





# The Importance of Being ... Elder Adult and Part of Rural Networking

### **SOME INSIGHTS FROM SLOVENIA**

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### **Statements**

- Very heterogenous age group: various capacities, wishes and expectations.
- Infrastructure development and distance learning.
- Elderly people: institutionalization and deinstitutionalization.
- Unfold rural web.
- Slovene examples.

### **Personal Experience**

How to initiate participation in ICT in rural areas?



Fig. 1: Case Study Area.

Fig. 2: Municipality of Koper (MOK, functional regions).

**Population Flows** 

BERTOKI	STEPANI CRNOTICE
PRADEPOBL	KRNICA
KOPER	CEZARJI LOKA PRAPKOCE
GAZONSA ARABUS MARIN MON	SV ANTON KUBED BEZOVICA PODGORJE PODGORJE
SRGASI GRINJAN JANZAN	ZANIGRAD.
GRINTOVECSMARJE BABICI	REZIGE ZASAVLJEGRACISCE
POLUAN FIJER OGA DILICIGLEM	
KOSTABONA, UPANCICT BOR	RST TRSEK BUTAR
BRIC	OROMACI-BOSKINI TREBESETULJAKI LUKINI PAKITOVEC
KRKAVCE	OPOLOVECBELVEDUR SOKOLICISOCERGA DVORI
	BREZOVICA PRI GRADINU PERAJI MARSICI

PLAVJE

SOCERE

BARIZONIKOLOMBAI

CEREJPREMANCAN HRVATINI JELARJI

SPODNJE SKOFIJE

	City	Suburb. Area	Rural Area
TERRITORY (%)	4,1	27,7	68, 2
POPULATION (%)	48	42,9	9,1
AGED 65+ (%)	50,8	39,2	10

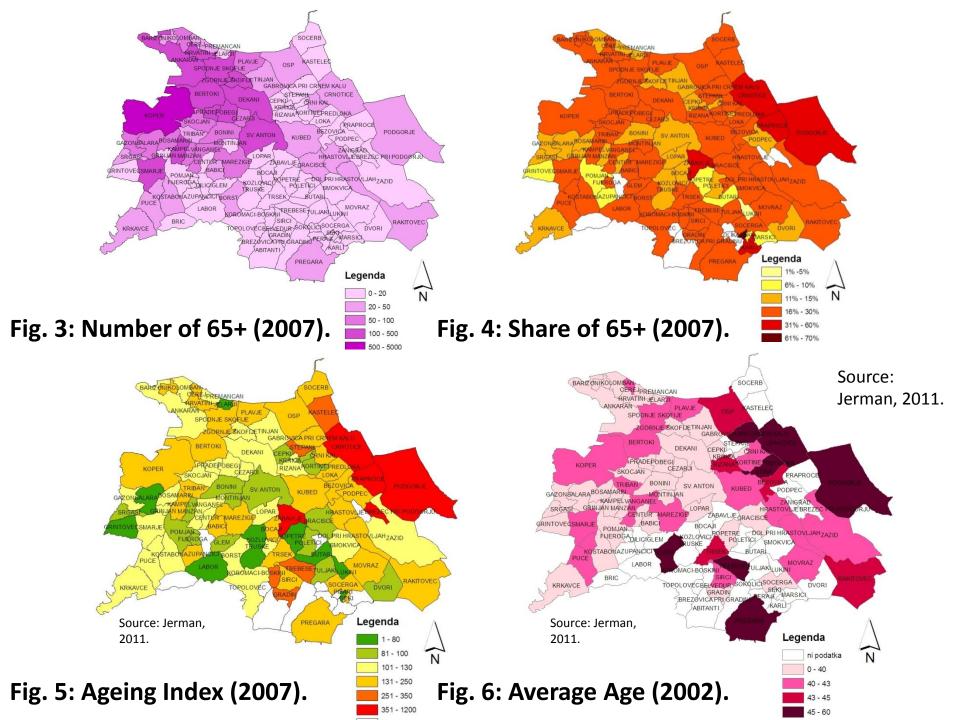
Tab. 1: Elderly people in MOK.

