protection, rescue and relief forces at the state level included 840 professional members, 1200 voluntary members, 1505 members of duty units and 115 contract members.

2.5 Protection from Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

Among protective measures, the most important was protection from unexploded ordnance (UXO), which is organized as a single measure throughout Slovenia and comprises detection, identification, disposal, transportation, storage and destruction of UXO, and the training of the National Unit for Protection from UXO. In 2013, the National Unit for Protection from UXO carried out 453 interventions, in which the voluntary Civil Protection members disposed of 3635 pieces or 6744.91 kg of various UXO. In addition to regular destructions of UXO at the Poligon 208 protection and rescue training range, it is important to point out the emergency destruction of an air bomb in Silova near Velenje, removal of a 305 mm cannon shell from the Soča (Isonzo) River near Solkan, emergency destruction of four large-calibre cannon shells (210 mm, 2 x 149 mm and 105 mm) on Mount Sveta Gora near Nova Gorica, and emergency destruction of two 220 mm mortar mines in the area of Mount Rombon at an altitude of 1950 meters. Preventive examinations of certain areas at risk from UXO were carried out, with the purpose of ensuring a safe execution of construction works. For the destruction of UXO, the National Unit for Protection from UXO used 550 kg of TNT, 45 kg of PEP (plastic explosives), 160 kg of the ERGODYN 30E and 10 kg of the LADIN commercial explosives. For each destruction, an expert report and a summary report were produced. The measures of protection from UXO were carried out by 29 contract Civil Protection members.

2.6 Provision of Conditions for the Operation of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces

The operational part of the system of protection against natural and other disasters is primarily based on voluntary rescue services and other structures organised by associations and NGOs. The subsidy provided by the ACPDR, which was reduced for three per cent as compared to 2012, represents over 75 per cent of the total funds required for the operation of individual units. Such operation includes continuous training of unit members, medical examinations and insurance policies for their members, payment of salary refunds and reimbursements for the loss of income to employers at the call-up of members, purchase and maintenance of their collective and personal protection and rescue equipment, and material costs of interventions.

Co-Funding of Rescue Services, Associations and Other Organisations

Co-funding of the activities of services, associations, units, companies, institutes and other organisations active in the field of protection, rescue and relief was carried out on the basis of the established criteria and provided funds, through the conclusion of annexes to current contracts for co-financing the protection, rescue and relief activities amounting to EUR 6.2 million.

Annexes to contracts were concluded with the Mountain Rescue Association of Slovenia, Cave Rescue Service of the Speleological Association of Slovenia, Slovenian Kennel Club, Slovenian Diving Federation, Slovenian Red Cross, Slovenian Catholic Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Association, Scout Association of Slovenia, National Institute of Biology, Institute of Occupational Safety, Faculty of Medicine – Institute of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine – Forensic Identification Unit, Veterinary Faculty – Institute of Microbiology and Parasitology, Jožef Stefan Institute, Velenje Coal Mine, TKI Hrastnik (chemical products factory), Institute of Public Health Maribor, Slovenian Professional Fire-Fighter Association, Association of Societies and Clubs of Rescue Dog Handlers of Slovenia, Association of Radio Amateurs of Slovenia, and the following flying clubs: Josip Križaj Ajdovščina, Postojna, Tolmin, Zagorje ob Savi, Coastal Flying Centre Portorož, Slovenj Gradec Airport, and Karst Flying Centre Divača.

These funds ensured the operational preparedness of professional rescue services, fire-fighting forces of general importance, associations and other organizations, and rescue services and structures which operate on the voluntary basis. Part of these funds was dedicated to ensuring a coordinated development of fire-fighting forces within the voluntary fire-fighting societies, namely the modernization of protection and rescue equipment.

Co-Funding of the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia

Based on the annual programme of activities and tasks of the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia, such as organisational activities, prevention activities, fire-fighter training, and publication of professional literature in accordance with the Fire Service Act and the Fire Protection Act, an annex to the contract was concluded with the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia in the amount of EUR 527,600.

In addition, the ACPDR allocated EUR 97,500 for anniversaries of voluntary fire-fighting societies, and EUR 109,012 to assist fire-fighting forces in the purchase of protection and rescue equipment.

Programme of Co-Funding Fire-Fighting Forces of General Importance

The programme for co-funding of fire-fighting forces of general importance was fully implemented: authorisations, mostly for tunnels, were complemented (Voluntary Fire-Fighting Society Gornja Radgona, Voluntary Fire-Fighting Society Murska Sobota, Novo mesto Fire and Rescue Centre), and new data on influence factors in operational areas (new roads, tunnels, etc.) as well as dual activation areas of the fire-fighting forces of general importance were updated and complemented, taking into account double-overlap areas. Moreover, plans for 2013 and reports on the utilisation of funds for 2012 were evaluated and 90 annexes to contracts and 2 additional annexes for preparedness for the Cenkova tunnel were prepared.

The co-funding of fire-fighting forces of general importance was fully implemented and amounted to EUR 2.74 million.

Emergency Rescue in Long Road and Motorway Tunnels

On the basis of contracts for the performance of operational tasks in the event of road tunnel accidents, concluded between the Motorway Company of the Republic of Slovenia, the MoD and individual fire-fighting units (Jesenice Fire and Rescue Service, Domžale Fire Safety Centre and Celje Professional Fire Brigade), a total of EUR 65,499 was paid to co-finance the maintenance and restoration of personal protective equipment, insurances and transport costs for tunnel fire-fighters.

Criteria for the organisation and equipping of fire-fighters carrying out protection and rescue tasks after accidents in long tunnels were prepared and approved. In cooperation with the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia, a purchase was made of a part of the collective equipment of such fire-fighters in the amount of EUR 101,000.

Co-Funding of Fire-Fighting Protection and Rescue Equipment

In 2013, the ACPDR continued with the modernisation of protection and rescue equipment of fire-fighting forces in voluntary fire-fighting societies, and thus with the provision of harmonious development of these units. A total of 525 applicants responded to this tender notice. A total of 422 co-funding contracts were concluded, amounting to EUR 900,000.

Protection and Rescue Operations at Sea

A contract on co-funding protection and rescue operations at sea was concluded with the company Adria Tow d.o.o., (towing services and assistance to ships and vessels) in the amount of EUR 28,724.

2.7 National Material Reserves for the Event of Natural and other Disasters

In previous years, Slovenia started to establish national material reserves, primarily for large-scale disasters, wildfires, floods, major hailstorms, communicable diseases, etc. The implementation of the Programme of Establishing National Material Reserves for Protection, Rescue and Relief in the Period 2009–2015 ensures materiel and equipment from national reserves to help the affected population and the population at risk after natural and other disasters, as well as personal and collective equipment for the activities of the protection, rescue and relief forces.

The reduction of funds for the replenishment of dedicated stocks of equipment from national reserves in 2013 thus results in a slower pace of providing and maintaining basic conditions for the accommodation and survival of the population at risk due to natural and other disasters.

The ACPDR allocated a total of EUR 477,938 for national material reserves, the purchase of equipment and tools for national units, and for the maintenance of assets. The following items were purchased: required equipment for four trailers for large-scale disasters, inflatable tent (40 m^2), lighting set for tents, three-part ladders, personal equipment for technical rescue unit MUSAR (Medium Urban Search and Rescue), medical equipment for the medical team of the Rapid Emergency Response Unit, equipment for the technical diving unit of the Rapid Emergency Response Unit, clothes for water rescue units, rubber rescue boat with hard bottom, motor and trailer, hydraulic rescue equipment set, PVC foil and various small equipment and tools for the maintenance of DIA-AVS pumps, electric submersible pumps and electric generator sets.

Other maintenance (containers, mobile dispensary, inspection and calibration of radiological detectors, maintenance of tents, air blowers etc.) was postponed to 2014 due to the revised budget. The revised budget also resulted in the cancellation of the purchase of CP uniforms. As no uniforms have been in storage since 2010, new Civil Protection and contract Civil Protection members could not be equipped with the associated personal equipment.

Commodity Reserves

The Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Commodity Reserves cooperated with the MoD in the preparation of the annual programme for the purchasing of protection and rescue equipment in the context of commodity reserves. The proposal of the Programme for the Establishment of National Reserves with Means of Personal and Collective Protection was prepared pursuant to the Decree on Means and Equipment for Personal and Collective Equipment (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 116/03). Article 7 of the Decree stipulates that with the reserves of protection and rescue means, in accordance with national disaster response plans, the ACPDR provides certain means and equipment for personal and collective protection, especially after nuclear accidents or other accidents involving radiological, chemical or biological substances, and based on plans for the protection and rescue of population in the event of accidents involving dangerous substances (accidents at the Krško Nuclear Power Plant, accidents involving chlorine or other dangerous substances) and in the event of terrorist operations.

Personal and collective protection equipment, included in the Commodity Reserve Programme, was selected and planned to be used in the shortest time possible and suitable for mass use. For 2013, the Agency's Board of Directors adopted a work programme and a financial plan for the purchase of that equipment in the amount of EUR 903,604 (excl. VAT). A total of EUR 417,170 was spent for the purchase of gas masks, protective gowns, dosimeters with readers, decontamination assets, devices and tools, radiological detectors, mobile dispensary equipment and other means of protection.

Civil Protection – the Inspection of Avalanche and Preparations for the Protection of the Area

2.9 Delivery of Fire Fund Assets and Vehicles to Voluntary Fire-Fighting Societies

In the area of logistics, pursuant to the Law on Physical Assets of the State, Regions and Municipalities (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 86/10, 75/12 and 47/13) and with the purpose of fulfilment of public interest in the area of protection against natural and other disasters, nine vehicles intended for the regular write-off in 2011 were transferred to the organisations operating in the area of protection, rescue and relief (mostly voluntary fire-fighting societies). In 2013, in line with the decision of the Committee for the Management of the Fire Fund Assets, a total of 2604 pieces of various fire-fighting equipment and communication resources, purchased in the past years through the Fire Fund, were transferred to the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia.

2.10 Fire Tax

Eligible use of fire tax funds is laid down in Article 59 of the Fire Protection Act. The use of funds for general social importance is in the hands of the Committee for the Fire Fund Management, in accordance with the annual plan for the use of the fire tax inflow, which in 2013 amounted to EUR 7.7 million. The Fire Fund resources ensure better fire safety in local communities. The share of fire tax funds for local communities in the amount of 70 per cent was determined by a Government decision and totalled in EUR 5.68 million.

In accordance with the plan for spending the fire tax funds inflow adopted by the Committee and based on the decision of the RS Government, 30 per cent of fire tax revenue was allocated to the tasks of general importance: co-financing of equipment, upgrading and maintenance of application for fire-fighting forces of general importance, co-financing of operation and equipping of fire-fighting forces, co-financing of research in the field of fire protection, and education and training for fire protection. The purchase and distribution of means and equipment upgrades and improves the equipping of fire-fighting forces. Part of the means was also dedicated to the protection, rescue and relief activity in the field of fire protection, carried out by the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia, which is the provision of and care for further development and education and training of voluntary fire-fighting forces in Slovenia.

In 2013, 93 per cent of the Fire Fund Annual Plan was realised. As administrative support to the Committee, the ACPDR placed particular emphasis on the realization and preparation of technical characteristics or specifications of equipment intended for purchase through the public procurement system.

In 2013, several high-value and several low-value public procurement procedures were carried out for the purchase of communication resources, thermal video cameras, barriers to prevent marine pollution on the reels, oil containment boom, SCBA training area, equipment for the elimination of the consequences of major floods, compressor stations, equipment for NBC protection (decontamination stations, radiological detectors, commander dosimeters, decontamination kits), fire-fighting equipment for wildfires (Karst) and metal pressure vessels and valves.

A public call for the co-funding of fire-fighting vehicles for Karst was made, totalling in EUR 190,000. Eight contracts were signed, namely with the following municipalities: Hrpelje-Kozina, Izola, Koper, Nova Gorica, Pivka, Sežana (two contracts) and Tolmin.

The co-financing was carried out for the training of operational voluntary fire-fighters, maintenance and upgrade of the information system Vulkan, medical examinations of fire-fighters before the training in the use of self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA), equipment of regional commanders and participation of young firemen in Fire-Fighting Olympics in France, totalling in EUR 843 645. The Fire Fund resources were also used for regular maintenance of equipment for the Ig Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief and the Sežana Training Unit, amounting to the total of EUR 106,219.

2.11 Research and Development in the Field of Protection against Natural and other Disasters

Following a call for proposals for titles of research and development projects, several proposals were submitted in 2013, of which the Commission selected five projects for research and development work. These projects were focused on the analysis of the formation of toxic gases from combustion of fuels, production of software and hardware to simulate the burning of wildfires, monitoring of fire engines and teams during interventions, development of a device for the implementation of complex scenarios related to fire-fighting and rescue in difficult areas, and preparation of programme learning tool for exercises in the context of forest fires. Public tender was not carried out for the projects selected in 2013, as well as for the projects selected in 2012 (approved in 2013). For these projects, the beginning of the procedure for their publication on a public portal is in preparation. Currently, the technical specifications are being supplemented for projects aimed at the preparation of fire plans in electronic form (application), implementation of preventive fires (measures against wildfires), fire safety in residential buildings, protection of cultural heritage, evacuation of mobility-impaired persons, definition of the way how to use thermal insulation façade systems with combustible insulation and testing of the ejection of concrete in fire conditions.

In the area of fire protection, five projects were underway – four projects were completed, whereas the last is still in the implementation phase:

- Tyre fires – emergency response instructions.
- Preparation, implementation and analysis of evacuation from school premises.
- Development of technological equipment for an operational fire engine for the time monitoring of procedures and use of equipment.
- Necessary conditions for the development of internal fires.
- Fire construction products and materials after a real fire (still being implemented).

Training of Protection and Rescue Units

3 DISASTER RESPONSE AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

In 2013, protection, rescue and relief forces were activated and responded to 13,429 events. 18,616 structures of protection, rescue and relief (PRR) forces were activated. Thus, the total of 117,098 members of various units participated in the activities.

Overview of the Number of Interventions of PRR Forces in 2013

Type of Unit	Number of Activated PRR Structures	Number of Participating Members
Rescue Dog Units	71	368
Mountain Rescue Service	541	3560
Cave Rescue Service	8	34
Voluntary Territorial Fire-Fighting Societies	10,799	82,706
Professional Fire-Fighting Units	7128	30,154
Voluntary Industrial Fire-Fighting Societies	39	148
Underwater Rescue Service	30	126
Total	**18,616**	**117,096**

3.1 Snowfall

Abundant snowfall, as this winter, in itself does not mean that condition is fulfilled for the activation of the mechanism of damage assessment after a natural disaster. The Protection against Natural and Other Disasters Act (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 51/06 – official consolidated text, and 97/10) defines deep snow as one of natural disasters if the life or health of people or animals is under threat and if it requires special forces and resources. The ACPDR had to deal with heavy snowfall which was promptly removed by the regular services.

In relation to that, the ACPDR organised a consultation at the Ig Protection and Rescue Training Centre in April 2013 on landslides and abundant snowfall. The consultation was attended by representatives of the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, Association of Municipalities of Slovenia, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, the municipalities, Anton Melik Geographical Institute of the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Geological Survey of Slovenia, ACPDR and the companies DRI , Hidrotehnik and EHO Projekt. The meeting on 13 June 2013 was also attended by representatives of the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, Association of Municipalities of Slovenia, Slovenian Roads Agency and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial Planning. It was agreed that a joint information on the problems of the increased costs for carrying out winter service in the season of 2012/2013 should be prepared. Unique methodology of data collection, carried out by municipalities (nature and extent of costs), was prepared by the Slovenian Roads Agency and sent by the ACPDR to the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, Association of Municipalities of Slovenia and Association of Urban Municipalities of Slovenia. On the basis of the information received, the ACPDR prepared summary information and convened another meeting, to which representatives of the Ministry of Finance were also invited. The ACPDR prepared information for the RS Government.

3.2 Major Fires

Waste Collection and Processing Site of the Company Gorenje Surovina in Maribor

A strong fire broke out on Sunday, 21 July 2013, around 1 p.m. at the waste collection and processing site of the company Gorenje Surovina in Maribor. The fire was put out as late as on Monday, 22 July, late at night. In the following days, the extinguishing of individual smouldering parts took place at the waste disposal site. Fire-fighting ended on 24 July 2013, when the company organised a fire watch in order to prevent re-ignition of waste.

More than 300 voluntary and professional fire-fighters of public fire-fighting services from Maribor and the neighbouring municipalities participated in the activities aimed at the extinguishment of fire. At around 18 p.m., the fire-fighters managed to localize the fire. However, at night, secondary ignition occurred at the waste disposal site outside the industrial buildings, resulting in the rekindling of fire. Fire-fighters limited the fire as late as on Monday at around 3 a.m. On Monday, the situation at the site began to settle down. However, about 50 fire-fighters continued extinguishing fire at fire hot spots throughout the day. The employees of the Gorenje Surovine Company also took part in the activities aimed at the removal of fire remains.

Forest fire at Mt Veliki Rogatec in the Municipality of Luče

Forest fire at Mt Veliki Rogatec in the Municipality of Luče lasted from 10 to 21 August 2013. Mt Veliki Rogatec or Mt Mrtvi Menih is a 1557-metre high peak in the Kamnik-Savinja Alps.

Forest Fire at Mt Veliki Rogatec

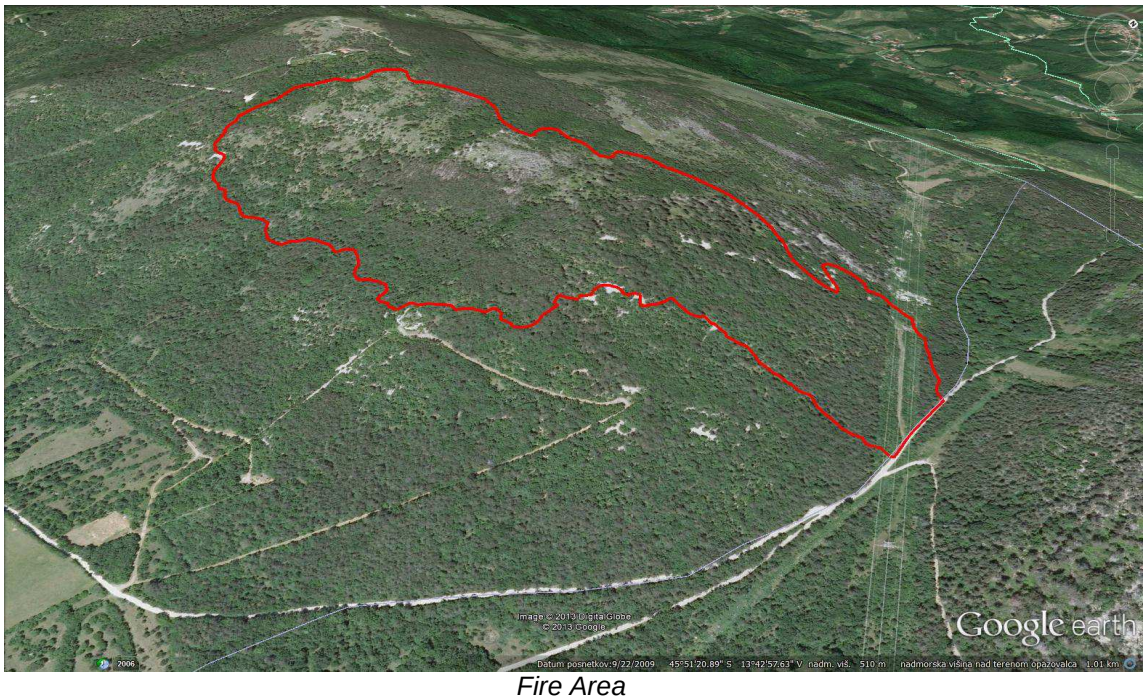
With the help of the reporter and the commander of the Voluntary Fire-Fighting Society Luče, it was found out that the extent of the initial fire was about 0.5 ha, occurring in a very steep, rocky and impassable area defined as protected forest. Due to the difficulty of access to the terrain, wind and the plant cover in the area, the fire initially extending over the area of 0.5 ha spread out. On the second day, 11 August 2013, the fire extended over the area of 1.5 ha, on the third day, 12 August, over the area of 15 ha, reaching the extent of 17 ha on 13 August, when the further spread of fire was limited. On 19 August 2013, the remaining fire at fire hot spots was finally extinguished.

The fire extended over the area of 17 ha, with the lowest point of burnt area laying at 1205 m above sea level and the highest point at 1535 m above sea level. The fire-extinguishing activities were carried out by fire-fighting forces from the Upper Savinja Valley and the SAF helicopters. Representatives from the Slovenia Forest Service, Nazarje Regional Unit, Civil Protection Headquarters of the Municipality of Luče and the Mountain Rescue Association of Slovenia participated in those activities. Notification, activation and other support was provided by the Regional Notification Centre Celje and Notification Centres of the RS.

Fire on the Hill Trstelj

On Sunday, 11 August 2013, at 3:13, a fire broke out directly next to the local road Dornberk–Lipa at the foot of the eastern slopes of the hill Trstelj and near the area called Železna vrata. The fire was slowly spreading west and southwest up the slope of the hill and caught a forest consisting of black pines with some thermophilic deciduous trees. Despite the extreme dryness of the habitat and a strong undergrowth of grass and shrubs, there was mainly ground fire. Crown fire caught only individual trees and small groups of hornbeam and black pine. According to the information of the Slovenia Forest Service, the fire spread over the area of 28,7 ha, of which over 22 ha is forest.

The National Disaster Response Plan in the Event of Large Wildfire was activated. Due to the very demanding and inaccessible terrain, fire-fighting forces from other regions also participated in the fire-fighting activities. Since the area is under threat of unexploded ordnance, the intervention also included members of the National Unit for Protection from UXO. On 12 August 2013, 180 fire-fighters from the Notranjska and Ljubljanska regions and 40 fire-fighters from the Primorska region provided help in the extinguishing of fire and clearing of the burnt area between Trstelj and the village of Škrbina, whereas four employees of the Slovenia Forest Service took pictures of the edge of the burnt area, inspected the state of the forest and prepared the final map of the burnt area. The data obtained were used as the basis for giving information about the burnt area and damage assessment. All the activities aimed at the protection of the burnt area ended on 12 August 2013 at 7 p.m. On the following two days, occasional monitoring of the burnt area was carried out.



Fire Area

3.3 Hailstorms

On 4 May 2013 in the afternoon, a heavy storm with wind and hail as big as walnuts broke out in the area of the municipalities of Ljubno, Mozirje, Rečica ob Savinji, Šoštanj, Šmartno ob Paki, Braslovče, Vransko, Žalec, Tabor and Kamnik. Due to hail, drivers in the tunnel Ločica stopped their vehicles, and consequently the tunnel was briefly closed in both directions for safety reasons. Because of the large amounts of hail on the road, the workers of the Motorway Company of the Republic of Slovenia ploughed the Štajerska motorway section between Vranjsko–Trojane twice in both directions. The area was again hit by hail at around 10.10 p.m., when the Ločica tunnel was closed again in the direction of Trojane–Vranjsko due to stopped vehicles and for safety reasons. Because of hail on the road, the workers of the Motorway Company of the Republic of Slovenia ploughed the Štajerska motorway again, this time the section between Vranjsko–Šentrupert.

