

# Hidden impacts of LEADER in Slovenian rural areas

Irma Potočnik Slavič, Associate Professor,

Department of Geography (Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana), Slovenia

Univerza v Ljubljani





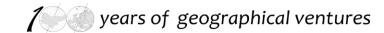
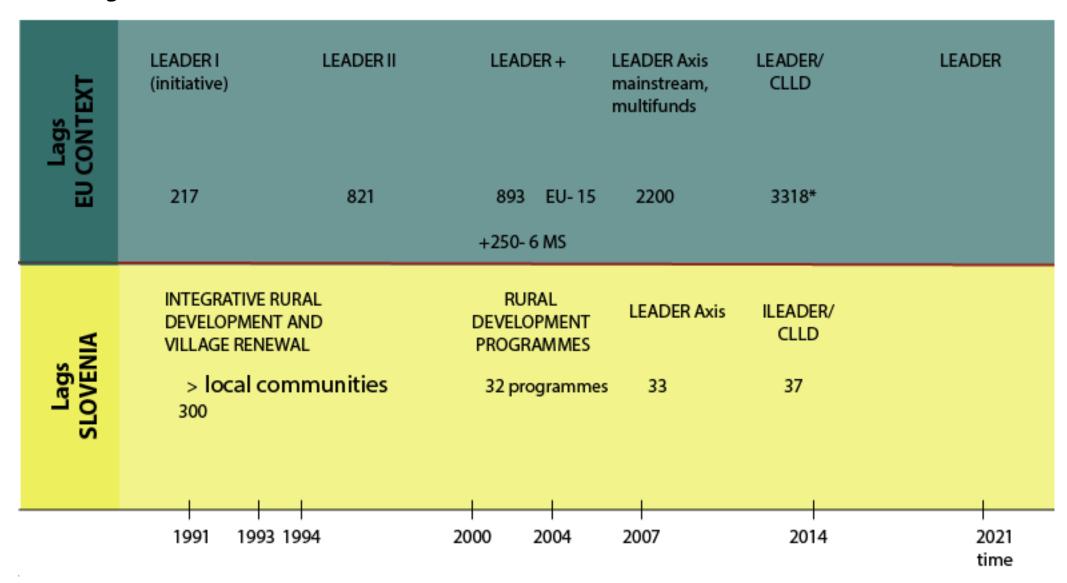
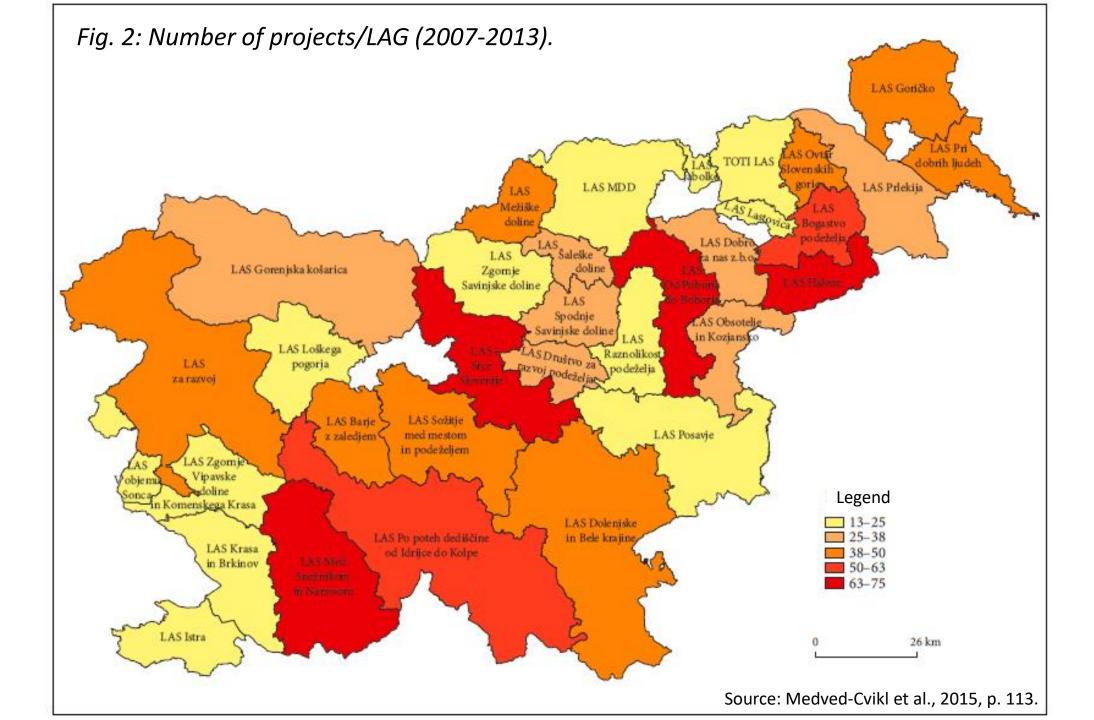


