

LEADER type activities – Slovenian experience

**Marko Koščak PhD, Independent Slovenian expert,
STUDIO MK&A Ltd.**



DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL STRATEGIES IN SLOVENIA - HISTORY

- Integrated rural development and village renovation (CRPOV) - 1990-2002
- Wine routes of Slovenia (VTC) - 1992 →
- Heritage Trails and other programmes -1995 →
- Development programmes for rural areas (CRPOV^R) -1996 –2006
- LAG local development strategies for LEADER 2007 - 2013



CRPOV 1990 - 2002

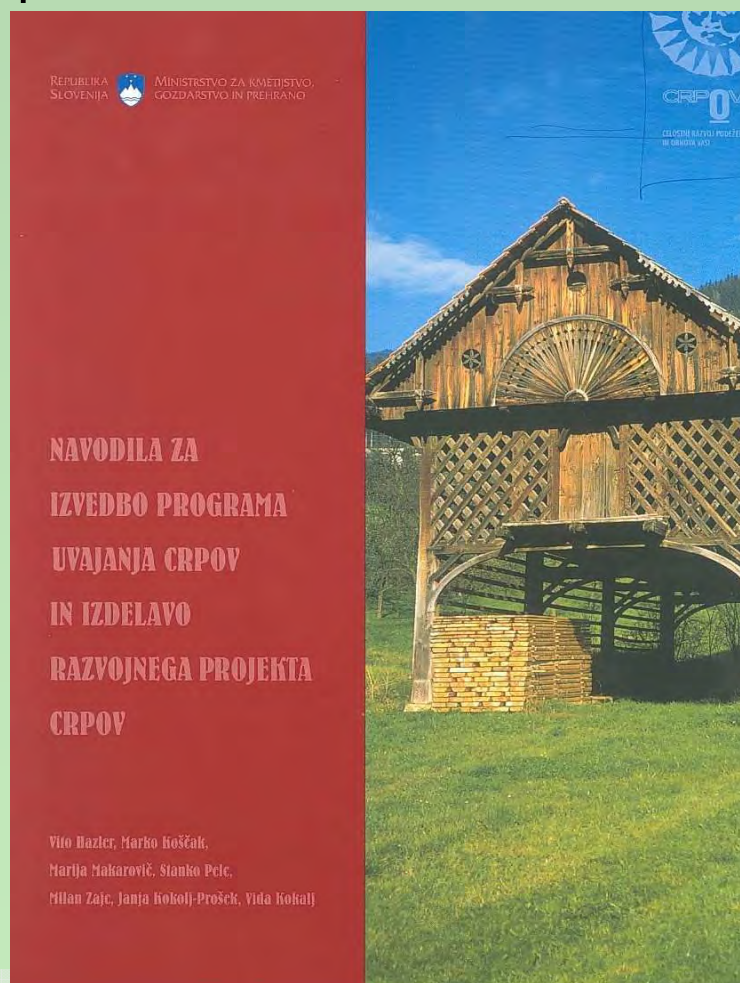
- Success of CRPOV projects was based on **good co-operation** between local residents (ideas), municipalities (financing) and experts (management and implementation).
- Main aim was to generate development of ideas for achievement of common target – **Integrated rural development and village renovation**.
- **3 phases** (preparatory, introductory and implementation).
- Local development strategy for CRPOV (development programme and action plan) was created on **bottom-up principles** and with active engagement of local people and was **based on their developmental needs and ideas**.
- Local development strategy for CRPOV consist of **5 developmental "areas"** (living, settlement, society, culture, work).
- Driving idea was **3i** (identity, innovation, initiative).

CRPOV 1990 - 2002

- Financial support
 - Introductory phase - state (ministry) + municipality
 - Implementation phase
 - Rural infrastructure - state + municipality
 - Village renovation – state + municipality
 - Other activities, important for the villages/areas - state + municipality + village residents

CRPOV 1990 - 2002

- Special guidelines for the implementation of activities on local level, useful for all stakeholders involved in the process.



Guidelines for introduction and implementation of CRPOV development projects.



GOOD PRACTICE OF LOCAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTATION IN SLOVENIA...

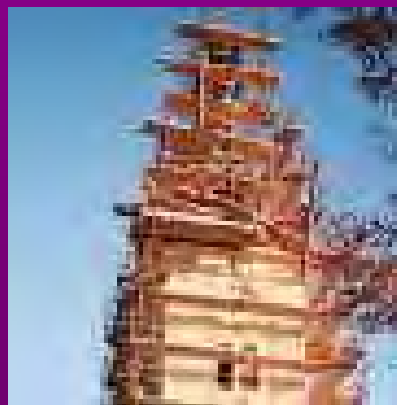




SETTLEMENT SPACE



Planning of the main square in Hotedršica





SETTLEMENT SPACE

Lopar





SOCIAL SPACE

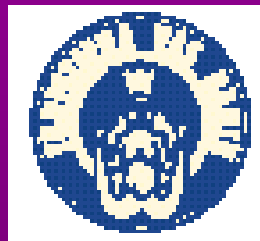
Črenšovci – implementation of training workshops for the unemployed in the countryside