Hail caused considerable damage on crops and fruit trees and damaged a considerable number of vehicles and roof structures on residential houses. Rainwater also broke into the basement rooms of residential houses in Šoštanj and triggered a minor landslide. Hail was also falling in some areas of the Dolenjsko region, in the area of Ljubljana and in the Gorenjsko region (Kokrica pri Kranju, Preddvor, Potoče pri Preddvoru). However, no major material damage occurred.

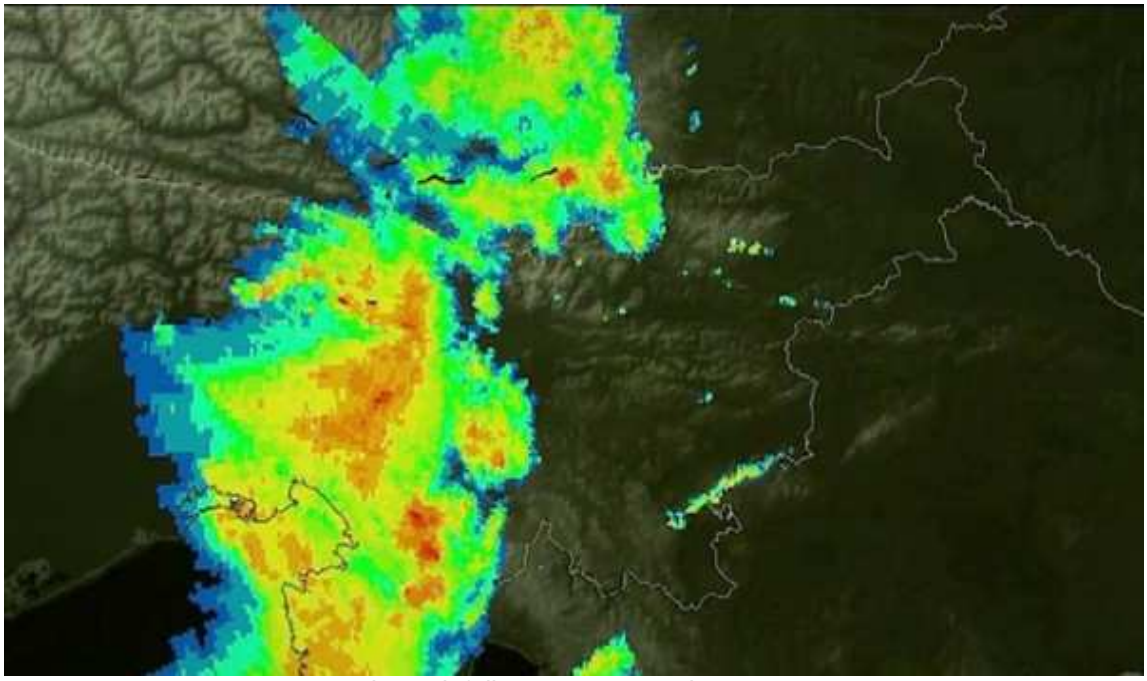
Fire-fighters pumped rainwater and covered the damaged roofs with a PVC foil, which was delivered from the Regional Logistics Centre of the Celje ACPDR Branch Office.

337 fire-fighters participated in interventions.

3.4 Storm with Strong Wind

The storm that swept through Slovenia on 29 July 2013 primarily blew off roofs, fell trees and damaged power lines in the areas of the companies Elektro Maribor and Elektro Ljubljana. 502 buildings were damaged.

The strongest gusts were between 80 and 95 kilometres per hour, at higher altitudes even more. The fastest gust of wind at sea coming from the West was blowing at the speed of 95 kilometres per hour. In Ljubljana, the fastest gust of wind was caught at the speed of 83 kilometres per hour. In Celje, wind gusts blew at around 90 kilometres per hour, in Krško at 82 kilometres per hour, whereas in Prekmurje, the gusts achieved around 72 kilometres per hour.



Radar Rainfall Image on 29 July at 5 p.m.

According to the RS Notification Centre, more than 190 events due to storms were identified in Slovenia. 390 units with 3008 fire-fighters participated in interventions. On 29 and 30 July 2013 until 3 p.m., the Regional Notification Centres received approximately 5000 calls to 112. The majority of the calls, approximately 1500, were received by the largest Regional Notification Centre Ljubljana. Visits to the webpage www.sos112 doubled, since more than 10,000 visitors per day searched for information.

3.5 Damage Assessment

A sufficient number of qualified appraisers according to the prescribed methodology and the regular maintenance of the AJDA application ensured that high-quality damage assessment after natural and other disasters was also carried out in 2013. To this end, there were several consultations on damage assessment after drought and flood in 2012 in all 13 ACPDR branch offices, attended by 357 members of regional and municipal commissions for damage assessment. The data assessment application AJDA was upgraded with a new price list for agricultural products and new returns per administrative units, with the purpose of quality collection and processing of data for reporting.

On 13 September 2013, in accordance with the prescribed methodology, Rules of Procedure for the Assessment of Damage and the Rules of Procedure on the Work of Regional Damage Assessment Commissions after Natural and other Disasters, and based on the Decision on the Assessment of Damage in the Current Agricultural Production due to the Consequences of Drought in 2013, damage assessment commissions at the local, regional and national levels assessed the damage which affected Slovenia in July and August. In all 13 regions – or in 194 municipalities – it affected about 185,459 hectares of land. The estimated damage, which was reported by 25,742 parties suffering damage, amounted to EUR 106.152 million, which significantly exceeds 0,3 per mil of the planned state budget revenue for 2013. The handover of minutes and other documentation on the assessment of damage to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment will be carried out by the end of February 2014.

Mitigating the Consequences of a Natural Disaster

4 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In line with the annual education and training plan in the area of protection against natural and other disasters, education and training took place at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig and at the Centre's training units in Pekre, Sežana and Logatec Training was provided to Civil Protection (CP) members, members of units, services and other operational structures of associations and other non-governmental organizations, commercial companies, institutes and other organizations.

A total of 34,337 participants attended the various forms of education, training and other activities (19,934 persons at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig, 11,118 persons at the Centre's training unit in Pekre, 2446 at the Logatec training unit and 839 at the Sežana training unit).

In 2013, the following target groups were trained:

Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig (Target Groups)	**Number of Participants**
Training Programmes for CP Members	417
Fire Service and Qualification Programmes	754
Programmes for public employees in the field of protection and rescue	25
Programmes for lecturers	15
Programmes for Foreign Participants	397
Programmes of Societies – Fire-Fighters	7145
Joint Programmes for Several Target Groups (performance of protection, rescue and relief tasks using aicraft, leadership – group dynamics, public relations in the event of disasters etc.)	1226
E-education	76
Programmes of Societies – Dog Handlers	3972
Programmes of Societies – Divers, Cave Rescuers, Mountain Rescue Service	995
Programmes of Societies – Others (Red Cross, Slovenian Fire Protection Association, Scout Association of Slovenia)	355
Other ACPDR Training and Activities	1683
Other MoD, SAF and IRSPANOD Training and Activities	593
Training of External Users	2281
Total	**19,934**

Pekre Training Unit	
Programmes of Societies – Fire-Fighters	7038
Programmes from the Field of Natural and Other Disasters	1045
Other Training Courses and Activities of the MoD and External Users	3035
Total	**11,118**

Logatec Training Unit	
Programmes of Societies – Fire-Fighters	125

Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig (Target Groups)	Number of Participants
Programmes from the Field of Natural and Other Disasters	450
Other Training and Activities of the MoD and External Users	1871
Total	**2446**
Sežana Training Unit	
Fire Service and Qualification Programmes	335
Programmes from the Field of Natural and Other Disasters	200
Other Training and Activities of the MoD and External Users	304
Total	**839**
Total	**34,337**

4.1 Preparation of Training Programmes

In 2013, three new programmes were prepared:

- Programme of supplementary training for emergency responders for the rescue from behind the sumps of underground caves.
- Programme of supplementary training for heads of First Aid teams.
- Programme of introductory training on psychosocial support.

Four programmes were updated:

- Programme of supplementary training of PRR forces for diving with autonomous diving equipment – diver rescuer.
- Programme of supplementary training of PRR forces for diving with autonomous diving equipment/diver rescuer – according to specialties.
- Programme of training on post-traumatic stress.
- Programme of training for rescue from water for the needs of protection, rescue and relief.

In 2013, 11 programmes were finalised and signed by the Minister (five from 2012 and six from the current year). Four new programmes were still in preparation, whereas nine programmes were updated. The final review of the applicable training programmes was prepared. In cooperation with the competent service, information on the ACPDR website was updated.

In the field of proficiency examinations of professional fire-fighters, a draft detailed review of the contents of the proficiency examination and professional literature for a professional fire-fighter was prepared, as well as a detailed review of the regulatory framework in the field of final and proficiency examinations for professional fire-fighters. The implementing documents for proficiency exams were prepared (contents for publication on the website, application form for proficiency examination and detailed review of the content and literature for proficiency examinations for professional fire-fighters). The form was also prepared for the certificate on passing the proficiency examination prescribed by the Director-General. The Minister appointed a commission for the proficiency examination of professional fire-fighters. Draft reviews of the detailed contents of the proficiency examination for the commander or operational head of a fire-fighting unit and the head of a fire-fighting unit were prepared.

4.2 Conduct of Education and Training Courses

According to the Plan of Education and Training in the Field of Protection against Natural and Other Disasters, the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief published 56 training programmes for different target groups for 2013. Those planned training courses which had a sufficient number of enrolled candidates were also conducted.

The training of the 20th generation of candidates for the profession of fire-fighters was conducted according to the appropriate training programme. In 2012, the training programme was updated with the purpose of harmonising its contents with the occupational standard for professional fire-fighters, and with the methodology for the preparation of educational programmes for protection, rescue and relief. Of the 51 enrolled candidates, 48 successfully completed the training.

The training took place from 7 January 2013 to 20 June 2013. 55 contracts for a copyrighted work and 7 work contracts were concluded for the purpose of implementing the training courses:

- 31 contracts with instructors for the implementation of the practical part of training.
- 9 contracts with lecturers and
- 15 contracts with lecturers who also participated as instructors in the practical part of training.

The employees of the Training Centre (four from the Fire-Fighting School and one from the department of Education and Training) were also involved in the implementation of the programme, either as lecturers or as instructors.

Protection and Rescue Forces – Training of the USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) Units

The ACPDR continued with the training of confidants in the framework of psychological support to emergency responders in fire-fighting units and notification centres, and started with the training in the area of psychological support for the target group of operators in notification centres. Supervisions were carried out regularly for the confidants in the framework of the psychological support.

For primary school teachers who wanted to teach the elective subject on protection against natural and other disasters, distance training was carried out in the e-classroom. Throughout the year, teachers also exchanged information and read about the new developments in the e-classroom for teachers on the website of the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief. Teachers were also offered professional support in the conduct of the subject. In the school year 2012/13, the subject on protection against natural and other disasters was conducted in 27 primary schools, with 331 pupils involved.

In the area of protection against unexploded ordnance, data was regularly exchanged with the Bomb Disposal Section of the Police. Permanent cooperation was established with the 430th SAF Naval Division in the field of the exchange of information on unexploded ordnance at sea. Several presentations of the system of protection against unexploded ordnance were carried out in primary schools and other events in Slovenia. The Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief hosted 22 presentations of protection against unexploded ordnance for various target groups, showing a collection of unexploded ordnance.

Training courses were carried out for members of water rescue units. It turned out that training is of higher quality when carried out in difficult weather conditions similar to real conditions facing the members of water rescue units in the event of floods and other water disasters. Due to the difficulty level of the training, only those participants with the proper physical and mental fitness were able to attend and successfully complete the training.

Overview of the Training Courses Organised and Carried out

Type of Training	Number Events	Number of Participants
The Programme of Introductory and Supplementary Training to Perform the Tasks of Protection, Rescue and Relief Using Aircraft, Modules A, A/1, B, C, and C/1 (Cave Rescue Service, Mountain Rescue Service, Kennel Club, Helicopter Emergency Medical Aid Unit, Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia)	28	684
Basic and Supplementary Training Programme for Fire-Fighters for the Use of a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	18	144
Training Programme for Fire-Fighting and Rescue in Double-Tube Road Tunnels	3	101
Training Programme for the Use of Hydraulic and Rescue tools	3	62
Training Programme for Extinguishing Fires in Closed Spaces, Module A and B	3	65
Training Programme for Carrying out Interventions after Disasters with Dangerous Substances	3	79
Training Programme for High and Low Altitude Rescue in Urban Environments	4	43
Leadership and Group Dynamics	2	38
Public Relations	14	129
Introductory and Basic Training for the Civil Protection Commissioners	7	198
Introductory and Basic Training of Civil Protection Headquarters in Companies	1	15
Supplementary Training of Civil Protection Headquarters/Communicable Diseases	1	17
Supplementary Training of Civil Protection Headquarters/Earthquake	1	14
Incident Command for Cave Rescue Service and Mountain Rescue Service	1	27
Basic Training for International Rescue Operations in Slovenia and Abroad	1	20
Training for Drivers with Dangerous Goods (ADR)	1	10
Supplementary Training of Members of Units for Protection against Unexploded Ordnance – e-learning	3	76
Supplementary Military Professional Training of Aviation and Technical Personnel for Aviation Armament, Phase 1	1	12
Supplementary training of members of units for protection against unexploded ordnance – training level testing	2	13
Supplementary Training of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces for	1	12

Type of Training	Number Events	Number of Participants
Diving with Autonomous Diving Equipment		
Training for Water Rescue for the Needs of Protection, Rescue and Relief	3	45
Periodic Training Level Testing According to the Training Programme for Water Rescue for the Needs of Protection, Rescue and Relief	2	28
Introductory Training for the Employees of Notification Centres	1	6
Basic Training for the Employees of Notification Centres	1	6
Training of Radio Stations Users and Custodians of Communications Systems ZA-RE and ZA-RE +	2	62
Training of the New ACPDR Employees	1	11
Supplementary Training on Mental Characteristics Related to the Experience of Disasters – Coping with Injuries and Death	2	71
Training Programme for Providers of the Elective Subject on Protection Against Natural and other Disasters in Primary Schools in an e-classroom	1	14
Supervision for Confidants according to the Basic Training Programme for Coping with Stress	2	34
Training of Confidants according to the Programme of Supplementary Training on Psychosocial Support (Module 2 – Advanced Training)	1	19
Training of Operators in Notification Centres according to the Basic Training Programme for Coping with Stress	2	56
Training of the Employees of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police on the System of Protection against Natural and other Disasters – for Multipliers on Protection against Inflammable Substances	1	38
Training on English Terminology for the ACPDR Employees	2	20
Total	**119**	**2169**

In 2013, the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief organised and carried out a workshop on removing smoke and heat in the event of fires in closed spaces. In cooperation with the SAF, presentation of methodology for the assessment of leadership potential was carried out. The system of protection against natural and other disasters was presented to SAF members in the Moste Military Post, with the emphasis on the preparedness for the demolition of buildings.

In the Sežana Training Unit, a national training course was carried out in November for work with volunteers who would participate in the cleaning of the coast and oily birds in the event of the pollution of the sea coast with oil and its derivatives. The training was conducted as part of an international project Preparedness for Oil-Polluted Shoreline Clean-up and Oiled Wildlife Interventions (POSOW), aimed at the training for rescue and the development of regional cooperation in the event of such pollution in European Mediterranean countries (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain and Slovenia). The project LIFE+SIMARINE-NATURA involved the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre (REMPEC) from Malta, Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) from Italy, ACPDR and Bird Watching and Bird Study Society of Slovenia, with the support of several environmental organisations.

Training participants were shown three different methods of removing spilled oil from the sea surface using special machines (overflow, vacuum suction and use oil skimmer discs, cleaning with sorbent materials). Bird Watching and Bird Study Society of Slovenia presented its equipment available for searching, collecting, cleaning and transport of oily birds.

The demonstration of cleaning oil-polluted coast and oily birds was carried out at the headquarters of the Office for the Protection of Coastal Waters in Koper. It was attended by approximately 30 volunteers and professional responders. The employees of the DRAVA

Vodnogospodarsko podjetje Ptuj d.d. water management company having a state concession showed ways of cleaning sand and shingle as well as rocky coasts. Due to the geomorphological characteristics of the Slovenian coast, most of the work in the event of pollution should be done by hand, and therefore the participation of volunteers is very important.

Ensuring the Conditions for the Operation of the RS Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief

Conditions for conducting training were improved through the following measures: modernisation of information and other equipment in classrooms in Ig (computer equipment), Logatec (wireless connection) and Pekre, purchase of classroom equipment (chairs, desks), construction of the area for the training of fire-fighters in the use self-contained breathing apparatus in Pekre, replacement of the compressor station and the associated equipment in Ig, purchase of training equipment for high and low altitude rescue in urban environments (rope technique) and equipment for the training of fire-fighters in conducting interventions after accidents with dangerous substances, and purchase of portable intervention case for the UXO unit.

Working conditions for the staff improved through the replacement of kitchen equipment, and greater security of facilities was ensured through the installation of technical security and video surveillance equipment in Logatec.

At the end of 2013, the construction of the new training facilities in Ig in the size of 3500 m² was in the final stages. The facilities will be used for all the training in extinguishing fires in closed spaces (modules A, B and C). A multi-purpose building for carrying out technical rescue in the event of a collapse and realistic interventions on the roofs was also built at the new training range.

4.3 Assessment of Training Level and Exercises

Exercises were conducted in accordance with the Plan of Exercises in the Defence System and the System of Protection against Natural and other Disasters in the Years 2013 and 2014, which was adopted by the Slovenian Government. For each exercise, a decision, organization and implementation plan, analysis and/or report on the exercise were prepared.

Exercises of national importance:

- A one-day combined exercise for the comprehensive assessment of preparedness for response to traffic accidents in the single-tube tunnel Karavanke was conducted in October 2013. Due to the participation of Slovenia and Austria in the international project GOAL, it was performed as an international exercise, with the involvement of Slovenian and Austrian units.
- In the framework of the event Protection and Rescue Days 2013, a one-day combined exercise was carried out in Velenje. The exercise tested the capabilities and training level for response to accidents with dangerous substances in the event of terrorist acts in large settlements.

The following exercises were planned and carried out at the regional level:

- A one-day small-scale practical exercise named Evacuation 2013 for the assessment of the implementation of an evacuation measure in the event of a nuclear accident at the Krško Nuclear Power Plant. Within the exercise, the evacuation of a part of the population of the municipality of Krško to the location of an evacuation reception point was carried out. The exercise was organized by the Municipality of Krško in September 2013, within the framework of the project PFE (Preparedness for Evacuation). The exercise involved the Brežice and Novo mesto ACPDR branch offices, as well as forces for protection, rescue and relief provided for in the municipal and regional plans.
- A one-day small-scale practical exercise named Aircraft Accident 2013 for comprehensive assessment of the preparedness for response to aircraft accidents. The exercise tested the preparedness and coordination of operation after an aircraft accident at an air show. It was organised by the Trbovlje ACPDR Branch Office in May.

It involved regional and municipal protection, rescue and relief forces, determined in the plans.

- A one-day theoretical exercise named Port 2013 for comprehensive assessment of the preparedness for response to the discovery of dangerous substances (radiological source) in the port of Koper. The exercise tested staff procedures in the region, municipality and the company Luka Koper d.d. It was carried out in October by the Koper ACPDR Branch Office. It involved the Civil Protection Headqarters for the Obalna region, as well as regional and municipal units, determined in the plans.

Protection and Rescue Forces – Training of the USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) Units

The exercise Kanin 2013 in the Nova Gorica ACPDR Branch Office was cancelled due to damage to the Kanin cable car, and the one-day theoretical exercise Earthquake 2013 in the Postojna ACPDR Branch Office for comprehensive assessment of response to earthquakes was cancelled due to organizational problems.

Testing of the Training Level of the Civil Protection and Red Cross First Aid Teams

Testing the competence of Civil Protection and Red Cross first aid teams at the regional and national levels is aimed at refreshing practical knowledge, maintaining skills and competence, operating in different situations, and introducing and presenting activities to the widest range of people. The theme of the trials was rescue and relief after disasters with dangerous substances.

The regional trials for testing the training level of Civil Protection and Red Cross first aid teams took place on Saturdays from 11 May to 22 June 2014 in Brežice, Žalec, Ajdovščina, Tržič, Grosuplje, Lenart, Murska Sobota, Novo mesto, Cerknica, Ormož, Zagorje and Dravograd. The testing was attended by a total of 130 first aid teams, which is 8.24 per cent of all the first aid teams in Slovenia:

- 38 Civil Protection teams from local communities, companies, institutes and organisations,
- 60 Red Cross teams,
- 27 teams from fire-fighting and other non-governmental organisations,
- 5 teams from the neighbouring countries (Croatia and Hungary).

The national training level testing for Civil Protection and Red Cross first aid teams took place on 5 October 2013 in Velenje, in the framework of the Protection and Rescue days. A total of 14 first aid teams participated in the trial (8 Red Cross teams, 4 Civil Protection teams and 2 fire-fighting teams). The winner was the first aid team of the Slovenj Gradec Regional Red Cross Association.

Approximately 2500 members of units, services and organisations involved in the system of protection, rescue and relief participated in the preparation and conduct of the 12 regional and one national trial. The broader purpose of the trials was to bring the activities closer to the people, to involve the youth (active participation of pupils), to demonstrate protection, rescue and relief forces and to raise the awareness of the population (the importance of first aid skills, willingness to help one's family and friends and promotional material).

The 27th First Aid Convention in Europe, which took place in Wels in Austria was, among others, attended by the first aid team of the Municipality of Nova Gorica Regional Red Cross Association, which took an excellent third place among 20 teams.

Paradana 2013 Exercise

Based on the Plan for the Implementation of the National Programme of Protection against Natural and other Disasters in 2013 and 2014 and the Rules on the Exercises in the Field of Protection against Natural and other Disasters, the Slovenian Government adopted the Decision on the Preparation and Execution of the Exercise Paradana 2013. As a three-day international, scheduled and combined exercise, the Paradana 2013 exercise was carried out from 30 August to 1 September in an underground cave Velika ledena jama in the Paradana reserve in the area of the Trnovski gozd plateau, in the cadastral municipality of Nova Gorica. It was planned in such a way that the training participants knew the basic premise (accident of a caver during the exploration of the cave who got injured while crossing the abyss depression at a depth of 505 metres), time, purpose and course of the exercise. 165 members of units, services and organisations, participated at the exercise of which 21 emergency responders were from the Croatian Mountain Rescue Service, the Cave Rescue Commission.

