

LJUBLJANA  
winner 2016

EUROPEAN  
GREEN CAPITAL

An initiative of the  
European Commission

City of  
Ljubljana

# LJUBLJANA. *For you.*

## REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL 2016 PROJECT



### **The people of Ljubljana live the European Green Capital**

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#### THE GREEN CAPITAL'S GREEN INDICATORS



More than **100**  
projects implemented  
in 2016



**90 ha**  
of new managed green areas for  
socialising, sport and recreation



**161**  
bird species recorded, of which 86  
are on the Red List of Endangered  
species



**20%**  
of the land area has  
a protected  
nature status



**100,000 m<sup>2</sup>**  
reserved for pedestrians  
and cyclists in the  
city centre

# THE PEOPLE OF LJUBLJANA LIVE THE EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL

Zoran Janković | Mayor of the City of Ljubljana

*The title of European Green Capital has significantly strengthened Ljubljana's recognition worldwide, upgraded the brand of our city and put us on the map of leading sustainable, green, tourist and innovative cities. Mayor Zoran Janković and his colleagues are the ones who, in the last decade, have from a prolonged sleep awoken Ljubljana, to him the most beautiful city in the world, and elevated it to the very top of Europe. Many projects and measures orchestrated under his leadership have a common goal - to ensure a high quality of living for all generations in a beautiful, well maintained, clean, safe, solidary and green city.*

**The year is behind us when Ljubljana proudly wore the title of European Green Capital. How did you experience the year? Did the title live up to your expectations?**

It will always be in the records that Ljubljana was European Green Capital 2016. The green year was remarkable and will forever be a wonderful memory for me. The top programme, created under the leadership of Deputy Mayor Tjaša Ficko and a working group but also the staff of the great City family and other partners will surely leave a lasting legacy in the lives of all our residents. I

am delighted at the positive response to our programme and that people took part so enthusiastically in events and activities for the European Green Capital and above all, that during the green year, awareness of the importance of maintaining the environment for future generations grew. I can truly say that every day our residents live the green capital of Europe.

**Your actions demonstrate that everything you do is done for the wellbeing of the people of the city. This was also seen in the programme for the Green Capital as it was primarily intended for all those of us that live in the city.**

Yes, the task of the City of Ljubljana is to assure the best service to all our citizens. In our work we

better to sit on a bike or ride on the bus), reducing use of plastic bags and much more. Here I have to mention the fantastic role of the district authorities during the green year. Each of them

*I am really happy when I see that our residents appreciate their city, love the environment in which they live and are ready to do so much for it.*

was Ambassador for the European Green Capital for three weeks, during which time they carried out a range of interesting and educational content and putting on a total of over 220 green events, and each of them added to our common environmental awareness and to a more beautiful and pleasant life in our beautiful city.

**The title of European Green Capital echoed strongly abroad. In your opinion, what are the main benefits for Ljubljana?**

If I can use sporting jargon, Ljubljana was European champion last year and the exceptional importance of this title was felt especially in the international environment. In the professional field, we have become an example of a sustainably oriented city from whom it is worth learning and adopting good practices. From all over Europe and worldwide we have received numerous invitations to present our cases of good practices, and delegations from various cities have come to Ljubljana on study visits and have learnt about our successful sustainable projects and measures. The title has put Ljubljana on numerous maps of Europe and the world - Ljubljana is firmly



sible attitude towards people, nature and material goods will lead us to a decent future. Europe currently faces two major challenges: climate change and migrants. In both cases, we can be a model for finding solutions. I am proud that Ljubljana is a city of openness, comradeship and solidarity in which we all live together, while at the same time we respect diversity. We are the only European city where part of the space at City Hall has been dedicated to the activities of the LGBT community and the only city in which the City Council without a single vote against agreed to accommodate migrants in Ljubljana. In addition, I have to mention the high level of security in our city - during December's festive events, that lasted over a month in the open air and attracted a million visitors there was not a single incident, of which we can be extremely proud.

**What advice can you give Essen, which is this year's European Green Capital?**

It is ungracious to give advice to other cities, because each city has its own peculiarities but we are ready to work with and share our experience with all of them. If we look generally, it is important to have a clear vision, to stick to your own path and pursue the goals set which must be directed primarily towards the wellbeing of the citizens.

**In your opinion, what is going to be the significance of the title European Green Capital in the future?**

With the title European Green Capital, the European Commission has underlined the importance of a sustainable, nature-friendly urban way of life in European cities. All the European Green Capitals so far have been a good incentive to other cities, who I would advise to become candidates for this title. Only a common sustainable path for European and, of course, world cities will lead us to a high quality of living in the future. As said, we must not forget the strong sense of solidar-

*The award additionally strengthened our belief that we are on the right path that we have set the right priorities and our goals are achievable.*

ity of the title, which obliges us through responsible attitudes to our environment, so that we leave generations to come with an environment that is at least as well preserved as it is today. The European Commission should firmly stand behind the European Green Capital project and continue to upgrade it, and European leaders should listen more to us mayors, as we are directly elected by the local residents and thus we know best their

needs and lifestyles. In my opinion, the European Union needs unity and strong leaders who will recognise the exceptional importance of nature and cohesive modes of development. Leaders instead of armaments spend the money for people and environment. Leaders, therefore, who will know and be able to lead the Union into a green future in unison without divisions into better and less developed areas. A Europe where everyone will be guaranteed a decent life. We will always be ready to work together to help solve the current issues of green urban development.



Flora the official mascot greets the Mayor

always focus on that, as we would like to assure for everybody a high quality of living in a clean, orderly, green, safe and friendly city. I am really happy when I see that our residents appreciate their city, love the environment in which they live and are ready to do so much for it. They are pleased with new things in their local areas, they give us suggestions and ideas, they point out things that need to be dealt with and they are increasingly sensitive to actions that don't respect the natural world and also urban facilities (fly tipping of rubbish, littering, vandalism, damaging benches and so on). That's why more and more people are getting involved in Association of Green Supervisors, set up at the initiative of Prof. Koželj. During the green year, public environmental awareness only grew and I can say that in recent years we have all radically changed our habits, from carefully separating our waste, to considering more environmentally friendly ways of getting around the city (the car is no longer the first and only choice, it's

anchored at the peak of sustainable, environmental and commercial cities and at the same time we have become recognised as one of the world's main green tourist destinations that you have to visit. The number of foreign visitors is constantly increasing but of course our tourist offer is also sustainably oriented and new programmes and products are always designed to minimise their environmental impact.

**The programme for European Green Capital 2016 has finished, but Ljubljana's sustainable path is continuing...**

We committed ourselves to the sustainable development of the city as early as 2007 with the adoption of the sustainability Vision 2025. The award only strengthened our belief that we are on the right path, that we have set the right priorities and our goals are achievable. In the future, we will upgrade the sustainability and solidarity principles of development as we are aware that only a respon-



Ljubljana pictured from a drone

# IN THE GREEN FIELD WE BREATHED AS ONE

Tjaša Ficko | Deputy Mayor



*It is not easy to sum up all the impressions of „our“ European Green Capital into a single message. In the beginning, it was just one of the projects with which we want to strengthen the visibility of Ljubljana. When we later became aware of its dimensions, and how extremely closely it matched our sustainability Vision of Ljubljana 2025, which we created in 2007, we wanted to win this more than anything else. And when, after a successful presentation in Copenhagen in summer 2014, when we were officially named the green heart of Europe, it had all in fact just got off to a good start.*

Among the fundamental objectives we set ourselves at the time were that this project should maximize the number of participants and that Ljubljana's winning voice should be heard far and wide around Europe. **We wanted to become the best Green Capital. Those who know me, know that I am a demanding leader, and that I am often not easy to work with. This time, my expectations were exceeded. The creativity and dedication of the working group, the amazing energy of the colleagues and the results really excited me.**

We grew as European Green Capital. **We have successfully put ourselves on the European map as a city with a clear green vision and above all with enough determination and courage to implement our promises.** Even those that at first might not be accepted with acclaim

but are important for future development. Today, we are therefore recognized as a city that has in the shortest period made the greatest changes to improve the quality of living of its inhabitants.

In this project, we actively shared our good practices and alongside learned from others. By changing the character of the city centre, renovating infrastructure, new green and recreational areas, and by balancing preservation of the good things given to us by nature with the introduction of modern innovative solutions, Ljubljana is an example to many major and large cities that visit us and take inspiration from us. Without a doubt we can compete with the best.

The green year was challenging, but fulfilling. The two information pavilions, named Point.For you., actively engaged citizens of all generations all year long. The monthly programmes were excellently conceived and implemented, we rolled out the green projects and innovations very fast one after another and the variety of activities by all 17 district authorities well supplemented the City of Ljubljana's calendar of events. We were a preferred speaker at many international conferences and it was almost impossible to respond to every invitation to make presentations and performances at home and abroad. We were thrilled when Ljubljana shone green at the inaugural event in front of the City Hall in January 2016. When we took the

green sceptre from our predecessors in Brussels in February we wept with pride in the company of colleagues and supporters and a month later we shed tears of relief when we successfully held a major opening ceremony at Stožice with live TV broadcast. In preparing for the event in June where the European Green Capital 2018 was selected we already felt like this was part of our routine. And at the closing event in a full Congress Square, - Green Night.For you. - we were tired from the dynamic year but with the countless memories and a hint of nostalgia found that our green year had ended (too) quickly.

**Today, we are recognised as a city that has in the shortest period made the greatest changes to improve the quality of living of its inhabitants.**

I am pleased that our Green Capital project has educated people and brought them together. All generations and many stakeholders, the public and private sectors, culture with sport, education with health, fresh ideas with rich

experiences. Many new acquaintances have been born for many people who have decided that they themselves can contribute to a more beautiful, the most beautiful Ljubljana. It is especially significant that the project linked and further strengthened the so-called Great City Family. **I believe it is no exaggeration to say that in the green field we breathe as one.** I'd like to thank each individually and all together those whose plentiful effort, knowledge, goodwill and co-operation in their respective areas helped build our green success story. I am certain that we elevated the European Green Capital project to an exceptionally high level, which in the future will be hard to reach again, let alone exceed. If I had to sum up my feelings in a sentence I'd say that I am grateful for the chance to experience this.

**And looking ahead?** As many cities in the world must identify and adopt the green path for the future. Let the footprints we leave on planet Earth be as gentle as possible. If humankind wants and knows how to live in harmony with nature, future generations will also have the opportunity and privilege of being able to breathe clean air, drink high-quality natural water, swim in crystal clear streams and lose themselves in the countless shades of the green forest and dream with a view of the sun dipping into the blue ocean. In Ljubljana we have proven that we know how to and that we can do it. This should remain so in the future.

## Column

Tjaša Ficko has been Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana since 2010. At the City of Ljubljana she is responsible for strengthening the international visibility and reputation of the city brand. She has presented the City's vision, activities and achievements at a range of events at home and abroad and has shared good practices at a number of prestigious international conferences. She led the candidacy and implementation of the European Green Capital 2016 project, which placed Ljubljana successfully on the European map as a city that decisively follows the green vision and actively pursues projects to improve the quality of living.



Point.For you. stood in front of the City Hall during the project.



**600**

affiliated partners and supporters



**97%**

of local people were aware of the award of the European Green Capital title in 2017 (73% in 2015)



**4.37**

out of 5 was the assessment by local people of the importance of the award in 2017, while in 2015 it was 4.19

\*Research on the satisfaction of citizens of Ljubljana (Ninamedia d.o.o., April 2015 and May 2017)

# THERE WERE OCCASIONS WHERE FOR A MOMENT IT SEEMED WE WERE NOT UP TO THE TASK

## Nataša Jazbinšek Seršen

*Nataša Jazbinšek Seršen is Head of the City's Department for Environmental Protection and during the European Green Capital project successfully led a team of eight with whom all-year-long she prepared activities and content for project implementation. We spoke to her about the results of the project and her views on 2016, which was certainly one of the most challenging times in her work at the City of Ljubljana.*

**The project Ljubljana European Green Capital 2016 was highly demanding. Would you go through it again? Is there anything you would do differently?**

Major projects, of which Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016 was certainly one, are opportunities for which we can only be grateful. And I would certainly be delighted to restart such a journey. Today, with much more self-confidence, with experience that will stay with me all my life, and with the firm belief that you can move mountains if you believe in what you do, if you act from the heart, if you are aware that you can always perform even better and do even more. And of course with excellent colleagues. What would I do differently? Perhaps just that every day would be even more enjoyable in the knowledge that we are creating an unforgettable story.

**How did you and the team prepare? How was the work divided?**

We started preparations in 2014 when we were awarded this important prestigious title. We put together an eight-member working group of outstanding colleagues and straight away started planning ideas of how to make a special, different year of achievements. The group worked very coherently, we divided the work very spontaneously and we constantly encouraged and helped each other. There were occasions where for a moment it seemed we weren't up to the task, that the obstacles ahead of us were too big, but the team spirit and often sense of humour that constantly accompanied us always opened new solutions and new pathways.

**You designed the programme for 2016 with many stakeholders. How many were there? Could you talk about the Ljubljana green part-**

**nership? If so, is the green partnership going to exist in the future? Who can join the green partnership and in what way? Does there exist a programme, a strategy of green partnership?**

The title European Green Capital 2016 is of course not just a title of the employees of the Great City Family but also an award to all those who help to shape this city, who live in it and love it. So we built the year with them. We invited to

*Our citizens are the ones we strive for and those for whom we would like to continuously improve the quality of living. Therefore, their voice is extremely important to us. The Mayor's door is open to them, as are those of other professional services. Their views, ideas and suggestions are always welcome. If they don't come to us directly to talk, they have the option to send their message electronically via the app 'Citizens' initiatives'.*

participate NGOs, schools, kindergartens, other organisations and individuals who wanted to be part of this success story. The NGOs are the ones who have great knowledge, great ideas, and energy to overcome boundaries and as such are indispensable in the design of new projects, setting new goals. Therefore, we constantly support their work, including financially and in 2016, with



them we created an even stronger green partnership, which we are going to maintain in the future.

**Where can the citizens go if they would like to contribute to the development of our beautiful green city?**

Co-operation is a value to which we at the City of Ljubljana attach significant weight. Co-operation within the Great City Family and co-operation externally. Our citizens are the ones we strive for and those for whom we would like to continuously improve the quality of living. Therefore, their voice is extremely important to us. The Mayor's door is open to them, as are those of other professional services. Their views, ideas and suggestions are always welcome. If they

don't come to us directly to talk, they have the option to send their message electronically via Web Portal Service for Citizens' Initiatives.

**During the European Green Capital Year, did everything go as intended or were there any complications and how did you resolve them?**

Certainly it would be insincere if I said that everything went according to plan. We often found ourselves in unforeseeable situations, smaller and larger complications, times when it was necessary to make overnight changes to things that had already been fully prepared. But this is precisely what brings out the best in individuals, the most creative solutions. What does not let you sleep or rest, it makes you better and more alive.

## ✓ FOR



We drink water from the tap. We pour it into a bottle of **Museum Water**, which has a charity note.



We shop from local suppliers. We take our own **bag with us, SUSNYARA.FOR YOU.**, which was developed especially for the Green Capital project by prominent designer Nina Šušnjara.

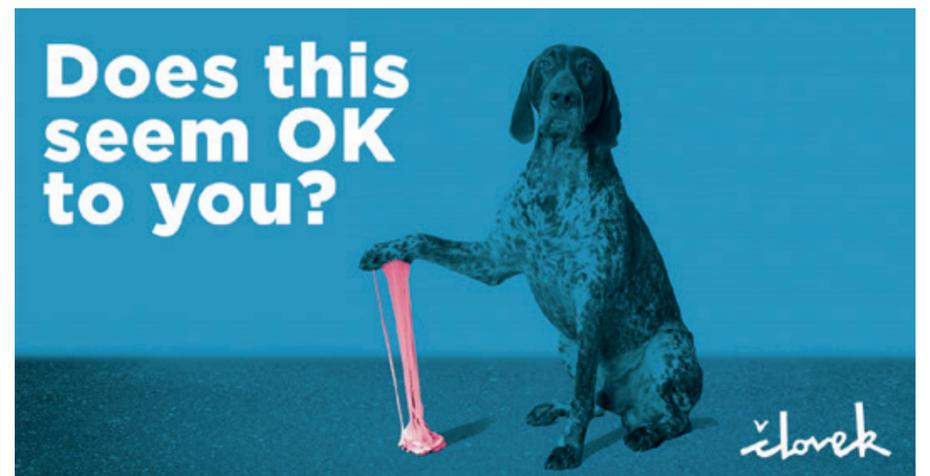


**Apples from the Ljubljana countryside.** You know how the saying goes, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away".



We get around the city centre **on our own bikes or ones borrowed from the Bicke(LJ) system.**

## ✗ AGAINST



**Throwing chewing gum onto the ground instead of into the trash.** Thrown-away chewing gum not only spoils the look of the city and damages the paving, but is also harmful to animals. Birds can mistake it for food and die due to their beaks becoming gummed up.

**Breaking newly planted trees** in public orchards or parks.

## GRATITUDE AND PRIDE

2016 was a special year for everyone, but especially for the working group of the European Green Capital project, who put all of their energy, knowledge and creativity into preparing an outstanding programme, which will remain among the most beautiful memories. Here, they look back and share their impressions.

### Kristina Ina Novak,

Section for Public Relations



I worked with a large number of people in 2016. I will especially remember with gratitude those who wholeheartedly did everything they could to make Ljubljana even greener. Among them were children from four Ljubljana primary schools, Danile Kumar, Jožeta Moškriča, Livada and Spodnja Šiška, who, as part of a pilot project GREEN CITY DESIGN CHALLENGE - I LIKE HELPING TO CREATE A GREEN CITY 2016 contributed excellent sustainable solutions for our city. Their willingness, commitment, diligence and originality are a real inspiration to me.

### Nataša Mavec Oplotnik,

Section for International Relations and Protocol



The youngest ones made the greatest impression on me, not just with the hymn, which they sang so proudly and vividly but also in a number of activities with which they became part of our green story. I am pleased that we managed to bring them into the European Green Capital project successfully. This is an important step on their green journey.

### Simona Berden,

Office for Development Projects and Investments



What I will remember most was a study visit by a 20-member delegation from the Norwegian capital Oslo. I accompanied the delegation all three days that they stayed in Ljubljana. Their satisfaction with the programme, interlocutors and projects presented was genuinely very great. They told me that this was the best visit they had ever conducted. They were amazed by the orderliness and beauty of our city and the friendliness of the people. The chance to showcase Ljubljana to foreigners, who fall in love with it and adopt it as their city while creating close personal relations is priceless to me.

### Barbara Murn Vrviščar,

Section for International Relations and Protocol



More than all the projects that we carried out in the green year, I'm proud that we awakened a collective spirit that is breathing green. Staff, district authorities, citizens, guests from at home and abroad, we all felt part of the same story about green Ljubljana. We proved to ourselves and to the world how to operate sustainably in all areas of life. We have become a role model through innovation and boldness. We set high standards and it will be hard to follow in our footsteps.

### Nuša Krajnc,

Mayor's Cabinet



The green year was a year of superlatives not just from the viewpoint of the city but also for me: the most intense, the most stressful, but also the most beautiful year in the 14 years that I have worked for the City of Ljubljana.

### Karmen Žirovnik,

Mayor's Cabinet



For me, 2016 was really great. We worked hard and made mutual connections. Every sleepless hour was reflected in the outstanding results and satisfaction of all the participants. We were and for sure we will continue to be the best European Green Capital.

### Mitja Predovnik,

Ljubljana Tourism public institute



I will best remember the meetings of the working group of the European Green Capital when we created and co-ordinated the programme of activities, devised new ideas and moved the boundaries of enthusiasm for our city.

Colour of 2017

**GREENERY**  
PANTONE 15-0343



**12,089**

employees of the Great City  
Family breathed the green  
capital



**8**

members of the working  
group of the organising  
committee of the Ljubljana -  
European Green Capital 2016  
project

# THEY WILL REMEMBER 2016 FOR THE TITLE GREEN AMBASSADOR OF LJUBLJANA

With its clearly defined vision for sustainable development, Ljubljana is the first city in south-eastern Europe to become European Green Capital. In order to raise awareness among all the citizens and bring them closer to the measures that propelled Ljubljana to the prestigious title, we devised a special year-long campaign. This was based on a genuine and sincere presentation of the European Green Capital with its achievements and with the thoughts and heartfelt words of the proud citizens for whom the green measures are primarily intended. This is how we arrived at the communication slogan *Ljubljana.For you.*

The programme of the green year actively included **24 ambassadors** of the European Green Capital. We selected them from among the employees of the City of Ljubljana and its public institutes and companies, from well-known Ljubljana people and from citizens that convinced us with their views about green Ljubljana.



