

## URBforDAN Project

### REPORT on 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshops with key stakeholders in Ljubljana

#### Joint report for all topics



## 1. Overall concept and design of workshops

In line with URBforDAN project concept, work-plan and Short Guidelines for implementation of Workshops COL and SFS organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> series of URBforDAN workshops; this time only with forest users. The main reason for this decision was that the project team would first like to finalize all the ideas with forest users and only then present them to forest owners on a special workshop in autumn 2019.

Subsequently only 1 workshop was organized:

- 1) Workshop with forest users was organized on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

The overall aim of 3<sup>rd</sup> series of workshops is to involve key stakeholders in the IMMP planning process through development of “draft action plans” with concrete measures/activities to be further developed in Operational parts of IMMPs.

This was achieved through 2 main goals:

- Presentation of key topics/measures developed under Strategic parts of IMMPs.
- Discussion on concrete measures/activities, as well as steps for their implementation.

Workshop results will be used as a basis and further developed in Operational parts of IMMPs.

This workshop was organized in the same way as previous workshops – as a 2 hour workshop divided into 2 integral parts:

### 1) Presentation of so far achieved results (roughly 20 minutes):

- Stakeholders were informed about the progress since the last workshop. The team also used this time to help them understand in which IMMP development phase we are and how they can contribute. In this way we helped them understand why we are focusing only on specific steps in the whole planning process (*e.g. we first need to identify key activities/projects and locate them into space, before we can think of conflicts and synergies, etc.*).
- A 15 min introductory PPT was used for this purpose and delivered by SFS.

### 2) Group work exercise (10 minutes for introduction, 1 hour for group work and 15 minutes for reporting):

- Introduction: Participants were introduced to the group work and the purpose of group work was explained to them
- Group work: Participants were divided into several groups. They were instructed to deal with 1 or more key measures/activities (e.g. development of educational trails/polygons, minimum standards for entrance points and urban equipment, code of conduct and separation of trails, etc.). Participants used flip-chart blank maps of Golovec hill and “draw-in” locations for concrete solutions/project ideas, if relevant. One of URBforDAN team members accompanied each group as a moderator in order to guide and support the discussion.
- Reporting: Each moderator presented key results of the group work and proposed further steps/solutions. Participants commented reports and additionally supplemented them. It was agreed that for some specific issues additional bilateral meetings with stakeholders might be needed.

### 3) Concluding remarks (15 minutes):

- At the end of the workshop, URBforDAN team explained the timeline for next steps in the project and announced additional individual meetings with stakeholders as well as Public presentation of the final draft IMMP in autumn 2019 (most likely September or October).

## 2. Main conclusions of the 3rd workshop with forest users on Golovec hill in Ljubljana

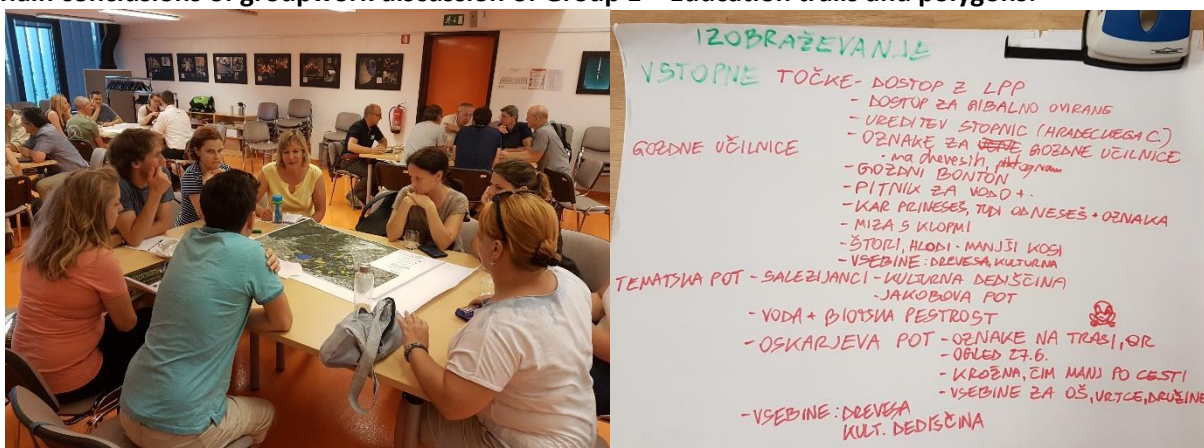
Based on above concept and as previously described, COL, SFS and EE for COL implemented the 3<sup>rd</sup> workshop with forest users on Golovec hill in Ljubljana on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019. 30 participants responded to the invitation, which was almost double the number from the previous workshop. They represented a diverse group of key stakeholders – joggers, cyclists, downhill cyclists, dog-walkers, school & kindergarten teachers, boy scouts, NGOs, COL department representatives, etc.



