



Raising Awareness and Improving Effectiveness of Cave Rescuing within Community Civil Protection Mechanism

"EU Proteus"



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Speleological Association of Slovenia

App. 50 cave exploring clubs



CAVE RESCUE SERVICE



MORE THAN 10.000 KNOWN CAVES

Speleological Associations of Croatia



App. 50 cave exploring clubs

HGSS CAVE-RESCUE
COMMISSION



www.speleologija.hr/rescue

• **AROUND 9.000 KNOWN CAVES**

Co - financing:	Amount:	Portion:
EU Commission	372.692,00 €	74,88%
Coordinating beneficiary (JRS/JZS)	70.000,00 €	14,06%
Associated beneficiary (HGSS)	55.000,00 €	11,05%
<u>TOTAL ELIGIBLE COST</u>	<u>497.692,00 €</u>	

"In kind" contributions: **128.730 €**; voluntary work + Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (ACPDR) contribution is round 52.000 €.

- **EU Proteus project duration is 24 months**
(from 1.1.2012 to 31.12.2013)

short description, background information and why project is necessary



- 43 % of land area in Slovenia and 52 % in Croatia is limestone and dolomite bedrock,
- almost 20.000 karst caves registered in SLO and CRO,
- Kanin massif in Slovenia (8 km²) - more than 300 known caves,
- Northern Velebit - Croatia (similar size) app. 340 caves,
- important characteristic of SLO & CRO caves is verticality: Vrtiglavica (-643 m), Patkov gust (-553 m),
- cave rescuing is difficult (enclosed, dark, cold, wet, high humid, with waterfalls, siphons, ice, labyrinths, narrow passages, areas full of mud etc.),
- numerous objective hazards - qualified speleologists can be seriously or fatally injured ,
- large number of accidents happened to non-cavers: a slide or a fall from the surface (mountaineers, skiers, hunters, hikers and excursionists - both native and foreign).

short description, background information and why project is necessary



TASKS:

- A: Identification of all special conditions and dangers in caves
- B: Identification, research and survey of relevant caves in Slovenia and Croatia
- C: Basic rules for safe entering and working in caves
- E: Cave Rescue Unit formation and trainings
- F&G: 2 International trainings for cave rescuers and cave rescue instructors + course of Emergency medical assistance in caves
- H: Comparison and testing of caving equipment
- I: Final Cave rescue exercise (-500m) – *or cave rescue intervention inside the EU territory
- D: Task Publicity (internet, national media, publications, journals)
- J: Management and Reporting to the Commission

short description, background information and why project is necessary



- approximately 30 % of Europe territory is covered by karst areas
- according to the World Declaration on the Cave Rescue Organization individual states must draw up their own plans to provide cave rescue organization,
- within Europe, there is a lack of organized connection and cooperation between speleological organizations - poor basis for the international exchange of knowledge and experience,
- EU Proteus project aims towards better organization of the cave rescue system in South-East Europe
- our project highly improves qualification of cave rescuers - most important factor in carrying out successful cave rescue service
- improvement of standards and conditions will enhance the awareness and preparedness of cavers and will significant improve the preparedness and effectiveness of the cave rescuing.

deliverables and deadlines (1st and 2nd progress reports)

➤ Project proposal contains nearly 60 deliverables



Deliverable Date:	Deliverable Description:
2.3.2012	Statement of CO and AB: assured 28 experienced cave rescuers for cave rescue intervention inside EU territory
6.4.2012	active web page of EU Proteus project
1.5.2012	Directive for Cave Rescue Unit working and Manual of Cave Rescue Techniques
6.7.2012	Report of equipment purchase
13.7.2012	Final Program for International Cave Rescue instructors Training
20.8.2012	First progress report
Feb. - Oct.2012	5 trainings of Cave Rescue Unit
Sept. 2012	Research of two more than 500 meters deep cave in SLO & CRO
28.11.2012	Brochure for foreigners: information for visiting SLO & CRO caves
31.12.2012	Final report of equipment testing
21.1.2013	Technical rescue plan for 2 caves in SLO & CRO
20.4.2013	Second progress report
2.8.2013	Joint Cave Cadastre of 100 relevant SLO & CRO caves
Feb. - Oct.2013	4 trainings of Cave Rescue Unit
7.9.2013	Setting up of the progression gear in the cave for final drill
11. – 13.10.2013	Execution of Final Cave rescue exercise (-500m).
31.12.2013	Final project report and closing of a project

tentative dates and places for Major Events



Date:	Action:	Place:
18.2.2012	1.training of Cave Rescue Unit in Croatia	Promina - CRO
17.3.2012	1.training of Cave Rescue Unit in Slovenia	Gorje - SLO
14.4.2012	2.training of Cave Rescue Unit in Slovenia	Huda luknja - SLO
2.6.2012	2.training of Cave Rescue Unit in Croatia	Gorski Kotar - CRO
29.06.-01.07.2012	Participation and presentation of project on Balkan cavers meeting	Logatec - SLO
16. – 23.09.2012	International Cave Rescue Instructors Training (CRT) 2012	Sežana - SLO
27.10.2012	1.joint training of Cave Rescue Unit (location Croatia – Velebit)	Velebit - CRO
16.2.2013	2. joint training of Cave Rescue Unit – winter drill (location Slovenia – Kanin)	Kanin - SLO
23.2.2013	3.training of Cave Rescue Unit in Croatia	Gospić - CRO
20.4.2013	3.training of Cave Rescue Unit in Slovenia	Gorje - SLO
21. – 28.07.2013	Participation and presentation on the 16th Int. Congress of Speleology (International Union of Speleology)	Brno- Czech Republic
15. – 23.09.2013	International Cave Rescuers Training (CRT) 2013	not defined - CRO
11. – 13.10.2013	Final Cave rescue exercise (-500m).	Kanin - SLO

- Within the sphere of our regular activities actions like:
 - Cave Cadastre database,
 - Cave rescue plans,
 - Equipment standards and legislations,
 - Testing of equipment and
 - Cave rescue drillswill be continued.
- With constant advances in medicine, the first aid procedures used in cave rescue operations also changes. The produced material will therefore be reviewed and presented at common trainings / drills by instructors.
- All results of EU Proteus will be uploaded on the project web page as well as gradually published in journals.

- Slovenian Cave Rescue Service and Croatian Cave-Rescue Commission will continue to perform International Cave Rescue Trainings for South-East Europe - final goal is to attract other EU countries.



EU Commission significant added value to our work:

- This is a case study of the 2 cave rescue systems that are operating by volunteers. It is an example of good practice how to improve the preparedness and efficiency of cave rescuers at the international level and also good example of a drill for major international cave rescue operations.
- EU Proteus deliverables will also be an important help in the establishment and full functioning of European Cave Rescue Association (ECRA).

Acknowledgment



**Coordinating & Associated Beneficiary
would like to thank all referees and especially
the European Commission to felt that EU Proteus project is
of great importance for the development of cave rescue in
Slovenia, Croatia and across EU territory.**