Fig. 1: THE PLACEMENT OF LEADER IN THE WIDER RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT



Sources: Servillo, 2019; MAFF, various years, Potočnik Slavič, 2018.



## LEADER - " ... what is this?"



## HIDDEN IMPACT OF LEADER

1st year Geography students (5 years ago): negative response.

1st year Geography students (responses 2017, 2018): 2 positive responses.

»...because my mother is working in the local action group«, and

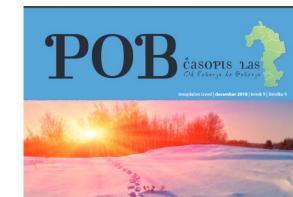
»... I saw a short notice on the project in local newspaper«.

**PROPOSED ACTION**: include LEADER topics more actively in curriculum.

VISIBLE IMPACT: young people have been appointed to LEADER tasks in various parts of Slovenia.



Photo: IPS, 2019.



# LEADER – "where is it .... on the map"?

Fig. 3: LAGs territories - evidences from maps in Slovenia.

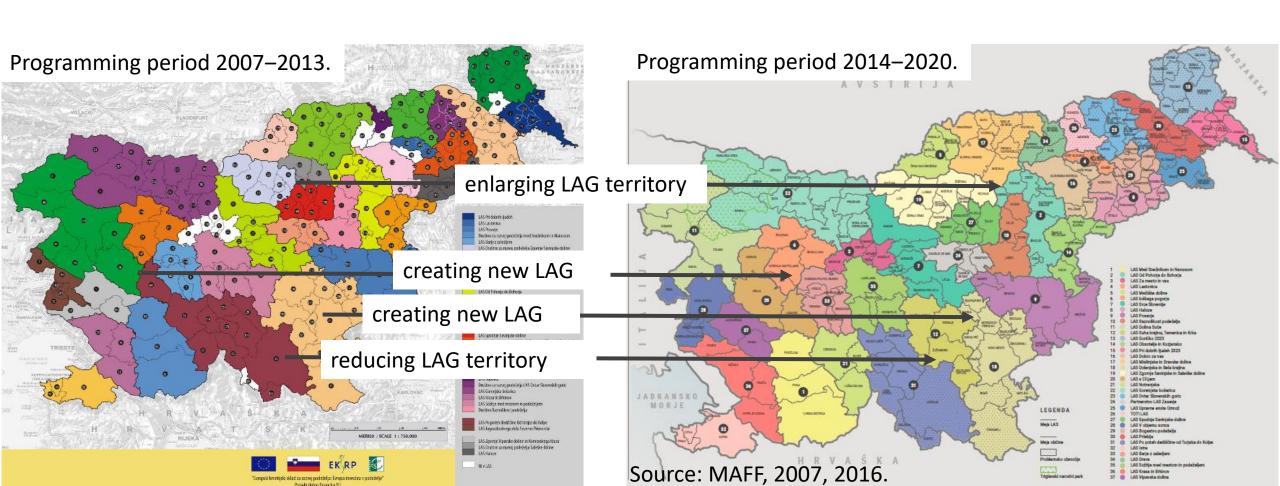


Fig. 4: Constructing and tailoring LAGs territories.