**Groupwork with Golovec hill forest users in Ljubljana on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019.**

Main conclusions of groupwork discussions for individual topics from the workshop are presented below.

### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 1 – Education trails and polygons:



**Workshop results on the topic of Education trails and polygons**

### Activities linked to design and set-up of entrance points for children:

- At least 2 out of 3 entrance points should be accessible by public transport – nearest bus stops should be clearly marked.
- At least 1 entrance point should allow entrance for physically disabled persons.



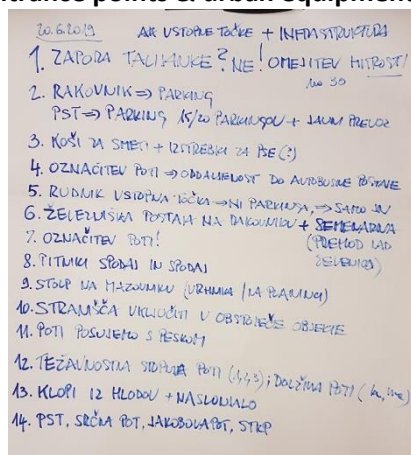
Activities linked to design and set-up of forest educational polygons:

- All forest educational polygons should be clearly marked (suggested is a non-invasive color marking on trees).
- A code of conduct should be designed specifically for the use of forest educational polygons.
- Minimal urban equipment should be used – benches (logs are sufficient), water access (if available nearby). No waste baskets are needed – the principle “*What you bring into the forest you must also take out!*” should be applied.
- Logs, branches, smaller blocks of wood, etc. should be left on the polygon for children to play with and use.
- Additional on-site contents (e.g. important trees, cultural heritage) should be promoted.

Activities linked to design and set-up of forest Educational path:

- Potential to combine it with other thematic paths – e.g. Jakobova pot, Oskarjeva pot, etc.
- “Water”, “Biodiversity”, “Trees” & “Cultural heritage” should be key educational topics.
- Primary school Oskar Kovačič already marked its own recreational trail called Oskarjeva pot. It should be marked with other thematic trails. It can be re-traced and created as a circular trail (with as little trail running on paved roads as possible). On the long run it could be recognized as a trail for schools, children and families with adequate contents.
- Uniform and clear markings of trails are a must – more detailed information should be available on entrance points.

**Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 2 – Entrance points & urban equipment:**

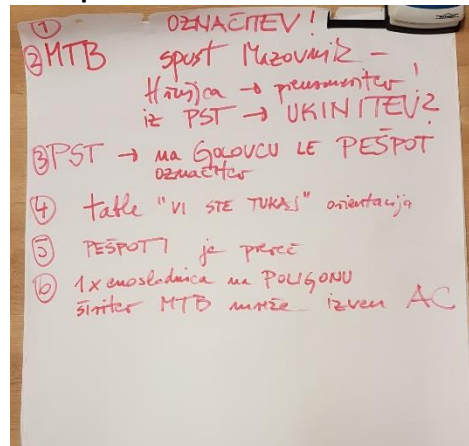


**Workshop results on the topic of Entrance points & urban equipment**

- All entrance points should be equipped with wastebaskets; meanwhile, this group could not reach a clear decision about wastebaskets inside the forest.
- Trails should be separated (hikers/bikers) and clearly marked with uniform and easily understandable signs. It would be appreciated if there were clear information about the level of difficulty for each trail on entrance points.
- Motor traffic should be reduced and speed limited to 30 km/h. Instead, public transport access and cycling access should be reinforced. Nearest bus stops should be clearly marked on entrance points