Mojmir Sepe



Ajda Smrekar



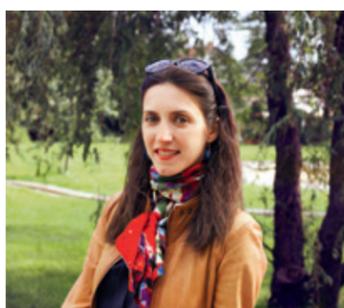
Jan Kozamernik



Nuša Kerševan



Jasna Dedivanović



Elena Ocenic



Darja Virent and daughter Ava



Filip Kržišnik and Blaž Slanič



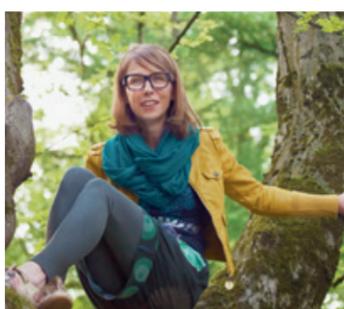
Silvija Pavčič



Žiga Vehovec



Nika Bosnič



Petra Koritnik



Miha Pongrac



Gregor Radelonghi



Evelina Žefran



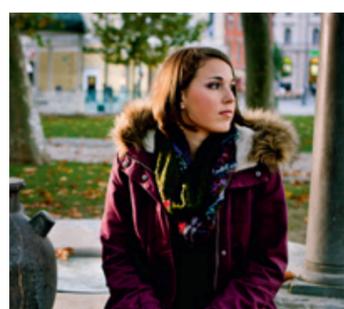
Tanja Njegovan



Elizabeta and Mitar Majkič



Predrag Subotić



Mateja Tanko



Srečko Trunkelj



Roman Verbič

*Careful management of waste, water, locally produced food, care for a clean environment and the choice of means of transport (BicikeLJ!) are just a few of the simple steps or guidelines that I follow faithfully every day.*

**Nika**

**For you, what is a sustainable way of life and how do you promote it?**

**Darja Virjent:** If possible, I get around by bike or on foot. Before I buy a product, I think about its origin, content and type of packaging. I often choose second-hand clothes. My younger daughter wears her older sister's old clothes, and then I pass them on. Also in business terms we as a family try hard to install the right values, favouring the more rational use of objects and extending their useful lives. My partner has a service workshop where he repairs and restores old bikes and offers a seasonal exchange of used children's skis.

**Nika Bosnič:** I follow a simple rule: "You get back what you put in." Because I want to continue to

enjoy all that nature offers me, conscious thinking here and now is necessary. Careful management of waste, water, locally produced food, care for a clean environment and the choice of means of transport (BicikeLJ!) are just a few of the simple steps or guidelines that I follow faithfully every day.

**Petra Koritnik:** For me, a sustainable way of living means living responsibly. A responsible attitude towards the environment, taking into account values such as moderation, tact, saving and respect. I live a sustainable lifestyle and to promote it in a way that: I conserve water and energy, I recycle and re-use second-hand things, I ride a bike, eat Slovenian and seasonal food, I don't print texts if it's unnecessary, if possible, I don't use plastic, I'm learning to make natural cleaning products and cosmetics and grow my own vegetables.

**Elizabeta in Mitar Majkič:** For us, a sustainable way of living means trying to live as responsibly to the environment as possible. Reducing the amount we drive a car around Ljubljana, recycling and the rational use of water and electricity. What's most important, however, is to try to pass it on to the next generation.

**Miha Pongrac:** I use public transport, or, even better, I go by bike. I separate waste, I use fabric bags

when I go shopping. I use low-energy light bulbs, I often shop in second-hand stores, and above all I buy locally produced food.

**Žiga Vehovec:** I go on errands on my bike, I care for a clean environment and separate waste. I have spent a lot of time thinking about charitable and cleaning campaigns, organisations and activities that would contribute to Ljubljana's wellbeing.

**How are you going to remember the year when Ljubljana was European Green Capital 2016?**

*Ljubljana is so nice and friendly because of its friendly people, societies that always work for its development and cohesion, which is, in addition to each individual, to a great extent due to its good leadership with the Mayor at the helm.*

**Žiga**

*The title gave Ljubljana visibility in the international context, which is a good sign for the future. I hope the capital stays green for a long time so our children can also enjoy a high quality of living and the joy of living here. If, however, they drift away elsewhere, this will be their first safe haven destination. HOME.*

**Darja**

**Žiga Vehovec:** I am a City of Ljubljana scholarship holder. I think I am a suitable choice as Ambassador because I am active in various fields. I attend a variety of workshops, which aim to further improve Ljubljana. I am very interested in how the quality of living in our beautiful city could be raised even further, namely in the cultural, social, economic and environmental fields.

**Silvija Pavičič:** Certainly for having held the title of Ambassador of the European Green Capital 2016, of which I am very proud. What's more, for the numerous events, successful campaigns and functions in the framework of the Green Capital and for the active participation and inclusion of the

district authorities and the incredible response of all the people of Ljubljana. Due to this our city has become even greener and this is going to carry on in the future.

**Darja Virjent:** I've noticed that collective concern for life in the capital and a responsibility to be actively involved in the life of the city has further strengthened in the last year. The title gave Ljubljana visibility in the international context, which is a good sign for the future. I hope the capital stays green for a long time and so our children can also enjoy a high quality of living and the joy of living here. If, however, they drift away elsewhere, this will be their first safe haven destination. HOME.

**Nika Bosnič:** For the wonderful opportunity that I, as an Ambassador of Ljubljana, was able to represent my city and sustainable ideas and goals that have long been dear to me. For new acquaintances, great events and new knowledge. I'm pleased I was part of the story of the Green Capital 2016.

**Petra Koritnik:** The year of the Green Capital 2016 was full of wonderful events. For me, one of the most important was the introduction of biodegradable bags at Ljubljana's markets in the framework of the project "I am not lasting, but therefore less annoying. I am a biodegradable bag".

**Miha Pongrac:** I will remember it primarily for the

number of excellent activities via which Ljubljana was showcased at home and abroad. These were activities that very well communicated what green advantages or features Ljubljana has that we must respect and nurture.

**Žiga Vehovec:** I will remember 2016 as being successful, sunny and warm. I socialised with the other Ambassadors and took part in our campaigns and various events. Ljubljana is so nice and friendly because of its friendly people, societies that always work for its development and cohesion, which in addition to each individual, to a great extent is due to its good leadership with the Mayor at the helm.

## LJUBLJANA IS BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL AND ONCE MORE BEAUTIFUL

### Nada Tarman | Ambassador of the European Green Capital 2016

*Mrs Nada Tarman is one of the 24 Ambassadors of the European Green Capital 2016. Ljubljana is very proud of its Ambassador as she has been in love with "her Ljubljana" for nearly a century. "I was born here and behind me there are already two generations from Ljubljana. I grew up and grew old with her beauty. I admire, enjoy and feel affection for every creative move that renews the beauty of this adorable city. I often return to my memories, which warm me up and make me pleasantly happy since I have been here for almost 95 happy years. When the city was in a crisis, I was an active defender in the trenches and today I am proud that Ljubljana is a city hero. Now it should be allowed to carry on living in a friendly atmosphere, the healthiest possible environment, our green capital of Europe should stay safe and growing in beauty". These were the words of the active 94-year-old who greeted me with a loving smile, charming voice and youthful attitude at her home in Šiška district authority.*

*"I'm from Šiška. My grandmother and grandfather lived here. Now my great-grandchildren live in the house" were the introductory words of Mrs Nada Tarman, who reads every issue of the Ljubljana magazine and says that she finds out a lot about what is happening in our city from it. She doesn't need glasses as she still has good vision. While she offers me homemade elderflower tea from her garden and biscuits, I ask her how come that she applied to become an Ambassador. She replies spontaneously „Ljubljana has always meant a lot to me. All of my family know this, and they sometimes make fun of me. This was my birthplace. I continue to teach all my family and warn them to think about Ljubljana and to live with her. Ljubljana is beautiful, beautiful and once again beautiful!"*

**You say that you follow what's happening in Ljubljana, but I wonder how you really live and experience Ljubljana?**

At home, I have an arrangement that my grandchildren drive me wherever I want to see and follow Ljubljana and the news up close. As the centre is closed to traffic, which is good, I get picked up by a very friendly driver of a Kavalir where, with my trolley, upon which I rest, I have a look at what I want to see. The market has changed quite a lot, although it looks the same at first glance. In particular, there is an even wider offer there and it is a lot cleaner. I looked at Cukrarna, a building in which "my" poets lived and died in poverty and when I saw it cut in half by a bridge going through it, I could not believe my eyes. I also notice a lot of tourists who, like me, want to see our capital, which has something to show. The quality of living is high in Ljubljana. Since I love to eat very well, I treat myself to various dishes at the Open Kitchen. You know, I had never seen so many people and so much to buy on Pogačarjev trg as you get at this popular event on Fridays. The Butchers' Bridge is just a stone's throw from here which connects people on both banks with all the other bridges old and new. However, this bridge is something special because of the glass and padlocks that lovers lock onto the fence of the bridge for luck. Breg is another spot that you can hardly recognise. Here the Ljubljanica best communicates with people all the way to Špica as you can get really close.

**Which beauties of Ljubljana would you draw readers' attention to, and how do you remember the old days?**

Sailing along the Ljubljanica, this is a fine thing! Even though we're in the middle of the year, I have to compliment the unique annual New Year's decorations. Last time it was really something special, especially shooting stars on the illuminated Slovenska cesta. It is really important to have something 'alternative' such as Metelkova and Rog. My grandchildren now enable me to see all that I want to, otherwise I would like to go by myself but the years don't let me anymore. You know, in Šiška we used to say that we were going to the city as Šiška was a suburb. My family were middle class, my father served in the army. I remember that when I was young, kids weren't allowed to play in the courtyard. The courtyard was a street. Ljubljana was always clean, we called it white Ljubljana. The favourite site for socialising was the Sunday promenade, which led from the main post office to Tivoli Mansion. For this social event, we all dressed up in the finest outfits. Before the Second World War, we girls enjoyed choral 'serenades'. Young people today get together on the internet, right? Just before the war, in 1941, we all felt that it was going to happen, and I'll tell you, that I also have the feeling now that these are strange times. This worries me, because we have a good life, but war just takes and does not give anything. Not to anyone. During World War II, I was a member of



the Liberation Front, an 'outlaw' woman with the Partisan name Smelja. I was convicted and held in prison for almost two years. My whole family was active in the fight against the occupiers. After the war, as a family, we received a city award called the golden plaque of the outlaw.

**In your story, I notice that, despite all that you have experienced in life, you have an optimistic view of the world.**

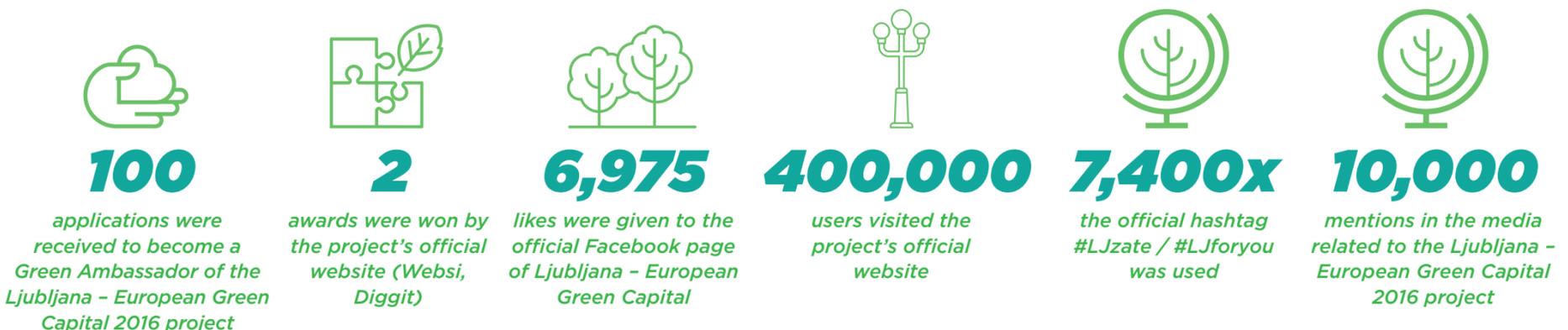
I believe in people. People are mostly very friendly. I have always been an optimist. People are good. I repeat: people are good! If you approach in a friendly way, in general you get a friendly response. When I'm with people, I always get a friendly response. This is the meaning of life.

**In your notes I see that you have the following in capital letters: Ljubljana is beautiful, beautiful, beautiful! What is your opinion of the leadership of Ljubljana, whose "fault" it is, of course, along with the general public, that Ljubljana took the title of European Green Capital 2016?**

Mayor Zoran Jankovič cares about things. He's

incredibly diligent. I admire him for driving Ljubljana forward. I know that he has experts around him, but he is the one who takes care of the money. He plans things without knowing whether there will be the money for it, and that's right. This is how we also work in the household. When we ambassadors were invited to dinner, Deputy Mayor Tjaša Ficko sat next to me, and she told me that he is demanding to the extreme, but he would do anything for any city employee. Well, these are her words, but as an external observer, I can say that, unfortunately, previous mayors hardly did anything. I say to the people of Ljubljana that they have to look after their city and enjoy its beauties. Every individual can make a big contribution to the prosperity of society and the city. The title of European Green Capital 2016 is not a single-year project, this is a way of life chosen by Ljubljana and chosen by its residents!

*This conversation was first published in Ljubljana magazine.  
Reporter: Staša Cafuta Trček*



## GREEN-HEARTED AMBASSADORS

Dejan Crnek | Deputy Mayor



Deputy Mayor Dejan Crnek is responsible for the field of local self-government. As a sportsman and team player, he is very keen to connect people, so it was nothing unusual that, in 2016 when Ljubljana was the European Green Capital, the District Authorities were closely involved in the events. In fact, every District Authority was a Green Ambassador of the project for three weeks.

### What were the reactions of the District Authorities at the start of the Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016 project and what are they today?

The Presidents of the District Authorities took on the idea of being Green Ambassadors of the capital with interest and curiosity at the start of the project but at the outset none of them had any conception how they could carry out their ideas. As the time for preparation and implementation came, they found it had been an outstanding idea, that the events had left them even better connected with the residents of their District Authority and with other District Authorities and the entire leadership of the City of Ljubljana.

### How are you going to encourage District Authorities to continue to be active in the field of Ljubljana's sustainable development?

We have a monthly co-ordination meeting with the Presidents of the District Authorities, where we discuss a range of topics to improve the functioning of the District Authorities and every three months we are joined by Mayor Zoran Jankovič.

At the first co-ordination meeting after the New Year we found that in the programme preparation for the Green Capital Ambassadorships we had all accumulated enormous experience and that many ideas remained unimplemented. Therefore, we are already shaping new guidelines for this year, where we will store interesting activities in one way or another, and once again organise social gatherings for our local residents.

### You yourself were the President of one of the District Authorities a few years ago. How does that help in your work and partnerships with them?

As a former president of the District Authority Šmarna gora, I encouraged meetings and social events between the Presidents, including informally, since in this way people get better acquainted and better co-operate with each other. In addition, I have taken note of the operations of the City of Ljubljana and all current staff in practically every area so it is now much easier for me to guide and lead activities in this area.

## THE OUTSTANDING ROLE OF DISTRICT AUTHORITIES

Karolina Pavčič



Karolina Pavčič is an employee in the Office for Local Self-Government. In 2016, she closely co-ordinated the activities of all 17 District Authorities (DA) in the project. She worked with them and helped with programme preparation and implementation while also looking after promotion work.

### Karolina, can you perhaps remember the most interesting handover of the Green Ambassadorship?

There were a total of 16 of them and each and every one was something special, they were all in the spirit of intergenerational co-operation,

with a focus on sustainable mobility and the circular economy. What remain foremost in my memory are handovers at DA Posavje and DA Trnovo. Plus, I mustn't forget the events at Point. For you, prepared by DA Bežigrad. The District Authorities were excellent green ambassadors!

## Handovers of the Green Ambassadorship in pictures



As the second Green Ambassador, the President of DA Šmarna gora proudly takes the baton from the President of DA Črnuče.



The President of DA Center and the President of DA Vič exchanged a lot of advice and experience.



The President of DA Golovec takes the baton.



DA Moste prepared a very diverse and rich programme. So the President took the baton with great pleasure.



The President of DA Jarše and his staff organised an extremely interesting handover of the baton at the Edvarda Peperka barracks.



DA Posavje took the baton with dancing and singing.



It was especially lively on Cankar Hill in DA Rožnik. The handover was also successful in DA Rudnik.



The handover between DA Šentvid and DA Bežigrad took place on the Path along the Sava River.



Sustainable arrival at the handover! DA Trnovo took this very seriously and the handover was held on horseback.



From DA Polje to DA Dravlje with a performance by children from Miška Kranjca primary school.



DA Šiška made green dragons out of plastic bottles and thus enriched the handover of the Green Ambassadorship.



The President of DA Sostro ceremonially closed the year of the Green Ambassadorship.

You can find out more about the handovers and Green Ambassadorships in the content on District Authorities at [www.ljubljana.si](http://www.ljubljana.si).

# INTEGRATION AND CO-OPERATION ARE KEY FOR THE EXECUTION OF GREAT PROJECTS



*Preparations were long lasting. Co-ordinating, telephoning, organising... certainly not little work for a small team at the district authorities, but the results were outstanding. In 2016, the district authorities organised over 220 events.*

*And what are the Presidents of the district authorities going to remember best from the time of their three-week Ambassadorship? Find out below.*

**DA Črnuče:** Since we were one of the first district authorities to have been Green Ambassadors, the strongest experience was being given the replica in front of the City Hall and the elation that we all felt.

**DA Posavje:** The cooperation and great relationships of all participants.

**DA Polje:** The cooperation of voluntary societies, the presentations of their work and their orientation towards the connections between people and nature (they changed President of DA in 2017).

**DA Center:** At DA Center we are most pleased with the successfully carried-out cleaning campaign in the Metelkova area, which brought together youth from Metelkova Alternative Cultural Centre, older residents of the district authority, the Stigma Society and migrants.

**DA Dravljje:** The interconnection and co-operation between voluntary societies, schools and the district authority, which all rose to a higher level during our Ambassadorship.

**DA Jarše:** It was very interesting to work with members of Zelena Jama tourist association, who had shared their experience and knowledge of growing herbs in an urban environment at the stands outside Point.For you. and at the district authority offices. We brought together lots of local residents (the oldest was 92). We handed out seedlings of herbs, vegetables and balcony tomatoes for which we received a lot of feedback from satisfied citizens that they had grown lovely tomatoes and various scented useful herbs.

*What was most interesting was the response of voluntary societies and all individuals who helped to prepare and implement the whole programme. The voluntary societies responded very positively and all who took part exceeded our expectations.*

**DA Rudnik**

**DA Šmarna gora:** I think it was more than positive that Ljubljana was the European Green Capital. The fact that we district authorities participated in the project had a number of additional benefits. In this way we had to become even better connected on the one hand with voluntary societies in our area and on the other with competent departments

of the City Administration, so we have more genuine relationships with many others. Therefore, in the future, many things will be easier to solve.

**DA Trnovo:** The main event on the lawn in front of the Trnovo Home for the Elderly was special as many people came and the atmosphere was very pleasant.

**DA Šiška:** We are going to remember the handover of the Ambassadorship as all the primary schools in our area were involved, plus two kindergartens. As early as the preparation stage we met, connected and learnt a lot. The event itself was the result of the goodwill of all teachers, kindergarten teachers, school heads and, of course, the main performers - our children. One of the main tasks of the district authorities is connecting, working with and for the people, which we certainly achieved and even exceeded during the time of the Green Capital. Thank you for this magical experience!

**DA Rožnik:** The children's workshop on 'Eco-herb gardens', which we organised with the Youth in Tourism Association was successful. The children made ecological herb gardens and played with Flora the dragon.

**DA Moste:** As Green Ambassador, our DA Moste successfully combined six events with green content. Our main event outside Point.For you. was even more interesting as it was raining cats and dogs. But we didn't give up. Wearing very popular yellow raincoats we entertained a few locals and tourists with an English presentation of the district authority. For this we earned a mention on Twitter from an Australian tourist. The distinctive campaigns 'A garden in every corner' and 'No little piles left after beloved pets in Ljubljana' certainly made us the Ambassadors with the most distinctive slogans. It was lovely and we would be ambassadors again with great pleasure.

