



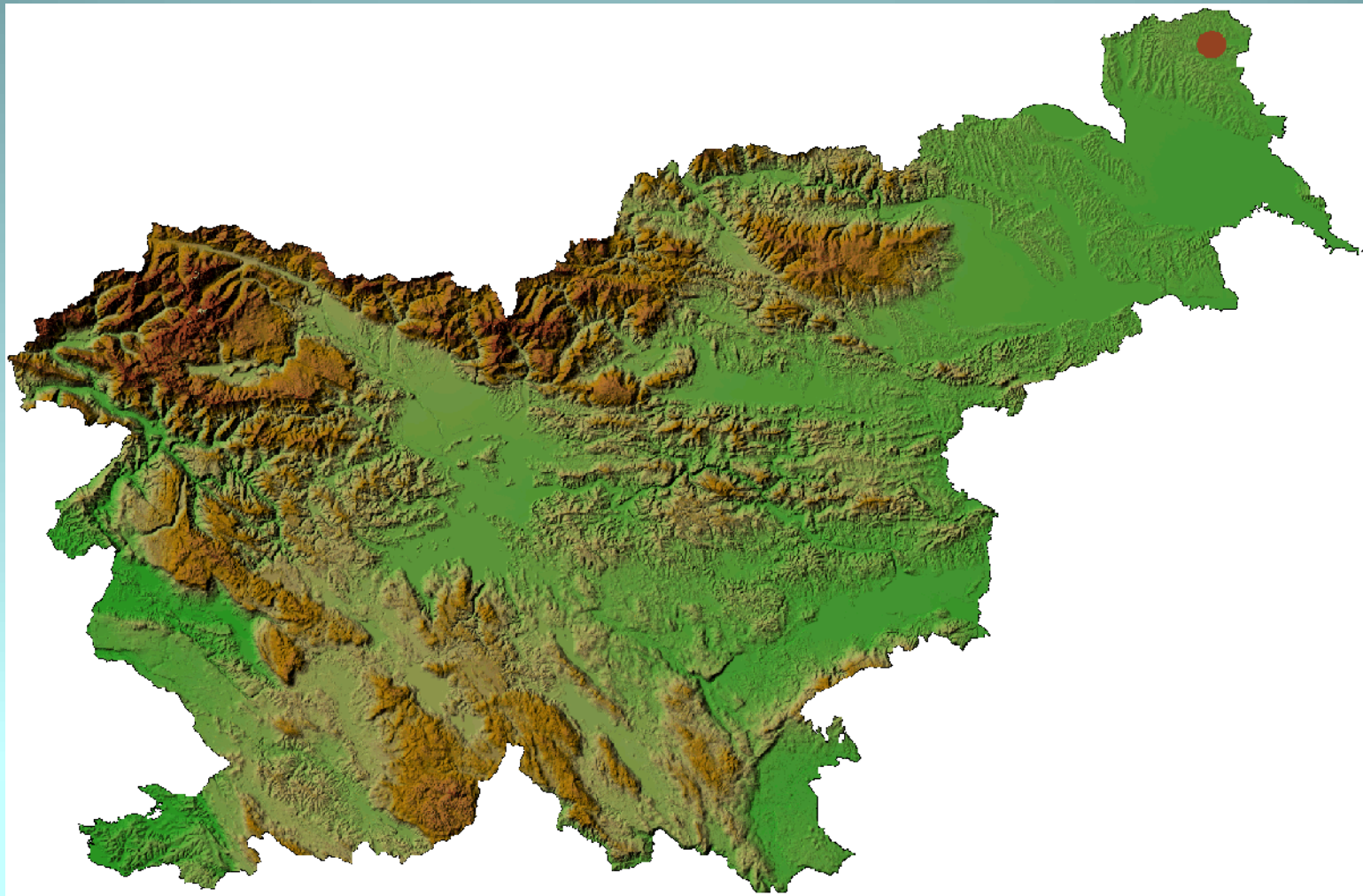
# Conservation of otter population (*Lutra lutra*) in Goričko – Phase 1