SOCIAL SPACE

CRPOV Narin project – marketing of Narin, a tourist village





SOCIAL SPACE

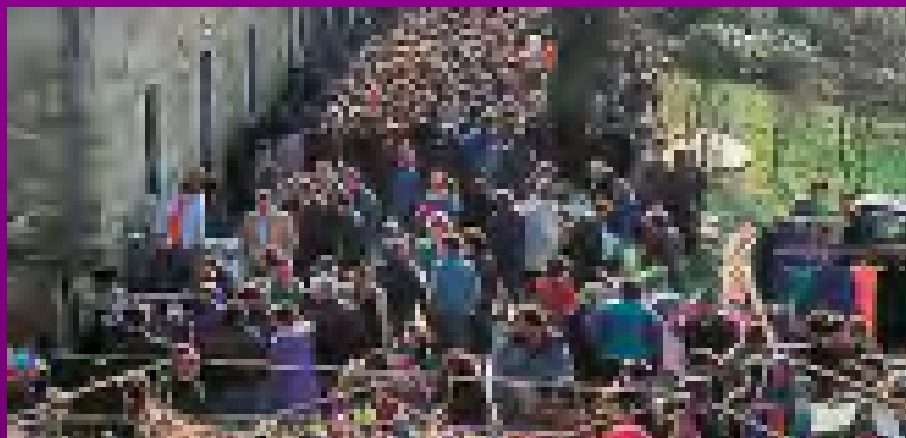
Renovation of the Tišler water mill





CULTURAL SPACE

Žužemberk castle





WORKING SPACE

Development of trade marks/branding strategy Dedek Jaka and Babica Jerca – the natural products from the Škofja Loka hills





WORKING SPACE



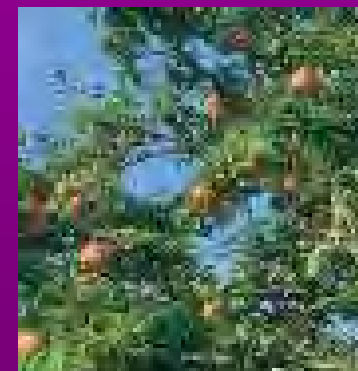
Renovation of the cheese dairy
at Javornik mountain pasture



WORKING SPACE



Fruit road between Javor and Janče

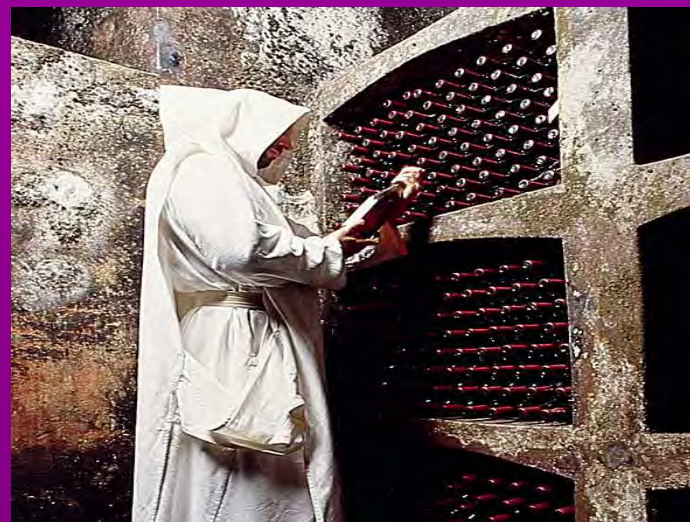


WINE ROUTES

- Wine routes project started in 1992, and still in a permanent development, from 2003 without direct support from the Ministry.
- 20 projects in 76 Municipalities and wine areas.
- Main idea was to connect wine producers and tourist products, natural and cultural heritage, landscape features and walking routes etc.
- Participatory planning and "bottom-up", approach were introduced, which proves to be good starting point for later self-driven developmental process of these territories and particularly for farm tourism and wine tourism.



WINE ROUTES OF SLOVENIA



WINE ROUTES

- Financial support for
 - Project activities, co-ordination & management
 - Implementation of activities (sign-posting & interpretation boards, promotion, infrastructure, branding, ...)



HERITAGE TRAILS AND OTHER PROJECTS

- Heritage Trails projects and other projects for rural development of Slovenian countryside - 8 projects covers area of 92 municipalities.
- **Heritage Trails** – main goal was sustainable development of rural areas through creation of regional tourism product(s), where main attractions were natural & cultural heritage and living culture of the area.
- Participatory planning and bottom-up approach deepen and broadened on the **regional level** - minimum 3 municipalities needs to co-operate...
- Ministry of Agriculture provided financial support and expertise...