**PREGARA** Source: Jerman, 2011.

**Rural Area** 

**Suburbanized Area** 

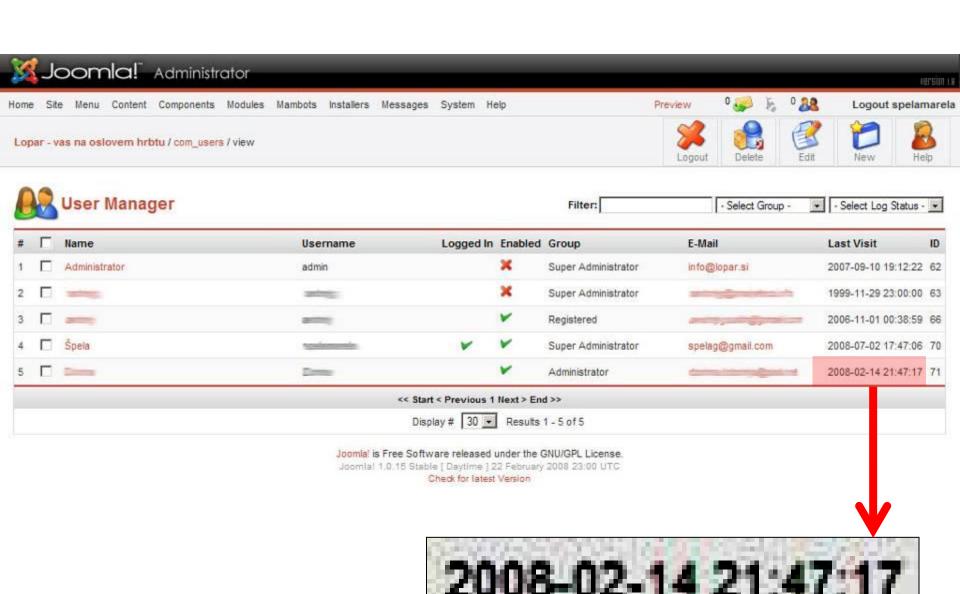
City





# SEPTEMBER 2007 — project "Web page for local tourist association."





## Subscribers for E-Newsletter

**Visitors** 



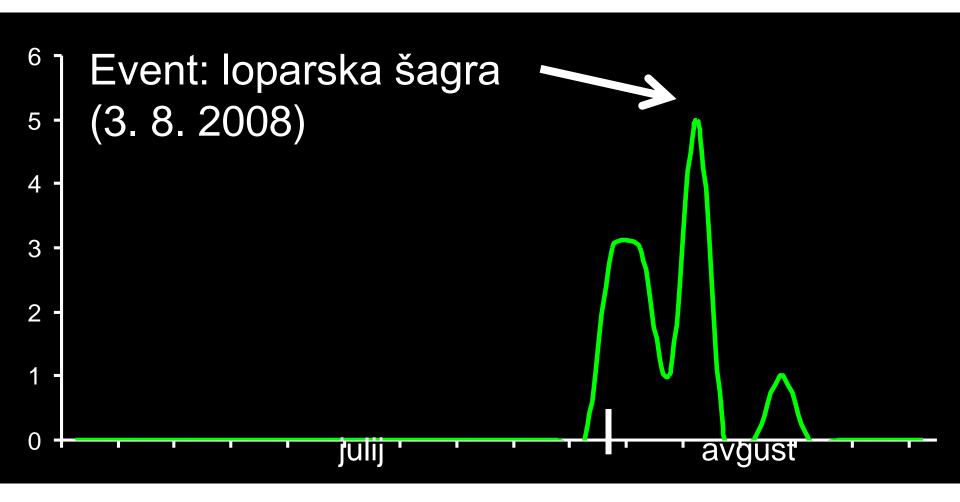
**Group members** 

### **EVIDENCE #3**



Creator of e-newsletter

## 13 visitors, 1 interest: šagra.



Visitors from *obala.net* | www.lopar.si | 12. 7. 2008 – 11. 8. 2008.

"Well, we are not interested any more. There is too much work connected with this..."

(local young population).

"We would like to have pictures, more accurate notices, active front page, videos, more epostcards etc." (comments of locals).

Survey results on *lopar.si* 

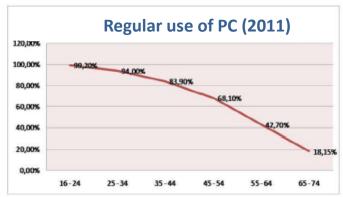


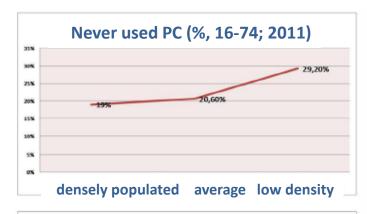
#### **FACTS: COMPUTER USE AND INTERNET ACCESS**

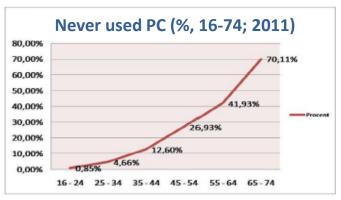
AGE STRUCTURE .

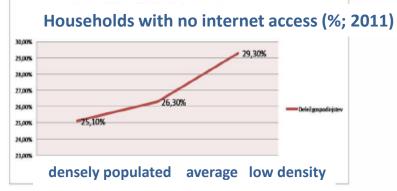
criteria

**LEVEL OF URBANIZATION** 







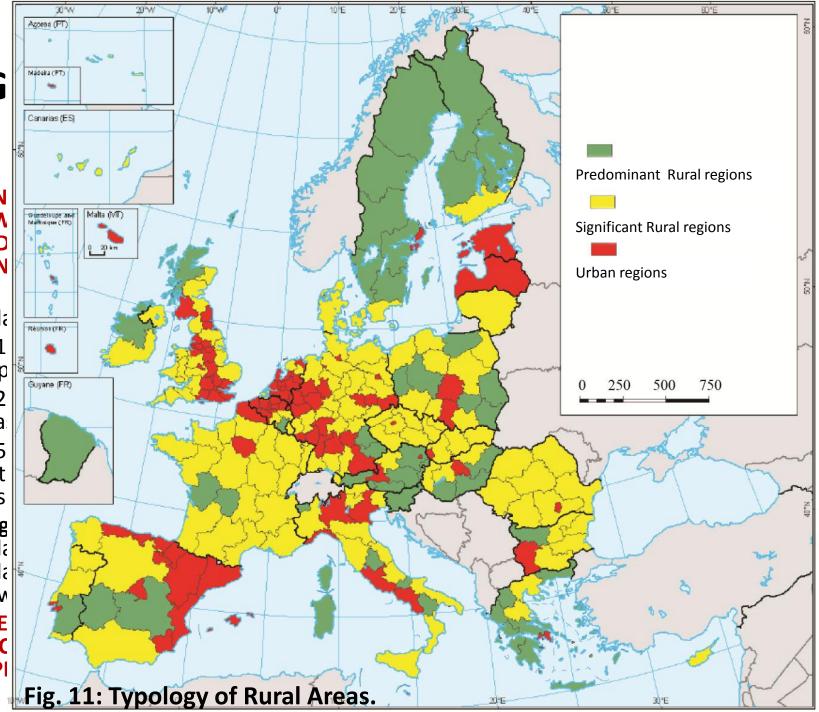


Source: Statistični urad RS. Informacijska družba. URL: http://www.stat.si/tema\_ekonomsko\_infdruzba.asp (citirano 28. 5. 2012)

### **BACKG**

#### **FACTS**

- 2003: popula
- In 201 (20<sup>th</sup> p
- In 202 increa
- In 205 oldest James
- Old ag popula popula ratio v
- **⇒** EXTRE STRUC PERIPI





POTREBNA PRIDOBITEV – Sedanja generacija starostnikov se teže odloča za selit Delo, 10, 3. 2011, 5.13

#### Od 21 oskrbovanih stanovanj za starostnike oddanih 16

Kršко – Prvi podnajemniki se bodo v oskrbovana stanovanja za občane, starejše od 65 let, vselili v prihodnjih tednih. »Do konca tedna dobimo v podpis pogodbo o najemu stanovanja. Z možem Francem nestrpno čakava na vselitev, saj je bilo življenje v najini hiški preveč naporno,« je dejala Ivanka Povhe Romih. »Žal nama je le, da so stanovanja majhna.« Od 21 stanovanj je za zdaj oddanih 16, kar je manj od pričakovanj krškega doma upokojen-

cev, ki bo glede na interes starostnikom nudil dodatne socialne storitve.
Življenje starih revnih ljudi

## Samo da bo denar in zdravje!

ar in zdravje!« je mantra, ki jo išimo iz ust starih liudi Vanio Dr. Valentina Hlebec in nieni sodelav-

alne izključenosti skuša povzeti te različne živilih največ prihraniti. »Hra prikrajšanosti in jih brati skupaj.

