

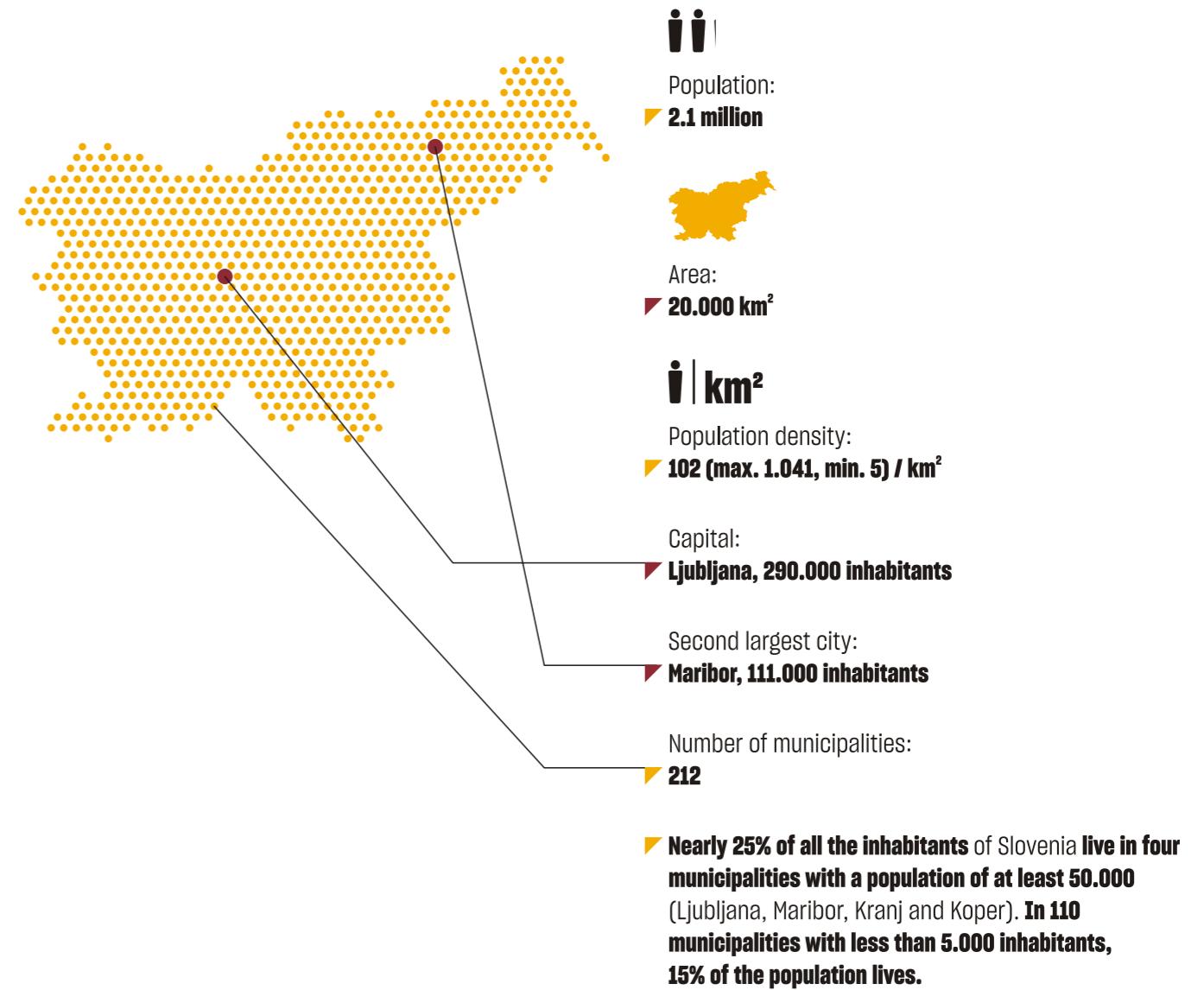


Close to People

The Slovenian Public Libraries



Slovenia





In the Way of Development

The Slovenian Public Libraries Development Strategy 2013–2020

In the period 2013–2020, the Slovenian public libraries will focus their development potentials on **FOUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**:

► **1. Organization, operation and the public library network**

Rapid changes are characteristic of the modern information society that requires a high quality and efficient public library service. Stable funding ensures an effective and efficient public library network that operates rationally through interconnection and provides equal access to resources and services to all citizens.

