

Dunja Kugovnik Mahne
Senior project manager
Regional Development Agency Green Karst, Slovenia

Dunja Kugovnik Mahne studied environmental science and in her PhD thesis she focused on the use of nanotechnology to develop a low energy system for industrial wastewaters from textile industry. The system included a constructed wetland system and a “sun-driven” chemical reactor – a combination especially suitable for remote areas. She was also active as teaching assistant at the University of Nova Gorica.

For the last 9 years she has been working at the regional development agency of a Slovenian region, which is largely covered by forest and wildlife. Her fields of work include waste management practices including different approaches taken by local communities, nature protection and conservation projects including pro-biodiversity businesses and the introduction of renewable energy sources. In the last years she dedicated most of the time on increasing the awareness on the importance of the transition from the fossil fuels-based consumption to the CO₂ neutral energy sources also as part of the local business scheme. She has worked on Interreg projects like “WASMAN - Waste Management as Policy Tools for Corporate Governance”, “GREENKARST MAN - Training for Sustainable Development of Green Karst” and ForBioEnergy, Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas.

She has contributed the environmental and spatial planning part of the regional development plan for the Green Karst region in the last two regional development plans.