

EXTENDED ABSTRACT- CONCEPT NOTE

Smart Island Lab for Socio-Technological Innovation and Digitalisation - SILI

1. Objectives

- to establish partnership for International Smart Island Lab for Socio-technological innovation and digitalisation with participation of research community and organisations from Croatian and European countries , companies employing remote workers and digital nomads
- to provide a platform and meeting place for multidisciplinary cooperation with international research community, national, international companies and organisations, stakeholders to solve complex problems of islands and rural areas such as: economic development, sustainable tourism, environment, public health, well-being and social cohesion, others
- to set up an internationally open demonstration and cooperation platform for digitalisation and digital services for islands and rural areas, open data, analytics, social network analytics, cloud services , virtualisation to support digital economy, smart tourism, digital services and education on islands . To set up an international meeting place and Living Lab platform for Tourist Open Data, remote workers and corporate investments in remote work and sustainable regional development and international cooperation connect with remote work and new forms of smart tourism and investments
- to provide a regular meeting place for conferences, workshops, education and training on the topics of digitalisations, smart cities, villages, regions and islands
- to contribute local communities on islands that will benefit from projects, international cooperation and events

2. Concept

An island with typical rural type of settlements, rich natural and cultural heritage, local traditions and history, good transport connections to city and international airport could act as a virtual lab and place for demonstration, validation, research on digital solutions and services for smart islands and villages.

The centre of the region - city of Dubrovnik and Korucla Island and city , Island of Mljet are worldwide known attractive tourist destination that hosts monthly at average about 1-3 big international conferences on the topics of relevance for Smart Islands, Cities and Regions. The IUC.hr in Dubrovnik provides educational and training facilities for the network of 175 universities and that could be further expanded. It makes Dubrovnik an attractive location for regular meetings, conference and educational events on the Smart Islands topics of interests.

The proposed cooperation with Nordic countries on science, innovation, tourism and digitalisation could contribute to local economic development, bring to the region new competences in ICT, social and technological innovation, smart cities and living lab, attract skilled people and high tech companies, contribute to smart tourism development. For people and organisations from Nordic countries it could be an attractive location for visits, stay and work to apply their knowledge, experience and commences. At European level it could contribute to the number of European initiatives like Baltic/ Adriatic corridor, Three Seas Initiative, troika EU presidency of Croatia, Finland and Romania.

3. Action plan

Project(s) topics:

The areas of intervention for development projects and local vs. international partnership (single project or several):

- a. ICT INFRASTRUCTURE (networks, data, services) TO IMPROVE INTERNET ACCESS ON KORCULA and MLJET ISLANDS

- partnership: Telcom operator, commune, service providers

- performance metrics: communication infrastructure improvement to allow access to 4G and 5G networks for island population and tourist

- b. SMART TOURISM and DIGITALISATION, DIGITAL TOURISM SERVICES (as Croatian national cluster priority), SMART SMALL PORTS

development of thematic tourism programs (cultural, gastro, recreation, sport, ...) supported by new digital services (Dew-Fog-Cloud Services)

- partnership: service developers, digital services providers, tourist services providers, commune, national park, international cloud services providers

- performance metrics: number of tourist new services, thematic (culture, gastro, sport) tourism offers, development, number of new jobs, number of seminars on local cultural heritage preservation (history, folklore, gastronomy)

- c. PROMOTING IN SCANDINAVIA THE KORCULA and MLJET ISLANDS, DUBROVNIK AS SUSTAINABLE TOURIST LOCATION FOR SMALL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES, EDUCATION AND TRAINING COURSES (Including ad hoc meeting organised in Dubrovnik)

- partnership: Nordic tourist agencies, local tourist board, local services and properties providers, international conferences in Dubrovnik, IUC.hr

- performance metrics: number of conferences and meetings, training courses, off-seasonal occupancy of private properties on island, new jobs, information web portal hits,

- d. SMART ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING ON ISLAND INCLUDING SURFACE AND SEA AREAS.

Developing partnership for establishing ground and water sensors networks on island to monitor ecological situation of national park and the island. Could be a demonstration site for (Nordic) companies of their environmental monitoring solutions and capabilities

- partnership: Mljet National Park, Croatian and Norwegian; Scandinavian universities. institutes and environmental monitoring programmes and facilities.

- performance metrics: sensors network and monitored areas and parameters, data analytics

- e. SMART HEALTH ON ISLAND. TELEMEDICINE FOR DISABLED AND ELDERLY PEOPLE

To establish on Islands Telemedicine solutions-services for monitoring and medical care of population including emergency help for rapid response to acute cases in bad weather condition and care for disabled and elderly people. Services for recreational medicine in tourist locations.

- partners: island s local and regional/hospital health care providers, telemedicine agencies, telecom operator, telemedicine service and equipment providers, Norwegian Telemedicine centre in Tromso . Could be a demonstration site for (Nordic) companies of their healthcare digital solutions and capabilities

- performance metrics: number of tele med services and people using these services, quality metrics of healthcare

f. DIGITAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY WELL-BEING. YANG PEOPLE. WOMENS. EDUCATION. NEW JOBS. SOCIAL COHESION, INCLUSION AND PEACEBUILDING.

To investigate and to provide to islanders with digital services that could improve quality of life and well-being of population, social cohesion, including yang and elderly people, to promote online jobs (3D printing , secretary support, graphical design and alike)

- partnership: commune, NGOs , services providers, distant learning providers, church, social support organisations, digital services providers

- performance metrics: number of people vs services, results sociological questionnaires /research

4. Realisation roadmap

4.1. Construction phase (12 M)

- To launch a number of international meetings (some of them as a side event to international conferences in Dubrovnik) with the participation of local communities and stakeholders to tune the topics of interest and to establish partnerships for new projects.
- To participate in international forums within the scope of the Lab and topics
- Collaboration and Networking

4.2. Structural phase (12 M)

- To establish partnership for the Lab, its organisational and funding structure
- Project plans and initiatives
- To establish several national and international projects
- Infrastructure establishment
- Environment ensure
- Structure and logistic

4.3. Operational phase

- Lab operation logistics
- To provide several national and international projects
- Ensure sustainability

5. Sponsors and supporters