Source: Delo, 2010-2011, various editions.

sobotnapriloga

Stereotipi o staranju in starejših

Stereotipi so za to, da nam ni treba nenehno razmišljati s svojo glavo Dom starejših občanov Kočevje

Delo, 5.4.2011, 5, 13

#### Nova enota za dementne

Kočevje – »Novo enoto za stanovalce z demenco bomo začeli graditi letos in bo zgrajena konec prihodnjega leta,« je Lidija Žagar, direktorica Doma starejših občanov Kočevje, povedala o 3,6 milijona evrov vredni naložbi, s katero bodo izboljšali splošni bivanjski standard v tej ustanovi. Poleg tega bodo lahko začeli razvijati še druge programe, ki bi skupno lahko zagotovili 35 novih delovnih mest.

Doma starejših občanov Kočevje, v kateri je 160 stanovalcev, bodo letos začeli graditi približno 2000

cev živi v troposteljnih sobah.

v domu starejših občanov razvili še

Na travniku za sedanjo stavbo naseljen, saj zdaj kar 111 stanoval- in jim lahko zagotovimo različne storitve - od dovoza hrane do nege Z rešitvijo prostorske stiske bodo na domu,« je dejala Žagarjeva, ki pravi, da je treba za programe zara-

DDKIDNEVA

Delo, 3. 10. 2011, 5. 3



**DEJAVNI STAROSTNIKI NA LJUBLJANSKIH ULICAH FOTO BLAZ SAME** 

Domovi za upokojence niso dovolj

recent headlines ...

Staranje prebivalstva

Dele, 17,12,2010, 5.4

Vse več potreb po storitvah za starejše

Skrb za starejše še vedno temelji na domovih za starejše z nizkim standardom – Sodobnejše oblike pomoči na domu se razvijajo prepočasi – Zakona o dolgotrajni oskrbi še ni, SSZS pripravlja svoj predlog

#### **ISSUES**

- Contemporary situation: Institualization. Interest of municipalities, close to the place of origin, profitability.
- Need for: De-institualization. Vital communities, intergenerational symbiosis, "to grow old in familiar local community", impulse for local economy.
- "... to be done": Investments, attitudes, appropriate policies. Minds set-up, regionalized approach, appropriate infrastructure, social entrepreneurship, networking, old-age saving schemes etc.
- **▶** YES, BUT HOW... towards creating age-friendly rural communities.

#### DATA GATHERING: MIXED METHODS APPROACH

## USED APPROACHES: CRITICAL HUMAN ECOLOGY, (NEO)ENDOGENOUS DEVELOPMENT, RURAL WEB.

- Insitutionalized perspective:
- In-depth interviews with the managers or other crucial staff memebers of senior's institutions (54).
- b. In-depth interviews with responsible persons on the community (municipality; **35**) level.
- De-institutionalised perspective: Interviews with firms and associations that are providing services (food and health, cleaning, shopping; 10).
- Individualised perspective: semi-strucured interview with elderly people (154) on various locations in Slovenia.