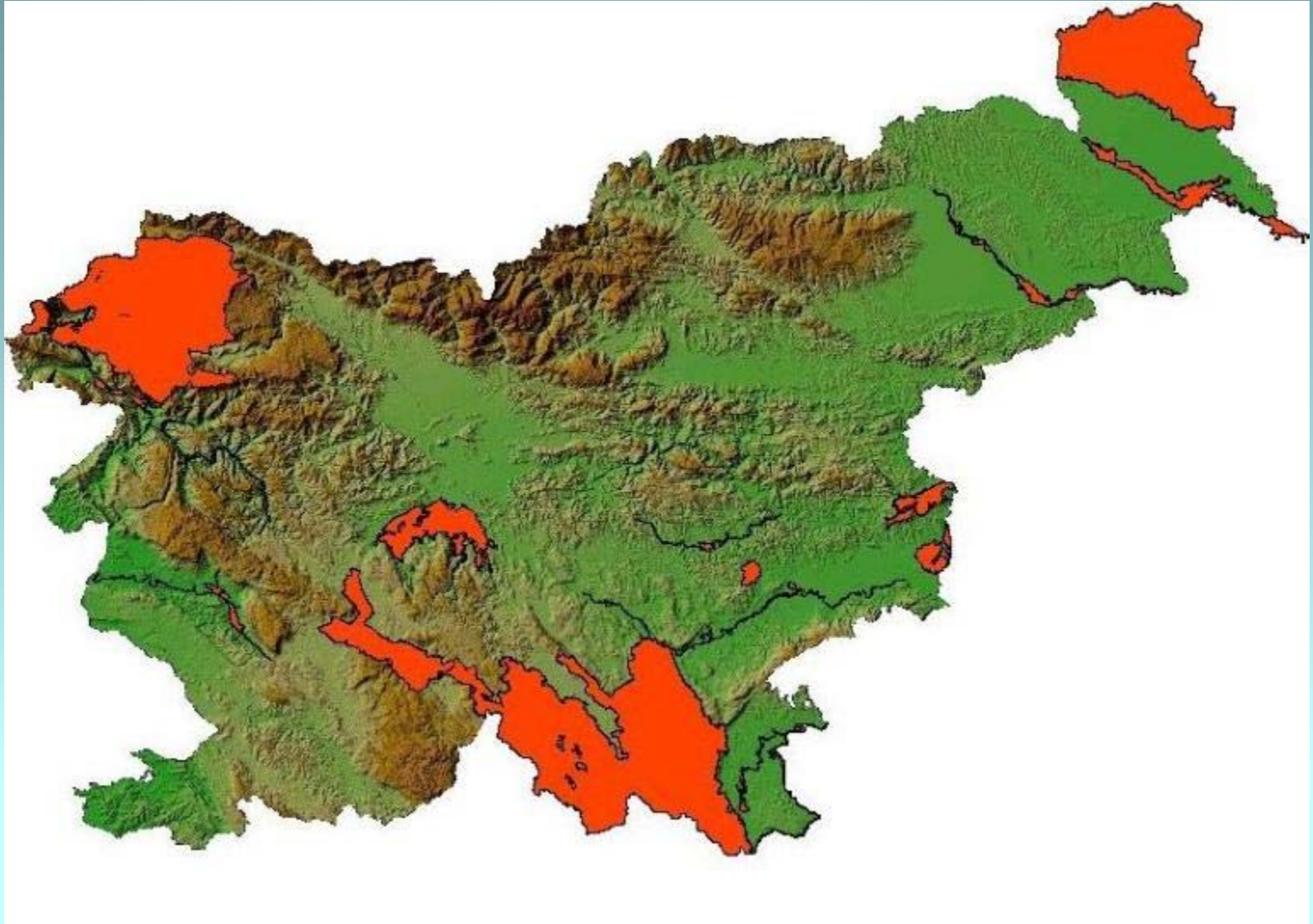
Image NASA  
© 2007 Europa Technologies  
Image © 2007 TerraMetrics  
© 2007 Cnes/Spot Image  
Streaming 100%

