



## 2.3.2 Final Info Day organised by PIDNC for Neretva River Delta pilot site



**Location:** Opuzen City Hall, Trg kralja Tomislava 1, City of Opuzen

**Date:** 26th of November 2021

**Goals of the event:**

- Promoting and informing stakeholders on the results of the CHANGE WE CARE project
- Presentation of the results of research of the Delta Neretva pilot location
- Presentation of the impact of climate change on Delta Neretva
- Presentation of Adaptation Plan of Delta Neretva

**Info day agenda**

TIME	ACTIVITY	MEDIATOR/NOTE
09:00	Official start Welcome word	Representative of Public institution for managing protected nature areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County  Representative of Urbanex d.o.o.
09:15	Opening of the photo exhibition on the natural values of the Delta Neretva  Showing of a documentary on Neretva Delta	Representative of Public institution for managing protected nature areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County
09:30	Impact of climate change on delta Neretva	Representative of Urbanex d.o.o.
10:00	Presentation of the results of research of the Delta Neretva pilot location	Representative of University of Dubrovnik
11:00	Pause	
11:30	Presentation of the Adaptation Plan of the ecological network site Delta Neretva	Representative of Urbanex d.o.o.
13:00	Catering	



**Participants:**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>
National Public Authority	1
Regional Public Authority	9
Local Public Authority	3
Environmental Association	3
Educational sector	2
Private sector	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

Representative of Public institution for the management of protected parts of nature of Dubrovnik Neretva County and representative of Urbanex d.o.o. welcomed the attendees and presented the agenda of the Final Info Day of CHANGE WE CARE project. After the introductory part, Representative of Public institution opened a photo exhibition entitled 'Delta Neretva – Valuable Habitat'. The exhibition was organized in cooperation with the City of Opuzen, Public Open University of Ploče and Natural History Museum of Metković. The aim of the exhibition is to educate and raise awareness among local populations and visitors about the natural values of the Neretva valley's wetland habitats and importance of its conservation for the survival of plant and animal species, including humans. The exhibition consists of 60 photographs. The exhibition is open to visitors from 26th November to 26th December 2021 at the Metković Natural History Museum of Metković, Public Open University of Ploče and the Dubrovnik Neretva County in Opuzen. In addition to the exhibition, an educational movie that showed all the important geographical and biological specificities of Delta Neretva was represented.

As a part of the first presentation 'Impact of the climate change at the Neretva Delta' representative of Urbanex d.o.o. explained the present state and the potential scenarios for the impact of climate change on the site. In addition, the key impacts of climate change on the following areas were presented: water resources, agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, and biodiversity.

Representative of University of Dubrovnik presented the key findings of the studies carried out:

1. Research on physico-chemical factors as a potential drivers of climate change in the ecological network River Neretva Delta (HR5000031);
2. Mapping of target fish species in the area of the ecological network Neretva Delta (HR5000031);
3. Socio-economic analysis of the fisheries sector of the ecological network Neretva Delta (HR5000031);
4. Fishery management study of ecological network Neretva Delta (HR5000031).

During the presentations, the impact of climate change on the Neretva Delta areas was highlighted with a focus on the area's biodiversity. The study 'Research on physico-chemical factors as a potential drivers of climate change in the ecological network River Neretva Delta (HR5000031)' presents the results of research on physico-chemical factors as potential climate change drivers in the protected ecological



network River Neretva Delta (HR5000031), in the period July 2020- June 2021, as a basis for comparison with historically available data, and determining the impact of physico-chemical changes, mainly temperatures and salinity, on the recent status of the native ecosystems. The main goal of the research 'Mapping of target fish species in the area of the ecological network Neretva Delta (HR5000031)' was to map fourteen target fish species that are key species of protection in the mentioned ecological network and to propose new levels of endangerment, main threats and necessary measures to improve the status of target species. The study on socio-economic analysis of the fisheries sector in the River Neretva delta examines the position of local fishery in relation to other economic activities over the past three hundred years and provide an overview of this activity today and its perspectives in terms of expected climate change. Fishery management study of the ecological network Neretva Delta (HR5000031) was made with the aim of evaluating the development potential of freshwater sport fishing in the ecological network, from the aspect of economic benefits for the future fishing licence holder and restrictions arising from ecological network protection principles.

In the last part of the event, representative of Urbanex d.o.o. presented the Adaptation plan of the Delta Neretva. Important part of the presentation was explanation of methodology used with a focus on the participatory approach that was implemented. Vision of the area is defined as 'Symbiosis of the river and people'. In line with the vision, the following 5 objectives are defined:

1. Preserved and adaptable ecosystem,
2. Sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems,
3. Improving the functionality of important ecosystems,
4. Sustainable and resistant economy and
5. Aware and proactive population.

During this event, measures and activities to achieve the stated objectives were presented. In addition, some amendments and additions to plan were made during the presentation, as reflected in the final version of the adaptation plan. It was concluded that it is important to involve a wide range of stakeholders, in particular representatives of local self-government units, in realization of the adaptation plan.



