#### **INSTITUTIONALIZATION**

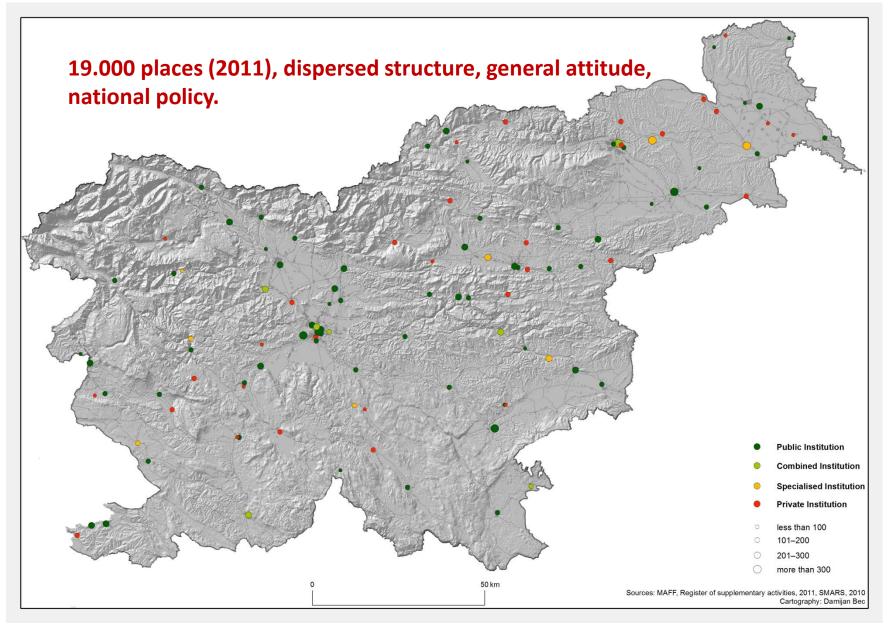
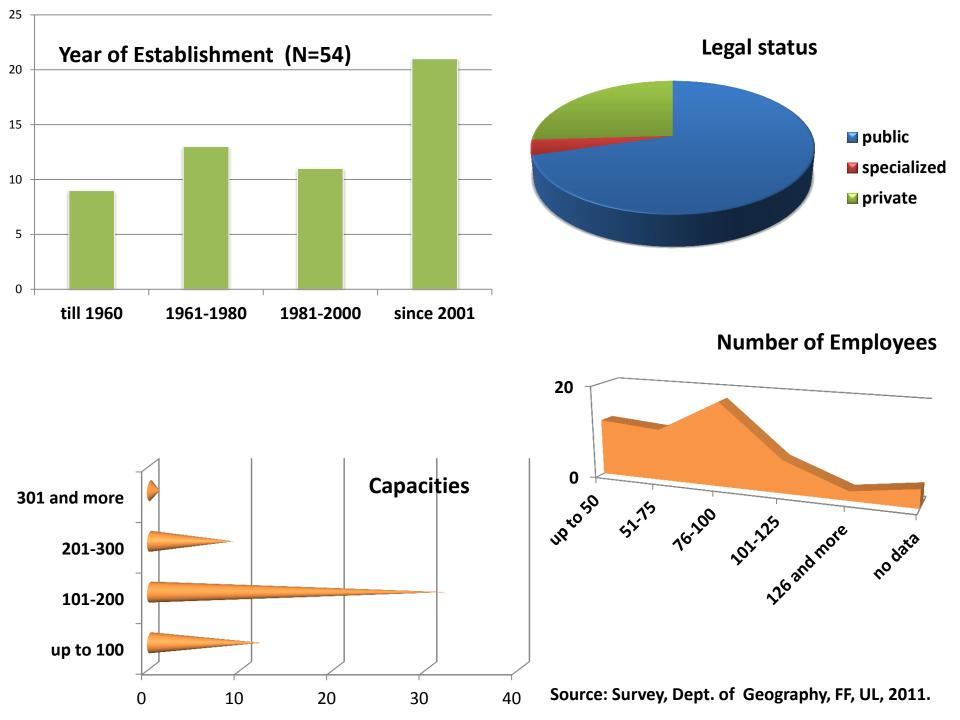
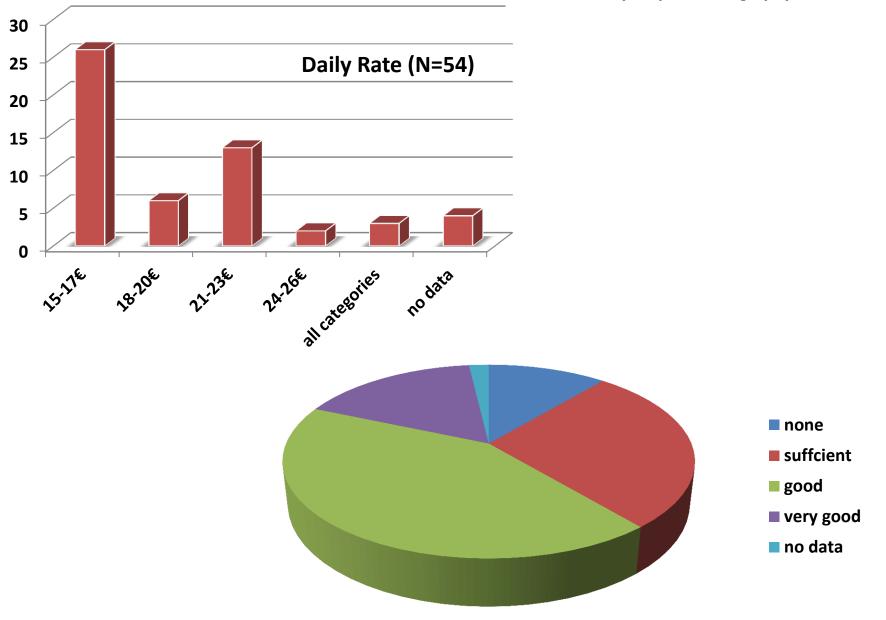


Fig. 12: Distibution of Senior Homes in Slovenia.





**Co-operation with the Municipality** 

### **DE-INSTITUTIONALIZATION**

### **PREREQUSITES**

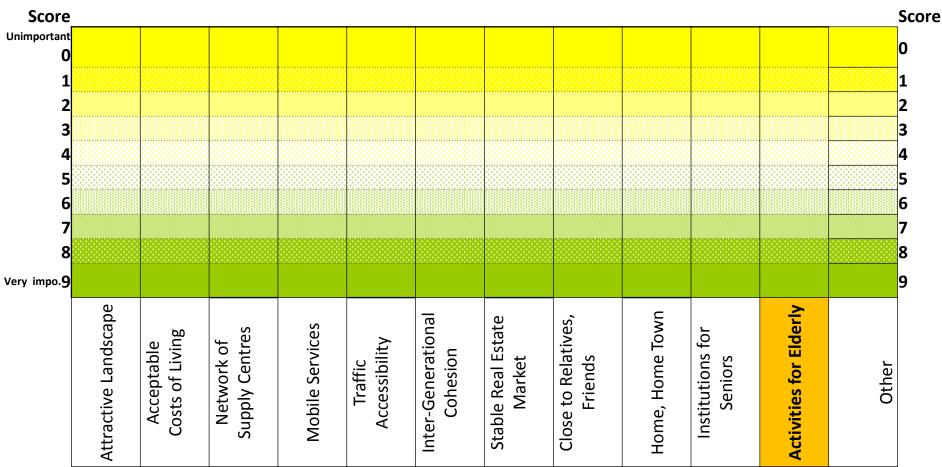
- "WHO IS WHO" AGED 65+?
- WHAT ARE SPATIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF 65+?
- WHERE ARE THEY CONCENTRATED-DISPERSED, EVEN BI-FOCAL?
- WHAT ARE THEIR EXPECTATIONS?
- HOW ARE COMMUNITIES PREPARED TO THIS?
- WHY ARE WE INTERESTED IN THIS ISSUES?

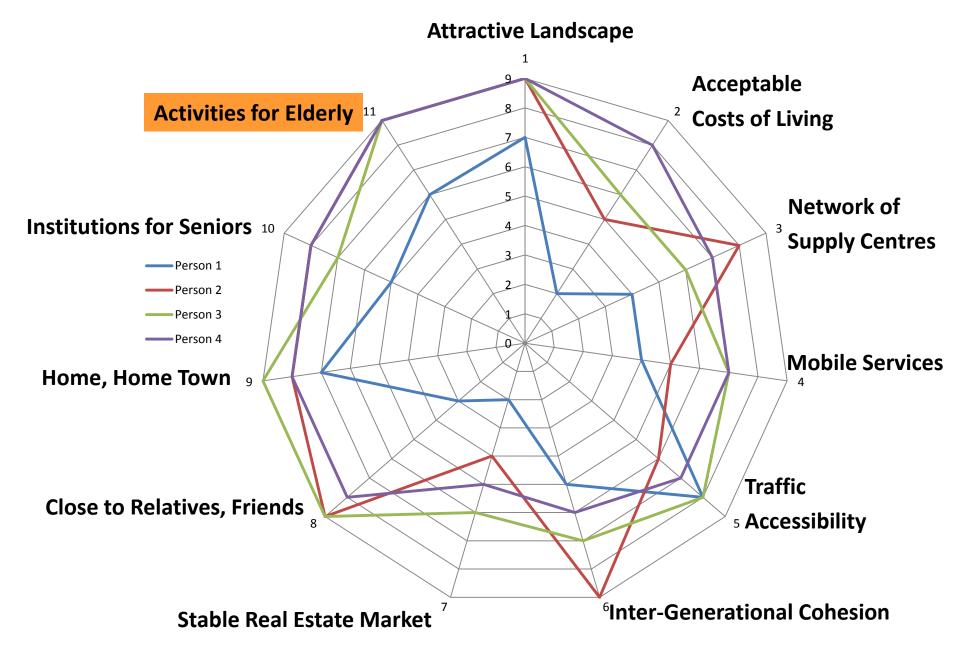
- CLEARIFY THE STEREOTYPES! "... less mobile, attached to the place of origin, the re-settle only once and permanently...". What about Silver Dollar effect, Ruhesitzwanderung, Grey Nomads, Snowbirds...
- "All elderly react in the same manner...". It is extremely heterogenous group."
- ... they a burdening the budget". They represent specific development potential.
- LACKING APPROPRIATE STATISTICS.
   Small-scale research, field work.
   OUR QUESTIONNAIRE! MIXED
   METHOD APPROACH.

#### **EXAMPLE**

Code:

Survey: Model of Ideal Environment for 65+ (the Importance of Selected Elements )



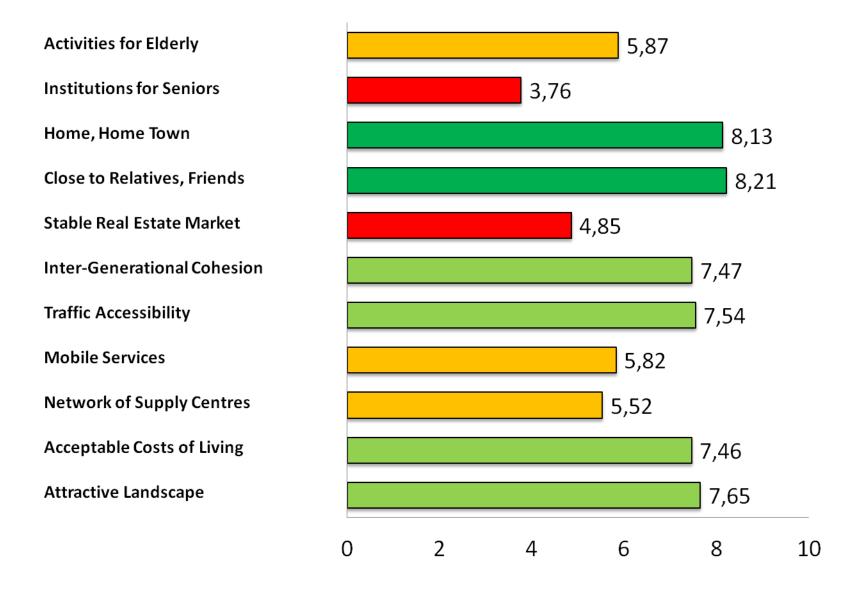


The Very Same Village... four persons! Variety of Perspectives, Expectations etc.

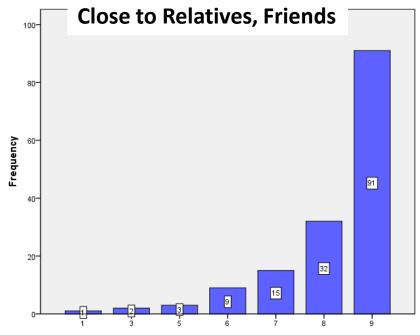
"Firstly, personal hygiene. Then I go and buy a newspaper and listen to daily news. Then I need to prepare some food, it the weather is fine I am occupied with gardening. In the afternoon I am visiting the club and taking care of club's administrative issues. When I am asked (quite often) I am looking after a grandchild, or I am occasionally visiting relatives and attending English course. There is a wish to develop my computer skills. At week-ends: I enjoy in mountaineering, I attend Sunday mass and still participating in fire brigade — mostly in organizatorial issues." (Person 1: Male, married, previously employed in public institution, since the birth living in the locality, very pleased with the life in the village, not thinking to move, but if — senior home in rural area)

Source: Survey, Dept. of Geography, FF, UL, 2011.

