

# La Dalmatian islands Innovation Seminar

## - national report



### Authors

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### Summary:

On Tuesday July 17<sup>th</sup> in the town of Korčula seminar on the topic of HNVf in the islands was held. Seminar was opened by the LAG 5 president Vjeran Filippi and the mayor of Korčula Andrija Fabris. Representatives of the public, private, civil and scientific sector participated at the seminar. They discussed the results of the conducted research; possibilities and limitations of the HNVf vision for the islands. Preserved mosaic landscape as a result of interrelationship between low intensity agriculture and rural tourism based local resources and top quality products. It was underlined that it is necessary to identify and map key agricultural and other related businesses that will be the holder of HNV for the LA through inventarisation of existing resources, market situation and examples of best practices in order to argue for the economic potential of preserving the HNV type 2 landscape.

### Extended summary:

What needs to be addressed?

TOPICS	PROBLEMS	ACTION
Valuation of mosaic agriculture and stone wall landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of HNV farming, mosaic agriculture and stone walls is not recognised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mapping (inventory)</li> <li>- valuation of mosaic landscape and dry stone walls</li> <li>- Research of past practices</li> <li>- inventory possible uses of those resources (for example peat from Pinus, oil from Juniperus oxycedrus (smrič), medicine from Pajasen)</li> </ul>
Legal framework; government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many HNV farming practices are unintentionally prohibited by laws (grazing, using shrub for lime production, maintaining meadows,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regulatory adjustments in order to promote HNV farming practices</li> <li>- Legal framework designed with purpose to promote HNV farming practices</li> </ul>



	<p>water exploitation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fixed costs: high initial costs of some activity related to farming (only one slaughterhouse in the county, 400 Euro for obtaining certificate for marmalade)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote HNV farming as a part of fire prevention practices (grazing, land cultivation of abandoned surfaces, maintaining old peasant roads for fire prevention)</li> <li>- Support farmers to search for and exploit aquifers</li> </ul>
Education	<p>There is no local knowledge on how to develop HNV farming through rural tourism, how to get supported funding, avoid numerous obstacles, maintain diversified farm activities, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduce a new high school specialization which will deal with agriculture, tourism and rural development</li> <li>- Revival and education about traditional local practices which promoted HNV farming</li> </ul>
Knowledge support		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish rural development network with various sectors. HNV farmers and other actors obtain specialized help and answers to their requests through this network</li> </ul>
Targeted group	<p>Generally, young farmers are more prone to introduce or revive HNV farming and have more optimistic expectations. However, young educated people leave islands, and it is a problem how to attract and motivate them to stay.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support and focus promotion of HNV farming among young educated persons who after university returned on island</li> <li>- Assure good social life for young people and their family on island</li> <li>- Assure good physical connection to urban centers (Split, Dubrovnik)</li> <li>- Brand and prepare HNV farming tools so that young people can easily implement them and start with HNV practices and recognise HNV farming as their professional choice (for example, introduce HNV farming certificate, etc.).</li> </ul>
Targeting tourism segments. Extension of touristic season	<p>It is necessary to support tourism activities complementary with HNV farming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop glamping at a mosaic parcel</li> <li>- Develop HNV certificate</li> <li>- Develop supply of self-growing edible plants</li> <li>- Support local menu in restaurants</li> </ul>
Matching demand and supply for local farm products.	<p>Supply of local farm products much lower than demand and this gap persists.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify the reasons for these inconsistencies</li> <li>- Develop programs where buyers finance supply of a given good</li> </ul>



Import of food on islands.		(for example lamb) in advance
General		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strategic: careful analysis of stakeholders</li> <li>- Promotion of labour work in agriculture</li> <li>- Research of the past practices</li> </ul>

