

In Slovenia, mountains cover 72% of the country's surface and are home to some 40% of the country's population. Mountain tourism is an important sector for the local economy: in 2019, mountains were the most popular destination for visitors to the country and accounted for more than 1.5 million tourist visits.

However, mountains areas are sparsely populated and suffer from outmigration, especially by young people. Lack of employment and education opportunities are the main reasons for this outmigration and depopulation. The low population density in Slovenia's mountain regions also results in poor public services, such as access to health care, transport and extracurricular activities.

To address these challenges, Slovenia is involved in a number of transnational programmes and has channelled funds from the Cohesion Policy to help young people set up their own businesses, as well as to support vulnerable groups, such as the elderly and disabled.



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 Slovenia.



www.montana174.org





MAJA - MOUNTAIN WALK



3 COLLABORATORS

The multi-generational "It's happening!" centre was opened in Radlje ob Dravi. Maja attended various workshops on personal growth at the centre. She now feels more confident of her strengths and ability to manage her future employees.

2 BUSINESS PREMISES

Empty business premises were renovated and equipped to create space for new green companies through the Green for Green project. Maja established her sustainable tourism business in one of the renovated buildings.

1 ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Regional Development Agency provided a new training course to help would-be entrepreneurs bring their business idea to fruition within 4 months. Maja gained vital knowledge about how to start up a business and is now ready to begin her entrepreneurial career.



NAMEMaja

PROFILEUniversity student

AMBITION

To develop her own business idea in sustainable tourism



JANA - MOUNTAIN WALK



3 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The home care service network is a group of volunteers who help older people and their families. Volunteers deliver groceries to Jana at home. Jana can now buy fresh fruit and vegetables more regularly without having to wait for her children to visit.

2 SOCIAL LIFE

The day care centre for older adults was renovated. Jana enjoys going to the new centre, where she can join in with activities that help her stay healthy and active and make new friends of all ages.





1 BASIC SERVICES

The SmartCare expert system was developed to optimize elderly care and make at-home support for older adults more efficient and cost-effective. Whenever Jana has a health issue, a specialist nurse comes to her home to provide her with the care she needs.

NAME Jana

PROFILE Retired

AMBITION

To enjoy her retirement and stay healthy



MARKO - MOUNTAIN WALK

3 EMPLOYABILITY

The My Creativity, Your Creativity, Our Culture project enables vulnerable groups to express their artistic potential, integrate into society, and find job opportunities in the arts. Marko has developed new artistic skills and is thinking of working in the cultural sector.



2 INDIPENDENCE



A car has been developed with an automatic clutch so that people with leg disabilities can still drive. Marko bought a car with this system so that he always has a backup solution if there is a problem with public transport, if he needs to travel when the bus is not running, or when he wants to travel longer distances.

MOBILITY

People with restricted mobility now have access to free public transport. Marko uses the bus to travel from his home in the mountains to nearby villages in order to meet friends or go to work.



NAME Marko

PROFILEDisabled worker

AMBITION

To be independent and enjoy a high quality of life despite his disability

