

## D. 6.2 Round table

T6.2	<p><b>Round table: Introducing European citizenship through the exchange of participatory sports skills and presentation of motivational model HiH for inclusion in sport in Zagreb</b></p>	<p><b>Working fields: 1. Sport and Health - encourage reflection and discussion on health through sport. 2. The role of municipalities in providing public sport and recreation (Finland good practise example). 3. Forecast of project activities.</b></p>
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The expert roundtable titled "HiH: From Idea to Implementation - Strategic Approaches to Developing Sports Offerings and Infrastructure with EU Funds" took place on the second day of the conference. Scheduling the roundtable on the second day proved to be more suitable for several reasons. Firstly, the guests from Finland were only available in May, which allowed for their participation in the event. Secondly, the HiH motivational model for inclusion in sports was completed only in May.

The roundtable in Terme Čatež attracted 37 participants and had significant media coverage:

1. Okrogla miza HiH: Od ideje do izvedbe: strateški pristopi k razvoju športne ponudbe in infrastrukture z uporabo EU sredstev (<https://www.ft.um.si/dogodki/okrogla-miza-hih-od-ideje-do-izvedbe-strateski-pristopi-k-razvoju-sportne-ponudbe-in-infrastrukture-z-uporabo-eu-sredstev/>)



2. V ponedeljek in torek v Termah Čatež mednarodna znanstvena konferenca Fakultete za turizem (<https://www.posavskiobzornik.si/novice/v-ponedeljek-in-torek-v-termah-catez-mednarodna-znanstvena-konferenca-fakultete-za-turizem-103751>)





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3. MEDNARODNA KONFERENCA FAKULTETE ZA TURIZEM UM V TERMAH ČATEŽ  
(<https://www.eposavje.com/ostale-novice/mednarodna-konferenca-hand-hand-v-termah-catez>)



4. Na okrogli mizi o različnih vidikih razvoja športnega turizma  
(<https://www.posavskiobzornik.si/novice/na-okrogli-mizi-o-razlicnih-vidikih-razvoja-sportnega-turizma-103839>)



5. Povzetek okrogle mize na konferenci HiH – 28. Maj 2024 (1. Del)  
([https://www.linkedin.com/posts/maja-%C5%BEibert\\_%7MD/](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/maja-%C5%BEibert_%7MD/))



The roundtable played a crucial role in presenting and discussing new approaches and strategies for developing sports offerings and infrastructure using EU funds. The timing of the event on the second day of the conference facilitated the participation of important guests from Finland, whose contributions were essential for the success of the discussion. Their presence enabled the international exchange of knowledge and best practices, enriching the content of the roundtable.

Additionally, the completion of the HiH motivational model in May was critical for the timely presentation of this innovative approach to sports inclusion. The model was designed to promote participation and integration in sports activities, contributing significantly to the broader goals of European citizenship and social inclusion.

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The event in Terme Čatež attracted 37 participants, reflecting a high level of interest and engagement. Media coverage further contributed to the wider recognition and impact of the roundtable's findings. Presenting the findings and the motivational model at the international sports event in Pag allowed for the dissemination of the acquired knowledge and experiences to a broader European audience, which is vital for the sustainable development of sports offerings and infrastructure across Europe.

### **"HiH: From Idea to Implementation - Strategic approaches to developing sports offerings and infrastructure with EU funds"**

The expert roundtable "HiH: From Idea to Implementation - Strategic Approaches to Developing Sports Offerings and Infrastructure with EU Funds" took place on the second day of the conference. Holding the roundtable on the second day proved to be more suitable for several reasons. Firstly, the guests from Finland were only available in May, which allowed for their participation in the event. Secondly, the HiH motivational model for inclusion in sports was completed only in May, enabling its timely presentation at the roundtable.

The roundtable in Terme Čatež attracted 37 participants and had significant media coverage. The findings from the roundtable and the motivational model were presented in June at an international sports event in Pag, Croatia.

The expert roundtable "HiH: From Idea to Implementation - Strategic Approaches to Developing Sports Offerings and Infrastructure with EU Funds" took place on the second day of the conference. The purpose of this roundtable was to delve into practical strategies for developing sports tourism infrastructure and offerings using European Union funds. The target audience included policymakers, tourism professionals, local government representatives, academics, and industry stakeholders. The goal was to discuss actionable strategies for leveraging EU funds to enhance sports tourism and infrastructure.

The roundtable provided a comprehensive overview of the strategic approaches required to develop sports tourism infrastructure using EU funds. Participants found the discussions invaluable as they highlighted practical solutions and collaborative efforts needed to overcome challenges. The event emphasized the importance of strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and innovative approaches in fostering sustainable sports tourism development.



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## Invitation



## Event overview

The expert roundtable "HiH: From Idea to Implementation - Strategic Approaches to Developing Sports Offerings and Infrastructure with EU Funds" took place on the second day of the conference. This roundtable aimed to delve into practical strategies for developing sports tourism infrastructure and offerings using European Union funds.

## Target audience

The roundtable targeted policymakers, tourism professionals, local government representatives, academics, and industry stakeholders. The goal was to discuss actionable strategies for leveraging EU funds to enhance sports tourism and infrastructure.