Slovenija - 20.256 km<sup>2</sup>





## Natura 2000 sites designated for *Lutra lutra*



Project area

Landscape park  
Goričko

511 km<sup>2</sup>



## *MISSION STATEMENT*

*The aim of the project is to assure favourable conservative status of otter habitats and connectivity of its migrating corridors in the area of Goričko where the otter population seems to be the most dense and viable in Slovenia. The otter at the same time represents the symbol of preserved freshwater ecosystems and clean water; as a charismatic species it can be used for education and public awareness rising activities for a wide range of target groups.*



# Otter habitats in Goričko

## Lake Krašči on the River Ledava



# Otter habitats in Goričko

## Lake Hodoš





# Otter habitats in Goričko



River Mala Krka



# Otter habitats in Goričko

Stream Peskovci



Stream Bodonci

# Otter habitats in Goričko



Lake Bukovnica





*Lutra lutra*

Lutra





# Threats to otter population:

1. Degradation of habitats and movement corridors
2. Pollution of waters
3. Habitat fragmentation and degradation by transport infrastructure (roads, railway)
4. Road
5. Drowning in underwater traps
6. Insufficient knowledge about the distribution, threats and conservation demands of the otter
7. Increasing frequency of damage cases done by the otters in fishponds
8. The ecological demands of the otter not taken into consideration
9. Low level of public awareness



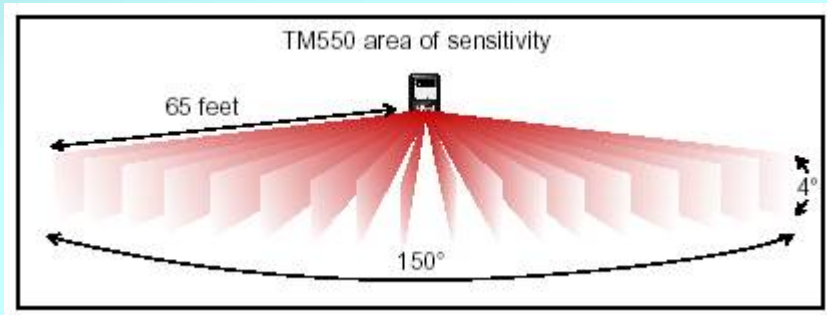
# Monitoring otters

- Investigating sprainting sites and footprints (classic monitoring method)
- DNA analyses of spraints
- Monitoring with remote cameras

