

Press Release

Slovenia / Economy / Shopping Center / Sustainability

Ljubljana, 16. October 2025

SES Slovenia's Sustainability Initiatives Recognized by Experts

SES Slovenia Receives Prestigious Award for Sustainable Business Practices

At the 19th Strategic Conference on Trade, the Slovenian Chamber of Commerce (SCC) awarded SES Slovenia with the Gold Recognition as part of the initiative "SCC Award for Sustainable Business Practices". The company was recognized in the category of micro and small enterprises and sole proprietors, highlighting its commitment to responsible and forward-thinking business operations.

This award confirms the commitment of **SES Spar European Shopping Centers**, the leading operator of large shopping centers in Slovenia, to environmental responsibility, green approaches, and sustainable development. Across all SES Slovenia shopping destinations - **ALEJA**, **Citypark**, and **Center Vič** in Ljubljana, **Citycenter Celje**, **Europark Maribor**, and **Arkadia Domžale** - best practices in sustainability and environmental protection are systematically implemented, strengthening responsible business operations and contributing to the community.

Toni Pugelj, Country Manager of SES Slovenia:

"This award confirms that sustainable business is the right path, bringing long-term positive effects to our shopping destinations, the environment, and society. At SES Slovenia, we are proud that our work and dedication to sustainability are recognized and rewarded by experts. I am pleased that we can serve as an example."

Clear Strategy for Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development

SES Slovenia follows a clear strategy for corporate social responsibility and sustainable development, involving all key stakeholders and adhering strictly to environmental guidelines. By implementing digital solutions, the company reduces its environmental impact, conducts sustainability training for all employees, and has established a code of conduct and voluntary initiatives, reflecting an inclusive corporate culture. It also promotes public transport, carpooling, and the use of

alternative-fuel vehicles. Sustainability activities are regularly reported in annual and sustainability reports.

Key projects include upgrading the central control system for managing ventilation units, heat stations, and cooling systems; introducing energy monitoring for precise tracking of electricity, heat, and water consumption; and implementing the Solar Edge platform to monitor renewable energy production. The company has also introduced artificial intelligence for forecasting billing power, a remote lighting control system for shopping centers, and a monitoring system for escalators and elevators - further enhancing energy efficiency and sustainable operations.

Among the most significant sustainability solutions are the installation of solar power plants on shopping center rooftops, increasing the share of renewable energy use, generating approximately **5,433 MW of electricity annually**, reducing the carbon footprint by **1,666.09 kg CO₂/kWh**, and achieving an impact equivalent to planting **69,420 trees**. The company also greened rooftops to reduce urban heat stress and replaced old ventilation units with energy-efficient ones, resulting in an annual energy saving of **2,930,789 kWh**. Additionally, the energy monitoring system ensures an extra saving of **238.09 MWh** annually, or **56.84 tons less CO₂ emissions**.

About the Award

The "SCC Award for Sustainable Business Practices" project is organized by the Slovenian Chamber of Commerce to promote, recognize, and showcase the best sustainability practices in Slovenian business. In collaboration with a five-member expert committee in the fields of environmental protection, climate, communication, sustainability, and economics, led by Prof. Dr. Lučka Kajfež Bogataj, a questionnaire was prepared covering seven key thematic areas: environment, governance, communication, employees, community involvement, digitalization, and original sustainability practices.

Applications were categorized by company size, and applicants submitted responses along with various supporting documents and explanations.

SES Spar European Shopping Centers

SES is a developer, investor, and operator of shopping destinations in six countries: Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Hungary, Croatia, and the Czech Republic. The company currently manages 32 shopping locations across Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe, with a total gross leasable area (GLA) of over 866,000 square meters. SES is the market leader in large shopping destinations in Austria and Slovenia. In 2024, tenants at SES shopping destinations welcomed over 117 million visitors and generated €3.54 billion in sales revenue. SES successfully offers its expertise in project development, construction management, retail space leasing, and center and facility management as a service to external shopping center owners. SES centers have received numerous national and international awards for architecture and design, sustainability, traffic planning, and innovative marketing. In 2023, ALEJA Ljubljana received the prestigious ECSP Design and Development Award in the category of new shopping centers with a surface area between 15,000 and 45,000 square meters. SES is part of the SPAR Austria Group.

More information: www.ses-european.com and press.ses-european.com

Image material (free of charge):

Toni Pugelj, Country Manager SES Slovenia, with the SCC Award

More information about SES:

Toni Pugelj, Country Manager SES Slovenia

Phone: 01 518 49 01

Email: toni.pugelj@ses-european.com

Agency: Andreja Jernejčič – Lin&Nil

Phone: 01 547 65 18

Email: info@jernejcic.si