**DA Rudnik:** What was most interesting was the response of voluntary societies and all individuals who helped to prepare and implement the whole programme. The voluntary societies responded very positively and all who took part exceeded our expectations. We are proud to see the voluntary societies devoted to the environment and willing to take part in projects such as this one. The handover of the Ambassadorship left a lasting impression, a horse-drawn carriage ride to the City Hall and then through Old Ljubljana to

the Botanic garden as the event was really well prepared and performed.

**DA Bežigrad:** Our favourite was definitely our closing event 'Bežigrad entertains you' outside City Hall. The highlight of the programme was an evening concert by the Ljubljana Mandolin Orchestra. The closer the concert got, the darker the clouds became; the rainfall radar forecast rain. But the Mandolins did not go home. They gave an excellent concert under the arcades of City Hall with an enthusiastic crowd of listeners. We expanded our slogan to 'Let the sun shine or rain fall - Bežigrad entertains you'.

*One of the main tasks of the district authorities is connecting, working with and for the people, which we certainly achieved and even exceeded during the time of the Green Capital.*

**DA Šiška**

**DA Šentvid:** DA Šentvid took on the Ambassadorship of the European Green Capital in August just at the peak of school holidays and summer vacations. Therefore, although we'd always had very good co-operation with voluntary societies, schools and kindergartens, we were still surprised at how well they responded. Together, we all managed to carry out a diverse and interesting programme. Of the events, certainly the most interesting one was the handover of the European Green Capital Ambassadorship, which was also attended by the Mayor. He took his time and answered a number of on-the-spot questions asked by visitors to the ceremony (they changed President of DA in 2017).

**DA Vič:** Planting a spruce, which we named the Spruce of Peaceful Active Coexistence. We invited children from the surrounding kindergartens, pupils from Vič and Bičevje primary schools and students from Gimnazija Vič high school to the planting ceremony, and decorated the spruce with decorations made by the children.

**DA Golovec:** We feel that Ljubljana played a major role as the European Green Capital in raising people's awareness, since now everyone is much better aware of the importance of managing a green city and a careful attitude towards the environment.

## Walking around Ljubljana

When you are walking through one of the district authorities, why not visit one of the corners suggested by **district authority representatives. These are their favourites:**

**DA Posavje:** Mucherjeva-Glinškova Central Park; Ježica allotments and Sava Recreational and Educational Centre (RIC Sava)

**DA Polje:** Zajčja Dobrava Landscape Park

**DA Črnuče:** Sračja dolina

**DA Center:** the renovated Slovenska cesta

**DA Dravljje:** Toško čelo hiking trail

**DA Šmarna gora:** Rašica and Šmarna gora

**DA Trnovo:** Eipprova ulica and Trnovo beach in the summer

**DA Šiška:** Koseze lake

**DA Rožnik:** It's always lovely to take a walk along the Path of Remembrance and Comradeship, and everybody loves the new public orchard at Grba.

**DA Moste:** the open-air fitness areas, especially those on Brodarjev trg near the boules court, which was set up first.

**DA Rudnik:** the Botanical Garden, Golovec and Ljubljana Marshes

**DA Bežigrad:** the footpath along the Sava river

**DA Vič:** the renovated Kolezija swimming pools

**DA Golovec:** Hiking trails on Golovec

**DA Šentvid:** the children's golf centre and rugby centre in Guncleje

**DA Jarše:** Edvarda Peperka Barracks, the only barracks in Ljubljana, which has been a Slovenian Army barracks since Slovenian independence

**DA Sostro:** the Village Learning Points in Janče



all **17**

district authorities were actively involved in the project



more than **220**

events were prepared by the district authorities



**13**

blogs were written for the official website of green Ljubljana



**23x**

Flora the dragon enlivened district authority green events



**281**

stakeholders worked with district authorities during the Ambassadorships

# WE HAVE TO LEARN TO LISTEN TO CHILDREN

*Aleš Čerin | Deputy Mayor*

*By profession, Deputy Mayor Aleš Čerin is a lawyer and was born in Ljubljana. In addition to other fields, he is responsible for education and pre-school learning. He is very youthful and an air of playfulness always surrounds him. That's probably why he gets on so well with children.*

**Children's new outlooks can make great contributions to Ljubljana's sustainable development. How do you work with them? Do you listen to them?**

We are in contact with children every day. It is important not only to hear them, but especially to listen to in their directness and natural good faith. It's educational and also great fun when we leave them the Mayor's business in town for a few hours.

**How do you rate the level of environmental education for children in Ljubljana schools and kindergartens?**

I evaluate children's environmental awareness in our schools and kindergartens as high quality and

also successful. From the promotion of the European Green Capital project, it was obvious that this was not an end in itself but a desire to touch just about every citizen from the youngest up. The results are even better in families where the parents pay a lot of attention to protecting the environment. There is no danger that these younger generations will not take care of their city.

**Can you sing the official hymn of the European Green Capital?**

Of course I know the official hymn of the European Green Capital extremely well, and if nature were to bestow upon me a musical ear, I would gladly sing it.



# CAN LJUBLJANA GET EVEN GREENER?

*As part of the GREEN CITY DESIGN CHALLENGE - I LIKE HELPING TO CREATE A GREEN CITY 2016 pilot project, children from the primary schools Danile Kumar, Jožeta Moškriča, Livada and Spodnja Šiška came up with sustainable solutions via which Ljubljana can become even more sustainable.*

We carried out the project, which in essence followed the programme by American teacher Alexandra Mooskin, in partnership with the US Embassy in Ljubljana. In her programme, pupils initially acquaint themselves with environmental issues, and then, in the framework of workshops, they shape their thoughts into practical products and also test them out. This way they found out about the good practices of the City of Ljubljana and its public companies and also got to know good practices coming from the US. In addition, at the workshop and lecture by Umanotera, the Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Develop-

ment they learnt about the significant factors affecting climate change. With the help of experts from the Zavod 404 Youth Technology Centre, four projects or prototypes were completed and exhibited at City Hall: a smart rubbish bin that compacts the rubbish, a bacteria power plant for generating electricity, a wireless charging lane for electrical vehicles that could be fitted on motorways or bypasses and rainwater collectors with UV lights to purify the water and solar cells to power the lights. The project proved to be so successful that we are going to continue it and roll it out across Slovenia.



# YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW

*We asked the youngest ones from the Hans C. Andersen kindergarten if they knew that Ljubljana was last year's European Green Capital. In a single voice they shouted "YES!" We were really proud of their response, as we believe that older people would have responded less supremely to the same question on environmental protection.*

**How do you separate waste?**

I put organic waste in the brown bin, peelings and mouldy things. I put glass into the green bin. Yellow is for plastic, pots and bags. Blue is for old paper and leaflets. **Matic, aged 5.**

Very well! At home we have a bin and I ask mummy and daddy where I have to put things. I also have one of my own so I don't have to walk far. At kindergarten it's yellow for plastic, brown for peelings, black is for other waste and blue for paper. **Sara, aged 5.**

**What did you do in kindergarten when Ljubljana was European Green Capital?**

We went into town, had a look at the Prešeren statue, Puppet Theatre, the Three Bridges and Ljubljana river. We went to Ljubljana Castle and saw the dragons on the bridge. We made birdseed cakes and fed the squirrels in Tivoli Park. **Matic, aged 5.**

We made a model of the city Ljubljana. A model and for on the wall. We made the Prešeren monument, Ljubljana river, Ljubljana Castle, the church, Koseze pond, our kindergarten, school, us children, the hospital, the market, the houses and many trees. **Trina, aged 5.**

We got to know Aja the water droplet and looked after her. One was a detective and he had a red plate and made sure we turned the tap off. We planted herbs and strawberries and salad. Then we took them to our granny Mira (who is a cook in the kindergarten) and we ate everything up. **Kaja, aged 4.**

We made Ljubljana. Out of cardboard boxes we made houses, the castle, the Ljubljana river. We made a zoo out of paper. **Arne, aged 6**



**37,000**

children from Ljubljana primary schools and kindergartens took part in the project



**13**

secondary schools and faculties co-operated at Point.For you.



**250**

events dedicated to the European Green Capital organised in kindergartens and primary schools



Children delivered a message in a bottle to the Director-General of European Commission DG for Environment Daniel Calleja Crespo in which they expressed their desire to preserve our environment and nature as only in this way will our planet carry on being nice and friendly. Mr Calleja Crespo took the children's message in a bottle of Museum Water to Brussels.

## COLOURING PAGE



## OFFICIAL HYMN OF THE PROJECT

*The green year was marked by a hymn by pupils from Poljane primary school 'Ljubljana. For you.', which was chosen in a competition between Ljubljana primary schools. We are still singing it today!*

**Arrangement:** Anže Rozman

**Words:** Zigi Omerzel

**Author/Co-author of music:** Tina Kozlevčar, Lucija Tozon

**Performers:** Poljane Ljubljana primary school choir

**Mentor/conductor:** Lucija Tozon

*Ljubljana, for you all hearts are burning,  
The sun, moon and all the stars,  
Listen, can't you hear what they are saying?  
Ljubljana is green.*

*From bird to bird  
The news is spreading,  
Once Ljubljana was known as white,  
From today on it's all green,  
The birds are singing that it's flourishing.*

*Ljubljana, for you all hearts are burning,  
The sun, moon and all the stars,  
Listen, can't you hear what they are saying?  
Ljubljana is green.*



# ALL EYES ON LJUBLJANA

The title of European Green Capital is the highest title awarded by the European Commission in the field of sustainable urban development. **In the opinion of the European Commission, in Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016 we had made the greatest improvements to the quality of living in the shortest period of time.**

The title has a great significance for Ljubljana, since it **places us on the European and world map of sustainable cities**, while at the same time, we are **the only city in central and south-eastern Europe to have received this prestigious title.**

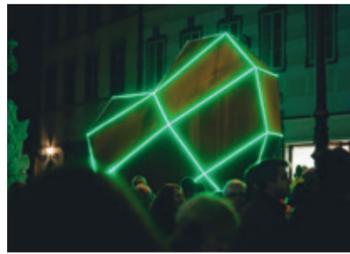
As early as 2007, through designing the **Vision of Ljubljana 2025** we set out on the road to the sustainable development of the city, in the framework of which we pursue the goals set – to assure high quality of living for all our citizens in a **green, safe, clean and orderly city.**

As part of the project, **we organised numerous events**, and we helped in the **co-organisation** of those events that convinced us with their sustainable theme.



## 1. The press conference at the beginning of the project

We organised the first press conference at City Hall, which that day we had fitted with furniture from the **Re-use Centre** and decorated with plants from the **University Botanic Gardens Ljubljana.**



## 2. Ljubljana.Green for you.

Upon assuming the official title Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016, with local people, project partners and employees of the City Administration, public companies and institutes we lit a green light, unveiled the **flag of the European Green Capital 2016** and opened the **Point.For you. information centre.**



## 3. The Green Ambassadors exhibition on the Krakovo Embankment

At the **Ljubljana.For you. exhibition** on Krakovo Embankment we showcased some of the projects that were crucial in winning the title European Green Capital 2016. The photos featured City of Ljubljana employees and some well-known residents of Ljubljana.



## 4. Bristol officially passes the title to Ljubljana

Ljubljana took the official title of European Green Capital from Bristol at a gala ceremony in Brussels.



## 5. Exhibition of Green Ljubljana at the City Museum

The exhibition at City Museum was part of the exhibition “Water”. At the exhibition we gave an overview of the most prominent projects that had helped Ljubljana to become European Green Capital 2016.



## 6. The gala opening of Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016

In March 2016, we organised a **full-day event** which reached its peak with the evening gala opening ceremony Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016 in the Stožice Centre. The ceremony was **broadcast live on TV Slovenia.**



In the morning we started with breakfast at Ljubljana Castle whose main theme was ‘Responsibility today - Solidarity with future generations’. It was attended by Đorđe Balašević, Tomo Križnar, Janez Škrabec, Emil Tedeschi and Dr Aleksander Zadel.



## 7. European Green Week

We continued with a **Mayors' Round Table entitled ‘Cities of the Future. How to be a solution and not a problem’.** In addition to Mayor Zoran Jankovič, the Mayors of Ankara, Belgrade, Budapest, Istanbul and Sofia and European Commissioner for Mobility and Transport Violeta Bulc also took part.



In Ljubljana, 30 May 2016 marked the launch of **European Green Week ‘LJUBLJANA. TAILORMADE FOR YOUTH’**, an annual meeting under the aegis of the European Commission. On this occasion there was also a presentation of the pilot project Livada, which is led as part of the **Green Surge** international project by the **Bob Institute** and is intended to establish a urban green space for young people to spend time creatively.



## 8. Opening an exhibition by world famous photographer Sebastião Salgado

At the **City Museum of Ljubljana and Jakopič Gallery** we opened the Genesis exhibition by photographer of global renown Sebastião Salgado.



## 9. Announcement of European Green Capital 2018

On announcement day there was a diverse accompanying programme including the round table **„Green Cities - Challenges and Experiences“**, in which, alongside Deputy Mayor Tjaša Ficko, representatives of Essen and Hamburg were present. Afterwards, with AvantCar we showcased the **sharing of Avant2Go electric vehicles.**



The title of European Green Capital 2018 was won by Dutch city Nijmegen. **“Ljubljana is a city that inspires us”** *Hubert Bruls, Mayor of Nijmegen*



At **Šiška cinema** we discussed waste prevention initiatives and showcased the benefits that zero waste companies bring to local communities. The event was organised by **Ecologists without Borders** in partnership with the **Zero Waste Europe organisation** and the **City of Ljubljana.**



## 11. Karl Falkenberg at City Hall

Karl Falkenberg visited Ljubljana on the first day of European Mobility Week. He gave a talk at City Hall on **‘Sustainability now!’** in which he presented a report by the European Commission’s European Political Strategy Centre. As part of his visit he planted a memorial tree in Friendship Park on the Path of Remembrance and Comradeship.



## 12. EUROCITIES network environmental forum

The forum was attended by about **115 experts** from the fields of water, waste, energy efficiency, climate change, biodiversity, green areas and air quality. The aim of the forum was to showcase and promote the concept of green cities and the title of European Green Capital.



## 13. Ljubljana Forum

A traditional foreign book trade fair called Frankfurt after Frankfurt is held in Ljubljana every November. In partnership with Mladinska knjiga, we showcased ecology books at Point.For you.



## 14. Frankfurt after Frankfurt: I read green

This exhibition at the **Museum of Architecture and Design**, which was supported by Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016, highlights the problem of the most widespread types of plastic and its devastating impact on the sea, wildlife and humanity.



## 15. 'Out to sea?' exhibition

On 2 January 2017, the event **GREEN NIGHT.FOR YOU.**, which saw a performance by Perpetuum Jazzile, brought down the final curtain on the year-long Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016 project. **“In the future Ljubljana will continue on its path in line with the principles of sustainable development”** *emphasised Deputy Mayor Tjaša Ficko.*



## 16. Green night.For you.

The exhibition at City Museum was part of the exhibition “Water”. At the exhibition we gave an overview of the most prominent projects that had helped Ljubljana to become European Green Capital 2016.

## MADAM, THE MORE YOU SPOKE, THE MORE I LIKED YOU

*As a member of the working group of the European Green Capital project, Simona Berden spent a lot of time with foreign delegations who came to Ljubljana to learn about our achievements and exchange good practices in various environmental fields. She showcased green projects to them and tried to show them how we in Ljubljana live and breathe the green capital. Always smiling, Simona charmed our visitors with invaluable tips and first-hand experience.*

### A visit from Brazil

I recall a visit by a delegation from the Brazilian capital just a day before 1 May, when a study visit to selected European cities concluded in Ljubljana. We found we had a lot in common with younger representatives from the Ministry for Cities and the Ministry for the Environment. After the official business, we socialised and found a further point in common – on a wonderfully warm and sunny day, we sat by the Ljubljanica and treated ourselves to tasting beers from various local breweries.

### Japanese in Ljubljana just for the weekend

On a hot July afternoon I had a Friday afternoon meeting with five students from Tsukuba University in Japan, who were working on the ecocities concept. The debate was vibrant and interesting, as befits students. When I asked them when they were leaving or what kind of sightseeing they anticipated outside Ljubljana or Slovenia, they surprised me with the answer that they had just come to visit Ljubljana over the weekend. I suppose that the trip was exhausting but useful as they enthusiastically told me that they were going to try to take some of our ideas home.

### Enthusiastic Indians

The largest presentation I made about Ljubljana as European Green Capital was to Indian State officials who were studying at the International Centre for the Promotion of Enterprises in Ljubljana. All the groups were extremely curious and we often ran out of time to answer questions that were, at times, very unusual. I also got used to the participants wanting to take pictures with me and after a while I started to feel like a 'Hollywood' diva. Following one of the presentations, naturally after the obligatory photography, I noticed a participant who was waiting patiently to speak to me. When we were alone, he told me in 'Indian English' "Madam, the more you spoke, the more I liked you". I must admit that I had not received such a beautiful compliment for a long time. I thanked him for his kind words and, of course, we took a picture together and went our separate ways.

I wanted to use these little examples to show that Ljubljana is an interesting and advanced city not just in Europe but also more broadly, and that it is becoming increasingly internationally recognisable. I cannot and must not allow myself to forget



*Simona (left) with a delegation from Oslo, European Green Capital 2019.*

the significance of the friendliness and warm personal contacts as we can learn so much from one another, including in the sense of personal growth.

Further proof that our sense that Ljubljana and Slovenia are small is only in our minds.

## Alma Kochavy, initiator of the Open Kitchen

*At the gala opening of Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016, the Open Kitchen was showcased. It was a huge challenge as we had to move from Pogačarjev trg to a new location for the first time. 13 Ljubljana restaurants and three winemakers presented at Stožice. The main thread of the entertainment after the opening ceremony was Slovenian dishes made from local and ecological ingredients.*

"We were honoured to be invited to participate in the event where the title of European Green Capital was passed to Ljubljana. In creating the Open Kitchen project, our team committed to caring for the environment and participating in this event was confirmation for us that we are working in the right direction. Even now that 2016 has passed, we still insist on caring for the environment and the sustainable way of working.



In this year's season, **we are further reducing the amount of waste, we encourage our providers to use returnable or biodegradable packaging**, we are separating waste and at the end of the event we do not throw away leftover

food, but **donate it to people in need**. We also call on our visitors to **recycle** and we are happy to jump in with advice on correct separation. Finally, we invite people to visit us by public transport, bike or on foot.

## EUROPEAN COMMISSIONERS IN LJUBLJANA



"Does the prize really mean anything? I think it does. Not just that the award represents recognition at European level, it is also an incentive and motivation for further work. It can attract citizens to dare to think even longer term".

*Violeta Bulc, European Commissioner for Mobility and Transport*



"All Europeans are proud of their city, but very few of them can pride themselves of their city having won the title of European Green Capital. The Commission encourages decisions taken at city level to bring about a healthier environment, and Ljubljana has been successful in implementing these".

*Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries*



more than **70,000**

viewers watched on TV Slovenia the live TV broadcast and repeat of the event Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016



about **2,000**

people attended the gala opening ceremony at Stožice on 10 March 2016



more than **50**

presentations of the project carried out abroad



more than **37,000**

photos were taken at Green Capital events and activities



more than **1,500**

free events for visitors were organised by the great city family

# POINT.FOR YOU.



At the information point Point.For you., we marked the title European Green Capital 2016 with a **full-year programme** divided into **twelve themed months**. Point.For you. stood in front of City Hall and was the venue of a year-round **free programme** for various target groups. In carrying out the programme, besides the **co-ordinators of the individual month**, more than **300 stakeholders** took part: all 17 district authorities, kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, faculties, NGOs, youth organisations, scouts, our public companies and institutes, tourist organisations, farms, hotels, voluntary societies, institutes,

museums, the botanical garden and smaller and larger private companies. The programme consisted of various activities, from lectures, round tables, expert consultations, press conferences, the most varied presentations and exhibitions, puppet shows for children, a range of creative workshops, toy exchanges, professional themed tours and so on, to a farmers' market with local products, cultural performances and much more.

The programme was really **varied and remarkable**. Heartfelt thanks go to **all who invested their time, energy and knowledge**.



## IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ABSOLUTELY EVERY CITIZEN SAYS WITH PRIDE THAT LJUBLJANA WAS EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL 2016

*Smiling, full of data and information, they waited for you every day throughout 2016 at Point.For you. Three of the eleven students, who today are certainly the ones who miss most the pavilions outside City Hall, were asked about their most entertaining experience while working at the information centre.*



**Branka Lučić:** The most fun I remember was a pair of tourists from Nairobi, Kenya, who'd come to Europe with a view to moving. As tourists they were visiting various capitals and their shortlist was down to Ljubljana and Lisbon. What they liked most about Ljubljana was its small scale and attractiveness, and they liked its being a very clean city and the friendliness and warmth of the local people which they said they had felt straight away in the city.

