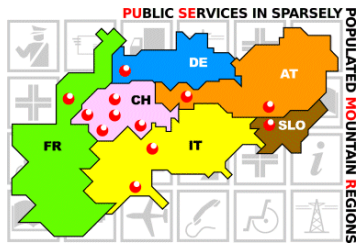




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PUBLIC SERVICES IN SPARSELY POPULATED MOUNTAIN REGIONS

Barbara Špehar

BSC Kranj, Regional Development Agency of Gorenjska (SI)

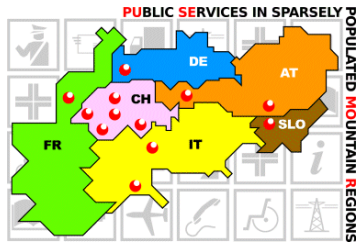
Alpine Space Forum

COPING WITH DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE – SHAPING POLICIES

Innsbruck, 22-23 February 2011



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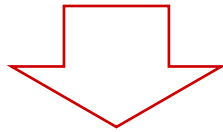


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Project objectives

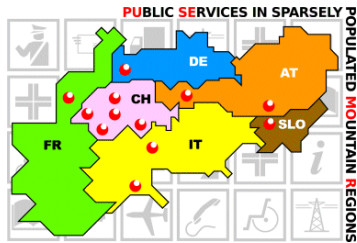
- To develop **pilot projects** in sparsely populated areas and make **political recommendations** for keeping and improving the provision of public services in these areas.



- To upgrade these regions as place of residence and place of economic development.



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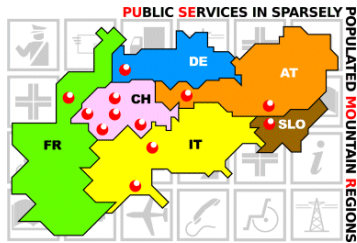


Project activities

- **Analysis** of the current standard of public services and its development during the last years, analysis of the key factors of economic, political/institutional and technological framework conditions.
- Identification of good ideas and **best practices**.
- **Transnational comparison** of the results of regional studies.
- Development of innovative and effective new strategies and **pilot projects**.
- Elaboration of **recommendations** for policy makers and implementing level.



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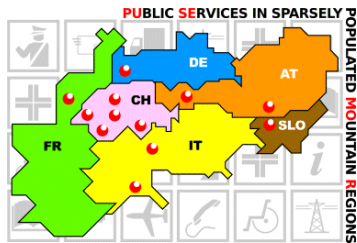


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Pilot projects in Gorenjska, Slovenia

- Strategy of small steps
 - Working with people
 - Analysis of the public services (statistical data, interviews with local population and SMEs)
 - Presentations of analysis and best practices
 - Generating new ideas
 - Development of pilot projects
with **high local support**
- } workshops



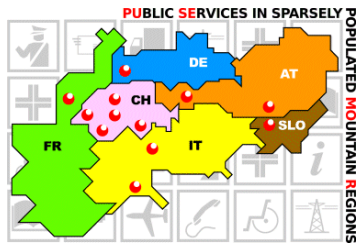
Davča village in 2006 (Škofja Loka Mountains)

- Sparsely populated and dispersed village without a real village centre
- Active tourist society known for organising the traditional flex cultivation ethnographical event
- 280 inhabitants
- Public services – main issues pointed out by the local people:
 - **Bad quality of roads**
 - **No broadband internet**
 - **Poor social life**





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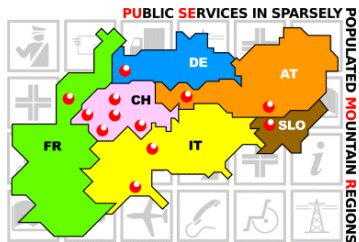
Pilot project: Meeting centre in Davča

Basic idea: To establish a meeting centre for locals and different interest groups, in connection with a tourist info point and the local museum (presenting the traditional flax cultivation)

Objective: Improvement of social and cultural life among local people, enhancement of local handicraft, tradition and identity and attractiveness of the village for visitors and tourists.

Implementation in the PUSEMOR project:

- Meeting centre equipped with furniture, computer...
- Animation programmes for locals, school groups and tourists



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Davča village in 2011

- Sparsely populated and dispersed village with **very lively meeting centre for all generations** and **web page** (www.davca.si)
- Active tourist society known for organising the traditional flex cultivation ethnographical event (third weekend each August) & regular education of school groups, visitors ...
- 297 inhabitants
- **Optical broadband access to each household**

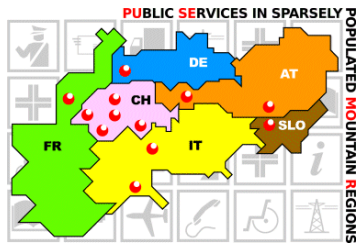
(financed by the Municipality of Železniki and ERDF)



Positive side effect of the PUSEMOR



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About the broadband internet

Peter Prezelj, Municipal councillor, Železniki:

“Whether as banking, shopping, obtaining various documents, calls... or simply getting different information. Today, we need internet for almost everything. Therefore, the optical broadband network is a great asset for Davča.

It is like you would have the highway to the house.”