Protection and Rescue Days 2013

The fifth Protection and Rescue Days took place from 3 to 5 October 2013, in cooperation with the Municipality of Velenje. The activities at the national and local levels were aimed at presenting the forces and means of protection, rescue and relief and various professional and volunteer rescue services and structures, organized by non-governmental organizations (units and services of societies and other non-governmental organizations), units of companies, institutes and other organizations and Civil Protection (CP). The SAF, Ministry of the Interior, the Police and the neighbouring countries also presented their activities and organisation. The numerous activities particularly include expert workshops and consultations, Velenje 2013 national exercise, joint exercise of the Slovenian mining rescue units, international competition of fire-fighting forces and national-level testing of the Civil Protection and Red Cross first aid teams.

The ACPDR tent was put up at the Titov trg square, which was the centre of activities. Throughout the Protection and Rescue Days, the tent had many visitors. It hosted the presentation of activities of protection, rescue and relief forces, and CP representatives from Austria, Italy, Croatia, Hungary and the ACPDR. The INFO point was the central point for all information related to the events, and also used for all the information related to the protocol, as well as for the direct implementation of other activities (announcements, confirmations, cancellations VIP-guests, and notification of the needs for additional equipment, resources, and teams). Different exercises and events were also shown on TV screens.

From 30 September to 12 October 2013, there were 45 reports on the event in the media. The majority of them were in the media covering the local community and region. Among the national media, TV and Radio Slovenia, Večer, Slovenske novice and Radio Ognjišče reported on the activities.

During the event, several consultations were organised for the expert public, with the visit rate above average: (1) Consultation for Mayors, (2) Active Fire Protection (AFP), (3) Fire Extinguishers, (4) Fire Watches (Fire-Fighting Watch), (5) Dangers in Caves and the Cave Rescue Methodology and the Conclusion of the EU Project (International Cooperation in Practice), (6) Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), (7) Consultation on Programmers Related to First Aid, Blood Donation, Preparedness and Response in the Event of Accidents, Red Cross Movement, (8) Consultation of the Slovenian Cave Rescue Units – with the Cooperation of the Energy and Mining Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia, (9) Fire Safety in Tunnels, (10) Understanding and the Use of Hydrological Forecasts and Products, (11) Technical Diving and Rescue from behind the Sumps in Short Caves, (12) Safe and Healthy Bathing, (13) White Water Safety and Rescue and (14) Role of a Social Work Centre in the Event of an Accident.

The 2013 Protection and Rescue Days were visited by a total of 55 foreign citizens from 13 countries (Austria, Croatia, China, Italy, France, Hungary, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Switzerland, Sweden and the USA) and two international organizations (DPPI SEE and Red Cross), who participated as guests. The representatives of national or provincial protection and rescue authorities from the neighbouring countries Austria, Croatia, Italy and Hungary also participated as exhibitors who presented the work of their organizations. The Velenje 2013 Exercise and the exhibition part of the event were also seen by military attachés from France, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, Russia and the United States.

Protection and Rescue Days – the Velenje 2013 Exercise

The purpose of the exercise was to test the preparedness and relevance of the concepts of action in the event of different threats and incidents with dangerous substances, and practically to test the preparedness of the competent services and bodies responsible for response to incidents and accidents involving dangerous substances, practically and theoretically test the procedures for action of the competent services, and demonstrate the protection and rescue activities in the event of such incidents.

The main aims of the exercise were to (1) test the capabilities and response to an accident with a dangerous substance in a larger settlement, (2) evaluate technical solutions and assumptions of responses provided for various incidents involving dangerous substances (notification, Rules of Procedure) (3) test the participation of various services and units involved in carrying out protection, rescue and relief activities, (4) test the preparedness of incident commanders, as well as Civil Protection commanders and staffs, (5) test the performance of tasks of rescue services and the treatment of a large number of injured people at the Celje General Hospital, (6) with reference to the results of the exercise analyses, improve response and, if necessary, supplement the rules of procedures and plans to be used during the response to incidents and accidents involving dangerous substances and (7) carry out psychological assistance for emergency responders and people involved in an accident.

Inspectors for protection against natural and other disasters as well as health care, police and fire service experts were appointed as assessors, with the task of monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the implementation of the planned tasks. The exercise was evaluated according to the programme prepared by the IRSPANOD.

The exercise was conducted at four worksites in Velenje. All the exercise participants had the appropriate personal protective equipment and the necessary collective equipment. All procedures performed in the exercise were directly commented.

A collective exercise of the mining rescue units of Slovenia SRRES Velenje 2013 was planned for and carried out on 4 October 2013. The purpose of the exercise was to test the functioning and coordination of certain legally responsible stakeholders in the event of a mining accident in a pit of the Premogovnik Velenje, d. d. coal mine. The aim of the exercise was also to test the professional training level of rescue teams. Two rescue teams from the Velenje coal mine were formed, and two teams from the Rudnik Trbovlje-Hrastnik d.o.o. coal mine and teams from Idrija and the Nafta Lendava company also participated in the exercise. The folowing entities also took part in the exercise: the Velenje Coal Mine Rescue Headquarters (some members were observers of the rescue teams), Energy and Mining Inspectorate of the RS (mining inspection), six mining rescue teams, Voluntary Industrial Fire-Fighting Society of the Velenje Coal Mine, and a doctor. The reports revealed no peculiarities or shortcomings, the teams did a good job. The work in the rescue base and leadership was also evaluated as successful. The aims and the purpose of the exercise were achieved.

The international fire-fighting competition on the city stadium involved 46 units, of which three were foreign (from Austria, Czech Republic and Croatia). An exercise competition with a motor pump and a 400-metre hurdle relay race was organized by the Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia, under the auspices of the ACPDR Over 600 fire-fighters were involved in the preparation and execution of the competition. The first prize of the fire-fighting competition, a portable motor pump, was received by members of the Šentjošt 1 team from the Dolomiti Fire-Fighting Association. The prizes for the first place in the categories of male members B, female members A and female members B were three submersible pumps. All three were received by fire-fighters from the Hajdoše Voluntary Fire-Fighting Society.

On the initiative of the First Aid Professional Centre within the Slovenian Red Cross (hereinafter: SRK) the ACPDR, the Central Board of the SRC and the Municipality of Velenje organised the annual national testing of first aid teams. The preparation and conduct of the testing involved 473 people from different services, organizations and societies. The purpose of testing was to strengthen the work in the field of first aid in municipalities, organisations, institutes and companies (formation of teams, personnel manning, training of members, equipping) in order to improve the situation in the field of first aid in Slovenia. In line with the aims, the evaluators tested the level of training and knowledge for the operation in the event of large-scale accidents, correct response on the accident site and skills in the treatment of injuries that threaten life. The trials were also aimed at assessing the triage of the injured people and the emergency first aid measures, evacuation of the injured people and their preparation for transport, the functioning of team leaders and the equipment of teams. The testing was attended by 14 first aid teams, and the best was the team of the Slovenj Gradec Regional Red Cross Association. The Krško Nuclear Power Plant team came second, and the Municipality of Ptuj team came third.

The 2013 Protection and Rescue Days also featured a presentation of PRR forces and resources, units, services and other operational structures of societies and other non-governmental organizations, public services for protection, rescue and relief, companies, institutes and other organizations, Civil Protection units and services, as well as the Police and the SAF. The presentation of protection, rescue and relief units and resources took place in the main exhibition tent. The following entities also participated in the event: flying club AVIOFUN d.o.o. (Koroška, Libeliče), Meteorological and Hydrological Unit for Support to the Performance of Protection and Rescue Tasks (Slovenian Environment Agency), Ecological Laboratory with a Mobile Unit (Jožef Stefan Institute), Mountain Rescue Association of Slovenia, Fire-Fighting Association of Slovenia, Cave Rescue Service (Slovene Speleological Association), Slovene Kennel Club, Persons Identification Unit (Faculty of Medicine), Technical Diving Unit (Rapid Emergency Response Unit), National Unit for Protection against Unexploded Ordnance, Institute of Microbiology and Immunology (Faculty of Medicine), National Institute of Biology, Underwater Rescue Service (Slovenian Diving Federation), Cave Rescue Service, Slovenian Red Cross, Unit for Protection and Rescue in the Event of Accidents with Chlorine and other Corrosive Substances (TKI Hrastnik d. d.), Veterinary faculty, Association of Rescue Dog Handlers of Slovenia, Association of Radio Amateurs of Slovenia, Slovenian Catholic Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Association, Ecological Laboratory Mobile Unit (Institute of Public Health Maribor), Slovenian Professional Fire-Fighter Association, Scout Association of Slovenia and Institute of Occupational Safety.

Protection and Rescue Days included various expert consultations as well as supplementary training of the Rapid Emergency Response Unit and the training of fire-fighting forces of general importance (Maribor, Koper and Kranj) in the use of a decontamination trailer.

5 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2013, international activities in the field of protection against natural and other disasters were primarily focused on the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and regional integration, the provision of development assistance to the Western Balkan countries, and the ensuring of an active role of Slovenia in international organizations. The most important were the activities for strengthening the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Slovenia contributed its own share of international assistance to the population affected by major natural and other disasters (typhoon in the Philippines and humanitarian crisis in Syria). The ACPDR also successfully participated in several European projects in the field of protection against disasters.

5.1 Bilateral Cooperation

In 2013, Slovenia continued its strengthened cooperation with the neighbouring countries Austria, Croatia, Italy and Hungary, particularly in the border area and in the framework of European projects. All the neighbouring countries participated with their presentations in the 2013 Protection and Rescue Days in Velenje.

The 2013 Ljubelj Exercise as Part of the GOAL Project

In cooperation with the Republic of Austria, in the framework of the GOAL project, a major cross-border exercise Ljubelj 2013 was conducted, focused on tunnel accidents involving dangerous substances. Joint training courses for rescue units were carried out. The work of the Permanent Mixed Commission for Protection against Disasters with Croatia, and of its four sub-commissions (for education and training, fire protection, coordination of disaster response plans and cooperation in the field of emergency call number 112) was successfully completed. An important achievement of cooperation with Italy was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of disaster management, which provides opportunities to strengthen further cooperation. In cooperation with the Italian region of Friuli - Venezia Giulia, the European project AlpSAR was completed, the purpose of which was the development of communication and information solution for support to mountain rescue. Activities with Hungary took place mostly within the Sub commission for Cross-Border Cooperation which provided support to the cross-border project titled Let's Rescue Together. The permanent mixed commission prepared proposals for the improvement of operational cooperation after accidents.

Special attention was devoted to the transfer of knowledge and experience to the Western Balkan countries in the form of development aid, cooperation in the preparation of legislation and joint trainings. In February 2013, the ACPDR hosted a visit of the Director-General for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief of Serbia, confirming the intention to conclude a bilateral agreement in the field of protection against disasters.

In the context of successfully implemented programmes of bilateral cooperation with France and Sweden, the Slovenian representatives gained a lot of expertise. Cooperation with Germany in the framework of several European projects was also successful. In cooperation with the United States, a seminar on civil-military cooperation in the event of major accidents was conducted, whereas in July 2013, the ACPDR delegation participated in the major practical exercise Vigilant Guard 2013 in Colorado. Bilateral activities were also carried out with China, Russia, Estonia and other countries.

In 2013, gold RS Civil Protection badges in recognition of several years of excellent bilateral cooperation were received by the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW), the Croatian State Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (DUZS) and the Italian Civil Protection of the Italian region of Friuli - Venezia Giulia.

5.2 Regional Cooperation

The ACPDR continued intensive work in the context of the key regional Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE). In November 2013, eight countries, including Slovenia, signed a new Memorandum of Understanding for the institutional framework of the DPPI SEE, which constitutes the legal basis for further operation and activities of the initiative. In addition to providing professional support to the Initiative members in the development of disaster management systems and its annual financial contribution, the ACPDR, in cooperation with Croatia, organised two training courses in 2013.

The one-week course on minimizing the risks of disaster in September 2013 involved three Slovenian lecturers. It was attended by a total of 22 representatives from 10 DPPI SEE countries. Cave rescue training was conducted by the Slovenian instructors in cooperation with the Croatian colleagues in the Paklenica National Park in Croatia. The training was attended by 20 participants from 10 countries.

In March 2013, in the framework of the Slovenian presidency of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, the ACPDR organised the Seminar on Protection against Forest Fires in Sežana. Over 30 representatives of all the eight countries of the initiative participated at the seminar. The final initiative for annual meetings on forest fires in the region was adopted. In the framework of the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP), the Ministers of Foreign Affairs adopted a joint declaration, in which they expressed a positive assessment of the regional cooperation in the field of protection against disasters and supported its further strengthening. In the context of the Alpine Convention, the ACPDR professionally contributed to disaster protection activities.

5.3 European Union

The European Union represents the fundamental and priority multilateral framework for cooperation in the field of protection against natural and other disasters. The ACPDR provided its professional contribution and represented the national views in the discussions of the Council Working Group on Civil Protection (PROCIV) regarding the preparation of the European Parliament and Council Decision on an EU Civil Protection Mechanism. The new legislative act entered into force on 1 January 2014. The most important novelties are a greater emphasis on disaster prevention, the creation of a voluntary pool of pre-allocated capabilities of member states, increased role of the European Emergency Response Coordination Centre, and greater possibilities for the participation of candidate countries and potential candidate countries. Council Decisions on the mass evacuation in the event of a disaster were also adopted. The ACPDR participated in discussions on the new legislation in related areas (implementation of the solidarity clause, establishment of the European humanitarian aid units, and the reform of the Solidarity Fund).

In 2013, the ACPDR maintained an active role in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, which is the main instrument for the coordination of member states' assistance in the event of major disasters. The Notification Centre of the Republic of Slovenia is involved in the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS). In accordance with national quotas, Slovenian representatives attended trainings, participated in the working groups for modules, risk assessment and mapping as well as for the preparation of scenarios for risk

management. The National Rapid Response Unit participated in the 2013 EU MODEX exercise in Bulgaria. The ACPDR also participated in the response to major accidents involving dangerous substances, intentional sea pollutions, single European emergency call number and elsewhere. As the national point of contact for the GIO EMS mapping system (the Copernicus Initiative), the ACPDR is involved in and, if necessary, activates the system for rapid mapping of satellite imagery in the event of a disaster.

An ACPDR delegation attended the semi-annual meetings of the EU Civil Protection Directors General in Dublin and Vilnius as well as in Brussels (May 2013), 4th Civil Protection Forum and the ceremony at the opening of the new premises of the European Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC). The ACPDR representatives also actively participated in the European Commission Civil Protection Committee.

In October 2013, the Commissioner responsible for Civil Protection visited Slovenia. She emphasized and supported the continued leading role of Slovenia in the field of Civil Protection in the Western Balkans and joint efforts for strengthening the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

5.4 European Projects

In May 2013, the EU Programme for Strengthening the Cooperation with Candidate Countries and Potential Candidate Countries in the Area of Civil Protection was completed. The programme was carried out in the context of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (the IPA CP programme), under which Slovenia, together with its consortium partners, conducted two regional practical exercises in 2011 and 2012. In 2013, in the framework of the European Commission's Invitation to tender, the ACPDR successfully tendered for the implementation of the second phase of the above-mentioned programme. The two-year program, which started in November 2013, is aimed at further strengthening of the capabilities of the Western Balkans countries and Turkey for disaster management, and enhanced cooperation within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. The programme comprises the performance of training courses, exchange of experts, conduct of staff exercises and two regional practical exercises as well as technical assistance.

The ACPDR was also involved in other European projects financed by different financial instruments or funds. Within the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation, the project GOAL is conducted, with the aim of strengthening cross-border cooperation with Austria. Within that project, a large cross-border exercise called LJUBELJ 2013 was conducted, with the scenario of an accident in the Ljubelj road tunnel. The exercise involved Slovenian as well as Austrian protection and rescue forces. The ACPDR cooperated with Hungary in the projects called SEERISK and Let's Rescue Together. It also provided professional support to the GEP project - the Joint Geo-Information System for Emergency Protection of Drinking Water Resources in the border area between Slovenia and Italy.

Within the framework of the Financial Instrument for Civil Protection, the ACPDR, together with its partners, continued to provide courses for modules and technical experts (in 2013, seven courses were conducted) and started to conduct practical and staff exercises for modules. The ALPSAR project, which developed communications and information solutions to support mountain rescue, was successfully completed. In addition, the ACPDR provided technical assistance in the EU projects PROTEUS, which was aimed at raising the awareness and effectiveness of cave rescue and completed in 2013 with the PARADANA 2013 exercise, and in the PFE project titled Preparedness for Evacuation in the Event of Nuclear Accidents, which also concluded with a protection and rescue exercise. In 2013, the ACPDR, as a partner, successfully applied for the project MURA 2015 to be launched in 2014. In the framework of the 7th EU Research Framework Programme, the ACPDR, as an associate partner, participated in the HeRO 2 project (2013–2015), which was designed to support the EU countries in the mandatory introduction of the e-Call service by 2015. As a consortium partner, the ACPDR also conducted activities within the QuestCity project (2013–2014), which is designed to train young people in protection against disasters. In 2013, the European Space Agency IDRC (Improve Disaster Response Capacity) project related to the upgrading of satellite services and communications started. The ACPDR participates in the project as the representative of end users.

5.5 UN

The ACPDR participated in UN activities for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) for the period 2005-2015. In addition, it prepared the national report on the implementation of HFA for a two-year period and participated in discussions on the UN priorities in the field of disaster risk reduction beyond 2015. It started to carry out activities for the entry into force of the INSARAG (International Search and Rescue Advisory Group) Guidelines in Slovenia. In accordance with its competence, it fulfilled its obligations in the framework of the Hague and Barcelona Conventions and the Mediterranean Action Plan under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme.

5.6 NATO

In the context of NATO, the ACPDR participated in the competent working bodies in the field of Civil Protection and Civil Emergency Planning, in accordance with the 2013 work plan. It actively participated in discussions on the host nation support in the event of natural and other disasters and on the further role and development of the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) in its support to countries in the field of natural and other disasters. In March 2013, in the framework of the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme, the ACPDR hosted a technical visit of a delegation of the GEPSUS project experts.

5.7 Assistance in the Event of Disasters Abroad

In 2013, through the Monitoring and Information Centre of the European Commission, the ACPDR monitored all the major natural and other disasters throughout the world. Following the decision of the Government, Slovenia provided international assistance three times. In February and November 2013, it provided humanitarian (financial) assistance to the affected population in Syria and to Syrian refugees in the neighbouring countries. In October 2013, following Bulgaria's request through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, Slovenia sent material assistance (2000 sets of cutlery with billycans) for the provision of basic living conditions of the Syrian refugees in accommodation centres in Bulgaria. In November 2013, Slovenia provided financial assistance to the people of the Philippines affected by the typhoon Haiyan.

6 INSPECTION ACTIVITY IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS

The Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Protection against Natural and other Disasters (IRSPANOD) performs inspections of the implementation of regulations in the area of fire protection, fire-fighting, protection against natural and other disasters and protection against drowning. In compliance with the Minor Offenses Act, the IRSPANOD also performs the function of a law-enforcement authority in the above-mentioned fields.. The IRSPNOD inspectors participate in interventions during natural and other disasters, as well as in the investigation of the causes of fires. As evaluators, they participate in national and regional emergency response exercises as well as in NATO and EU crisis management exercises.

In 2013, inspectors in the field of protection against natural and other disasters carried out 5013 inspections Fire protection inspections were carried out in buildings with a large number of people and in facilities in which activities that may endanger workers and nearby residents take place. Inspectors also supervised the construction of buildings and performed inspections on the basis of reports. They participated in a number of joint actions of different inspection bodies on the regional level and in the Inspection Board. Control was enhanced during increased fire risk to the natural environment. Moreover, inspectors participated in fire-fighting interventions and in determining the causes of fires. Fire-fighting forces were primarily inspected with regard to meeting the prescribed medical fitness standards for operational fire-fighters and for personal protective equipment.

In the area of protection against drowning, inspections of swimming pools, equipment lenders and water activity organisers were carried out. Of particular importance were the enhanced joint inspections on the Soča river.

In the field of protection and rescue, inspections of companies representing a major source of environmental risk were carried out, as well as inspections of unexploded ordnance (UXO) storage sites. Moreover, inspections were carried out in municipalities and primary schools. Inspections of some shelters were also conducted.

On the basis of inspections, a total of 870 regulatory decisions were issued. In addition to issuing regulatory decisions, inspectors assigned corrective actions within reports on the completion of inspections.

Based on the Minor Offences Act, the IRSPANOD performed 1343 tasks and issued 54 payment orders. Moreover, it introduced 73 procedures for the issuing of offence decisions, and issued 1216 offence warnings.

In 2013, the IRSPANOD monitored and evaluated exercises of national importance in the field of protection and rescue. Inspectors from the management of the IRSPANOD and its branch offices, together with the other competent inspectors and experts from the field of health care, fire-fighting and the Police, participated in various exercises of national and regional importance: Ljubelj 2013, Karavanke 2013, Evacuation 2013, Velenje 2013, Kočevje 2013, Aircraft Accident 2013, and Port 2013. They also took part in the assessment of the international exercise Paradana 2013.

They actively participated in the Inspection Board and in regional coordination.

DEFENCE SYSTEM AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT

1 DEFENCE POLICY

1.1 NATO

The focus of work in 2013 was the three meetings of NATO Defence Ministers. The topics of the meetings were the financing of capability development during the reduction of defence expenditure of member states, with an emphasis on the development of capabilities for missile and cyber defence, the planning of NATO's mission in Afghanistan after 2014 and the vision and role of NATO after the end of the combat part of the mission in the country at the end of 2014. The latter topic highlighted the need for a fairer distribution of the burden due to the growing gap in capabilities between the US and the European part of the Alliance. A decision was taken on the conduct of a NATO Summit to be held in September 2014 in the United Kingdom.

One of the important decisions of ministers was that the NATO common funds, which had so far been dedicated to the operation in Afghanistan, be channelled into the financing of the basic Alliance infrastructure. In the context of the Connected Forces Initiative, the NATO will increase the scope of joint trainings and exercises, so that in the light of changes in the strategic environment, financial constraints and reduction of the planned operational tempo in Afghanistan after 2014, the Alliance will maintain the interoperability which has developed between the allied countries. Ministers endorsed a new package of capability goals for the period 2013–2019 for the Alliance as a whole and separately for each ally and noted the report on the implementation of the Cyber Defence Action Plan. They also discussed the defence aspects of the topics at the NATO Summit. In the framework of the partnership forums, the Ministers meet separately with their counterparts from Russia, Ukraine and Georgia.

1.2 Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union (CSDP)

The MoD actively contributed to the development and implementation of the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and, by providing specific initiatives, represented Slovenia's interests in the EU institutions, bodies and working bodies. In the framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy, the most important activities were those related to the future development of military capabilities in conditions of the economic and financial crisis, defence budget reductions, capability pooling and sharing (P&S), and a more flexible use of the EU battle groups.

During the year, preparations were underway for the European Council meeting on 19 December 2013, which was dedicated to the European defence. The European Council underlined the importance of effective Common Security and Defence Policy in ensuring greater security of EU citizens and its contribution to peace and stability in the neighbourhood and beyond. The European Council identified a series of priority actions, divided into three topic areas: 1) improving the efficiency, visibility and impact of the CSDP, (2) strengthening of capability development and (3) strengthening of the European defence industry.

Informal meetings of EU Defence Ministers on 12 and 13 February 2013 in Dublin and on 5 and 6 September 2013 in Vilnius were devoted to the preparations for the December European Council meeting on CSDP. On 22 and 23 April 2013, a formal meeting of EU Defence Ministers took place in Luxembourg. The Ministers discussed the activities of the European Commission in the strengthening of the European defence market and industry, and paid attention to the development of the EU defence capabilities. They debated on the situation in Sahel and on the establishment of the EU Training Mission (EUTM) in Mali.

At a joint meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Defence on 18 November 2013 in Brussels, the Ministers discussed the conclusions of the CSDP and the strengthening of the European defence capabilities. They took note of the report of the High Representative Catherine Ashton on CSDP, and of the proposals of the European External Action Service

(EEAS) on Rapid Reaction force and EU battle groups (EUBG). The EU remains committed to working with strategic partners. In developing the capacities, it advocates a more systematic and long-term cooperation with NATO.

1.3 International Operations and Missions (IOM)

MoD was actively involved in the national decision-making processes and also participated in the co-decision processes at the international level regarding the participation in IOM. In its activities, it took into account the principles of the Cooperation Strategy of the RS in IOM and promoted enhanced inter-ministerial cooperation, more intense public diplomacy and appropriate adaptation of the working and coordination processes in the field of IOM. At the highest level of decision-making, the MoD continued with the practice of regular consultations and coordination on participation in IOM. In line with the strategy of participation of Slovenia in IOM, the MoD participated in the preparation of the annual report of the Slovenian Government to the Slovenian National Assembly on the participation in IOM and issued several internal guidance documents in this field. The new Rules on the Planning and Implementation of Participation in IOM detailed the responsibilities and tasks of the constituent bodies and internal organizational units of the MoD in the planning and execution of the deployments of SAF members, units, commands and capabilities, civil functional specialists and other civilian personnel and capabilities to IOM.

1.4 Bilateral Cooperation

On the basis of annual programs, more than 300 activities of bilateral defence and military cooperation were carried out. For the purpose of rational use of human and financial resources, these activities were planned as projects and were focused mainly on areas of mutual interest and expected mutual benefits. The most intense bilateral cooperation was established with the neighbouring countries, strategic partners within the Alliance and the countries of the Western Balkans.

The Agreement between the MoD and the Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces on Cooperation was signed and the final text of the revised Agreement between the MoD and the Ministry of National Defence of Lithuania on Defence Cooperation (which is expected to be signed in the first quarter of 2014) was coordinated. An agreement with the US was reached and, through the exchange of diplomatic notes, the procedure was completed for raising the legal status of the Memorandum on Cooperation in the Field of Defence and Military Relations between the MoD and the US Ministry of Defence to the level of an international treaty. The process of coordination of the text of the umbrella agreements on defence and military cooperation with Brazil and Argentina continued.

In the framework of official bilateral ministerial meetings in Slovenia and abroad, the views and opinions on the current defence and security challenges were exchanged, the emphasis being on the strengthening and development of bilateral cooperation, cooperation in international operations and missions, defence reforms and the security situation in the Western Balkans region. During official or working visits to Slovenia, the Ministers hosted the Defence Ministers of China, Macedonia and Hungary and the Minister for the Kosovo Security Forces. Abroad, the Defence Minister met with the US Secretary of Defence and Defence Ministers of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, Azerbaijan, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro and the Minister for International Security Strategy at the Ministry of Defence of Great Britain. During the preparations for the organization and conduct of the Comprehensive Regional Ministerial (CRM), which took place in October 2013 in Brdo pri Kranju, the Minister also met with the Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). In the framework of his visit to the American Federal State of Colorado, the twentieth anniversary of the partnership programme between the SAF and the Colorado National Guard was solemnly celebrated.

A large number of bilateral discussions were also carried out in the margins of international security forums and visits to the SAF members in IOM, and especially in the margins of the CRM, when the minister held short working discussions with the majority of Defence Ministers from the countries of the Western Balkans and South-eastern Europe.

1.5 Multilateral Cooperation

One of the most important events for the MoD in 2013 was certainly the preparation, organization and conduct of the Comprehensive Regional Ministerial (CRM), which took place from 1 to 3 October 2013 in Brdo pri Kranju. With the purpose of financial and conceptual rationalization, the CRM combined working and ministerial meetings in the formats of the Initiative for Cooperation of Defence Ministries of South Eastern Europe (SEDM), the Adriatic Charter (A5) and the Forum for Western Balkans Defence Cooperation (SEEC). The success of the meeting was confirmed by the high participation of countries and international and regional organizations (NATO, OSCE, RACVIAC, and RCC), commendations from numerous participating delegations, as well as the fact that the same project will be carried out by Montenegro in 2014.

In 2013, in the context of the Multinational Land Force (MLF), the member countries (Slovenia, Italy and Hungary) continued the procedures for the revision and renewal of legal documents and the coordination of the text of the renewed umbrella MLF Agreement. Slovenia actively participated in the process of affiliating the MLF to the NATO's corps structure (NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Italy, NRDC-ITA), and between April and September to the ISAF forces in Afghanistan. Some attention was also paid to examining the possibility of setting up an EU Battle group on the basis of MLF and DECI (Defence Cooperation Initiative) in the first half of 2017.

As an associate member, Slovenia actively participates in the Centre for Security Cooperation – RACVIAC. Since 2011, the MoD contributes a civilian to perform the tasks of the head of the pillar for the reform of the security sector. In the light of Slovenian membership in the SEECP and the importance of the international organization, the MoD is considering taking up full membership.

Disarmament and Arms Control

Consistently and in accordance with the set deadlines, the MoD reported on the fulfilment of obligations arising from international agreements on disarmament and arms control. Ten contributions were prepared and included in the national reports as well as sent to the competent international organizations (UN, OSCE, and EU).

In June 2013, Slovenia signed the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in New York. The MoD prepared an initiative for the signature and ratification of the treaty, which was also completed in the National Assembly at the end of the year.

In 2013, in accordance with the obligations assumed by Slovenia with the accession to the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines (Ottawa Convention), the MoD destroyed the planned amount of the excess of such weapons (2480 pieces). The SAF still has about 500 anti-personnel mines, which will be used for training. Slovenia reported on the destruction at the 13th meeting of the Parties to the Ottawa Convention, which took place in December 2013 in Geneva.

In the framework of the MoD, a Commission for the Control of Military Weapons and Equipment Trade and of the Transfer of Defence Products is active, coordinating and monitoring the trade of defence products in Slovenia. In 2013, the Commission conducted 17 correspondence sessions, during which it gave 37 preliminary opinions on the export of weapons and equipment with the total value of approximately EUR 5.7 million.

1.6 Defence Diplomacy

Given the geo-strategic position and rapid economic, political, military and other growth of the country, a resident Slovenian defence attaché to Turkey was accredited (with accreditation also to Azerbaijan and Lebanon). In order to meet the conditions for the entitlement to old-age pensions, the defense attaché in the US was replaced. The mandate of the Slovenian visiting defence attaché in Austria, Greece and Switzerland expired.

By the end of 2013, 32 military diplomatic representatives were accredited in Slovenia (and 31 by the end of 2012). In 2013, the defence attaché of the Czech Republic completed its mandate, whereas military diplomatic representatives of Brazil and Iran were reaccredited.

At the end of September, Germany closed its defence attaché office in Ljubljana. The remaining resident attachés in Slovenia are the defence attachés of the US, Russia, China and Montenegro. Also, an increasing number of resident as well as non-resident defence attachés has their accredited deputies in Slovenia.

1.7 Strategic Planning

Medium-Term Defence Programme 2013-2018

The Mid-Term Defence Programme 2013–2018 (SOPR 2013–2018) which was adopted by the Slovenian Government on 1 February 2013, is the most important defence planning document. It defines the objectives and key guidelines for operation and development of the Slovenian defence system in the medium term. The Programme was prepared on the basis of the Resolution on the Strategy of National Security of the Republic of Slovenia (ReSNV) and the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces (ReSDPROSV 2025), NATO Political Guidelines of March 2011, the RS Defence Strategy and the RS Doctrine of the Military Strategic Reserve adopted in 2012, as well as the NATO capability goals in 2013 for Slovenia.

The Mid-Term Defence Programme 2013–2018 serves as a basis for reorganization and transformation of the SAF and the MoD. It also presents a link between the national defence planning and the planning in NATO and the EU (NATO capability goals, response to NATO's Capability Survey (DPCS), EU Headline Goal, etc.).

Capabilities which are not essential and exceed the personnel, financial, material and other resources of the country will not be developed, which will release resources for the maintenance of important military and civilian capabilities. Most of the priorities of the Mid-Term Defence Programme 2013–2018 are thus related to the realization of the NATO's capability goals in 2013. The Alliance agrees that these represent a fair share of Slovenia's contribution to collective defence and a reasonable challenge.

NATO Capability Goals for Slovenia in 2013

With the endorsement of NATO political guidelines and thus the level of ambition of the Alliance in 2011, a new cycle of defence planning in the Alliance began, in order to provide the appropriate military and non-military capabilities necessary to achieve the level of ambition of the Alliance.

On the basis of the political and military guidelines and security assessment, a set of minimum capability requirements (MCR) was prepared. Further on in the process, the set of capabilities was distributed and translated into collective, multinational and national capability goals. The Alliance capability goals were endorsed by the Defence Ministers at the meeting which took place on 4 and 5 June 2013 in Brussels. In this way, member countries committed themselves to the development and maintenance of capabilities for the Alliance.

The 2013 NATO capability goals for Slovenia reflect the minimum share that, in accordance with the burden-sharing principle, is assumed by Slovenia in order to achieve the Alliance's common level of ambition. In accordance with the long-term guidelines for priority provision of defence capabilities in the context of the collective defence system, capability goals are a priority in the field of the development of military and civilian capabilities, which is also reflected in the Mid-Term Defence Programme 2013–2018.

In comparison with the previous force goals package from 2008, the 2013 NATO capability goals are better adapted to the national requirements, since Slovenia became relieved of some

of the capabilities which were too extensive for the SAF, as well as of some capabilities, the realization of which would not be feasible due to the substantial reduction of funding.

NATO Defence Planning Capability Review for Slovenia

As member of the Alliance, Slovenia is directly involved in the NATO defence planning process (NDPP), which takes place in five steps. The fifth or the last step is the review of the fulfillment of goals in which, by means of a special Defence Planning Capability Survey (DPCS), NATO members report on the national goals, priorities and ambitions in the medium term (2013–2021), inventory of military and non-military capabilities that could be used by the Alliance, financial plans in the field of defence and the achieved results. Based on their answers, the Alliance will conduct a comprehensive review of the state of the members' defence systems and evaluate their effectiveness in achieving the assigned capacity goals.

A bilateral meeting with NATO took place from 24 to 25 October 2013 in Ljubljana. The basis for the discussions at the meeting was the NATO assessment proposal regarding the 2013/2014 Defence Planning Capability Review for Slovenia, which was prepared on the basis of Slovenia's answers to NATO's Defence Planning Capabilities Survey 2013 (DPCS) sent to NATO in July 2013.

The Alliance estimates that in spite of the financial crisis, Slovenia meets the assumed obligations within the international community. However, it drew attention to the fact that the 40-per cent reduction in the defence budget over the last three years is alarming, especially since the share for investment in the defence budget is only two to three per cent, while in the NATO member countries; the overall average is approximately 20 per cent.

2 SLOVENIA'S CRISIS PREPARATIONS AND RESPONSE MEASURES

In 2013, a new Regulation on Defence Planning (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 51/13) was adopted, which has significantly reduced the extent of defence planning in peace. This ensures the performance of tasks related to crisis management in the field of defence and at the same time enables the planning of the establishment of increased defence capabilities for operation in the event of a sharp deterioration of conditions in the international security environment. Defence planning in peace is adapted to the real security threats and risks to national security. In accordance with the Regulation, the contents of the defence plans are structured in two parts. The first part relates to the planning in peace, while the second part concerns the planning in the event of a sharp deterioration of security conditions and the adoption of the assessment of threat to the country from attack.

Upon the entry into force of the Regulation on Defence Planning, the authorities responsible for the defence planning at the national level were given directions for individual planning areas on the adjustment of the defence plans. Specific guidelines were also sent to those entities who, after the entry into force of that Regulation, were no longer obliged to prepare defence plans. The legal bases and individual acts related to the definition of the tasks sent to them before the adoption of the Regulation on Defence Planning were also repealed. The reduced number of the authorities responsible for the defence planning was also reflected in the Register of Citizens Deployed to Work Duties in Slovenia, since the schedule for citizens already deployed by that time was cancelled.

The annually planned coordination and amendments of defence plan documents were also carried out within the context of providing expert assistance. In cooperation with the ministries and certain government services and partly based on the opinions acquired at consultations and other forms of cooperation, the MoD prepared proposals of new defence planning acts or amendments and to applicable regulations developed at the MoD and approved through inter-ministerial coordination, e.g. on the topic of readiness measures.

Constant supplementation and coordination of the contents of the MoD Defence Plan was ensured, as well as the updating of registers within the competence of the MoD. Some of the contents in the MoD Defence Plan were carried out and improved. In cooperation with other authorities responsible for the defence planning, solutions for planning at the national level were complemented.

The time schedule for the implementation of the Doctrine of the Military Strategic Reserve was adopted, including the tasks and authorities responsible for their performance. In accordance with the time schedule, the implementation of tasks started in December 2013 and continues in 2014. The result of the doctrine, which represents the operational guidance and doctrinal document of Slovenia in the area of defence, will be solutions and operational documents for the creation of the military strategic reserve, the purpose of which is the provision and maintenance of SAF's sustainability in the military defence of Slovenia and the fulfilment of international commitments under Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. The solutions will represent a part of the contents of defence plans, especially that of the MoD.

Rules on the Exercises in the Defence System (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 100/13) were adopted. The Rules re-regulate the tasks, responsibilities, preparation procedures and the contents of the exercises in the defence system. Exercises were conducted in accordance with the Plan of Exercises in the Defence System and the System of Protection against Natural and other Disasters in the Years 2013 and 2014.

The NATO Cyber Defence Exercise CC13 (Cyber Coalition 2013) was organised and conducted, with Slovenia actively participating for the first time.

In accordance with the applicable NATO policy, the North Atlantic Council (NAC) prepares and conducts regular annual Crisis Management Exercise (CMX). In addition to the key NATO bodies, member countries are also involved in the exercise, and, depending on the content of the exercise, also the invited partner countries. In the framework of the preparations for an

individual exercise, NATO organises planning conferences, which are carried out in the Allied countries. Experts from the member countries who have professional knowledge of the areas related to the overall contents of the exercise are also present at the conferences.

For the first time in Slovenia, a planning conference for the NATO Crisis Management Exercise CMX 14 took place in Portorož from 30 September to 4 October 2013. The conference in Portorož was attended by approximately 160 experts from the Alliance as well as representatives of Finland, Sweden, Australia and Japan who are engaged in the exercises and participate in their planning within NATO and their own countries. At this coordinating conference, participants prepared the contents for the CMX 14 Exercise. The exercise is aimed at testing the readiness in the decision-making procedures of countries and the Alliance for responding to various forms of crisis, as well as the adequacy of cooperation and coordination of measures in a crisis, and the ability to exchange information, the purpose of which is to establish as comprehensive and realistic picture of events as possible. The planning conference in Slovenia was the third in the cycle of preparations for the CMX 14 Exercise, which will be carried out in autumn 2014.

In the framework of the activities of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group for the Coordination of Preparations for the Protection of Critical Infrastructure in Slovenia, the leadership of which is the responsibility of the MoD, the basic and sectorial criteria for determining the critical infrastructure of national importance were supplemented, cross-sectorial impacts on the functioning of critical infrastructure were defined, and priorities for criticality were set. The proposal for the determination of critical infrastructure of national importance in Slovenia was prepared and coordinated on the inter-sectorial level, including the authorities responsible for the sectors of critical infrastructure determined by the Slovenian Government. Upon Croatia's accession to the EU, bilateral dialogue for the protection of critical infrastructure was established, due to the start of the process of identifying potential European critical infrastructure. The MoD also ensured the participation of the Slovenian contact point for the protection of European critical infrastructure at meetings, workshops and presentations organized by the European Commission, and responded to its proposals and initiatives.

A couple of years ago, an independent communication and information (CIS) network was established within the National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC) for the purposes of implementation of all the required communication and information links. The network connects the most important state authorities, government offices and companies of special importance for defence as well as the Defence Administrations. The NCMC CIS network includes the application of the Information System for Decision Support for fast, safe and effective communication and coordination of activities in the decision-making process between the key crisis management entities in the country in times of crisis. In 2013, the MoD carried out all the appropriate procedures and activities, so that the acquisition of the national, NATO and EU permission for the operation of the NCMC CIS up to and including the level of classified information RESTRICTED two years ago facilitated work as well as enabled faster and more appropriate communication for all the actors involved in the network.

The Plan of Administrative Communications serves as the basis for the planning of organization, preparations and operation of administrative communications in peacetime and in all security circumstances and is prepared on the basis of the Decree on the Administrative Communications which regulates the organisation and operation of administrative communications. The Plan was continuously adapted to individual changes relating to the contents of the plan.

3 DEVELOPMENT OF CIVILIAN CAPABILITIES

3.1 Civilian Functional Experts

In 2013, Slovenia held bilateral talks with representatives of the NATO on the assumed capability goals in the field of stabilization and reconstruction (S&R). In the final document, the NATO and MoD Working Group noted that the activities in the field of S&R are conducted in accordance with the time schedule and without major problems. In accordance with the tasks arising from the capability goals, a decision was also prepared on the appointment of an inter-ministerial coordination group for the field of stabilization and reconstruction in IOM. Civil-military cooperation is one of the three most important areas of the new NATO strategic plan and is an important tool in a comprehensive, integrated and synchronized response to modern crises and conflicts. Trained civilian functional experts (CFE) are an important support element of each IOM; their integration into the military environment increases the capabilities of the military component and decreases possibilities for conflicts with civilian participants involved in a crisis or conflict. For smaller NATO and EU members, this is one of the niche areas that should be especially carefully developed in the future.

Based on the experience gained from the preparation for participation and from the actual participation of civil functional experts in previous IOM, guidelines for further development and operation of CFEs are constantly updated. A proposal for the updated Regulation on the Cooperation of Civilian Experts was prepared. At the appropriate time, depending on the amendments to the Defence Act, the proposal will be submitted for inter-ministerial coordination and approval.

In 2012, five Slovenian CFEs participated in IOM. Four of them were deployed to Afghanistan in the framework of the ISAF operation: one to the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) Herat, one to the PRT Farah, and two to the ISAF Headquarters in Kabul. One CFE was deployed to the NATO Advisory Team (NAT) in Kosovo. Unlike the larger countries which allocate much greater defence and development resources to this end, the Republic of Slovenia does not develop independent forms of operation that could unify and support a larger group of CFEs.

The work of CFEs in Afghanistan is deliberately oriented towards the building of capabilities of the national and regional administration, which is one of the fundamental tasks of the PRTs. For the most part, the efforts of civilian experts in the PRT Farah – a highly rural area with a small number of educated or schooled inhabitants and an even lesser percentage of schooled or educated women – were oriented towards the counselling and the provision of expert assistance to the establishment of the regional administration’s capabilities in the field of finance, customs duty and the legal system. In the PRT Herat, the most developed part of Afghanistan, efforts were mainly oriented towards the support to the empowerment of women, especially by promoting women's crafts initiative and the training of female officials in the field of agriculture (preparation of the training programme), raising the awareness of women about gender equality and human rights, and promoting the involvement of women in public life. Much of the effort was also focused on the support to projects of Slovenia's international development assistance to Afghanistan.

Slovenian contribution to the ISAF Headquarters was focused on the reintegration of insurgents in the community and on the development of education and training of the Afghan security forces and the appropriate funding mechanism in this area.

Slovenian CFEs in Afghanistan operate in accordance with the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS), provincial development plans and the Slovenian plan of operation of CFEs in the ISAF operation. The main objectives that the CFEs pursue in their operation are the transfer of knowledge to the staff of the Afghan provincial institutions, investments in knowledge and the building of Afghan capabilities for a more independent operation after the completion of the ISAF operation.

In 2013, a CFE operated in Kosovo as part of the NATO Advisory Team which plays a key role in establishing and providing the maximum effectiveness of operation of the system of security

forces under the Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces. The CFE offered expert counselling in the field of budget and finance, related to the defence policy and defence planning.

In 2013, the MoD continued recruiting new candidates for CFEs, in conjunction with the annual professional training, in accordance with the Regulation. Moreover, the training course titled Cooperation of Civilian Functional Experts for Civil-Military Cooperation in International Operations and Missions and in Missions in the Defence Field was also carried out and was successfully completed by 18 new CFEs.

An electronic register of civilian functional experts was established and an active website was created.

Prior to their deployment to IOM, the chosen civilian functional experts underwent special training with the emphasis on particularities of the IOM environment.

3.2 Cartographic and Geospatial Support to the Defence System

In the area of mapping and geospatial affairs, for the purpose of providing mapping and geospatial support to the SAF, the MoD continued with the development and maintenance of the mapping system coordinated with the Slovenian military and NATO standards and the NATO geospatial policy.

In cooperation with the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the RS and the Geodetic Institute of Slovenia, the contents of four systemic sheets of the national and military topographic map of Slovenia with a scale of 1: 50,000 was renewed: NL 33-05-13 Jesenice, NL 33-05-19 Radovljica, NL 33-05-25 Škofja Loka and NL 33-08-01 Vrhnika. One development project was prepared, defining the concept of transition from the current way of managing and maintaining the data of the national and military map with a scale of 1 : 50,000 to the establishment of a unified relational data base called the National Topographic and Cartographic Model 1 : 50,000 (NTCM50). In cooperation with the Geodetic Institute of Slovenia for the needs of the SAF, a new orthophoto map of the firing range and training area Bloška polica and the Ulaka area with a scale of 1 : 5000 was produced.

A new e-mail address geo@mors.siwas activated, to which users can send their comments, observations, corrections and initiatives on the cartographic material.

