

## Croatia – innovation example 5

### NURSERY OF INDIGENOUS SPECIES “ANEMONA”

Local action group LAG 5 [www.lag5.hr](http://www.lag5.hr)

- **Location:** island of Korčula
- **HNV system:** mosaic agriculture and extensive grazing, mainly sheep on EU Mediterranean grassland
- **Scale of operation:** island of Korčula and the surrounding area
- **Timespan:** Founded in 2010. and is still running
- **Keys to success:** service of knowledge and hard work. Constant listening to customers and local needs



Figure 1

#### Problems addressed by this example

Traditional practices and agricultural seedling that are indigenous to the area and foster HNV (not invasive).

#### Story in a nutshell

Anemona is a plant nursery and garden centre that is constantly investing time and resources to research and monitor nature of island of Korčula. Lavandula from pupnat; rosemary, olives, tomato from Lumbarda, island cabbage; different products from Myrtus communis, Arbutus unedo, Salvia and a lot of other plants are both stories and products that Anemona holds. They are monitoring ascomycetes, dragonflies, fallow deer, Kočje natural reserve, island of Badija protected habitat, Kamenjak, Donje Blato habitats, protected forest Hober together with other partners and institutions. The gathered data and knowledge is shared with the local community and especially among children through collaboration with schools and the local radio station. One of the educational points is also the garden centre whose aim is to educate and to raise awareness among the islanders on the high nature value of the area.

#### What does nursery of indigenous species “Anemona” achieve for HNV farming?



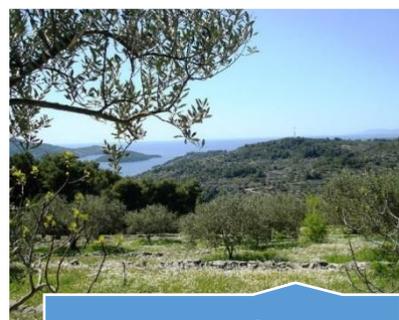
Education on indigenous island species

Figure 2



Nursery of indigenous, resilient species

Figure 3



Promotion of mosaic agriculture

Figure 4

#### Achievements

Revival of local knowledge on nature protection and sustainable use of its resources.

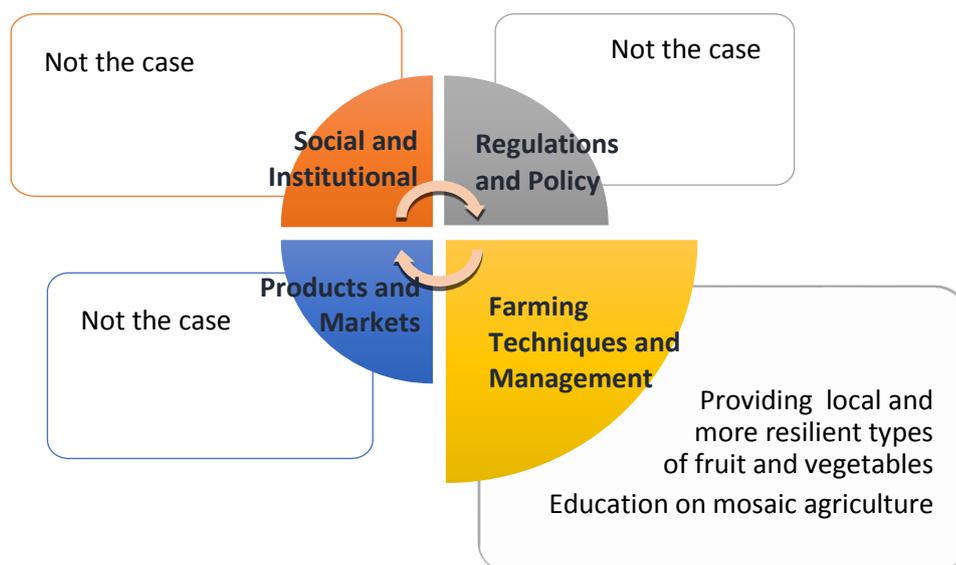
#### Economics of HNV farming

Data is not available on the economic impact of the programme for HNV farms.

#### Maintaining or improving HNV values

The plantation house is improving HNV values of the area by producing seedlings for HNVf and raising awareness on the HNV of the area through education and promotion of mosaic agriculture.

**How do dry stone walls and NGO 4 grada Dragodid respond to the HNV LINK innovation themes?**



**Figure 5** The framework HNV-Link used for evaluating innovations for high nature value farming.

- **Farming Techniques and Management:** Nursery plan “Anemona” provides resilient islander seedlings and education on how to plant them and manage the mosaic landscape of islander agricultural fields.

**The process that made it happen and critical factors for success**

- Enthusiasm
- Research on indigenous species and habitats

**Actors and roles:** Project started in 1988 by a teams of researchers Milan Vujinović, ing of forestry and Roman Ozimec, mag. biology with goal to achieve integration of human activity into nature. Since then Anemona has researched, produced and offered plants valuable for local markets and final production.

**Institutional context that made it possible:** There was no institutional support or structured support for the activities of Anemona plantation house although they participated in several EU projects as an example of good practices and held workshops presenting their work.

**Resources:** Bank loans and own resources.

**Processes:** Started in 1998 and ongoing.

**Limiting factors, actual/potential problems, and how could they be overcome:** Problems with waste management and high prices of resources needed for production. A lot of problem have been solved using renewables and recycling.

## Lessons learnt from this innovation example, and its potential replication

- Local knowledge and skills to answer to the local problems in HNVf



**Figure 6**

*Overall lessons from this example, especially from point of view of HNV farming?*

For HNV preservation of traditional landscapes and revitalization of agricultural practices in a way that it answers to the contemporary needs of the locals (incorporation of nature protection, revitalisation of landscapes and sustainable tourism)

*Is the innovation unique to its territory and its characteristics, or is it replicable in other areas?*

It is an innovation that is replicable and that has potential for replication into other areas.

*Could it be rolled out on a bigger territorial scale?*

It is possible to manage such a project on the level of an island or a region, depending on the agrobioenvironmental characteristics of the area.

*What would be needed to do this successfully?*

Additional financial support for finalisation of the project called "Centre for agrobiodiversity of the island of Korčula"

**Photo credits:** LAG 5

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