

Wine Growing in Natura 2000 in Slovenia

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**JOINT MANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN NATURE: NATURA 2000
AND NATURE RESTORATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY,**

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Global Challenges Facing Winegrowing

- **Climate change**

- 2024: lowest global wine production since 1961
- 40°C summers in Chablis/Champagne; more frost and drought
- Irrigation-dependent regions question long-term viability
- Variety shift in place (PIWI, Bordeaux)

- **Consumption decline**

- Regulatory pressure: WHO narrative affects perception consumption in decline
- Generation shift

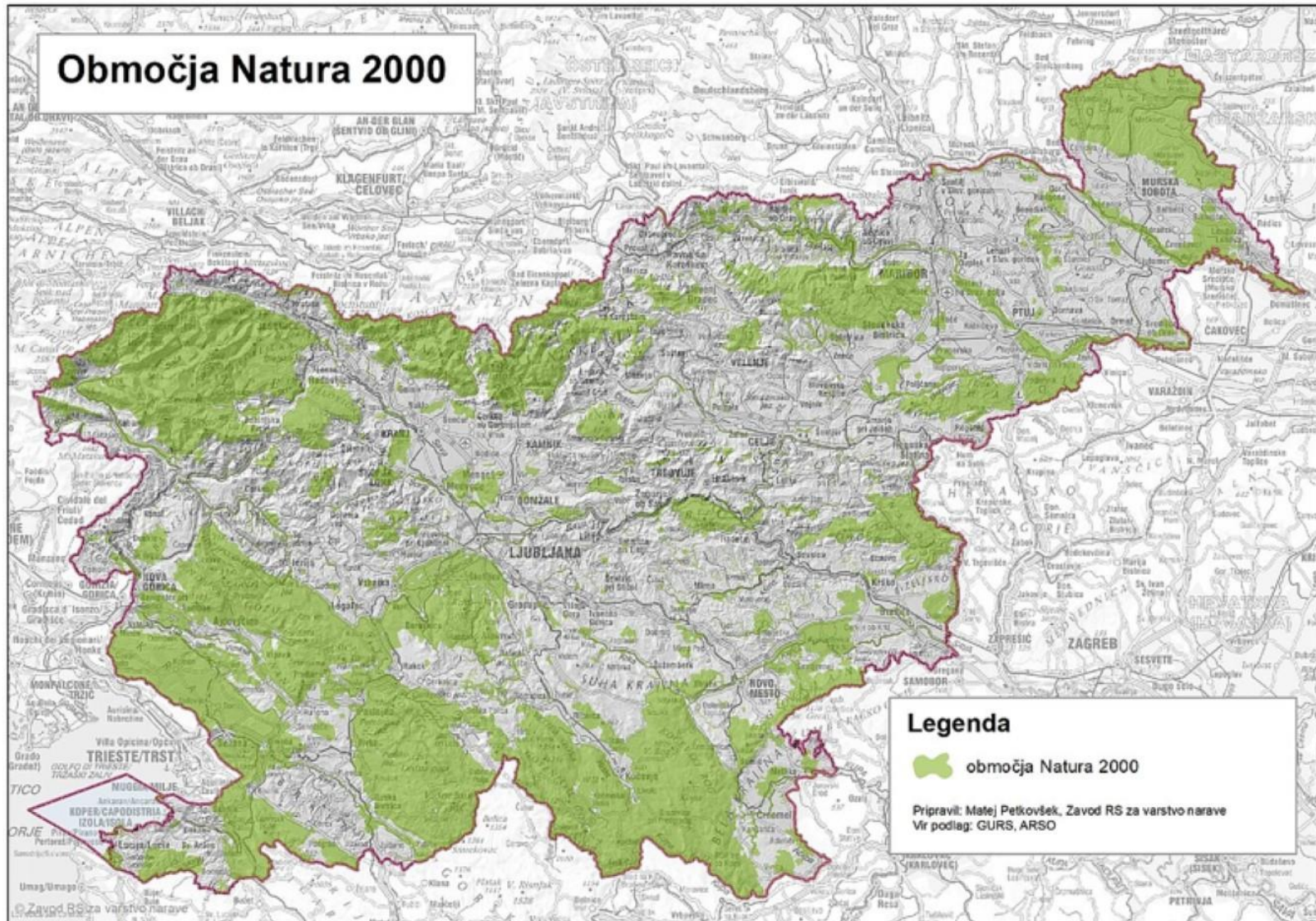
Sustainability: Often Misunderstood

- *UN: "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."*
- Sustainability \neq organic certification
- **Environmental + social + economic pillars**
- Logistics, bottle weight, fair paid labour ...
 - EXAMPLE: Bulk shipping: CO₂ efficient but can be socially questionable

