

Project Update: October 2023

Field research results

In the first project phase we have conducted 12 field research visits on four main peatland sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Protected Landscape Bijambare, Đilda's peatland on Mt. Zvijezda, Han Kram peatland near Han Pijesak and peatlands on Mt. Vranica above Prokoško lake). This is way beyond planned and this dynamic will be continued in the following project phases.

So far more than 120 fungal species have been recorded among which some of them are important indicator species and very specific for peatland ecosystems (ex. *Geoglossum sphagnophilum*, *Nothomitra cinnamomea*, *Mitrulella paludosa*, *Niptera eriophori*, *Mollisia humidicola*, *Trizodia acrobia*, *Galerina hybrida*, *Hypholoma elongatum*, etc).

More than 20 species of fungi have been registered for the first time for mycobiota of Bosnia and Herzegovina while some of them are very rare on regional or European scale.



Photo 1. *Entoloma albotomentosum* (rare and endangered species) – Duge bare peatland, Protected Landscape Bijambare.

Most of the visited sites and peatland are in pretty good condition although more adequate conservation measures and experts should be consulted especially in the case of already protected territories. Exception on the other hand are mini peatlands above

Prokoško lake on Mt. Vranica which are currently in quite poor condition due to the intensive grazing, numerous visitors in this only formally protected area and water usage or drainage for tourism purposes. If situation with managing policies starts to improve, restoration measures and steps should be planned carefully on this site.



Photo 2. *Monilinia baccarum* (first record for Bosnia and Herzegovina) – Mt. Zvijezda, Đilda's peatland



Photo 3. *Hymenoscyphus fulvidulus* (first record for Bosnia and Herzegovina) – Han Kram peatland near Han Pijesak



Photo 4. Hygrophilous vegetation near *Sphagnum* peatland - Mt. Zvijezda, Đilda's peatland



Photo 5. Doing photography and video recording - Protected Landscape Bijambare



Photo 6. Aerial view of smallest peatland site in the territory of Protected Landscape Bijambare



Photo 7. Đilda`s peatland, Mt. Zvezda (aerial view)

Influencing local stakeholders – Raising awareness among local community

Promotion of project activities have been boosting through different channels and tools. On social medial channels posts or videos/reels have been published regularly. As an additional argument for adequate conservation of peatlands in our country we have wrote simple PR text clearly indicating how specific and fragile these ecosystems really are and how important role fungi generally have in this surrounding.

Text have been published so far on our web site and on two other websites and portals:
<https://www.mycobh.com/tresetista-ostaci-postglacijalnog-doba/>
<https://boljabosnaihercegovina.ba/2023/09/26/tresetista-zavirite-u-davnu-proslost/>
<https://prvasmjena.com/tresetista-zavirite-u-davnu-proslost/>

Video recording

One of the main project activities is video recording for social media communication and interaction and for documentary movie as well. At this stage of the project implementation, we have recorded numerous educative and promo videos in different type of formats. In the upcoming project phase, we will additionally promote one of the videos in order to influence on raising awareness about peatland and fungi importance among local stakeholders.

Some of the videos that have been broadcast/published so far:

Complete YouTube playlist – Peatlands of Bosnia and Herzegovina
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiWBWDS7Ens&list=PLx66xRp15ZbgqLB5uLx_hkN01nj1IKfoD

Promo video – Peatlands of Protected Landscape Bijambare
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shZovHD5nKE&list=PLx66xRp15ZbgqLB5uLx_hkN01nj1IKfoD&index=13

Đilda`s peatland – Mt. Zvijezda
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAN8mejLFI&list=PLx66xRp15ZbgqLB5uLx_hkN01nj1IKfoD&index=7

Wild animals, fungi and peatlands
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQHpelh1feU&list=PLx66xRp15ZbgqLB5uLx_hkN01nj1IKfoD&index=15

In the upcoming project phases, we will try to focus more on cooperation with local authorities and management of protected areas in order to eventually create initiative for protection of certain site or to improve existing conservation measures.



Photo 8. Details from the field research and aerial view on some of the most important *Sphagnum* peatlands in Bosnia and Herzegovina.