



## PRESENTED PROJECTS

in the framework of the big information event on the EU Cohesion Policy in Slovenia

### Developing with EU funds Cycling from Podčetrtek to Rogaška Slatina and back

8 September 2012

Podčetrtek – Rogaška Slatina

#### Cycling track Rogaška Slatina – Podčetrtek – Bistrica ob Sotli

The section of the cycling track Podčetrtek – Imeno, which is 1.5 kilometres long and worth 1.54 million Euros, is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund in the amount of 1.19 million Euros. This section is part of the cycling connection between Rogaška Slatina – Podčetrtek – Bistrica ob Sotli. In this section a one-sided two-way cycling track on the right side of the road will be constructed, including a safety zone for cyclists and a safety fence. In the area of the settlement Imeno a two-sided one-way cycling track in combination with the surfaces for pedestrians will be constructed. The main objective of the project is to ensure greater traffic safety for cyclists as they share this section of the regional road with the drivers of motor vehicles. Besides improving the traffic safety the construction of the mentioned cycling section will contribute to the development of tourism in this area and the connection with the international cycling network. The project also foresees that an information e-board for additional information for cyclists and other visitors regarding the cycling connections will be installed at the resting area by the remote cycling connection in Podčetrtek.



#### Cycling track in the Municipality of Podčetrtek

The greater part of the cycling track in the length of 3.5 kilometres from Pristava pri Mestinju to Vonarje is located by the railway in the minimal distance of 6 metres from the railway track and is not part of the national cycling path. The cycling track, therefore, increases the tourist attraction of the area of Obsotelje and the region Savinjska regija and widens the network of cycling paths in the area of the neighbouring municipalities – namely the newly-constructed cycling track connects with the cycling track from Šmarje pri Jelšah in the settlement Pristava pri Mestinju, and with the cycling track from Rogaška Slatina in the settlement Vonarje.

This cycling connection ensure that the visitors of the spa centre Terme Olimia and the visitors of the area cycle and visit the natural and cultural attractions of the wider area of Obsotelje safely, while it also provides a new route for the local inhabitants to use on their way to work and a possibility for additional recreation.

For the investment, which is worth 626,129.05 Euros, the municipality of Podčetrtek was granted 456.759,00 Euros from the European Regional Development Fund.



### Local road Sveta Ema – Vidovica

The construction of the local road Sveta Ema – Vidovica in the length of 1.7 kilometres contributed to the improvement of the accessibility of the local inhabitants to the settlements of Sveta Ema and Vidovica and to the increase of traffic safety for all the users of this local road. With the development of the transport infrastructure by the Schengen border the local road brought greater accessibility of the local inhabitants to the settlements in the Slovenian area by the border with Croatia and contributed to the preservation of the settlement of the demographically endangered area of Obsotelje and Kozjansko, to the improvement of the equipment and appearance of the settlements by the “EU Southern border”. The local road also brought greater economic development to the area.

The construction of the local road, which is worth 564,577.00 Euros, was co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund in the amount of 470,481.00 Euros.



### Sports hall in Podčetrtek

The new multi-purpose sports hall, which is located at the entrance into Podčetrtek, is designed as a sports hall with the overall surface of 3400 m<sup>2</sup>. The sports hall is used also for cultural and other events. The surface of the hall, which is meant for matches, enables the organisation of matches in handball, basketball or volleyball at the international level.

The sports hall receives 450 visitors, who can watch the matches at the seats and the stands. A separate space for training can be separated from the main hall area, which can be used for training for tennis or badminton. There is also an area for squash and a 7.4 metres high wall for climbing within the facility.

The construction of the multi-purpose sports hall in Podčetrtek represents a new and extensive “story” in the development of sports tourism. The overall value of the investment is 3.9 million

Euros. For this investment the municipality of Podčetrtek received 1,323,626 Euros from the European Regional Development Fund.



### **Training for life successfulness Ljudska univerza Rogaška Slatina**

In the framework of the public call for proposals to co-finance educational programmes to raise the level of literacy and Project learning for young adults from 2010 to 2013 Ljudska univerza Rogaška Slatina implemented the project Challenges of Rural Areas and Let's Exercise our Life with Learning.

