EU CAP Network Conference
‘EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice’
Estoril, Portugal
6 - 8 May 2024
OG ‘The role of industrial hemp in adaptation to climate change and in protection of agricultural resources’

Tamara Korošec
THE ROLE OF
INDUSTRIAL
HEMP IN ADAPTING TO
CLIMATE CHANGE AND
CONSERVING RESOURCES IN AGRICULTURE

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EU CAP Network Conference ‘EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice’
Workshop 6: ‘Inspiring Operational Groups to collaborate with Other Innovative Projects’

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KONOPKO is a social enterprise connecting over 160 hemp growers in Slovenia; their goal is building a bridge between growers, processors, researchers, institutes, businesses, decision makers, governmental officials in hemp related issues in Slovenia.

The cooperative shared their idea with the public agricultural advisory services, partnership to cover all the institutions we needed to get to our goals (research, advisory, educational institutions, different farms (more and less experienced hemp growers), companies involved in processing, cooperative and some outsourced contractors for video materials and lecturing).
THE ROLE OF HEMP

ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

CARBON SEQUESTRATION

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

agricultural resources

protection

soil improvement

water protection

security of the farm

HEMP

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

RESILIENCE

water protection

RESILIENCE

security of the farm
MAIN GOALS

Knowledge transfer to farmers and experts

Practical testing of agro-technological measures

Monitoring throughout the vegetation period (diseases, pests, weeds, favorable biodiversity of flora and fauna, soil structure...);

Optimization of the use of varieties, carbon sequestration, combining hemp with cover crops

Connecting all stakeholders in the value chain

Enable the expansion of hemp production in Slovenia
Enhancing soft skills and connecting

INNOVATION BROKING

Connecting ideas

Matching needs

Project development

Matchmaking

Knowledge transfer
WE HAVE ACHIEVED NUMEROUS OUTPUTS AND DISSEMINATION OF INTERESTING RESULTS, EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS:
LOOKING AHEAD

Expansion and Scaling:
Scaling up our initiatives in organic farming and industrial hemp production based on successful pilot projects and collaborations.

International Partnerships:
Strengthening international partnerships established during the project, particularly with stakeholders and new opportunities.

Funding and Growth:
Pursuing additional funding opportunities such as Horizon grants to support further research and development in the field of sustainable agriculture and hemp production.

Knowledge Exchange and Innovation:
Continuously fostering knowledge exchange and innovation through participation in joint events and projects, leveraging the expertise of diverse stakeholders.

Market Development:
Exploring new market opportunities for Slovenian varieties of industrial hemp and organic products, capitalizing on emerging trends and consumer demand.

Policy Influence:
Engaging with policymakers to advocate for supportive policies and regulations that facilitate the growth of sustainable agriculture and hemp industries at the transnational level.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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All information on the conference is available on the event webpage: