

Night Light Action Plan

Action plan for Improving Regional Policies to
Reduce Light Pollution and Protect and Valorise
Dark Night Skies

Gorenjska, Slovenia

Kranj, Slovenia
December 2019



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Part I – GENERAL INFORMATION

Project: NIGHT LIGHT - Improving regional policies to reduce light pollution and protect and valorise dark night skies

Partner organisation concerned: BSC, Business support centre Ltd., Kranj

Other partner organisations involved (if relevant): -

Country: Slovenia

NUTS2 region: West cohesion region

NUTS3 county: Gorenjska

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Part II – POLICY CONTEXT

The Action Plan aims to impact:

- Investment for Growth and Jobs programme**
- European Territorial Cooperation programme
- Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed:

- **Operational program for cohesion policy 2014 – 2020**

Further documents to be tackled to assure policy changes:

- Strategic document of Triglav National park connected to development of Tourism in National park
- Local policy

Short introduction to the regional context Gorenjska and its status quo in connection with Night light topics

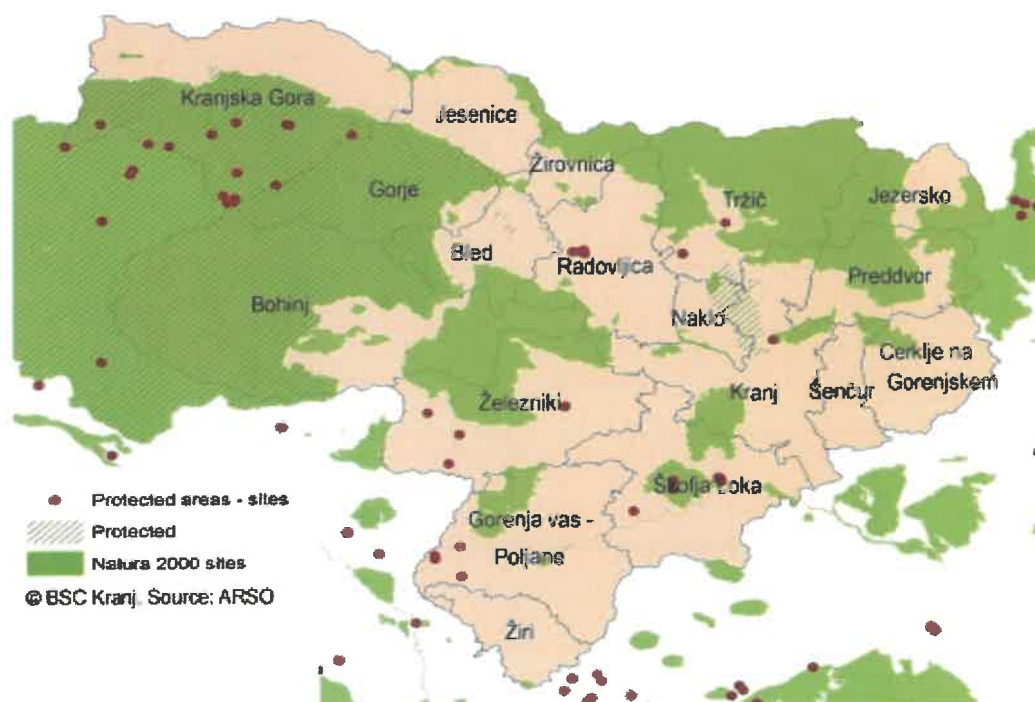
The Upper Carniola Statistical Region (Slovene: Gorenjska statistična regija) is a statistical region in northwest Slovenia, bordering Austria and Italy. It is a region with Alpine characteristics; high mountains (e.g. Julian Alps with Triglav National Park, including highest mountain in the country Triglav, Karavanke, and Kamniško Savinjske Alpe), Natura 2000 areas cover over 50% of the region; valleys and hills with settlements 6,7%, 68 % of forests, 20 % of fertile land, and the rest natural unfertile land (rocks,...).