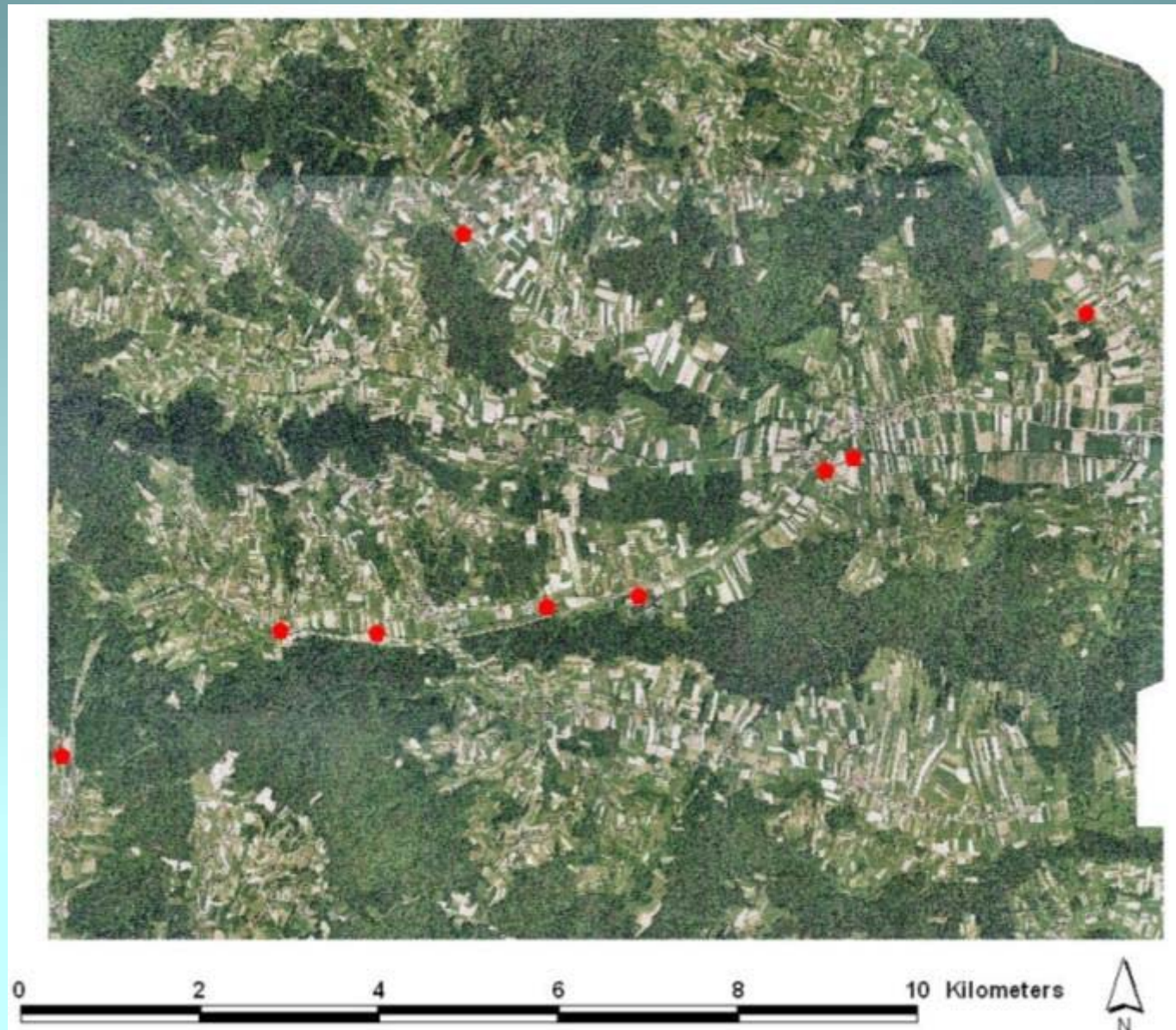


# Monitoring otters with cameras

The TM550 is a passive infrared trail monitor system that detects the combination of body heat-and-motion in the area it is monitoring.



# Study area





The story has commenced...



At first there was one otter...





curious...





In the wintertime two have appeared...



Suddenly, there was something in the fog...



comming out...





A mother with cubs foraging for the prey...



The whole family comming back...





# Otter's school under the bridge...





# Youngs becoming more independent



# Investigating ...



## Evidence of underpass being in use





# New threat to the otters



# Injuries and death caused by the dogs



# Registration of other animal species





# Results in numbers

6. 12. 2005 - 6. 7. 2007:

- ✓ 53 film rolls (36 snaps each) spent
- ✓ 121 otter photos were obtained
- ✓ 3218 active shot-nights
- ✓ Estimation: the area was inhabited by 2-3 adult and 3 juvenile otters.
- ✓ 17 (16,67) adult otters on the project area, which is only 34 % of the population assessed with the best expert opinion method

# Additional results of remote camera monitoring

- ✓ Other animal species recorded (also endangered, e.g. polecat) – over 20 species
- ✓ Absence of some animal species confirmed (e.g. mink - *Mustela vison*)
- ✓ New threats to the otters recognized (e.g. dog packs)
- ✓ A lot of different photographic material obtained – for education and public awareness rising activities



What have we done?

