

## **URBforDAN Project**

# REPORT on 2<sup>nd</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 2<sup>nd</sup> series of URBforDAN workshops with forest owners and users. Two workshops were organized:

- 1) Workshop with forest owners was organized on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- 2) Workshop with forest users was organized on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The overall aim of 2<sup>nd</sup> series of workshops was to involve key stakeholders in the IMMP planning process through prioritization of key topics and identification of potential solutions. This was achieved through 2 main goals:

- To present so far achieved results to key stakeholders.
- To discuss concrete topics, reveal the needs/demands in the UPF from different stakeholders and problems/conflicts regarding the multiple use of forests and identify potential solutions to exposed challenges.

Both workshops were organized in the same way – as 2 h workshops, divided into 3 integral parts:

#### 1) Presentation of so-far achieved results (30 minutes):

 Key stakeholders were informed about the progress since the last meeting – main conclusions (key stakeholder profiles) from both questioners (for forest owners and forest users) were presented. Based on those inputs, as well as conclusions from 1st series of workshops and Ecosystem Services Mapping, the URBforDAN team listed and explained key topics (for example – entrance points, walking paths, cycling paths and polygons, education and interpretation, various activity points, etc.) to be discussed during groupwork.

## 2) "World Café" group-work exercise (15 minutes for introduction, 1 h for groupwork and 15 minutes for conclusions):

- Introduction Participants were introduced to the concept of the "World Café" group-work and asked for active participation in discussion about challenges and solutions on specific topic. They were divided into 5 groups, each discussing an individual topic Entrance points, Walking paths, Cycling paths and polygons, Education and interpretation, Various activity points. Each group was equipped with a moderator (facilitating the discussion and transferring key information to other participants), a list of key discussion points, a customized map of Golovec hill and a flip-chart to record key points of the discussion.
- Group-work Groups discussed the assigned topic for 20 minutes. After this time elapsed, participants were asked to move to another topic. There moderator informed them on key discussion points from previous group. After this they were given 10 minutes to up-grade the work of previous groups. Through 4 such repetitions all participants were able to provide their opinion, ideas and solutions on all 5 priority topics.
- Conclusions In the end (after 4 changes) groups returned to the original topic. Here the
  moderator presented final discussion results and drew key group/topic conclusions with
  support of participants.

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

• In the end URBforDAN team announced the timeline for next steps in the project, additional individual meetings with stakeholders, as well as the 3rd series of workshops.



# 2. Main conclusions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop with forest owners on Golovec hill in Ljubljana

Based on above described concept and design CoL, SFS and external experts implemented the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop with forest owners on Golovec hill in Ljubljana on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. 30 participants responded to the invitation. They represented a diverse forest owner group as representatives of small, medium and large private forest owners were present. This is important, as view-points from private forest owners of different sizes proved to be diverse.



Groupwork with Golovec hill private forest owners in Ljubljana on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

CoL, SFS and external experts also implemented the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop with forest users on Golovec hill in Ljubljana on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019. 18 participants responded to the invitation. This is lower number than expected, however we have to emphasize that several bilateral meetings were held prior to the workshop, where focus groups representatives were named to represent a specific group of stakeholders. This also contributed to more even representation of key stakeholder groups.



Groupwork with Golovec hill forest users in Ljubljana on 12th March 2019.



Main conclusions of groupwork discussions for individual topics from both workshops are presented below.

#### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 1 – Entrance points:

- All entrance points must be clearly marked in a visible way.
- All entrance points must be categorized into 3 categories and should be equipped with different levels of urban infrastructure as follows:
  - Category 1 Public transport access, Car-park, Toilets, Bike-park, Self-service column for bike-repairs, Information board (with Golovec area description, map with important trails/sites, rules of behavior, important announcements).
  - Category 2 Public transport access, Bike-park, Self-service column for bike-repairs, Information board (with Golovec area description, rules of behavior, important announcements).
  - Category 3 –Information board (with Golovec area description, rules of behavior, important announcements).
- All entrance points must be connected to a public road or must be publicly accessible through an agreement with forest owners. Trails must be properly maintained.
- Information about Golovec hill should be available on-line and/or through application for mobile phones information should include:
  - Map of Golovec hill with important trails/sites/attractions
  - Information on accessibility of all entrance points
  - Information on nearby public parking lots
  - o Conditions for use of infrastructure
  - o Rules of behavior
  - Important announcements
- All markings and signs on Golovec hill should be uniform.
- Entrance points should be regularly and properly maintained.

#### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 2 – Walking paths, Cycling paths and polygons:

- Clear set of behavior rules must be established and enforced especially for cyclists.
- Forest owners must properly mark forest work sites in order to ensure safety suggestion to impose stricter marking rules for Golovec hill. Also, awareness of users should be raised on this topic.
- Dogs should be by rule put on the leash and owners should take care of their droppings.
- Narrow paths should be used for only 1 type of users, while wider ones should indicate multi-use with clear behavior rules.
- Improve marking of paths and trails and they should be clearly presented on entrance points.
- There are enough paths/trails already existing, so new ones should be banned.
- PST should be "re-categorized" into public pedestrian path.
- Downhill trails should be clearly marked and must not cross with other paths/trails.
- Illegal picnic areas should be either turned into legal ones and properly maintained or abandoned.
- Concern was raised that any measures and rules will be obeyed only if there is strict surveillance put into place.
- "Arrow head" a new idea for archery polygon.
- Wild-fires should be take seriously and appropriate plans should be put into place.
- A cycling path alongside Dolenjska cesta is needed to enable connectivity for cyclists.
- Main paths should be named for better visibility and easier orientation of users.



#### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 4 – Education and interpretation:

- Owners confirmed the idea to create 1 educational trail crossing Golovec from North to with several contents linked to water, silent zones, forest ecosystem, etc. will be primarily designed for primary school children.
- Owners confirmed the idea to locate 1 "forest playing polygon" only a 100m x 100 m forest plot, appropriately marked and without any urban equipment. The idea is that kindergarten children can come here and experience forest, as it is, play in it, etc. Participants identified 8 potential plots, which could be taken under consideration.
- Forest owners suggested that all sites should be discussed with school and kindergarten teachers, verified with them and then visited on the field. Only then should CoL contact owners and discuss further steps with them (point 1).
- Prior to confirmation of those locations forest owners expressed the following conditions:
  - Clear rules for use of such areas should be established and teachers must be educated also on that topic.
  - Clear communication channels should be established between education institutions / teachers / owners – this is important also for warning from owner that some forest works are being done on the plot at certain time, and that visits in this period are not allowed.
  - When plots are decided upon, all issues regarding their delineation in space (geodetic measurement of plots) and ownership issues should be resolved with all forest owners.
- Forrest owners emphasized the need to "push" motorized traffic out of the urban forest, as well as to impose strict behavior rules for cyclists.
- One of the forest owners is interested to develop a service for all visitors a wooden forest café, with dry toilets could be merged with other potential ideas (e.g. viewpoint tower, adrenalin park, tree-top walk, etc.) but also with education.
- The discussion and suggestions from forest owners were presented to school and kindergarten teachers. They were accepted in full. They even supported the "business idea" as smart toilets are really missed at this point. But opinions were divided on this issue, as some suggested to build toilets at entrance points rather than in forest.
- Primary school teachers informed us that they "marked" their "Golovec march trail" (using fully existing trails) and they would like to put it on the map, as they plan to use it for traditional sports and hiking events and plan to promote it for primary schools.
- Some teachers and also boy-scouts also expressed the idea for organized spot, where they could teach how to build and light camp-fires. Of course, under strict supervision and only if such locations have safe "burning sites". This idea was quickly linked with potential picnic-area sites.
- Boy-scouts proved to be a new and very active stakeholder group (not identified by stakeholder profiles) with many ideas e.g. "orientation in nature" exercise (they only require permission from owners no infrastructure), due to potential overuse they suggest to agree on bigger plots for "forest playing polygons" (cca. 300x300m), they want to co-create educational programmes,
- Participants also exposed other users for example high-schools, universities (field-work) and companies working with kids in the afternoon or during school-holidays.