- Water fountains should be set-up where possible – both on entrance points and on selected locations in the forest.
- Toilettes should be located in existing service buildings (bars, restaurants) on the forest edge.
- Trails should be constructed with the use of gravel and sand. Surface water run-off is a problem to be dealt with.
- All urban equipment should be mostly wooden (preference for natural materials) and with simple design.

### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 3 – Separation of trails:



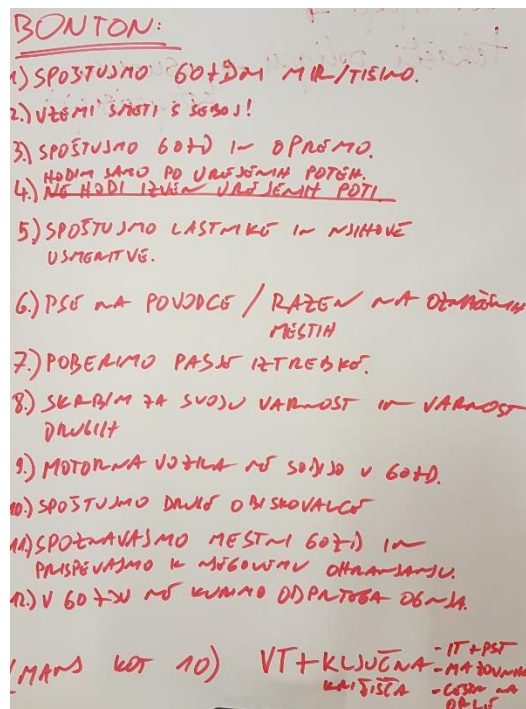
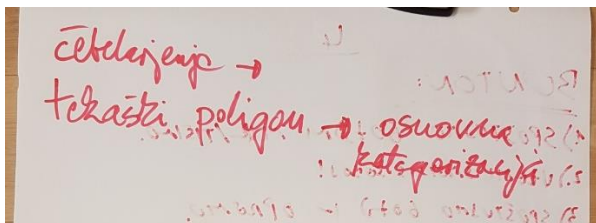
#### Workshop results on the topic of Separation of trails

- Some downhill trails should be re-directed to prevent crossings with walking and multi-use trails.
- PST trail will be turned into a pedestrian only trail, while another trail (running parallel to PST) will be converted to a cycling trail.
- Trails should be separated (hikers/bikers) and clearly marked with uniform and easily understandable signs. There should be more information available on the entrance points, but navigation is needed also within the forest, so some info maps (smaller format) should also be placed on selected locations.
- There are too many existing walking paths – there is no need for such density, so some paths should be slowly abandoned from use through implementation of soft measures.
- All downhill and up-hill trails which will be only for cyclists must be clearly marked. Downhill activities should be limited to the downhill polygon and pre-agreed trails, but such new trails should be developed on the eastern edge of the Golovec hill or outside its borders to avoid potential conflicts.

### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 4 – Code of conduct:

The code of conduct for visitors of the Golovec hill should contain the following statements:

- Respect the peace and quiet of the forest.
- Take the waste with you and out of the forest.
- Do not damage forest or the urban equipment.
- Use only marked paths.
- I respect forest owners and their directions.
- Put dogs on leashes – except on clearly marked places.



**Workshop results on the topic of Code of conduct**

- Put dogs on leashes – except on clearly marked places.
- Pick-up dog excrement.
- I am responsible for my own safety and safety of others.
- Motorized vehicles do not belong into the forest.
- I respect other visitors.
- I learn about the urban forest and actively contribute to its preservation.
- No open fire should be allowed.

All above stated points should be revised and turned into rules with positive connotation.

The code of conduct should be placed 10 meters into the forest edge on all entrance points and on most visited crossroads in the forest.