The relief and climate are good basis for development of dark sky areas (settlements surrounded by high mountains), artificial glow from light pollution is hindered back due to mountain barriers (especially in the mountain range Julijske Alpe, Karavanke, Kamniško Savinjske Alpe bordering Austria in Italy). Since tourism is very much connected to the area's natural attractions and its centres (e.g. bordering/or in Triglav National Park, e.g. Bled), the rest of the countryside and smaller settlements are touristically not developed (only few options for overnight stays, very few services and products connected to tourism, young do not see the opportunities in employment in diverse services and products connected to tourism (brain drain of young educated people, employment in other nearby regions). Nevertheless, tourism coexists beside industrial branches (ICT, materials,...), which is mainly present in bigger cities, while in rural areas traditional branches prevail (mainly based on traditional production/traditional materials like wood, metal,..). One of the prosperous branches in the region, that can in connection with Dark sky attractions bring new working places and contribute to green sustainable development of the area, are predominantly very scarce with quality working places with higher added value.

Map of the Gorenjska region



Map of Natura 2000 areas in Gorenjska region



Based on the national strategies for energy efficiency and legislation for light pollution from 2007 (one of the first legislation on the topic in EU) light pollution has been recognised as development challenge based mainly on reducing costs for electricity of public lighting. Before the Night Light project almost no importance was given to the consequences of light pollution and its influence on biodiversity, health and possibilities that

Natura 2000 areas and its neighbouring areas (e.g. smaller settlements in the countryside with no tourism offer in the field of Dark sky) might develop dark sky tourism based on the preserved dark sky areas or areas that might with light reduction contribute to the development of dark sky areas (oasis with limited/no dark sky pollution). Also National program for Natura 2000 does not mention light pollution and its consequences on biodiversity, also National tourism strategy does not mention dark sky tourism as development opportunity, neither the Triglav National Park Management plan and other development strategies and action plans within Triglav National park.

Additionally only few/almost no solutions with innovative lighting that could contribute to preservation of biodiversity (e.g. bats,.....) were in place (e.g. good example of pilot innovative lightning in churches), also new installations based on local community jurisdiction mainly focused on reduction of costs and not on facts of user friendly, nature protection issues,.... There is lack of knowledge at policy level (local communities) especially in connection to know innovative technologies that are on the market (lack of independent public consultancy and guidance – to show different possibilities, options, that might be the most suitable for certain locations, due to closeness to Natura 2000, influence on biodiversity, health,...).

Also before Night Light, standards connected to preserving the dark sky and reduction of light pollution like standards of the Dark Sky Association and standards in Spain (Starlight Fundación) were not known in Slovenia (except in limited scientific and NGO circles).

Based on opportunities given by the Night Light project, BSC Kranj and stakeholders in the Gorenjska region and beyond had the opportunity to learn about diverse good practices, e.g:

- Development of approaches how to prepare the ground to raise the awareness and become Dark sky area (Netherlands, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain)
- Working on standards and long term commitment for Dark sky (Hungary, Spain – La Palma, Møn island, Denmark)
- Long term strategies as basis for successful Dark sky area (Spain – La Palma, Hungary)
- Legislation as imperative for development of Dark sky area (Spain – La Palma)
- Innovative technologies in lighting as starting point /empowerment solution for changes of attitude and starting point for long term strategic changes (Netherlands, Spain – La Palma, Denmark)
- Cultural heritage and nowadays creativity as the basis for Dark sky empowerment/experience (Luxembourg, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Hungary)
- Natural heritage, biodiversity and healthy life style as basis for Dark sky empowerment (Spain – La Palma)
- Link astronomy and gastronomy (Spain: Ávila, La Palma and the Netherlands)
- Story telling as important part of the Dark sky message (Spain – La Palma, Hungary)
- Dark sky standards as starting point for development of sustainable green tourism and sustainable working places (Spain – La Palma, Hungary, Dark sky Association)

As a starting point for the state of the art in the field of light pollution general individual discussion in the region and workshops (some being enriched by expertise and good practices of Night light partners) regarding options for becoming a Dark Sky area (obtaining Dark sky status from the International Dark Sky Association and checking the standards of Starlight Fundación), if the standards in Spain might apply for the Gorenjska region and if more appropriate local minimum standards needed to be set to start the journey toward dark sky areas. Having the goal to preserve precious night time landscape, protect biodiversity (e.g. bats, birds, etc.). The (national) lighting regulations in place contribute to reduction of light pollution, through the years, although the biggest polluters remain in place (national roads, highways, business zones, malls,...). So far, local communities see public lighting costs (beside regulations) as an imperative reason to change public lighting.