The Technical Agreement between the Slovenian and French Ministries of Defence on Cooperation in the Field of Military Geography was signed. The text of the new annex to the agreement with the US Geospatial Intelligence Agency was coordinated, as well as the text for the conclusion of a new memorandum of cooperation with the United Kingdom Defence Geographic Centre. A meeting was conducted with the management of the Institute for Military Geosciences of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports. At the meeting, the Austrian side offered the possibility of a free-of-charge use of the rapid mapping products for conflict areas.

On the basis of the agreements concluded in the geospatial field, the MoD was provided, free of charge, with the prescribed cartographic material (Mali, Middle East, Afghanistan) for the preparation of SAF members for participation in international operations and missions,

Geospatial data and digital maps for installation into the navigation systems of fighter aircraft Gripen were coordinated with the Hungarian MoD and also provided to the Slovenian MoD, to be used for the Allied air surveillance over the Slovenia's territory. Navigational naval charts and software were provided for the multi-purpose boat Triglav in the humanitarian operation Mare nostrum - Lampedusa.

In addition, the MoD continued with the procedures for adopting NATO Standards (STANAGs) in the geospatial area for inclusion in the Slovenian Military Standards, in accordance with NATO's guidance and recommendations. A proposed draft of further development of military cartography in Slovenia was also prepared.

4 INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OPERATIONS

In 2013, the MoD intelligence and security operations were carried out in line with the Defence Act, the adopted annual work programme, objectives and tasks. The key tasks and objectives were linked to the provision of intelligence and security support to the SAF forces in IOM as well as to other bodies of the national security system.

The priority task in the intelligence area in the period concerned was to assess military as well as political and security conditions in the area of the Western Balkans, especially in Kosovo and its neighbourhood, in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the area of Syria and Lebanon. Intelligence and security operations were also focused on other crisis areas in Africa, Afghanistan and on the sea area of southern and eastern Sicily (wider area of the humanitarian operation Mare nostrum - Lampedusa). The MoD monitored above all the indicators that might threaten the Slovenian defence interests or increase the degree of a military threat to Slovenia.

One of the key priorities of the MoD intelligence and security operations was to provide efficient intelligence and security support to the SAF members participating in IOM. The Intelligence and Security Service (ISS) cooperated with all the competent defence system entities within the Slovenian national security system, as well as with partner intelligence and security services and with NATO and EU.

In the international field, cooperation continued within NATO, EU and with partner countries. The Intelligence and Security Service continued with the operation of national intelligence cells in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo as well as those in the framework of intelligence and security services of international headquarters of operations. It also participated in various international events related to intelligence and security.

in the period concerned, the implementation of processes of establishing an integrated intelligence and security system continued, in accordance with the adopted strategic documents and on the basis of the adopted internal MoD rules.

The focus of security-related tasks in the Intelligence and Security Service was on detecting, investigating and preventing the security threats to persons, jobs, facilities and areas of special importance for the defence in Slovenia and abroad. The Intelligence and Security Service also performed the tasks of detecting and preventing the activities of intelligence services of military organisations and other bodies and organisations which pose a threat to the defence interests of Slovenia.

5 EQUIPPING, REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT, STANDARDIZTION AND CODIFICATION

5.1 Equipping

in 2013, the implementation of the equipping projects was focused on providing the most urgent equipment to perform regular activities and to ensure permanent readiness of the SAF in carrying out their statutory tasks and for the operation and fulfilment of the objectives of the Alliance. Two major projects are underway: the Cerklje ob Krki airfield and the upgrading of the Cougar transport helicopters. The dynamics of implementing the projects is slow, and woks will continue to be performed in the following year. All the investment documentation was prepared on time and in accordance with the financial capacity of individual budget users. Project groups achieved the expected professional standards. The time schedule for preparing the investment documentation provided for several investment projects. However, due to lack of funding, they were not implemented and were postponed to a later period.

In 2013, no project was implemented within the framework of the Act on the Implementation of Basic Development Programmes of the SAF in the Period between 2008 and 2015, which formed the basis for the systematic and continuous provision of key capabilities in the long-term development of the SAF. Moreover, no funding is provided until the expiry of the programme.

5.2 Real Estate Management

The proposal for a Decree on National Spatial Plan for the SAF Central Training Area is in the process of adoption by the Slovenian Government. The MoD approved the document for the identification of the investment project for the arrangement of temporary mooring for military vessels at Pier III in the Port of Koper. The search for a systematic solution for the installation of solar power stations on facilities under the MoD management came to a standstill due to the specific operational purpose of military facilities, investment costs and ecological dismantling of installation elements.

Due to the economic situation of construction companies, certain projects came to a standstill, which resulted in a failure to meet the deadlines. The construction of a sports facility in the Kranj Military Post was delayed due to the contractor’s considerable financial problems. The operating permit was obtained and the facility was handed over to the user for use and management, without the mobile equipment of the firing range.

In 2013, the MoD ensured the ownership of additional parcels for the reconstruction and extension of the runway at the Cerklje ob Krki airfield. Moreover, archaeological research was carried out and in October, the works continued. Works on the runway are fully completed, including the installation of devices at the eastern end of the airfield. The planned construction works inside the airfield were also completed: aprons and warehouses for military cargo logistics, fighter aircraft apron, heliport and technological water supply system with appropriate devices for the provision of water used for fire-fighting. The construction of the first phase of the bypass road Drnovo–Črešnjice began. Contracts were concluded for the construction of the apron for transport aircraft and connecting roads between facilities. Operating permits for the majority of facilities were obtained. In 2013, EUR 6.78 million were invested in the project of modernisation of the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield, of which EUR 1.28 million were provided by the MoD and EUR 5.5 million by the NATO. With the available resources, the first stage of the planned airfield’s operativeness will be achieved.

In the context of bank guarantees for the correction of defects during the warranty period, the malfunctions at the Škrilj firing range and training area connected to the work of the main contractor SCT were corrected. Due to the pollution of water, the connection to the public water supply system was established, and the heating network was renovated, which already results in significant savings in the energy feedstock consumption. The project documentation for the reinforcement of the firing facility's roof support structure was prepared.

The construction or upgrading of the wiring in the SAF facilities was executed in accordance with plans. Activities for the equipping of SAF facilities with technical security systems were carried out in accordance with the Plan for the Equipping of SAF Facilities with Technical Security Systems and the Plan for the Construction and Renewal of Safety Fences for 2013 and 2014. A total of 4050 m of new protection fence were constructed at the following locations: the Bežigrad pri Celju warehouse, the Celje Military Post, the Škrilj training area and the Kranj Military Post.

Works aimed at partial removal and partial reconstruction of the facility on Maistrova 5 in Celje was completed. The facility and the rooms were handed over to the user. Some deficiencies have been corrected with calling on a bank guarantee.

The maintenance of the MoD facilities and infrastructure, regular monthly service and repair of elevators in the MoD facilities and regular monthly service and repair of air-conditioning appliances in the MoD facilities take place in accordance with the needs. The maintenance of MoD apartments requires increasing financial resources acquired only from rents. In 2013, only urgent maintenance works were carried out.

Based on the decision of the Slovenian Government, real estate in both former military posts was transferred to the municipality of Ilirska Bistrica, and all real estate in the Park of Military History Pivka was transferred to the Municipality of Pivka.

In recent years, the per centage of real estate registered in the Land Register is rising, Of the 1131 apartments managed and used by the MoD, 312 apartments have not yet been registered in the Land Register, which amounts to 27.3 per cent of apartments. In 2013, 201 apartments were registered in the Land Register.

In accordance with a decision of the RS Government, 237 apartments are transferred to the RS Housing Fund and 60 to municipalities. Of the total of 172 apartments which are still in the process of being transferred to the RS Housing Fund or to municipalities, 124 apartments have not yet been registered in the Land Register.

Of the total of 6014 land parcels, 155 parcels have not yet been registered in the Land Register, and 62 proposals for the registration in the Land Register have been submitted. Thus, a total of 3 per cent of parcels are not yet registered in the Land Register.

5.3 Standardisation and Codification

The MoD standardisation plan, which includes the adoption and implementation of Slovenian Military Standards (SVSs) and the certification of NATO standards, was implemented in accordance with expectations and the available human and financial resources. In 2013, a total of 42 Slovenian Military Standards were adopted, resulting in 51 per cent realisation of the MoD standardisation plan. For purposes of the implementation of the Slovenian Military Standards, 9 decisions and orders were issued. In the process of national certification of NATO STANAGs and STANRECs, 59 national responses were signed, representing less than a third of Slovenia’s obligations to NATO. In 2013, the improved conditions resulted in the start of the process of a comprehensive renewal of normative documents (Standardisation Act, internal legal MoD acts on standardization) which govern the field of defence standardization in Slovenia.

In 2013, under national jurisdiction, the MoD allocated 25 new NATO codification numbers (NSNs) to Slovenian products and registered 13 Slovenian companies, which makes 187 altogether. On the basis of the acquisition of new supply resources, Slovenia was registered as the user of 326 NSNs. 1194 identifications of material resources were carried out in the old information system. In 2013, the preparation of registration data on all material resources used by the defence and the protection and rescue systems was successfully completed. Equally successful was the transfer of code numbers for 91,290 material resources to the new logistics information system in the SAP environment.

In the field of Government quality assurance, all claims by the NATO members (Turkey, Germany, and Spain) which purchased the products from Slovenian producers (AREX, COMTRADE, PRIMAT) were considered. The implemented procedures encompassed analyses of risks in production and analyses of the final product inspection. The process was particularly demanding in the event of the requirements for the NATO AGS project. In 2013, due to the lack of funding and announced changes to ISO 9001, the procedure for the accreditation of the national authority for Government quality assurance in the framework of the Slovenian accreditation was interrupted.

6 COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM (CIS)

6.1 Information Security

Key operational activities were focused on the maintenance of systems and devices for the provision of information security in the MoD communication and information system (CIS) and in the CIS which provides interoperability within the Alliance.

With the preparation of the Concept of Cyber Defence in the Defence Area, the MoD provided a framework for further organizational and technical development of that capability in the defence area.

For the first time, Slovenia actively participated in the NATO cyber defence exercise (Cyber Coalition 2013), with the MoD being responsible for the exercise in Slovenia.

6.2 Communication and Information Infrastructure

In order to maintain the level of availability of the MoD CIS, the upgrading of the transit telephone exchange of the private MoD telephone network was completed, access points to the global network Internet were upgraded, and IPVP were upgraded and re-established. The upgrade of radio relay communications system was completed due to the spread of the availability of MoD/SAF CIS.

6.3 IT Solutions

The highest priority was given to the provision of availability of information solutions which had already been introduced into operational use (information system for paperless operations – IRDG, register of material – SKEV, information system for defence and protection duties – ISOZD, unified accounting, finance, personnel and costs – MFERAC, the public procurement information system and a large number of specific applications – ISOJAN). Numerous upgrades were successfully performed for the information system for paperless operations (for example, universal interface for service-oriented architecture, scanned invoice, e-invoice, electronic signing of the ACPDR documents, and mass import of documents in the PDF format). For the register of material, an online module to support the restoration of equipment according to the points system was designed, and the IT solution for ammunition and explosive ordnance and electronic management of stamps were upgraded. For the information system for defence and protection duties, an upgrade or integration with the information system for paperless operations (education, contracts for voluntary military service) was performed. For the IS unified accounting, finance, personnel and costs, many upgrades were performed as a result of the amended legal bases or increase of functionality. Much functionality has been or is being introduced also within the MoD. A major upgrade was conducted in the area of e-business (the budget implementation process – invoice, order).

7 INSPECTION AND INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF DEFENCE

7.1 Inspections in the Area of Defence

In line with regulations, the Defence Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia (DIRS), as an MoD body, performs inspections of the implementation of laws and other regulations as well as of command and control acts in the area of defence. It reviews, identifies and evaluates the preparedness and performance of military commands, units and institutions, status of defence preparations, implementation of military education and training, and resolution of administrative and technical issues in the area of defence.

In line with the statutory provisions, the DIRS also performs inspections of the implementation of the Act on the Protection of Classified Information at the MoD and the entire area of defence. It also inspects the MoD organisational units in the implementation of their administrative and technical tasks, with the exception of the tasks and activities of the ACPDR and the IRSPANOD.

Inspectors conduct procedures and decide on the violations in accordance with the Minor Offences Act.

In 2011, the DIRS had the following key objectives: (1) Provision of effective and impartial inspection of the enforcement of regulations in the area of defence through thematic and comprehensive inspections and monitoring of the realisation of measures ordered in inspection reports; (2) Provision of objective information to the MoD leadership about the observed state of the implementation of regulations in the area of defence; (3) Preparation of action proposals for the MoD leadership for the elimination of system deficiencies; (4) Modernisation of inspections in the area of defence and the promotion of good practice; (5) Achievement of a higher quality of inspections through the training of inspectors, and systematic care for the integrity of the DIRS and inspectors.

The DIRS carried out a total of 55 inspections, of which 46 were regular scheduled inspections, 3 were special announced inspections, and 5 were re-scheduled inspections. Inspectors conducted these 55 inspections over a period of 489 inspection days. Based on the findings, a total of 259 inspection measures were issued, of which 256 were related to the elimination of the established deficiencies or non-compliance with regulations, and 3 were on the termination of activities which could pose a threat to people and property.

Of all the 259 inspection measures imposed in 2013, 152 measures were executed by the end of January 2014. The deadline for the execution of 50 measures has not yet expired. A complaint was lodged against 59 measures imposed. The decision on a complaint at the second instance is not within the competence of the DIRS. However, it has an impact on the execution of inspection measures.

In accordance with the imposed inspection measures, inspectors regularly monitored their execution based on the analysis of the notifications on the execution received by the inspected entities and, if necessary, also with warnings and repeated inspections.

7.2 Internal Auditing

In 2013, the internal audit service attained an 83% realisation of the annual audit and counselling plan. It carried out six audits encompassing the survey of the existence and operation of internal controls and the correctness or the purpose of operation in areas subject to audit. The internal audit service issued 31 recommendations for the improvement of operation in the audited areas. Higher level of successful control over the MoD development and operation resulted in the improved management of risks and in the functioning of internal control systems, greater accuracy and/or clearer purpose of the MoD operation.

8 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

8.1 Posts on Websites

In 2013, a total of 559 press releases were published on the websites of the MoD and SAF (on average, 1.5 releases a day), which represents 56 per cent in relation to the estimate of the expected number of published releases for 2013. In addition to the releases, 2862 photos as well as 176 sound recordings and 75 video recordings were published.

The websites *www.postanivojak.si* are the central online media for promoting the profession of a soldier and for the provision and recruitment of personnel as active SAF component members, contract reserve members, for scholarships, voluntary military service and other opportunities for cooperation with the SAF (for example military camp, MoD and Youth camp). The websites are mainly intended for the younger generation, potential candidates for the profession of a soldier, and for general Slovenian public interested in the life, work, equipment, weapons and tasks of a soldier.

In 2013, the websites *www.postanivojak.si* were viewed by over 77,000 different visitors which opened over 500,000 pages. On average, the visitors viewed 4.5 pages and stayed on a single page for up to 3.4 minutes.

In the same period, 343 posts were published on the MoD, 207 on the SAF and 302 on the ACPDR Facebook, whereas 1590 posts were published on Twitter. In 2013, the number of posts on Facebook and Twitter exceeded the expected number of posts (on the MoD Twitter by three times).

In 2013, the MoD also started to publish information on the social network Facebook *postanivojak.si*. 270 posts were published, and the Facebook page already has over 2000 followers. Over 100 short documentaries were published on the YouTube social network.

In the framework of the MoD website, an online magazine of the SAF started to operate in February 2013, with 71 articles and 460 photos published by the end of 2013.

For the purpose of the Comprehensive Regional Ministerial (CRM), the website crm2013.si was developed and created, publishing information about the event.

In 2013, 12 per cent less press releases were published on the MoD and SAF websites as compared to 2012, representing over a half of the estimate of the expected number of published releases for that period. Releases were accompanied by less sound and video material, whereas the number of photos went up by 47 per cent as compared to the year before, with the number of actual releases exceeding the estimate of the expected number of published releases by 43 per cent.

A lesser number of standard releases, such as press releases, is understandable, given the fact that in 2013, the activities of the MoD on social networks increased. Thus, in 2013, the posts on Twitter exceeded three times the posts published in 2012. In addition, since February 2013, an online SAF magazine is published in the framework of the website *www.mo.gov.si*, and the website crm2013.si was created for the Comprehensive Regional Ministerial 2013.

The number of posts on the English MoD websites and the number of posts on English social networks:

- Releases on the English website: 15 MoD and 34 SAF releases, totaling in 49 releases;
- Facebook – MoD: 343 posts;
- Facebook – SAF magazine: 217 posts;
- Facebook – ACPDR: 302 posts;
- Twitter – MoD: 1590 posts.

Posts on the mo.gov.si (MoD) and www.slovenskavojska.si (SAF) Websites in 2011, 2012 and 2013

Year	Number of Posts	Accompanied by		
	Posts	Photos	Sound recordings	Video recordings
2011	750	2000	153	146
2012	635	1941	137	109
2013	559	2862	176	75

8.2 Filming Activities

Review of film production activities in 2013:

- DVD featuring a concert of the SAF Military Band.
- Short presentation film on the air defence battery Roland.
- Technically challenging film presenting military technology, shown at a consultation meeting in Poljče.
- Completion of the summary of the Adrion Livex exercise from 2012.
- Short educational film on a self-standing chemical detector (CBRN defence).
- Video clip for the central SAF exercise.
- Presentation of the operation of a group for handling protestors (Joint Multinational Readiness Centre), prepared for military police (completed at the beginning of 2014).
- Recordings of current events (75 posts on YouTube).
- Shots for the film presenting the Officer Candidate School (planned to be completed in 2014).
- Preparations of a project for a comprehensive presentation of the abandoned air defence programme Roland.

8.3 Answers to Questions Brought up by Journalists in 2013

In cooperation with other professional services, organizational units and bodies within the MoD, 189 answers to questions brought up by journalists were prepared.

Number of Answers to Questions Brought up by Journalists in 2013 per Month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Number of Answers	14	20	22	14	15	14	28	22	5	13	11	11	**189**

8.4 Publishing Activities in 2013

The plan for publishing professional military and other literature for 2013 was implemented to 18.5 per cent – 4.1 per cent for the SAF, 36.8 per cent for the administrative part of the ministry and 53.3 per cent for the ACPDR.

Publication of Professional Military and other Literature in 2013

	Planned Publications	Number of Publications Published	Realised (in %)
Administrative Part of the MoD	19	7	36.8
SAF	97	4	4.1
ACPDR	30	16	53.3
TOTAL	**146**	**27**	**18.5**

In addition to publications included in the annual plan of issuing professional military and other literature at the MoD, two folded leaflets with information from the field of protection against natural disasters were issued, and a collection of bilingual military mountaineering dictionaries (Slovene-English, English-Slovene, Slovene-German, German-Slovene).

The issued periodic publications included 12 numbers of the SAF magazine, which in 2013 began to come out as a monthly magazine (before that, 19 magazines a year were issued), and the volume of the magazine increased by 30 per cent. All the planned numbers (four) of the publication called "Contemporary Military Challenges" were issued.

9 NORMATIVE ACTS

In line with the RS Government Work Programme for 2013, the adoption of 17 implementing regulations from the area of work in the MoD was planned. One implementing regulation was adopted and published in the Official Gazette. In 2013, the MoD prepared 12 implementing regulations which, however, were not included in the RS Government Work Programme for 2013, as the need for their adoption only arose in the course of the year. Concerning the Government's Programme, 16 implementing regulations thus remained unrealised.

With the Regulation amending the Regulation on the Salary Compensation and Reimbursement during the Protection, Rescue and Aid Duties, the period in which a claim for the reimbursement of salary and reimbursement of compensation for the loss of income resulting from the provision of protection, rescue and relief tasks can be enforced was extended from 30 days to 60 days.

The amended Decree on Salaries and other Remunerations of Service Members of the Slovenian Armed Forces when Fulfilling Obligations Assumed in International Organizations and through International Agreements represented a new and more detailed regulation of allowances for SAF members for hazardous tasks when deployed to IOM, while reducing the amount of allowances for the performance of hazardous tasks. In the same year, the Decree was amended again for the purposes of its coordination with the Amendment of the Public Sector Salary System Act. Thus, the nominal base for military service or service outside Slovenia had to be adapted to the modified wage scale in the Public Sector Salary System Act. On the basis of the Agreement on Further Measures in the Field of Salaries and other Labour Costs in the Public Sector Aiming to Balance Public Finances in the Period from 1 June 2013 to 31 December 2014, it was agreed with the MoD Trade Union that, inter alia, the amounts of the allowance for hazardous tasks under Article 9 of the Decree, which were modified on 9 May 2013 and entered into force on 28 May 2013, returned to the amounts that were in force before the entry into force of the amendment to that Decree.

With the Decree amending the Regulation on Production Consents and Trade Permits for Military Weapons and Equipment, and on Preliminary Permits for Import, Export, Transit and Transfer of Defence Products, the Commission Directive 2012/47/EU of 14 December 2012 Amending Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as Regards the List of Defence-Related Products, which is occasionally amended by the Commission, was introduced to the legal order of the RS. The new Decree on Defence Planning provided for a significant reduction in the volume of defence planning in peace and the provision of the adequate crisis response of Slovenia in accordance with its international obligations, and allowed for the planning of the establishment of increased defence capabilities for operation in the event of a sharp deterioration in the security situation in the international environment. The Decree lays down new solutions related to the defence plan and crisis response measures, introduces some new defence planning contents and sets out the testing of solutions from defence plans in exercises. On the basis of the Decision Amending the Decision on the Appointment of Members of the Committee for the Fire Protection Fund Management and its Activity, two members representatives of voluntary fire-fighters were deprived of their office and two new members were appointed.

For the purpose of simplification of procedures for the issuance of building permits and the elimination of administrative barriers, the new Rules on the Fire Safety Concept and Studies merged the contents of the Rules on Fire Safety Studies and the Rules on Fire Safety in Buildings. The above-mentioned Rules, issued by the Minister of Defence in agreement with the Minister of Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, lays down the contents of a fire safety concept and fire safety studies, classifies facilities based on the complexity in relation to fire, and sets out the facilities which require the preparation of a concept or study as well as conditions to be met by the responsible design engineer preparing the concept or study. In the same year, the above mentioned Rules were amended for the purposes of a clearer definition of conditions to be met by the responsible design engineer formulating the concept or study. For entities responsible for the preparation of fire safety concepts, conditions stayed the same as in the previous Rules.

With the amendment of the Rules on Measures against Drowning in Public Bathing Areas, the managers of swimming pools can decide to install video surveillance systems in public bathing areas (consequently, the number of lifeguards and security guards in public bathing areas can be reduced subject to certain conditions) and technical solutions for water attractions (automatic physical barrier or light signalling system at the entrance to water attractions), so that the presence of a security guard at each water attraction is not necessary subject to certain conditions. However, managers of public bathing areas must ensure the same level of safety for the users of water attractions and a flawless operation of the system.

