

# Reduction coefficient on permanent grassland

2014 LPIS Workshop  
Brussels, 22. – 24. April, 2014

Ministry of Agriculture and  
the Environment, Slovenia

## Outline

- Slovenian LPIS
- Specifics of permanent grassland
- Introduction of reduction coefficient and maximum eligible area – example
- Unclear issues

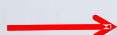
# Slovenian LPIS

- Farmers block
- Land cover layer
- Reference parcel (RP) must be 100% eligible – currently no reduction coefficient/pro rata
- Landscape features up to 2 m wide can be included in the RP

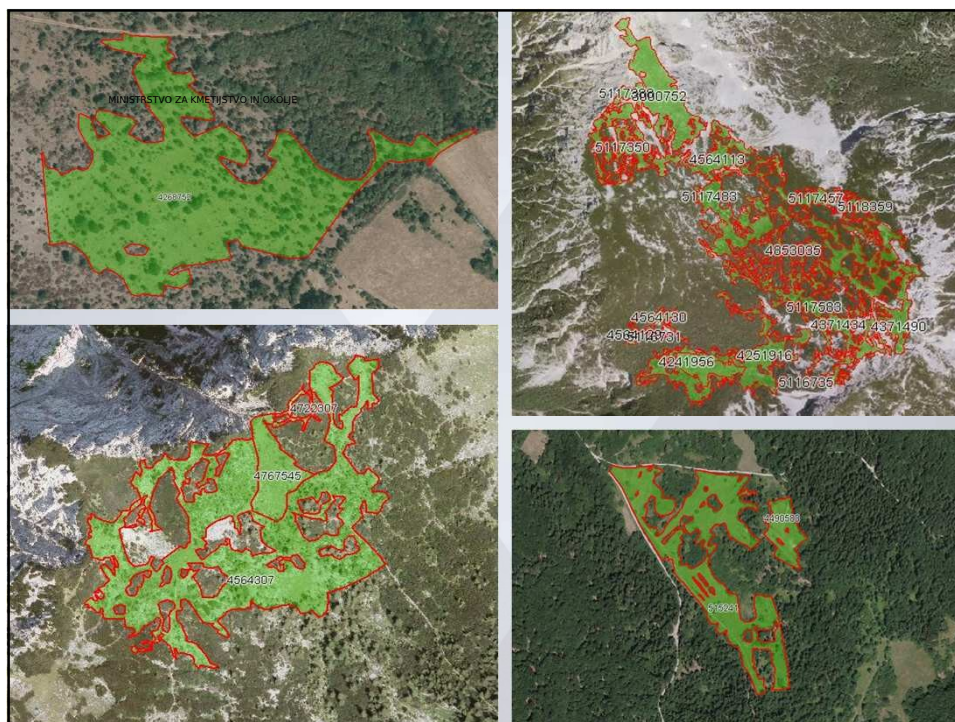


## Permanent grassland

- 2 main areas: Alpine (N), Karst (S, SW)
- Poor natural conditions for agriculture
- Extensive grazing
- Very intertwined land cover (grass, trees, bushes, shrubs, rocks)
- Ecologically important
- Land abandonment due to unfavourable age structure of farmers