**Katja Bricman:** There were so many experiences it's just about impossible to say which was the most fun. People's responses were varied. Many people didn't know that this project was intended primarily for the locals, and not just for tourists. When they found out, they mostly praised the overall project and showed enthusiasm for the reasons that gave Ljubljana this prestigious title.



*Each month, the co-ordinators of the monthly themes made sure that the programme was varied and interesting.*

**Kristian Schulz:** I best remember an experience at a workshop organised by Druga violina (the second violin) children with mental health disorders within the theme of sustainable tourism. In a very entertaining and cute way they prepared a presentation about the project, showcased their work in the field of sustainable tourism and hospitality and proved we can all do a lot for sustainable development of society as well as tourism and the environment.



### Twelve months

#### TWELVE MAIN THEMES

**January**  
Intelligent Waste Management

**February**  
Local self-sufficiency

**March**  
Responsible water management

**April**  
Quality of the sound environment

**May**  
Green spaces

**June**  
Energy Efficiency

**July**  
Biodiversity and bees

**August**  
Sustainable tourism

**September**  
Sustainable mobility and care for air quality

**October**  
Wood – a priceless gift of nature

**November**  
Adapting to climate change

**December**  
Eco-innovations, green jobs and sustainable local government



**619**

free events at Point.For you.



**34,000**

visitors to Point.For you.



**318**

diverse individuals and partners with whom we jointly prepared the programme



**360**

days of the year Point.For you. was open

## WE BROUGHT NATURE INTO THE HEART OF THE CITY

### Dr. Jože Bavcon

*You are bound to run into Mr Jože Bavcon somewhere among the trees and plants when you visit University Botanic gardens Ljubljana. As he takes you around the garden it seems like he is talking to the plants, and they show their gratitude to him for the daily care with wonderful flowers and good vigour. During the project Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016, Dr Bavcon looked after the green aspect of the information centre, as each month he took special care to select plants that would be interesting to visitors.*



#### How did you choose the plants for Point.For you.?

On the basis of being native and environmental requirements. This means that for the green wall we selected plant species that grow naturally in Slovenia (they are indigenous Slovenian plant species). The choice of species was also based on the selected species not needing too much maintenance.

They were able to tolerate a partial lack of water and did not need regular care. For the southern wall, which was more exposed to the sun, we selected plant species typical of the Karst, because they are more resistant to strong sun and drought. On the northern part of the wall there were shade plants, these grow better in the shade and like a little more moisture.

#### The hot days are here. Which plants should Ljubljana people choose for their gardens or balconies?

There are two options in selecting plants, namely we can choose the traditional plants that were cultivated in the past. These are plants that have been introduced into horticulture from other parts of the world (Africa, America, Asia). Examples of these are **pelargoniums, rasp-leaf pelargoniums, trailing pelargoniums**. All these plants cope with strong sun and there's no danger of them becoming invasive. **Fuchsias and tuberous begonias** do well in east- and north-facing places. **Trailing carnations** are also more beautiful in less sunny places although they also tolerate sun. The second option is to use our native plants, which is harder to achieve as we can rarely buy them in garden centres. For sustainable development the use of **perennials** makes sense, because we save the most money in the long term and we have nice growth in both balconies and gardens.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

*"We planted 24 different plants on the green wall of the information point. Passers-by looked at the plants with interest and inquired a lot about individual plant species, their cultivation and use. In particular, foreign visitors were impressed, because the green wall was a showcase of plant species that grow in Slovenia. This helped us to demonstrate the rich diversity of our country".*



#### Dr. Jože Bavcon

*is Head of the University Botanic gardens Ljubljana and a renowned botanist who advocates the promotion and protection of native Slovenian flora. He is the author of numerous publications, in which readers are introduced to the beauty of plants in an interesting way and they are compared to the treasures growing on our own doorsteps. He also represents our domestic flora and the University Botanic Gardens Ljubljana in the Botanic Gardens Conservation International association.*



#### Janez Škrabec, CEO of RIKO d.o.o., partner

"Experience of Ljubljana. A cosmic touch and a lively pulse. Boutique tailored in dimensions and luxuriously varied in its offers. Friendly to citizens and hospitable to visitors. And green in all respects. In values that are sustainably formulated, and in decisions that improve. At Riko, we actively follow sustainable concepts both in our engineering activities and in the concepts of wooden prefabricated construction. That is why we gladly and proudly joined our Ljubljana in its year-long celebration of its green values in the title of European Green Capital 2016. The wooden pavilion, which Riko placed at its core, carries the signature of common beliefs and efforts for a green orientation in all aspects".



#### Jože Mermal, Chair of the Board of BTC, d.o.o

"We assessed that for a bold, sustainably oriented project by our Ljubljana to win in competition with many famous names of European cities and capitals was the phenomenon of the European Green Capital. It gives assurance to us all that it is designed in a sustainable and long-term manner in favour of better conditions for the lives of all citizens and future generations. The project raised Ljubljana's profile in key European themes in 2016, thereby strengthening its position as a focal point of the international space for meeting people on a much larger scale than ever before".

## LJUBLJANA, YOU CREPT INTO OUR HEARTS

*It's nice to read statements like the ones below. All the citizens and visitors who wrote their feelings in the book of impressions were absolutely unanimous. Ljubljana really is a wonderful city!*

*It's nice to see things developing in the right direction in Ljubljana. We proudly show off our capital to foreigners who are enthusiastic about the well-kept city. Which is also very clean! Bravo.*

**Špela**

*Well done, the capital, which puts the right things into a priority position, although this is not (always) easy.*

**Živa (Fair Trade, Buna Co-operative Society)**

*I like the Green Capital project! I'm going to follow the events, campaigns... all through 2016.*

**Mojca**

*The workshops seem interesting and are an educational experience.*

**Erik, 7<sup>th</sup> grade pupil**

*I was at the museum to see the Water exhibition. Very good, amazing, great. Thank you for creating such a valuable project and helping our environment!*

**Tourist from St. Petersburg**

*Ljubljana, you stole our hearts many years ago. Congratulations on winning the title Ljubljana Green Capital. You are a good example of how to live and preserve the planet.*

**Thank you, Robin, USA**

*Great info point! We love all the green initiatives here – we could learn from you in **New Zealand**. Ljubljana is beautiful.*

**Emma & Peter**

*Wish to see all the cities over globe as green as Ljubljana.*

**Green greetings from Azerbaijan**

*So great to be the green capital. I'm from near **Bristol, U.K.**, last years green capital. Ljubljana looks to be making the most of it.*

**Suki**

## NEWS FROM POINT.FOR YOU.



*The interactive installation of a heart won a major award in the category of 'direct communication' at the 25th Slovenian advertising festival.*

#### 1. Handbook for organising events on sustainable guidelines

The City of Ljubljana made a declaration on our commitment to organise events as part of the European Green Capital 2016, and also a handbook for organising events in line with sustainable principles. We know that every beginning is difficult and that the introduction of sustainable practices can take some time. However, since we want all events to be more and more based on the principles of sustainable development, we invite you to join us on the journey towards realising this goal.

#### 2. Point.For you. won the prestigious Conventa Best Event Award 2016

Point.For you. information centre, which was outside City Hall to welcome visitors last year, was the winner of the

prestigious Conventa Best Event Award 2016 in the category of the business communications with consumers (B2C). This international competition is held annually before the start of the Conventa International Trade Show.

#### 3. Our heart was beating for Ljubljana

We prepared a special installation in the desire to make Ljubljana really intensively experience its position as a green capital. At the beginning of the green year, we set up a big heart in front of City Hall. By means of a special stethoscope, the installation enabled the heartbeat to be recorded and to the rhythm of the pulse it flashed green. We measured nearly 1,000 heartbeat pulses from which we recorded the most hearty anthem. The people of and visitors to Ljubljana became part of a common green story.

#### Where is Point.For you. today?

At the end of the project, we moved the information point to **Podutik bike park**. This is intended for all lovers of mountain biking – from beginners to experienced cyclists. It also serves as an excellent starting point for cycling excursions to Klobuk, Toško čelo, Katarina and the entire Polhov Gradec Hills.



In January as part of the Point.For you. programme, the Snaga public company raised awareness about prudent waste management. In the photo, the bins are drawing the attention of passers-by to the excessive amount of food thrown away.



Kindergarten teachers and children were often at Point.For you. to socialise and get creative around each monthly theme. In the photo, children from Jelka kindergarten are creating things out of waste material.



February was dedicated to local self-government, and so Point.For you. was also a venue for advice sessions for local citizens. In this photo, Jerneja Jošar is giving advice on how to make your own garden an ecological garden.



Ljubljana City Library employees from Ljubljana City Library showed pre-school children how to handle books properly, what kind of glue we need if they are damaged, and how to repair them so that they are available again for lending.



On Saturdays in February, the square outside Point.For you. was the venue of 'Market Day: Produced locally, sold locally'. Within the City of Ljubljana boundary there are today 828 operational farms. Some have offered a variety of produce, which can be found just outside city centre.



The public water company VO-KA helped visitors of Point.For you. to get to know how water gets to our taps and where it goes after we have used it, as well how important it is to drink water from the tap.



The public water company VO-KA showed its most interesting vehicles to visitors of Point.For you.



A presentation by Šmarna Gora District Authority showed visitors how to make homemade syrups from herbs.



The programme at Point.For you. was enriched once a month by the Slovenian Museum of Natural History with various workshops and games that were associated with that month's sustainable topic.



The 2016 Mini Cycling Festival, organised by the City of Ljubljana in partnership with the Dutch Embassy and many other organisations also took place outside Point.For you.



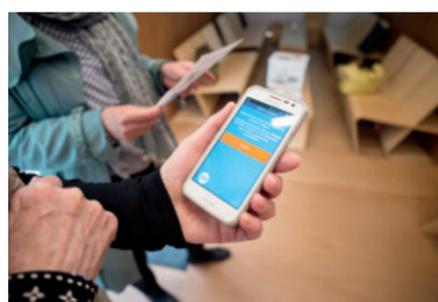
Irena Šinkovec, curator for Prehistory at the City Museum of Ljubljana, was at Point.For you. to showcase the oldest wooden wheel in the world and the secrets of its restoration.



In April we installed the 'Ljubljana Sound Station' at Point.For you. This interactive installation gave visitors a large standalone screen where they could touch individual thumbnails to see themed content on the topics of sound and noise.



Vič primary school presented 'Sound Park', an exhibition of unusual instruments which the pupils had made themselves under the guidance of their teachers.



The Slovenian National Institute of Public Health conducted a survey among local citizens on their experience of the sound environment in Ljubljana. Among other places, the survey was carried out at Point.For you. as well as using the smartphone app 'Sounds of Ljubljana'.



On a warm spring Saturday the square outside Point.For you. was the venue of a lively presentation of sustainable solutions by NGOs for a daily 'greener' life led by Smetumet cultural ecological association.



During the course of their three-week ambassadorships, all 17 district authorities presented themselves as part of the Point.For you. programme. Most district authority put their whole hearts into their presentation despite the rainy weather.



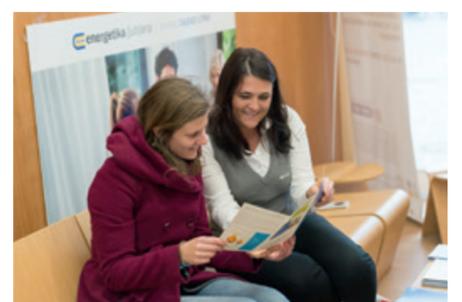
Cycling club Rajd came to Point.For you. to showcase to visitors the transformation of a derelict part of Podutik quarry into a mountain biking park.



Under the auspices of Energetika Ljubljana, June was devoted to energy efficiency, and the month began filled with dance energy of the opening event, which we titled 'Dance is energy - we give life a pulse'.



Dr Eco has visited the youngest ones at Point.For you. and he used puppets to show them in a humorous way how to care for our environment.



In June and November advisers from Energetika Ljubljana were on hand for individual counselling on the choice of suitable heating systems. ENSVET Network Advisers also joined them many times.



In July, we paid attention to biodiversity and bees. An exhibition of work by students of the Faculty of Architecture on the topic of urban beehives and stands for bees was on display.



At the Herpetological Society of Slovenia stands in front of Point.For you., visitors were able to find out many interesting things about the amphibians and reptiles that live in our country.



As part of the promotion of sustainable tourism, August at Point.For you. saw presentations of points of sustainability in Slovenia and Slovenian handicrafts.



Various themed workshops enabled visitors to get to know in an attractive way how to respect difference, the importance of social cohesion and to trust the work of people with special needs.



In September we expanded European Mobility Week across the whole month and the programme content at Point.For you. was marked by sustainable mobility and care for air quality.



In the Week of sport, Bežigrad district authority presented sports associations active in Bežigrad and raised awareness among visitors about the importance of movement for the health of every generation.



The Pravi kolesar (Real rider) mobile bike service carried out free inspections and minor repairs of bicycles in front Point.For you. in September.



The paving on the renovated section of Slovenska cesta is set in an interesting geometric pattern, which is why young people from Ljubljana like to take photos here. To this end, we prepared a new project called 'Ljfootie', which promotes walking.



An exhibition of wooden lights and picture frames by Javor Škerlj Vogeljik showcased his line of artworks made from driftwood and recycled wood; these beautified and illuminated our information point in October when we focused to wood.



Participants in a guided walk led by Robert Brus from the Biotechnical Faculty learnt about some of the most famous trees in the city centre, found out which are the most common tree species, as well as when and for what purpose trees were planted and much more...



After the successful conclusion of the Kickstarter campaign, Klavdija Jarc showcased her flexible furniture, the Woodieful chair.



We joined in the really special campaign #PCre-returns! by the social enterprise TIP&TAP. Used computers were collected at Point.For you. and at three locations by Snaga, which TIP&TAP cleaned, renovated and put for sale once more.



Andrej Peršin grows vegetables in central Ljubljana, which he transports for sale in Ljubljana central market on a traditional Trnovo cart. In this way, he offered his local produce for sale outside Point.For you. in partnership with Trnovo district authority.



More than 200 children from Ciciban kindergarten had great fun rehearsing and performing with their teachers a wonderful show outside Point.For you. Among other things, they proudly sang the official hymn of green Ljubljana.



In November, the month of adaptation to climate change, Energetika Ljubljana helped visitors get to know its environmentally friendly methane vehicles alongside all of the energy counselling.



Students from Secondary school of technical professions Šiška showcased their school's environmental activities, as part of which they made an electric toy car, a "smart bin" (mechatronic waste separation system) and an electric bike.



Excessive consumerism has become our lifestyle, and material goods are our status symbol. TAM-TAM and Umanotera searched for solutions with Plaktivat, a socially responsible project for creating urban advertising. An exhibition of their final posters was on display at Point.For you. in December.



Presentations of research projects and ecoinnovation at Point.For you. by students from Gimnazija Vič (high school) who made a great impression many times in their knowledge and ideas. They also came along in December, when ecoinnovation and green jobs were the central theme.



At a workshop by the BOLJE social enterprise, children learnt how to make scented candles from waste edible oil.



At the start of December, children from Pedenjped and Jelka kindergartens and their teachers put up the Christmas decorations at the information point and its Christmas trees. Children and teachers had made its decorations themselves.

# A CITY LIVING IN HARMONY WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

In the Vision of Ljubljana 2025 we set the goal that Ljubljana was going to become a sustainable city living in harmony with the natural environment.

With the intention to continually improve the living environment of the inhabitants of the City of Ljubljana, we are adopting ambitious strategies that we enact by implementing a number of measures and projects. By introducing environmental standards into our business we become an

example of sustainable operations and business in the municipality.

Environmental protection is not a matter just for the city administration and its public institutions and companies, but it starts with every individual. We want as much environmental awareness as possible among individuals and groups whose actions will complement our work and actively contribute to the preservation of the environment and nature for future generations.

## THE ENVIRONMENT IS GRATEFUL TO US

*Clear orientation in spatial, economic and social development*

### 1. Castle vineyard in Ljubljana

Planting the vineyard is an important act not only for the history of Ljubljana, but also for the whole of Slovenia. For its citizens, the country's citizens and the visitors who are coming to our city in ever increasing numbers, Ljubljana as the national capital has a new modern vineyard that tells every visitor that he is in a land of viticulture and a wine culture with a rich cultural heritage and top contemporary achievements in the fields of human and commercial knowledge.

### 2. 110 lindens for 110 years

For its 110th birthday, the seed company **Semenarna Ljubljana** donated **110 linden trees** to Ljubljana - European Green Capital. The first linden was planted by the director of Semenarna Ljubljana and the Mayor of Ljubljana, while the rest will be planted over the next four years along the Path of Remembrance and Comradship.

### 3. Ljubljana, Earth-Friendly Municipality

For the fifth consecutive year, the City of Ljubljana received the title Planet Earth-Friendly Municipality.

### 4. Nectar garden in Grba

In partnership with the **Eneja Institute**, a social enterprise, we set up a Nectar Garden in the **Public Orchard in Grba** in 2016. It is intended for inhabitants, passers-by, volunteers, groups of pre-school children, families and educational institutions.



### 5. Let's help the city bee

We continued the "Let's help the city bee project: plant window box and balcony flowers" as a fruit of co-operation between the City of Ljubljana and BTC. The project emphasises awareness-raising and encourages the people of Ljubljana to plant nectar plants on their balconies, which offer bees in the city grazing at times when there are no other sources.

### 6. Man, take care of your city

We continued our socially responsible campaign 'Man, take care of your city', via which we draw at-

tention to the unacceptability of vandalism and emphasise the importance of respecting our common public space. The centre of attention was on picking up your dog's waste and throwing away chewing gum in the garbage bins. Of course, we are continuing this campaign this year.



### 7. Project Livada

With young people, we transformed the formerly abandoned land into a real learning laboratory, which was also the goal of the international project Green Surge, within which Livada was created. The goal of the project was to develop, **together with relevant stakeholders, a model of innovative planning and implementation of the city's multifunctional green infrastructure.** With the development of urban green infrastructure in Livada, together with young people as a vulnerable group of society, we researched and implemented the practice of socially inclusive planning, setting up and managing a public green urban space in the period up to 2017.



### 8. Their homes have no house numbers - free-living plants and animals in Ljubljana

Visitors to City Hall were able to look round a photographic exhibition 'Their homes have no house numbers - free-living plants and animals in Ljubljana', which presented rare and endangered plant and animal species and their habitats. We also issued a

booklet with the same title, which was created with the intention of reminding the inhabitants of the capital and its visitors that we people are closely connected with nature and that we cannot survive without it.



### 9. Concluding second phase of the creation of the Rakova Jelša city park

The project to create a city park in Rakova Jelša started in 2014. New additions include additional **parkland with picnic places** which is also an entrance point to Ljubljana Marshes Landscape Park, a **public orchard with nearly 100 various fruit trees**, plus **more than 300 new allotment gardens**, which we are gradually renting out. The option of managed urban self-sufficiency agriculture/allotments close to the city centre means, for the City, a reinterpretation of the use of land on Barje on the city outskirts.

### 10. Friendship Avenue

With the opening of the Friendship Avenue, the **City of Ljubljana and Belinka** recalled the important values of friendship and a caring attitude towards nature. The newly planted avenue boasts 30 trees each of which is dedicated to a truly special person. The last and 31<sup>st</sup> tree was planted as a symbol of friendship between Belinka and the City of Ljubljana.

### 11. Setup of the urban orchard and renovation of the children's playground in Savsko naselje

**Setting up the urban orchard and renovating the children's playground** between Linhartova, Savska and Mislejeva ulica is part of a wider project to revitalise the neighbourhood Savsko naselje. The renovation and revitalisation of the area around the Sava hill includes a basketball court and children's playground, the hill above the shelter and some green space. Along with the Cultural association ProstoRož, children and young people from schools, a kindergarten and a rehabilitation centre, a plan was

drawn up to set up the orchard and renovate the children's playground, which was designed in the 1960s when the neighbourhood was first built.

### 12. Forest classroom for blind and partially sighted people in Tivoli Park

The forest classroom, which makes content accessible to blind and partially sighted people, is set on the woodland edge and from the south eastern side opens out towards the interior of the city park. It offers shelter under the treetops and a chance to observe events in the park.

### 13. A wooden bridge across Mali graben

We replaced the old iron-wooden bridge across the Mali graben stream with a new wooden construction. The bridge, which is intended for pedestrians and cyclists, offers the highest safety standards and meets safety standards against flooding. Ljubljana, last year's European Green Capital, is continuing its path of sustainable development which is friendly to the citizens and our environment alike.