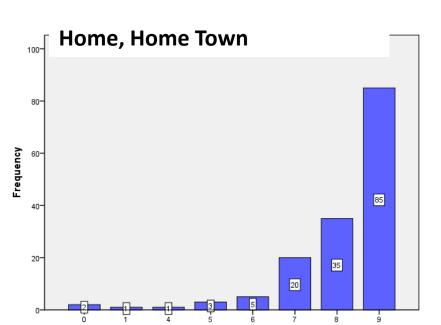
"In the morning I prepare coffee and read the newspaper. Afterwards I do the house works, check the computer, do some shopping in the local store, and prepare lunch. In the early afternoon I go to kindergarten to pick-up my grandchild and I look after him for several hours. In between I practice gardening, take care of flowers, trees, attend our choir and do the sports once a week. I listen to the news and TV programme in the evenings. Still I practice hiking during week-ends, Sunday mass, other obligations with choir, visit relatives and help my brother on the farm." (Person 2: Female, married, previously employed in public institution, since the birth living in the locality, very pleased with the life in the village, not thinking to move, but if – secured dwelling)

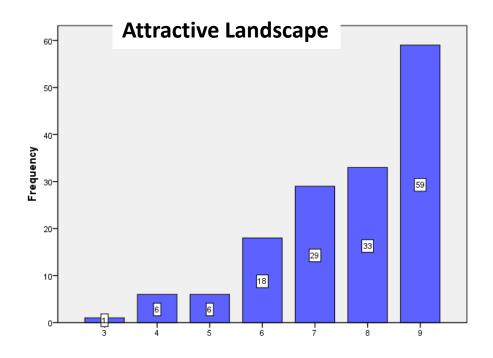


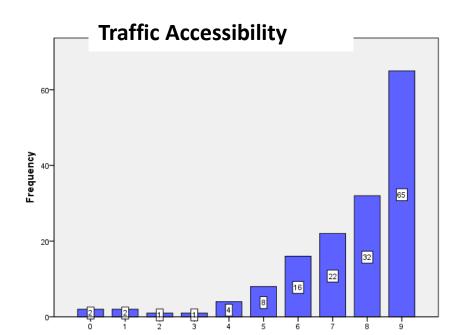
N=154 aged 65+. Their Answers ... "How Important is for them...". Mean Values.

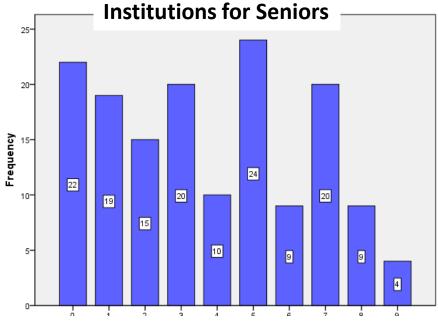


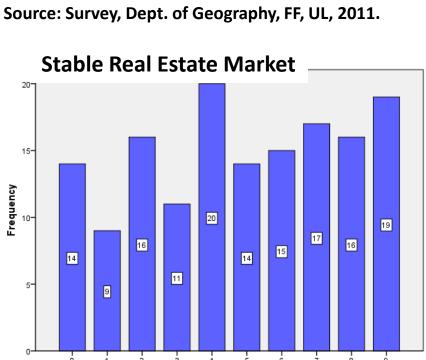
Source: Survey, Dept. of Geography, FF, UL, 2011.