## Agenda and highlights

- **Moderator:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tomi Špindler guided the discussions, ensuring a focus on practical and strategic insights.
- **Speakers:**
  - **Dubravka Kalin** from the Ministry of Economy, Tourism, and Sport discussed national strategies for sports tourism development and the importance of aligning local initiatives with broader policy goals.
  - **Peter Misja**, Mayor of Podčetrtek, shared success stories of municipal initiatives in sports tourism, emphasizing the role of local government in supporting infrastructure projects.

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- **Katja Čanžar** from the Institute for Entrepreneurship, Tourism, and Youth Brežice highlighted innovative projects that effectively used EU funds to enhance local offerings.
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miha Lesjak** from the University of Primorska discussed academic perspectives on sports tourism development and the importance of research-driven approaches.
- **Rok Gorjup** from Terme Čatež provided insights into private sector involvement and the benefits of public-private partnerships in sports tourism.
- **Zdravko Kozinc** from the Institute Iskriva shared examples of sustainable sports tourism projects and the importance of environmental considerations.
- **Vid Štuhec** from ProVital discussed practical challenges and solutions in developing sports infrastructure, focusing on project management and funding acquisition.

### Discussion topics

- **Challenges and Opportunities:** Identifying the main obstacles in sports tourism development and potential opportunities for growth.
- **Sports Infrastructure:** Exploring the importance of multi-purpose sports facilities and their role in promoting community health and tourism.
- **Success Stories:** Sharing examples of successful sports tourism destinations and the strategies that contributed to their success.
- **Government Support:** Discussing the need for robust government policies and financial support to develop and maintain sports tourism infrastructure.

The moderator opened the roundtable with a question about sports tourism and infrastructure. Dubravka Kalin highlighted Slovenia's strong tradition in organizing sports events, Peter Misja emphasized the importance of cycling trails for the local economy, and Katja Čanžar discussed the significance of Terme Čatež for Brežice. Zdravko Kozinc and Rok Gorjup stressed the multifunctionality of sports infrastructure, while Dr. Miha Lesjak cited Umag as a successful sports tourism destination. Vid Štuhec pointed out the lack of multifunctional sports facilities in Styria and the importance of state support.

The HiH conference provided numerous insights and ideas contributing to the future development of tourism. Participants agreed that such discussions are crucial for progress and sustainability in this field. A heartfelt thank you to all the experts who responded to our invitation and contributed to the discussion.

### Overall impression

The roundtable provided a comprehensive overview of the strategic approaches required to develop sports tourism infrastructure using EU funds. Participants found the discussions invaluable, as they highlighted practical solutions and collaborative efforts needed to overcome challenges. The event

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emphasized the importance of strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and innovative approaches in fostering sustainable sports tourism development.

### Foto material



Figure 1: Members, experts of the Roundtable (1. part)



Figure 2: Members, experts of the Roundtable (2. part)

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Figure 3: Members, experts of the Roundtable (3. part)

### **The presentation of the findings from the roundtable and the motivational model**

The 9th Ronilačke Igre, held from June 7 to June 9, 2024, at Camping Village Šimuni on the island of Pag, Croatia, is an annual diving event. This event is recognized as one of the most prominent competitions and gatherings in the region, attracting around 300 participants, including professional and recreational divers, technology enthusiasts, adventure seekers, participants from other sports, recreational athletes, and youth.



The choice to present at the Ronilačke Igre was a strategic and effective promotional decision. The event attracts a diverse and large audience, including professional divers, recreational sports enthusiasts, participants from other sports, recreational athletes, youth, and media representatives. This wide exposure provided an excellent platform for disseminating the findings and the motivational model to a broad and varied audience.

The event features a variety of underwater activities such as underwater orientation, puzzle solving, target shooting with spearguns, and fin swimming. These activities draw a wide range of participants, ensuring that the presentation reaches a large and engaged audience. Participants have the

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opportunity to test the latest diving equipment from top brands, making the event interactive and engaging. This hands-on experience enhances the visibility and impact of the presentations on sports infrastructure development and motivational models.

Additionally, the event emphasizes the fun and safety of diving, promoting it as a healthy and inclusive sport. This aligns perfectly with the themes of the roundtable and motivational model, which focus on encouraging participation in sports for physical and mental well-being. With attendees including representatives from local authorities, sports organizations, and the general public, the event provides ample networking opportunities. This fosters the exchange of knowledge and best practices, enhancing the impact of the presented findings and strategies.



As part of the Hand in Hand project, Rok Kerin presented self-rescue techniques for divers and other participants. Self-rescue from water is of utmost importance for divers as it enables quick and effective

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action in emergency situations, potentially preventing serious injuries or saving lives. These skills are crucial for ensuring the safety of all participants in diving activities. Additionally, we had a booth where we presented excerpts from the roundtable and the motivational model, providing a hands-on experience and detailed information to all interested attendees. This booth allowed us to engage directly with participants, offering in-depth insights and practical demonstrations that complemented the overall theme of safety and inclusion in sports. Furthermore, a presentation on rescue techniques using stand-up paddleboards (SUP) was conducted, showcasing their effectiveness in emergency situations and adding another layer of practical knowledge for all attendees.



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