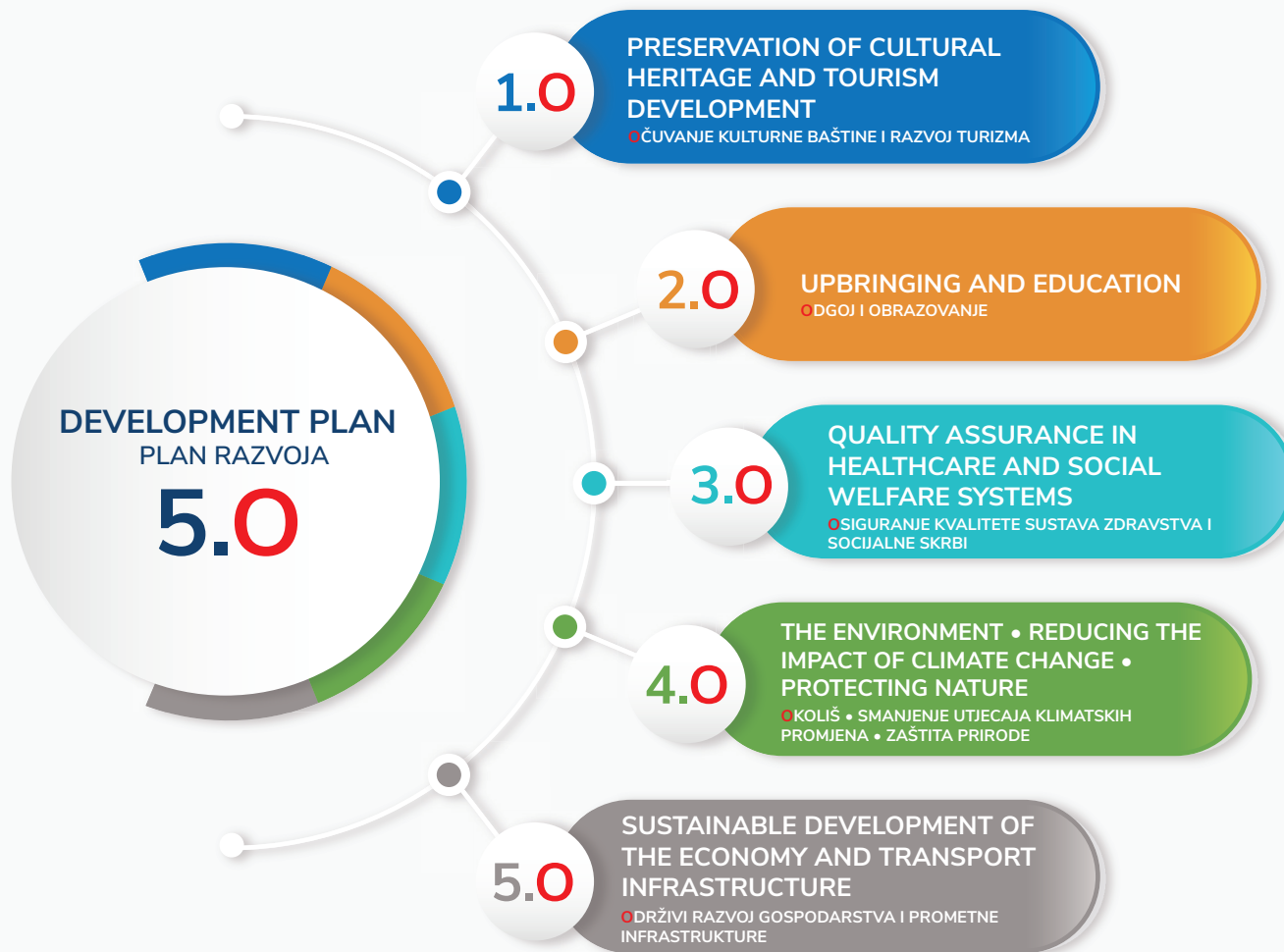


PROJECTS FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF VARAŽDIN COUNTY

Source: Archives of the Varaždin County Tourist Board; Author: Siniša Sović



Europska unija
Zajedno do fondova EU

The project was co-financed by the European Union via the European Regional Development Fund.

For more information about EU funds, visit:
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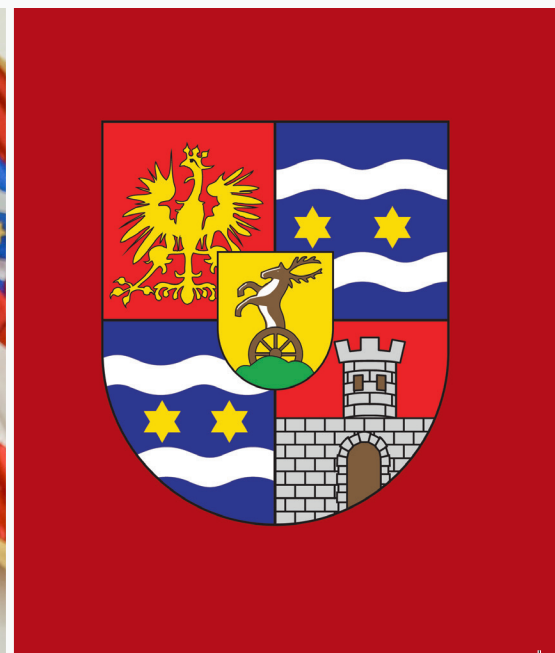
Dear readers,

This brochure provides you with the details of 50 projects that are considered essential to the cultural, economic, educational and social development of Varaždin County. The completion of these projects will significantly contribute to the new vision of our County. It will also give us an additional push forward, which ensures that Varaždin County maintains its status as one of the most developed counties in the Republic of Croatia. The defined projects are a result of a complex, long-term, inclusive, and participative partnership process used to create the Varaždin County Development Plan for the 2021-2027 period.