► **2. Development of the existing services and creation of new ones**

Libraries react innovatively to the demands and expectations of their environment, modernize and upgrade the existing services and develop new high-quality products using the state-of-the-art technology. Thus, they retain their important role in the daily life of the citizens in the long run. They develop their missions in the direction of counselling, guidance and awakening of the potentials of users, who they also involve in the planning of new services.

► **3. Development of appropriate skills and knowledge needed for future work environment**

Besides the knowledge in the fields of librarianship and information science, librarians also need a number of other skills that can help them with constant changes in society. In order to provide continuing education in public libraries, a model of staff training and professional development is established, and to develop management and leadership skills acquiring and developing knowledge from the field of business sciences is provided. A wide range of knowledge and skills can be gained by librarians through collaboration and exchange with other libraries, and other partner institutions. Public libraries develop internal culture that encourages teamwork, and thus, facilitate exchange of knowledge, skills and expertise between staff members.

► **4. Library as an active agent in the environment - opportunities for collaboration, partnerships and public library promotion.**

By strengthening existing and developing new partnerships, libraries are an active agent in the social environment. They carry out regularly joint promotional activities at agreed intervals. With a joint message, they continuously improve the awareness of the population about the importance and role of public libraries in the society.



The Most-Visted Cultural Institutions



► Every citizen can join a public library. Membership is free for children and youth up to the age of 18 and for the unemployed. **23 %** of all the citizens are members of the Slovenian public libraries and over **60 %** of Slovenes use their services.



► There are **10 million visits** to public libraries across Slovenia and **23 million items are issued for loan per year**. E-books in the Slovenian language are also available for loan in all public libraries.



► Each member visits the public library **21 times** a year and borrows **52 items**.



► The founders and major funders of public libraries are local authorities, which provide up to **85 %** of the total operating revenue. The co-financing of the Ministry of Culture comprises **5 %** and **libraries generate the rest of the income**.



► For the public libraries' operation, the Republic of Slovenia spends **24 euros** a year per person.

► The Ministry of Culture is responsible for the national development policy of public libraries. The first Librarianship Act was adopted in 1961; the last version has been in force since 2015.

► The minimum conditions for the implementation of library activities are laid down in The Rules on the Conditions for Carrying out Library Activities as Public Service.

► All Slovenian public libraries are members of the national shared bibliographic system **COBISS** (Co-operative Online Bibliographic System and Services).





The Most Accessible Cultural Institutions

► **58 public libraries** provide public library service in **273 locations**, **92 locations of deposit collections** and **13 mobile libraries** that stop at **719 locations**.

► Among **212 Slovenian municipalities**, **167** municipalities **have one or more local libraries**, while in **37 municipalities** the public library **service is provided by a mobile library** or a deposit collection stop.

The public library network



Regional libraries

► **10**



Town libraries

► **48**



Branches

► **215**



Mobile libraries

► **13**

* Data for 2018 obtained from the website
<https://bibsist.nuk.uni-lj.si/statistika/index.php>



The Centres of Many Activities

Public libraries provide equal access to and use of library material for all citizens. They support intercultural dialogue, and they are social, cultural and information centres of the local communities.

In order to fulfil their missions, public libraries **held 25.000 different events** within their programme contents annually:

- ▶ **reading culture and reading literacy:** reading recommendations, literary meetings, reading promotion projects, programmes for improving reading and communication skills, etc.;
- ▶ **learning:** bibliopedagogic activities, information literacy, lifelong learning, creative spaces, online classrooms, etc.;
- ▶ **social integration:** activities for people with special needs;
- ▶ **local history activities:** a range of local history materials reflecting the history of the local communities collected and preserved by libraries; the portals Kamra and dLib.si, biographical lexicons;

▶ **active citizenship:** different types of literacies: e-democracy literacy, financial literacy, health literacy, etc.;

▶ **library outside the walls:** remote access to digital services, mobile libraries, deposit collections, home library service, bicycle books, book on the beach, little free library, etc.



Connected

Connecting libraries

The Association of Slovenian Public Libraries is an autonomous, voluntary and non-profit association of legal entities - public libraries in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, which are united due to common interests in the field of public library service. All Slovenian public libraries are members of the Association.

The Association's purpose and objectives are to formulate national and global definitions in the field of public libraries in cooperation with the responsible ministry and other institutions. The Association monitors the development and funding of the public libraries and represents their common interests towards the state and local authorities.

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Connecting librarians

The Slovenian Library Association is a voluntary professional association, which joins regional library associations and individuals in order to enhance the development of library profession.

