



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
COURT OF AUDIT

AUDIT REPORT

Science Centre

Performance audit

Audit period: 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2021



Science Centre, yet another unrealised national project

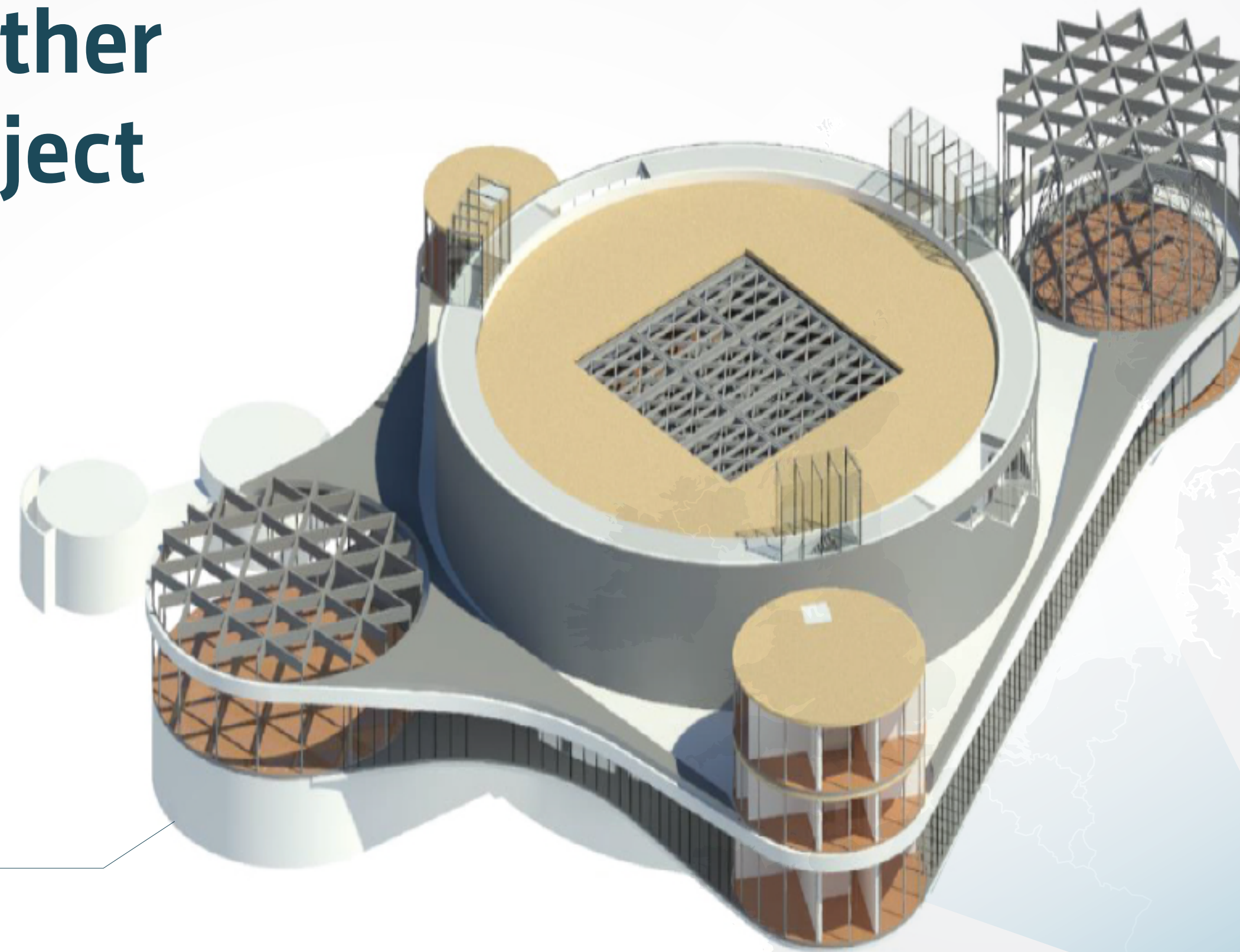
A prerequisite for **the existence of science centres** is recognising their operation **as one of the elements necessary for the development of a modern society.**



hub of science, technology, education, economy, culture and other relevant fields