The Rules amending the Rules on Official Passes in the Field of Defence lays down the new graphic image of official passes of members of the active SAF component and other military personnel. The image corresponds to the new graphic image of public administration. The contents of the form of the official pass did not change significantly. However, inadequate safety features on the pass were modernised. New official passes also fulfil minimum standards for the identification of the SAF members in NATO. In accordance with Article 32 of the Decree on Defence Planning, the new Rules on Exercises in the Defence System govern the methodology, organization, conduct and planning of exercises in the field of the defence system at the level of regulation, since exercises are not conducted only in MoD, but also include other ministries and government offices. Up until now, the conduct of each exercise referred to a government's decision.

Amendments to the Rules on the Awards of the Ministry of Defence refer to the abolishment of four MoD awards, change of the basic material for the production of awards and the treatment of painted surfaces of the awards, description of the award for the medal of the SAF Chief of General Staff, criteria or conditions for granting the award for work in the intelligence and security fields, medal for achievements or firearms to a SAF soldier, change in the period for putting forward the proposal for granting an award, a more detailed definition of the provision on carrying ribbon bars, and a more concrete definition of keeping records of the awards which are the responsibility of the SAF.

10 RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECTS

In 2013, the reduction of financial resources allocated for the implementation of research and development activities continued and affected the scope of implementation of those activities.

10.1 Basic Research

Resources were allocated for the implementation of applied research for the attainment of priority defence and protection capabilities. The last five projects, the conclusion of which was postponed according to reprogrammed contracts due to financial restrictions, were successfully completed.

10.2 Technological development

The projects and activities in this area were intended for the attainment of priority defence and protection capabilities at higher levels of technological development. Activities were oriented towards research and development activities, industrial research and technical feasibility studies. Resources were used for the financing of three projects in the framework of the Orders for the Increase of Technical Capabilities.

In 2013, in the context of the Programmes for the Development of Key Technologies, the last of the projects for the development of small fuel cell technology for military purposes titled High-Temperature Polymer Electrolyte Membranes (PEM) Fuel Cells Fund was completed. The development was conducted up to the basic technological subsystem in a laboratory environment. However, due to the reduction of funding, the development could not be continued.

In the context of international activities in the NATO's Science and Technology Organization (NATO STO), a total of six activities were carried out, of which one began in January 2013 and one finished in December 2013.

By participating in the NATO STO, the MoD successfully integrated in the international research environment in the field of defence and also verified development achievements. The MoD was active in research groups within the panels for sensors and electronics, technology of information systems as well as human factors and medicine.

Due to the lack of financial resources, the MoD was not active within the European Defence Agency.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOURCE PLANS

1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL PLAN

In 2013, the MoD spent EUR 350.7 million on the accomplishment of its tasks, which makes up 98.5 per cent of the applicable and 98.3 per cent of the adopted financial plan, following the revised budget (hereinafter referred to as: the adopted financial plan).

2013 Budgetary Resources (EUR)

	Adopted 2013 FP	2013 Revised Budget	Applicable 2013 FP	Realisation in 2013
	(6 December 2012)	(11 July 2013)	(31 December 2012)	
Financial Plan	378,575,978	356,594,561	355,921,242	350,702,788
Percentage in Reference to the Revised Budget	106.2	100	99.8	98.3
Difference in Reference to the Revised Budget	21,981,417	0	-673,319	-5,891,773

1.1 MoD's Financial Plan

The RS National Assembly issued two rulings on the available resources of the MoD. The first ruling was made in 2012, whereas the second ruling was made a year later, when the revised budget was adopted, which resulted in the reduction of the available resources by EUR 22 million – 23 per cent in investments, 14 per cent in current expenditures, and 1,2 per cent in salaries.

The applicable financial plan of 31 December 2011 amounted to EUR 555,921,242, which is lower that the adopted plan by EUR 673,319. Integral funds are reduced by EUR 10 million, while appropriations are increased by EUR 9.3 million. Integral funds were reduced on the basis of the Rules on the Completion of Implementation of Central and Local Government Budgets for 2014, which limited the acceptance of obligations after 23 October 2013. At the same time, the acceptance of obligations on integral budget items up to 93 per cent of the adopted revised budget for 2013 was limited, and due to the redistribution in the current budget reserve at the Ministry of Finance, namely to cover urgent legal obligations of the state budget following the Resolution of the Government of the RS, no. 41012-58/2013/3, dated 28 November 2013, Resolution of the Government of the RS, no. 41012-64//2013/3, dated 10 December 2013, and Resolution of the Government of the RS, no. 41012-65/2013/3, dated 17 December 2013.

The financial plan realisation in the amount of EUR 350,702,788 represents 3.8 per cent of the RS national budget, which is the lowest percentage in recent years. In comparison to the applicable financial plan, the realisation of integral funds was 99.8 per cent. The realisation of appropriations was 77.6 per cent, chiefly as a result of state property management, for which the largest amount of unapplied funds will be transferred to the next year. The MoD integral funds represent 95.5 per cent, and the appropriations 4.5 per cent of the realised financial plan.

The Portion of the MoD's Financial Plan in the National Budget (in Millions of Euros)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
National Budget	7,628.3	7,762.9	8,740.1	9,259.8	9,280.2	9,362.8	8,993.5	9,314.5
MoD's Financial Plan	446.6	488.1	546.3	549.8	552.6	448.3	396.0	350.7
Portion (in %)	5.9	6.3	6.4	5.9	6.0	4.8	4.4	3.8

The difference between the applicable financial plan and the realisation is the uncommitted EUR 5.2 million – EUR 701,960 in integral funds and EUR 4.5 million in appropriations. Of the uncommitted appropriations, EUR 4.452 million was transferred to the 2014 fiscal year. The remaining EUR 766,489 million were registered as a surplus in the RS national budget.

In comparison to the adopted financial plan, the realisation dropped by EUR 5.9 million, while the spending index was at 98.3. The realisation of integral funds indicates a reduction of EUR 10.7 million: EUR 1.4 million for salaries, EUR 5.6 million for current expenditure, and EUR 3.6 for investments. The realisation of appropriations was by EUR 4.8 million higher than planned.

In comparison to the 2012 financial plan realisation, the realised 2013 financial plan was by EUR 45.3 million lower, while the index was at 88.6. In integral funds, the realization is lower by 46.8 million. In nominal terms, all the categories have a lower percentage, while in in terms of the structure, the portion of salaries went up by 2.3 per cent, and the remaining categories have a lower percentage. The realisation of appropriations was by EUR 1.5 million higher.

Comparison of the realisation in the last two years (in EUR)

Economic purpose	Realisation in 2012	Structure (%)	Realisation in 2013	Structure (%)
Integral Funds	381,870,412	96.4	335,074,727	95.5
Appropriations	14,130,913	3.6	15,628,061	4.5
Total	**396,001,325**	**100**	**350,702,788**	**100**

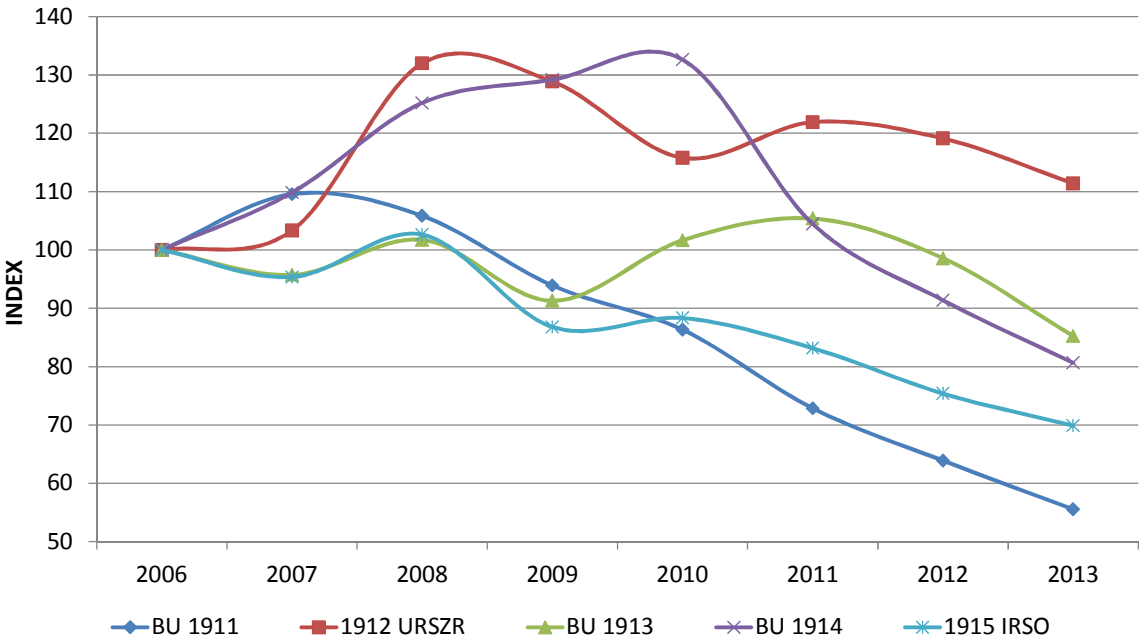
The overview of the expenditures by budget users (BU) shows no greater differences in comparison to the previous year. There was an increase in the share at the ACPDR (BU 1912) for a 0.5 percentage point and a reduction in the share at the SAF (BU 1914) and MoD (BU 1911) for 0.3 percentage point, while the shares of other users remained the same. Table 4 presents the realization by budget users.

Realization of the 2013 Financial Plan by Direct Budget Users (in Euros)

Total	BU 1911 MoD	BU 1912 ACPDR	BU 1913 IRSPANOD	BU 1914 SAF	BU 1915 DIRS
350,702,788	40,487,850	31,601,365	2,134,618	275,744,808	734,146
100	11.5	9.0	0.6	78.6	0.2

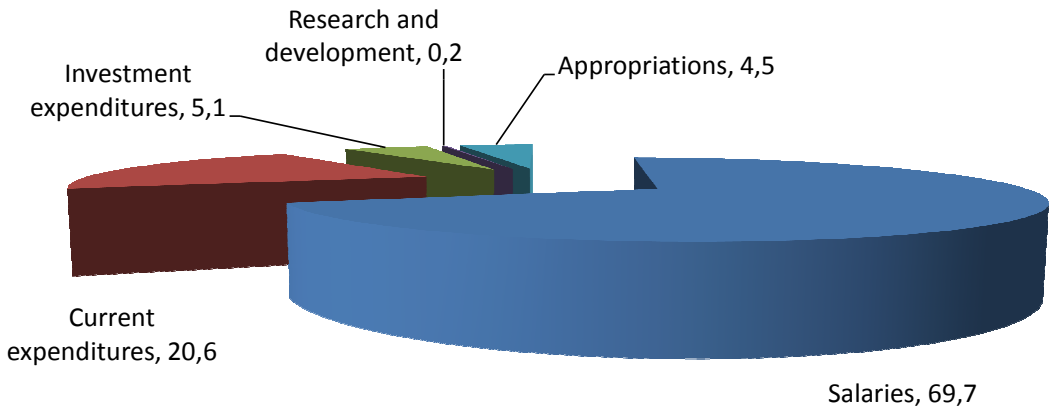
The line chart below depicts the realization by budget users for the period 2006–2013 (base year 2006). In comparison to 2006, only ACPDR has higher realisation – IRSPANOD has 85 per cent realisation and all other users have lower realisation. Index of the SAF is at 81, of the DIRS at 70 and of the MoD at 56.

The Growth Index of Realisation by Budget Users (Base Year 2006)



The pie chart below depicts the breakdown of realisation by economic purposes.

Breakdown of 2013 Realisation by Economic Purposes



Salaries in the amount of EUR 244.3 million represent 69.7 per cent of the total MoD expenditure. In the recent years, the portion intended for salaries is growing, in particular on account of lower total nominal scope of the MoD financial plan and less resources for investments. However, in nominal terms, salaries are strongly decreasing. Since 2009, the MoD has been reducing labour costs by not replacing departures and by recognising allowances and reimbursements only on a very rational basis. In comparison with the previous year, the salaries are lower by a good EUR 22.8 million, while in comparison with 2009, when they were the highest, the salaries are lower by EUR 47.9 million.

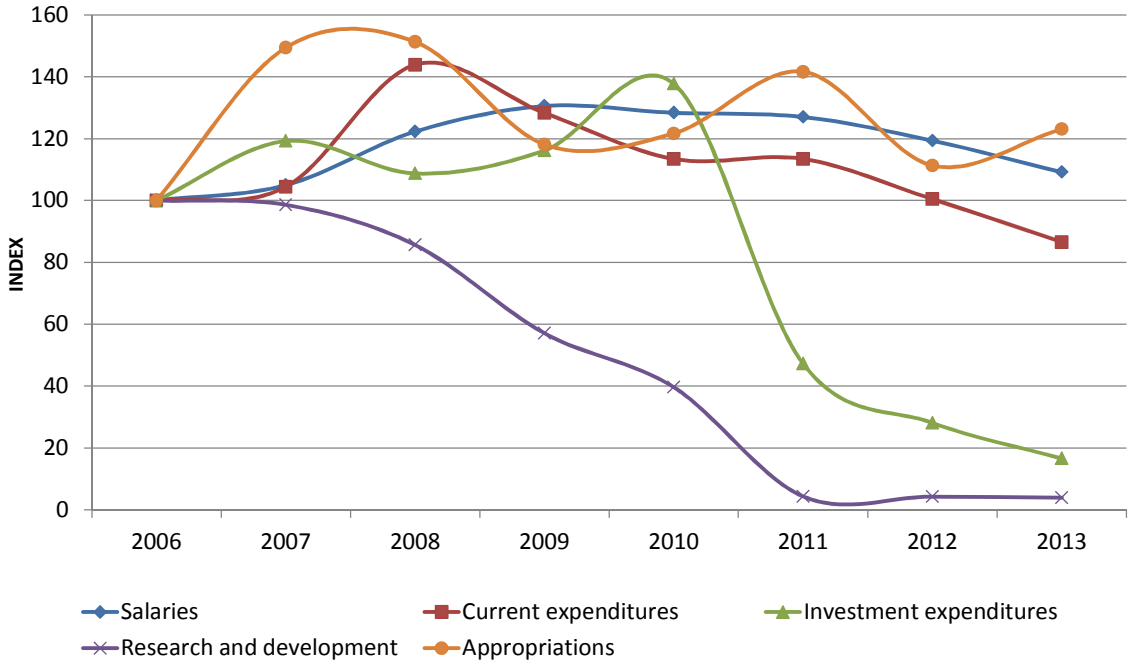
Current expenditures amount to EUR 72.3 million, which represents 20.6 per cent of the total spending. Due to the ageing of the equipment, the maintenance costs are higher; fixed operating costs also represent a large part of expenditures.

Investment expenditures stand at EUR 17.8 million, accounting for 5.1 per cent of the total MoD expenditure. Since 2007, the investments portion has been decreasing; the sole exception was the year 2010 due to the use of the clearing debt.

As much as EUR 768,000 was used for purposes of research and development, accounting to 0.2 per cent of the total MoD expenditure. In the recent years, the portion of development resources has substantially decreased.

The dynamics of individual categories of the MoD expenditures in the period between 2006 and 2014 is depicted in the line chart below.

The Growth Index of Realisation by Economic Purposes (Base Year 2006)



1.2 Overview of the Realisation by Programme Structure

The year 2013 saw the implementation of the financial plan in line with the programme planning. The financial plan was implemented through two policies, four programmes, 12 sub-programmes and 64 measures or projects. The MoD's fundamental policy is 07 – Defence and Protection, and three programmes: Defence System and Crisis Management, Military Defence and Protection against Natural and Other Disasters. Another programme of the policy 05 is also used – Science and Information Society – Support to technology development projects.

Realisation of the 2013 Financial Plan by Programme Structure (in Euros)

No.	Title of the Policy/Programme/Sub-programme		Realisation in 2013	Structure
07	**Defence and Protection**		**349,934,476**	**99.78**
0701	**Defence System and Crisis Management**		**40,453,685**	**11.54**
	070101	Common Defence Functions and Defence Planning	26,142,262	7.45
	070102	International Defence Cooperation	6,350,175	1.81
	070103	Equipment and Infrastructure	7,227,101	2.06
	070104	Inspections in the Area of Defence	734,146	0.21
0702	**Military Defence**		**275,744,808**	**78.63**
	070201	SAF Human Resources Management, Education and Support	219,921,348	62.71
	070202	Operational Tasks and Readiness of the SAF	44,645,320	12.73
	070203	Infrastructure and Equipment of the SAF	6,411,452	1.83
	070204	Membership in International Organisations and Cooperation with the Local Environment	4,766,688	1.36
0703	**Protection against Natural and Other Disasters**		**33,735,983**	**9.62**
	070301	Functioning of the PRR System	16,814,771	4.79
	070302	Preparedness of the PRR System	14,786,594	4.22
	070303	Inspection and Law-Enforcement Tasks	2,134,618	0.61
05	**Science and Information Society**		**768,312**	**0.22**
0504	**Support to Technology Development Projects**		768,312	0.22
	050405	Development of Technical Capabilities in the Defence Area	768,312	0.22
Total			**350,702,788**	**100**

1.3 Defence Expenditure

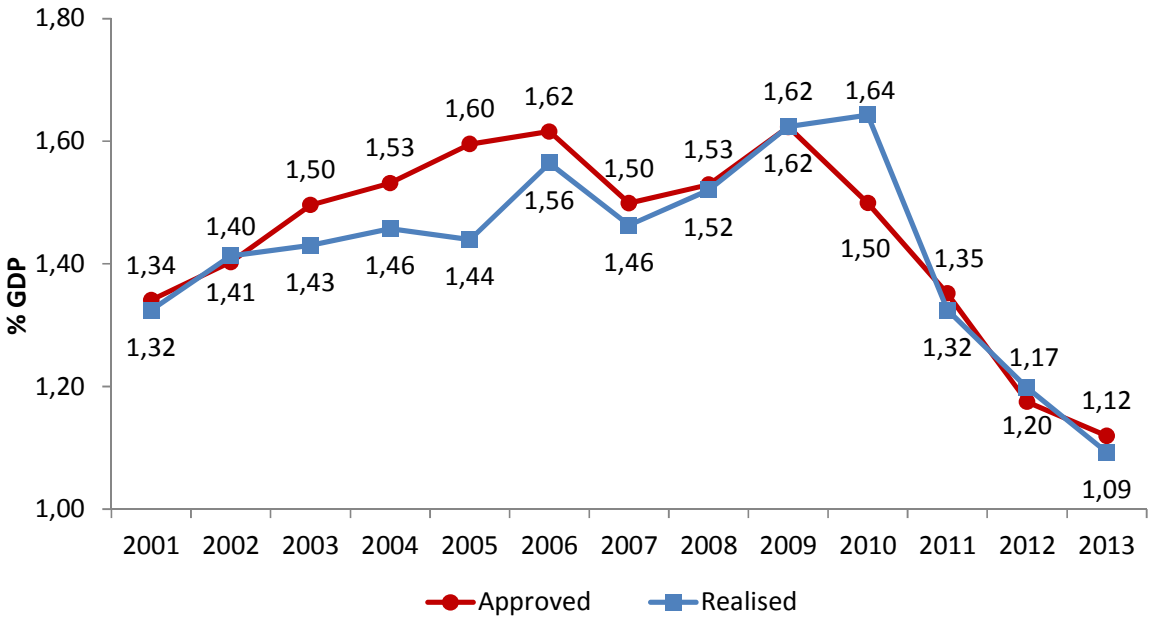
The realised 2013 defence expenditure was EUR 381 million, accounting for 1.09 per cent of the GDP (Autumn Forecast of Economic Trends 2013, IMAD). It was by EUR 9.4 million lower than that foreseen in the revised budget (index was at 98). The defence system realisation decreased by EUR 8.7 million, and pensions decreased by EUR 0.7 million.

Defence system resources (budget users 1911, 1914 and 1915) represented 83 per cent of the defence expenditure. The remaining 17 per cent was represented by military pensions and resources of the Government Office for the Protection of Classified Information, the latter amounting to EUR 0.5 million.

Defence Expenditure between 2012 and 2014 (in EUR)

	2012 Realisation	2013 Approved	2013 Revised Budget	2013 Realisation
MoD Financial Plan	396,001,325	378,575,978	356,594,561	350,702,788
% of FP in GDP	**1.12**	**1.08**	**1.02**	**1.00**
Defence Expenditure of the RS	422,969,233	410,727,122	390,733,520	381,280,233
% of DE in GDP	**1.20**	**1.18**	**1.12**	**1.09**
GDP in EUR million	35,319	34,908	34,908	34,908

Comparison of the Portion of the Approved and Realised Defence Expenditure in GDP (in %)



The chart shows that realised defence expenditure represented the lowest per cent of GDP in 2013, namely 1.09%. The highest per centage was reached in 2010, when defence expenditure stood at 1.64% of GDP. The highest per centage of the approved defence expenditure was recorded in 2006 and 2009, namely 1.62% of GDP. In the period 2001–2013, the average approved defence expenditure represented 1.44 per cent of GDP, while the average realised defence expenditure represented 1.42 per cent of GDP.

2 PERSONNEL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

2.1 Personnel Plan Implementation in the Administrative Part of the MoD

The Joint Personnel Plan of the RS Government specified that the permitted number of employees in the administrative part of the MoD as of 31 December 2013 was 1170 public employees. The administrative part of the MoD includes four budget users: BU 1911 MoD, BU 1912 ACPDR, BU 1913 IRSPANOD and BU 1915 DIRS.

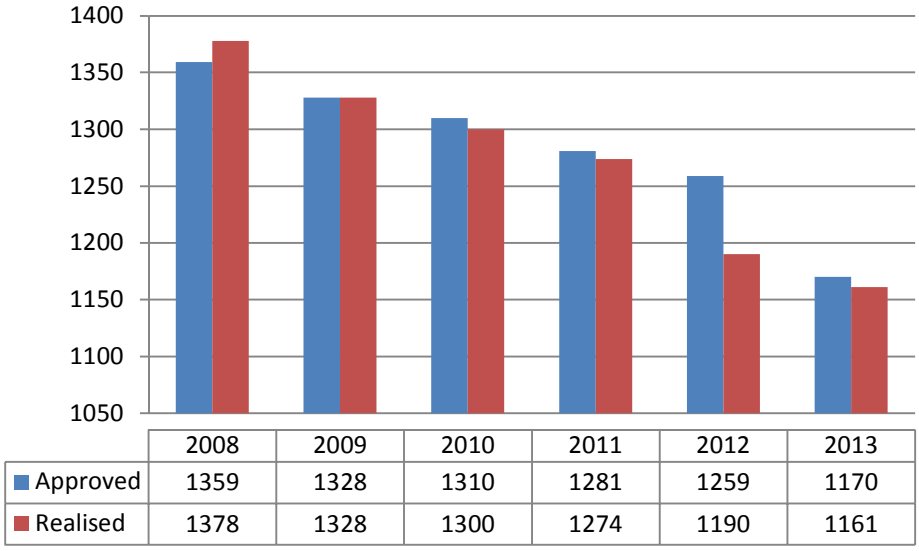
Since the beginning of 2009, the administrative part of the MoD strictly adhered to guidelines of the RS Government on the reduction of the number of employees. The table below shows that in the period between 2008 and 2013, the permitted number of employees decreased by 189 public employees, which is 86 per cent of the Personnel Plan (PP) from 2008.