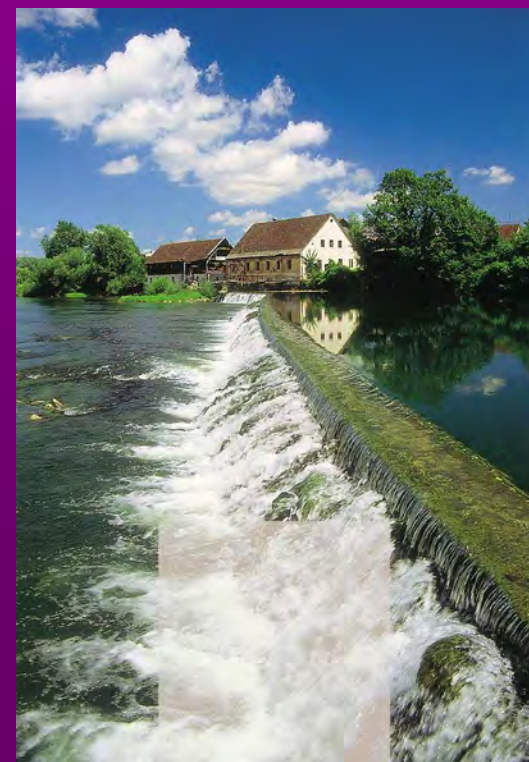
HERITAGE TRAILS



Heritage Trails through Dolenjska
and Bela krajina

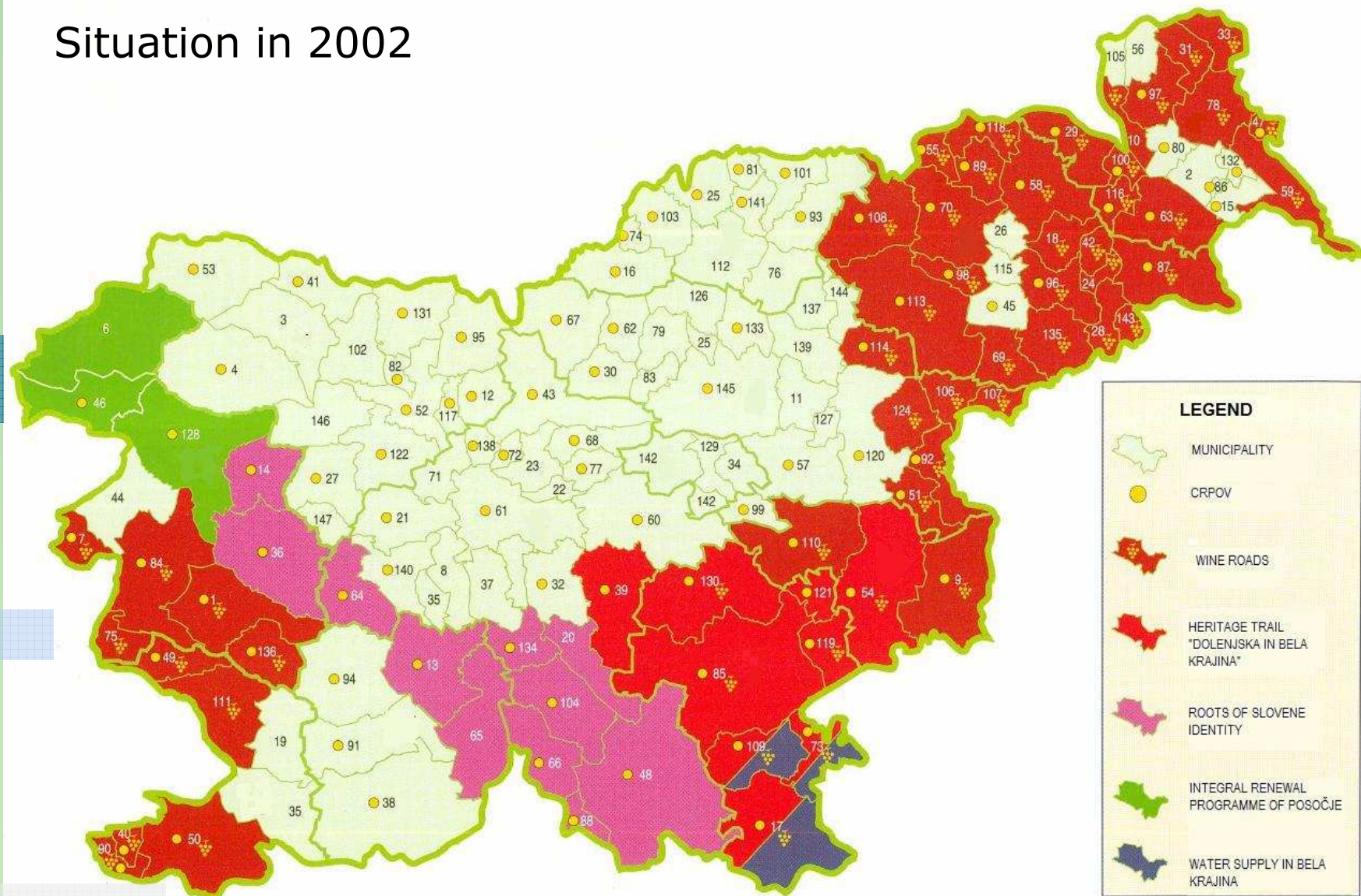
and

Heritage Trails – from Idrijca to the
Kolpa



HERITAGE TRAILS AND OTHER RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Situation in 2002





IMPORTANT MOMENT - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SLOVENIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (for more see: <http://www.drustvo-podezelje.si/>)

- In September 2000, the MAFF supported the initiative of the Prepare group – to bring together Local Action Groups involved in CRPOV program.
- MAFF and PREPARE organised a three days seminar in Kranjska Gora - participants from local authorities, LAG's and others involved in rural development
- 12 regional workshops – agreement among a total nearly 300 people that a national initiative was needed.
- Slovenian Rural Development Network was established in October 2002

SLOVENIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK – THE MISSION STATEMENT

- To bring together all players on a field of rural development
- To inform and educate the members and others
- Cooperation and mutual help among individuals and organizations
- To ensure effective representation of rural interests in the flow of information between Government and NGOs and from local to regional and national to international level
- To be active partner in the process of forming legislations and Rural Development Policy

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL AREAS (CRPOV^R)

