



INSTITUTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
FOR NATURE CONSERVATION



# AlpGov 2 and EUSALP AG7 event: »Green Infrastructure Workshop«

Online,  
15<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, 14:00-17:00

*Report*



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Ljubljana, September 2020



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Event was organized on-line by the **Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation** (Zavod Republike Slovenije za varstvo narave), **EUSALP Action Group 7** co-lead and members.

It was facilitated by Katalin Czippán, **IUCN Commission on Communication and Education** and Dr. Linda Schrapp, **Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences (HSWT)**, both members of Action Group 7.

Workshop was implemented and promoted within the Mediterranean Coast and Macro-Regional Strategies Week 2020.

Project "AlpGov 2" is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.



**TEDEN SREDOZEMSKÉ OBALE  
IN MAKROREGIONALNIH  
STRATEGIJ**  
kombinirano virtualno/fizični dogodek,  
14.-25. september 2020

**MEDITERRANEAN COAST  
AND MACRO-REGIONAL  
STRATEGIES WEEK**  
on-line/on-site event,  
14-25 September 2020





## 1. Summary:

Green infrastructure workshop was the networking event, organized within Mediterranean Coast Week 2020 and prepared by EUSALP Action Group 7 that focuses on the theme of ecological connectivity and Green Infrastructure. The event offered presentations of activities and results of past and current project: Life to Grasslands (Conservation and management of dry grasslands in Eastern Slovenia, IRSNC) and LUIGI (Linking Urban and Inner-Alpine Green Infrastructure – Multifunctional Ecosystem Services for more liveable territories, multiple partners), whose project partners are members of EUSALP Action Group 7.

The issue of Green Infrastructure is getting more attention in EUSALP and other macro-regional strategies and programs / financial mechanisms. Many initiatives want to use this concept to implement activities on site, while on the other hand, a lot of work has been done fitting to many different topics but in a way addressing the planning and management of GI.

The workshop was attended by 44 participants from different countries and institutions. Almost half of the participants were from Slovenia, others from Italy, Germany, France, Hungary, Austria, Belgium, Greece and Luxembourg.

## 2. Target group and participants:

Invitations were sent to diverse addresses to get the attention of general and professional public: Government organizations, expert and research institutions, development agencies, spatial planners, nature conservation experts, project managers, EUSALP AG members and participants of the AlpGov workshop in 2019. 44 participants were on on-line workshop, representatives from different organizations, from ministries to research institutes:

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning; Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation; Agricultural Institute of Slovenia; Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia; Forestry Maribor; Municipality of Izola; UL, Faculty of Arts, Department of Geography; Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia; Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection (DE); Ministry for Rural Areas and Consumer Protection Baden-Wurttemberg (DE); Bavarian State Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Forests (DE); Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences (DE); Lombardy region (IT); Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) (IT); Fondazione Edmund Mach & Autonomous Province of Trento (IT); Metropolitan City of Milan (IT); A LOT s.r.l. (IT); EURAC (IT); ALPARC (FR); Service biodiversité, Parcs et Territoires Ruraux (FR); IUCN Commission on Communication and Education (HU); European Commission, DG Regio, Unit D1 (BEL); ESPON (LUX); Hellenic Center for Marine Research (GR);