These fifty key projects will strongly contribute to the achievement of the outlined vision of Varaždin County, which is structured into 5 key development areas: 1. Preservation of cultural heritage and tourism development; 2. Upbringing and education; 3. Quality assurance in healthcare and social welfare systems; 4. The environment, reducing the impact of climate change, protecting nature; 5. Sustainable development of the economy and transport infrastructure.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the creation of the Varaždin County Development Plan and to the definition of the key development projects. The persons included were representatives of institutions, entrepreneurs, civil society, all of the members of the thematic working groups and the County Partner Council, as well as employees of the regional coordinator and the county administration. I would also like to thank all the other future stakeholders who will contribute to the achievement of the projects, which you will learn more about in this brochure.

*Andjelko Stričak,
Varaždin County Prefect*





Source: Archives of the Varaždin County Tourist Board, author: Domagoj Sever

ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Varaždin County Development Plan for the 2021-2027 period is a medium-term strategic planning act of importance for the county. It defines specific goals for the implementation of strategic goals from the National Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia, which is in force until 2030, as well as those in sectoral and multi-sectoral strategies of the Republic of Croatia.

The development plan represents a framework for harmonizing the developmental needs of the County and it provides a link between European, national, and local development plans. The purpose of the Development Plan is to direct development processes in the County with the aim of improving the conditions for sustainable development, increasing the overall competitiveness of the County and achieving an enhanced quality of life for the residents of Varaždin County.

The development plan ensures compliance with the National Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia until 2030, which is the umbrella document and the highest hierarchical act of strategic planning directing the long-term development of society and the economy in all important issues in the Republic of Croatia.

Varaždin County and the Public Institution for the Regional Development of Varaždin County coordinated the development of the Development Plan in cooperation with representatives of cities and municipalities, public institutions, entrepreneurs, non-governmental and non-profit sectors. Almost a hundred stakeholders were involved in the entire process of creating the Development Plan, and more than 20 working meetings were held.

The development plan establishes a strategic framework and contains key strategic determinants, such as the vision, priorities, goals, measures, and strategic projects. Through the joint work of all of the involved stakeholders who participated in the creation of the situation analysis, SWOT analysis and strategic framework, the vision of Varaždin County was established, which reads as follows:

In 2027, Varaždin County will be

a smart and creative region with a strong economy that provides education accessible to all, that preserves and fosters its heritage,

a green and sustainable region that ensures a healthy environment, food and energy security,

and a healthy, active and inclusive region that cares for the well-being of its residents.



Source: Archives of the Varaždin County Tourist Board, author: Andrej Svoger

The developmental vision of Varaždin County, which is harmonized with national values and principles, is directed towards the key areas of intervention at the local and regional levels. It clearly describes the desired outcomes and encourages their achievement.

The achievement of this vision ensures the quality development and continuous progress of the county; based on the principles of sustainable development, and above all on the preservation of natural and cultural assets. This in turn creates a quality and pleasant place for future generations to live in.

Based on this defined vision, the strategic framework of the plan was developed in order to include priority areas of development, specific goals and appropriate development measures which cover a series of projects. In this brochure, we present the most significant projects.

The entire Development Plan of Varaždin County for the 2021-2027 period is available on the websites of Varaždin county and the Public Institution for the Regional Development of Varaždin County.



Source: Archives of the Varaždin County Tourist Board, author: Andrej Svoger



1. PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

1. Reconstruction and equipping of Hotel Minerva
2. Aquae Iasae – City on thermal water
3. Renovation of Arboretum Opeka
4. Presentation centre Gaveznica – Kameni vrh
5. Presentation centre - Archeological Park Gomila
6. Vindija cave
7. Revitalization of the Austro-Hungarian military cavalry complex
8. Camp and swimming complex Cestica
9. Thematic amusement park at “Banjščina”
10. Tourism valorization of the medieval fortifications of Grebengrad
11. Čanjevo fortress
12. The Fortress of Paka
13. The Fortress of Gradišće - Matušini and Humščak sites
14. Construction of an ethno-village in Trakošćan - autocamp and cable car route connecting Trakošćan and Ravna Gora
15. Pauline Centre in Lepoglava
16. Archaeological-Paleontological Park Ludbreg
17. City Stadium Varaždin

2. UPBRINGING AND EDUCATION

18. Establishment of the Regional Centre of Competence in Agriculture “Arboretum Opeka”
19. Establishment of the Regional Centre of Competence for Innovative Health Technologies – School of Medicine
20. Investments in the restoration of Šaulovec Castle and park
21. Establishment of the Artistic Educational Centre of North Croatia - Music School Varaždin
22. University Campus Varaždin – phase 2
23. University North

3. QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEMS

24. Investment in General Hospital Varaždin
25. National Rehabilitation Centre of the Special Hospital for Medical Rehabilitation in Varaždinske Toplice
26. Construction of the central operating block
27. New building of the Institute for Public Health of Varaždin County

4. THE ENVIRONMENT, REDUCING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE, PROTECTING NATURE

28. Geothermal spring “Lunjkovec Kutnjak”
29. Flood protection in the Bednja basin
30. Flood protection in the Plitvice basin
31. Nature Park in the area of Ivanščica, Strahinjčica, Maceljska and Ravna Gora
32. Agglomeration of Varaždinska Toplica
33. Agglomeration of Varaždin
34. Agglomeration of Ivanec
35. Agglomeration of Ludbreg
36. Agglomeration Novi Marof
37. Agglomeration of Lepoglava
38. Agglomeration of Veliki Bukovec
39. Regional Centre of Civil Protection Varaždin

5. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

40. Techpark 3 - Technology Park Varaždin
41. Techno-Network - connecting centres of excellence and the economy
42. Centre for the Integration of Foreign Nationals
43. Development of integrated passenger transportation
44. Further development of the Varaždin Airport
45. Modernization of the railway line Čakovec-Varaždin-Lepoglava-Zagreb and construction of the Lepoglava connector
46. Development of intermodal cargo transportation
47. Zagorje expressway
48. Podravska expressway
49. Connecting road Varaždin – Čakovec
50. Relocation of state road D2



PRESENTATION CENTRE GAVEZNICA – KAMENI VRH

- Presentation of the geological and natural assets
- Interpretation of the geological history of Croatian Zagorje, volcanism and the formation of the semi-precious agate stone
- The construction and equipping of the centre and its supporting visitor infrastructure

ARCHAEOLOGICAL-PALEONTOLOGICAL PARK LUDBREG

- Revitalization of the industrial heritage in the area of the City of Ludbreg, arrangement and equipping of the Prehistoric Park, Arranging of the exterior and the additional exhibition-gallery spaces
- Multimedia Interpretation Centre „House on the Bednja River“

Picture: City of Ludbreg



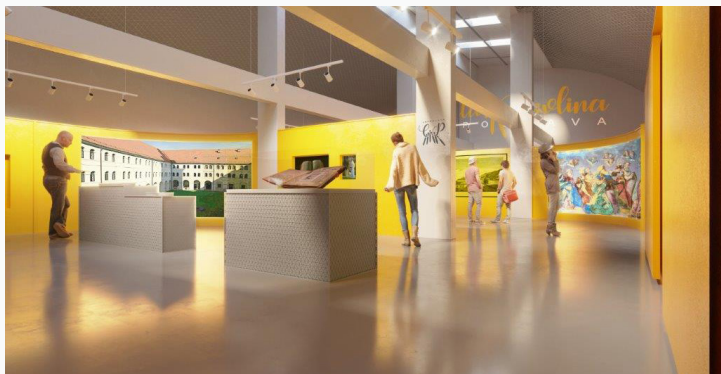
VINDIJA CAVE

- Vindija Cave
- Ensuring adequate physical protection at the entrance to the cave
- Protection of the structure and arranging the interior of the cave
- Planning the establishment of an Interpretation Centre with a scientific and educational laboratory

PRESENTATION CENTRE - ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK GOMILA

- Arrangement of supporting visitor infrastructure
- Arrangement/Construction of the parking lot and access roads

Pictures: The conceptual design of Gomila in Jalžabet (made by: G. Rako/ Architecture Workshop)



AQUAE IASAE – CITY ON THERMAL WATER

- Conversion of the Public Baths into the Aquae Iasae Thermal Water Interpretation Center – Varaždinske Toplice
- Construction of a presentation space and installing the multimedia equipment of the site
- Arranging the areas of the park

Pictures: City of Varaždinske Toplice

PAULINE CENTRE IN LEPOGLAVA

- Establishment of a visitor centre for the interpretation of the history and culture of Lepoglava
- Presentation of lace and lace-making traditions in the area of Lepoglava as an intangible cultural asset under the protection of UNESCO

Pictures: City of Lepoglava



TOURISM VALORIZATION OF MEDIEVAL FORTIFICATIONS

- Individual arrangements and presentation of fortifications (Grebengrad, Čanjevo, Paka, Gradišće-Matušini, and Humščak)
- Connecting medieval fortifications into a unique cultural and tourist route
- Establishment of a multimedia interpretation centre of medieval fortifications

Pictures: Varaždin County Tourist Board, author: Pointers





INVESTMENT IN THE SPECIAL HOSPITAL FOR MEDICAL REHABILITATION VARAŽDINSKE TOPLICE - RECONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF HOTEL MINERVA

- Creation of conditions for the development of high added-value tourism in Varaždinske Toplice



REVITALIZATION OF THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN MILITARY CAVALRY COMPLEX FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE OF VARAŽDIN COUNTY

- The arrangement of the Riding Hall, the command building and the stables into a multipurpose space that includes a gallery and presentation spaces



FOOTBALL STADIUM OF THE CITY OF VARAŽDIN

- Reconstruction of the Football Stadium of the City of Varaždin

Pictures: Siniša Sović



CONSTRUCTION OF AN ETHNO-VILLAGE IN TRAKOŠĆAN – AUTOKAMP

- Provision of accommodation capacity, educational and entertaining tourism content

CABLE CAR ROUTE CONNECTING TRAKOŠĆAN WITH RAVNA GORA

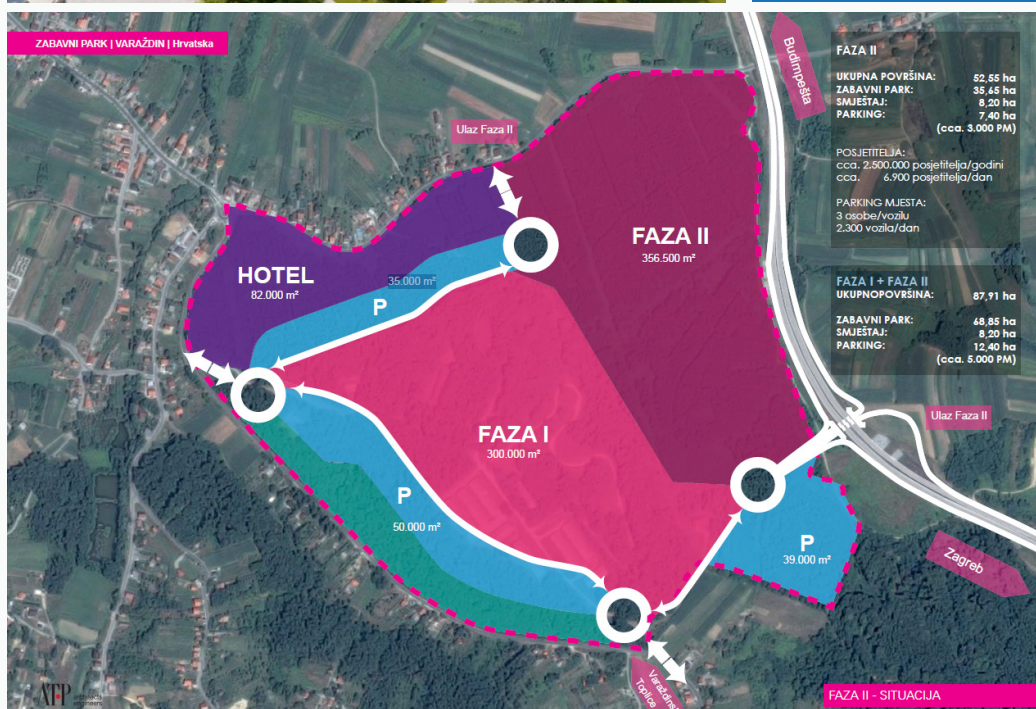
- Provision of recreational and entertaining tourism content



CAMP AND SWIMMING COMPLEX CESTICA

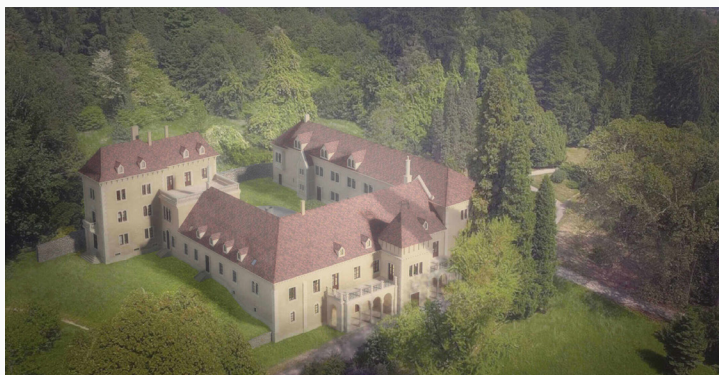
- Provision of accommodation capacity, educational and entertaining tourism content

Pictures: Municipality of Cestica



THEMATIC AMUSEMENT PARK AT "BANJŠČINA"

Pictures: Municipality of Gornji Kneginec



ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CENTRE OF COMPETENCE IN AGRICULTURE "ARBORETUM OPEKA" AND RENOVATION OF THE PARK

- Revitalization and renovation of the castle complex and Arboretum Opeka through:
- Establishing the conditions for the work of the Regional Centre of Competence in Agriculture
- Arrangement of visitor infrastructure and presentations of the castle and park for tourists

RECONSTRUCTION AND EXTENSION OF THE REGIONAL CENTRE OF COMPETENCE IN INNOVATIVE HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES – MEDICAL SCHOOL VARAŽDIN

- The reconstruction, extension and equipping of the School of Medicine in order to adapt it to the needs of the Regional Centre of Competence

Pictures: Medical School Varaždin



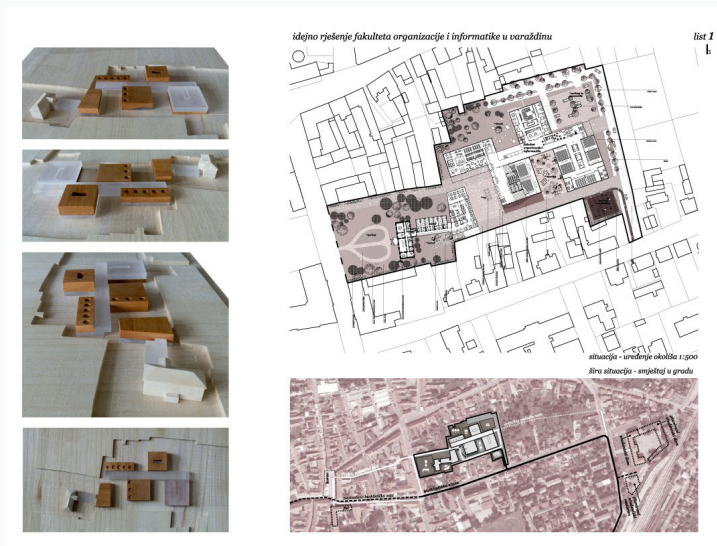
INVESTMENTS IN THE RESTORATION OF ŠAULOVEC CASTLE AND PARK

- Renovation and arrangement of the castle into the European Talent Centre of Croatia – Centres of Excellence of Varaždin County
- Arrangement and revitalization of the park centering on the castle and auxiliary buildings in order to support tourism, culture and education

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARTISTIC EDUCATIONAL CENTRE OF NORTH CROATIA - MUSIC SCHOOL VARAŽDIN

- Reconstruction and extension of the school and establishment of conditions for daily use
- Opening new courses for ballet and contemporary dance

Pictures: Music School Varaždin



UNIVERSITY CAMPUS VARAŽDIN – PHASE II

- Construction of an urban campus through the establishment of new spatial capacities at the Faculty of Organization and Informatics

Pictures: Faculty of Organization and Informatics Varaždin



UNIVERSITY NORTH

- Establishment of the scientific-teaching STEM centre of University North
- Construction of a dedicated scientific-teaching facility UNIN4 as a modern technological-educational centre for raising student standard

Pictures: University North



INVESTMENT IN GENERAL HOSPITAL VARAŽDIN

- Construction and equipping of a new building as a day hospital, which will be used for internal medicine, surgery, urology, otolaryngology, ophthalmology and same-day general surgeries
- Construction and equipping of buildings for unified emergency hospital admissions





CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR PERSONS WITH DISEASES AND DAMAGE TO THE SPINAL CORD OF THE SPECIAL HOSPITAL IN VARAŽDINSKE TOPLICE

- Increased availability and quality of healthcare for patients with spinal cord injuries and diseases

Pictures: Special Hospital for Medical Rehabilitation Varaždinske Toplice





CONSTRUCTION OF THE CENTRAL OPERATING BLOCK

- Construction and equipping of the building of the central operating block with the aim of improving access to sustainable and high-quality healthcare services

Pictures: General Hospital Varaždin



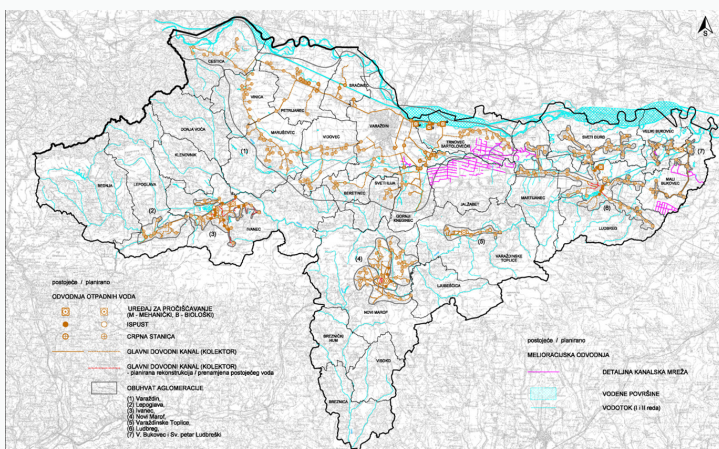


NEW BUILDING OF THE INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH OF VARAŽDIN COUNTY

- Ensuring the necessary spaces and equipment for activities related to clinical microbiology; preventive school medicine, health promotion and public health medicine, epidemiological activities, activities for the implementation of DDD, activities for health ecology and activities relating to joint affairs

Pictures: Institute for Public Health of Varaždin County





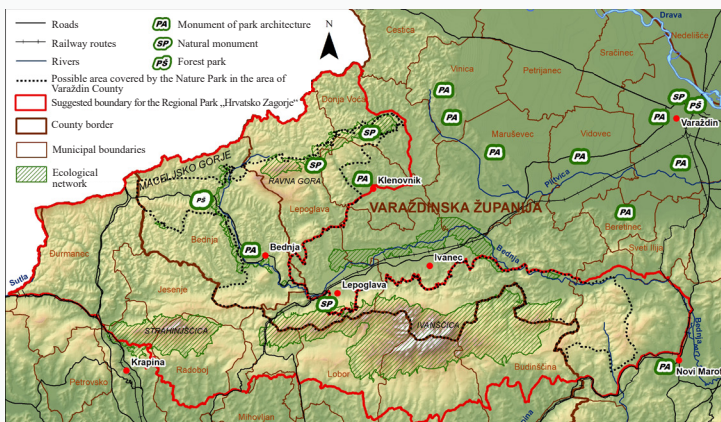
GEOTHERMAL SPRING „LUNJKOVEC KUTNJAK“

- Sustainable use of geothermal potential through the construction of infrastructure for the production of electricity and thermal energy (construction of a geothermal power plant)

SYSTEM OF DRAINAGE AND WASTEWATER PURIFICATION

- Agglomeration of Varaždinske Toplice
- Agglomeration of Varaždin
- Agglomeration of Ivanec
- Agglomeration of Ludbreg
- Agglomeration of Novi Marof
- Agglomeration of Lepoglava
- Agglomeration of Veliki Bukovec

Pictures: Varkom d.d.



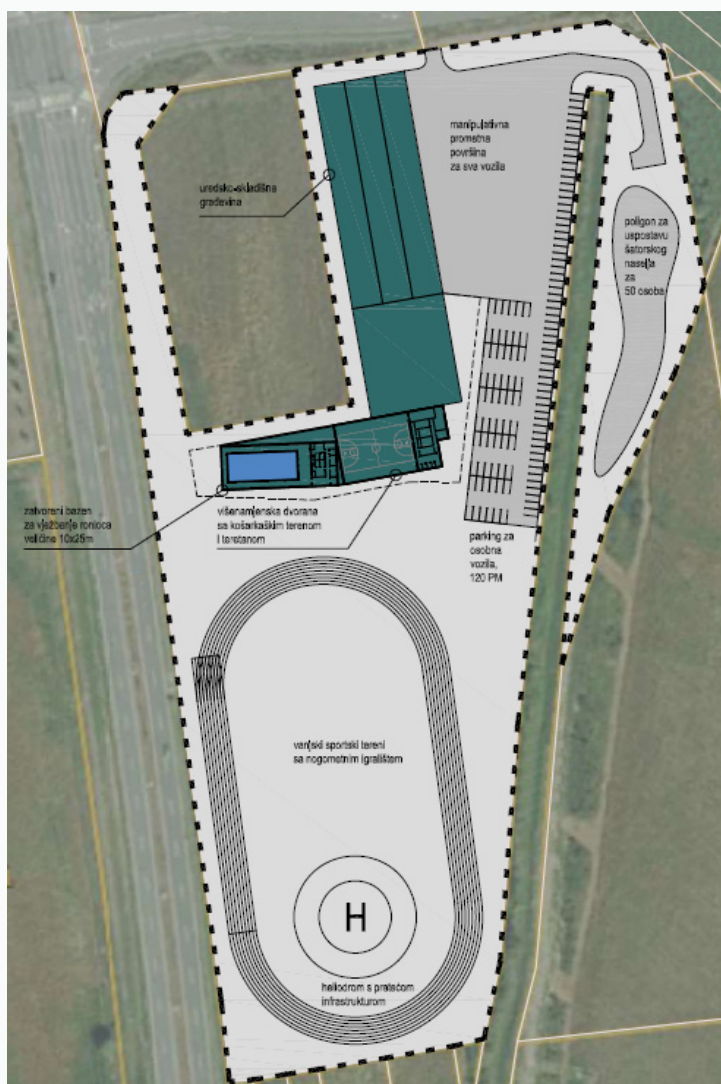
FLOOD PROTECTION IN THE BEDNJA AND PLITVICA RIVER BASINS

- Flood protection in the Bednja Basin includes three mountain retentions (Čret, Kamenica I, Korušćak) and the reconstruction and extension of the left and right embankments of the Bednja River
- Flood protection in the Plitvice Basin includes two retention basins, Maruševec and Varaždin, and an embankment in the territory of the Municipality of Mali Bukovec

Pictures: Archives of the Varaždin County Tourist board, Author: Pointers

NATURE PARK IN THE AREA OF IVANŠČICA, STRAHINJČICA, MACELJSKA AND RAVNA GORA

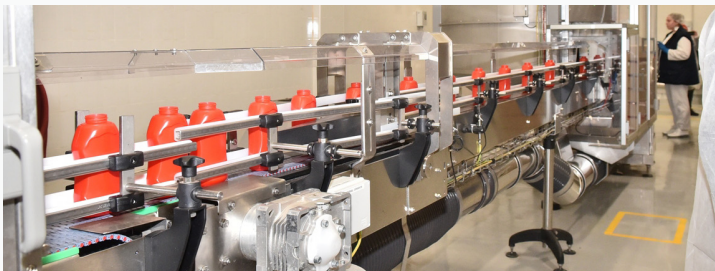
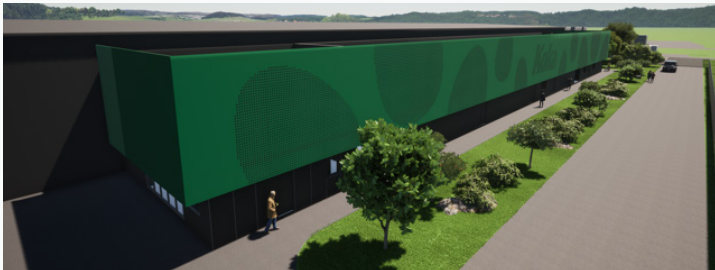
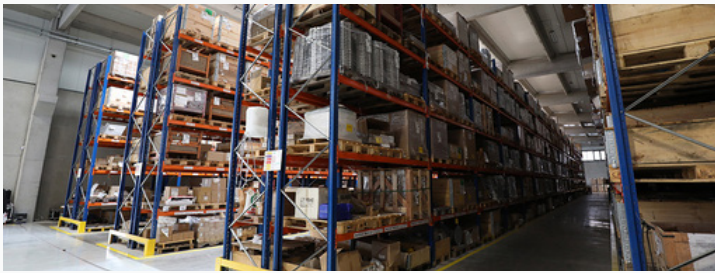
- An initiative has been launched to declare a nature park with the working name "Ivanščica, Strahinjščica, Maceljska and Ravna gora". The aim is to raise the level of nature protection in the region.



REGIONAL CENTRE OF CIVIL PROTECTION VARAŽDIN

- Construction and equipping of the infrastructure that will bring together the technical means, equipment, and human resources of the civil protection system at the regional level

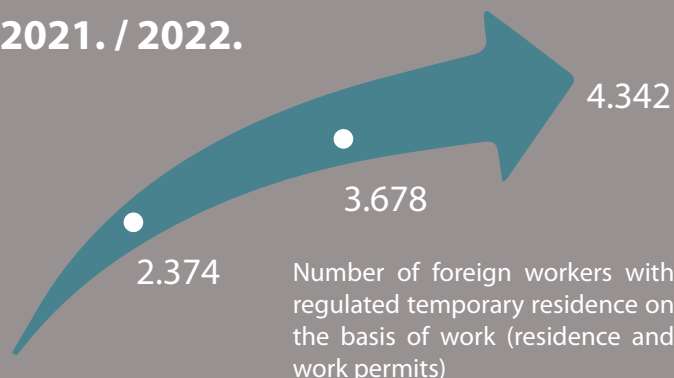




SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND CRAFTS

- Supporting the emergence of new data-based digital industries and encouraging the construction of infrastructure for data security and availability (data centres)
- Development of business and research infrastructure and entrepreneurial support institutions; and strengthening of their capacities and encouraging networking
- Encouraging the development and commercialization of new products and services of small and medium-sized enterprises
- Development and improvement of regional and local infrastructure in order to enhance the attractiveness of the county as an investment destination
- Encouraging digital transformation among entrepreneurs
- Industry 4.0

2021. / 2022.



Number of foreign workers with regulated temporary residence on the basis of work (residence and work permits)

CENTRE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS

- Establishing the Centre and providing assistance to foreign nationals in contacting the public administration, and helping them getting to know the culture, language and the environment in which they live



TECHPARK 3 – THE EXTENSION AND EQUIPPING OF ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF TECHNOLOGY PARK VARAŽDIN

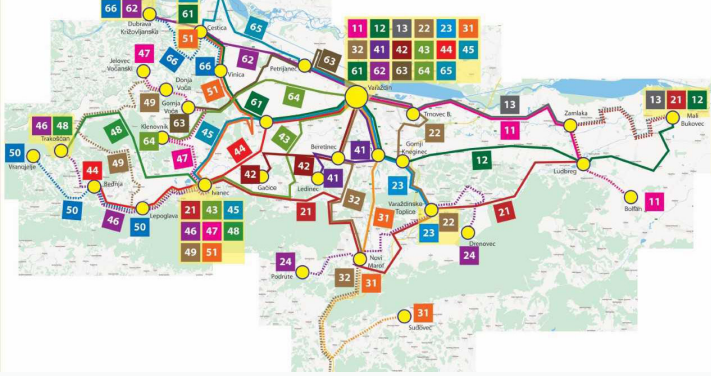
- Construction of 5,000 m² of new and modern office space to accommodate entrepreneurs, and installation of modern equipment for the rapid prototyping and rapid production of small series

Pictures: Technology Park Varaždin/City of Varaždin

TECHNO-NETWORK - CONNECTING CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND THE ECONOMY

- Reconstruction, equipping and conversion of the existing building of the old school into an entrepreneurial center/technology network with the aim of strengthening the entrepreneurial environment

Pictures: Primary School "Vladimir Nazor", Sveti Ilija



DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION IN REGION OF NORTH CROATIA

- Establishment of a quality network of public transport lines



DEVELOPMENT OF INTERMODAL CARGO TRANSPORTATION IN THE REGION OF NORTH CROATIA

- Higher quality transportation services relating to intermodal cargo transport
- Construction of an intermodal terminal

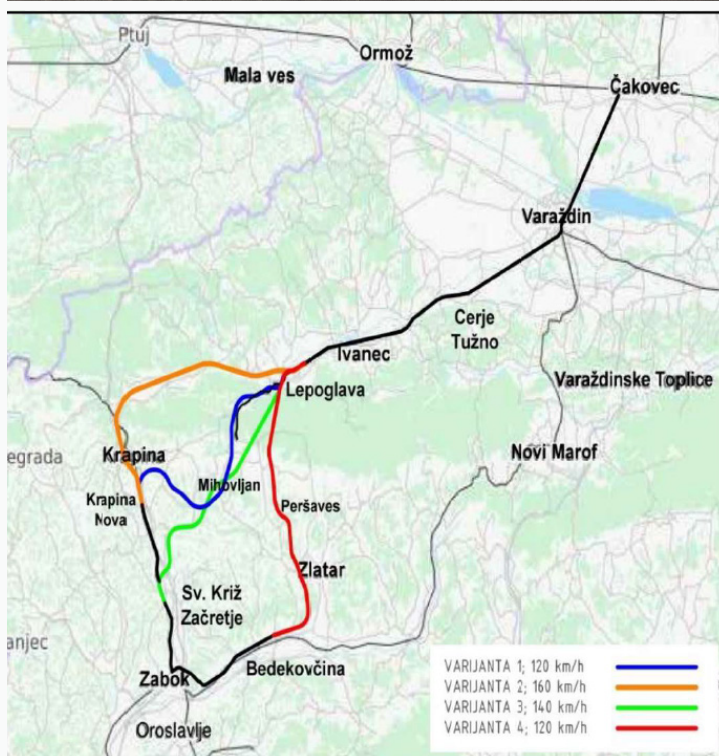




FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE VARAŽDIN AIRPORT

- Planning content for air traffic functions

Pictures: Varazdin Airport



MODERNIZATION OF THE RAILWAY LINE ČAKOVEC-VARAŽDIN-LEPOGLAVA-ZAGREB AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE LEPOGLAVA CONNECTOR