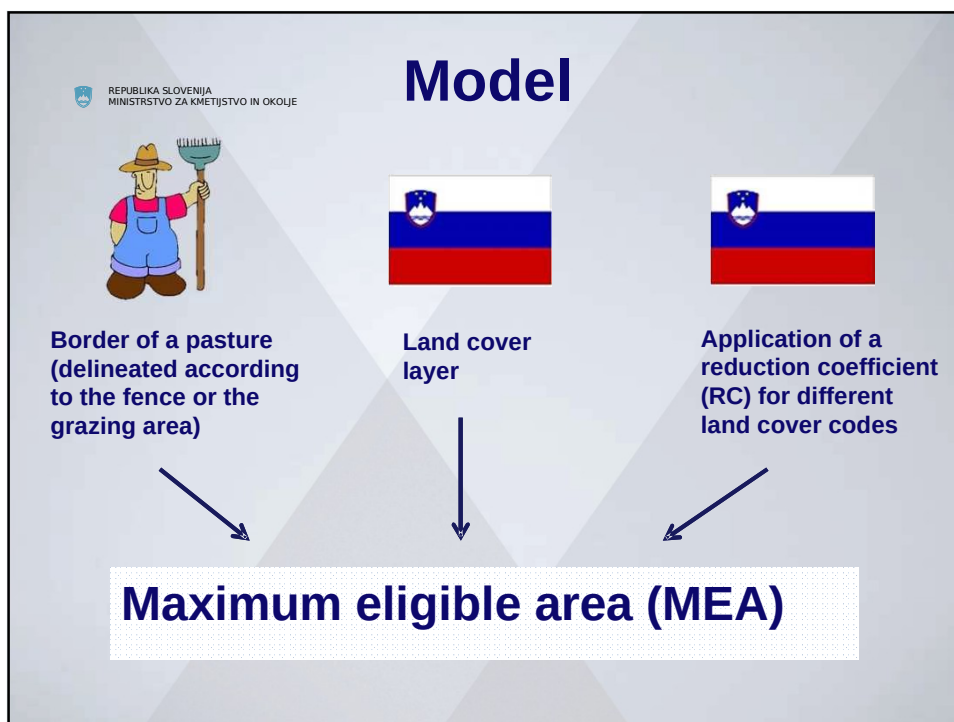


**LPIS: a challenge for farmers, controllers and administrators**



## Legislation

- Regulation No 1307/2013, Article 8  
Reduction coefficient according to Article 32(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013  
When applying Article 32(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 for permanent grassland which can be grazed and which forms part of established local practices where grasses and other herbaceous forage are traditionally not predominant in grazing areas, Member States may distinguish between different categories of areas in order to apply different reduction coefficients to such categories.
- Delegated act IACS, Article 10  
Pro-rata system for permanent grassland containing landscape features and trees  
1. As regards permanent grassland with scattered ineligible features, such as landscape features and trees, Member States may decide to apply a pro-rata system to determine the eligible area within the reference parcel. The pro-rata system referred to in the first subparagraph shall consist of different categories of homogeneous land cover types for which a reduction coefficient based on the percentage of ineligible area is applied. The category representing the lowest percentage of ineligible area shall not exceed 10% of ineligible area and no reduction coefficient shall apply to that category.