technologically advanced and innovative building



Comparable science centres across Europe

HEUREKA, Finland

AHHA SCIENCE CENTER, Estonia

COPERNICUS SCIENCE CENTER, Poland

TECHMANIA SCIENCE CENTER, the Czech Republic

AGORA SCIENCE ADVENTURE CENTER, Hungary

MUSE, Italy

NOESIS, Greece

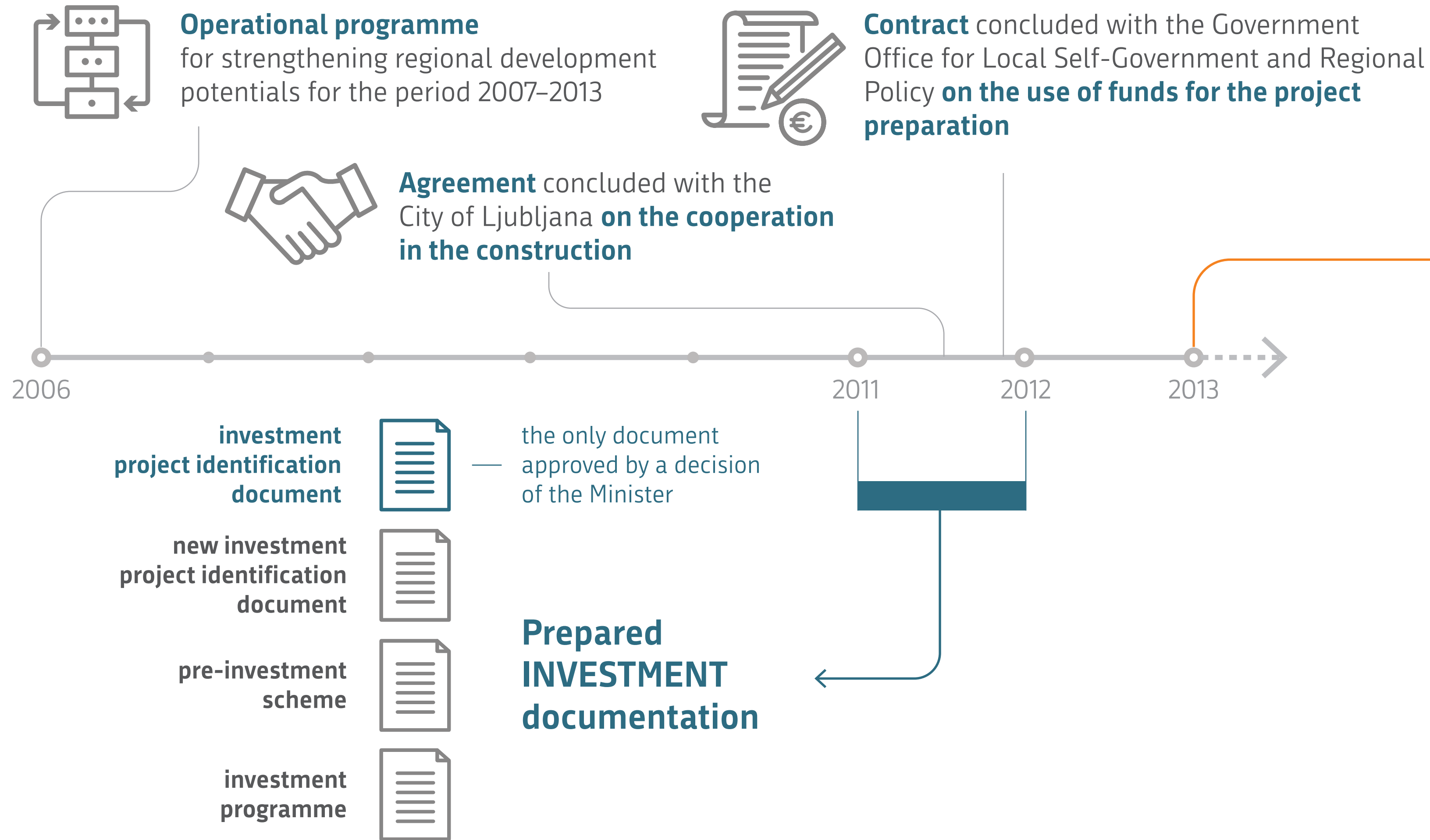
The project has been in the planning phase for 16 years.

Falls within the competence of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport.

Slovenia has several small centres carrying out programmes that include experiments, workshops, events from the field of social and natural sciences, and other activities.