### 14. Campaign 'For a More Beautiful Ljubljana'

Employees of the Great City Family planted 12,089 new trees in areas worst affected by the ice storm and afforested more than 1.5 hectares of woodland. As part of the traditional spring cleaning campaign 'For a More Beautiful Ljubljana' and with the title of **Ljubljana - European Green Capital**, we continued the tree-planting campaign from 2015 in which we afforested the worst affected of Ljubljana's woodland and at the same time planted trees in other public areas.



### 15. Conclusion of the arrangement of Šmartinska Park

Šmartinska Park was given a **new children's playground**. It is equipped with inscriptions for the blind and partially sighted, it has the highest quality playground equipment, a part of it is adapted for movement-impaired children and the playground includes the first water playground in Slovenia.



**542 m<sup>2</sup>**

of public green areas per inhabitant in Ljubljana



**300 m**

is the distance to a public green area for most residential areas



more than **12,000**

trees planted by employees of the Great City Family



**10,000**

amphibians carried across roads annually by volunteers, nature conservationists and the city authorities

## TO POLHOVGRADec HILL AT THE FULL MOON

*On a walk with Mateja Gruden*

Darkness was falling when we left Polhov Gradec towards the top of Polhov Gradec Hill and the Church of St Lovrenc. I'll admit that walking through a dark wood is more pleasant in a pair than alone. Otherwise, I am absolutely sure that late evening and night are safer on Polhov Gradec Hill or Šmarna Gora than the illuminated streets of Ljubljana, although the feeling is diametrically the opposite every time. When visibility is poor and as a result so is your ability to recognise the environment around you, you feel suddenly vulnerable. Even at home, in a familiar, safe shelter, we might be disturbed by sudden sounds at night. What about in the woods, where darkness changes the trees to the strange images of some kind of mythical creatures, their groaning, cracking twigs and the noises in the bushes drive the imagination into a colossal frenzy.

Nature can be near and far at the same time, at least to those of us who grew up in and live in cities. We are used to the city, and so we feel at home there; the fears that we may face we can identify and confront. The nature, however... we know it if we are often in it but getting to know it is a long process and it has to interest us enough, to touch us so that we get into it more deeply. Therefo-

re, ignorance often catches us unprepared. Light softens and creates the illusion of the known, but darkness emphasises this ignorance. And triggers a wave of irrational fears that we have no idea how to face. A twig has snapped! What's that? What? What was that in the bushes? And? Is a wild deer going to jump out? Is an angry chamois going to kick us for disturbing his sleep?

To sum up, that's my worry. And a bunch of endlessly stupid fears. I like the answer to the question of what to do if you are afraid of something; feel the fear and do it anyway. Are you afraid of the woods and the dark? Go into the woods in the dark!

And then, when your fears have been covered with a blanket and are asleep, you finally see the forest as it is in the dark, so beautiful, restful, deserted. At the top of Polhov Gradec Hill you can still lie down on the thick walls that surround the lovely church of St Lovrenc and watch the flickering stars or lights of Ljubljana. Or the full moon, like that evening. It shone so strongly that it was like the sky was cut in two. Orange-red dawn sank at the edge of the rolling landscape. So many times seen and experienced, but always indescribably beautiful.

*Read more at [www.greenljubljana.si](http://www.greenljubljana.si)*



*Mateja Gruden is an editor, journalist, blogger and lecturer. Professionally and in her private life she has dedicated the last two decades to tourism. Keywords: wanderlust and nature. During the project Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 she was an official blogger. We accompanied her to nearby meadows, hills and all the hidden corners we'd never heard of.*

## GREETING THE SUN IN LJUBLJANA

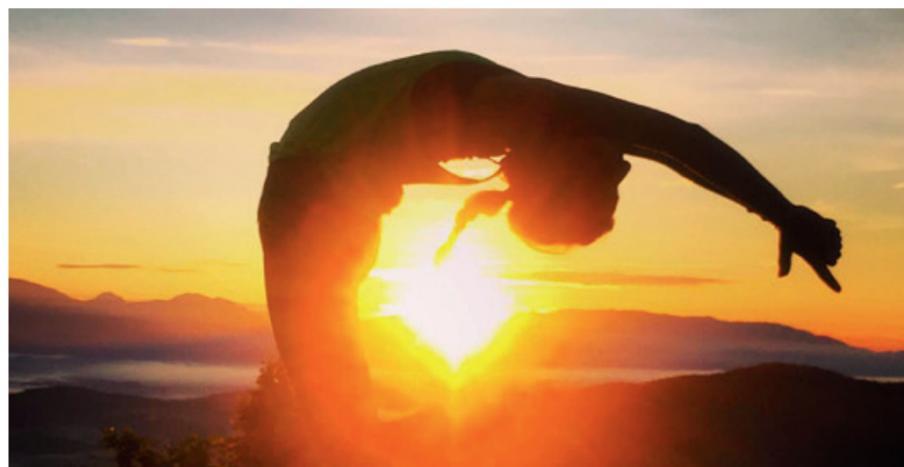
*A minute for yoga with Tina Zdjelar*

The green city offers us huge opportunities to exercise in the nature. Some of the corners seem as though they were designed for movement. Nature is in our nature, which is why we should use it and go out into it all year round. I love exercising in nature, and almost every morning I greet the sun, breathe fresh air, and my breath becomes deeper, I touch the earth with naked skin and I enjoy to the full the real earth energy. Breathing outside the four walls offers us other dimensions, as when we start to smell pure nature, we begin to breathe fully. The air in the forests, on a hill, by a lake, in a meadow or field contains especially strong, invigorating, even healing power.

This 'additive' in air is cosmic energy, a vital life force, which in yoga is called prana. It is present in all living beings. It is in food, water, the sun's rays and the air. Most pranās are in fact breathed (not eaten), so quality breathing is vital for us. Shopping centres, modern air-conditioned buildings, unventilated apartments ... there are very few pranās here, so it is right to take advantage of the environment of green Ljubljana and fill the body with life energy from nature. Nature has immense healing power and invites us to become aware of the beauty around us, especially if we are doing slower yoga or pilates movements, and we are consciously striving to be at a given moment. Often, we think of such an exercise as something that

we perform on a cushion, without connection with the nature or everyday life. But it is not true. **For example, the word yoga means union or connection, primarily with nature. Yoga is nature. The practice of yoga in nature reminds us of our deep connection with it and its natural foundations - grass, sand or rock also bring physical benefits to our bodies, as they build some of our muscles and strengthen balance.** If uneven ground bothers you, let's take this as an opportunity to grow and seek peace, patience and focus. Warm floors also invite us to step out of artificial material, from which a work cushion is usually made. Let's get barefoot, breathe nature and enjoy its natural 'props'.

Practising yoga in nature is practice in a different dimension, reinforcing it, and yoga 'undresses' to its original connection with nature, as we can really feel it. Nature inspires focused attention, deep breathing, exercise of calmness. Many aspects of yoga actually speak of us being one with nature. That's why so many asanas reflect nature and animals. When we stand like a solid tree, when we rotate the spine like a cat, when we experience the fluidity of greeting the sun, we awaken harmony, timelessness and connection with the universe. And green Ljubljana offers us all this. We salute the sun at the top of mountain Šmarna gora or we say goodbye to it on the surface of Koseze Lake. Let's breathe in Ljubljana.



*Tina Zdjelar is the founder of the Smooth concept and promoter of healthy lifestyles. She is on the other side of the world almost every week, but she loves coming home - to Ljubljana. During the project Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 she was an official blogger and thus brought a touch of the cosmopolitan into our everyday lives and her tips on healthy lifestyles filled us with energy.*

## MAKE YOURSELF A GREEN SMOOTHIE

Nettles are our best domestic superfood and their healing properties are known to most of us, they are free and grow around almost every house, but we still probably best remember that their burning sting drives away rheumatism. Consuming raw nettles also expels various toxic substances from the body and makes it easier to detox. Large and small nettles grow in Slovenia. The first is perennial and has more elongated leaves, while the leaves of the small nettle are more rounded.

### Smooth recipe

Ingredients for 0.5l of beverage:

- a handful of spinach or dandelion
- a handful (or more) of young nettle leaves (the higher up the plant you collect them, the better)
- an apple or half a mango (if you'd like to make the smoothie a little more exotic and sweet and creamy)

- a handful of strawberries
- a ripe banana
- the juice of a lemon
- a teaspoon of barley grass
- a teaspoon of hemp seeds
- a piece of ginger root (optional)

Shake the ingredients into a blender and add 3 dcl of coconut water. It contains a lot of potassium, calcium and chloride, which makes it good to fight dehydration, exhaustion and fatigue during stressful activity. It is a natural isotonic. Or you can use ordinary water. Then blend for less than a minute so that the blender breaks up the cells of the ingredients, making it easier for the body to access the valuable micronutrients in them. The smoothie can be slowly eaten with a spoon, as it is quite thick. You can enjoy every swallow without being afraid of nettles sting your throat :)!



I personally prefer to gather wild plants such as nettles and dandelions in unspoiled environments which I also find in our green Ljubljana, and I get all the other greenleaf vegetables and fruits at the Saturday ecological market at Pogačarjev trg in Ljubljana.



The nettle smoothie helps to detoxify and alkalise the body, regulate digestion, strengthen the immune system, stimulate growth and regenerate cells.

## THE SOURCE OF LIFE IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD

*Krištof Mlakar | Director of the public company VO-KA (water supply and sewerage)*

Natural drinking water is an irreplaceable and priceless asset; therefore we are even more grateful that Ljubljana is one of the few European capitals that can boast that drinking water untreated with technological procedures flows from Ljubljana taps and **35 drinking fountains**, that operate in the warm months of the year. There is a quality underground water source in the immediate vicinity of the city and even beneath it. Ljubljana's drinking water is distinguished by an appropriate content of calcium and magnesium with a pleasant, refreshing taste given by its constant temperature, water-dissolved oxygen and microbiological purity.

**There is a water and sewerage pipe network of more than 2,000 kilometres under Ljubljana's**

**roads and streets**, for the supply of natural drinking water and the discharge and treatment of waste and rain water. **The water supply system covers over 1,000 kilometres, and the sewerage network consists of 830 kilometres of sewage pipelines and 330 kilometres of pipelines for the discharge of rain water.** Laid out end-to-end, the pipes of the two communal networks would run all the way to Berlin and back.

In Ljubljana and its surroundings, more than 93% of the inhabitants are connected to the mains sewerage in settlements of an urban built-up nature. By 2020, we will increase this percentage to **98% of households**, while in settlements of a more rural nature with more than 2,000 inhabitants, **95% of**

**households** will be connected to the sewerage system. Before being returned to the environment as clean water, waste water is treated at one of 13 local waste water treatment plants or at Ljubljana Central Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is the largest in Slovenia, where an average of **80 thousand cubic metres of waste water is processed** per day.

**This natural resource, without which life cannot exist, is our common responsibility. Let's nurture water with special care and attention, and above all, let's strive to preserve everything that water represents as a source of life.**

Let's respect water, let's respect life.



## WE DRINK WATER FROM THE TAP

*It pays to work hard to conserve water resources*



### 1. WATER - an exhibition with a forceful long-term message

We live on a water planet. Of the 70% of the world covered by water, 97% is saltwater, 2% freshwater frozen in icepacks and less than 1% is drinking water, which on our planet is very unevenly distributed. Ljubljana boasts rich water resources, which have enabled more than 5,000 years of continuous settlement and are today still accessible to all. This exhibition, which was on display at the City Museum of Ljubljana from June 2015 to May 2016, featured content that was part of the celebration of Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016. With 250 exhibited items from museum collections, with 163 guided tours, lectures, contests and workshops, 2,273 bottles of Museum Water sold and 16,000 domestic and 5,000 foreign visitors, the main objective of the project - to raise awareness of the importance of water - was achieved.



### 2. Museum water, water for the future

Ljubljana is renowned for its rich stock of quality drinking water. In Ljubljana, we drink natural drinking water, which each day flows untreated from taps and the numerous drinking fountains that embellish the city. We are grateful for such a valuable natural resource, so we have captured a special story about water in a bottle called Museum Water, which carries a message to every one of us, our societies and humanity itself. You know a guy named Yunan? Yunan lives in Africa, in the Nuba Mountains. Each day of life is a precious gift to him, as he is constantly threatened by bombing and gun attacks, he can be poisoned by contaminated water or left without water and die. We printed Yunan's handprint on the Museum Water bottle in the desire that the bottle would pave the way for drinking water to all who do not have it. And to touch everyone who has enough drinking water to help those who do not have this privilege.



### 3. Refreshing water creations

For a delicious and refreshing drink, in addition to natural drinking water, you only need a bit of creativity and some eco ingredients. The taste of natural drinking water can be supplemented with seasonal beneficial herbs or spices and locally grown fruit.

At the time of the first strawberries, pamper yourself with tap water, adding freshly cut strawberries and mint. Why not try tap water with coils of freshly cut cucumber and thyme, or with slices of organic lemon and lemon balm. In the cooler part of the year, you can embellish your drinking water with 'winter' fruits and spices which will pleasantly warm you up. The winning autumn-winter combination consists of tap water, ginger, honey and lemon.



### 4. I am what I drink. I drink water from the tap

That it is necessary to manage drinking water especially wisely and that it is good to drink tap water was the message on the streets of Ljubljana last year from VO-KA's neurofountain, from which passers-by could pour water from the fountain using their own thoughts, under the slogan 'I am what I drink. I drink water from the tap'. The fact is that water is of the utmost importance for people, two thirds of the human body is made up of water, and the decision of what to drink is each individual's decision. As many as nine events with the neurofountain raised awareness that we act responsibly if we drink tap water, and that it is necessary to manage natural drinking water and water resources responsibly. The neurofountain is an innovative device that, with the help of neurotechnology, monitors human brain activity. A special headset detected electromagnetic brainwaves that controlled a signal that regulated the flow of drinking water in the fountain.



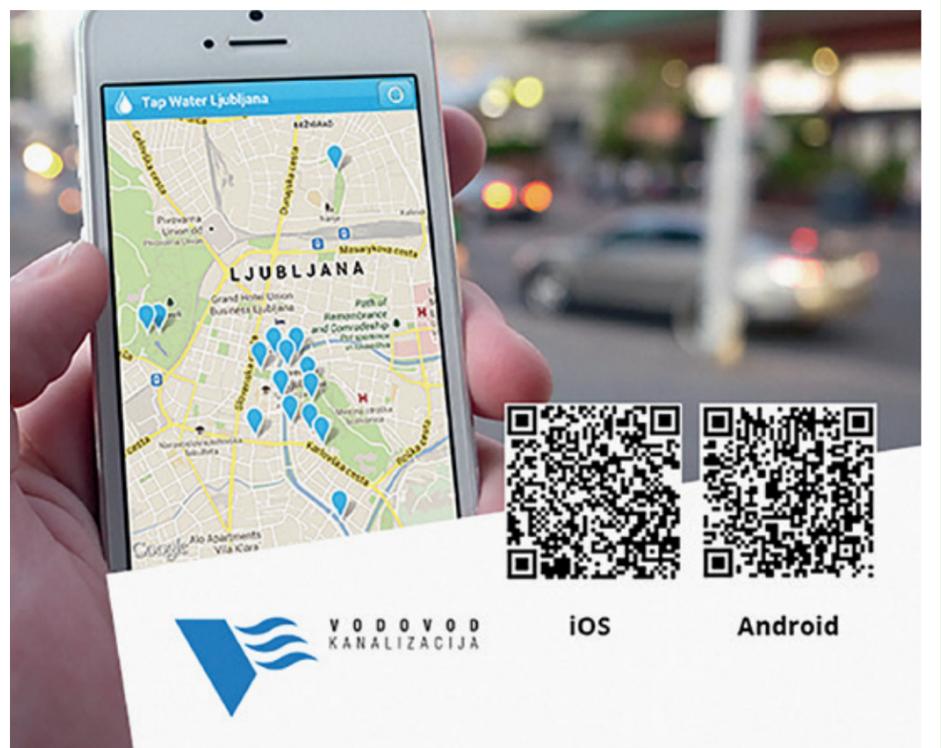
### 5. A variety of water events

A rich palette of green and sustainably coloured events last year was characterised also by a large number of events dedicated to water. In addition to the activities that took place at Point.For you. and in the district authorities last March, the month of responsible water management, 141 additional events took place in 2016 in other locations, which were designed as a sign of gratitude that we drink quality natural drinking water that flows from the tap without prior technological processing. The events organised used a range of activities to raise awareness among the target audience of the importance and urgency of responsible and wise handling of natural drinking water and water sources, and encouraged the drinking of tap water.

### Water app

#### TAP WATER - THE ROUTE TO THE NEAREST DRINKING FOUNTAIN

*In the warm months of the year, natural drinking water is available to citizens and visitors free of charge from more than 30 drinking fountains in the city centre and the green suburbs. The fountains are supplied by the main water system and the water is tested periodically. The way to the nearest fountain can be found with the help of the Tap Water Ljubljana app which detects your current location using your smartphone and displays the route to the nearest fountain with a photo and brief description. The app is available from Google Play and the App Store.*



# FOR WHOM IT RINGS - IT RINGS CLEARLY FOR US ALL!

*Tomo Križnar*

*Tomo Križnar, a global traveller and humanitarian worker, told for our report in a very sincere and direct way how it is to be without a drop of water for several days and how we can all contribute to preserving such a valuable resource as water.*

**Have you ever thought that people would have to fight for water, the source of life?**

People have always fought for water – the source of life – throughout history. Even more than for food and (us men) women. Homo sapiens can survive without plants and animals for at least a month and a half, without women about a week (if you really have the best wife, a month and even half a year), without water in the worst heat less than a day. Our civilisation can survive without oil. There are already signs that we are going to invent new alternative energy sources.

**In Ljubljana, natural drinking water flows from the tap and drinking fountains. What does water mean to you, a man who has felt the stories of people**

**that have to fight for a glass of water?**

I have been thirsty plenty of times and scared to death. I treat everyone to this experience. Only then can you really feel and understand what water is. What is that drop of water? When we were with Captain Brun in Kimberly (in Australia in 1990) and we lost the boat and after a painstaking search we finally found some Aborigines that gave us water and ... beer and saved our lives ... (read about it in my book *Lonely Paths*), I promised myself that I would never be annoying again. When we got lost last year in the Nuba Mountains, in our desperate thirst after three days without water my wife Bojana said that she wants only me and

water in her life. Of course, she meant first water and then me.

**What is your advice for preserving this precious natural resource?**

Go on a fast! Not only are you without food - but also without water. Three days. In the Alps, three days will not damage your body or health. You will un-

derstand it's no longer appropriate to act like a pig. It's not fair to those parents whose children are now dying from lack of water. It is not fair to all who sacrifice themselves for their compadres in endless battles to preserve water. It's not right for the victims who at this very moment are being exterminated by overpowerful lobbies just because they do not permit the sale of water that their ancestors safeguarded for their grandchildren.

It's just not right! It is right to show solidarity with them and help them endure. We might need the help ourselves tomorrow. For whom it rings - it rings clearly for us all!

**We are in an era of the intensive development of advanced technologies; however, nature is still stronger than us. The consequences of climate change and extreme phenomena will be reflected in the so-called climate migration. How do you see the world in ten years, the world of the future?**

Nature will always be stronger than us. Even the latest technology utilises natural laws, and all the technologies still to

*Some of us turn back into wild animals, others into robots, we are all less compassionate to each other and, of course, even less to those we see living far from our comfort zone and apparent security.*

## WATER POLYMATH FOR CHILDREN AND GROWNUPS



### Cevko recommends

Cevko, public company VO-KA's water polymath invites little water-inquisitives to Cevko's City, which can be found at [www.cevko.si](http://www.cevko.si) and where a lot of interesting stuff about our precious resource – water are hidden. In addition to useful and educational content, children are offered a variety of activities, the main thread of which is water, encouraging them to drink tap water and handle



drinking water and water resources responsibly: interactive games, Cevko colouring pages, fairy tales and much more.

### Ambassador of water for the youngest ones

Cevko leads the children into a world of water and handling this precious natural resource responsibly in an interesting and educational way via various awareness-raising activities. He educates the youngest to become allies and protectors of drinking water and water resources, who will be aware that water is not a self-evident fact, but a good



come will only be the abuse of everything that Nature has created from eternity to eternity. These abuses of Nature are dangerous for us people because, like God once, they create us in their own image. Communication technology algorithms together with artificial intelligence are taking over the management of those forms of life that they use. Some of us turn back into wild animals, others into robots, we are all less compassionate to each other and, of course, even less to those we see living far from our comfort zone and appa-

rent security. And that's why we do not accord them the status of climate refugees and leave their eradication to the craziest common enemies. I don't think anyone on the planet today can really know what the world will be like in ten years. We all have the right to imagine and speculate what awaits our children, and I feel and I know we are all creating this emerging world together at this moment. It's similar to corals, which ossify also at this moment and change to a reef that will carry the next generations of descendants.



