

MedForum2024

9th EDITION | THE MMFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Working Together for Sustainable and Resilient Mediterranean Forests

 Pau Gil Room, Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site | 4-5 November 2024 - BARCELONA, SPAIN

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Model Forest Istria

Updates on activities, challenges, and successes

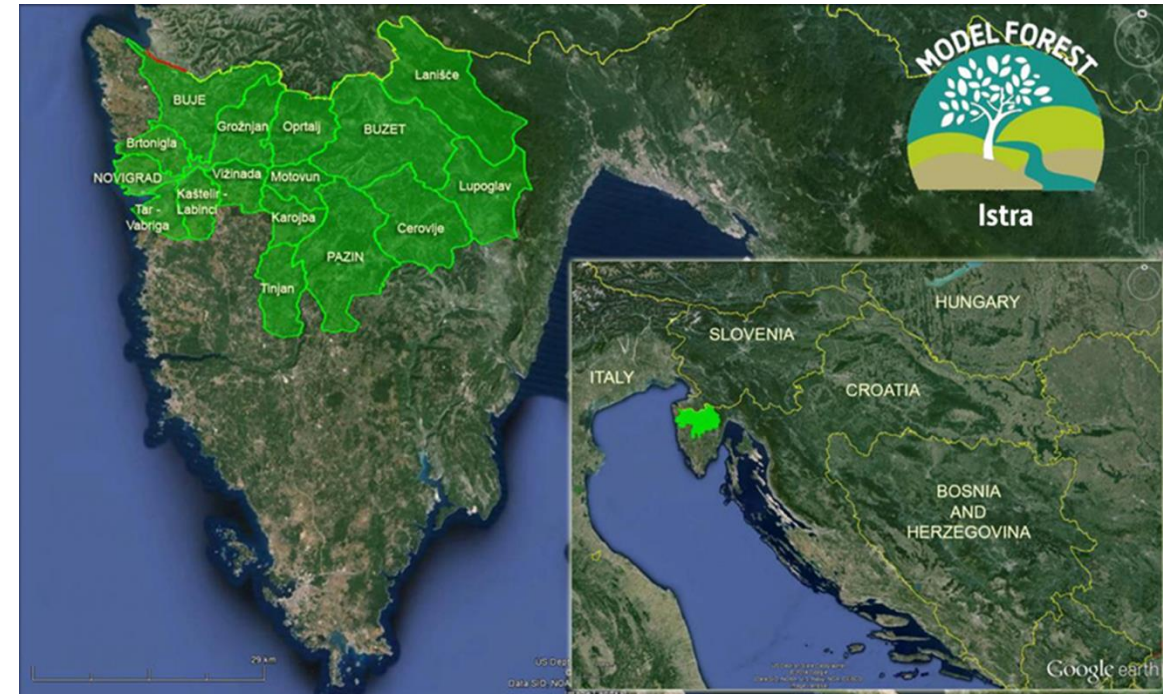
Speaker: Josip Marino Šimić

Territory of the MF Istria (CROATIA) → 110.000 ha or 1.100 km²
Situated in the Region of Istria (northern part of Istrian peninsula)
Gathers 32 members (public, bussiness, associations and individuals)

Forest surface → 66.556 ha of mostly low productive forests
FOREST TYPES: Dinaric (lowland) Alpine (mountainin)
Mediterranean (coastal)

Forestry makes only 2% of the regional GDP
The prevailing economic activities in the MF area are:
Agriculture, Tourism, Services → small and medium
entreprises

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE of the MF ISTRIA
Assembly - 32 members
Steering Committee – 5 members
President & Vice President



ONGOING PROJECTS in MF Istria

ERASMUS+ project „In the Forest as in the Classroom,, 2024 - 2025

Partners: Slovenian Forest Institute, Public Open University (Lika Region)
Elementary school and Kindergarten (Istria) → MF Istria is a lead partner

Aim of the project: **EDUCATION OF EDUCATORS in FOREST PEDAGOGY**

- training of educators in forest pedagogy in Croatia (Istria and Lika) and in Slovenia
- development of **Training Modules** for training of educators in forest pedagogy (e- book)
- **MODULES: Forestry / Forest Pedagogy and Methods / Pedagogy and Lifelong Learning**
- cooperation and exchange of knowledge between partner organizations representing various fields:
→ Science, School & kindergarten education and Education of adults

Impact to the MF territory : Knowledge sharing → training of 100 educators and teachers on forest pedagogy methods (May 2024 and will be in March 2025)



COOPERATION PROJECT with:
FSC International-Adria-Balkan Region Office together with other FSC Offices

Development of „Educational materials for children and young adults”

- 1. Creating a comprehensible & relevant teaching materials for age group 14 -18
(in cooperation with high school professors)*
- 2. Testing educational materials in high schools & gather feedback (high school in Pula and Delnice)*
 - 5 Tool Boxes created: Tool Box I What is a Forest ?*
 - Tool Box II Types of Forest and Trees*
 - Tool Box III Magnificent Benefits of Forests*
 - Tool Box IV Forest Fruits and Resources*
 - Tool Box V Let's Save our Forests!*



Impact to the MF territory : Offering and promoting **Forest Knowledge Boxes** in educational facilities

ONGOING PROJECT IN MF ISTRIA:

Festival of Forest and Forest Resources - 17th November 2024, Brest pod Žbevnicom

-Organised at the MF territory in cooperation with local Municipality of Lanisce



-Forest Fair / Lectures/ Workshops for children; for families; for adults / Forest Recreation / Land Art / Ethno and Ambiental Music / Bonfire / Fire Show/ Storytelling / Mushroom Presentation/ Live Exhibitions

- Cicarija Corner – „Cicski kutak” – a part of the Forest Fair dedicated to local products and services of the Municipality of Lanisce (Cicarija area)

Impact to the MF territory :

- involving local communities in organisation of the event; associations, crafts and enterprises of the MF area*
- we created a most visited event in the history of the Cicarija area (northern zone of the MF territory)*

Challenges and way forward

1 There is **lack of active members from the public institutions and local government** representatives (Towns, Municipalities, Institutions , Nature Parks)

→ **WE** are transforming our membership to more individual members and civil associations

2 There is a **lack of human resources** to implement project activities

→ **WE** involve in our activities experts from different parts of the Region

3 There is a **lack of projects that involve directly local communities (MF members) in project implementation (except Forest Festival)**

→ **Mediterranean Model Forest Network** might give us some solutions in solving that issue

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Thanks for your attention

Grazie per la vostra attenzione

شكراً على انتباهكم

Gracias por su atención

Merci pour votre attention

Ευχαριστώ για την προσοχή σας

Hvala na vašoj pažnji

Faleminderit për vëmendjen tuaj

Dikkitiniz için teşekkür ederim

Speaker: Marino Josip Šimić