Why the Science Centre construction failed?

1st project: Construction of the Science Centre – House of Experiments



The project **was not included in the Development programme plan.**

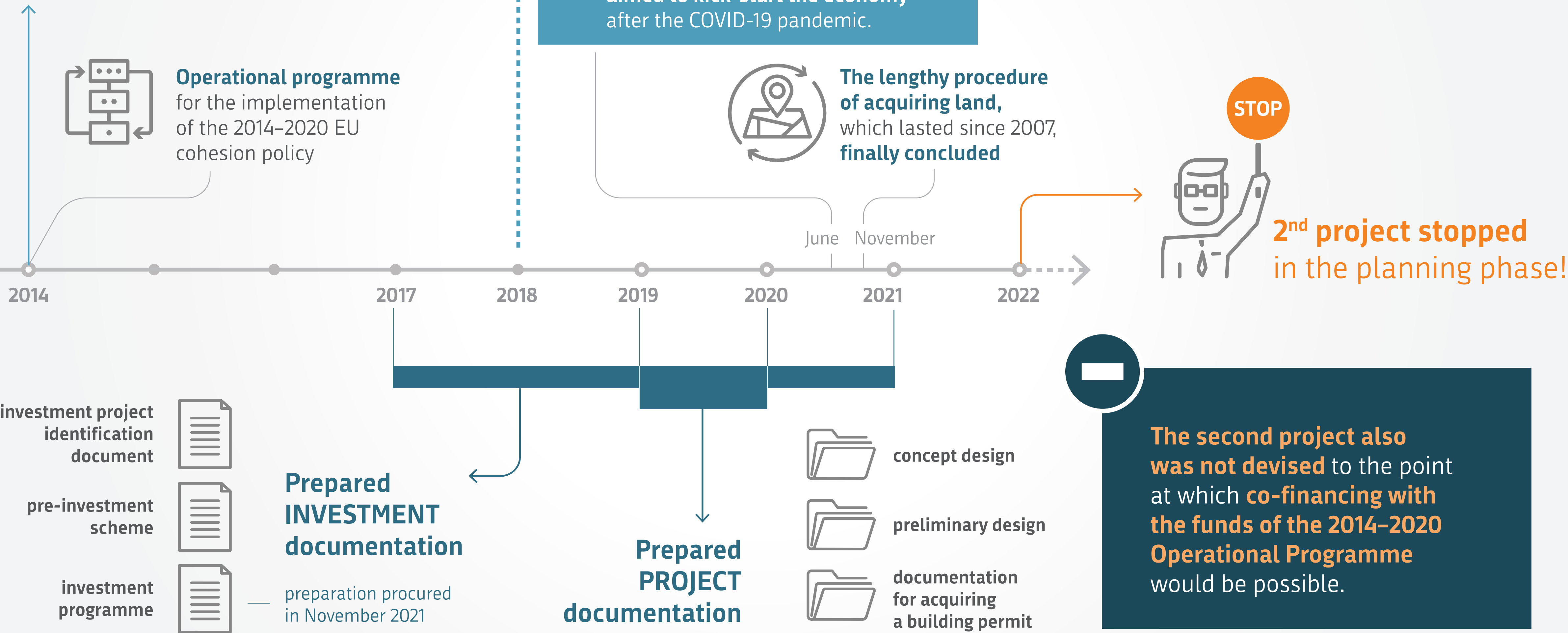
STOP

1st project stopped in the planning phase!

The first project was **not devised** to the point at which **co-financing with the funds of the 2007–2013 Operational Programme** would be possible.

2nd project: Construction of the Science Centre, a demonstration facility

Re-launching of the project





Implementation Plan for the Operational Programme 2014–2020 of November 2021 foresaw for the 2nd Science Centre project the allocation of EU funds in the amount of

€ 21,902,694



In 2020 estimated value of the 2nd project amounted to

€ 31,185,279

OPINION OF THE COURT OF AUDIT



Operations of the **Ministry of Education, Science and Sport** pertaining to the realisation of the project – building the Science Centre in Ljubljana were **inefficient**.



CORRECTIVE MEASURE



The Court of Audit demanded from the Ministry to implement the corrective measure related to **the activities for the Science Centre project realisation**.



Resolution on the Slovenian Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy 2030 adopted in March 2022 lays down **constructing and establishing the Science Centre**, a central institution in the field of popularisation of science.