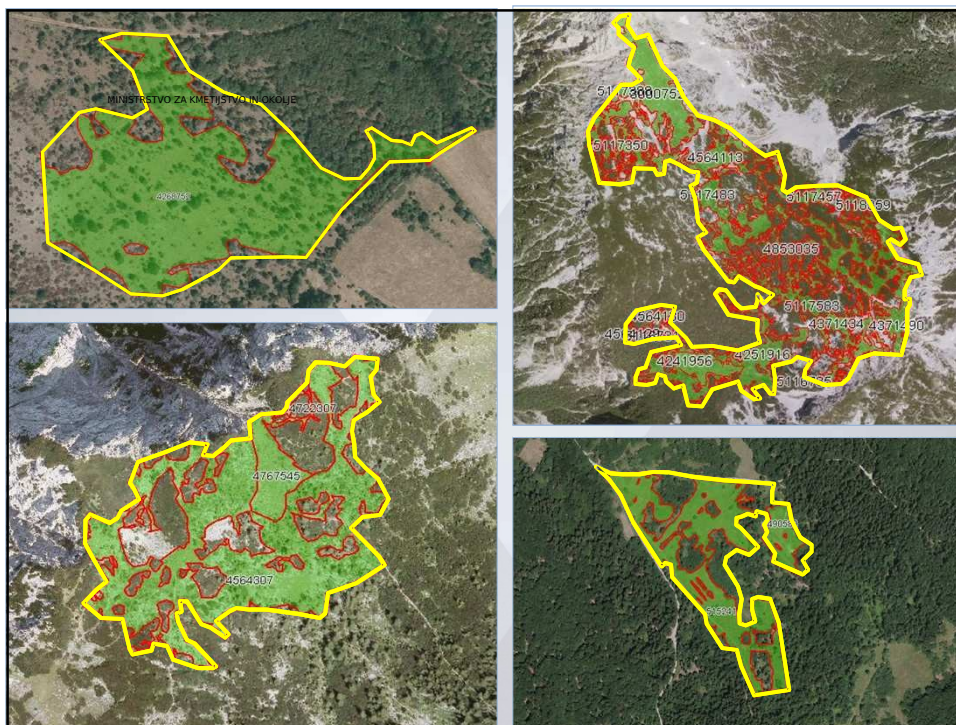


## SI proposal

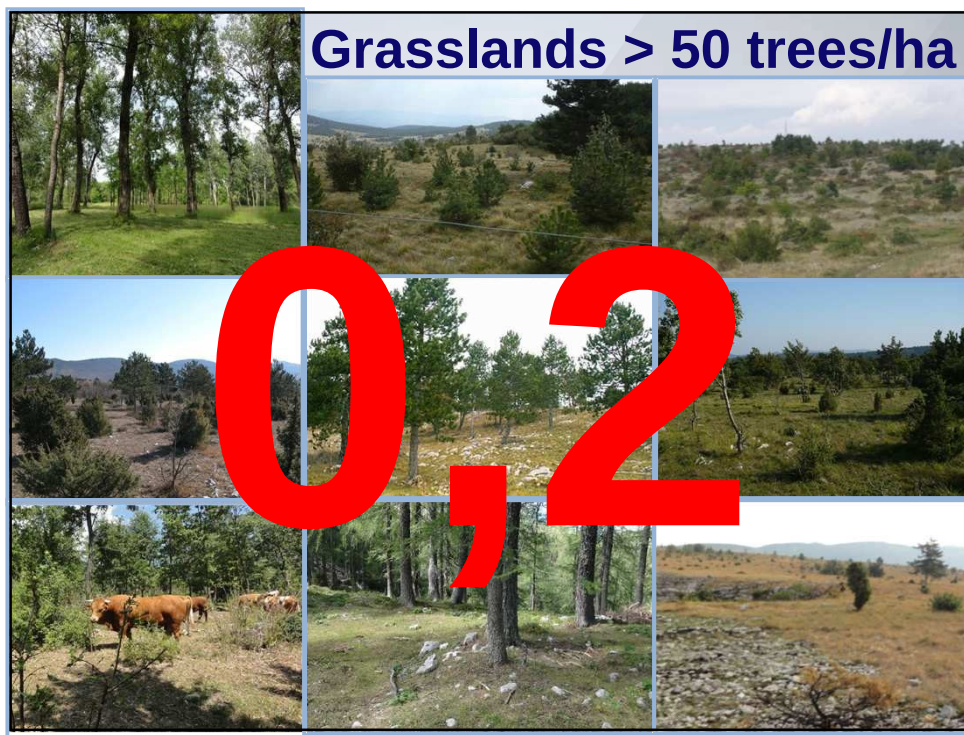
REPUBLICA SLOVENIJA  
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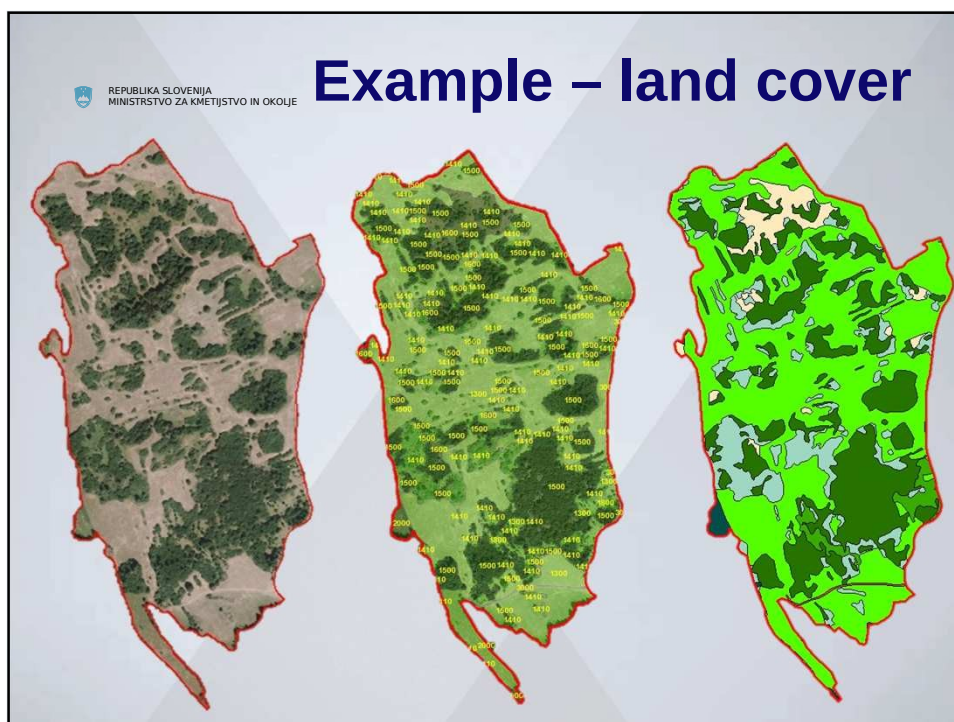
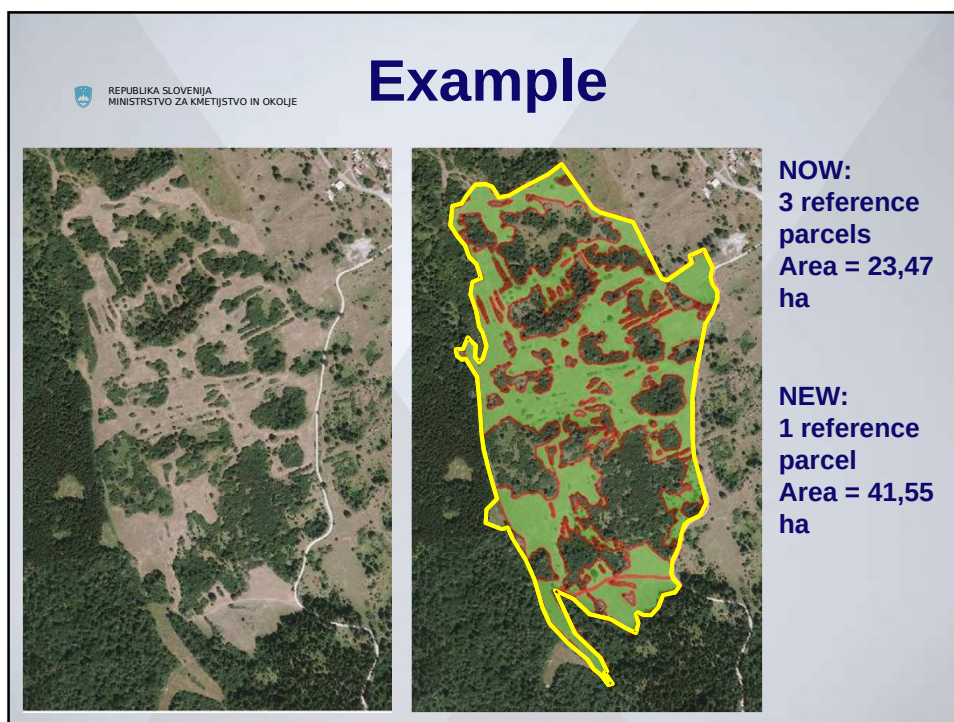
- Delineation according to the actual agricultural area (fence, natural constraints)
- Inclusion of areas with eligible, partly eligible and some ineligible land cover codes
- Land cover codes with eligibility  $\neq 100$ :
  - areas with overgrowth (LC code 1410);  
 **$MEA = area * 0,2$  (Reduction Coefficient = 0,8)**
  - grasslands with more than 50 trees, bushes/ha (LC code 1800);  **$MEA = area * 0,8$  (Reduction Coefficient = 0,2)**
  - Ineligible land cover codes included: clusters of trees, bushes, natural bare areas, rocks, water; *pinus mugo* forest (dwarf pine) in Alpine region;  **$MEA = area * 0$  (Reduction Coefficient = 1)**
- Exclusion of permanent artificial ineligible features