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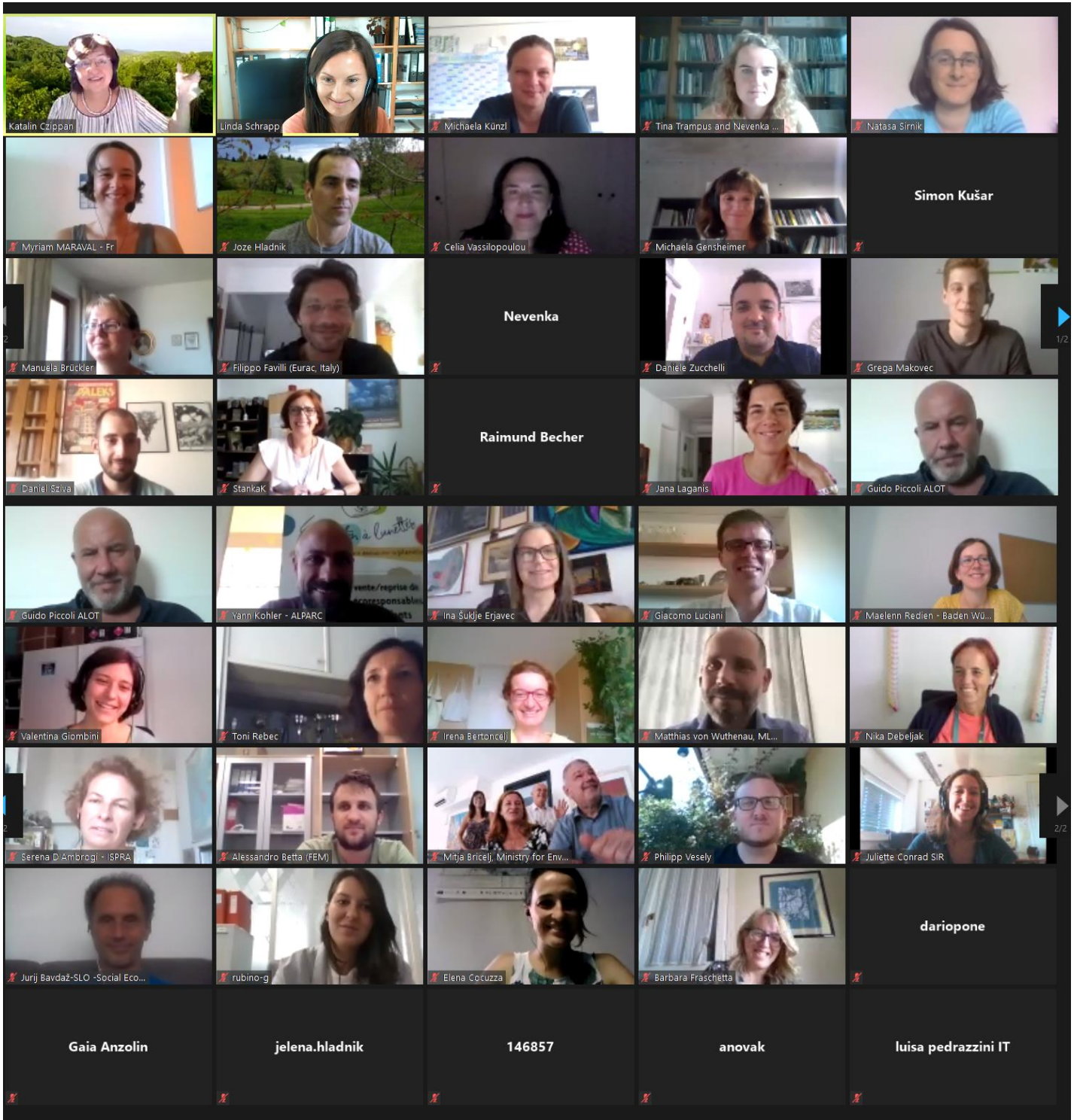


**Interreg  
Alpine Space**  
AlpGov  
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND



**EUSAIR**  
Slovenian Presidency 20-21

**Group picture:**



### 3. Presentations and discussion:

During this event we organized 3 presentations from 2 different projects (one LIFE and one Interreg Alpine Space project). Both projects concern the thematic of Green Infrastructure (LUIGI completely and LTG partly). Below there are short descriptions with the results of poll questions of each presentation.

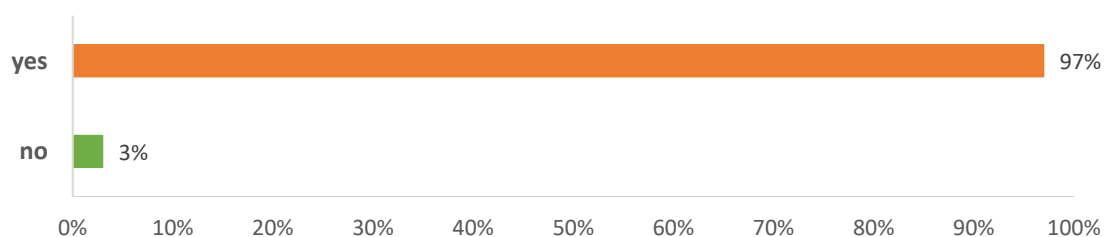
**a) Development of the new brand - Experiences of or lessons learnt from a project Life to Grasslands: Supporting extensive farming for the conservation of species rich grasslands project; Grega Makovec, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation**