**35**

*locations where you can find a drinking fountain in the warm part of the year*



**More than 93%**

*of inhabitants of places with a built-up urban character in Ljubljana and surrounding areas are connected to the public sewerage system*



**80,000 m<sup>3</sup>**

*of waste water on average treated daily at the Central Waste Water Treatment plant of Ljubljana, which is the highest in Slovenia*



**16**

*guided tours of Kleče water supply facility carried out by VO-KA in 2016*



**53**

*Cevko workshops held by VO-KA in Ljubljana kindergartens in 2016*



**38**

*guided tours of the Central Waste Water Treatment plant of Ljubljana carried out by VO-KA in 2016*

### Soothing relaxation

When you find yourself under stress or want a few minutes for yourself, enjoy relaxation with the **Stress Flush application**. Simply set the level of stress in the app, find a comfortable position and drift away with the gentle sounds of nature. Relaxation will be more effective if you enjoy a glass of tap water along with the soothing sounds. You can find the app at [www.primavoda.si](http://www.primavoda.si) or download it from Google Play or the App Store.



### How much water should I drink per day?

The recommended daily amount of water depends on your level of physical activity, body weight, the individual's age and health and the temperature in the environment. An adult should, on average, drink 2 to 3 litres of water for the normal functioning of the organism. In case of increased physical activity or high temperatures, this quantity should be even greater, as otherwise you can become dehydrated. The need to drink water is also increased if we eat dry food.

## TOGETHER INTO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

*Peter Horvat | Director of public company LPP (public passenger transport)*

2016 was a very fruitful year for public company LPP. A year full of prudent thoughts about the past and the future alike. We celebrated the **115th anniversary of the foundation of LPP**, and at the same time we found ourselves at a turning point and launch pad for the future, because we modernised the bus fleet and the Urbana payment system and implemented forecasts about the arrival of new electric vehicles for the **EURBAN** transport on call service. In 2016, the past met the future, which is leading us towards a better, sustainable future.

The book by author Marinka Fritz Kunc 'Roads are not alike' commemorated our tradition, but reminded us that we have been serving passengers and enabling them to travel in Ljubljana for 115 years - regardless of race, gender, culture, language or religion. Therefore, we are particularly proud that

today, in 2017, we can present to the general public a modern fleet, which is completely low-floor, air-conditioned and adequately equipped for people with disabilities, with news screens and audio announcements. This is our entire fleet with as many as a third of our buses on eco-friendly compressed natural gas - for each passenger.

In the future, public passenger transport will increasingly be influenced by sustainable and intermodal ways of traveling, which requires public transport to adapt. In 2016, LPP launched a 20-bike trailer for larger groups of cyclists, which our passengers can hire along with a bus. We have established a system for the transport of bicycles, which will start operating on interurban lines. Electrifying the fleet has given us an attractive tourist circular route that connects the most important sights of

Ljubljana outside the city centre with an electric vehicle - a train.

Working with the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, we arranged the transit of 40,000 young passengers - pupils and students into integrated public passenger transport, which offers a passenger a single unified ticket, route optimisation and, in the future, co-ordinated timetables. We bring ourselves even closer to passengers by participating in important events such as European Mobility Week, Eco Meet, where we won an award for Best Eco Transportation in Ljubljana, the Festival of the Third Life Age, the OVIRATLON, the Youth Arena, the Nature-Health Fair and Eco Rally. We have strengthened the company's advantage over the competition in Slovenia and Europe with 30 new city buses and one third of the fleet on compressed natural gas.



## MANAGING LJUBLJANA ON A HUMAN SCALE

*Jelka Žekar | Deputy Mayor*

*After Deputy Mayor Jelka Žekar had taken over management of the European Mobility Week programme, the City of Ljubljana's original and radical sustainable acquisitions won a European Mobility Week award, thus becoming the only city to win this award twice. This year, her thoughts are focused mainly on the development of the Comprehensive Transport Strategy, a strategic document for transport planning, with emphasis on measures to promote sustainable mobility, in line with economic and social development and maintaining a high quality environment.*

**Due to its links with the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 project, European Mobility Week 2016 was significantly different from previous years. What was the difference?**

Yes, because of the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 project we had, instead of a Mobility Week, which traditionally runs from 16 to 22 September each year, **a month of sustainable mobility**. Traditionally during European Mobility Week (EMW), with colleagues from the City's departments, services, public companies and institutes, and with many other stakeholders, organisations, schools and kindergartens, we organise a week of diverse, interesting and educational events that promote walking, cycling and public transport and raise awareness of the benefits of sustainable travel habits.

In the year of the European Green Capital we did it throughout September, which was a month dedicated to this topic, but supplemented by care for air quality. Thus, as part of the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 programme, there were more than **90 themed events** at Point. For you, outside City Hall and around the district authorities, and during the week itself, another **43 events and 9 week-long activities**. In addition, on **Car Free Day** on 22 September, we closed a road to motor vehicles in each of **17** district authorities and, with the district authorities and local societies, schools, kindergartens, groups and individuals, we organised more than

60 activities and events for local people who thus realised that the environment without cars can be more friendly and more inclusive for the local citizens.

During EMW we always introduce some **permanent measures**, meaning a long-term contribution to a better quality of living. Each year, there are more of these measures: when we began to participate in this campaign, in 2002, for example, we carried out a single permanent measure, and in

*During EMW we always introduce some permanent measures, meaning a long-term contribution to a better quality of living. Each year, there are more of these measures: when we began to participate in this campaign, in 2002, for example, we carried out a single permanent measure, and in 2016 there were as many as 13!*

**2016 there were as many as 13!** This testifies to the exceptional progress made in this promotional campaign through the years, which also won us an award - Ljubljana is the only city to have won an EMW award twice, for the years 2003 and 2013.



*Deputy Mayor Jelka Žekar would like to see major changes in our collective awareness that it is appropriate to take good care of everything that we have and we have created in the city as though it were our private property, and to make sure that the city is no longer blighted by vandalism.*

Every year, we ask: „Is it even possible to surpass last year's diverse set of activities and events?“ And it always turns out that we can, but I doubt that we can ever be as effective as we were during last year's 'green' September. Or can we? We will certainly do our best to continue working in this direction - in fact, throughout the year, as we do now, not just for one week.

**Why is it important that local citizens take part in shaping transport policy?**

We manage Ljubljana on a human scale; therefore we strive to pay as much attention to our citizens as possible in our projects. Their participation in the design of transport policy is crucial because,

as pedestrians, cyclists, city bus and other public transport users or as drivers of motor vehicles, they face different transport challenges every day and so their experience can make a great contribution to finding better solutions to them. We seek the participation of as many individuals or groups as possible and active partnership in the form of suggestions for improving mobility, since they are, after all, the users of these future innovations and it is right that they themselves are involved in their design. In the City of Ljubljana, we work for the citizens and together with them, and if we want to be (and we are) the best service for citizens, then we must take into account their wishes and needs. Thus, we can co-create a better future for all.

 <b>230 km</b> <i>of cycle paths and 4 thematic cycling paths since 2014</i>	 <b>43%</b> <i>of vehicles in the City Administration and the City's public companies are environmentally friendly</i>	 <b>2,183</b> <i>parking spaces in 5 Park and Ride car parks</i>	 <b>95,048</b> <i>registered users of the BicikeLJ system at the end of 2016</i>	 <i>more than</i> <b>1,200,000</b> <i>passengers have used Kavalir (free electric vehicles in the city centre) so far</i>
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# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DOES NOT MEAN DENIAL BUT A HIGHER QUALITY OF LIVING FOR EVERY INDIVIDUAL AND THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

## Prof. Janez Koželj | Deputy Mayor

*As the first city planner, in 2007 Prof. Janez Koželj outlined a vision for the long-term development of Ljubljana until 2025. Implementation of his spatial vision in the last two mandates has transformed Ljubljana into a lively and well-maintained capital city with the redesign of public spaces in line with the principles and methods of urban design. In the City of Ljubljana he is responsible for the field of urban planning. He is also a professor of urban architecture and urban planning at the Faculty of Architecture and the Biotechnical Faculty in Ljubljana.*

### How do you get to work?

I consistently use my bike not just to work, but also running errands around the city, now for the last 14 years, to set an example and from belief in the all-round benefits of cycling.

### How can people in Ljubljana and other interested stakeholders participate in the establishment of a sustainable city?

First of all, by changing your own lifestyle and consumer vices, which can be achieved by spreading

sustainable values based on environmental ethics. The public must realise that sustainable development does not mean denial, but a higher quality of living for every individual and the whole community. Without this, just as now, we will continue to witness both sustainable progress and unsustainable decline. The social and environmental benefits of a sustainable policy can only arise from the synergy between a sustainable transport system, sustainable construction, sustainable infrastructure, a sustainable energy system, a sustainable economy, a sustainable community and the sustainable management of the city.

### Which three sustainability projects would you most like to see take place in Ljubljana in the next five years?

These are an ecological (subsistence and self-sufficient) area for gardening on Hrušica, a city railway (on existing railway tracks) and a city hydroelectric plant on the Ljubljanica River (together with circular public transport on the water).

### Which thematic cycling path would you rec-



At the initiative of Deputy Mayor Prof. Janez Koželj was founded by the **Association of Green Supervisors**, who is working to protect the environment through his work and by influencing his responsible behavior on the markets, streets, parks and forests with his own example.

### Recommend to citizens of and visitors to the city?

Especially to families and school groups, I would recommend that they go (on several occasions) by bike around Plečnik's circular path. This archi-

tect, along with the poet Prešeren, is our greatest artist of world renown; he built in various parts of the city monumental buildings, bridges, embankments, squares and monuments. His creations offer diverse experiences of the beauty of architecture.

## SUSTAINABILITY NOW!

### Among the first in the world in the field of transport

#### 1. Public Company LPP

Public company LPP's fleet has been upgraded since 2016 by the addition of 30 new urban low-floor articulated buses, which are the longest articulated buses in the LPP fleet with a length of 18m. The new buses were introduced at the opening of the renovated Slovenska street, 9 May 2016, and reduced the average age of the LPP fleet to 8.73 years. The latest buses, like all LPP city buses, are low-floor, have a video system, LED displays and are adapted for people with disabilities.

#### 2. The Detective and the Dragon theatre performance

From September 2016 up to today, children from primary schools and kindergartens in Ljubljana have been delighted by the fun and educational 'Detective and the Dragon' by Tamara Deu and director Niko Goršič and costume designer Barbara Stupica. The performance, which offers young audiences entertaining 'smart green tips' related to public transport and giving up driving cars in the city, has been acted since September 2016 by experienced LPP drivers Zlato and Brane Iskra and Edin Makić and Maja Sedej Prosenc. So far, more than 7,000 children have watched the show.

#### 3. The city's pulse is given by the people who live there

An initiative by Heineken #mestokolesari (citycycling) encouraged cyclists to use a mobile app to record their kilometres and thus contribute their energy to restoring sections of roads and building new cycling routes. The response was excellent. People gained the opportunity to be able to influence changes in their city. Cyclists achieved the first set goal ahead of time, and more than 20,000km were contributed up to the end of the project. For all the contributed kilometres and cyclists' energy, Heineken donated funds for the improvement of cycling infrastructure and, together with the City of Ljubljana, will have renovated the sections by the

end of 2017, which in professional opinion most urgently needed renovation to be safer for cyclists.

#### 4. Bicycle training site Kolopark

By creating Kolopark, we have transformed a once degraded area into a recreational area dedicated to play and skills training with all kinds of vehicles, from bicycles, scooters, rollerblades and roller skates, to push cars. KoloPark measures 905m2 and is kept as a grassy area in which a track is available for skills training.

#### 5. Ljubljana bike park

This is intended for all mountain bikers, even the youngest ones. In the original part of the park, there is a skills track for learning basic cycling skills, while the newly opened part of the park includes a short climb and three different downhill slopes, with small and slightly bigger jumps, tracks, turns and waves. Anyone who wants to can ride slowly and miss out all the jumps, while the more skilful and experienced can lay off the brakes and jump over all the objects. The terrain is ideal for learning, whether alone or in the company of a mountain biking instructor. The location of the park also provides an ideal starting point for all cycling excursions to Klobuk, Toško čelo or even deeper into the Polhov Gradec Hills.

#### 6. New charging points for electric vehicles

In partnership with Elektro Ljubljana, the City of

#### Urbana SMS parking

*Urbana SMS parking complements the existing system for paying street parking charges. The service is simple, safe and easy for the user. Before using the service, the user fills up his Urbana SMS account. This is done at an Urbanomat or at any of the points of sale for the purchase and filling of the Urbana card. Registration is completed at the time of the first charge.*

Ljubljana has installed 25 new charging stations for electric vehicles in various places. With this expansion of the network of charging stations - there are now 80 - we seek to encourage drivers to use electric vehicles, thereby contributing to cleaner air in the city.

#### 7. Electric car sharing model Avant2Go

In partnership with AvantCar, in Ljubljana we have introduced the possibility of electric car sharing; users can reserve a vehicle and pay via a mobile app.

#### 8. Bring happiness to work

Once again, we joined the national initiative to encourage cycling to work entitled 'Bring Happiness to Work', where cycling trios and individuals record the days when they cycle to work. More cycling days during the campaign than those when you choose a different means of transport to get to work also earns awards.

#### 9. Ljubljana is in 8<sup>th</sup> place on the list of the 20 most bicycle-friendly cities in the world

136 cities were assessed as part of the Copenhagen Index, and 20 cities were ranked on the final league table of the most bicycle-friendly cities, with Ljubljana among them for the second time. The most bicycle-friendly city is assessed to be Copenhagen, followed by Utrecht and Amsterdam; Ljubljana is 8<sup>th</sup>, up five places from 2015 when it was in 13<sup>th</sup> place.



Since 2016, the LPP bus fleet has been updated by 30 new buses that run on compressed natural gas.

## LONG-DISTANCE RUNNING

### Samo Lozej | Director of public company Energetika Ljubljana

For Ljubljana to be energy efficient and both people- and environmentally-friendly is no recreational run, but a marathon, a long-distance run, to which after each 'stage' has been conquered we are adding a new one. Being a sustainable city is also not a final destination, but a never-ending journey that requires change from us, both in terms of our thinking and in adapting developmental paths. We did not become an environment and a people-friendly city overnight. Awareness that this goal is further achievable by the principle of small steps, measure after measure, with numerous adaptations is therefore crucial, and in addition, upgrading the effects of existing good practices that contribute to raising environmental awareness. The district energy supply of heat and natural gas, which today supplies **74%**

**of all flats** with the aim of increasing to **80% by 2024** is among the more important environmental and energy-efficient practices that contribute to quality of living and to higher air quality in Ljubljana. At the end of 2016, Energetika Ljubljana celebrated an honourable **155 years of supplying gas, 55 years of heat and 50 years of cogeneration of heat and electricity**, thus confirming the fact that green cities have remote energy solutions, which alongside environmental effectiveness are characterised by reliability, safety and quality throughout the year. A large number of measures which Ljubljana is carrying out with the goal of „being a green capital“ derive from awareness of climate change and taking action against the key causes. Along with the constant quest to raise awareness, it is equally important to re-

alise that everything we do at the local level has a regional and even global impact. And in this we are looking for opportunities and examples in Ljubljana too. It is an important energy and environmentally sound practice to promote sustainable transport. The City of Ljubljana and its public companies already use more than one third of environmentally friendly vehicles in their work, of which more than half are vehicles on CNG (compressed natural gas). For this reason we are accelerating the setting up of new public filling stations for methane vehicles and also charging stations for electric vehicles. In addition, we ensure continuous public awareness-raising via web sites and networks, publications, workshops, campaigns, events, the TE-TOL mobile portal and other communication tools.



## A QUALITY AIR AND SOUND ENVIRONMENT

### Reliability, safety and quality all year round

#### 1. The Cyanometer - how blue is the sky today?

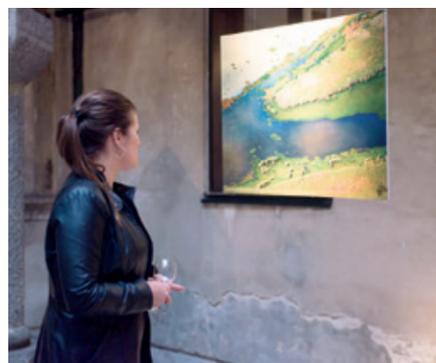
In June 2016, the month dedicated to energy efficiency, we set up a Cyanometer, a 3.3 metre high monolith in the city centre which measures the blueness of the sky and displays the state of the city's air quality. This is an installation by Martin Bricelj Baraga from the Museum of Transitory Art, while the technical work of recording data on air quality was undertaken by Energetika Ljubljana and the Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia.



#### 2. Around the only world to preserve its uniqueness

Awareness of climate change is intensifying. These days, along with carbon dioxide, we are increasingly discussing black carbon, which is the visible part of black soot, the main source of which is burning wood and traffic. In November 2016, which we dedicated to adapting to clima-

te change, we paid special attention to highlighting the results of carbon black research, which, after carbon dioxide, is the second most important cause of atmospheric warming and contributes significantly to climate change. The research was carried out as part of the GreenLight WorldFlight project and discovered a number of new hot spots of pollution around the world; we rounded it off with a presentation of measures at local level and an exhibition of photographs by Matevž Lenarčič.



#### 3. Quality of the sound environment

The sound environment is becoming ever more important for contemporary people, which is confirmed by various studies that link noise pollution with a whole range of adverse effects on the health and wellbeing of the individual. However, noise not only affects people's health and wellbeing, but also has a negative impact on concentration at work. We can talk about the degradation of the living environment due to excessive noise in the living environment. Low noise burden is becoming an increasingly important aspect of quality of the living environment. As part of the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 project, we presented an interactive so-

und installation on the theme of noise and sound in Ljubljana.



*In a fun and yet educational way, the sound station raises public awareness of the problems of noise and noise pollution. The installation with upgraded content can be found in City Hall.*

#### 4. The people of Ljubljana are among the most satisfied with air quality and noise levels

Last year, Eurostat asked the inhabitants of 83 European cities about their satisfaction with air quality and noise levels. They published data for European capitals on World Environment Day. There are significant differences among them, according to the European Statistical Office. According to Eurostat data from 2016, the proportion of inhabitants who are satisfied with air quality ranges from 22 to 88%. The share of those who are satisfied with noise levels is from 31 to 82%. The citizens of Bucharest and Sofia expressed the least satisfaction. At least three quarters of the inhabitants of European capitals were very or fairly satisfied with air quality in Dublin, Vienna and Helsinki (88%), followed by Luxembourg (83%), Stockholm (77%), Ljubljana (76%) and Tallinn (75%).

#### 5. Šmarna gora from sunrise to sunrise

Ljubljana's green areas and forests have made

it a favourite for many years both for hikers and hill runners. In June 2016, the organisers of traditional hill running competitions joined forces and linked the Forest Run on Rašica, the Šmarna Gora Record and the Frane Memorial into a joint 'June Running Cup'. The highlight of the programme, related to the energy efficiency of the body, was linked to a 24-hour hike along paths on Šmarna gora, called **From Sunrise to Sunrise**, which was carried out as their life project by public performance mentor and event organiser **Betka Šuhel Miholič and stylist and marathon athlete Metka Albreht**. The central part of this project was the opening of the renovated 'Freedom Path', which also has a symbolic value because of its image - namely, if we take a bird's eye view, we see it is the shape of a heart, which is a symbol of Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016, and at the same time represents the link with the slogan of Energetika Ljubljana, **"Energy in a heartbeat"**.



*On the longest day of the year, Metka and Betka conquered Šmarna gora 19 times; their positivity, hugs and smiles joined together in a healthy walk an unforeseen crowd of people, among whom were employees from the City of Ljubljana.*



by a good **6 dBA** **10 years**

we reduced noise levels in Ljubljana by closing the city centre to all motor traffic



of continuous measurement of particle contamination PM<sub>10</sub>



**100**

energy advice sessions and lectures carried out in two months by Energetika Ljubljana and energy counselling network ENSVET at Point.For you.



**20%**

of Europe's citizens, on average, are overburdened with noise at night (over 65 decibels). Green measures in Ljubljana have enabled us to achieve a significant reduction of the average, and that is 14%.