#### Main conclusions of groupwork discussion of Group 5 – Various activity points:

- Wooden lookout tower best location would be Mazovnik, but it is privately owned, so ownership status/public access should be resolved first. It could represent a mid-point for a recreational/biking trail from Bizovik to Rudnik.
- Adventure park public access must be resolved.



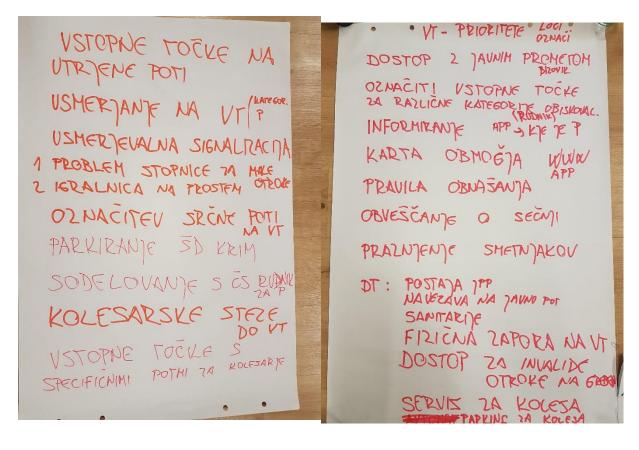
- Valley of the ponds wet terrain, not suitable as a picnic area. If educational path will be formed, access for forest works must be ensured for forest owners and it must be properly maintained. Location could be used for school in nature for kindergartens and primary schools.
- Trenches top remains of military infrastructure (trenches) are in the process of being proclaimed as cultural heritage. Combined with 5 other locations of pre-historic settlements on Golovec hill they could attract new type of visitors and add to attraction of Golovec hill. This location could also be used for school in nature, however it is far from the forest edge and harder to access.
- Tree house public access must be resolved.
- There shouldn't be too many attraction points 5 seems enough.
- Main paths should be named for better visibility and easier orientation of users.
- Entrance points should be properly marked, provide good orientation and behavior information, car parking should be ensured, outdoor fitness equipment and bike-parks should be installed.
- "Golovec march trail" should be linked with main attraction points.
- If motorized traffic will be fully banned, intervention access roads must be ensured.
- Forest owners suggested some sort of compensation system should be established for affected owners.



### Annex 1 – Workshop results by discussion groups

Workshop results on the topic of Entrance points:

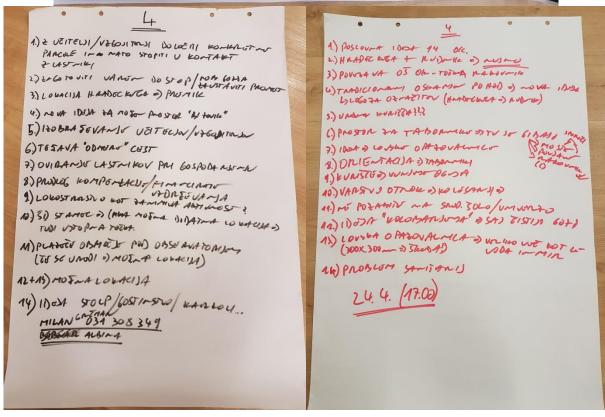






#### Workshop results on the topic of Walking paths, Cycling paths and polygons:

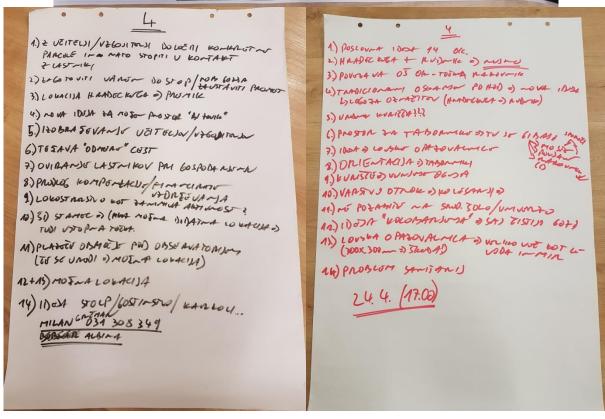






#### Workshop results on the topic of Education and interpretation:







Workshop results on the topic of Various activity points:



