

# The Šenk Farm

## 1. introduction

L'exploitation est située dans l'environnement alpin typique des Alpes de Kamnik Savinja, dans la région frontalière avec l'Autriche, à 900 m d'altitude. En raison de l'altitude, du relief et du climat alpin, les terres agricoles sont dominées par les pâturages et l'élevage. La race ovine Jezersko-solčavska est originaire de cette région. De plus, la sylviculture est encore très importante dans l'agriculture traditionnelle de cette région. Le lieu est caractérisé par des établissements dispersés avec des fermes indépendantes. Le tourisme est une activité importante. Elle a légèrement diminué au cours des décennies précédentes, mais elle a repris de l'importance. L'un des points importants de la renaissance du tourisme est la ferme de Šenk, qui a été complètement reconstruite par un jeune couple il y a quelques années.

## 2. PROFIL DE PROMOTEUR

**Prénom**

Polona

**Nom de famille**

Karničar

**Année de naissance**

1976

**Le genre**

femelle

**Éducation**

Secondary vocational

### 3. PROFIL DE LA FERME







### **Address**

Nosilka dopolnilne dejavnosti na kmetiji  
Zgornje Jezersko 140  
4206 Zgornje Jezersko  
Slovenija

### **Pays**

Slovénie

### **Secteur agricole dans hectar**

16.00

### **Date de création de la ferme**

1500

### **Date depuis quand le promoteur est propriétaire / loue la ferme**

dim 06/06/2010 - 12:00

| NUMBER OF WORKERS | FAMILY MEMBERS | EXTERNAL WORKERS |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Full time</b>  | 0              | 3                |
| <b>Part time</b>  | 1              | 6                |

### **Description de la ferme**

The Šenk farm, with its clustered arrangement of eight, wood-covered buildings, is a pearl of the Alpine architecture. It was founded more than 500 years ago. The main house is from 1517 and the settlement was created after the disappearance of lake in the 14th century. The homestead preserved its original image, and the house is protected as a cultural monument of national importance and thus subject to strict protection. The farm is strongly oriented towards tourist activity, offering home-made organic products from the garden and orchard and the traditional Slovenian autochthonous breeds of cattle, sheep and chicken are kept. Four generations have lived on the farm recently. All members of the family are involved in farm work and during the season they accept volunteers from Slovenia and also abroad. The farm and family members are closely connected with the local community and actively work and participate in it. Polona is the president of the tourist association Jezersko. The site is located in Natura 2000 and this place is considered as an independent municipality.

### **Site Web et des liens de réseaux sociaux**

[www.senkovadomacija.si](http://www.senkovadomacija.si)

<https://www.facebook.com/SenkovaDomacija/>

## **4. Multifonctionnelle / agriculture durable et des paysages agricoles européens (EAL)**

### **Multifunctional & sustainable farming Key Words**

Quality/Organic/Certified production

Tourism and recreation related to EAL

Traditional buildings

### **Texte libre**

Due to the difficult conditions of farming, the inhabitants of Jezersko always looked for income outside agriculture. The most important was forestry with famous Jezersko larch, transportation along the passages that connected Slovenia with Carinthia, charcoal production and later tourism and hiking. Above Jezersko, there is one of the oldest mountain huts in Slovenia, the Czech hut built by the Czech mountaineers in 1900, coming mostly from the circle of industrialists who had factories in Kranj. Jezersko lies in a typical Alpine landscape with high steep slopes with mountain pastures above the forest boundary. The landscape is sparsely populated and is subject to deagrarianisation and migration to the city. Lately, the area has been revived, mainly thanks to the young farm successors and their

families and this is partly supported by funds from the Rural Development Program, which are largely focused on the development of tourism and sustainable agriculture.

### **Conseils / Recommendation**

- The farm means, above all, a lot of work, but it also brings a lot of joy. It is important that the farm can survive and ensure existence for future generations.
- There are truly some resources provided by the state, but the bureaucracy is overwhelming and too complicated.

## **5. CONSIDERATIONS, compétences / compétences impliquées et requêtes / questions.**

### **Considérations générales**

The farm is run by young couple with help of multi-generational family. Few years ago, both of them left their good jobs to begin developing tourism on the farm. They wanted to take advantage of the extraordinary potential that the farm has as a protected cultural monument and a unique natural environment. To obtain sufficient financial resources, they sold some farm land and applied for RDP funds. They had some support of advisory service but most of the work had to be done on their own. This was the most difficult period of the revival process since there was no regular family income and the family was dependent on their savings. The renewal period took longer than they planned so if there hadn't been clear vision and goals about the farm's future, it would be impossible to succeed. First few years after the start of agritourism, the main issue was how to attract guests. It took few years before they achieved satisfactory results. At current point of business development, the main concern is developing the relevant contents for tourist to offer and determining roles and responsibilities for family members. During the whole process of establishing a successful family business, they had to learn a lot. They had no experience in project management, construction engineering or tourism management and they were gaining entrepreneurial skills by solving problems. They claim that they had support of institutions and local authorities but the job had to be done by the family. Fortunately the family members are very connected, hardworking, focused, persistent and willing to learn. In the end, the effort paid off. Now they are sure that they made the right decision and that the agritourism based on unique environment and cultural values has a great potential. They see also many followers in their neighborhood who choose similar paths for developing and preserving their farms. They are also ready to share and explain their experience to those who are at the start of the same process of establishing agritourism business. Such exchanges and meetings are organized by various organizations; association of tourist farms, rural women associations, tourist associations, advisory services, development agencies ... They also noticed increased public attention, which is dedicated to preserving and protecting of agricultural landscapes. It is also very important for people to have possibility to make exchange of experiences on the subject with different people outside the local environment.



| <b>Strengths</b>  | <b>Weaknesses</b>  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Famille.</li> <li>• Entrepreneuriat.</li> <li>• Public.</li> <li>• Héritage culturel.</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure.</li> <li>• Manque de temps.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Opportunities</b>  | <b>Threats</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration.</li> <li>• Nouveaux contenus.</li> <li>• Promotion.</li> <li>• Innovation.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changement du climat.</li> <li>• Tourisme de masse.</li> <li>• Entretien antipollution.</li> <li>• Dépeuplement.</li> </ul> |

## Mots-clés

### EAL Keywords

Pasture

Protected area

Rural area

### Farming Key words

Forestry

Grassland/Pasture

Horticulture

Livestock

### Main Training/Skills/Competences

Formally acquired knowledge is not enough for the needs of farm management and tourism on the farm. Exchanges of experiences and visits of good practices mean a lot. Learning from one's own experience is very important. It is necessary to have a vision and goals, as well as persistence, resourcefulness and support of the family and locals.

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### Requêtes / Questions



How to transfer knowledge in the unobtrusive way?

What channels can we use to transfer this knowledge? When to start training? Is not this a matter of lifelong learning?

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