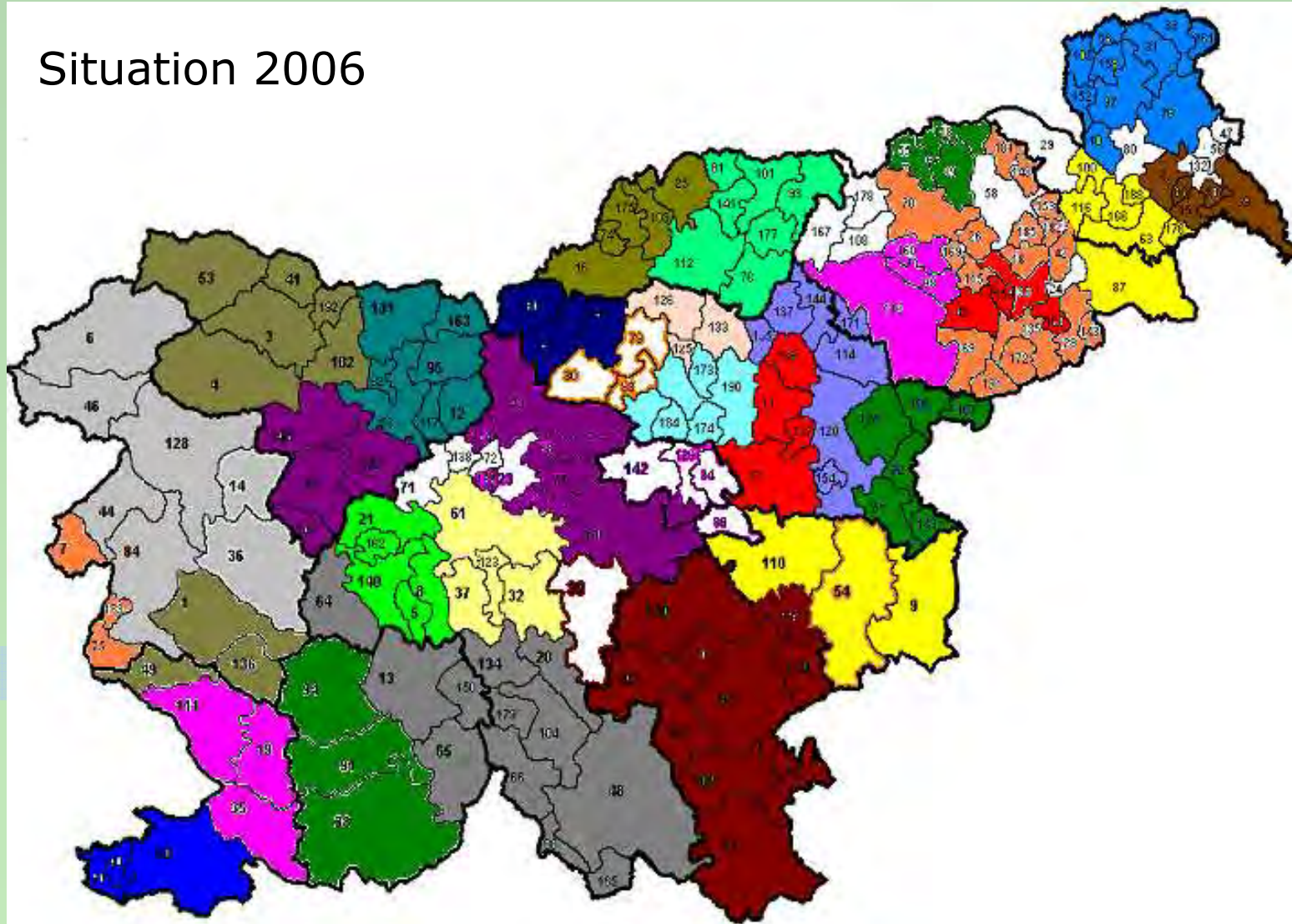
- Started in 1996 and in 2006 development and transformation in LEADER LAG strategies.
- 31 – covered more than 75% of Slovenia.
- Built-on CRPOV projects.
- Implementation and approach comparable with EU LEADER approach.
- Development strategies linked on the area of minimum 3 municipalities (larger local territories).
- Linkage of single CRPOV projects and wine routes into a larger programmes with higher added value.
- Participatory and "bottom-up approach" applied in order to activate maximum of development potentials and stakeholders of the project area.
- Platform for implementation of the LEADER and LEADER LAG strategies.

CO-OPERATION OF PARTNERS

- Local people/community – pillar and main driving force of development
 - They define priorities and developmental goals
 - Management structures at place
 - Involved in all phases of development
 - participatory and "bottom-up approach"
- Professionals – "right hand" in a development process
 - Assists to local partners to define and create goals
 - Follow the process all time of project life (monitoring activities)
- Local community (municipalities)
- Others – private sector, NGO sector (associations) ...

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL AREAS

Situation 2006



OUR EXPERIENCE WITH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL AREAS

“Participatory approach and bottom-up principles” were embraced and applied relatively successfully from CRPOV (1990), WR (1994) to CRPOV^R (1996)...

...gradual up-grading and improvement of the approach (**learning by doing**), some joint characteristics were/are present through all the time:

- Intensive work with local stakeholders
- Methodology: definition of territory vision by sequence (for CRPOV i CRPOV^R)
- Approach: preparatory, introductory and implementation phases
- Proposal of priority projects and activities (action plan)
 - ... But final decision on financing on public tender - CRPOV^R
 - ... lack of own and matching funds
 - ... broad list of priority projects (more wish list than realistic priorities)

Decision: CRPOV^R will be platform for future LEADER programming

COMPARISON LEADER/RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES - 2006



LEADER PRINCIPLES	RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES
<i>Territorial approach</i>	In principle OK (31 areas, almost all SLO)
<i>Participatory planning and bottom-up approach</i>	Relevant skills and experience present
<i>Partnership creation</i>	NOT SATISFACTORY YET • lack of “principles” for co-operation and decision making, • Contractual responsibility limited (letter of intent between municipalities...), • Not clear relations between partners
<i>Decentralised decision and project management (including financing)</i>	NOT REGULATED • Legal framework of public-private partnerships? • Decision of projects. • Ability for administratively-financial project management.
<i>Co-operation between sectors, linkage between public and private initiatives</i>	NOT ADEQUATE YET
<i>Innovation</i>	In principle OK
<i>Networking and cross-border co-operation</i>	• PREPARE – formation of Slovenian Rural Development Network • national LEADER contact point ? • establishments of rural network ?

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR LEADER –

4. AXIS RDP 2007-2013

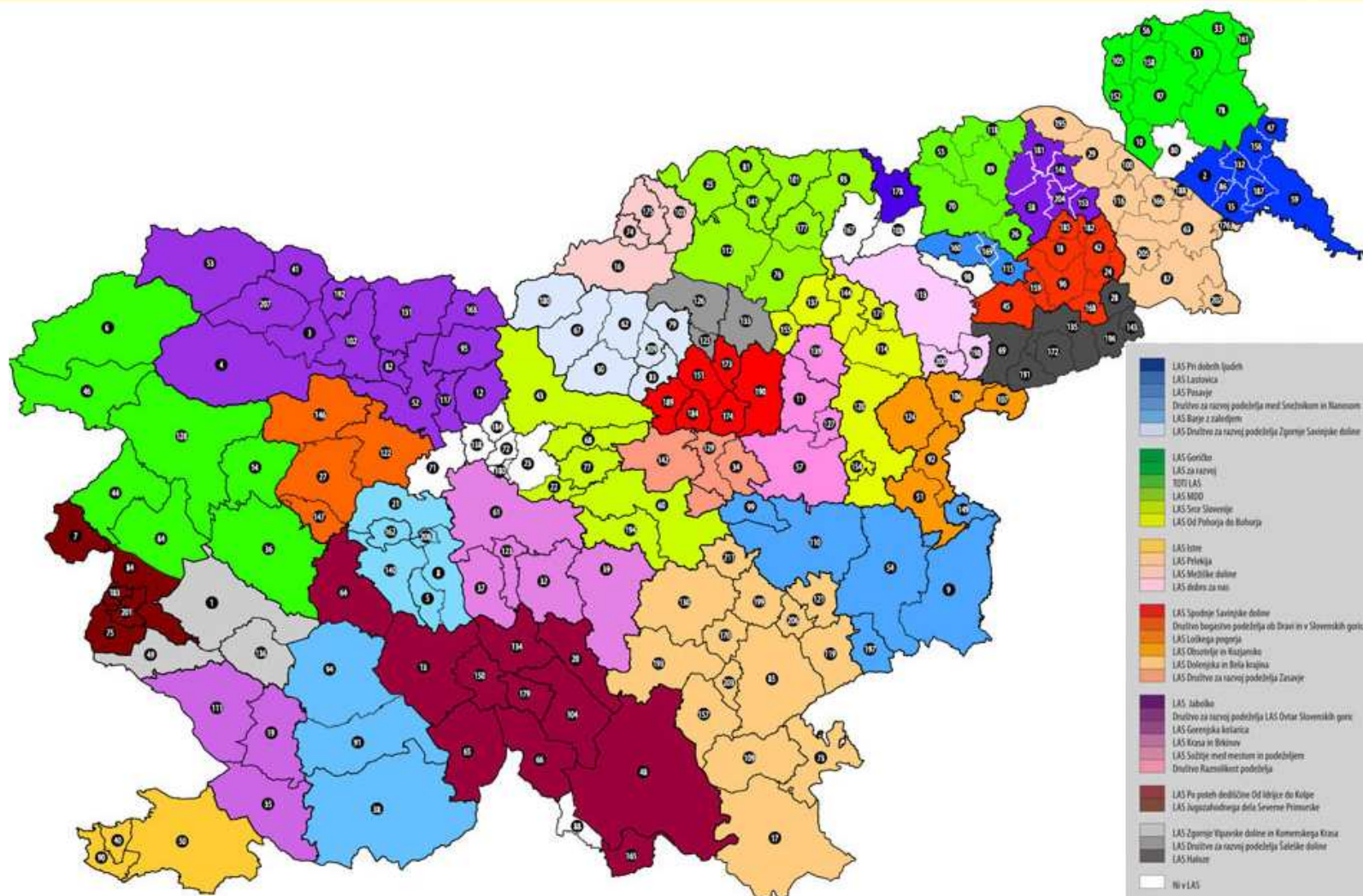
- Introduction in 2007.
- 33 approved
- Coverage of 97% of total area of the country.
- Up-grading of development programmes from 2006.
- Participatory approach & “bottom-up principles” become golden rule, with active local community participation, not only in preparatory phase but also with development of local strategies and implementation of all projects.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR LEADER – 4. AXIES RDP 2007-2013



LAG's in SLOVENIA - 2009

LAS



Quick snap-shot

LOCAL ACTION GROUPS

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graph LR; A[LOCAL ACTION GROUPS] --- B[Geographical Characteristics]; A --- C[Principles of Organization]; A --- D[Partnership Composition]; A --- E[Decision Making Authority]; A --- F[Gender Equality]
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**Geographical
Characteristics**

**Principles of
Organization**

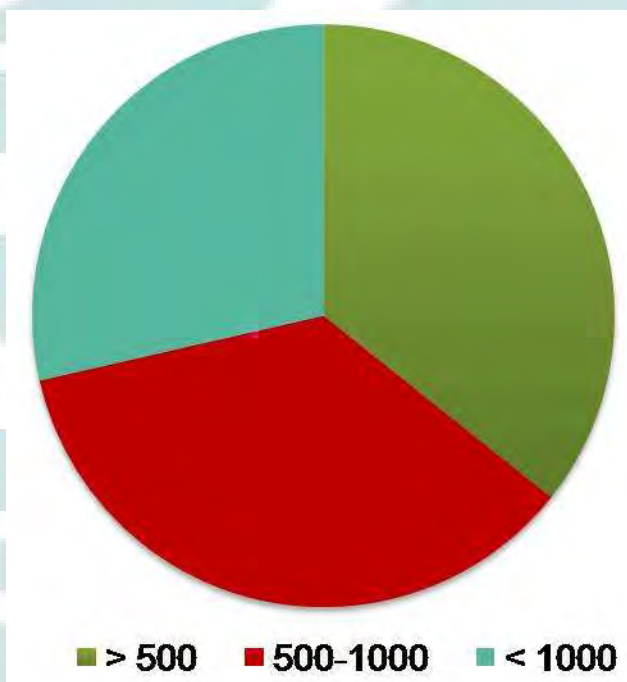
**Partnership
Composition**

**Decision
Making
Authority**

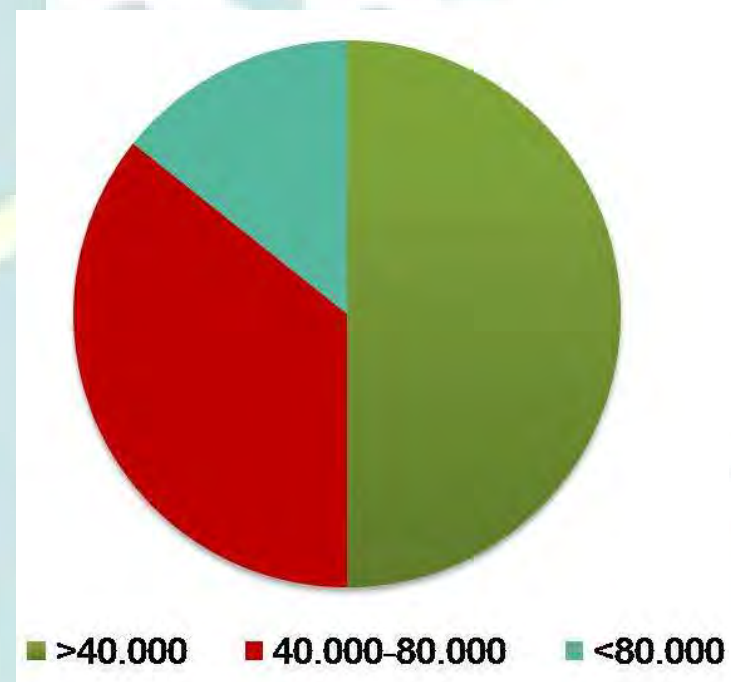
Gender Equality

Geographical characteristics

LAG area (km²)

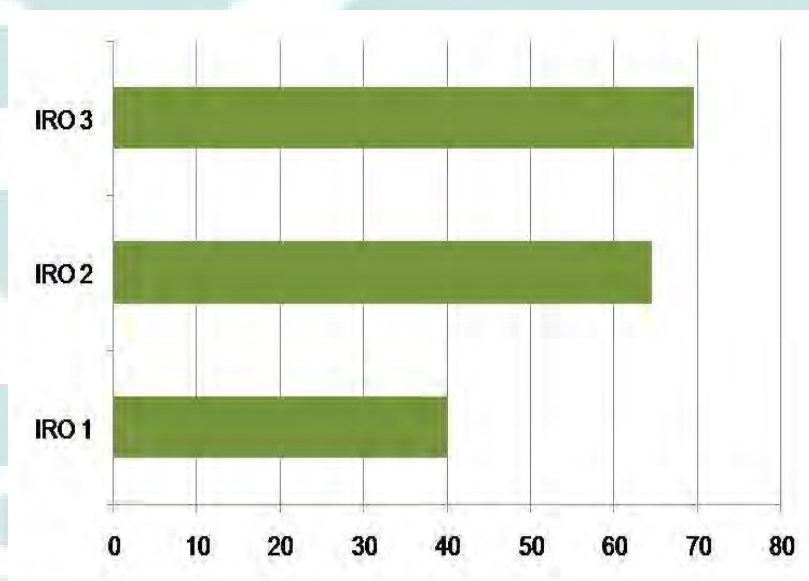


LAG population

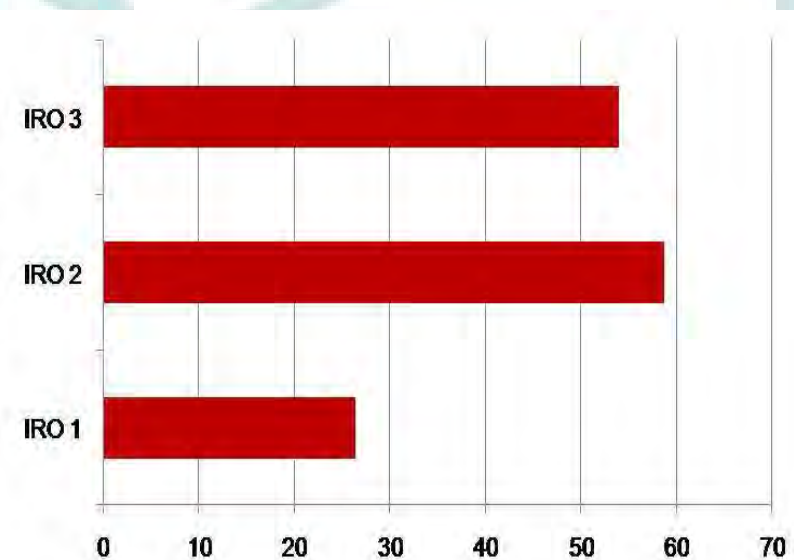


Geographical characteristics

LAG area (%)