Awareness of light pollution and its effects on biodiversity and health are very low, as well as the understanding of the options how to develop dark sky tourism. Additionally, since there is no impartial adviser for innovative technologies in lighting, local communities rarely employ experts from the field of lighting technologies, in many cases the lighting installed does not reflect the needs of the space and inhabitants itself, and in many cases the power of new lighting is higher than it could be, since due to innovative technologies the lighting could be lower. Public lighting is run usually on concession (the concessioner is usually responsible for replacement of the lighting), not by the local community itself. Only in several small local communities this is the case, in others based on the agreement with concessioner (it depends from the contract). Local communities/concessioners have in their records all public lightings, some also including consumption (mainly where concessioner is responsible for lighting).

Zoning so far was not performed, although several smaller areas might fit to become Dark sky spots/points like Jezersko, the smallest local community in the region, spots in mountain ranges bordering Austria, the Julian Alps (spots within Triglav National Park, e.g. around ski resort Vogel, Pokljuka,...), spots at the edge of the region in Škofjeloško, Idrijsko hribovje. Initial ideas for zoning gave a starting point to openly discuss the topic of Dark sky status and the options /solutions that can be put in place to reduce light pollution within Natura 2000 and nearby areas (settlements, cities,...), which significantly influence the “state of darkness” in Natura 2000 areas.

There are several first glimpses of possible astrotourism (night walks that could be upgraded with astrotourism topic). Within Triglav National Park observations of stars and stargazing walks are regularly organised on Mt. Vogel in the touristic season, sometimes also combined with local food experience. Mentioned events are becoming more and more visited (mainly by foreign guests, but also locals) and represent first steps towards the five-star experience (based on the Slovenian tourism development strategy). Additionally, in some secondary schools astronomic clubs are vivid and student learn about stars, light pollution and importance of dark sky for preservation of biodiversity and astronomic observations. Clubs are mentored by professors with good knowledge in several fields connected to dark skies and should be passed also to the young population now not involved in the clubs (from primary schools,...)

NGOs working in the field of light pollution and experts in the topics of Dark sky are quite active and interested to develop further empowerment in the region (in connection to light pollution, Dark sky topics e.g. trainings, guidance, innovative technologies, biodiversity, astrotourism, etc.).

Stakeholders (local communities, local tourism boards, schools, NGOs, some SMEs working in tourism and other services/products,...) are becoming more and more interested in the topic and to successfully develop Dark sky areas/spots and assure sustainable development with sustainable specific working places concrete actions need to take place.

Initially, based on Letter of support by the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning given in application phase of the project, BSC Kranj should with its knowledge obtained in the Night Light project influence the Natura 2000 Management Programme 2014-2020 and contribute to changes of the mentioned program.

Based on several discussions with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, responsible for the Natura 2000 Management Programme, it is evident that Natura 2000 Management Programme for the period 2014-2020 will not be changed (no changes are foreseen - since new document for programming period 2020-2027 is in preparation already).

Therefore, BSC Kranj checked other options, how and in which way BSC Kranj can with the knowledge obtained in the Night Light project influence other policies that might add topics of Night Light as the strategic development priority. The following documents were checked and responsible authorities checked the options:

- Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020, which is National operational program, funded by ERDF, ESS, Cohesion fund. Especially, we checked the possibility to influence priority 6 (preservation of natural heritage), the measure was/is connected to maintain the biodiversity in especially endangered habitats, where certain measures were envisaged for Natura 2000 areas. The measure is in implementation, it's been fully contracted and therefore no possibility to add influence of artificial lighting to the measure, also new projects cannot be proposed as the measure already is contracted.
- National regulation connected to energy efficiency in public lighting (decree from 1999). Based on discussions with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning the national regulation is expected to be changed /upgraded in future years (but exact timing of change is unknown, since the initial procedure for change of decree has not started yet).
- Management plan for Triglav National Park: based on discussions with responsible experts, the Management plan will not be changed, some other strategic documents connected to Triglav National Park will be developed/upgraded in the future (initial procedures for mentioned document not yet started, therefore the exact timing cannot be foreseen).

Finally, based on several discussions and overview of additional options, BSC Kranj found the realistic option to influence the policies focused on the Gorenjska region (mainly focusing on defining Dark sky spots and surrounding settlements in Gorenjska region) in the following way:

- Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020, the priority addressed is 2.9.7. CLLD approach (BSC Kranj manages CLLD funds for 14 local communities - LAG Gorenjska košarica).
- Strategic document of Triglav National Park connected to development of Tourism in the park (topics: light pollution issues and astrotourism).
- Local policy via preparation of the strategy with action plan as starting point for local strategic actions and for possible joining of the Dark sky areas (Dark sky status) and/or putting in force local minimum standards.

