

dvv international · Obere Wilhelmstraße 32 · 53225 Bonn

Slovenian Institute for Adult Education
Director Andrej Sotošek
Smartinska 134a,
1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia

Bonn, 29.02.2012

Dear Mr. Sotošek,

The Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (*dvv international*) is the international branch of the DVV, representing appr. 1.000 Community Education Centers (*Volkshochschulen*) in our country, responsible for European and global co-operation of the association.

dvv international has a long and outstanding history of cooperation with your institute. SIAE was one of our key partner in the EBiS-project (Erwachsenenbildung in Südosteuropa – Adult Education in South Eastern Europe), bringing in the exceptional Slovenian experience to recover the Adult Education sector in the region. Many of our members as well as *dvv international* itself were engaged together with your institute in different European projects and Network, including the Austrian lead »Future Forum«, aiming on building closer ties between countries with similar Adult Education tradition in the heart of Europe.

In our perception, Slovenia has always been one of the few cases, where decision makers were aware of the power of Adult Education, especially in the transition period: Adult Education provides the necessary opportunities for guidance and re-training and enables the people to become active citizens in their communities. We are deeply convinced that these potentials should be equally used in times of crisis. The current situation needs more investment in Adult Education, not less. It needs the understanding that our sector is an integral part of every functional education system, which deserves special attention and support. SIAE is in our perception a lighthouse, which serves as a best practice example for many other countries.

In the name of *dvv international* and the DVV association, I wish all the success and the possibility to continue your successful work as a strong, independent institute.

Yours sincerely



Uwe Gartenschlaeger
- Deputy Director -