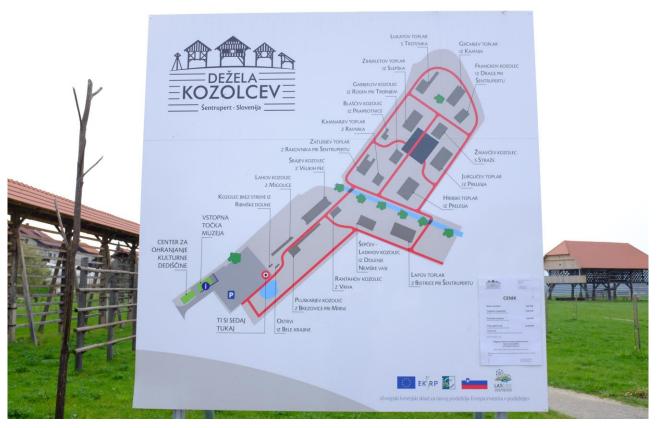


Photo: IPS, 2018.

#### HIDDEN IMPACT OF LEADER

LEADER territories not present in the daily lives and minds of the people.

**PROPOSED ACTION**: visualisation and communication of LEADER (territory, structures, results, method).

**VISIBLE IMPACT**: 2014–2020 – inclusion of schools, using contemporary media, etc.

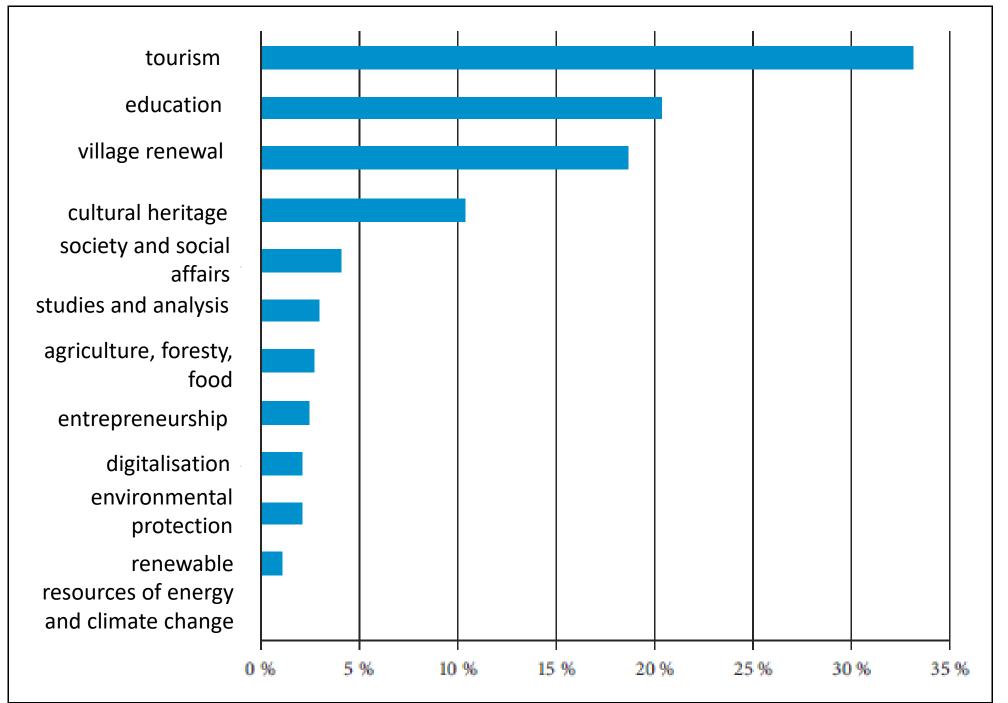


Fig. 5:
Thematic
focus of
LEADER
projects
(2007-2013) —
number of
implemented
projects.

