

Pilot Area "The village Padna and Šmarje" in Slovenian Istria

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Local Comunity of Padna



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SMART ERA - Cross-border rural area Šmarje - Padna

The smart era village development concept will offer great opportunities and useful tools for overcoming the “status quo” by creating new job opportunities in the local environment and generating additional revenue to improve the quality of life for vulnerable groups of people.



Innovative solutions for sustainable mobility



Promoting circular economy and sustainable business models



Green education and community empowerment



Empowering rural communities through digital innovation



Collaborative approach for sustainable rural development



Padna & Šmarje

Šmarje

The village of Šmarje is one of the most important rural centers in the Municipality of Koper – Capodistria. It has a strategically important location between the urbanized coastal towns and the rural areas of Slovenian Istria.

Padna

The village of Padna is located in a rural area of the Coastal Region of Slovenia. This small village is situated at the end of a ridge with steep terraced slopes, where a 'cultura mista' type of crops are grown. The region's economy is strongly based on services such as trade, accommodation, and transport, driven by activities at the Port of Koper. The port also serves as a stopping point for tourist cruise ships. The village of Padna offers tourists and guests an authentic experience of the coastal countryside.



Waste Management



PROMOTING RECYCLING

Promoting recycling in tourist accommodations and the local community.



WASTE SEPARATION

Implementing simple waste separation systems.



ALTERNATIVES TO PLASTIC

Encouraging the use of eco-friendly alternatives to plastic, such as glass bottles, reusable bags, and plastic-free packaging.



Green transition

Carbon Neutrality:

Implementing practices that reduce carbon emissions, such as sustainable transportation (e.g., electric cycling).

Local Initiatives:

Promoting local products and services that reduce the need for transportation and support the local economy.



Water conservation

Educating Tourists:

Raising awareness among visitors about the importance of conserving water and practices to achieve it, such as taking shorter showers, reusing towels, and bed linens.



Village self-sufficiency



- **Agriculture and gardening:**
Promoting local agriculture and gardening, which can benefit both tourism and the local community.
- **Experiences for visitors:**
Offering experiences such as farm visits or workshops on local food, which increase interest in self-sufficiency and sustainability.



Energy-efficient buildings

LED lightning

Replaced traditional lighting with LED technolog and significantly reduced electricity consumption. (public lighting in the village and in the Community bulding)





Efficient heating and cooling systems

Smart thermostats:

Using smart thermostats (heat pump) to optimize building temperatures, thereby reducing energy consumption.



Efficient resource management



Efficient transportation:


Promoting sustainable forms of transportation, such as bicycles and public transport, and incorporating them into tourist packages.



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Thank you
for your
attention

