



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
COURT OF AUDIT

# AUDIT REPORT

## Introduction of electronic toll collection in the Republic of Slovenia

**Performance audit**

Audit period: 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2018



# How efficient was the introduction of electronic toll collection?

Its launching took at least 12 years (2006–2018)

## THE VALUE OF THE INVESTMENT\*

**€ 120 million**

by the end of the period covered by the audit

Financial assessment made by the European Investment Bank (€ 105 million) **was exceeded**

**€ 144.8 million**

by summer 2021 and still increasing

Electronic toll collection was introduced **only for heavy goods vehicles**, though it was initially planned also for passenger cars.



Heavy goods vehicles **are tolled by the actual road use** since the introduction of the electronic toll collection system.



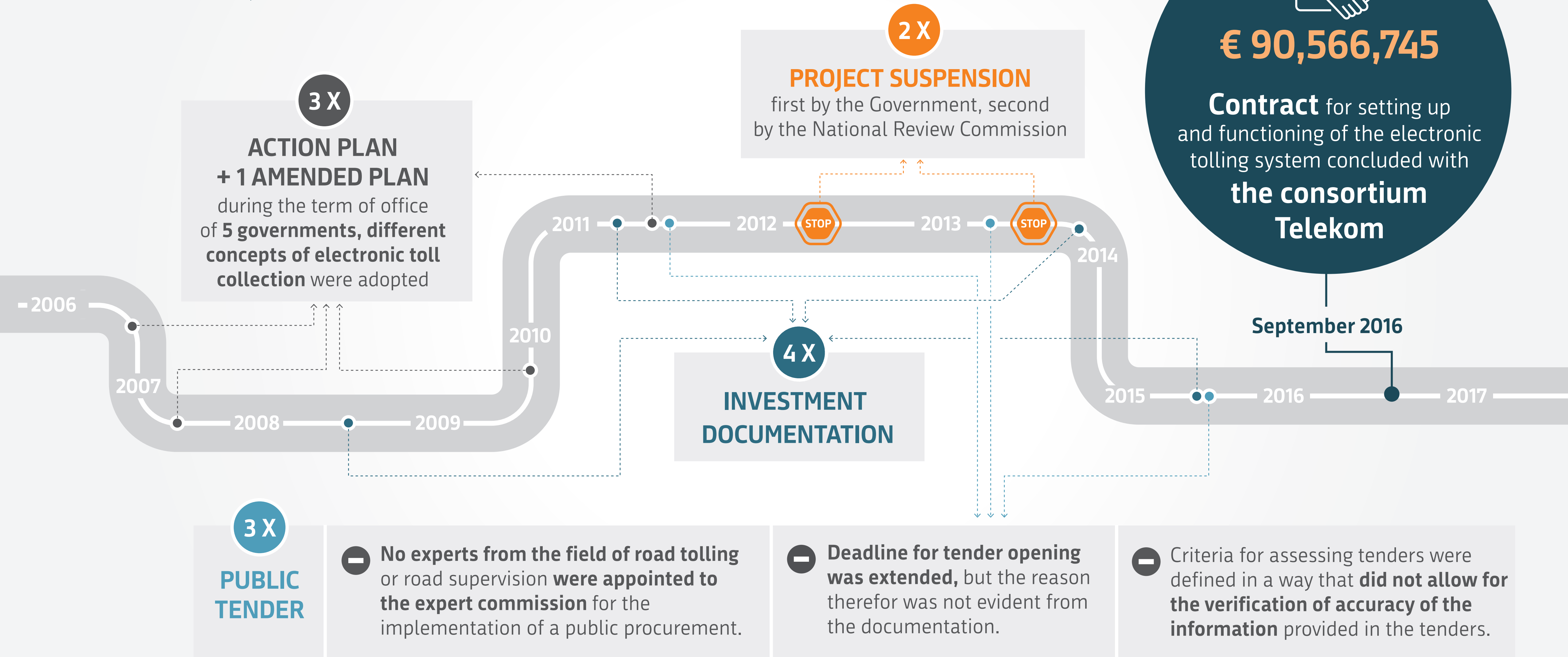
Passenger cars **are not tolled by the actual road use because of the vignette system.**