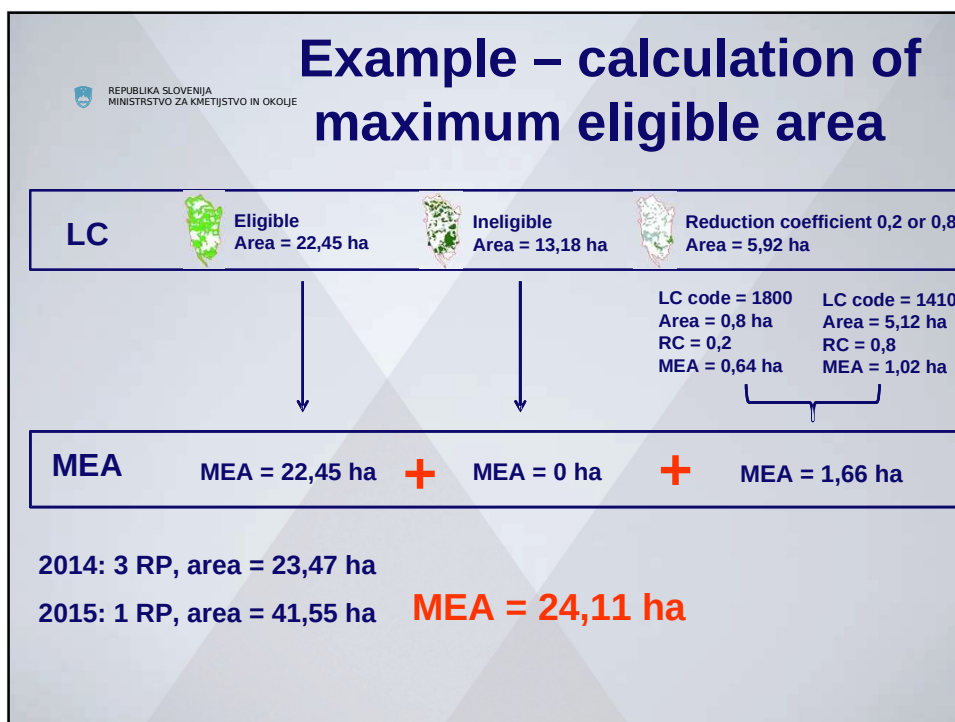
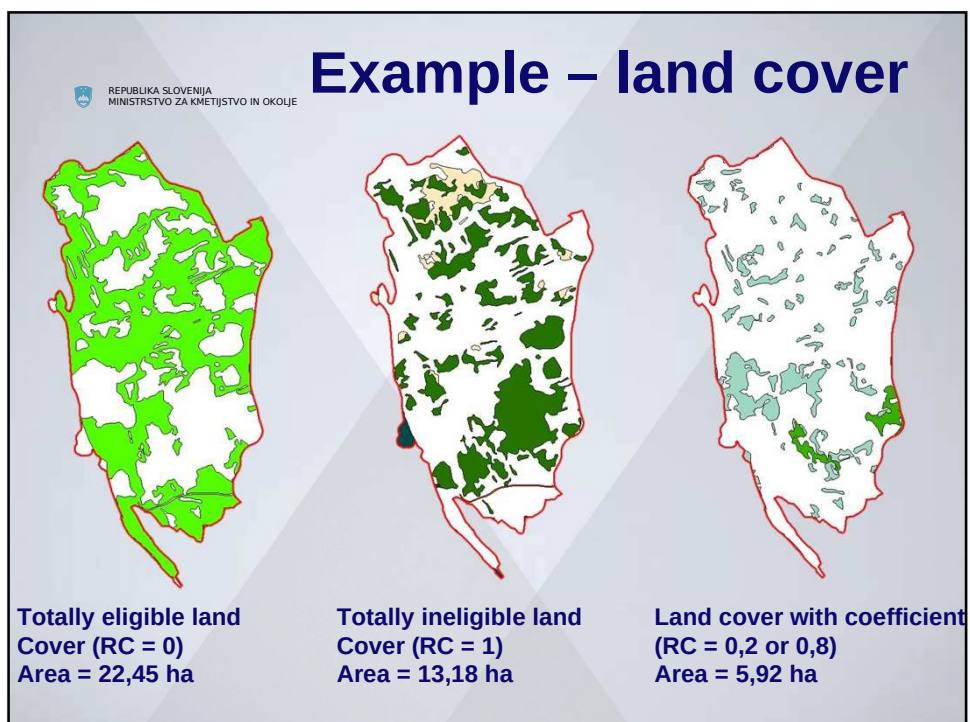
