The first part is meant for adult inhabitants of rural areas who gained basic knowledge and skills in the framework of the project. With this knowledge and skills it will be easier for them to recognize and evaluate their own potentials and the opportunities of the rural environment for activities in the rural area with the objective of greater independence and improvement of their economic and social position.

The project Let's Exercise our Life with Learning is meant for older adults, namely those who are retired and are not active in the labour market, who, in the past, did not have the opportunities for education. Through active forms of (social) learning they gain the basic knowledge and competences for quality and active life and for establishing and maintaining the necessary social networks in their life environment and discover the opportunities for development and realisation of personal interests and talents for enriching their life and the life within the community.

Ljudska univerza Rogaška Slatina acquired 7,890.00 Euros for the project Challenges of Rural Areas and 8.970,00 Euros for the project Let's Exercise our Life with Learning from the European Regional Development Fund.



### **Business Network Incubator Obsotelje and Kozjansko**

Establishment of the Business Network Incubator Obsotelje in Kozjansko in two locations – in Rogaška Slatina and Šentjur – contributes to ensuring the adequate support environment for the development of entrepreneurship and enterprises and the creation of new jobs. The incubator will help the potential entrepreneurs with interesting business ideas, the newly-established enterprises, which need professional support and business premises at a favourable price, and the existing enterprises, namely with its counselling, information,

educational and spatial function. The incubator will also give additional attention to the promotion of women entrepreneurship; it will especially help the young who wish to gain experience, knowledge in entrepreneurship and develop entrepreneurship skills. The “youth business incubator” will also operate within the Business Network Incubator with the objective of animating and directing the young into entrepreneurship.

For the project, which is worth 1,425,349 Euros, the municipality of Rogaška Slatina acquired 1,042,563 Euros from the European Regional Development Fund.



**Reuse centre in Rogaška Slatina –  
the first social enterprise in Slovenia**

The Reuse Centre takes products which are still functional but represent a surplus good for someone and prepares them for reuse. The essence of reuse is to use the materials which become useful again without costly procedures. At the same time reuse directly contributes to the decrease of waste production and extends the life of the product so that it does not end up in the dumping ground too soon. This includes computer equipment, furniture, unusable supplies, different faulty goods and household appliances, as well as toys and children's and sports equipment, home furnishings, books, etc. In the first reuse centre in Slovenia, which was established in 2010 within the assembly centre OKP (public utility company), a total of 6,250 m<sup>3</sup> of various objects was renovated in 2011. The Reuse Centre has become the first social enterprise in Slovenia. During the project period of two years, in addition to the establishment of the Reuse Centre, 10 persons from vulnerable groups were trained and three persons at a disadvantage were employed.

The consortium of enterprises Okoljsko raziskovalni zavod Slovenske Konjice in Tehnološki center za aplikativno ekologijo, d. o. o. from Celje gained 212,000.00 Euros from the European Social Fund for the project with the overall value of 249,000.00 Euros.



## Wellness Orhidelia

The growing need to increase the water surfaces and demanding guests who have very high expectations for the level and scope of services in spas and hotels encouraged Terme Olimia to build a new thermal complex Wellness Orhidelia. This includes a high quality range of swimming and sauna services, while the visitors can also be impressed by the extremely interesting architectural design. Diverse and stylish spaces, where visitors can be pampered in different ways, are with their unusual shapes and colours quite a sight.

For the realisation of the project Terme Olimia was granted 1.67 Euros from the European Regional Development Fund for the realisation of the investment which is worth 9.4 million Euros.

In the framework of the public call for proposals in the field of sustainable energy Terme Olimia was also granted additional 200,000 Euros from the European Cohesion Fund for the reconstruction of a boiler and the installation of a boiler device. The purpose of the project was to replace two outdated, energy inefficient and environmentally unfriendly gas boilers with a new boiler unit which uses biomass with the power of 2 MW, which allows smooth heating of the Terme Olimia facilities. In addition to the installation of a new boiler a reconstruction of the existing boiler was carried out and a fuel tank was upgraded (biomass). The realization of the project will increase energy efficiency and improve the living environment, while the project will also reduce the costs of heating and the emission of greenhouse gas.