Personnel Plan Implementation in the Administrative Part of the MoD (BU 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1915)

Year	Allowed Situation Based on the Personnel Plan	Personnel Plan Realisation	Difference
2008	1359	1378	19
2009	1328	1328	0
2010	1310	1300	–10
2011	1281	1274	–7
2012	1259	1190	–69
2013	1170	1161	–9

In 2013, the MoD reached the goal again, since the permitted number of employees as of 31 December 2013 did not exceed the permitted number which was specified in the decision of the RS Government. The actual number was nine employees less than the permitted number. The reasons for the lower number of employees are mainly some unplanned terminations of employment, such as a disability retirement, termination of employment contracts and restrictive employment policies.

Reduction in the Number of Employees in the Administrative Part of the MoD (BU 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1915)



The table below depicts the portion of the reduction in the number of public employees by individual budget users from the administrative part of the MoD. The table shows that in 2013, the administrative part was reduced by two per cent, which is within the agreed social dialogue between the Government of the RS and the representative public sector trade unions.

Implementation of the Personnel Plan for the Administrative part of the MoD by Budget Users

Budget User	Realisation of the PP in 2012	Realisation of the PP in 2013	%
1911 MoD	799	768	96
1912 ACPDR	315	321	102
1913 IRSPANOD	59	57	97
1915 DIRS	17	15	88
Total	**1190**	**1161**	**98**

2.2 Implementation of the Personnel Plan in the SAF

The process of personnel recruitment and provision for the employment in the SAF and for the performance of military service in the SAF contract reserve includes not only the operational part but also the activities oriented towards increasing the interest for employment in the SAF, conclusions of contracts for the performance of military service and voluntary military service.

Active Component

The medium-term planning documents provided for 7600 members of the SAF active component for 2013. With the Joint Personnel Plan of the state administration bodies for 2013, the permitted number of the SAF active component decreased to 7377 members. On 31 December 2013, the SAF had 7360 employed members, which means that the Personnel Plan realisation was 99.77 per cent. Of 7360 members employed in the SAF as of 31 December 2013, there were 1136 officers, 2002 NCOs, 3174 soldiers, 246 senior military specialists, 356 junior military specialists and 446 civilians.

In 2013, 292 members left the SAF, of which 214 were soldiers. This is more than in 2012 (265) and in 2011 (281). Since the permitted number of the SAF employees in the Joint Personnel Plan was specified late in the year and the available funds for salaries were reduced, the employment of replacement personnel was limited to the last months of the year. The Personnel Plan was not fully realised due to limitations in the number of candidates available for employment.

The quota of the SAF Personnel Plan also includes 47 people employed at workplaces in the MoD at which military service is performed in accordance with Articles 47 and 48 of the Defence Act. These members work in the Service for Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents (4), the Protocol Service (4), the Secretariat of the Secretary-General (9), the Defence Affairs Directorate (24), Defence Policy Directorate (1), Logistics Directorate (4) and Minister's Office (1).

Comparison in the Volume of the SAF Active Component in the Years 2012 and 2013

Status	Realisation 31 December 2012	Realisation 31 December 2013	Difference
Officers	1133	1136	+3
Non-Commissioned Officers	1991	2002	+11
Soldiers	3296	3174	–122
Senior Military Specialists	247	246	–1
Junior Military Specialists	358	356	–2
Civilian Personnel	458	446	–12
TOTAL	**7483**	**7360**	**–123**

Owing to the reduction in the permitted number of the SAF employees as well as to the fact that it is mostly solders who are leaving the armed forces and they cannot be fully replaced, the SAF cannot achieve the target ratio between officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, and the SAF age structure is deteriorating.

The strategic objective of the SAF is to achieve a structural balance between officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers equal to the ratio 1 : 2 : 5. The target ratio, within the framework of 7600 members of the active component, somewhat improved in 2012 in favour of the number of non-commissioned officers, and in 2013 it became worse at the expense of soldiers.

Ratio between Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers

Year	Officers	Non-Commissioned Officers	Soldiers
2011	1	1.7	2.9
2012	1	1.8	2.9
2013	1	1.8	2.8

From 2005 to 2013, the average age of the SAF members constantly rose and went up from 35.17 in 2005 to 38.23 years in 2013. The biggest rise can be observed between the years 2012 and 2013. This is the direct result of the reduction in the permitted number of the SAF employees.

The Average Age of the SAF Members in the Period between 2005 and 2013

Category	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Soldiers	27.49	27.92	28.56	29.16	29.19	29.62	30.11	30.78	31.41
Total	35.17	35.53	36.12	36.50	36.27	36.50	36.89	37.46	38.23

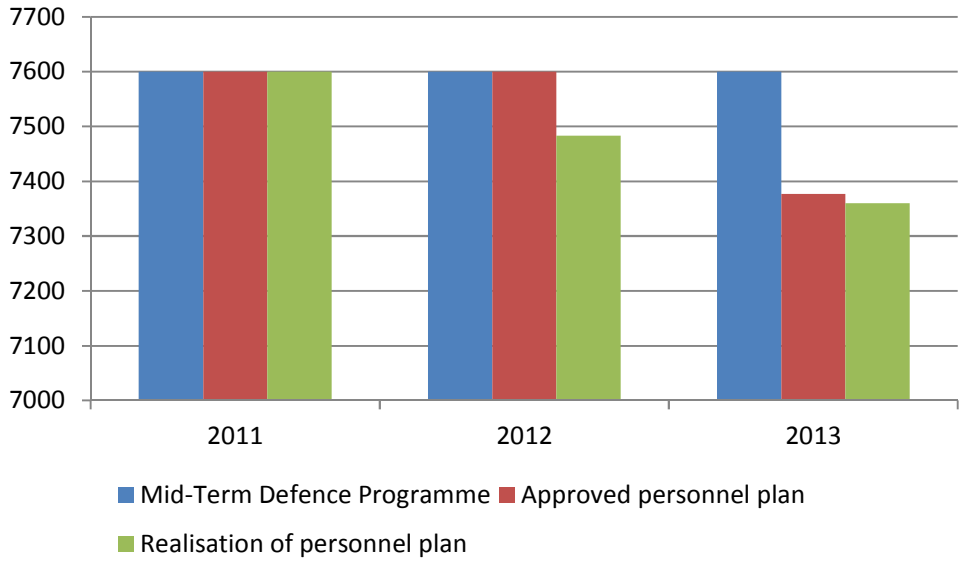
2.3 Employment in the SAF

A total of 391 candidates applied for employment in the SAF in 2013. Based on the selection procedures, 171 candidates were employed, 141 of which were soldiers.

The incomplete realisation of the Personnel Plan was the result of the employment dynamics in 2013.

Despite the efforts, and the employment situation in Slovenia, it seems that the requirements and the complexity of the military profession do not attract potential candidates to work in the SAF.

Planned Employments of the SAF Active Component Members and Realisation Overview



2.4 Military Service in the SAF Contract Reserve

Personnel Plan 2013–2018 for the implementation of the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the Period 2013–2018 stipulated that in this period, the number of members of the contract reserve keeps within the framework of 1500 members. Due to the reduction in funding, possibilities for extending the currently valid and for concluding new contracts with members of the contract reserve were significantly limited in 2013, so that only the contracts for the most important duties were concluded or extended.

In 2013, two contracts for serving in the SAF contract reserve component were concluded, as well as 743 annexes. By the end of 2013, the SAF contract reserve included 1377 members, of whom there were 27 officers, 67 non-commissioned officers, 1242 soldiers, 18 junior military specialists and 24 senior military specialists.

Comparison of the Number of the Contract Reserve Component Members in the Years 2012 and 2013

Status	Realisation 31 December 2012	Realisation 31 December 2013	Difference
Officers	30	27	–3
Non-Commissioned Officers	70	67	-3
Soldiers	1440	1241	–199
Senior Military Specialists	25	24	–1
Junior Military Specialists	18	18	0
TOTAL	**1583**	**1377**	**–206**

In 2013, contracts with members of the contract reserve component were extended selectively and did not include the long-service bonus. Annex on the extension of the contractual relationship was not concluded with 222 members of the contract reserve component.

In 2013, the Decree amending the Decree on the Contracted Reserve Service in the SAF came into force. Several times, the revised budget of the RS significantly reduced the financial resources if the SAF. That amendment, therefore, inter alia, reduced the basis for calculating the on-call allowance by 20 per cent (from 0.8 to 0.64 per cent of the gross minimum salary per day). In order to achieve the earliest possible effect on the reduction of funds for the SAF contract reserve, the Decree directly influenced the right of the contract reserve component members regarding the amount of the on-call allowance. Legal protection of the members of the contract reserve component was ensured with the possibility to submit, within 30 days from the entry into force of the Decree, a written statement on the termination of the contract, without the financial consequences which apply for the termination on personal grounds. Therefore, in 2013, decisions on the termination of contract were issued to 33 members of the contract reserve component.

2.5 Voluntary Military Service

In 2013, total of 564 candidates applied for voluntary military service. In the end, a total of 198 candidates were employed for voluntary military service, of which 138 soldiers, or 69.69 per cent, successfully completed the training. 60 soldiers terminated the training, mainly due to health reasons or because they had not completed the first phase of training.

2.6 Preparation of Personnel for Departure from Military Service

For the SAF members who gained the right to retirement in 2013, a pre-retirement seminar was organised, at which experts on gerontology, healthy diet, addiction etc. presented the perils and opportunities of the third life period to the participants and gave them advice on how to make a successful transition to that new life period in the best way possible. In cooperation with the

Pension Fund Management) and “Modra zavarovalnica”, a lecture was held on the possibilities of disbursement from their pension funds.

Three soldiers lost their employment contracts due to reaching 45 years of age. However, they were given the right of reassignment to the appropriate posts within the MoD.

2.7 Scholarships

In 2013, four contracts for scholarships for the SAF were concluded for the academic year 2012/2013. Call for applications for the award of five scholarships for the academic year 2013/2014 was published in June 2013. On the basis of that call, all five (5) scholarships for employment in the SAF were awarded.

2.8 Care of Former SAF Members

The MoD monitored the needs for direct assistance to its former members who are socially, medically or otherwise disadvantaged and in need of the appropriate support. Support was provided in the form of humanitarian and work campaigns, visits and regular contacts, counselling and organisation of voluntary work.

The Intergenerational Information and Social Centre (MIDS) Ajdovščina organised 46 events which were attended by 551 participants, whereas the MIDS Slovenska Bistrica organised 18 events which were attended by the total of 230 participants. The events included regular recreation, lectures, thematic workshops, hikes, excursions and multi-day camps.

The intergenerational groups for quality ageing accepted 70 new members, so that the total number of their members in now 200.

The voluntary intergenerational association of the MoD for quality ageing has 120 members. The association conducted an annual meeting and successfully participated in the organisation of the humanitarian campaign Anina zvezdica.

3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE STATE'S PHYSICAL ASSETS

3.1 Real Estate

The MoD realised the plan for the acquisition of real estate of the state as well as regions and municipalities for 2013 in the following cases:

- For the restoration of agricultural holdings and the purchase or acquisition of parts of parcels in the Veliki Podlog Cadastral Community, Cerklje Cadastral Community and Krška vas Cadastral Community, EUR 764,000 were spent for the project of enlargement and modernisation of the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield.
- Within the military area of the 1754 Šentvid nad Ljubljano Cadastral Community, 7/8 of the necessary land in the value of EUR 613,114 were acquired on the basis of a sales contract.
- On the basis of contract no. 478-212/2011-36 dated 4 September 2001, the Municipality of Novo mesto alienated the parcel no. 1043/1, after land allotment, parcel nos. 1043/3 and 1043/4, all in the Bršljin Cadastral Community, free of charge, to the benefit of the MoD - (according to the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the RS, the total value was EUR 5564).

In 2013, the MoD thus spent EUR 1.37 million for the acquisition of real estate.

In the Peter Petrič Military Post in Kranj, a sports facility was built on the basis of funds received through the sale of the MoD property. In November 2013, the facility was handed over to the management of the SAF.

The plan for the acquisition of physical assets of the SAF did not provide for the purchase of real estate.

3.2 Take-overs

In 2013, 357 controls of the quality of goods and services were carried out. The total value of take-overs was EUR 14.4 million. In spite of the reduction of orders, the number of take-overs exceeded that of the year 2012 by 30 per cent, whereas the financial value of the take-overs remained at the same level. This data indicates an increased activity in the area of carrying out quality controls of contract subjects and thus an increased reliability of the supply of quality goods and services for users.

On the basis of contract from 2012 and the setting up in 2013, a modular armoured tactical shoot combat house was completed and handed over to operational use within the territory of the Škrilj firing range and training area.

3.3 Defence and Confidential Procurement

In 2013, the MoD conducted 217 public procurement procedures, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act and the Public Procurement for Defence and Security Act. On the basis of the conducted procedures, 328 contracts were concluded, with the total value of EUR 82.9 including the VAT.

Most of the value of EUR 62.8 million relates to the conclusion of long-time contracts (usually two years with a possible extension of up to five years). Such contracts were concluded for goods and services for ensuring regular operation and permanent readiness of the SAF and the protection and rescue system in carrying out their statutory tasks, providing maintenance services and supply of spare parts for SAF aircraft and equipment, and in all other areas where the MoD needs valid contracts for its activities. On the basis of a Government decision on the subjects of joint public procurements in 2013 carried out by the Ministry of Finance, the MoD, with its needs, undertook all current procedures and, on the basis of concluded umbrella

agreements, concluded direct contracts for the purchase of electricity, natural gas, additional light fuel oil and fuel for passenger vehicles and vessels.

In the field of investments related to the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield, a contract was concluded for carrying out construction, finishing and installation works on the apron for transport aircraft and the road connecting the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield, with the value of EUR 8.32 million. Moreover, a contract was concluded for carrying out construction, finishing and installation works during the construction of road deviation Drnovo–Črešnjice, with the value of EUR 1.69 million. Both investments were funded entirely by the NATO Security Investment Programme (NSIP).

In the field of purchasing equipment and goods for the needs of the SAF, major orders were made for the purchase of combat helmets, ammunition and armaments, combat uniforms items, and the purchase and installation of equipment for technical security.

In the field of protection and rescue, a major purchase was made of radio stations and pagers, and the purchase and installation of the SCBA training area in Pekre, thermal video cameras, radiological detectors and self-contained breathing apparatuses.

3.4 Plan for the Acquisition of the State's Physical Assets Belonging to the SAF

The current plan for the acquisition of the physical assets belonging to the SAF for the year 2013 amounted to EUR 12,817,811 million or 4.6 per cent of the SAF's current financial plan.

Due to the reduction of funds for investment, infrastructure and equipping of the SAF, the revised budget included the postponement of the purchase of certain equipment to a later period, whereas the supply was either partially or completely cancelled,

The scope of the acquisition of physical assets did not satisfy the needs of the SAF for the performance of tasks and maintenance of the level of readiness. In terms of materiel, the SAF is lagging behind in all areas, assets are getting old, and there is no resupply or replacement of decrepit equipment. In order to maintain capabilities, stocks have to be reduced and equipment has to be redistributed between units in the order of priority. In the field of the replenishment of the SAF unit equipment table, there is a lack of equipment and ammunition corresponding to the entire annual defence budget. Given that the SAF has not undergone appropriate modernisation for several years, the level of equipping in comparison to other NATO members is constantly deteriorating and does not meet the current challenges, which results in increasingly poor interoperability with the allied and partner armed forces both during trainings and in the IOM as well as in the implementation of collective defence.

The soldier's combat uniform equipment is very poor and does not meet the minimum criteria for belonging to the SAF. Annually, soldier's protective clothing meets only 20 per cent of the statutory requirements. Vehicles are old and worn out, there is a lack of combat vehicles with the appropriate armaments. On average, the car park is 17.6 years old. An increasing number of vehicles and other equipment must be withdrawn from use for not meeting the minimum technical and security conditions of use.

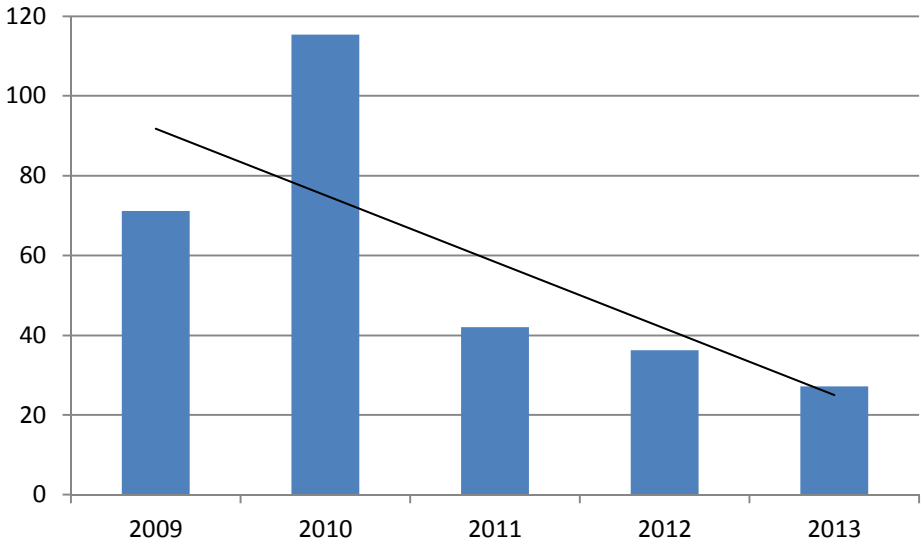
Important purchases in 2013 by individual projects:

- EUR 3.32 million were spent for the purchase of SAF uniforms. Within this project, the MoD provided funds for the purchase of sports equipment and military uniforms, and a small part for the purchase of inventory of items belonging to the official uniforms. In the context of the reduction of funds, the purchase of uniforms provided very limited conditions necessary for the construction, training and achieving of operational capacities of key SAF units. The available resources cannot ensure the purchase of all types of uniforms prescribed by the criteria for the equipping of SAF members.
- EUR 2.82 million were used for the project of equipping with the main equipment. The available resources ensured the purchase of a limited scope of goods:
  - Machine guns for combat vehicles.

  - Engineering equipment (mining, and demining set, demolition set and engineering machines.
  - Equipment for the maintenance of infrastructure (logistics supply).
  - Tactical means for electronic warfare.
  - Means for the modernization of IT projects which cover the most urgent replacement or upgrade of information terminal equipment (computers, monitors, printers), the most urgent replacement of the equipment related to server infrastructure (servers, software for producing backup copies and disk arrays), upgrade of the information system for the management of MoD documents, and purchase of information system to support the operation of the medical unit.
  - Telecommunications equipment, which includes the equipment for the upgrade of communications and information backbone of the MoD/SAF and the appropriate equipment for crypto protection. Ensuring the replacement of the most worn-out terminal communications equipment (telephones, fax machines, multifunction terminals and Inmarsat handheld terminals) and devices for uninterruptible power supply.
  - Warrior equipment (combat helmet and patrol rucksack).
  - Payment of charges for the importation of equipment on the basis of the Warsaw Initiative.
- EUR 287,399 was allocated for the purchase of ammunition. Within this project, funds were provided for ensuring the minimum resupply of ammunition and meeting the urgent training needs.
- EUR 1.33 million were used for the equipping for the performance of operational tasks. The available resources ensured the purchase of a limited scope of goods:
  - Equipment for the operation of the SAF in IOM.
  - Equipment for regular activities (furniture, pyrotechnic material, tools, and equipment for the maintenance of surfaces, environmental protection equipment).
  - Equipment for fire protection and protection at work.
  - Quartermaster resources and equipment (camp and kitchen equipment).
  - Military Police equipment.
  - Air force and air defence equipment (video scope). In relation to the basic value of the project, realisation in the middle of the period is only 38.1 per cent.
  - Naval equipment.
  - CBRN equipment.
  - Sports and mountaineering equipment.
- EUR 585,706 was allocated to the project of investment maintenance of material resources.
- EUR 795,598 was allocated to the project of investment maintenance of military infrastructure.
- In recent years, there was no funding for tactical communications and information resources. All the funds received were dedicated to the maintenance of business communications and information systems. Workshops for the maintenance of the SAF communications and information systems are not able to ensure the appropriate level of maintenance of military communications and information resources.
- EUR 1.57 million was allocated to the project of the upgrade of helicopters. In 2013, two helicopters were thus fully upgraded.
- EUR 65,933 million was allocated to the project called light wheeled armoured vehicle 4x4. The funds were used for the payment of charges (VAT and customs duty) according to the Foreign Military Sales contract from 2010.
- EUR 520,316 million was allocated to the project of the Cerklje Airfield. Funds were provided for the payment of further construction of electronic and visual navigation.
- EUR 721,295 million was allocated for adaptation of infrastructure. Funds were provided for:
  - Completion of works on the facility of the Main Electronic Warfare Centre;
  - SAF wiring and optical networks.
  - Acquisition of project documentation, permits and spatial plans.
- EUR 709,852 was allocated to the project of establishing technical security of the SAF facilities.

- EUR 75,000 was allocated to the project of co-financing of the local infrastructure. Funds were provided for the co-financing of the Municipality of Postojna.

Overview of Investment Purchases and Maintenance of the SAF Equipment in the Period between 2009 and 2013 (in EUR million)



In 2010, spending was higher due to a one-off purchase of a patrol boat Triglav (approximately EUR 37 million) arising from the clearing debt.

3.5 Plan for the Acquisition of the State's Physical Protection and Rescue Assets

In 2013, resources were planned for national protection and rescue units for the upgrade and development of applications to support the planning of the system of protection against natural and other disasters, the functioning of the system of notification and public warning, and the functioning of communications during natural and other disasters.

The resources were used for the purchase of special protection and rescue equipment for national protection, rescue and relief units, replenishment of state reserves of material resources for protection, rescue and relief, and for testing and development of equipment. Major investments included the purchase of tents, lighting kits for tents, movable stretch film wrapping machine and boat trailers. Due to the revised budget, the ACPDR had to cancel the planned purchase of a special working vehicle and five 4 x 4 vehicles for the transport of persons for civil protection. Moreover, due to the rules pertaining to the conclusion of the budget, rescue boats could not be paid once the contract had been concluded. Due to budget cuts after the revised budget, the purchase of the following equipment was cancelled: field shower kit, remote control water cutter for a more secure destruction of unexploded ordnance and large mobile hydraulic pumps to mitigate the consequences of major floods.