**74%**

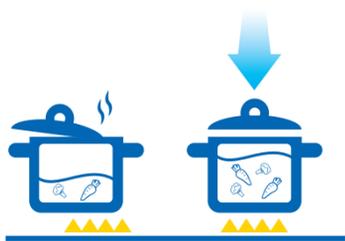
of flats are heated by the district heating system and a natural gas supply system

## GOLDEN RULES OF ENERGY SAVING

Consistent implementation of some simple measures of efficient energy use can significantly contribute to reducing the energy costs in your household. You do not need a lot of time or money for them. The kitchen is often the central family space and is simultaneously an excellent example of a place where energy savings can begin, whether it is in cooking or cooling food or washing dishes.

### Cooker, water boiler and oven

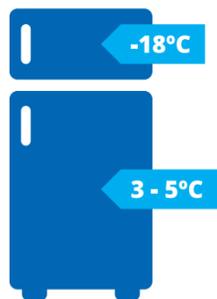
- Choose an appropriate size of pot for all ingredients and don't forget to put the lid on the pot.
- When cooking vegetables, use enough water to cover all the vegetables.
- Turn the oven off 5-10 minutes before the scheduled end of cooking to take advantage of the accumulated heat in the oven. Ovens are the most energy-consuming appliances at home.
- For efficient operation of the water boiler, regularly remove limescale from the heating surface.



### Refrigerator and freezer

Set the refrigerator to a temperature between 3 and 5°C. The freezer is most effective at -18°C.

- Do not leave the refrigerator open for longer than necessary.
- If the freezer box does not defrost automatically, regularly defrost it. This saves energy.
- Before putting food in the fridge, cool the food to room temperature.
- Clean the dust off the back of the fridge regularly, as this may affect the refrigerator's efficiency.



### Dishwasher, washing machine and tumble dryer

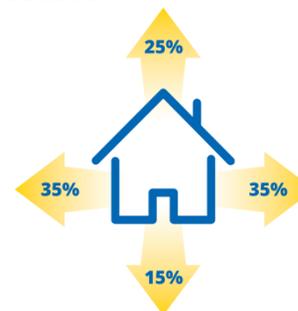
We are mostly used to washing laundry at times of lower electricity tariffs. But that's not all; you can save even more money in easy ways.

- Use the washing machine and dishwasher only when they are full.
- Washing at lower temperatures reduces energy consumption. Washing at 30°C compared to washing at 40°C saves one third of the cost in most cases.
- If you need to use the tumble dryer, put the laundry on an extra spin cycle in the washing machine first.
- Clean the tumble dryer filter after each use.
- Once a year, remove limescale if you live in a hard water area. A millimetre-thick layer of lime scale can reduce the water heating capacity of the dishwasher and washing machine by up to 10%.



### Otherwise, you can make savings in your own household by

- Turning the central heating down by 1°C, thus reducing energy consumption by 5-10%; it is important to keep in mind that a healthy living room temperature ranges between 19 and 21°C;
- Turn off or unplug all devices that you do not need. If the devices have a standby light or are warm to the touch, they are consuming energy;
- Avoid drying on the radiator, as the radiator must use more energy to heat the room to the desired temperature;
- Regularly change the bag in your vacuum cleaner. With a full bag, the vacuum cleaner consumes a lot more energy than when empty, and the likelihood of breakdown is higher;
- Turn off the lights when you are not in the room, and replace old bulbs with energy-saving ones;
- Prevent drafts in your home. Drafts are caused by gaps at windows, doors, floor, wall and ceiling connections, piping apparatus and electrical installations.



## DID YOU KNOW...?

### 1. AIR QUALITY DATA

In the past, Ljubljana carried out numerous systematic measures to improve the air and therefore air quality has improved over the years. Particular mention should be made of the construction of the two district systems, which in the city centre cover more than 70% of the requirement for heat, and are successfully expanding supply to the urban outskirts and surrounding settlements. In addition, a Decree on the Priority Use of Energy Products for Heating in the City of Ljubljana was adopted in 2016.

### 2. AIR QUALITY MEASUREMENT

We have been monitoring air quality in Ljubljana through continuous measurements since 1968. Since 1996, we have been monitoring the air quality with our own measuring station, which was set up in September 2001 in front of Figovec in the city centre. In November 2009, we moved it to a permanent location at the junction of Tivolska cesta and Vošnjakova ulica. Today, at this measuring point, we monitor the air quality and the impact of traffic pollution, as well as noise and meteorological data. In 2016 we reached 10 years of continuous PM10 particle measurements.



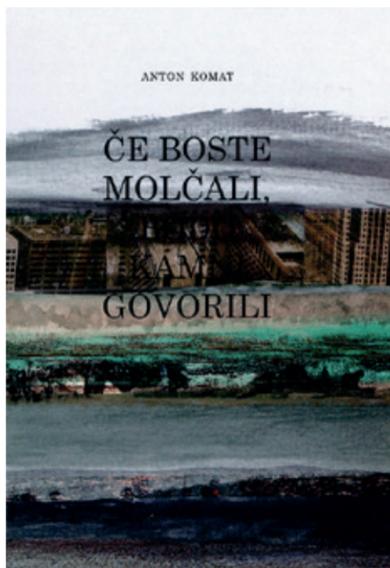
In 2016 we reached 10 years of continuous PM10 particle measurements.



Air and a view through the lens in Ljubljana in 1966 and 2016.

## A READING CITY

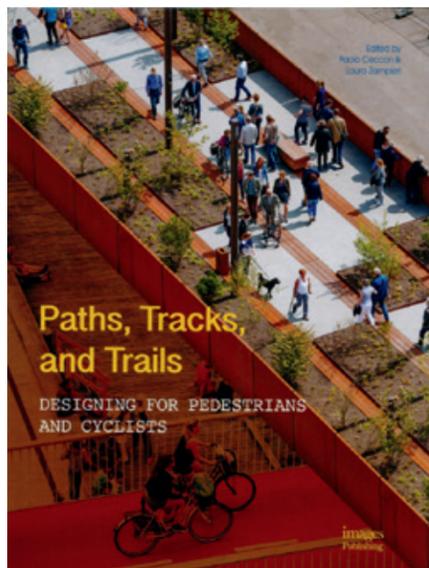
In partnership with Ljubljana City Library, we have prepared suggestions of books for adults on the theme of sustainable development which can be found on the shelves of your library. Happy reading.



### 1. Komat, Anton:

**If you keep quiet, the stones will speak** / Anton Komat ; [illustrations Marija Mojca Vilar] [Ljubljana] : Buča ; [Domžale] : [self published] A. Komat, 2015 (Domžale : M. Ravnikar)

In this collection of essays by renowned nature conservationist Anton Komat, he contemplates how global warming and hormonal disruptors in genetically modified foods are changing our planet. We will have to learn to live in harmony with nature and together as brothers, or we will die out as an evolutionary accident.



### 2. Paths, tracks, and trails: designing for pedestrians and cyclists /

edited by Paolo Ceccon & Laura Zampieri. Mulgrave (Victoria) : Images, 2016

The book presents interesting examples of the design of pedestrian and cycling routes in different environments, from cities to local communities, from urban settlements to major national parks. The book shows the functional role of new public spaces, as well as the various possibilities of connecting the inhabitants of cities who use these routes with the urban and natural environment. The book is suitable for urban planners, landscape architects and spatial planners.

# WE ARE NOT 'JUST' GARBAGE COLLECTORS

*Janko Kramžar | Director of public company Snaga*

Philosophers and thinkers from Spinoza to Nietzsche have found that responsibility and effort are the main drivers of satisfaction. It was precisely with responsibility and effort that we also achieved this excellent result confirmed in analysis procured by the European Commission from an independent research institute in Copenhagen and Munich.

In Ljubljana, we have **the best waste management system** among all the capital cities of the EU28, which is a model for other European countries, and we achieve the highest share of separately collected waste - in 2016 it was **66%. And waste separation pays off, as the public have noticed in their wallets.** Due to the increased share of separately collected waste and consequently a smaller share of landfilled waste, at the end of 2014, Snaga issued a credit note to all its users

in the amount of the December invoice for waste management. In December 2015, Snaga returned money to citizens for the same reason and reduced the average December payment by 60%.

Chinese philosophy says that we need to figure out what kind of situation we are in and, based on that, choose the right path. Our situation stemmed from the question of how to provide an alternative to energy consumption by waste and to turn the apparent weakness that we do not have an incinerator into an advantage. We opted for the **concept of Zero Waste.** With this, Ljubljana became the first EU capital city to embark on the journey to becoming a waste-free society, and probably only 20 years from now will we really see the historical significance of this decision.

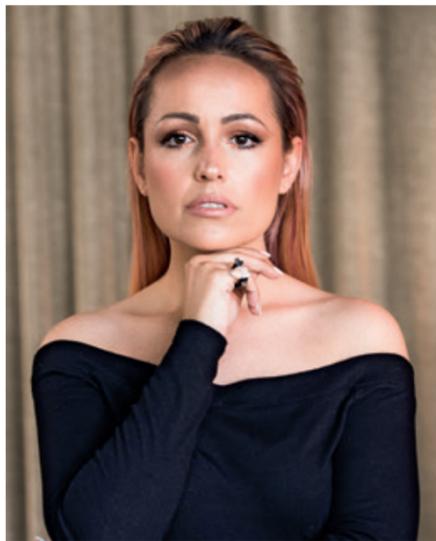
Three years have passed since we stopped „just“ being garbage collectors in Snaga. We are aware of our responsibility to make this world, when we leave it, a little bit better than it was when we came into it. That's why we have developed a number of socially responsible campaigns and communication campaigns, in which people are now at the forefront rather than waste. On the one hand, there are those who choose, buy and consume, on the other, those who sew cheap clothes for us, dig up toxic metals for our smartphones and produce cocoa, rice and coffee in conditions of slavery... Because we have the power and responsibility, we encourage more responsible and ethical consumerism, reuse, responsible food consumption, sharing and other good practices that increase prosperity and contribute to the transition to a circular economy.



## THE BEST STYLES ARISE BY COMBINING CLOTHES FROM VARIOUS PRICE CATEGORIES

*Nina Šušnjara*

*You just have to get to know Nina Šušnjara but you already wish that coffee with her would last for hours and hours. She is a person with a lot of positive energy and interesting fashion styles. That's why we chose her as the fashion ambassador of the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 project and she did not disappoint us. Her bag is a real hit both at home and abroad.*



**Your bag Ljubljana. For you. By SUSNYARA is very desirable today. What was the biggest challenge in designing it?**

The biggest challenge was certainly the design of a bag made of recovered materials, which is simultaneously fashionable, wearable and durable. I think that this was a huge success for us, which is why it is also desirable.

**How do you combine the bag? When do you wear it?**

I wear it for everyday use, when I have a long day ahead of me and there are different things I have to do. Then the bag best helps me out, because I can put everything in it... lunch, my computer and some clothes. Of course, it's also top for shopping ;-)

**Do you think women can dress well in second-hand clothes?**

Absolutely! I think that the best styles arise precisely by combining clothes from various price categories. I've also just found a super vintage item that I like wearing.

**Do you have anything second-hand in your wardrobe?**

Quite a lot. New York is a real treasure trove of this kind of clothing and I have a nice stock of such things.

**How would you assess your co-operation with the City of Ljubljana?**

This co-operation has been one of my favorites, as due to this project I really saw the SUSNYARA brand on the streets for the first time. It's a special feeling when you are walking around downtown Ljubljana and you see passers-by with your design and signature. It's lovely.

## TRANSFORMING OLD JEANS

*Tjaša Kokalj Jerala*

*Tjaša Kokalj Jerala, a fashion stylist, a custodian of various trademarks, fashion journalist and blogger sought out for us on her Green Capital blog real fashion candy and thus proved that there is no need to buy new things. With various alterations and transformations you can look like you are on the catwalk every day.*



**You will need:**

- Various fabric paints (white, light and dark pink, brown and green),
- 3 paint brushes of various sizes,
- Old jeans.

I wanted the jeans to look like they had been spattered with white paint from decorating, so I first gave them a good covering of white fabric paint. I was working on my dining table, so first I made sure it was well protected with polyvinyl. When the paint on one side had dried (this took half a day), I carried on to paint the cherry blossom. I chose three places, where I drew branches and flowers, which then dried overnight.

The next day I repeated the process on the other side. When the paint had dried properly, I ironed the jeans thoroughly, with a cloth between the jeans and the iron so that the paint was not transferred onto the iron. I am very pleased with the results; I've got completely new and unique jeans, which cost less than 20 euros.

Once I set out to transform some old boyfriend jeans into a totally new design. I like transforming the look of old clothes, breathing new life into them and using them in new stylings and new ways to wear them. I saw some jeans decorated with cherry blossom and white paint on a website and instantly fell in love with them so I decided to make my own hand painted jeans.



**66%**

of separately collected waste



**100%**

of separately collected organic waste recovered



**44**

local authorities use Ljubljana Regional Waste Management Centre (RCERO)



**380 kg**

of municipal waste generated per inhabitant



**266 kg**

of separately collected waste per inhabitant



**64**

underground collection units

# EXPERIMENTING WITH WASTE MATERIALS

## Trash Design

*Their adventures began when they were playing with grandma's old spoon while sipping home-made beef soup. The potential usefulness of the spoon opened up new dialogues. Could they really use it only as a food utensil or could they change its usability? Spoons can carry the cables of our new lights, become clothes hangers or have a decorative role as a candle holder. We are limited only by our imagination.*

**What does Trash Design do, what makes you different from others?**

It is a merger of architectural or design ambitions with wider social and environmental issues. Our products require a lot of time, because we change the primary purpose into completely new dimensions of usability. Here lies most of the creativity, work and much joy.

**Where do your inspiration and ideas come from?**

For us, inspiration and ideas lie just where others throw them away. Of course it wouldn't work without monitoring products on the web, going to various design or architectural festivals or simply having eyes wide-open to draw inspiration from the environment.

**Where do you find waste material?**

Of course, most things are found in collection centres, among the bulk waste. In recent times, too, it happens that we get calls from acquaintances and people who have heard about us through social networks, their friends and so on. And they offer us worn out items of furniture.

**How would you assess your co-operation with Snaga on the RCERO Ljubljana project? What did you learn from it?**

The co-operation with Snaga was wonderful. We had a nice surprise in the collection centre, where the employees were happy to help collect material, and on several occasions they surprised us by some piece that was not envisaged but it seemed to them to be just right for us. We trashists made upcycled usable furniture for RCERO Ljubljana. For this project, we sanded down more than 500 sticks of pallets, and we restored and used 16 chairs, 7 table lamps, more than 20 metal bike wheel rims, 5 bath tubs, wardrobe, 8 drawers and 4 metal barrels. We gave new life to almost 100 beer bottles, more than 400 paper tubes, 70 metres of worn out wooden construction beams and more than 15 kilograms of old newspapers.



**Is your apartment furnished with waste materials?**

You know what they say about a blacksmith's mare. Well, it's not quite bare, so of course there are some upcycled objects around, but certainly not as many as I would like. I always run out of time.

## STREET STYLE

Nina Šušnjara, who creates under the trade mark SUSNYARA, is a designer with the idea that nothing is impossible. That's why we set her a challenge - to combine elements of high fashion with second-hand clothes. For the photography, our nice actress from Ljubljana City Theatre and Ambassador of the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 project Ajda Smrekar is wearing the fashion pieces that Nina selected at the Re-use Centre at Povšetova 4 combined with a t-shirt from the FEMINA collection and a LJUBLJANA. FOR YOU. bag by SUSNYARA.



# RE-USE IS A FAVOUR FOR ALL

## Visiting Matic Praznik, official blogger of the European Green Capital

*Matic Praznik is a professor of fine arts with interesting life motto, combining ecology, recycling and art. He is an example of how to live green. To him, the challenge in creating means primarily colour and waste materials. Matic knows how to use every stuff no matter how useless it seems to be, and he can use it in such a way that it looks as if its place is exactly where it is.*

Today, it is a trend, a fashion fly, for some big business. For me it was once a necessity, now it's a way of life. Because my motto is „Don't throw things away, buy as little as possible and do it yourself“, without it I can't exist anymore. Because we had limited means, I learnt to reuse old things when I was young, because my pocket money

was never high, or I had friends whose was much higher, and I could not compete with them when it came to a sports trip, a hobby or a holiday. I was always short of money. Well, I realised that I could do a lot of things myself. At the start it was for fun, „Matic will take this, he takes anything“. Today it's for real. And so I did not have to buy what I needed for hobbies, but I intercepted damaged stuff on the way to waste containers and from many of them made more useful things, tailored to my needs and ultimately unique. This means a lot to me, because I still get angry if I see someone with the same object as I have myself. Pollution exists not just in manufacturing new things but also in recycling old ones. There is no pollution in re-use, it's just money saving, tra-

ining for the brain and manual skills, creatively spending time with the family, children or friends and the result, which is a useful, a unique product that is already detoxified.

I did not reinvent the wheel. I understood. Today's system certainly isn't leading in a green direction. I am referring to our grandparents who survived without shops, made things for themselves and left us a cleaner environment than we are leaving behind to our descendants.

What and how everything can be reused can be found in my blog posts on the Green Ljubljana website or go to [www.maticpraznik.com](http://www.maticpraznik.com). Ask me for advice and live a green thought for all of us.



# GET USED TO REUSE

## We have exceeded the planned percentage of separately collected waste

### 1. Paper from Japanese knotweed

In Ljubljana we are among the first in the world to make paper from Japanese knotweed on a semi-industrial scale. From yesterday's enemy we have acquired a friend from whom paper, notes and paper bags are made. Five partners from different disciplines were linked in order to re-use these invasive plants.

### 2. The circular economy in practice

Since the end of 2015, in Ljubljana's public companies we have been using the most sustainable hygienic paper on the market, made from recycled milk and juice composite packaging. Previously, only 50% of this raw material was used (the remaining half was incinerated), and now the whole amount of this waste packaging is reprocessed. We are closing the material circle and putting the circular economy into practice.

### 3. I am not lasting, but therefore less annoying.

As part of holding the title European Green Ca-

pital 2016, the City of Ljubljana launched a campaign against plastic bags with the slogan „I am not lasting, but therefore less annoying. I am a biodegradable bag“ with the aim of reducing the use of plastic bags that greatly burden our environment. We distributed 127,000 biodegradable bags made from corn starch and 1,600 bags made from Japanese knotweed to stallholders at Ljubljana central market.



In 2017, stallholders at Ljubljana open markets still have time to switch to environmentally-friendly packaging. In doing this, we are seeking to emphasise a responsible attitude among us all to the envi-

ronment, and at the same time to encourage customers to use their own shopping bags or baskets to further reduce the use of bags and other packaging.

### 4. Project Fair Foto

Project Fair FOTO brings together young Slovene photographers and their mentors, while the 'models' are representatives of various organisations that wear their own Fair Trade or second-hand clothes. The travelling exhibition (the photographs printed on old tarps) draws attention to the problem of discarded textiles and to the unethical behaviour of the fashion industry that exploits people and the environment around the world just to increase their own earnings.

### 5. Joining the Circular Cities network

Ljubljana joined the Circular Cities Network at the invitation of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation; the network aims to disseminate good practices and knowledge through a dedicated online platform that serves to cities as an inspiration for

innovation in the zero-waste economy and the circular economy. In addition to Ljubljana, membership in the network has been earned by only eleven cities with their advanced good practices (membership is possible only on the basis of an invitation), namely Austin, Boulder, Copenhagen, London, New York, Peterborough, Phoenix, Rio de Janeiro, Tel Aviv, Toronto and Vancouver.



## TOURISM IS (ALL) PEOPLE

*Petra Stuček | Director of Ljubljana Tourism public institute*

The title of European Green Capital 2016 and the tourist success in recent years are rewards for all previous successes in the sustainable development of the city. As citizen of Ljubljana I am also proud of all the records last year! The city, which in my youth was sleepy, is nowadays lively all year round as well as in the evenings. A quality and varied offer attracts numerous domestic and foreign visitors who praise the capital's boutique offer, the orderliness, the cleanliness and, most importantly, the friendliness and hospitality of the inhabitants. The city centre has thus become a pleasant meeting place for the inhabitants as well as domestic and foreign visitors. This success is also reflected in statistics: **in 2016, there were 12% more overnight stays than in 2015**, and the number of visitors to the web portal, where we are approaching a million, has increased, while in tourist information centres we gave information to more than **370,000 visitors**. There was also a lot of interest in social networks, where we continued to get a lot of new followers through continuous communications of events in Ljubljana and all its achievements. During the 'green year', more

than **300,000 interactions by individual users** were recorded on Ljubljana Tourism's Facebook page, while the Twitter account for the domestic and foreign public had **close to 80,000 visitors**, and Tourism was Ljubljana mentioned more than 5,000 times in their social posts. The Point.For you. information centre in front of City Hall was most visited in August when we showcased sustainable tourism, which confirms the topicality of the subject. However, the statistics recorded merely reflect the quality for which we primarily strive in our work.