Based on good cooperation with stakeholders in the Gorenjska region and regular contacts with national authorities responsible for the Operational program for cohesion policy and Natura 2000 Programme gave us the starting point to develop realistic actions that can influence the policy in this programming period and prepare the ground for changes of the policy (national and local) in the future (long term) beyond the project life time.

The interregional learning process BSC Kranj and stakeholders from Gorenjska and beyond to learn from other Night Light regions and to define good practices that can be at least partly transferred to the Gorenjska region in connection with further reduction of light pollution and consequently protection of biodiversity, health and development of sustainable green places in green services and products.

The Peer Review event hosted by Gorenjska in 2017 gave BSC Kranj and its stakeholders the important knowledge and expertise from other participating experts from Night Light regions that were elaborated in main findings and recommendations.

All meetings within the Night Light partnership were used as imperative to better understand and value the lessons learned within interregional learning processes. Also discussions with stakeholders and discussions

about possible regional action based on Night Light good practices and peer review findings took place regularly.

The foreseen actions in Gorenjska will influence several areas of development that are tackled by the Night Light project:

- Connect regional identity with dark sky options/areas and green sustainable development
- Enable responsible stakeholders to know innovative lighting technologies better and to use the needs of space, inhabitants as one of factors to define technology solutions
- Protect natural heritage and preserve biodiversity
- Get to know cultural heritage and its possibilities to be linked with Dark sky (including connection to nowadays creativity)
- Empower, raise awareness of diverse stakeholders and inhabitants (especially young)
- Develop strategic approach/document that will enable starting point of the Dark sky areas recognition/values/technologies/services/products, etc.
- Develop the possibilities/starting points for development of green sustainable working places in innovative services/products connected to Dark sky topic
- Upgrade the commitment and long term partnership within regional stakeholder group to make Dark sky actions implementable in long term (via changes of policies)

Part III – DETAILS OF THE ACTIONS ENVISAGED

ACTION 1. Strengthening Dark sky identity with empowerment actions

Action 1 is connected to the Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy 2014 – 2020 and its priority 2.9.7 CLLD. Since BSC Kranj runs (is lead partner) of LAG Gorenjska košarica and is responsible for overall management of LAG (strategy preparation, implementation, calls, monitoring of the implementation of strategy, cooperation projects with other LAG-s in EU on strategic topics of development).

Specific activities for preparation of the project done by experienced BSC Kranj staff (based on the LAG call) will be implemented to assure quality partnership being dedicated to the topic of Dark sky and will be started by involving the members of the Night light stakeholder group as well as Managing Authority of the policy in question.

The activities within the project are as follows:

- Empowerment action for cooperation between generations with preparation and implementation of specific empowerment activities that will be embedded in events around the CLLD region (focus on goal groups; inhabitants, young, policy level)
- Specific empowerment pilot action connected to pilot implementation of innovative lighting (respecting the biodiversity) (focus on experts, policy level)
- regional event connected to Dark sky issues (goal groups experts, policy level)
- Evaluation

The costs of the project will be covered by CLLD funds (LAG Gorenjska košarica)

1. Relevance to the project

The action has been generated on the basis of good practices identified and presented in the Night Light project and the main findings of the peer review hosted by BSC Kranj in 2017:

- Good Practice “Cultural empowerment events in Luxembourg and Italy”
- Good Practice “La Palma Tourist Destination with its events”
- Good practice the Netherlands, Denmark (innovative technologies for reducing light pollution)
- Recommendation of peers to utilize the Dark sky approaches in the region

Good practice “Cultural empowerment events”

Lessons learnt from Basilicata Region and Luxembourg, based on good practice defined in GP Directory and experienced during the Peer Review in Matera in 2018 and the interregional policy learning event in 2019

In Basilicata region, sky observation on winter and summer solstice have been organized: in cooperation with the National Research Group “Pedagogy of the sky”, they organize a night tour of the park along with *theatrical performances*, both for adults and children, aimed at mapping the stars and revive either the *ancient mythologies* and the *popular traditions* connected to the position of the stars. Transhumance is also part of the story – similar to transhumance tradition in Hungary, HBCG plans to take the benefit and build the story in its actions.