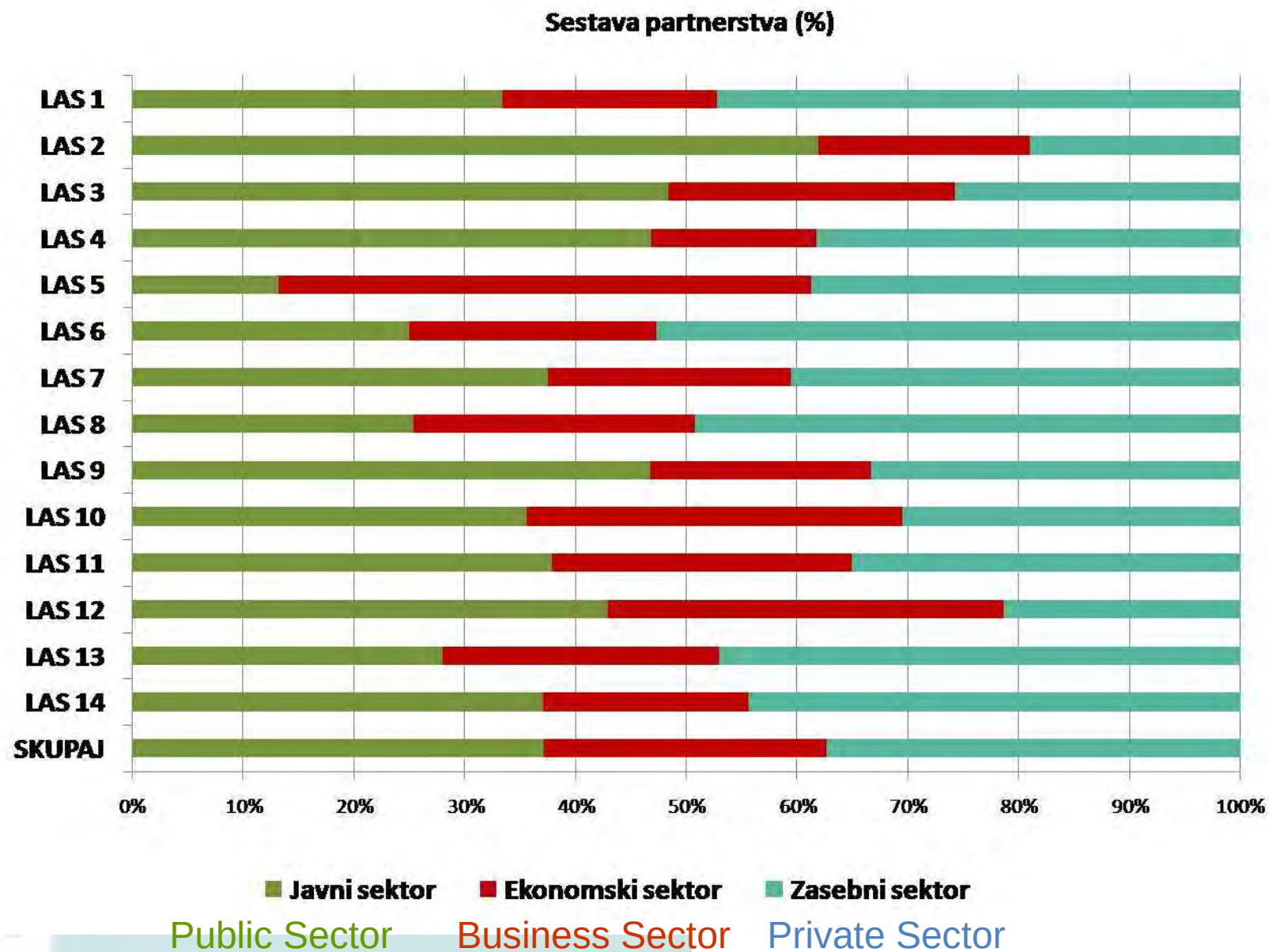
LAG population (%)



Principles of Organization

LAG name	Status	Organizational principle
LAS za razvoj	Public Institution	Social Contract
LAS Gorenjska košarica	Ltd	Contract on establishment and functioning of LAS
LAS MDD	Cooperative for rural development	Cooperative
LAS Dolenjska in Bela krajina	Ltd	Contract on establishment and functioning of LAS
LAS Ovtar Slovenskih Goric	Society	Social Organization
LAS Raznolikost podeželja	Society	Social Organization
LAS Obsotelje in Kozjansko	Public Institution	Contract on establishment and functioning of LAS
LAS Med Snežnikom in Nanosom	Society	Social Organization
LAS Srce Slovenije	Society	LAS Consortium Agreement
LAS PPD od Idrijce do Kolpe	Project Programming Association	Contract on establishment and functioning of LAS
LAS Bogastvo podeželja ob Dravi in v Slovenskih Goricah	Society	Social Organization
LAS Loško pogorje	Ltd	Contract on establishment and functioning of LAS
LAS Od Pohorja do Bohorja"	Public Institution	Contract on establishment and functioning of LAS
LAS Haloze	Public Institution	LAS Consortium Agreement

Partnership composition



Partnership composition

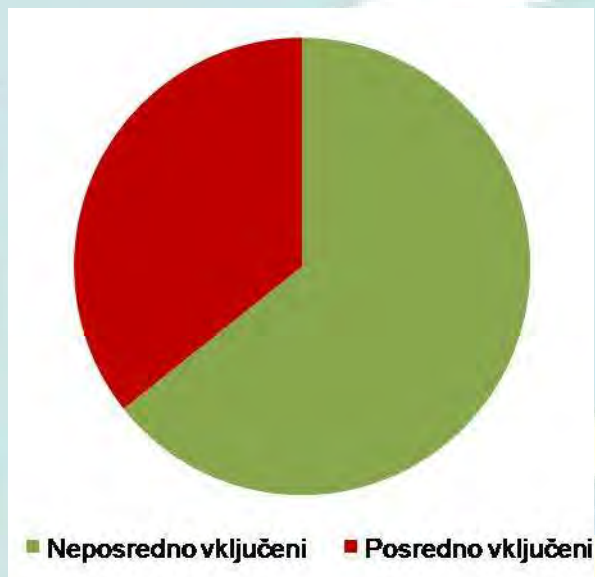
LAG	PUBLIC SECTOR		BUSINESS SECTOR		PRIVATE/NGO SECTOR		TOTAL
	Municipalities	Institutions	Agriculture	Other	Individuals	Cooperatives and NGO	
LAS 1	7	5	2	5	5	12	36
LAS 2	14	12	2	6	0	8	42
LAS 3	8	7	1	7	0	8	31
LAS 4	14	8	1	6	0	18	47
LAS 5	6	11	31	31	18	32	129
LAS 6	4	5	0	8	8	11	36
LAS 7	5	7	3	4	2	11	32
LAS 8	3	15	16	2	26	9	71
LAS 9	6	8	2	4	1	9	30
LAS 10	11	10	2	18	4	14	59
LAS 11	9	5	3	7	0	13	37
LAS 12	4	2	2	3	0	3	14
LAS 13	7	12	6	11	17	15	68
LAS 14	7	3	1	4	3	9	27
TOTAL	105	110	72	116	84	172	659