- The construction of a modern, two-track, electrified railway capable of sustaining rail traffic traveling at a speed up to 120 km/hr and the modernization of the infrastructure necessary to increase transportation standards

Pictures: HŽ Infrastruktura



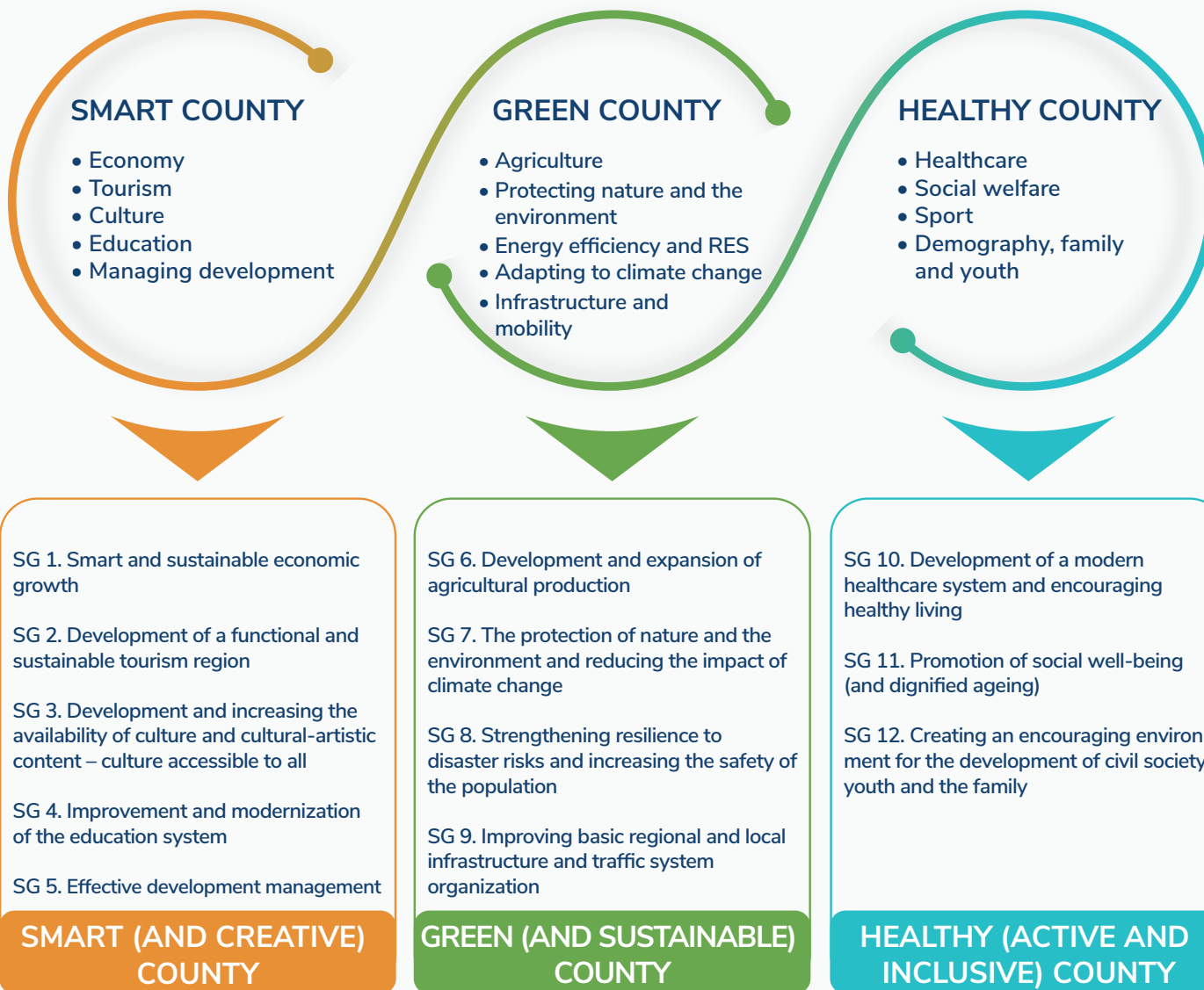
ZAGORJE
EXPRESSWAY

PODRAVINA
EXPRESSWAY

CONNECTING
ROAD VARAŽDIN -
ČAKOVEC



RELOCATION
OF STATE ROAD
D2 FROM THE
AREAS OF THE
MUNICIPALITIES
OF PETRIJANEC
AND SRAČINEC -
CONSTRUCTION
OF A SUBSTITUTE
ROUTE



SG = Specific Goal

Projekt "Suradnja za razvoj" / Project „Cooperation for Development“

Broj ugovora / Contract no.: KK.10.1.3.03.0002

Total value of the project: 23.754.679,20 HRK/3.152.787,74 EUR

EU co-financing of 85% provided via the European Fund for Regional Development: 20.191.477,32 HRK/ 2.679.869,58 EUR

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PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

60 months, from January 1st, 2019 to December 31st, 2023

For more information about European Union funds, visit: www.strukturnifondovi.hr

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Europska unija
Zajedno do fondova EU

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by the European Union
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Javna ustanova za
regionalni razvoj
Varaždinske županije