In Luxembourg they have innovative cultural events that are connected to Dark sky and empower diverse stakeholders and general public.

Good practice “La Palma Starlight Tourist Destination with cultural events”

Lessons learnt through the good practice defined by La Palma in the GP Directory and experienced in La Palma during the Peer Review event in 2018

Based on long years on working on La Palma Starlight tourism Destination numerous good practices were developed and are implemented yearly (e.g. specific conferences, cultural events, events connected to respecting the natural biodiversity with observation of stars,...)

Good practice Nederland, Denmark (innovative technologies for reducing light pollution)

During the partnership meeting and peer review in the Netherlands and Denmark good practices connected to innovative lighting technology were presented (e.g. innovative lighting solutions to preserve biodiversity, green lights on islands UNESCO protected area). In Denmark specific innovative lighting technologies installed in the port (using energy of the sun, energy storage).

Main findings of the Peer Review, Gorenjska 2017

Recommendations of peer review group: Peers emphasised that Gorenjska with its sustainable green development, connected to usage of natural, cultural resources as starting point for innovative touristic products, has good potentials to form a Dark sky area, although focus is needed and empowerment actions need to take place before defining a final Dark sky area.

Based on the above-mentioned statements and recommendations, stakeholders discussed and define the activities within the project (that will be applied to CLLD call of LAG/CLLD call for cooperation project of National Ministry for Agriculture and forestry).

2. Nature of the action

- Defining the final framework of empowerment actions
- Implementation of action: empowerment action for cooperation between generations with preparation and implementation of specific empowerment activities that will be embedded in events around the CLLD region (focus on goal groups; inhabitants, young, policy level)
- Implementation of action: Specific empowerment pilot action connected to pilot implementation of innovative lighting (respecting the biodiversity) (focus on experts, policy level)
- Implementation of action: regional event connected to Dark sky issues (goal groups experts, policy level)
- Evaluation of the actions

3. Stakeholders involved

- National ministries
- Triglav National Park
- Municipalities of LAG Gorenjska košarica
- LAG founding members (LAG Gorenjska košarica)
- Associations (NGOs) connected to the topics of Dark sky
- Creatives in the region
- LAG assembly, management board – official body of the LAG to approve the activities planned

- Regional office for Cultural protection
- Regional office for Nature protection
- Tourism boards in LAG area
- Experts in the field of empowerment actions in specific fields of the Dark sky
- to be informed, invited: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Office for Cohesion Policy

4. Timeframe

- 2020-2021 preparation of the project (either for LAG call or cooperation call, published by National ministry)
- Implementation of the action: 2021-2023

5. Indicative costs

100.000 EUR (for costs of salaries, external expertise, events, promotion for partners of the project)

6. Indicative funding sources

- CLLD funds (Operational program for cohesion policy) or CLLD funds (call for cooperation project from National ministry)
- Night Light project budget for BSC Kranj staff working on monitoring the progress at implementation of action defined in action plan
- BSC budget to prepare the project and work with stakeholder group

7. Indicators for monitoring the success of the action

- No. of pilot actions implemented: 2
(min. 1 in empowerment connected to events, min. 1 empowerment action connected to pilot innovative lighting)
- No. of participants in empowerment actions (min. 20)

ACTION 2. Dark sky as a green sustainable touristic product

Action 2 is connected to the strategic development document of Triglav National Park in the field of sustainable green tourism, where Dark sky issues need to become part of the long term commitment, especially in connection to empowerment actions (e.g. for preserving biodiversity, cultural heritage, minimising the light pollution) as a starting point for development of green sustainable touristic products (e.g. astrotourism), which are based on Dark sky priorities.

Based on the discussion with stakeholders that are engaged in the development and protection policy of Triglav National Park, there exist an interest to engage further in the Dark sky topic (e.g. service providers, experts, decision makers,...). In preparation of the document both regional stakeholders and national level will be involved.

1. Background

The action has been generated on the basis of a good practice identified and presented in the project and the main findings of the peer review held in Gorenjska in 2017:

- Good Practice by Luxembourg and Nature Park Our strategy for being frontrunners in Dark sky endeavour and Light guidance
- Star light standard from Spain and La Palma Dark sky tourism destination
- Peer review in Gorenjska

Lessons learnt through the Peer Review event in Nature Park Our, Luxembourg in 2018

There is no law regarding light pollution in Luxembourg, but some steps have been taken to develop guidance lighting guidance (Leitfaden „Gutes Licht“ im Außenraum für das Großherzogtum Luxemburg, 2018).

