



BRIEF COMPANY DESCRIPTION

February 2020

*We celebrate 22 years
of our service to
society, nature and the
environment.*

Our service portfolio:

- ✓ Environmental Protection
- ✓ Nature Protection
- ✓ Landscape Architecture
- ✓ Feasibility studies
- ✓ Natural Resource Management
- ✓ IT and GIS
- ✓ Remote Sensing and Telemetry
- ✓ Program and Project Management
- ✓ Renewable Energy Resources
- ✓ Industrial Ecology
- ✓ Environmental Modelling
- ✓ Transportation and Mobility Ecology
- ✓ Environmental Law, Policy and Economics
- ✓ Educational Projects on Environmental Protection
- ✓ Environmental Monitoring for Construction Projects

*Almost 1,400
completed contracts,
over 300 clients and 22
years of experience*

About us

Oikon Ltd. – Institute for Applied Ecology is a **leading** licensed and accredited consulting company / research institute in the field of **applied ecology** in Croatia and the region.

This year we celebrate **22 years** of our service to society, nature and the environment.

We offer services in the areas of nature and environment protection, industrial ecology, renewable energy, natural resource management, ecological modeling, landscape analysis and design, geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing and ICT, environmental law, policy and economics, feasibility studies, as well as program and project management.

The company is **independently operated and privately owned** and has the official **status of scientific institute**.

In Croatia, Oikon is officially licensed for activities in the fields of environmental and nature protection, geodesy, protection and conservation of cultural properties, and for development of forest management plans. In the past 22 years, it has successfully completed **1,400** contracts for over **300** satisfied clients.

Since 2019, Oikon has been a **UNIGIS study centre** and an entry point for students from nine Southeast European countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Croatia, Kosovo, Northern Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia) who attend online academic study courses in geoinformatics with degrees awarded by the University of Salzburg.

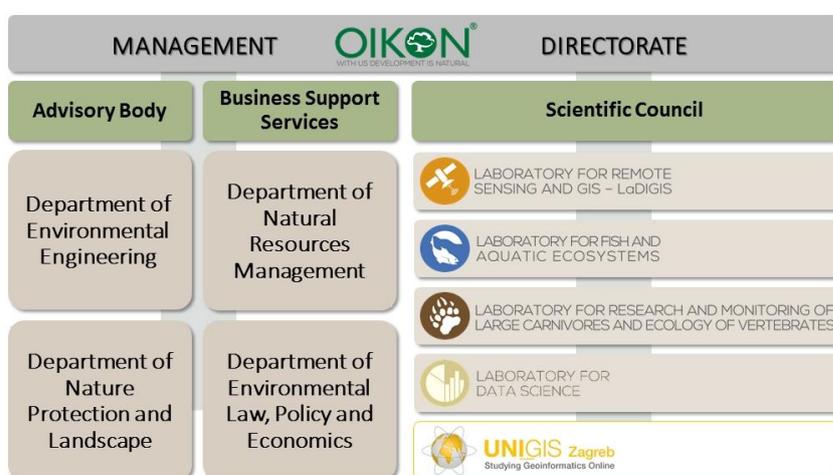
Our strong belief in ethical corporate management, continuous education of its talented employees, leadership and innovation, high quality management, social responsibility, customer focus and quality service has resulted in image of **competence and reliability**.

Oikon's business activities are based on the integrated management system for quality, environment, occupational health and safety in compliance with the top international ISO standards.

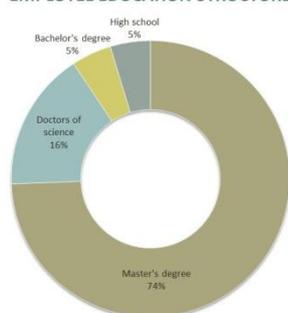
General Organizational Capability

Oikon is recognized as a leading environmental consultancy in Croatia and its neighbouring countries.