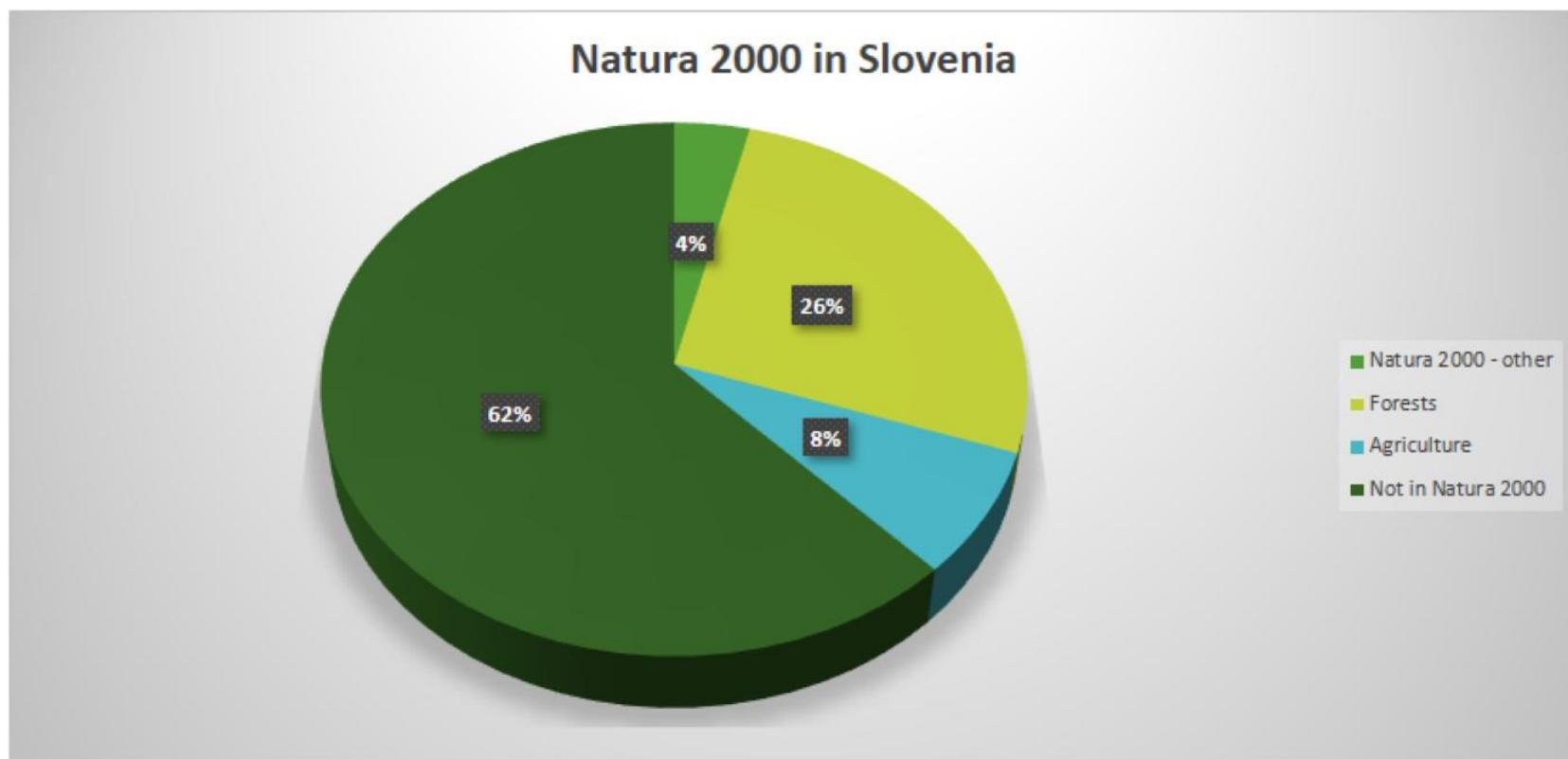
Five Viticultural Approaches

- **Conventional**
relies on synthetic inputs and prioritises stability and yield.
- **IPM – Integrated Pest Management**
reduces chemical use through monitoring and threshold-based decisions.
Through **KOPOP in Slovenia**
- **Organic**
bans synthetic products and careful disease control(more tractor passes!)
- **Biodynamic**
follows organic rules plus specific following cosmic and planet rhythm
creating holistic ecosystem approach.
- **Regenerative**
focuses on soil restoration, biodiversity and long-term vineyard resilience.

Slovenia: Natura 2000 surface



Slovenia: Natura 2000 coverage



Slovenia: Fragmentation as an Advantage

- 22,000 growers; avg. vineyard 0.32 ha
- Mosaic landscape supports biodiversity
- 38% of Slovenia in Natura 2000
- Vineyards = 0.3% of Natura habitats → no extra restrictions