- Luxembourg strategy for being frontrunners in Dark sky endeavour (national strategy and LAG decision of becoming dark sky area)

During the partnership meeting in Luxembourg the overall strategy for Luxembourg regarding light pollution was presented and represents the key document for further actions in the field of light pollution and preservation of biodiversity on which LAG covering Nature park Our decided to be frontrunners in the field of minimising light pollution and start to develop measures based mainly on empowerment and long term commitment to preserve biodiversity, include cultural aspect and work strategically on the topic (including concrete actions on the ground).

Main findings of the Peer Review, Gorenjska, 2017: Recommendations peers

As defined by peers, Triglav National Park has a possibility to develop Dark sky spots, based on the zoning (where such spots could be). Based on the analysis, further steps should be to put clear strategic decision to minimise light pollution and develop green sustainable tourism (based on sustainable green working places). It was proposed also to work with diverse stakeholders to prepare quality inputs for development of the Dark sky area (from policy, experts, NGOs, institutions, SMEs,..).

2. Action

- Further empower the group of experts and stakeholders working on the Strategic document connected to development of tourism in Triglav National Park
- Preparation of strategic document with proposed actions
- Preparation of the final document
- Confirmation of the document at the stakeholder meeting
- Regular meetings of the stakeholder group to monitor progress (strategic document implementation)

3. Players involved

- Municipalities of Gorenjska region (part of the Triglav National Park area)
- Stakeholder group put together for preparation of the document
- Triglav National Park experts
- Regional office for protection of natural heritage
- Regional office for protection of cultural heritage
- NGOs working on the topic of light pollution/sustainable green tourism
- Experts from the field of light pollution, sustainable green tourism

- Invited/informed: Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology

4. Timeframe

2020-2023

5. Costs

- costs for preparation of document with specific external expertise: 24.000 EUR (to be covered by Triglav National Park)
- costs for organisation and implementation of stakeholder groups (1.000 EUR)
- costs for employees of BSC Kranj (24.000 EUR)

6. Funding sources

- public funding through the budget of Triglav National Park
- Night Light project budget for BSC Kranj staff working on monitoring the progress at implementation of action defined in action plan
- BSC budget to prepare the dokument and work with stakeholder group

7. Indicators for monitoring the success of the action

- No. of strategic documents prepared: 1
- No. of participants in stakeholder groups (min. 10)

ACTION 3. Preparation of the regional strategic document to become Dark sky area

Action 3 is connected to preparation of the regional strategic document to become Dark sky area

Strategic regional document can set the strategic goals, actions that will enable Gorenjska region to become first region in Gorenjska with defined Dark sky spots/areas with measures that will contribute to the lowering of light pollution, empowerment of actors, using innovative technologies, protecting biodiversity, developing green sustainable working places,... in which standards Dark sky, Star light will be elaborated and used as starting point for the development of the strategic document (e.g. to be customised to local circumstances).

1. Background

The action has been generated on the basis of a good practice identified and presented in the project in different partner meetings and the main findings of the peer review in Gorenjska in 2017:

- Development of approaches how to prepare the ground to raise the awareness and become Dark sky area (Netherlands, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain)
- Working on standards and long term commitment for Dark sky (Hungary, Spain – La Palma, Møn island, Denmark)
- Long term strategies as basis for successful Dark sky area (Spain – La Palma, Hungary)

- Dark sky standards as starting point for development of sustainable green tourism and sustainable working places (Spain – La Palma, Hungary, Dark sky association)
- Other good practices connected to the topic (e.g. technology, biodiversity, tourism, policy,...)
- Recommendation of peers to develop Dark sky approaches in Gorenjska region

Development of approaches how to prepare the ground to raise the awareness and become Dark sky area (Nederland, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain)

There are several good practices how to empower stakeholders, raise awareness to become dark Sky areas (Netherlands, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain) and how to develop commitment of the stakeholders in the field.

Working on standards and long term commitment for Dark sky (Hungary, Spain – La Palma, Møn island Denmark)

Several Night Light regions have established long term commitment for Dark Sky (Hungary, Spain, Denmark) good practices will be used as an imperative for strategic document.

