

GREEN ZONE  
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**2<sup>nd</sup> Transnational meeting (2. TM)**  
**25.05.2022 – 26.05.2022.**  
**Serbia**

**Present:**

Ricz András, Ostorka Polgárok Egyesülete (Udruženje Gradjana Ostorka)  
Benkó Anna, Ostorka Polgárok Egyesülete (Udruženje Gradjana Ostorka)  
Izabel Lanji Hnis, Ostorka Polgárok Egyesülete (Udruženje Gradjana Ostorka)  
Jadranka Stantic, UG Inovativna mreža  
Mészáros Mercedes, Váltó-sáv Alapítvány  
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**Responsible organization:** Ostorka Polgárok Egyesülete (Udruženje Gradjana Ostorka)

**Content:**

On the 1st day, we met the project partners in Hajdukovo.

From there we traveled to Nosa, to visit Rokin salaš (Róka tanya). Rokin salaš is located on the eastern shore of Lake Šupljak in Serbia, 17 km from Subotica. It has a century and a half of history that has retained its original form to this day. The farm has been recently renovated/expanded, but its building retains the architectural features of the three-parted Pannonian house typical of the Northern Bačka region. In the rooms with whitewashed, beaten dirt floors, the furnace's muffle is the center of attention. The objects in the rooms and the corridor tell of the everyday life of the peasant world of yesteryear and the people who lived here. A special feature of the house is the free chimney and fireplace, which is now a rarity.

Rokin salaš is intended to preserve the traditions, archaeological treasures, customs, food, and drink specialties of the region.

The camps organized in the summer also focus on traditions and artistic values.

The exhibition, which can be seen regularly in the building, tells the history of the village, the old customs, and the lives of the people. The everyday use objects and decorative ornaments on the wall, the kerosene lamp on the table, the big bed, and old photos all recall the past. This exhibition can be a great help for visitors to better experience and make the passage of time more tangible, the importance of the arts and literature, the love of real music, or a better understanding of their environment. So we can say that with the help of this exhibition we can bring history much closer to the visitors and we can connect the relics and the environment around the farm itself to many subjects.

In addition to the exhibition, the tourism development of the place is an important cornerstone. The development of rural tourism, eco-tourism, and cultural tourism is very important, as it is located in a nature reserve, so it offers a wide range of programs and attractions to visitors. They can try different fine art techniques, which also develops their motor skills and sense of beauty, in the fresh air outdoors, physical education and ball games

can be very popular, as they move away from the computer, which is very important in our time. Visitors can be much more motivated to work, become self-reliant, and educate for cooperation and tolerance in these traditional settings.

There is a strong emphasis on nurturing and protecting the environment. Electricity is produced using solar panels, which we know is a renewable energy source. It does not produce too much electricity for the farm, but it is just right for the most necessary things (water heating, smaller technical equipment).

Rarities, beauty, and peace in the area of Ludaš are prerequisites for the development of several forms of tourism: scientific research, excursions, eco-tourism, etc. Lake Ludaš is surrounded by farms that are increasingly compensating for the lack of hotel capacity in terms of accommodation. The archaic village houses of Ludaš have entered the tourist offer called "Ludaški šor". The reception of organized groups takes place at Sunjog čarda, at Rokin salaš, and at Guljaš čarda.

Lake Ludaš with wet habitats and steppe fragments is placed under protection as a Special Nature Reserve "Ludaško jezero" and is classified as a protected natural asset of exceptional importance, i.e. a natural asset of category I. The northeastern part of Lake Ludaš has an exceptional natural value. In it, the originality of natural features has been slightly changed by human activity and is of special scientific, educational, and cultural significance. Previous botanical studies of the lake with its immediate surroundings indicate the existence of several significant, rare, vulnerable, and endangered plant species. The fauna of Lake Ludaš is considered to be much more diverse and richer than the flora. 18 species of fish from the family of carp, perch, pike, vulture, sunfish, and catfish were registered. According to previous research, 238 species of birds have been registered on the lake.

Various activities are organized in the area of Lake Ludaš, such as fishing, bird watching, boating, as well as kite riding. Numerous events are also held on the lake, such as "Equestrian Meetings", "Garlic Days", and the Fish Soup Cooking Competition.

In addition to educational and eco-tourism, Lake Ludaš has great potential for the development of ethno-tourism. Old farms lined up around the lake preserve models of traditional construction, thatched roofs, and, auxiliary buildings made of wicker and mud. Nearby are vineyards, wine cellars, and Lake Palić.

The tourist offer is harmonized with the status of the reserve, so visitors can enjoy the beauties of Lake Ludaš and its wildlife.

For example, Visitor center Ludaš offers the possibility of visiting the visitor trails:

"Čurgo" - western trail and "Kireš" - eastern trail accompanied by a guide - guardian of the protected area. For the most part, the lake can be visited by bicycle.

During the year, the Visitor Center hosts numerous seminars and trainings, as well as lectures for school, faculty, institution and organization members. There is also a boat ride on the lake, a visit to the island of Sándor Rózsa, and enjoying the most beautiful sunsets.

After lunch, we traveled to the location of the next professional program, which is in Donji Tavankut.