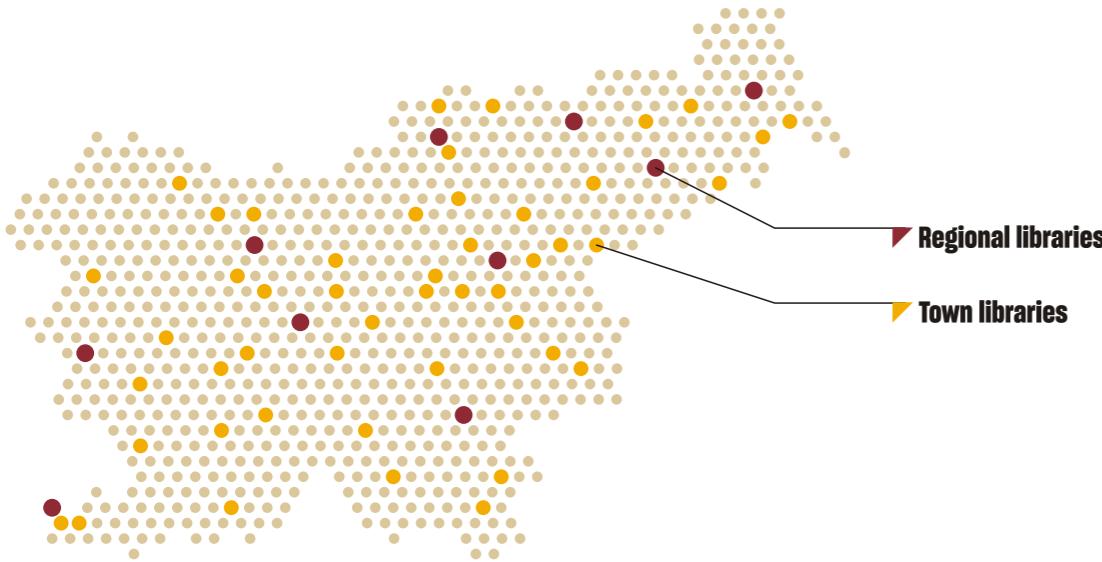
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The Public Library Network



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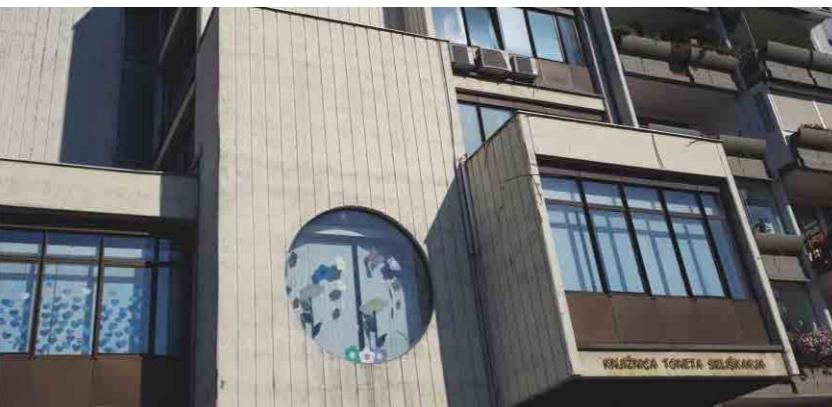
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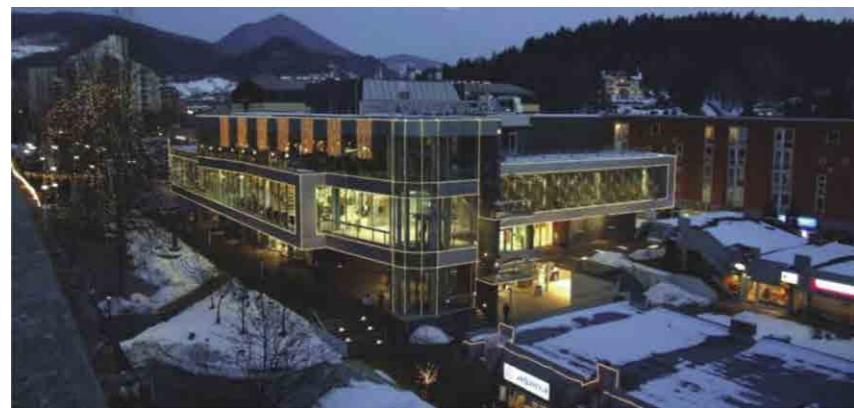
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Close to People

The Slovenian Public Libraries

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