Slovenia: Biodiveristy on every step

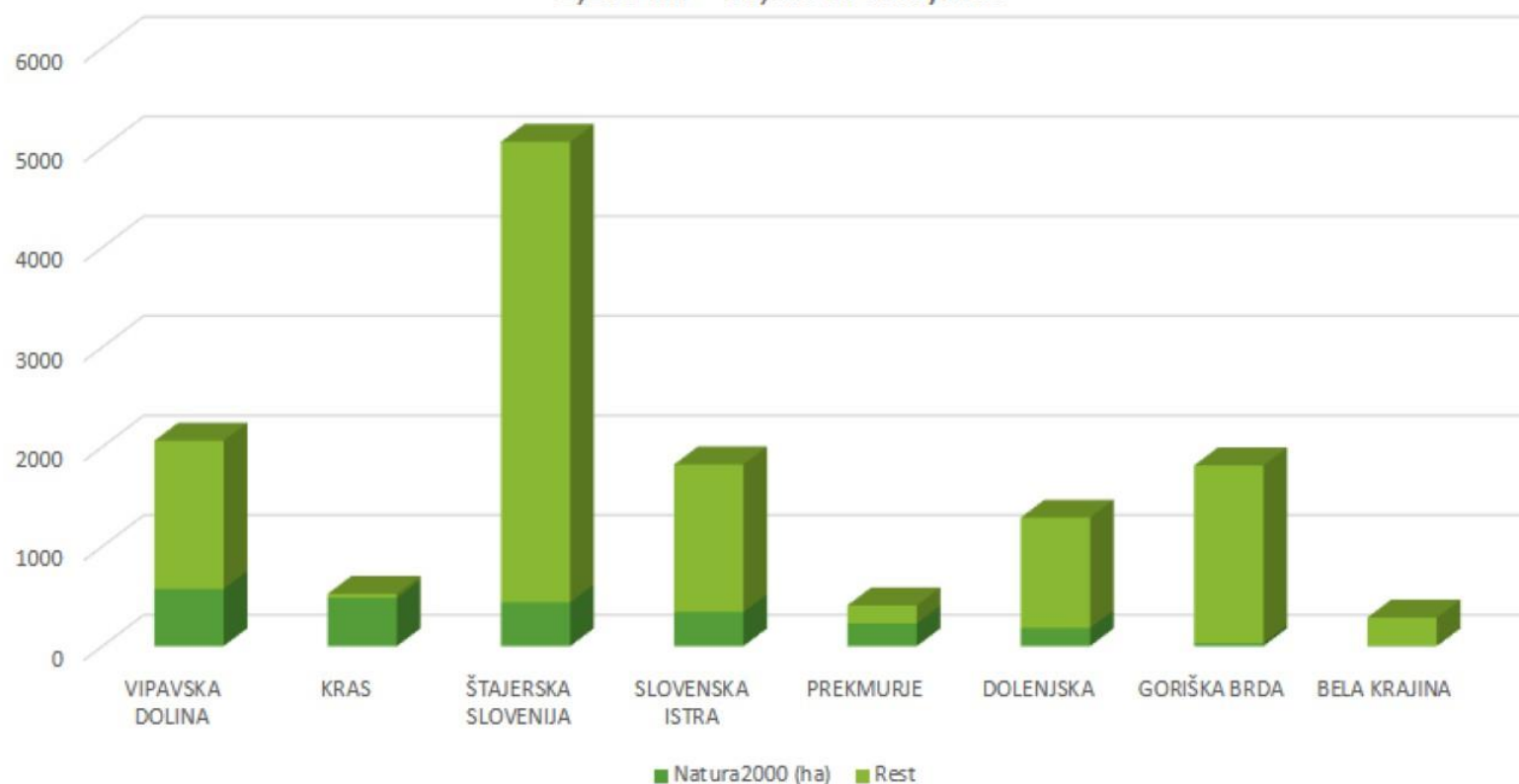


Slovenia: Biodiveristy on every step

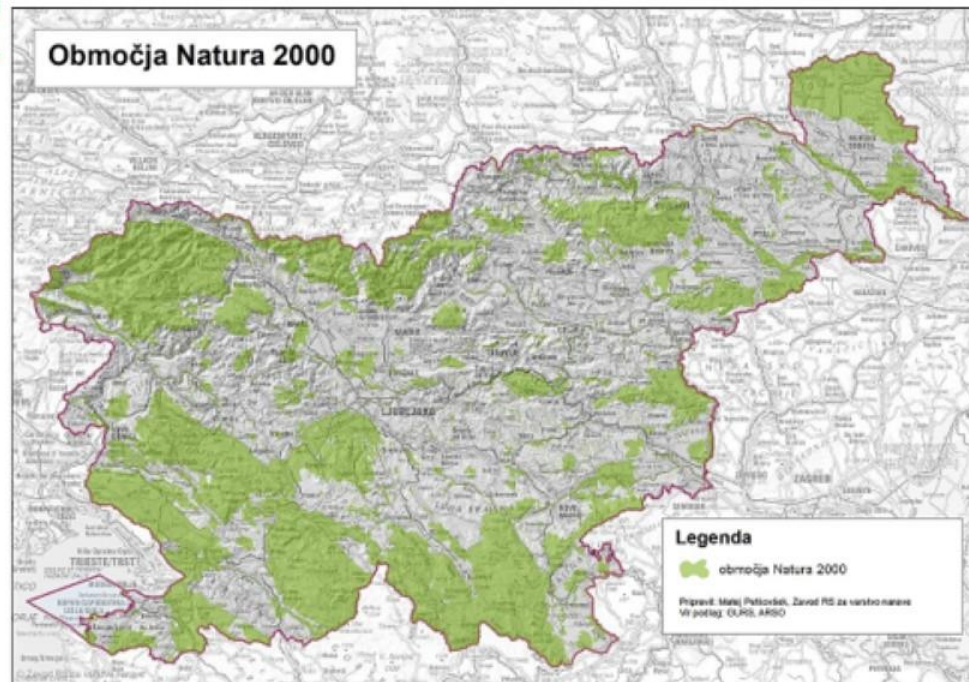


Slovenia: Natura 2000 by Wine Districts

2,299 ha – 16,5% of vineyards



Slovenija, a Wine and Natura 2000 Country



Case Study Marof



foto: Marijan Močivnik • www.studio-ajd.si • www.marijanmocivnik.com

Case Study - Marof

- All vineyards in Natura 2000
- Permanent cover, no herbicides
- An apiary next to the vineyard boosts pollinator activity
- Insecticide only for grapevine yellows
- Before intensive agriculture, nature and farming were more in balance.
- "Soil is everything" — Uroš Valcl



foto: Marijan Močivnik • www.studio-ajd.si • www.marijanmocivnik.com

Conclusions

- Natura 2000 and high-quality winemaking are not opposing, quite the opposite
- resilient vineyards will come from resilient ecosystems
- Living soils and biodiversity are keys!