Project Life to grasslands started on 1.11.2015 and is going to end this year on 31.10. Grega presented most of the results they achieved during the project. He mainly focused on results that concerns green infrastructure, although they also gained many other results during this project. Some of the results of the project were: restoration and maintenance of traditional tall tree orchards, volunteer actions and raising

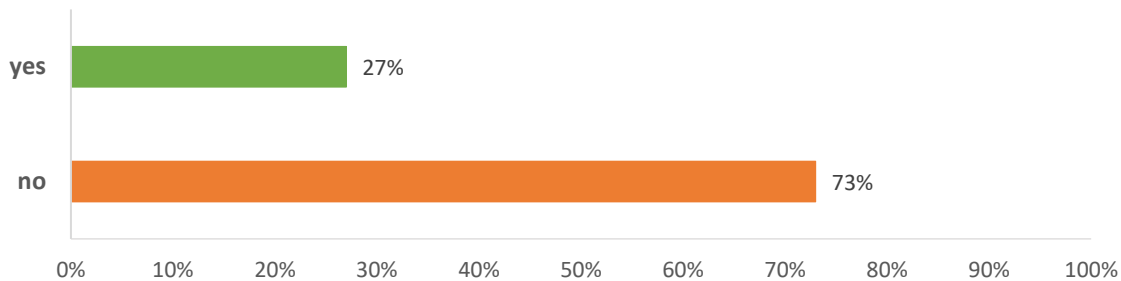


awareness among schools and local community, establishment of insect hotels for pollinators, formation of a collective brand for products "From Haloze meadow slopes", promotion of a products from grasslands, networking with other projects to develop innovative new products, and many others. Before and after presentation we asked the participants two questions that opened the debate. We created the poll and here are the results that participants voted:

#### 1. Can nature conservation and economic viability of farms go hand in hand?



**2. Can the problems of land abandonment, overgrowing, emigration and high age of farmers be solved by just the increase in economic viability of farming in areas, where farming is less favorable?**



**b) LUIGI - Linking Urban and Inner-Alpine Green Infrastructure – expected results and benefits; Daniele Zucchelli, Metropolitan City of Milan, LUIGI Lead partner**

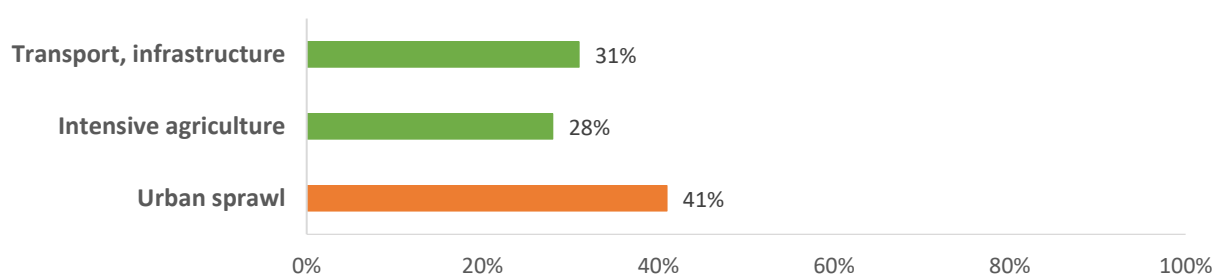
LUIGI project is an Interreg Alpine Space project that started on 1.10.2019 and will last until 30.6.2022. Focus of this project is to preserve, valorize and promote Green Infrastructures (GIs) and related Ecosystem Services (ECs) as a way to ensure a durable ecological, economic & cultural connectivity between rural & urban territories of the Alpine Space. Project's expected results are:

- Improved land-planning capabilities of regional and local policy-makers in managing GI-networks between mountain/rural/metropolitan/peri-urban & urban areas.
- Strengthened partnerships between rural & urban actors through innovative management approaches & business models, payments/compensations & shared governance tools.
- Implementation of regional pilot-actions & developing guidance for transnational sharing and replication of good practices.
- Empowered regional and local decision-makers in using ESS & GIs through new knowledge, management and financial tools.



