



## Sustainable Regional Development

### Background

The natural surroundings of Bjelasica and Komovi present one of the most important resources for the development of sustainable tourism. The emphases would be laid at hiking, mountain biking, mountaineering, rafting, riding a bicycle and watching the nature (Fauna & Flora). This requires a still functioning agriculture including farming of pastures (for feeding), a sustainable and energy efficient way of housing (for accommodation) and a – to an essential extent - limited volume of traffic as defined as soft mobility (development of infrastructure).

The actual law for spatial planning requires obligatory criteria for sustainable development but it would need more precise explanations how to make use of it and experience in implementation. So along two selected examples, the context between feeding, accommodation and accessibility should be demonstrated, suggestions developed and through the means of the Small Project Fund implemented.

### Objectives

#### Strengthening

To establish the rationale for a comprehensive sustainable development of a region – considering national strategies (master plans) and local development plans.

#### Developing

Sector development plans and specific pilot projects – complementary to the development of hiking tourism – in the fields of farming of pastures, housing and mobility aimed to give fresh impetus to the region:

- Ecological and sustainable farming of pastures plus economically improved value added ensures the living bases for the people
- Better accessibility and mobility
- The stakeholders can use the experiences learnt during the overarching process of regional development and transfer the know how into other fields

### Methodology and steps

#### Performing a methodological approach: participative and realistic

The approach chosen is a participative one regarding structural and organizational sustainability of the selected subjects. Local expertise will be upgraded; also Monica Stanic will serve as a local expert for the area of sustainable development in the office in Berane.

The work will be carried out together with representatives of municipalities and local entities in thematic working groups during workshops. The results will be coordinated with the steering committee, which will decide upon the selection and implementation of the projects then.

Those pilot projects of regional development in the fields of traffic/mobility and farming of pastures will be designed and carried out that the experiences by following the process/procedures of regional development can be used, demonstrated and transferred to other projects by the municipalities. So the path to future EU co-financing projects can be prepared.

#### Ex-ante evaluation/Ex-ante appraisal:

- Studying the existent plans and documents
- Informing of the specific situation on the spot related to the project (site inspections)
- Interviews with representatives of concerned ministries, stakeholders at the local level and NGOs



### Program development

To ensure and stimulate the area of actions as **farming of pastures**, **traffic/mobility** (accessibility, public transport, road network, management), **sustainable housing**, package of measures including concrete activities and recommendations will be drafted according to ecological criteria.

### Selection of pilot projects and implementation

Until mid 2007 projects should be drafted and two or three projects should be selected by the steering committee. The implementation should be done according to a working plan until 2009.



Office Berane



Development of farming of pastures



Accessibility and environmentally oriented mobility



Traditional housing and modern standards

### Results

- An exemplary package of measures to ensure and stimulate **farming of pastures** is drawn. This package shows also transferable criteria for sustainable development of the field of nature.
- A **traffic/mobility plan** including accessibility, public transport, road network, management according to ecological criteria, concrete activities and recommendations is drawn
- Results of the pilot projects can be transferred to other fields of regional development
- Municipalities use the best practice experiences

### The Team of the sustainable regional development program



#### Monika Stanic-Orovic

Local projectmanagement  
Interpreter for Serbian and German language  
Since 2004 employee of the Austrian-Montenegrin partnership program  
Experienced in project development and implementation



#### Karl Reiner

Since 1988 consultant for tourism and regional development in the ÖAR consulting, professional background as planner and management consultant, Coach; extensive experiences of drafting integrative regional development plans and project development; focus at tourism development in protected areas and soft mobility; process oriented consultancy in working with steering groups and thematic working groups.



#### Christian Guggenberger

Co-founder and manager of the Regional Development company in the triangle of Austria-Italy-Slovenia.  
Member of steering committees for cross border cooperation of the EU-structural funds  
Consultant of bilateral development cooperation for integrative rural development