Dark sky standards as starting point for development of sustainable green tourism and sustainable working places (Spain – La Palma, Hungary, Dark sky association)

There are two existing standards for Dark sky (Dark sky association, Star light) that serve as starting point to develop strategic document.

Other good practices connected to the topic (e.g. technology, biodiversity, tourism, policy,...)

Other good practices seen within the Night Light project in the field of innovative technology, biodiversity protection, and usage of cultural heritage with innovative creative spirit, astrotourism will be embedded in to strategy and actions.

Main findings of the Peer Review, Gorenjska, 2017: Recommendations of the peers.

According to the findings of the Peers, the strategic decision, long term commitment and strategic document need to be prepared to assure long term commitment and concentration of the efforts of the region and its local policy level.

2. Action

- Further empower the group of experts and stakeholders working on the Strategic document connected to Dark sky in Gorenjska region
- Preparation of strategic document with proposed actions
- Preparation of the final document
- Confirmation of the document at the stakeholder meeting/regional policy level Council of Mayors
- Regular meetings of the stakeholder group to monitor progress (strategic document implementation)

3. Players involved

- Municipalities of Gorenjska region
- Stakeholder group put together for preparation of the document

- Triglav National Park experts
- Regional office for protection of natural heritage
- Regional office for protection of cultural heritage
- NGOs working on the topic of Dark sky
- Experts from the field of light pollution, sustainable green tourism, biodiversity
- Invited/informed: Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food

4. Timeframe

2020-2023

5. Costs

- costs for preparation of document with specific external expertise: 20.500 EUR (if not found then document entirely prepared by BSC Kranj, own resources)
- Night Light project budget for BSC Kranj staff working on monitoring the progress at implementation
- BSC budget to prepare the document and work with stakeholder group

6. Funding sources

- BSC Kranj staff working on the strategic document and BSC own resources
- Night Light project budget for BSC Kranj staff working on monitoring the progress at implementation of action defined in action plan
- BSC budget to work with stakeholder group

7. Indicators for monitoring the success of the action

- No. of strategic documents prepared: 1
- No. of participants in stakeholder groups (min. 10)

Part IV – MONITORING PROCESS

Monitoring activities

BSC Kranj will monitor the implementation of the actions defined in this Action Plan to see the progress and determine the impact of the collaboration. BSC Kranj will check the implementation of the actions foreseen and evaluate the progress within the actions and evaluate its inclusion into the policy level.

Partners will in Phase 2 further exchange experiences, knowhow and implement interdisciplinary learning process during the implementation phase of the action plans. Good practice regions will continue to work with receiving regions (good practice receiver) to be able to successfully implement, based also on modifications (where necessary to adjust it to regional context) the action foreseen.

BSC will monitor progress in the following way:

- regular check of the state-of-the art of different actions will take place in every 6 months
- regular contact and joint cooperation with regional stakeholder group and implementers of the actions will take place to involve stakeholders in long term commitment and monitor the progress of actions
- short evaluation report (cca. 1 page) will be prepared when certain action will be concluded
- final monitoring report (cca. 2 pages) will be prepared at the end of Phase 2 including all actions completed, results achieved and impact on policy addressed in the action plan
- BSC Kranj will be involved in the interregional learning with Night Light partners continually (within the Phase 2 of the Night Light project) to continue the learning exchange that can be embedded in long term policy changes.

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Night Light project (Improving regional policies to reduce light pollution and protect and valorise dark night skies) brings together two significant challenges: the need to preserve dark skies and to utilize the potential of Dark sky in a sustainable way.

The project planned to introduce packages of regional policy measures for each of the partner regions that will result in a lasting reduction of light pollution, the designation of nature areas where dark skies are protected and the introduction of new services and facilities to attract eco-tourism to these dark sky areas.

Partners

- ❖ Province of Fryslân- Lead Partner
- ❖ Hajdú-Bihar County Government (HU)
- ❖ Avila County Council (ES)
- ❖ Nature Park Our (LU)
- ❖ Samsø Energy Academy (DK)
- ❖ BSC, Business support centre Ltd. (SI)
- ❖ Basilicata Region (IT)
- ❖ Matera-Basilicata 2019 Foundation (IT)
- ❖ Island Government of La Palma (ES)



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For further information about the Night Light project please visit:
<http://www.interregeurope.eu/nightlight>