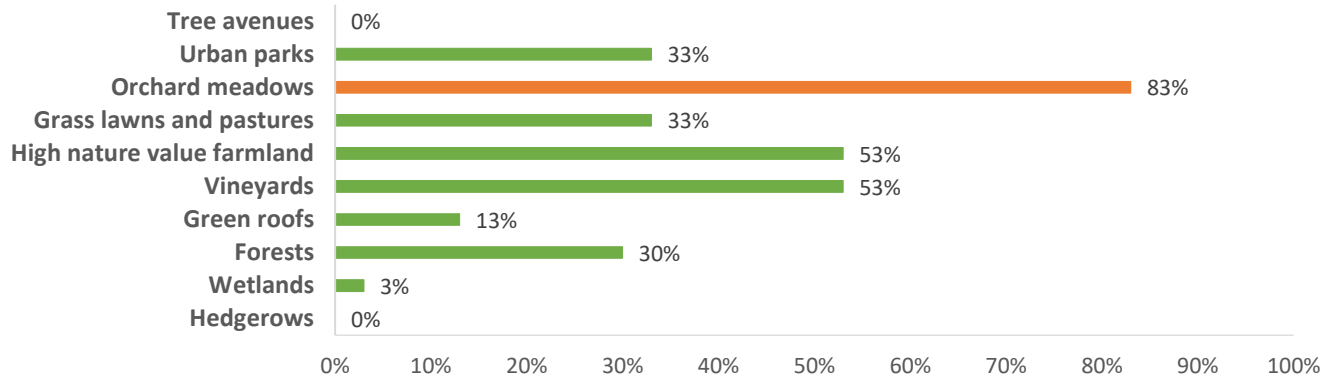
Here we also asked the participants two questions:

**1. In your opinion, which is the main element that limits ecosystems and their connectivity in peri-urban areas across the Alpine Space? (please select one)**





**2. From the following GI networks in urban, peri-urban and rural areas, which one do you think, are best suited for economic valorisation? (please select max. 3 from the options) (multiple choice)**

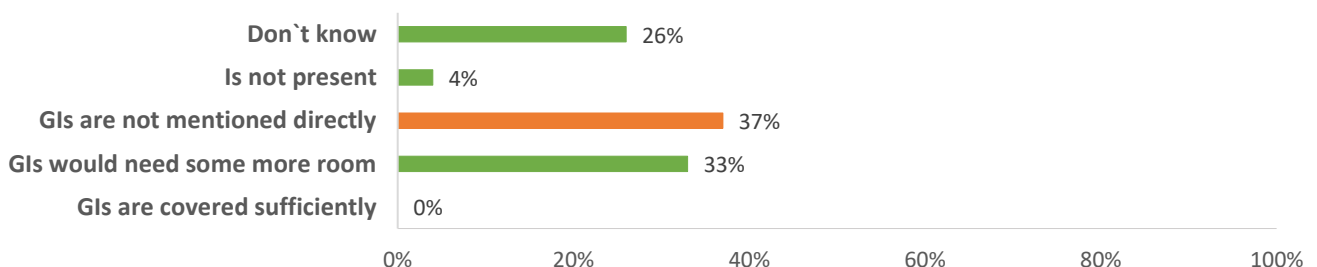


**c) How education in LUIGI project contributes to tackle GI challenges; Jože Hladnik and Irena Bertoneclj, Agricultural Institute of Slovenia**

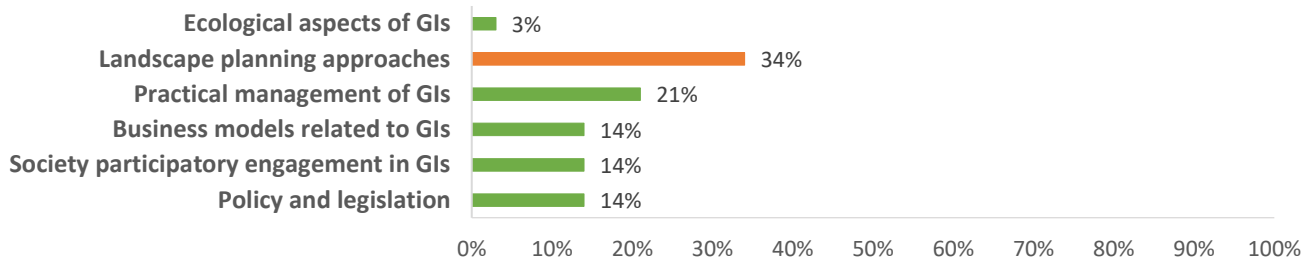
Here Jože Hladnik presented the work package 4 of LUIGI project that takes care of the module on education and training for sustainable GIs management and ESS provision. Project will provide an overview on present education and knowledge transfer mechanisms to assure a basis for future strategic planning of GIs and will propose improvements for teaching and training modules. Main activities of this work package are:

- Exploration of existing educational system
- Preparation of 4 training modules for GI education
- Suggestions for improvement of educational system
- Execution of training modules (summer schools, lectures, practical demonstrations etc.)

**1. What is your opinion on presence of Green-infrastructure-knowledge in present education and training system? (please select one)**



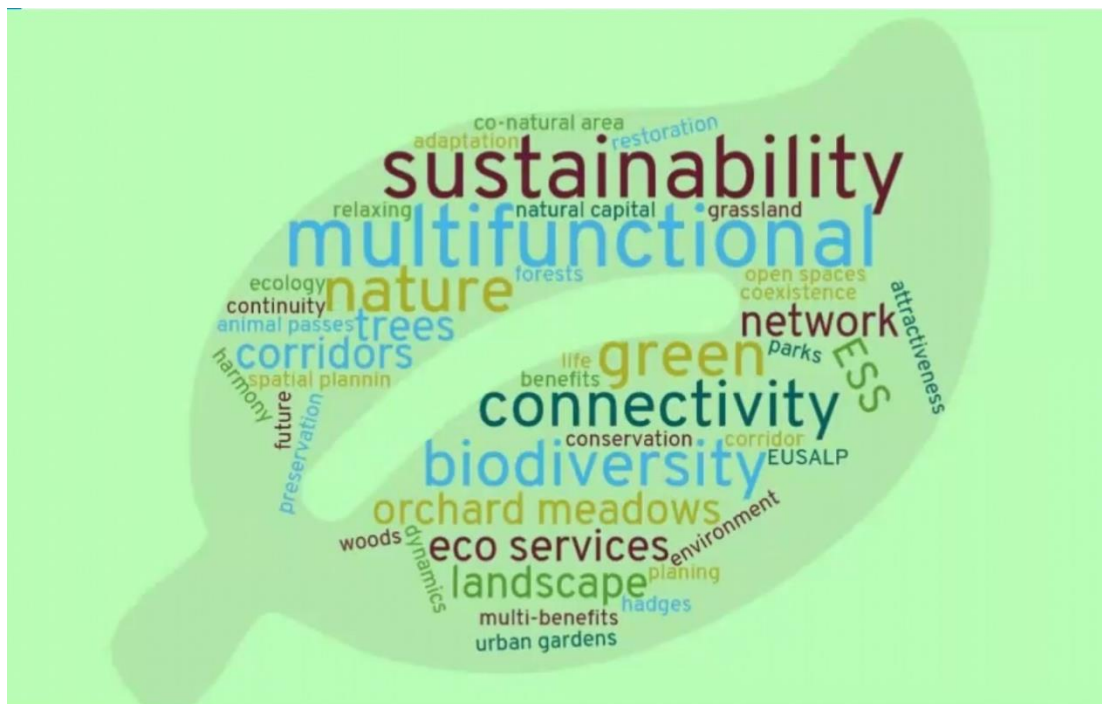
## 2. Which topic is the most important for development of sustainable Green infrastructure models? (please select one)



## 4. Conclusion

As you can see from the answers above there were very similar responses on questions from first presentations, while the other questions from second and third presentation gave multiple responses, in some cases, all responses given were represented equally.

That tells us that the concept and implementation of Green Infrastructure is still unclear to general public as well as many professionals and public administrators. There are different views on which topic is the most important for development of sustainable Green Infrastructure models; beside landscape planning approaches, are practical management of GIs, business models related to GIs, society participatory engagement in GIs, policy and legislation equally important?







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## 5. More information

- [Life to Grasslands](#)
- [LUIGI](#)
- [Action Group 7](#)
- [AlpGov 2](#)
- [Mediterranean Coast Week 2020](#)