### AUDITEES:

the Government, the Ministry of Infrastructure, Slovenian Sovereign Holding, DARS

\*Included are the costs of demolition and reconstruction of toll stations

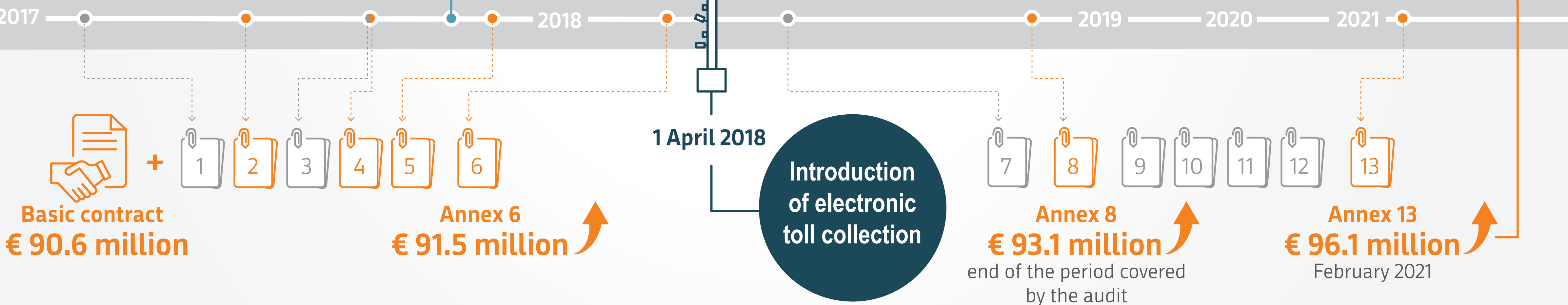
# 10 years from the project planning to signing the project implementation contract



# Increasing the contract value and costs

- **Deadlines** for implementation **were** often **extended**.
- **Additional works included** also the **purchase of equipment with different technical specifications** than initially agreed upon.
- **Due to erasing certain items specified in the price list** the total contract value did not significantly change despite additional works.

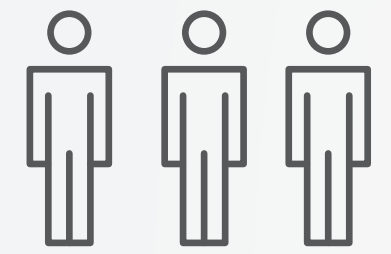
 **€ 51 million loan**  
by the European Investment Bank



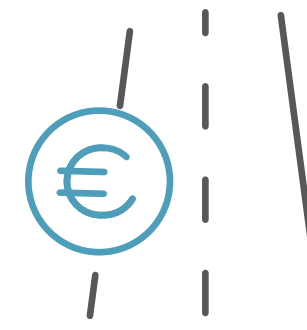
# Shortcomings



The project **was funded through debt sources which is more expensive** than financing from own resources.



**The number of employees at the company DARS remained almost the same** despite automation of toll collection processes.



**Repayment of loans is related to the income from toll collection** applied to both heavy goods vehicles and **passenger cars**, which depends on:

- possible **increase in price** per km driven **for heavy goods vehicles**,
- possible **differentiated tolls applied to environmentally more friendly heavy goods vehicles**.



**Inappropriate pricing policy considering the European Commission guidelines** aimed to decreasing the costs of motorway network operators.

## OPINION OF THE COURT OF AUDIT



Operation of the **Government of the Republic of Slovenia, the Ministry of Finance, Slovenian Sovereign Holding and the Motorway Company of the Republic of Slovenia (DARS)** related to the introduction of electronic toll collection was **partially efficient**.

The Court of Audit proposed to the Government, the Ministry and the management of DARS several recommendations, **but did not demand the submission of a response report.**