



# MOUNTAIN WALKS IN CROATIA

In Croatia, mountains cover 21% of the country's surface and are of utmost importance due to the biodiversity and natural heritage they preserve.

The strength of Croatia's mountain regions lies in their potential for rural and agricultural development, the timber industry, and summer and winter tourism. The biggest challenges are depopulation and unemployment, leading to a steady exodus of people from the mountains.

The implementation of the European Cohesion Policy has supported the sustainable development of mountainous territory, leading to the creation of new jobs and new tourism opportunities such as the creation of the Routes of the Frankopans cultural and tourist route. Other improvements include better waste management with the new recycling centre at Delnice and greater energy efficiency, for example the energy renovation of Ivan Goran Kovačić Vrbovsko elementary school.



This brochure is produced in the framework of the communication campaign Montana174- How does the Cohesion Policy shape mountains?

This brochure illustrates how the Cohesion Policy has a tangible impact on the daily life of mountain citizens, using concrete examples from Croatia.

[www.montana174.org](http://www.montana174.org)



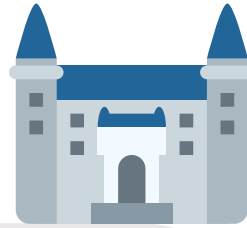
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# DANKO - MOUNTAIN WALK

## 3 CULTURAL HERITAGE

A new cultural centre connected to the Routes of the Frankopans was created. Danko brings tourist groups who are interested in the cultural heritage of his region and tells them about its history.



## 2 BIODIVERSITY

A Centre for Large Carnivores was built in Stara Sušica. Danko leads groups of visitors to the Centre, where they can learn interesting facts about the bear, wolf and lynx that live in Gorski Kotar in an interactive way.

## 1 WORK

A course to become a tourist guide was organized through the Nature & Wildlife project. Thanks to this course, Danko gained a licence to do his dream job, that of tourist guide.



### NAME

Danko

### PROFILE

Tourist guide

### AMBITION

To contribute to the sustainable development of tourism in the mountains of Gorski kotar



# VESNA - MOUNTAIN WALK

## 3 WELL-BEING

The school participated in the Natura Kupa project to preserve and discover the natural well-being of the river Kupa. **Spending time with the children outside the classroom enriches her life in a special way and helps her to understand them better.**



## 2 DISABILITY

Teaching assistants were hired to support special needs students in the school. **There is a child with special needs in Vesna's class. The new teaching assistant facilitates her classroom work by helping this pupil.**



## 1 ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The Ivan Goran Kovačić Vrbovsko elementary school was renovated to improve its energy efficiency. **It is now much more pleasant for Vesna and her pupils to work in, especially in winter, because their classroom is no longer cold.**



### NAME

Vesna

### PROFILE

Elementary school teacher at Ivan Goran Kovačić Vrbovsko

### AMBITION

To participate in as many pedagogical projects as possible with her school and to increase her pupils' well-being



# KRISTINA - MOUNTAIN WALK

## 3 RECYCLING

A recycling centre was built close to Kristina's house in Delnice. Kristina has started sorting her waste and taking it to the recycling centre. In this way, she has reduced her waste bills and is setting a good example to her children.



## 2 ELDERLY CARE

Through the Wish women's employment programme, 7 women from the municipality of Skrad were employed to assist elderly people. One of these women cares for Kristina's grandmother, so that she no longer has to pay a carer and has more time to spend with her children.



## 1 WORK

RAVNA received funding to buy new machines and expand its business. Kristina's job is now less tiring. She no longer suffers from back pain and does not need physiotherapy anymore.

### NAME

Kristina

### PROFILE

Worker at RAVNA, a wood processing company

### AMBITION

To earn a decent salary so that she can bring up her children