Source: Medved-Cvikl et al., 2015, p. 116.

# LEADER – "where is it in .... daily lives of rural"?



Photo: IPS, 2018, TELI2 project (<a href="http://teli2.eu/">http://teli2.eu/</a>).

#### HIDDEN IMPACT OF LEADER

Relationships among these three variables – territorial synergies or territorial battlefileds?

**PROPOSED ACTION**: collaborative learning.

**VISIBLE IMPACT**: the structure and sustainability of partnerships, adherence, cooperation.



## LAG Dolenjska and Bela Krajina region (DBK):

- est. 2015,
- 68 members,
- territory: 1,252 km²,
- $(108,847 \rightarrow) 92,000 inhabitants,$
- $(14\rightarrow)$  12 municipalities,
- problem region (2014–2020).



Fig. 6: Where did you hear of LAG DBK?

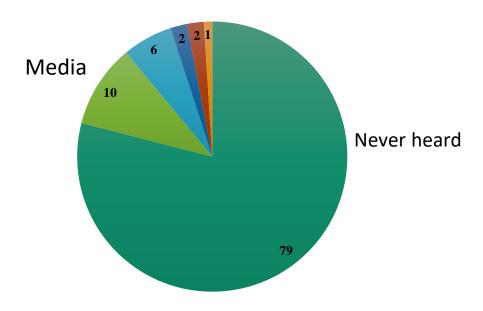
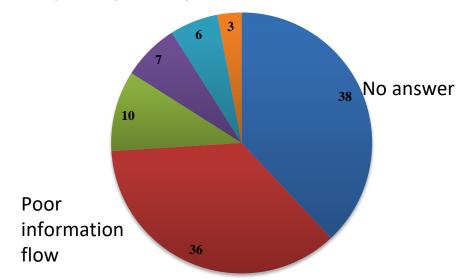
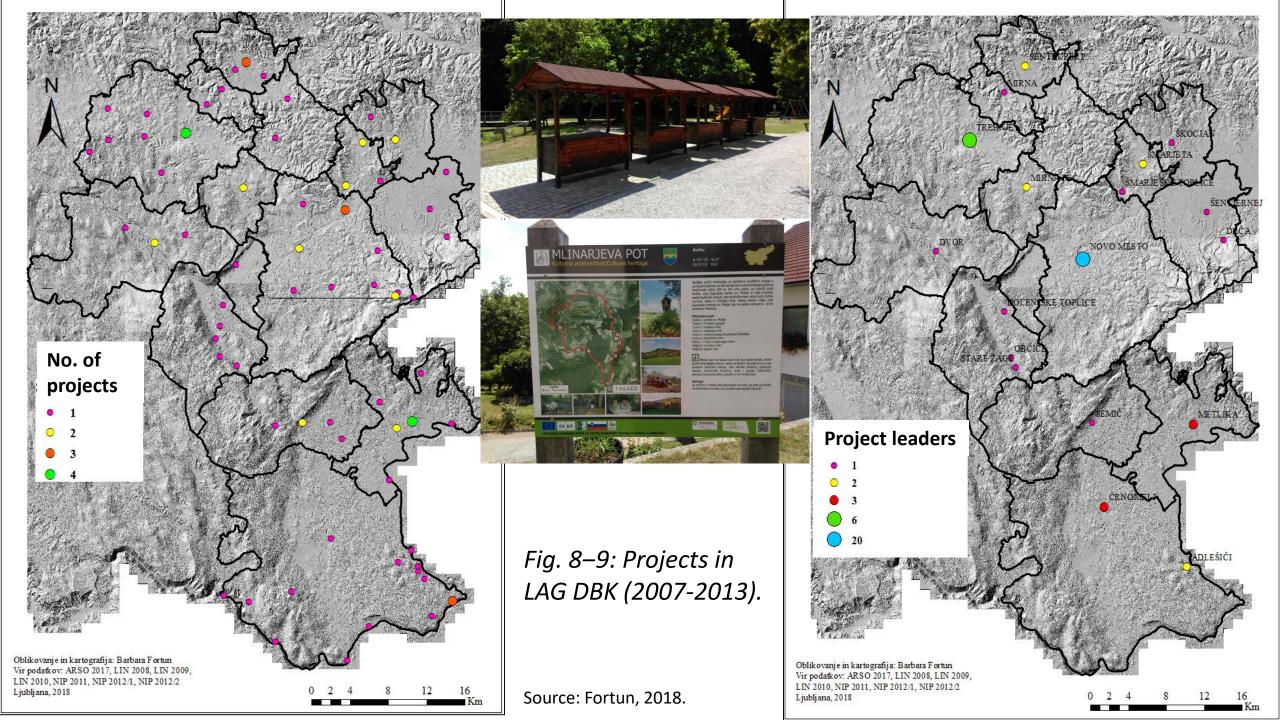