Decision making body

	Number of members	Public Sector	Private and business sector	Duration of term in office
LAS 1	17	7	10	3 years
LAS 2	7	3	4	7 years
LAS 3	16	7	8	4 years
LAS 4	7	3	4	7 years
LAS 5	15	7	8	3 years
LAS 6	9	4	5	2 years
LAS 7	7	3	4	2 years
LAS 8	12	6	6	2 years
LAS 9	10	4	6	3 years
LAS 10	26	11	11	2 years
LAS 11	15	7	8	3 years
LAS 12	14	?	?	7 years
LAS 13	9	3	6	3 years
LAS 14	9	4	5	2 years

Gender Equality

Young population



Directly involved
Indirectly involved

Women



Directly involved
Indirectly involved

Conclusion

- TERRITORIES OF LAGs ANALYZED ARE HETEROGENOUS BUT COHERENT AND FULLFILLING ALL CONDITIONS FOR EFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES
- LAGs WITH DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES AND PRINCIPLES, BASED ON ALREADY EXISTING DEVELOPMENT STRUCTURES
- “BOTTOM-UP” APPROACH CONSISTENTLY RESPECTED IN PARTNERSHIP COMPOSITION
- PUBLIC INSTITUTION OCASIONALLY STIL HAVE PREDOMINANT PARTNERSHIP POSITION
- WITHIN DECISION MAKING BODIES A TRIPARTITE PARTNERSHIP IS RESPECTED AND AT LEAST 50% PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE AND BUSINESS SECTOR
- WOMEN AND YOUNG POPULATION ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY REPRESENTED IN LAGs BODIES



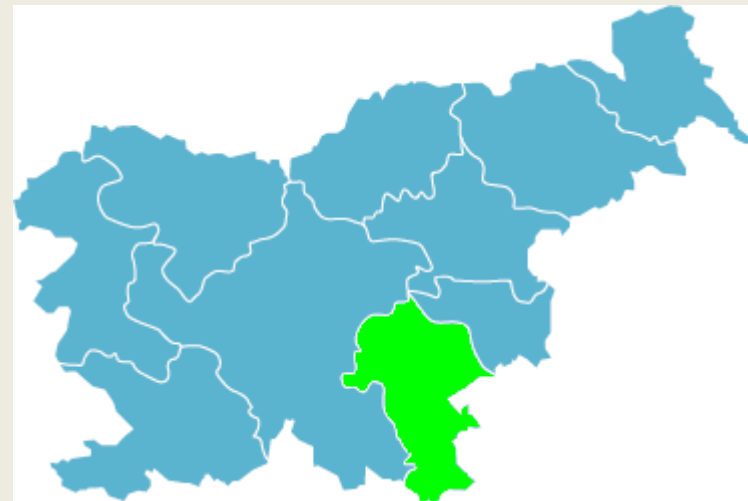
LEADER in Slovenia from 2007 – 2013

organisation and responsibilities...

- ❖ MAFF – programming and management
- ❖ MAFF – tendering for selection of LAG areas
- ❖ ARSKTRP/paying agency – Implementation of payments
- ❖ ARSKTRP/paying agency – accounting and financial management and reporting to EU
- ❖ LAG – information and animation
- ❖ LAG – project selection
- ❖ LAG – monitoring and reporting

Case of LAG Dolenjska and Bela krajina in SE Slovenia

- Established: 19.11.1997
- Total area: 1690,7 sq. km in 14 Municipalities
- Total population: 109.558
- Managing authority (administrative/financial management:
Development Centre Novo mesto
- For more: <http://www.las-dbk.si/>



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOURISM PRODUCTS:

- tourism in vineyards,
- reconstruction of traditional rural housing for accommodation,
- open-air museum,
- thematic routes (walking, cycling, horse-back riding...)



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

AGRICULTURE:

- local food production and consumption,
- revitalisation of sheep-breeding,
- wine growing,
- bee-keeping test station...



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

SME's DEVELOPMENT:

- from farmer to entrepreneur,
- handicraft centre,
- from Trebnje basket...



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

MAINTENANCE OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPE AND TRADITIONS:

- revitalisation of Bela krajina “steljnik” landscape,
- maintenance of Gorjanci pastures
- revitalisation of charcoal production....



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

INVESTMENT PROJECTS:

- reconstruction of mountain hostel on Gorjanci,
- arrangements of covered market place in Šentjernej,
- arrangements of TIC Škocjan,
- provision of horse shelter on bridleway in Semič...



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

ETHNOLOGY AND TRADITIONS:

- ethnological diversities of rural DDBK,
- social life in village in past and nowadays,
- stories from grandma box,
- gastronomy of DBK...



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

USAGE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY:

- sources of renewable energy;
- revitalisation of water mills for the purpose of green energy...



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

FRUIT GROWING AND TRADITIONS IN DBK:

- genetic bank of old fruit sorts,
- maintenance of orchards cuklture,
- cherry from Brusince....



Content of the projects – LAG DBK:

SOCIAL PROGRAMMES IN RURAL AREAS:

- learning from old generation,
- young for young by hearth...





- **"To expect" is justified.**
- **"To take measures" is necessary.**
 - **"TO EXECUTE" -**
- **is the only thing that counts.**

LEADER

**Thanks for your
attention!**