Improving and  
restoring the  
habitats of the  
otter







Ecoremediations



# Construction of the plant water treatment device







Cleaning of the riverbed in Lukaj (Kuzma)



Stream Dolenci(Hodoš) – a bumper







Domov

Predstavitev

Potek projekta

O vidri

Galerija

Kontakt

Partnerji in sofinancerji

## Zadnje novice

- Revitalizacija Dolenskega potoka
- EPILOG ČISTILNE AKCIJE
- Predstavili smo se na Študentski areni
- Spremljanje vider (monitoring) na Goričkem
- »Prstni odtisi« (analiza DNK)



Domov

## Revitalizacija Dolenskega potoka

# Project website

Dolenski potok izvira v bližini madžarske meje, teče mimo vasi Dolenci in se pri Hodošu izlije v Veliko Krko.

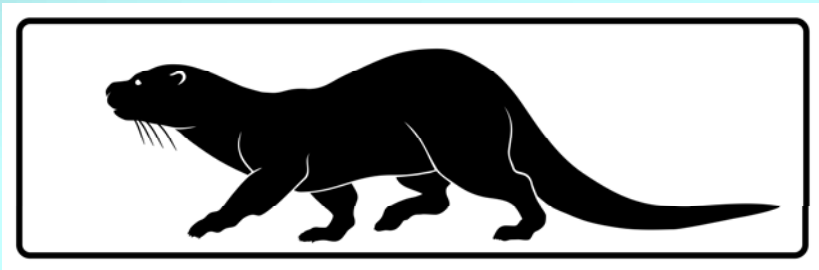
## Akcije



- A. Pripravljalne akcije, upravljalski načrti
- C. Neponavljajoče upravljanje biotopov
- D. Ponavljajoče akcije
- E. Ozaveščanje javnosti in razširjanje rezultatov
- F. Spremljanje in nadzor celotnega projekta