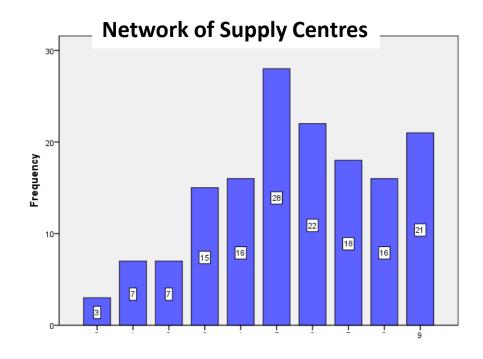


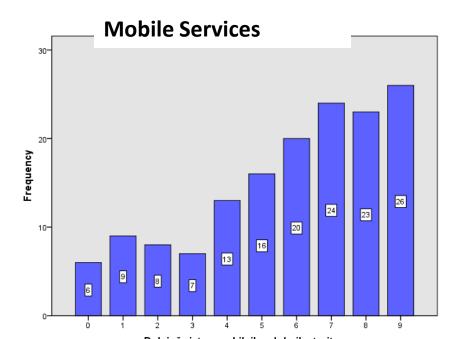


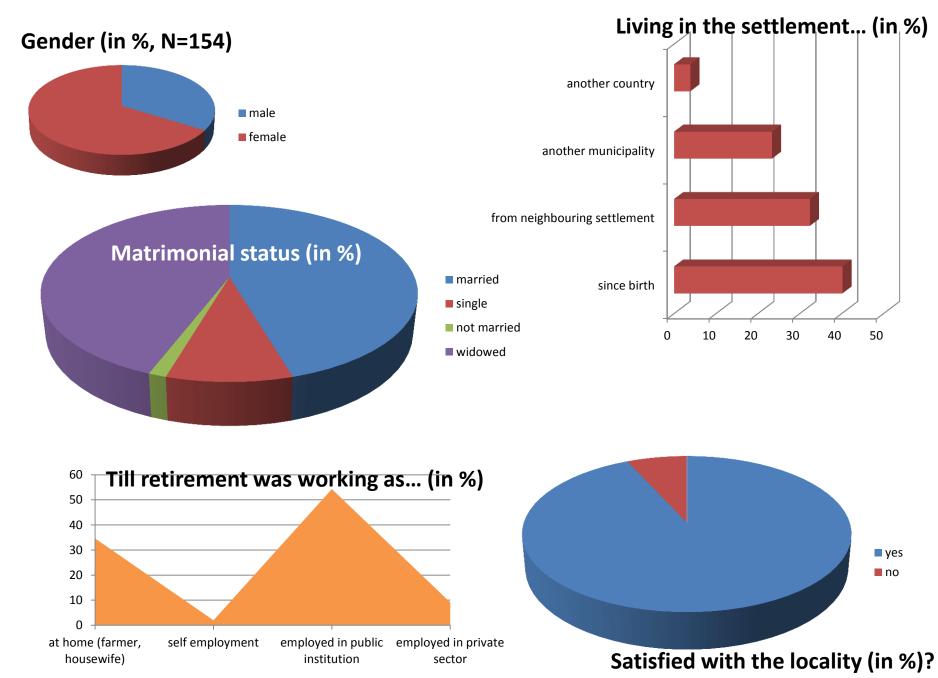


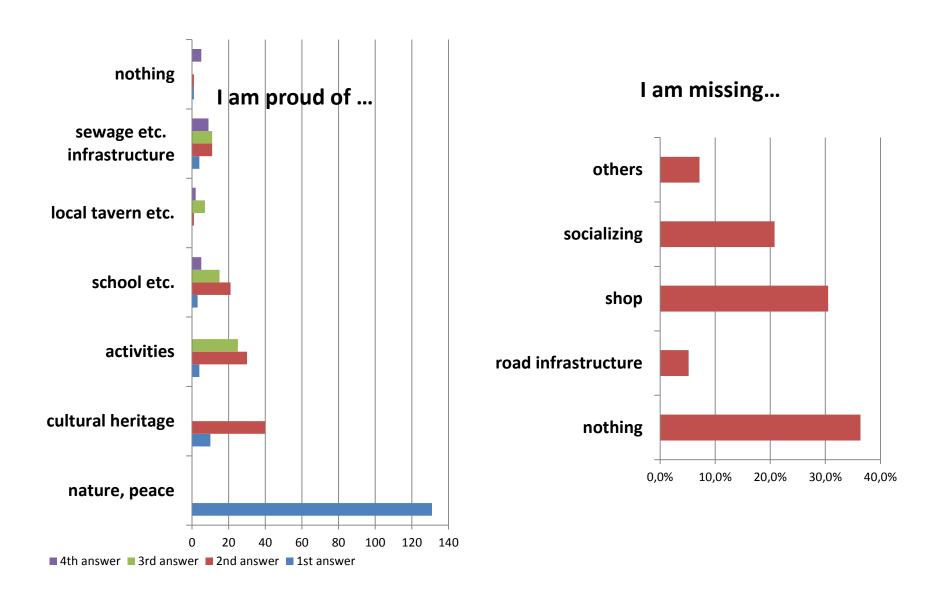


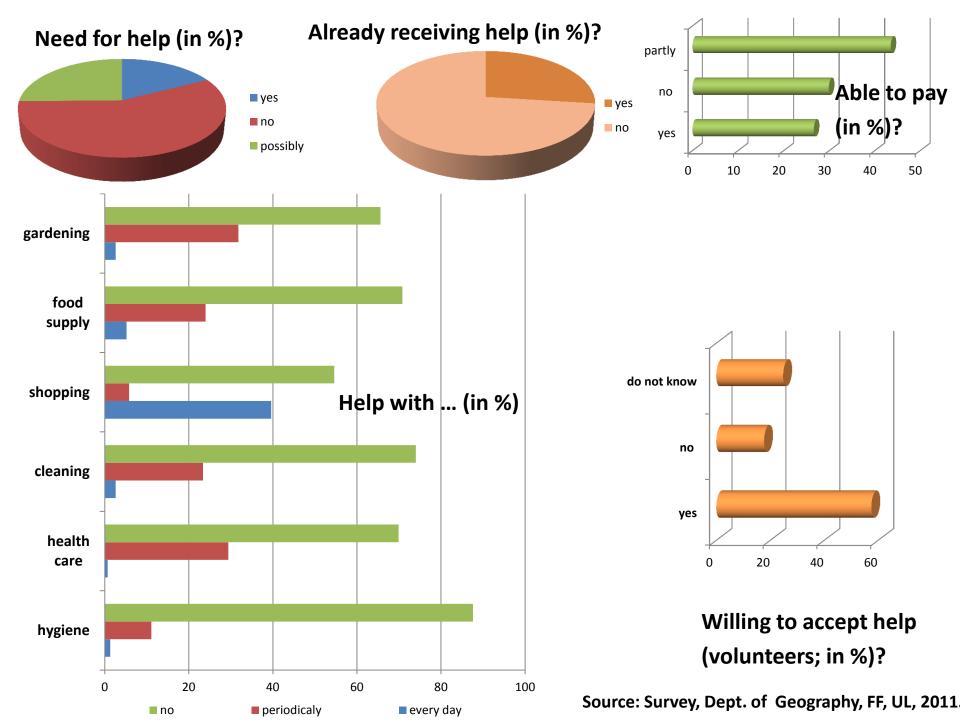












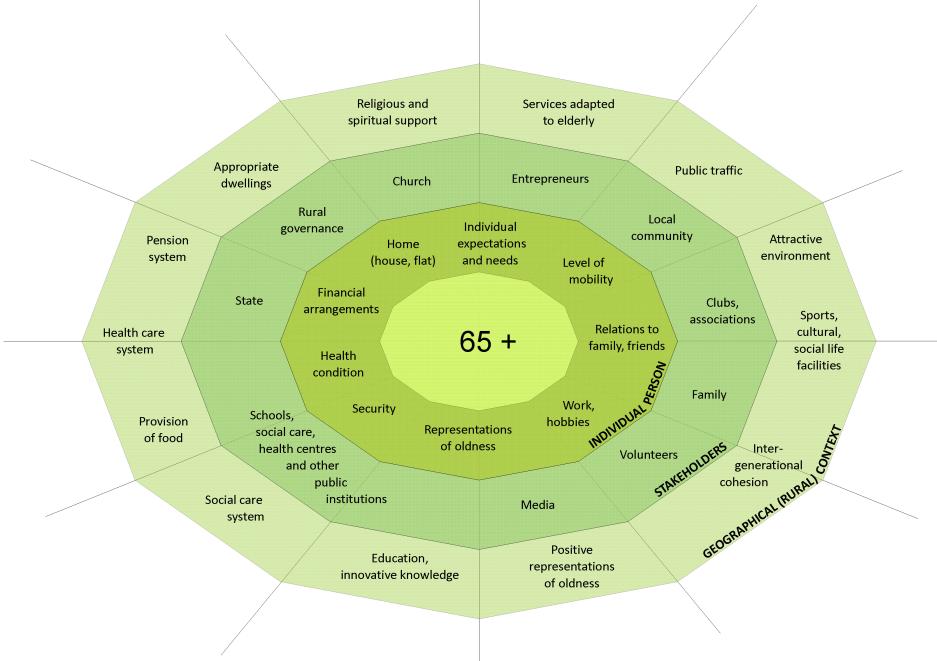


Fig. 13: Age-friendly Rural Community: Rural Web.