## Problems and innovations:

- problem of assigning value to the HNV farming
  - o inventarisation of resources such as Pinus, dry stone walls, etc.
- Gastro Get:
  - o local restaurant menu was introduced and promoted, but problem of getting local lamb supply arose. It came out that there is only one slaughterhouse in the County of Dubrovnik-Neretva (Smokvica). That is, **generally fixed costs of supplying lamb** is very high relative to quantity supplied. Various standards need to be met, etc.
  - o one solution might be that buyers finance in advance suppliers to provide certain ingredient
- Local food become luxury good
  - o Example of local food for schools. Local suppliers will not sell at low price since they can sell their products as luxury goods.
- Problem of specialization: small farmer does not possess knowledge about all necessary details: applications for measures, all possible standards which need to be satisfied, etc.
  - o Measure 20 of Rural development program (for education)
  - o A need for establishment of a NETWORK for rural development
- Education
  - o Introduce **a new high school specialization which will deal with agriculture, tourism and rural development**. For example, in Hvar (also Kaštel Lukšić) a curriculum agro-tourism technician is developed
  - o Add skills for building dry stone walls in school curricula (for example school for sustainable development in Split has that element)
- Beekeeping – since introduction of bees in Korčula productivity of fruit cultivation has increased
  - o However, **a case where it is considered to complement beekeeping by sheep, pigs, etc. in order to assure diversification and long term business sustainability**.
  - o However, negative side of diversification is that you need to specialize in all these fields what is difficult.
- Young: Who stays on an island?
  - o A young who does not manage to leave and stay in Zagreb.
  - o Young need good social life on island and good connection to some urban area (Split, Dubrovnik)
- Branding
  - o A certificate of mosaic HNV farming



- So that an educated young person who does not succeed in Zagreb, has a platform to return on island.
- Self -growing edible plants
  - § Can be commercialized and sold at very high price!
- Glamping at mosaic parcel
- How to extend the season and book existing apartments, and not build new tourist accommodation
  - Family tourism is short season, determined by school holidays. We need to search **other types of tourists**.
- Development in Korčula: We managed as businessmen but not as biologists. City of Korčula today is isolated from its historical tracks, beaches, valleys.
- Problems of eco-farming (Diana)
  - Labour intensive, but
  - Labour price is very high
  - Culture of physical land work is abandoned
  - Antagonism against rural (young will try to find some other profession)
- Innovation related to forest succession:
  - Pinus – it is a valuable resource:
    - § Peat – made of pinus
  - Juniperus oxycedrus (smrič) – oil can be produced from this plant
  - Pajasen – invasive plant which extends rapidly can be used for production of alternative medicine
  - Computer application for mapping of dry stone walls (dry stone walls database)
  - LGUs have legal right to protect stonewalls in their territory
  - Livestock grassing on non-owned private parcels
    - § Today it is forbidden but it could be allowed if those parcels are otherwise not maintained
    - § Livestock as important prevention measure against fires**
    - § „Jelen vatrogasac“ – jelen koji sve brsti i time štiti od požara
    - § 1929. Fra Barčić, otok Badija, popisao sve vrste, bilo ih je oko 300. Prije 2 godine botaničar iz Zavoda za zaštitu prirode je popisao 1000 vrsta. Čovjek, lovci, itd. povećava bioraznolikost, tj. ne događa se da jedna vrsta prevladava.
    - § Projekt: vratiti Jelen lopatar => vatrogasci
    - § Kako se to odražava na poljoprivredu. Npr. dingač i mufloni i divlje svinje.
- Reducing risk against fire:
  - livestock grazing
  - land cultivation
  - fire prevention roads
- Problems with regulation (Croatian Forests!):
  - How to renew old stone house in traditional way with traditional lime with existing laws?



- Livestock grazing
- Fixed costs (mentioned at the beginning)
- Aquifers (vodonosnici)
  - the state could support, and not prevent, a farmer to explore potential aquifers
  - and could support them with some equipment (pumps, etc.)
  - abolish legal obstacles
  - if farmers are using and measuring aquifers, state could obtain data from the farms on risk of water reduction and actual water levels.
  -

How to reach the goal (HNV vision)?

- Careful analysis of stakeholder and their needs
  - Apply a project which is focused on stakeholders analysis
- Is this for tourists or for locals
  - For example: Port in city Hvar served to Venice and not to local population.
- Relax legislative regulations against small farmers and reduction/elimination of fixed costs (for example, certificate for marmalade is 3.000 kn)

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITIES	INNOVATIONS WHICH CAN BE TRANSFERED TO OTHER LA-S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School curricula</li> <li>- Diversification</li> <li>- New markets</li> <li>- Branding of mosaic agriculture</li> <li>- Good practice in focus</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	INVENTORY => ECONOMIC VALUATION =>ACTION PLAN WITH FINANCIAL DETAILS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Skills of building stone walls</li> <li>- Edible self-growing plants put in market</li> <li>- LAG as a connecting node</li> <li>- Cleaning parcels from weeds by clover</li> <li>- Marketing of carob</li> <li>- Roses strips around vineyards – early indicator of peronospora</li> </ul>





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