NATURA 2000 MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE

Mateja Žvikart

“Natura 2000 along the Sava River” workshop
Zagreb, Croatia, April 3, 2009
• 26 Special Protected Areas (SPA)
• 260 Sites of Community Interest (SCI)
• encompassing 35.5% of the country.
NATURA 2000 AND LAND USE

forest .................. 71%
agricultural land ....... 26%
fields .................. 5%
grasslands ............ 12%
other ................... 9%
infrastructure .......... 2%
water ................... 1%

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MANAGEMENT NATURA 2000 SITES

- SPATIAL PLANNING
  - NC Guidelines
  - Environm. reports
- FORESTRY
  - Forest management plans
- HUNTING
  - Hunting management plans
- FISHERY
  - Fishery management plans
- WATER MANAGEMENT
  - National water Management programe
- AGRICULTURE
  - No sector planning
AGRICULTURAL POLICY AND NATURE CONSERVATION IN SLOVENIA

2. AXIS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – Agri-environment payments

NATURA 2000 SITE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

CROSS COMPLIANCE
NATURA 2000 MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

- Defines in details the protective objectives and measures in the Natura sites
- Implementation Natura 2000 objectives and measures in already existing sectors plans
- Stresses some new opportunities for local or regional development, in particular in the field of agriculture, tourism, recreation and related activities
- Implementation Natura 2000 objectives is carried out through measures of Axis 2 of the RDP 2007 – 2013
- General revision of the Programme in 2010
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natura 2000 site</th>
<th>Species (slovenian)</th>
<th>Species (latin)</th>
<th>Main objectives</th>
<th>AE measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cerkniško jezero</td>
<td>kosec</td>
<td><em>Crex crex</em></td>
<td>Ohranjanje habitat kosca za vzdrževanje stabilne populacije (17-25 gnezdečih parov).</td>
<td>V notranji coni kosca se z redno, ekstenzivno košnjo ohranja sedanji obseg travniških površin. Ustrezna raba se zagotovi skozi KO ukrepe, ukrep VTR/HAB/ETA, in sicer do leta 2010 na 250 ha, do leta 2013 pa na 300 ha travniških površin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drava</td>
<td>rjavi srakoper</td>
<td><em>Lanius collurio</em></td>
<td>Ohranjanje habitat rjavega srakoperja za vzdrževanje stabilne populacije (420-460 gnezdečih parov).</td>
<td>V notranji coni rjavega srakoperja se ohranja mozaično krajino, tako da se spodobuja kolobarjenje, ohranjanje travnikov in vzdrževanje ali vzpostavljanje mejic, posamičnih grmov in drevesa.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CROSS COMPLIANCE

- list of minimum requirements in agricultural practice
- 12 Standards, 94 requests

- Natura 2000 Standard

✓ grasslands shall be managed (mowed/grazed) at least 1x per year

✓ green cover in meadow orchards shall be managed at least 1x per year

✓ existing border tree strips and hedgerows shall be trimmed and thinned only in prescribed time

✓ landowner was not punished for illegal destruction of protected animals or habitat types
CROSS COMPLIANCE SUPERVISION

- very complicated
- supervised by different inspectors: agricultural, environmental and civil protection
- supervision is for all 12 Standards
- Under supervision is at least 1% farms per year
- if violations are present, farm will be under supervision every year until the improvement
- every violation has penalty points
- final penalty is reduction of compensatory payments
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2007 - 2013

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

AXIS 1
AXIS 2
AXIS 3
AXIS 4
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
2007 - 2013

Axis 1: Improving the competitiveness of agriculture & forestry sector

Axis 2: Improving the environment and the countryside

Axis 3: Quality of life in the countryside and diversification or rural economy

Axis 4: Implementation of the LEADER approach

Technical assistance:
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2007 - 2013

AXIS 1
399,5 mio EUR
33,3%

AXIS 2
587,6 mio EUR
52,2%

AXIS 3
132 mio EUR
11%

AXIS 4
6 mio EUR
3%

T E C H N I C A L A S S 6 mio EUR
AXIS 2

✓ Agri-Environment Payments (AEP)
✓ Compensatory allowances for Less – Favoured Areas (LFA)

LFA 48%
AEP 52%
AGRI-ENVIRONMENT PAYMENTS

• voluntarily decision
• 5-year contract
• implementation of all requirements of selected measures
• implementation of all requirements of cross compliance

GENERAL

• farmers can register all over the country
• measures for maintaining the grasslands (in general)

SPECIFIC

• measures are prepared to consider ecological requirement of threatened species (butterflies, birds,...)
• farmers can register just within Natura 2000 sites and other ecological important areas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Activity</th>
<th>Payment Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preservation of crop rotation</td>
<td>91.84 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greening of arable land</td>
<td>172.2 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated crop production</td>
<td>197.21 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated fruit production</td>
<td>336.61 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated vine production</td>
<td>381.71 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated horticulture</td>
<td>184.91 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic farming</td>
<td>227.55 – 578.92 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain pastures</td>
<td>61.09 – 72.57 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steep slopes mowing</td>
<td>90.20 – 142.27 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humpy meadows mowing</td>
<td>132.84 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meadow orchards</td>
<td>93.89 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rearing of autochtonous and traditional domestic breeds</td>
<td>89.38 GVŽ/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production of autochtonous &amp; traditional agricultural plant</td>
<td>102.91 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable rearing of domestic animals</td>
<td>84.46 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensive grassland maintainance</td>
<td>48.38 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal husbandry in central areas of large carnivores</td>
<td>29.11 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preservation of special grassland habitats</td>
<td>66.83 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preservation of grassland habitats of butterflies</td>
<td>66.83 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preservation of litter meadows</td>
<td>143.91 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird conservation in humid extensive meadow in Natura 2000</td>
<td>83.23 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent green cover in water protection areas</td>
<td>31.57 – 184.50 €/ha/year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KEY MEASURES FOR CONSERVATION OF PERMANENT GRASSLANDS

- Organic farming – Permanent grassland (EK-T)
- Mountain pastures (PP or PPP)
- Steep slopes mowing (S35 or S50)
- Humpy meadows mowing (GRB)
- Sustainable domestic animal husbandry (REJ)
- Conservation of extensive grassland (ETA)
- Conservation of special grassland habitats (HAB)
- Conservation of grassland habitats of butterflies (MET)
- Conservation of litter meadows (STE)
- Provision of favourable status of population of threatened bird species and humid grassland habitats (VTR)
PRACTICE EXAMPLES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>EK (ha)</th>
<th>ETA (ha)</th>
<th>HAB (ha)</th>
<th>GRB (ha)</th>
<th>PP + PPP (ha)</th>
<th>REJ (ha)</th>
<th>S35 + S50 (ha)</th>
<th>TSA (ha)</th>
<th>VTR (ha)</th>
<th>MET (ha)</th>
<th>STE (ha)</th>
<th>Σ</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>1.698</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5.202</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6.999</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5.327</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6.252</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.234</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16.089</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>6.222</td>
<td>5.153</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5.189</td>
<td>18.496</td>
<td>3.035</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>38.578</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>8.262</td>
<td>5012</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>3.352</td>
<td>19.565</td>
<td>6406</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>43.302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTED ha (2013)</td>
<td>60.000</td>
<td>10.000</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.000</td>
<td>65.000</td>
<td>16.600</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>161.400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NATURA 2000 SITES
35,5%
cca. 720.000 ha

FOREST
70%
cca. 504.000 ha

NON FOREST AREAS
30%
cca. 216.000 ha

AREAS SUITABLE FOR AE MEASURES
20%
cca. 144.000 ha

AE MEASURES ON NATURA 2000 SITES
32,5%
cca. 46.800 ha
JOVSI

Project LIFE04/SI/000240  Natura 2000 in Slovenia – management models and information system
NATURE CONSERVATION STATUS

- Natura 2000 (SPA, SCI)
- Ecological important area
- Protected area
- Proposal for Ramsar location

- 2 Natura habitat types
- 21 Natura species (11 bird species)
- 67 species, protected by other legal regulations
LANDOWNERS STRUCTURE

450 ha area
1000 plots
approximately 700 co-owners

KEY OBJECT
To assure late mowing (after July 15th) on at least 100 ha (AE measures HAB)
ACHIEVING THE KEY OBJECT

PHASE 1
382 invitations
11 workshops for landowners
6 dates for signing the contract

PHASE 2
Individual talking with opinion makers
Individual talking with farmers and landowners
Signing the contracts
RESULTS

70 signers
103,85 ha under AE measures
used time: 468 hours (0.27% FT/year)
CORNCRAKE (Crex crex) IN JOVSI

Number of singing males
1993 - 2007

Število pojočih samcev

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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PROBLEMS

• % of AE measures on Natura 2000 sites is not sufficient
  - Compensatory payments aren’t sufficient
  - Some requirements are unacceptable
  - Too many administration/supervisions
  - Low public awareness
  - crumbled land structure
  - age
  - education

• non specific AE measures
  - Requirements not suitable for different areas (mountain, panonic region,…)
  - insufficient results on protected species/habitat types
FUTURE CHALLENGES

- Analysis of AE measures on Natura sites
- Revision of AE measures and completions/corrigenda
- Preparation of new, specific measures
- Intensive communication and promotion
- Introduction Natura payments