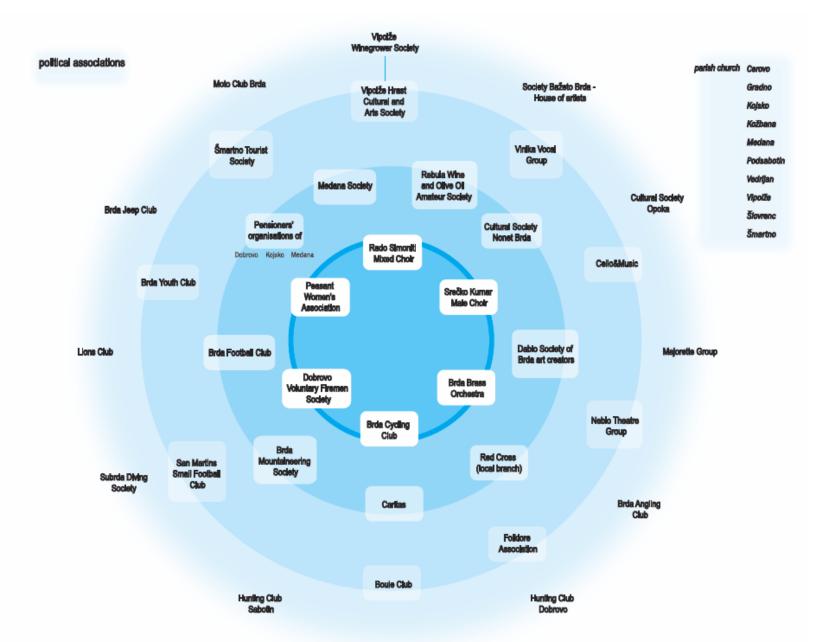
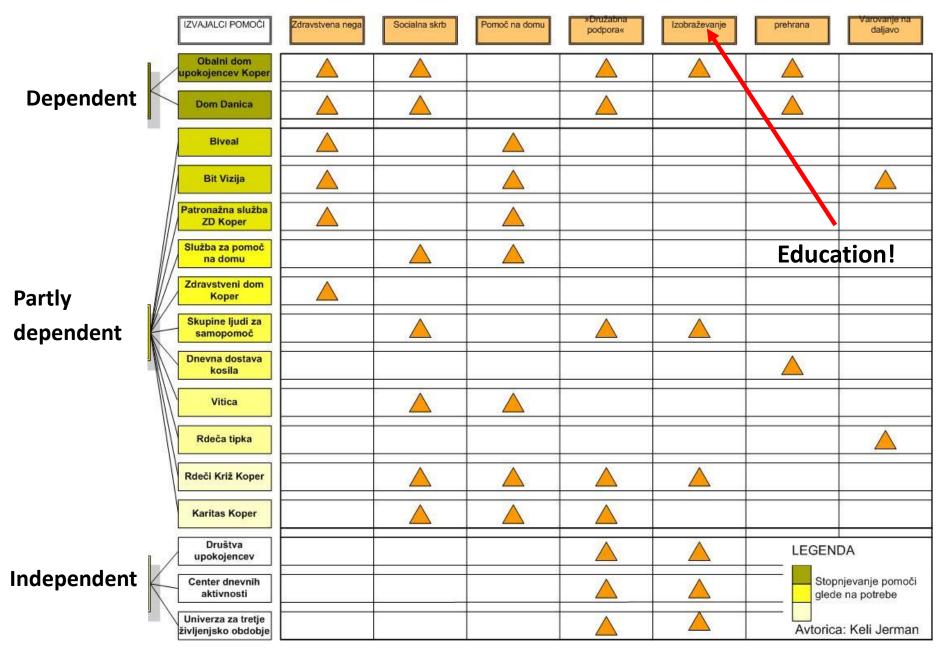


Fig. 14: Organisation of Clubs, Societies and Associations in the Municipality of Brda.



First step: ... a list of services at the municipality level (adapted after Jerman, 2011).

#### **MOTIVES FOR LEARNING**

- Contacts with relatives and friends (home, abroad).
- Health care.
- Managing personal finances.
- E-education.
- Listening to the music, watching the films.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Social inclusion.
- Intergenerational symbiosis.
- Higher quality of life, personal well-being.
- -Attaining formal or/and informal education.

#### **ACCESSING INFORMATION**

- -E-points.
- -Volunteers.
- -Contact points for learning (mobile units).
- -iPad.

# Looking Ahead: 50+ in Creative Business (Aachen, Germany) - 1

 self-employed persons work very often at home, in the city center or nearby

→ their offices can be reached quickly from home/apartment
 → spatial flexibility

self-employed persons have flexible working conditions

→ this allows them to adapt to the effects of getting older and thus continue working productively

- many self-employed persons from the creative industries would like to work as long as possible
  - → if their physical health situation allows them to
  - → if the working conditions stay suitable
- some have to work as long as possible

→ when their financial situation is precarious or they lack savings

# Looking Ahead: 50+ in Creative Business (Aachen, Germany) - 2

creatives as pioneers:

- demand for inner city office locations
- compact city short distances between home and office
- necessity of longer working in highly qualified professions isn't that problematic and often favored
- expertise and potential of elderly can be used longer
- lifelong learning essential and working in crossgenerational teams desirable → creative class as trendsetter for future forms of work

## Nine principles for excellence in web-based teaching (Henry, Meadows, 2008):

- Different learning environment,
- Content is a verb,
- Technology is a vehicle, not a destination,
- Great online courses are defined by teaching,
- Sense of community and social presence,
- Multiple areas of expertise,
- Proper web interface,
- Ongoing assessment and refinement,
- The little extras go a long way.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- CONNECTING VARIOUS SOCIAL GROUPS AND ACTORS.
- ACCURATE RESEARCH ON DIVERSED ASPECTS OF OLDNESS.
- INCLUSION OF UNDER- AND UNEMPLOYED RURAL POPULATION.