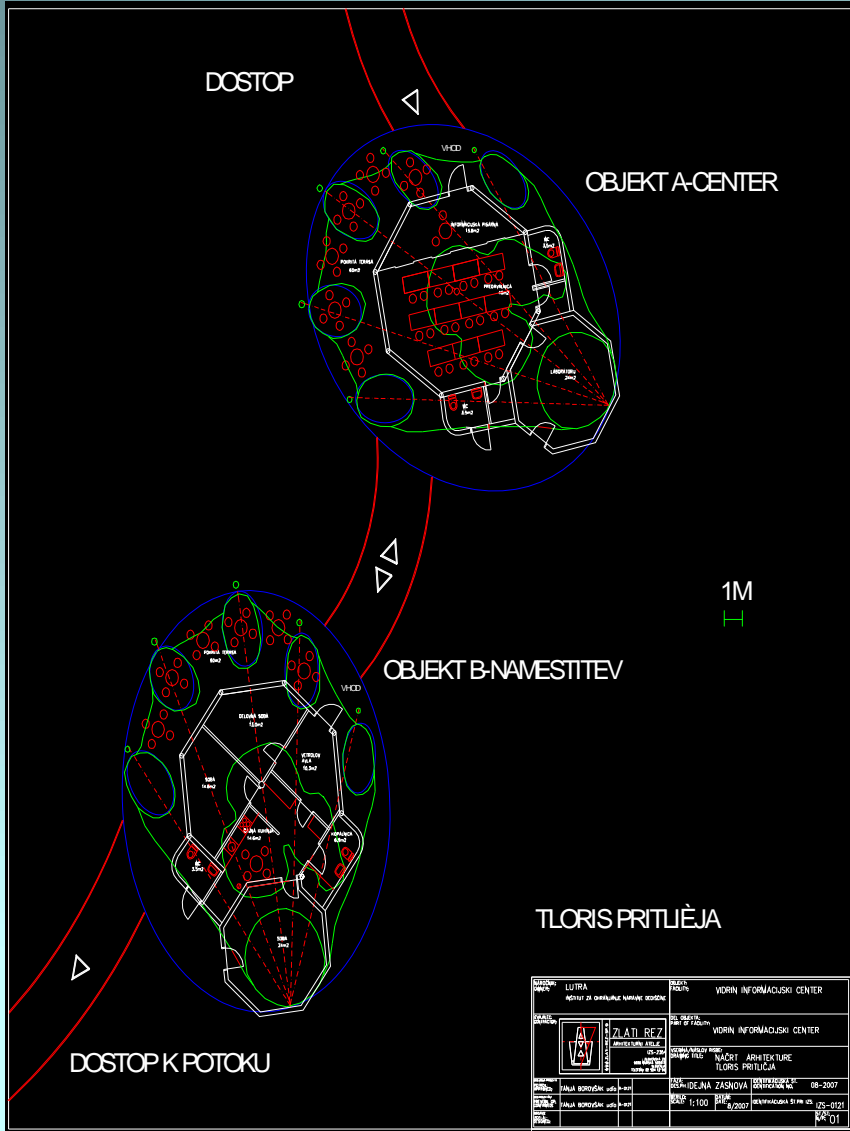
## Warning traffic signs





# What is still to be done?

# Centre AQUALUTRA

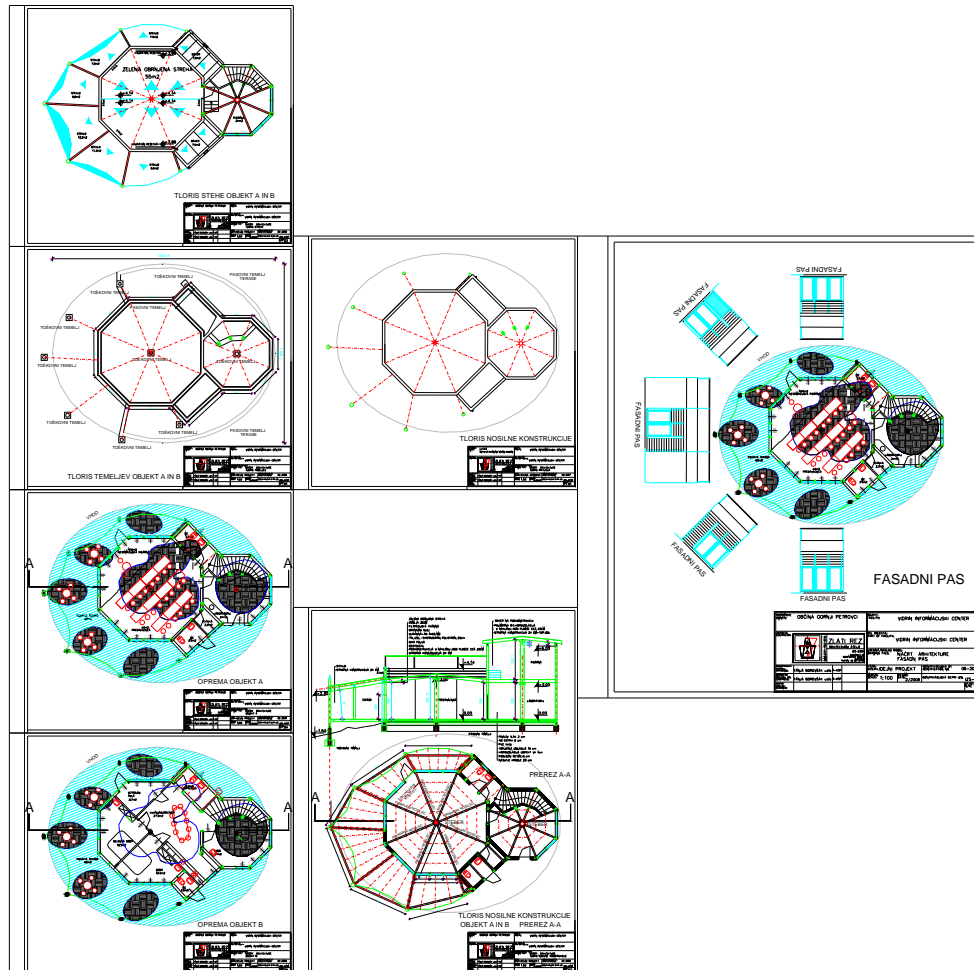


# Centre AQUALUTRA

## Financing:

- LIFE-NATURA
- Other project applications
- Sponsorship
- Donations

FOUNDATION  
AQUALUTRA



# Education and public awareness rising





*· Thank you for your attention!*