## Results\* on a sample of 57 RPs

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	Alpine region	Karst region	All
Number of RPs (2014)	60	66	126
Number of RPs (2015)	30	27	57
RP area 2014	1060 ha	547 ha	1607 ha
RP area 2015	1438 ha	857 ha	2295 ha
RP MEA 2015 after application of a reduction coefficient	1025 ha	541 ha	1566 ha
Ratio area 2015 (with RC)/area 2014	-3,3 %	-1 %	-2,6 %

- The eligible areas before and after application of RC are quite similar (in general decrease of 2,6 %), but simplification is significant
- 14 out of 57 RPs have MEA 2015 > MEA 2014
- Number of RPs decreases for 55 %: from 126 in 2014 to 57 in 2015 with applied RC and calculated MEA
- Maximum eligible area varies from 0,18 to 0,96, with an average of 0,71

\* Delineation of new reference parcels is hypothetical, we cannot know how farmers will declare their land

## OTSC

- Check whether there is agricultural activity present on the RP area (grazing)
- Check the reference parcel perimeter
- Exclude only new permanent artificial ineligible features (does not measure all the intertwining boundaries between grass, overgrowing, bushes, trees, rocks inside the pasture)
- After the OTSC findings are brought into the system, the MEA is calculated anew by applying a reduction coefficient on existing land cover layer

## Regular update of MEA

- 3 year cycle for ortophoto (1/3 of the country each year)
  - land cover layer systematically updated after new ortophoto
- Update relevant for the next aid application, when new calculation of MEA takes place
- MEA also calculated every time the boundary of the reference parcel is changed

## Open issues

- Is the legislation appropriately applied in the proposed procedure?
  - may ineligible land cover codes (MEA = 0) be included in the RP?
  - is the proposed form of OTSC appropriate?
- Confusion about terminology:
  - Reg. 1307/2013, Art. 8.: **reduction coefficient**
  - DA IACS, supplementing Reg. 1306/2013, Art. 10: **pro-rata & reduction coefficient**

## Open issues

- **JRC Wikicap**  
**Definition of area to be measured**  
 To assess the eligibility of / eligible area within an agricultural parcel of (permanent) pasture, Member States can use a **reduction coefficient**, which can take the following forms:
  - **a predefined pro rata system** whereby the eligible area taken into account is determined according to different thresholds applied at the level of each parcel
  - **a percentage reduction** applied at agricultural parcel level based on an assessment of the parcel using scorecards differentiating the reduction to be applied according to the type of ineligible feature, its predominance within the parcel etc.



**Thank you for your attention!**

