

GIS Database of Protected Areas on the Example of Geoheritage Objects

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Abstract

The project “GIS database of protected areas on the example of geoheritage objects” is being carried out on the basis of the Program of Collaboration between the Ministry of Science, Education and Sport of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro and the corresponding Protocol on Scientific and Technological Collaboration in 2015 and 2016. The research is being carried out by the University of Montenegro, Faculty of Philosophy Nikšić and Faculty of Geodesy of the University of Zagreb. The project is led by Prof. Dr. Goran Barović, Faculty of Philosophy Nikšić, Geography Study Program (Montenegro) and Prof. Dr. Miljenko Lapaine, Faculty of Geodesy (Croatia).

The paper presents results of project activities. Special attention was paid to initial research and result analysis. The preliminary analysis included following activities: obtaining and reviewing existing data and materials, including existing maps, GIS and alphanumeric data. This was the most comprehensive segment in the GIS database process. The phase concerns assessing the degree of functionality of existing data obtained during different periods and an analysis conducted in close collaboration with experts in charge of making an inventory of geodata in the field of geoheritage protection.

The first step was resolving some terminological and linguistic issues. For example, what is geoheritage? Is there a difference between *geobaština* and *geonasljeđe* (in languages spoken in Croatia and Montenegro)? Afterwards, official lists of protected areas of geoheritage in Croatia and Montenegro were obtained. Research was done to determine whether there are databases of protected areas and geoheritage in the world and we attempted to determine their structure. Finally, the project aims to propose the structure of a database of protected areas and geoheritage which would be suitable for both Croatia and Montenegro.

Keywords: geoheritage, GIS, Croatia, Montenegro