We upgraded the green tourist offer still further last year: Ljubljana acquired **the first hotel and the first (and currently the world's only) hostel with the Travelife international eco-label**. In the past year, we started to implement green supply chains with providers, meaning that you can already order a Ljubljana breakfast from 100% locally produced ingredients. **The Taste Ljubljana** project, which we started in 2014, is gaining more and more recognition also among local people, and we worked with Prof. Janez Bogataj to add new traditional dishes to the collection. Last year,

seven new guided experiences were added to the offer, aimed at both domestic and foreign visitors to help discover the green features of the city and the authentic offer, and in particular we are pleased to see the interest of the citizens who want to get to know their local area better.

The local is what foreign visitors are looking for in a new place, and it is ever increasingly appreciated by local people. We are one of the few capitals in the world that has gardens and orchards right in the city itself, which has an exceptional number of green areas per capita, and is very close to **the sea, the Karst, the Alps or vineyard regions**. A small country, but rich in natural features, which need careful care. Sustainable development can lead us to a higher level and above all ensure local people's satisfaction with the development of tourism. We are open to your suggestions, as only together can we achieve more. Tourism is (all) people - and we are sincerely grateful to local people for being excellent ambassadors of our Ljubljana!



## LJUBLJANA IS BELOVED – ROMANTIC STROLLS AROUND LJUBLJANA



Its numerous bridges, green embankments, parks, cafes and patisseries make Ljubljana more than suitable for a romantic walk for two. **Prešeren Square** is perfect starting point, as this central Ljubljana square is dedicated to the Slovene poet France Prešeren (and not to some national hero or military leader) and his unrequited love and muse Julija Primic, at whom the poet gazes from his monument. Follow his line of sight and you will spot **Julija**, the poet's muse and inspiration, leaning out of the window. Continue your stroll along **Petkovšek Embankment to the Butchers' Bridge**, which is also known as the bridge of love. There, lovers lock their love with padlocks and throw the key into the river.



Then take a walk through the flower market at Pogačar Square and choose a bouquet for your loved one. In the warmer months, on Fridays this is the site of an **Open Kitchen**, a popular social venue for local people and visitors.

At Krek Square, **climb up to Ljubljana Castle with the funicular**, from where the most beautiful city in the world spreads out before you. For a lunch for two, we recommend the **Strelec Restaurant**, which has its own space right in the castle tower and a stunning view.

You can walk down from the castle along the narrow paths among the greenery. Go downhill to Student street and continue along Ciril Metod Square to City Hall and **Robba's fountain**, then along Old Square to the **restaurants Romeo and Juliet**, which - as you'd expect - face one another. On warm summer evenings, you can treat yourselves to a drink in the embrace of the willows on the Ljubljanica riverbank, where you can continue your journey on the **refurbished Ljubljanica embankments all the way to Špica**, where many citizens and visitors seek the sun's rays on beautiful days.



If you want to discover the city by bike, we can recommend a guided bicycle tour around Ljubljana, where on route you will discover all the major attractions of Ljubljana, including the **Botanic Garden**. After the famous gardens of Krakovo, you proceed to **Tivoli Park**, where you can rest with a small picnic. For architecture lovers, there is a specially adapted bicycle tour of **Plečnik's Ljubljana**.

A journey along the Ljubljanica river is perfect for a romantic experience of the city. We recommend Boat Ljubljana, whose wooden construction gives a flavour of the past.

One of the sights, which is very visible from a boat, is the **Trnovo embankment**, built according to the plans of the architect Jože Plečnik. Its large stone stairs, which descend towards the river, make it a unique architectural creation and one



of the most beautiful promenades in Ljubljana. In recent years, it has also been a popular spot for social gatherings. The term '**Ljubljana beach**' is heard especially among the younger generations who come to sit here on lovely summer days.

As you walk along Breg embankment, do not forget to wander into **Križevniška street**, one of the oldest and most beautiful streets. If you are lucky, you might bump into the indigenous Ljubljana Dragon there.

You can round off your romantic sightseeing of the city at **Nebotičnik**, which was the tallest building in central Europe at the time of its construction in 1933, and today there is a popular cafe on the top floor, which offers a great view of the city.

If you like music and dancing, on Tuesdays you can attend a swing evening in the **cafe of the Hotel Union**. Why not join the crowd tirelessly moving around the wooden dance floor and indulge in the relaxed atmosphere. In the summer months you can twirl to **salsa rhythms** at Ajdovščina Square, while film lovers are invited to **open-air cinema at Ljubljana Castle or Congress Square**.

It's as though Ljubljana was created for lovers - if not with each other, you will fall in love with the city itself!



## WE ARE EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

*We follow trends and demand in creating the tourist offer*



### 1. Golden Apple

In June 2016, Mayor of Ljubljana Zoran Janković accepted a FIJET prize for Ljubljana, the so-called 'tourist Oscar' awarded by the World Federation of Travel Journalists and Writers for excellent achievements in the development of tourism, the preservation of cultural, natural and historical heritage, its integration into the tourist

offer and outstanding examples of delivering the principles of sustainable development in tourism. The prize is displayed in the lobby of City Hall.

### 2. Global Green Destinations Day

In September 2016, we hosted the world's largest conference of sustainable destinations - the two-day Global Green Destinations Day event for professionals. We conceived it as a living laboratory of green solutions in tourism, and our green achievements and the energy of the people and the city impressed the international professional public and we won three awards: for the second time, we ranked among the **100 most sustainable destinations in the world** (Global TOP 100 Susta-

inable Destinations 2016), Ljubljana Tourism's Taste Ljubljana project and the environment and local-community friendly offer from the Central Slovenia region: Terme Snovik and the Trnulja Estate on Ljubljana Marshes, were on the list of the best ten green solutions (TOP 10 Green Solutions).

### 3. December 2016 in Ljubljana

Ljubljana is traditionally especially popular among visitors when festively decorated, and its offer is also praised abroad - the tourism portal Tourism Review ranked the Slovenian capital last year on its list of **the ten best Christmas fairs in Europe**. For the first time during the December 2016 events in Ljubljana, the caterers

used only **environmentally-friendly packaging**, which is in line with the city's sustainable orientation. We can especially be proud that, despite the huge participation of around a million guests at all events across the December 2016 project in Ljubljana and the festive atmosphere, there was not a single incident this year also.



### They've noticed us:

- The Guardian
- The Independent
- Forbes
- Daily Mail
- New York Times
- International Traveller
- CNN
- The Financial Times
- Monocle
- Travel and Leisure
- National Geographic
- Intrepid Travel
- Deutsche Welle
- Salzburger Nachrichten
- Wiener Zeitung
- ORF
- The Huffington Post
- Il Piccolo
- La Stampa
- La Repubblica
- Elle Italia
- Radio RAI
- Marie Claire France
- Air France Magazine
- Le Soir
- Wired

## TO ME, FUŽINE IS A SOLITARY ISLAND IN A MAD WORLD, WHICH I ONCE HAD FOR MY HOMETLAND

*Rade Šerbedžija*

*Rade Šerbedžija is certainly one of the former Yugoslavia's foremost actors. We talked to him about Ljubljana, a city he called home for a short period.*

### Why do you have Ljubljana in your heart?

I like Ljubljana, because it is so special and unique. In all these centuries, which she endured in difficult historical circumstances, always under some kind of economic and political pressure from her larger neighbouring countries, Austria, Italy, Hungary and Germany, Ljubljana managed to preserve its own language, its menta-

lity and its specialness. But cities are not just their architecture, parks and streets ... cities are the people living there, and so my Slovenians, who speak the most mellifluous Slavic language of all the Slavs, are making their city especially lovely.

### In which part of your life did you live in Ljubljana and why?

I came to Ljubljana as a refugee during the war in the former Yugoslavia, when I abandoned my home. Friends from Slovenia invited me to Ljubljana to help me and protect me. I will never forget that.

### Which part of the city is your favourite and where do you go back to when you come to Ljubljana?

Of course, I will always have a connection to Brodar square and Fužine, where I rented a small apartment in those years. To me, Fužine means a solitary island in a mad world that I once had for my homeland. Of course there are special places in Ljubljana to which I am especially attached. The Drama Cafe, Union Hotel, Pen Club (Cultural Workers Club), which thanks to former owner Miki enjoys a world-class reputation, and the Three Bridges. Ljubljana is a city that always makes me cheerful and happy whenever I come to visit.



## FAMOUS PEOPLE IN LJUBLJANA

### 1. Petra Nemcova

As part of the international premium fashion week, Ljubljana was visited for the first time by the outstanding model and philanthropist **Petra Nemcova**, who summed up her thoughts: *"I am very glad that I have visited Ljubljana, since I had heard from a few friends how lovely the city is. My*

*expectations were not disappointed (laughter, op. A.). Whenever I could escape from my hotel room, I noticed that the city was very green, and the architecture reminds me of Prague. We have some similarities. Ljubljana inspires feelings of home in me, I felt calm and homely when I heard the church bells in the morning."*

### 2. Pop up festival Kurzschluss Roger Sanchez

Kurzschluss is the biggest pop up festival in Slovenia that each year hosts internationally acclaimed DJs, musicians and artists who fill the concert halls, stadiums and the biggest music festivals all over Europe and beyond. Among them is Roger

Sanchez, who has a special bond with Ljubljana. *"Nightlife in Ljubljana is very intense, diverse and especially rapidly growing. Every visit is of course a story in itself, but before I enter a club, I always feel the passion, energy and expectations aroused in young and not so young Kurzschluss visitors (laughter, op. A)."*



# 370,000

visitors to Ljubljana tourist info centres (TIC and STIC)



# 45,748

people on our green guided tours



# 795

foreign journalists, bloggers and photographers visited us from June 2014 to the end of 2016



# 1,304,861

overnights in Ljubljana in 2016, 12% up on 2015

# MORE THAN 1,800 PROJECTS FOR THE CITIZENS' QUALITY OF LIVING

In the last decade, the City of Ljubljana has carried out over 1,800 projects, raised the quality of life, won the European Green Capital 2016 award, and received numerous other awards and

praise. The photos below show some of the most visible projects in the past and today.



Breg Embankment



Ciril - Metod Square



Fabiani's Bridge



Congress Square



Koseze Lake



Šmartinski park



New Square



Petkovšek Embankment



Rakova Jelša



Republic Square



Slovenska Street



Northern City Park



Trnovo Embankment



Špica



Wolfova Street



Three Bridges

# THANK YOU TO ALL PROJECT PARTICIPANTS, SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

**The European Green Capital 2016 project was not just a project of a few people from the City Administration, but of all citizens, visitors and partners. Every day of the year we worked with numerous supporters and project partners, who we'd like to thank from the heart for their most beautiful contributions to an even greener Ljubljana.**

- A-Projekt d.o.o.
- Abandoned Plants Sanctuary
- Aerosol
- Aerovizija
- Agora Natura Socially Responsible company
- Agricultural Institute of Slovenia
- Ajda Sostro Society
- Aleja engineering d.o.o.
- APIPRODUKT Beekeeping Žerjal
- Arne Hodalič
- AvantCar
- Association of Green Supervisors
- Babit d.o.o. dental centre
- Barbara Rudolf
- Barje Tourist Society
- Beekeeper Grega Brenko
- Beekeeping Jere
- Beekeeping Petek
- Belinka Belles
- Best Western Premier Hotel Slon
- Bokri d.o.o.
- BOLJE Social company
- Botanical Association of Slovenia
- Brewery Union-Heineken
- BTC d.d
- Buna Co-operative
- Care and Working Centre Tončka Hočevar
- Cene Štupar Public Institute
- Centre of Excellence for Low-Carbon Technologies (CO NOT)
- Cintare Choral Group
- City Hotel
- Community Health Centre Ljubljana
- Council for Prevention and Education in Road Traffic of the City of Ljubljana
- Cvetlična
- CVS Mobile d.d.
- Cycling Club Rajd
- DCA Ljubljana - Activity Day Centres for the Elderly
- Dežnik - production and repair of umbrellas and sunshades Marija Lah s.p.
- Disk Golf Slovenija
- Divja misel Institute
- DOPPS - BirdLife Slovenia
- Dškatla, Mateja Dobovšek, s.p.
- Ecologists Without Borders
- Ekonomska šola Ljubljana
- Elektro Ljubljana
- Emona Folklore Group
- Eneja, Institute for the development of empathy and creativity, social enterprise
- Energetika.net
- ENKI
- ENSVET
- Etnoart Špiller
- EU House Slovenia
- Europlakat
- Fair Trade 3 Muhe
- Family Center Mala ulica
- Festival Ljubljana
- Focus, Association for Sustainable Development
- Franca Šturma School of Music
- Fru-fru Puppet Theatre
- Fužine Activities Centre
- GDi GISDATA d.o.o.
- Geological Survey of Slovenia
- Global Shapers Ljubljana
- Gostilna Dela
- Gostilnica 5-6 kg: Pujs d.o.o.
- Grand Hotel Union
- Green Light World Flight
- Green Ring Society
- Greenpeace
- Hart Publishing
- Herpetological Society-Societas herpetologica slovenica
- Home Care Institute Ljubljana
- HomeOgarden
- Hormone Yoga Therapy
- Hostel Čopova-Tresor
- Hotel Lev
- Hotel Park
- Hotel Radisson
- Hotel Slon
- Hotel Union
- House of Experiments
- Humanitas, Society for Human Rights and Supportive Action
- Institute for Spatial Policies
- Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia
- Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation
- Institute of Traffic and Transport Ljubljana
- Jani Lapajne
- Jarina Co-operative
- Javor Škerlj Vogelnik
- Karate Club FORUM Ljubljana
- KD Rog Cycling Club
- Kilaskute Bike park
- Kino Šiška Center for Urban Culture
- Kinodvor
- Kmečka strojna skupnost Savlje Kleče
- Koseze Tourist Society
- Kralji ulice, Society for help and self-help of homeless people
- KTD Proga 13
- KUD Gameljne
- KUD Tacen
- Ledina High School
- Lepa Žoga
- Library of THINGS
- Lipoglav Rural Society
- Ljubljana Castle
- Ljubljana City Library
- Ljubljana City Pensioners' Association
- Ljubljana City Scouts' Association
- Ljubljana City Theatre
- Ljubljana Cyclists Network
- Ljubljana Institute of Agriculture and Forestry
- Ljubljana kindergartens
- Ljubljana Mandolin Orchestra
- Ljubljana Marshes Landscape Park Public Institute
- Ljubljana Pharmacy
- Ljubljana primary schools
- Ljubljana Public Holding company
- Ljubljana Puppet Theatre
- Ljubljana Reuse Centre
- Ljubljana Secondary School of Media and Graphics
- Ljubljana Tourism
- Ljubljana Zoo
- LPP Cycling Society
- Lucky Luka and Slovenian Rollerblading Association
- MAO - Museum of Architecture and Design
- Matic Sever
- Medeni kotiček
- MFDL - Međimursko Folklore Society Ljubljana
- MGLC - International Centre of Graphic Arts
- MIS farm
- Mladi zmaji
- Mladinska knjiga
- Mountaineering Club LPP
- MPZ Tacen
- MyEqua
- Museums and Galleries of Ljubljana
- National Geographic Junior Slovenia
- National Institute of Biology
- National Institute of Public Health
- Nea Culpa
- Odisej Sailing Club
- Open Kitchen
- Pazilpark
- Pegaz international d.o.o.
- Pionirski dom
- Planet Earth Society
- PNZ d.o.o.
- Poligilda Creators' Society
- Poljane High School
- Pr' Konc Ecofarm
- Pravi kolesar
- Pristop
- Prof Peter Krečič
- Prostorož
- Public company Energetika Ljubljana, d.o.o.
- Public company Ljubljanski potniški promet, d.o.o.
- Public company Snaga, d.o.o.
- Public company VO-KA, d.o.o.
- Public company Ljubljanska Parkirišča in tržnice, d.o.o.
- Public company Žale, d.o.o.
- Public Institute KP Ljubljana Marshes
- Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel
- Rampa Society for strengthening the potential of young people in the field of science, arts and technology in partnership with the CtrlArt studio
- Re-generacija
- Regional Development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region
- Renault
- Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Restaurant Druga Violina
- Riko d.o.o & partners
- Rolerski klub Ljubljana
- RTV Slovenia
- Sadjarsko in vrtnarsko društvo J. E. Krek
- Sadjarsko in vrtnarsko društvo v Ljubljani
- Scout Association Rod Heroj Vitez
- Scout Association Rod Močvirski tulipani
- Secondary School for Pharmacy, Cosmetics and Health Care
- Secondary School of Nursing Ljubljana
- Secondary School of Technical Professions Šiška
- Semenarna Ljubljana
- Servis8
- SEZAM Association of Parents and Children
- SKALA-Youth street education
- Slovenia Forest Service
- Slovenian Catholic Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Association
- Slovenian Cycling Network
- Slovenian Dragonfly Society
- Slovenian Forestry Institute
- Slovenian Foundation for Unicef
- Slovenian GeoCaching Club
- Slovenian Museum of Natural History
- Slovenian Press Agency (STA)
- Slovenian Society of Plant Biology
- Slovenian Tourist Association
- Slovenian Traffic Safety Agency
- Slovenian Water Protection Society
- Smetumet, cultural ecological association and social enterprise
- Society for the Protection and Study of Lepidoptera in Slovenia
- Sokol Bežigrad Sports Society
- Šola zdravja
- Special Education Centre Janez Levec
- Sport Ljubljana
- Športna zveza Ljubljane
- Sports Foundation
- Štepanjsko naselje Pensioners' Society
- Šugla Theatre (Ana Monro Theatre)
- Tacen Beekeeping Society
- TAM-TAM
- Technical Museum of Slovenia
- The Counselling Centre for Children, Adolescents and Parents Ljubljana
- The Mladinsko Theatre
- The Slovenian Association for Bat Research and Conservation
- The Slovenian University Sports Association
- The Third Age University of Slovenia
- TIP&TAP social enterprise
- Trnovo Equestrian Club
- Trnulja estate
- Ubik d.o.o.
- UMANOTERA, Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development
- University Botanic gardens Ljubljana
- University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Architecture
- University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Education
- University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Electrical Engineering
- University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
- University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering
- University of Ljubljana - Biotechnical Faculty - Department of Forestry and Renewable Forest Resources
- University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Natural Science and Engineering - Department of Textiles, Graphic Arts and Design
- Urban Beekeeper Society
- US Embassy
- Vič High School
- Visionect
- Vitalizem, Mojca Cerovšek s.p.
- Wings for Life
- Woodieful team
- Yoga in Everyday Life Society
- Zadvor Sports Society
- Zajčja Dobrava Tourist Society
- Zavod 404
- Zavod Bob
- Zelemenjava
- Zelena jama Tourist Society
- Zeleni hit
- Ziferblat
- ZOOPI - Institute for Children and Environmentally Friendly Play
- and others

## **Publisher: City of Ljubljana**

**Editor-in-chief:** Karmen Žirovnik | **Assistant to the editor:** Nuša Krajnc | **Translation:** Alasdair Green |

**Design and graphic preparation:** Pristop d.o.o. | **Printing:** Tiskarna Salomon d.o.o., Ljubljana | **Print run:** 3,000 copies | **Contact:** glavna.pisarna@ljubljanasi.si | **Photos:** City of Ljubljana archive, Ljubljana Tourism Archive, Atelier Architects, Bertonecelj Janez, Elaković Vladan, Fras Miha, Gruden Mateja, Hess Saša, Hieng Primož, Hočevar Uroš, Hozjan Tamara, Jakše Jeršič Barbara, Javeršek Živa, Kastelic Matej, Kontić Vita, Kordić Doris - official photographer of the EGC 2016 project, Korošec Primož, Kovač Benjamin, Kranjec Mankica, Medved Ana, Nea Culpa, Novak Kristina Ina, Pal Domen, Rovanič Nik, Štebljaj Urban, Uršič Nina, Wedam Dunja, Zdjelar Tina.

Thank you all for contributing and participating in the preparation of this report.

The Newspaper Ljubljana.For you. is a one-time report from the Ljubljana - European Green Capital 2016 project, as required by the European Commission at the end of the project. All the projects and activities that we carried out during the year when Ljubljana was shining green were performed for the higher quality of living of all those living in Ljubljana. For this reason, we decided to present this newspaper report of popular and interesting contents also to the citizens of Ljubljana - all the households in Ljubljana received the Slovene version of the newspaper in their mailbox.

This newspaper is printed on environmentally friendly paper.