

**DOCUMENT OF THE EUROPEAN BANK
FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**STRATEGY FOR THE SLOVAK
REPUBLIC**

**REPORT ON THE INVITATION TO THE
PUBLIC TO COMMENT**

1. Report on the invitation to the public to comment

In accordance with the EBRD Public Information Policy (PIP), the draft strategy for Slovakia was posted on the EBRD web site for 30 days from 16 October 2008 along with the invitation to the public to comment. The public was invited to submit comments no later than 16 November 2008 so that they could be taken into account.

One comment was received during the public consultation period. The comment was from the Slovak Public Private Partnership Association (PPP Association). Details of the comment received and staff response are provided in this Report, which becomes an addendum to the Strategy.

2. Comments received and staff responses

Slovak PPP Association

- We very much appreciate the fact that EBRD is involved in the PPP market in Slovakia and the fact that it supports private sector participation.
- We would suggest that the area of support is not limited only to transport and municipal or environmental projects, as we believe that the potential for PPP projects is large in other areas as well, such as healthcare, social services etc. EBRD involvement in such projects could help to spur interest and especially increase trust in them.
- We suggest to mention in the document that the Slovak public procurement law should be amended. Specifically with respect to PPPs, it is being excessively restrictive compared to the EU directive no. 2004/18/EC.

Staff response

The Bank is opened to support other projects involving the private financing of infrastructure. Opportunities to do so in Slovakia have so far been limited but the Bank is maintaining its dialogue with the Government on other opportunities. The EBRD is aware that certain elements of the Slovak public procurement law may benefit from being amended to make future PPPs easier to execute.