

SOCIAL INVESTMENT IN CITIES



LJUBLJANA IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

REMOVING ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO SERVICES

Ljubljana started developing a systematic and comprehensive approach in the area of accessibility in 2007, incorporating not only architectural design but also accessibility of public services, public transport, and information, and cultural and recreational facilities. A number of changes have been made to improve accessibility, including the installation of tactile paths for the blind, the re-cobbling of the old town centre, and installing lowered curbs and ramps in non-pedestrian areas.

In addition to making the city physically more accessible for the disabled, Ljubljana also prioritises improving access for the disabled to the labour market. The city is a procurer of public works programmes in different fields (such as social care, education, culture) and annually enables up to 100 unemployed people, including the disabled, to find work.

A particular factor contributing to the success of Ljubljana's work is that people with disabilities regularly take part in detecting and resolving accessibility issues. This is done through face to face meetings and designated contact points within the city administration.

The work done since 2007 in the city has effectively changed attitudes and the perception towards disabled people. It has also allowed more citizens to make an active contribution to the economic, social and cultural development of the city. Ljubljana is striving to become one of Europe's leading cities in terms of accessibility for the disabled in the future.