There we visited the HKPD MATIJA GUBEC association (Hrvatskog kulturno-prosvjetnog društva "Matija Gubec"). This association was founded in 1946 and is actively functioning to this day. It has about 300 active members, in numerous sections (departments). It bases its functioning on volunteers, working on projects (local, regional, and EU). The association is currently implementing an ERASMUS + project focused on multilingualism. The association is recognized as a leader of rural activism and received numerous plaques, the most important of which are: the Charter of the President of the Republic of Croatia for special contribution

to the preservation of cultural heritage and the Provincial Government Recognition for the most prepared village in rural tourism.

First, we viewed the "Gallery of the first naive in the straw technique", which implements a project called the 52. Week of Traditional Culture. The exhibition presents the works of numerous Slamar (the person who creates art with the straw technique), traditional techniques of straw knitting in Vojvodina, and new techniques that were adopted during the World Straw Congress, which was organized in Tavankut in 2014. Every week, a new theme of the exhibition is defined and the exhibition set changes accordingly. The Matija Gubec Association was the first in Serbia to get involved in organizing the Night of the Museums event. At the location of the Gallery, there is a multifunctional space that is used for meetings, workshops, and lectures, and if necessary, it is transformed into a restaurant, which is a significant source of income for the association. The restaurant is closed and works only on prior reservations.

Next, we visited the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and a display of a beautifully outlined vault and decorated altar. One member of the association is especially dedicated to the design and arrangement of the altar, but also to all cultural events during the year.

The association also functions at the location of the Balažević Ethno Farm. This farm was a gift from a member of the association (Jasna Balažević) and is owned by the association since 2012. Through the joint work and efforts of all members of the association, the farm was renovated and put into use. Every year, working together improves the appearance of the farm and the quality of service provided. The farm has 12 accommodation units, a closed large terrace - with a capacity of 100 people (which is used for meetings, conferences, and workshops and sometimes has the function of a cinema). The Seminar of Bunjevac Creativity, the First Colony of the Naive in the Straw Technique, the Children's Folklore Festival "Children are the Decoration of the World", the Annual Concert of Folklore and Tambura, as well as the Tavankut Fruit Festival, is organized at the Balažević Ethno Farm. These events gather hundreds of participants and observers.

The day ended with an informal dinner, where project partners exchanged experiences, opinions, and ideas while building the partnership.

On the second day, we met in Palić with the project partners.

Architectural art nouveau objects were shown in Palić like the Large Terrace, Water Tower, Park and Lake Hotels, Women's Beach, Villa Lujza, Small Inn, Owl castle, Abazija, TIC (Tranvajska Station) and Palić Villas.

All objects have their own interesting history and anecdotes, famous people who visited Palić. A 170-year-old English park and a baroque park on the promenade, a tennis court built in 1878 and a summer terrace were visited. Art Nouveau buildings are decorated, with a lot of craftsmanship as well as special decorations made of Zsolnai ceramics. Palić was a spa that was known in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as a healing one with a mud bath, a developed tourist offer of gastronomy, sports / Palić Olympics was founded 4 years before the modern Olympic Games /, vacations, entertainment and walks.

The maintenance of such a complex is an example of the need for various services in micro-entrepreneurship, crafts, and labor in gardening and maintenance. In this sphere of the tourism sector and related services, it is possible to find marketing niches that can be a starting point for the economic reintegration of people into society.

The final professional program of the meeting was the visit to the Furioso Adventure Park.

The adventure park is located in the immediate vicinity of Lake Ludaš, on an area of about 2 hectares, and combines catering and experience functions. The park has a closed reception area for 50 people and an open reception area for 80 people, as well as a playground and an adventure park for people of all ages. Of particular importance is the animal collection, which represents all the indigenous domestic animals that were native to this area at one time and were used as farm animals. Within the park, there are gray cattle, sheep (racka, cigaja), horses, donkeys, rabbits, and poultry.

There are three main directions in the range of services: event organization, which includes children's birthdays, other family events, and corporate gatherings. The second group of services are trips, and the third is the reception of individual visitors.

In all three cases, the park provides space and programs for guests, and the food and beverages they eat are provided by themselves or ordered from external service providers.

The programs are similar in all cases, using the play experiences provided by the park, horseback riding, carriage rides, archery, and various traditional skill games with the help of the animators present in the programs.

Part of the visit was to introduce Lake Ludaš which is under the protection of Ramsar and its fauna and flora with the horse-drawn carriage of the adventure park.

During the carriage trip, we visited the bicycle rest area with a bird observatory, made of natural materials, on Lake Ludaš, which is located right next to the green belt of the lake. Lake Ludaš is an internationally protected natural asset of the first degree. The rest area is part of the eco-tourism infrastructure, as a type of tourism directly related to nature and has the potential to employ labor on maintenance, control, and nature protection, as a ranger service, reviving old crafts, guides in nature-greeter. In addition, gastronomy and accommodation services require the employment of labor permanently, due to their high turnover. This segment also has very good predispositions for economic reintegration. It provides an additional feeling of freedom in contact with nature, usefulness, and independence.

The project meeting ended with a lunch at Fish restaurant „Riblja csarda“ on the shore of Lake Palić, where the project partners evaluated the event and talked about the upcoming tasks and activities.

Evaluation and summary of the 2<sup>nd</sup> TM:

for the partner organization, this was a very informative experience. Through real-life examples, they gained insight into the every days of people working in the field of eco-tourism. Several ideas were presented which can be utilized. Also by visiting the different professional program points, partners met different organizations and made new connections. Sensitization, gathering new impulses, new impressions - definitely a positive impact on the further project implementation.