Fig. 7: Why are you unfamiliar with LAG DBK?



Source: Fortun, 2017-2018 (N=100).



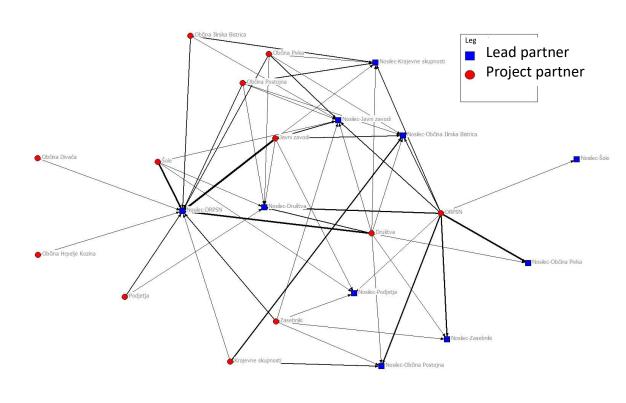


Fig. 10: Mapping the LEADER partnership (2007-2013): the number of linkages.

AVSTRIJA LEGENDA Source: MAFF, 2016.

LAG between Snežnik and Nanos.

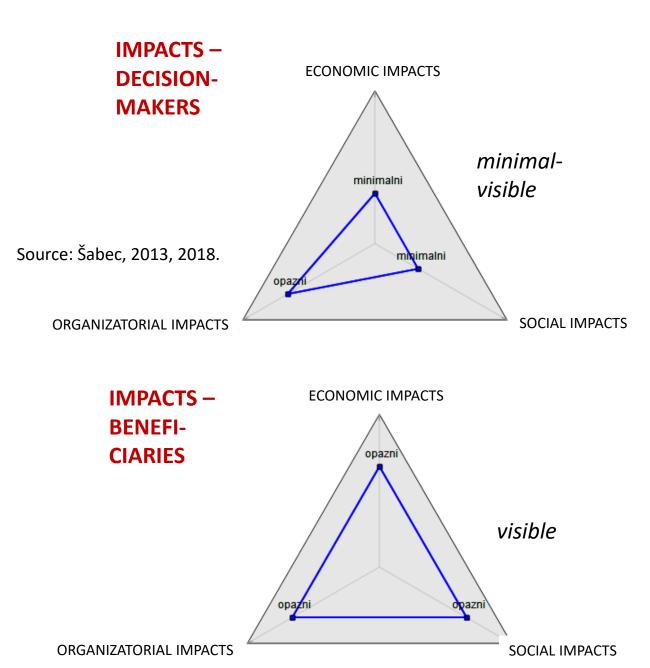
Est. 2006.

Territory: 972 km<sup>2</sup>.

Inhabitants: 35.092.



Fig. 11–12: Evaluating the LEADER impacts.



#### HOW TO MAKE HIDDEN LEADER IMPACTS MORE VISIBLE?

P: PEOPLE

P: PLACE

**P: PERMANENT** 

**PROCESS** 

P: PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

**P: PERCEPTION** 

P: PARTNERSHIP