In order to ensure the functioning of the system for notification and public warning and the functioning of communications during natural and other disasters, the following investments were carried out in 2013: the operation of the service SMS 112 was established; 33 public warning sirens, recording devices for regional notification centres, equipment for the upgrade of the protection and rescue network were purchased; the telephone exchange Aastra was upgraded, and operator's working desks for establishing the operation of the regional notification centre in Celje at the new location were purchased and installed. A small amount of computer and server equipment was purchased, replacing the already worn-out and useless old equipment. Upgrades of applications important for the efficient functioning of the notification and warning system were carried out (further development of the e-Call application). Furthermore, the 3D geographic information system (GIS) application, the NevSnov database of hazardous material, the application for the display of a person's location (PLK), and the sound recording system were upgraded, and the web application for the monitoring of water was further

developed. Among the major purchases which could not be carried out due to revised budget was also the purchase of the telephone exchange for Slovenj Gradec.

In the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief with the three training units in Sežana, Logatec and Pekre, funds were spent for the purchase of chairs and tables for classrooms, laser printer, LCD screen, computer equipment (computers, monitors), projector, electric projection screen, POS computer, camera and microphones, and for the replacement of the workstation in the studio and the establishment of a wireless Internet connection. Equipment and means for conducting education and training courses, particularly fire-fighting equipment (for rope technique, dangerous substances, and rescue from rubble and fire rescue equipment) were purchased. Portable intervention suitcases were purchased for the UXO unit or for education in the field of unexploded ordnance.

EUR 258,363 were spent for investment maintenance, renovations and adaptations as well as the reconstructions of facilities and logistics centres of the ACPDR, Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief with three units and ACPDR branch offices. Of that amount, EUR 27,730 was spent for the establishment of technical security in the Logatec unit, and EUR 35,007 were spent for investment maintenance works on the facility of the Regional Notification Centre Celje. Maintenance works were carried out in the boiler room of the Celje branch office, whereas in a warehouse in Postojna, electrical installation works were carried out. Furthermore, the warehouse in Tolmin was reconstructed.

EUR 150,000 was allocated for the reimbursement of investments into the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (the Logatec Training Unit), for the Union of Veterans of the War of Slovenia, and for the development and operation of the Centre of War Veterans of Slovenia in Logatec.

Funds from own activities were spent for the purchase of a gas stove, potato peeler machine and steam convection oven for the kitchen at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig.

Funds of the fire-fighting fund were used for the purchase of fire-fighting equipment and the equipment required for fire-fighting training activities: helicopter water tanks, NBC decontamination stations, decontamination kit, radiological detectors, dosimeters, bag filling machines, simulation burglar-proof doors, battery powered winch, compressor with a filling ramp and control panel, oil skimmer, water barriers, thermal cameras, communications - radio stations, pagers, programmers for pagers, and a trailer for warning and guidance on the road.

Funds were also used for the recovery of a shipping container (Hot Fire), purchase and setting up of the SCBA training area in Pekre, completion of the roof at the fire house and the transfer of the fire house on a platform, upgrade of the application for Fire-Fighting Units of General Importance, preparation of project documentation and completion of a polygon with associated infrastructure in Ig, and preparation of project documentation for setting up the changing rooms in Sežana.

4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR THE SALE OF STATE PROPERTY

4.1 Real Estate

In 2013, ten public auctions were conducted for the sale of real estate not required by the MoD for the performance of its activities. Eight public auctions were successful, selling real estate in the value of EUR 779 415: 16 residential units, nine garages, seven sets of construction and other land and two guardhouses. Four flats and five sets of construction land with the total value of EUR 102,410 million were sold through direct sale. The total value of all sold real estates was EUR 881,825 million.

4.2 Movable Property

Ordinance on the State-Owned Tangible Assets Management Plan Intended for State Bodies, Judicial Bodies, Public Institutes, Public Agencies and Public Funds for 2013, of which the plan for the disposal of the state's movable property for 2013 is a constituent part, included two radar stations of the type AN/TPS-70, infantry ammunition, ammunition of various calibres and explosive ordnance. Radar stations were not sold. An annex to the contract on coordination, organization and counselling at the sale of both radar stations with associated equipment, documentation and spare parts was concluded with the company Avtotehna. The MoD sold explosive ordnance in the value of EUR 2796, as well as 378 pieces of 30 x 173 TPFDS-T ammunition in the value of EUR 24,570.

In addition, the MoD also sold some movable property which was not in the disposal plan: 222 pieces of permanently deactivated weapons with certificates on the deactivated weapons in the amount of EUR 12,364, 874,000 pieces of protective masks of the GP-5 type in the amount of EUR 15,050, and 11,314 meters of light camouflage fabric in the value of EUR 1697. The total value of all sold movable property was EUR 56,477 million.

In 2013, in managing the compensation funds on the basis of insurance of movable property channelling compensations from insurance companies related to loss events in the event of traffic accidents involving MoD vehicles, 83 proceedings for damages were completed, for which the MoD received compensations in the total of EUR 94,974. In the same period, the MoD determined the occurrence of 94 traffic accidents. The funds obtained in this way are used specifically for the repair of vehicles damaged in accidents, with the purpose of continued use of these vehicles, whereas part of the funds is allocated for the purchase of new vehicles.

In 2013, the purchase of new vehicles was not performed, since the amount of the available funds was not sufficient to buy a more powerful car that could mostly meet the needs of the MoD vehicle fleet.

4.3 Donations

Movable property (non-formation quartermaster battle uniform items, such as mess-tins, shirts, pullovers, tent canvases, sleeping bags, tetrahedron, unimportant books, electrical stove and kettle, deactivated infantry weapons) was transferred free-of-charge to the following organisations:

- Reinforced concrete tetrahedron to the Kamnik Komenda District Association of the Veterans of the War for Slovenia.
- Electrical kettle and electrical stove to the Slovenska Bistrica District Association of the Veterans of the War for Slovenia.
- 10 pieces of deactivated weapons to the Mežiška dolina District Association of the Veterans of the War for Slovenia.
- 47 blankets and 30 pairs of boots to the Velike Lašče District Association of the Veterans of the War for Slovenia.
- Two pieces of military medical equipment (ophthalmic diagnostics device and ECG apparatus) to the University Medical Centre Ljubljana.

- 10 pieces of military wardrobes and 10 pieces of military beds to the Carinthian Regional Museum.
- Unimportant books to public museums and collectors.

Five applications of organisations which are of special importance for the defence (public museum and public protection, rescue and relief services) are still in the procedure of free transfer. Applications of other societies, a self-governing local community, public institutes and individuals were resolved negatively, as they did not fulfil the necessary legal requirements.

Based on the agreement between the old and the new managers, the MoD defined the new manager of movable property:

- Transport, Energy and Spatial Planning Inspectorate of the RS – three passenger cars were transferred.
- Ministry of Justice – a passenger car was transferred
- Secretariat-General of the Government of the RS –information equipment was transferred.
- Ministry of the Interior – explosive ordnance.
- Ministry of Defence – hydraulic generator.

5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EDUCATION, TRAINING AND ADVANCED TRAINING PLAN

5.1 Education, Training and Advanced Training in the Administrative Part of the MoD, DIRS, ACPDR and IRSPANOD

Overview of Training Courses per Categories

Administrative part of the MoD	Functional Internal Training	Functional External Training	Language Training	Training Abroad
Panned Number of Participants	1197	354	136	40
Number of Participants	1108	253	26	33
Realisation (in %)	**93**	**72**	**19**	**82**

In internal organizational units and constituent bodies (apart from the SAF), participation in functional internal training courses was 93 per cent.

In addition to the planned training courses, the employees attended training courses organized by the IT and Communications Service of the Training Centre Ig, and by the Doctrine, Development, Education and Training Command (DDETC) - these unplanned training courses were attended by 372 employees.

In internal organizational units and constituent bodies (apart from the SAF), participation in functional training courses was 72 per cent.

According to the plan, 136 public employees from in internal organizational units and constituent bodies (except the SAF) should attend various language training courses. However, the realisation was only 19 per cent, which is mostly due to the capacities of the School of Foreign Languages.

Some language courses were not organised, and some participants were unable to attend the planned courses due to their work duties.

The ACPDR planned the organisation of an English Language Refresher Course for 90 employees (RS Notification Centre, Regional Notification Centres). However, the course was not carried out.

Realisation of training courses abroad was 82 per cent – the highest in the NATO School in Oberammergau, where the attendance was 90 per cent, and the lowest in the Marshall Centre, where the realisation was 66 per cent - mainly due to the cancellation of training courses and non-compliance with the conditions for training.

5.2 Education, Training and Advanced Training in the SAF

Members of the SAF improved their capacity to perform tasks with their participation in various forms of military education and training within the Military Schools Centre or in comparable military education and training courses abroad, and with participation in various forms of education and training courses outside the MoD.

In 2013, the only ones who continued the part-time education were the SAF members – participants of the module studies which are a combination of military and undergraduate studies for non-commissioned officers at the Vocational College of Traffic and Transport. Currently, there are also 18 valid education contracts for the acquisition of a higher level education. In 2013, 79 SAF members successfully completed the training courses for the

acquisition of general higher education, out of which 12 members had education contracts concluded with the MoD, while 67 did self-studies.

In the period between January and December 2013, language courses for the acquisition of STANAG 3332 and 2221 were successfully completed by 8 SAF members. A total of 55 members attended the English Language False Beginner Refresher Course. 37 members attended the English Language High Elementary Refresher Course. In 2013, 730 candidates underwent the ALCPT placement tests.

As many as 2194 members of the SAF, the MoD, the Police and of foreign armed forces participated in different forms of military education and training in the organizational units of the Military Schools Centre (with training courses for military occupational specialties and without e-learning). The planned military education and training courses were completed by 2171 candidates, which represent a total success of 98.6 per cent of all the forms of training carried out for the participants who attended military education and training programmes.

In 2013, various functional and career education and training courses abroad were attended by 306 SAF members, out of which 169 were officers, 93 non-commissioned officers, 26 soldiers, 14 military specialists and four civilians. The realization of all executed deployments to education, training and advanced training abroad was 72.5 per cent when compared to the planned deployments.

There are various reasons for non-realisation of planned deployments. Some are due to the organisers, while others were cancelled due to reduced funds.

Available Funds for Education and Training of Individuals in the SAF in the Period between 2009 and 2013

YEAR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
EUR	5,583,587	4,107,087	4,716,459	2,927,536	2,605,606

The table shows the trend of reductions of the available funds in the last five years. In 2013, 53 per cent less financial resources were allocated for education and training of individuals in the SAF as in 2009.

In view of that, the MoD substantially reduced the number of deployments to career military education and training courses abroad, while many deployments to expensive courses were cancelled altogether. Given the reduction of the allocated available funds, the MoD will no longer be able to continue the initiated development of knowledge, but will maintain the already acquired knowledge in Slovenia and abroad to ensure that the system continues to function. Functional education and training courses are carried out mainly to grant licenses that are essential so that members can perform their professional duties. In the long term, the above mentioned policy of reducing funds implies a gradual disappearance of individual military skills and certainly does not signify the development of the military profession and the transfer of knowledge through national vocational qualifications to the civil area.

What is alarming is that the downward trend of the available financial resources allocated to the education and training of individuals in the SAF continues in 2014.

6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PLAN

In 2013, international activities in the MoD were carried out within the programmes of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, the EU, NATO, sport – CISM (French: Conseil International du Sport Militaire) and military and technical cooperation. Activities were carried out in accordance with priorities, programme and objective set out in the 2013 MoD Business Plan.

The objectives in the field of international cooperation supported the achievement of key conceptual objectives and priorities of the MoD.

Based on the Annual Plan of International Cooperation for 2013, the MoD planned 1117 events. 844 events, or 75.5 per cent, were realized, and 305 planned events were not realized. 256 unplanned events were realized. The MoD spent EUR 894,320 to implement the plan of international cooperation.

The discrepancy between the planned activities and the actual realization is still large. At the same time, the number of new unplanned events that could not be foreseen increased.

The number of realized unplanned events reminds us that the planning should take into account new obligations and foresee subsequent execution. In the assessment of the realisation of planned events, it is also necessary to take into account cancellations of the opposite side, as well as the fact that some of the proposals are written only as a form of possible cooperation and that certain objectives aimed at with certain activity have changed and that there are some organizational and personnel changes.

All these facts point out that in the next round of planning international activities in the MoD, the strategic, planning and development documents and guidelines as well as objectives to be achieved through international cooperation should be followed in an even more detailed, transparent and accountable way.

The Summary of Realisation in the Field of Implementing the MoD's International Cooperation Plan for 2013

Organisational Unit	Number of Planned Events	Number of Realised Planned Events	Realisation	Number of Unrealised Planned Events	Number of Additionally Realised Unplanned Events	Total Funds Spent in EUR
Minister's Office	32	20	62.5%	12	25	96,739
Defence Policy Directorate	61	44	72%	17	32	123,462
Defence Diplomacy Representatives	287	184	64%	82	83	62,237
Secretariat of the Secretary General	33	23	70%	10	6	24,070
Logistics Directorate	62	47	75%	15	8	40,005
Defence Affairs Directorate	28	17	61%	11	16	31,622
Service for Investigation of Aircraft	2	2	100%	0	0	2621

Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents						
Total MoD Organisational Units	505	337	67%	147	170	380,755
DIRS	4	4	100%	0	0	3554
ACPDR and IRSPANOD	237	147	62%	90	33	127,945
SAF General Staff	371	356	95%	68	53	382,066
MoD TOTAL	**1117**	**844**	**75.5%**	**305**	**256**	**894,320**

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RISK REGISTER

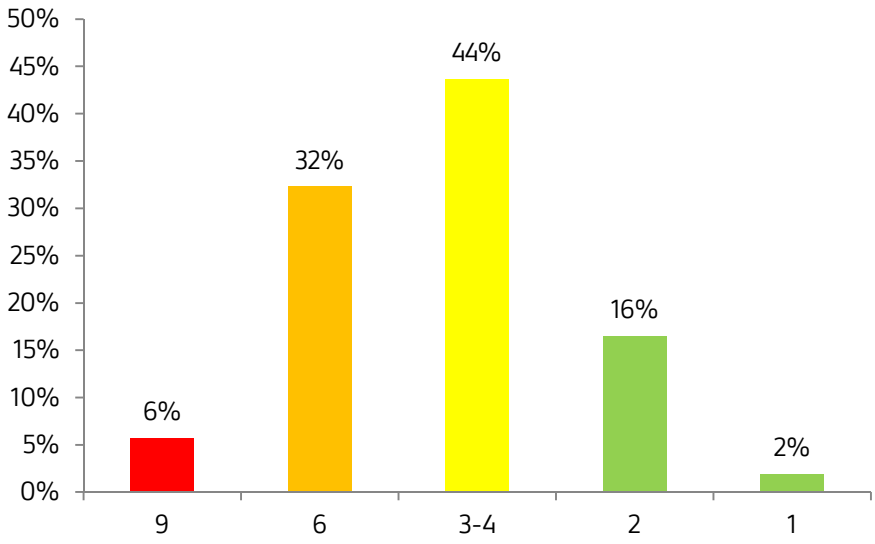
The risk register is a set of anticipated risks that could be a negative influence on the economical use of the fiscal resources and the attainment of the MoD's set goals and the set of all measures that are prepared in advance and applied for timely prevention of the occurrence of risks or for the reduction of their negative influences.

Based on the MoD's risk register, 158 risks were anticipated for 2013. The level of risk is determined based on the level of the risk probability estimate and the consequences influence estimate, which are marked with numbers from 1 to 3, the higher value meaning greater probability of the occurrence or a greater influence of consequences of the realized risk. The product of both assessments signifies the level of risk. Taking into account the value of the product, four levels of risk have been determined:

- 9 – a very high probability for the occurrence of the risk and the influence of the consequences (red colour).
- 6 – a high probability for the occurrence of the risk and the influence of the consequences (orange colour).
- 3, 4 – a medium level probability for the occurrence of the risk and the influence of the consequences (yellow colour).
- 1, 2 – a low probability for the occurrence of the risk and the influence of the consequences (green colour).

10 risks or 6 per cent out of all risks have been assessed with the highest level of risk, 50 or 32 per cent were attributed a high level of risk, 69 or 44 per cent with a medium level of risk, and 29 or 18 per cent with a low level of risk, as depicted in the chart below.

Structure of Risks in Reference to the Level of Risk

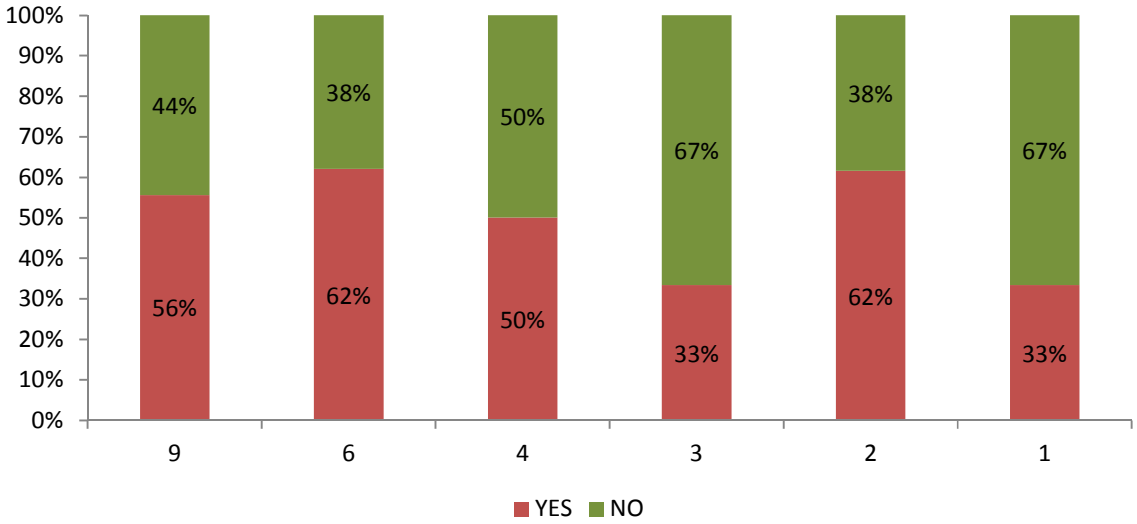


In 2013, 84 risks or 53 per cent of anticipated risks were realized, and appropriate measures were applied for the majority of them. The measures were not applied for 15 of the realized risks or for 18 per cent.

The chart below depicts the realisation of risks in reference to individual levels of risk. Surprising is the high degree of realized 2-level risks, namely 62 per cent, which probably means that in the future, it makes sense to increase the level of probability of the occurrence of these risks. In the event of very high and high probabilities for the occurrence of risks, that is levels 9 and 6, the occurrence of risks was at the level of 60 per cent, which means that in the future, it is necessary to devote even more attention to the preparedness of measures for preventing the occurrence of risks or for mitigating their consequences.

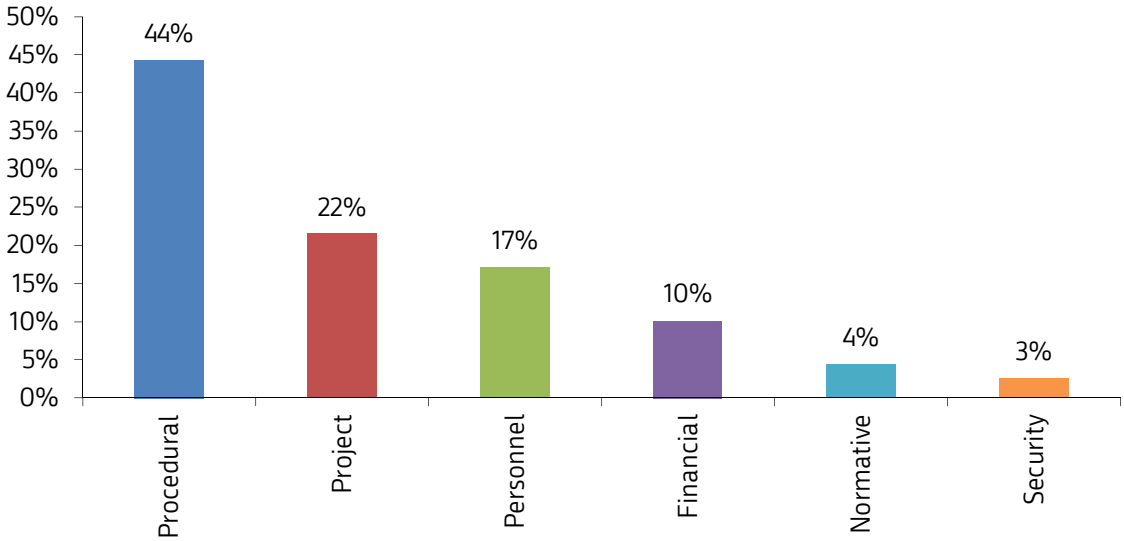
In comparison with the previous year, the number of realized risks reduced, which is also the result of timely action. However, there are still too many risks which we have no influence on, because they dependent from the financial resources that are provided under the RS national budget. In such cases, it is necessary to achieve the least possible impact of such risks on the achievement of key MoD objectives.

Realisation of Risks in Reference to Individual Levels of Risk



The structure of risks in reference to their type (personnel, project, procedural, normative, financial or security) shows that the majority of risks are of procedural nature. Together with project risks, these two types of risks represent two-thirds of all the risks. Thus, the risks with a very high probability of occurrence are predominantly of project nature, as they are four out of ten. Among the risks with a high probability of occurrence, nine are of procedural type, eight are of project type and five are financial.

Structure of Risks in Reference to their type



In reference to the type of risk, we distinguish: (1) procedural risks, which can occur as the consequence of inadequacy, slowness, fragmentation and un-connectedness of business processes in the MoD and of cooperation between the constituent bodies and internal organisational units, etc.; (2) project risks, which can occur as the consequence of the (non)activity of contractors performing tasks for the MoD, etc.; (3) personnel risks, which can occur as the consequence of unfavourable internal structure of personnel, lack of specific personnel, inadequate training level of personnel, dissatisfaction of employees, etc.; (4)

financial risks, which can occur as the result of the reduced scope of funds, unfavourable internal structure of the financial plan, ineligible or illegal use of public funds, etc.; (5) normative risks, which can occur as the consequence of non-compliance with normative acts or with the needs to amend the applicable and prepare new normative acts, etc.; and (6) security risks, which can occur as the consequence of unauthorised access to classified information.

The predominance of procedural or project-related risks is a warning that processes and project management should be given more attention in the future, as they directly influence the effectiveness and efficiency of operation. This means that our priority in the short term period must be to further endeavour for an effective use of the mentioned financial, personnel and material resources and systematically direct them in the implementation of the key long- and medium-term objectives.

Effective implementation of measures for the management of risks and the prevention and mitigation of their consequences greatly contributes to the further development of the defence system, which is highly important in the increasingly unpredictable environment.