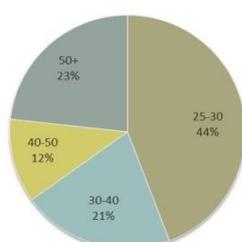
Oikon is organised into 4 main departments: Department of Environmental Engineering, Department of Nature Protection and Landscape, Department of Natural Resources Management and Department of Environmental Law, Policy and Economics. There are also 4 laboratories: Laboratory for Remote Sensing and GIS, Laboratory for Research and Monitoring of Large Carnivores, Laboratory for Fish and Aquatic Ecosystems and Laboratory for Data Science.



EMPLOYEE EDUCATION STRUCTURE



EMPLOYEE AGE STRUCTURE



EMPLOYEES BY GENDER



Oikon is a medium-sized company with experts who cover a wide range of disciplines, such as Ecology, Environmental Management, Nature Protection, Agronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Forestry, Geodesy, Geography, Geoinformatics, Geological Engineering, IT, Landscape Architecture, Meteorology, Metallurgy, Physics and Archaeology.

Amongst them, 7 have doctoral degrees, 7 are research scientists registered by the Ministry of Science and Education, 5 engineers are registered by the Croatian Chamber of Architects and Engineers, the Croatian Chamber of Forest and Wood Technology and the Croatian Chamber of Engineers of Geodesy and 2 are Project Management Professionals certified by the Project Management Institute, USA.

All of our experts regularly attend conferences, and seminars and have access to professional and specialised equipment, hardware and software that is modern, up-to-date, and state of the art. All this ensures professional assessments and research for our clients.

Core Business

Our core business is provision of development support services, the sustainable ones! We like to think that WITH US, DEVELOPMENT IS NATURAL. This is our moto. Within our service portfolio we focus on pragmatic, practical, implementable, affordable and neat solutions that are going to best serve our Client's needs and, at the same time, protect Public Interest in protected Environment and surrounding Nature.

Oikon is a major provider of environmental impact assessments (EIA), environmental management plans (EMP) and appropriate assessments in regards to the ecological network / NATURA2000 in Croatia, for all kinds of developments in both terrestrial and marine environments, including projects related to water protection, e.g. waste water treatment plants and sewerage systems, large dams, accumulations and retentions, irrigation projects, multipurpose channel Danube-Sava, protection of wetlands as well as projects related to waste management e.g. waste management centres, transfer stations, landfills, investigations work for waste management centres, remediation procedure etc.

The project portfolio also includes development of strategic documents, for example the Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) for Operational program "Environment" (2007-2013) and Waste Management Plan of the City of Zagreb (2010-2014), or the proposal of the National Environmental Action Plan (2011-2019).

Furthermore, we have substantial experience in working for leading development agencies and international financing institutions (IFI) such as EU/EuropeAid (utilising pre-accession and community funds), WB, EBRD, EIB, KfW, UNDP, WWF, GEF and NATO. In implementation of projects funded by development agencies and IFIs, we have successfully cooperated with leading European environmental consultancies and scientific institutions.

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Regional Experience

Oikon has extensive experience in preparation of Management plans for national parks, nature parks and special forest reserves in Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H); preparation of Feasibility studies regarding enlargement of protected areas (B&H); Environmental impact assessments of various infrastructure (highways, gas pipelines) in B&H, Montenegro and Albania; Coastal zoning management planning in Montenegro, Albania; and Baseline studies of flora, fauna, habitat mapping, ecological network (Natura), as well as, Training and Education of experts for using GIS and satellite images in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus and Turkey.

The company also has regional experience in leading and participating in cross border (scientific and IPA) projects financed by EU, i.e. "Heritage – Driver of Development", "DANUBEPARKS STEP 2.0" and, "HOLISTIC".

Environmental Protection

The specialties of one of our portfolio segments, environment protection, for example, are large infrastructural developments for which we have participated in a number of different services in the last 22 years:

- Environment Impact Assessments (EIA) for over **1,000** km of freeways and their variants - approximately **80%** of newly built freeways in Croatia and BIH;
- Hundreds of km of highways – approximately **30%** of newly built freeways;
- Hundreds of km of railways – approximately **80%** of newly built or planned railways;
- Almost **1,000** km of high pressure gas pipelines;
- Numerous other mayor infrastructure projects, such as transmission lines and wind farms
- More than **30** Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA)
- Over **560** environmental protection projects in total

This demonstrates that we have unparalleled experience in developing EIA's (more than **300**) for such developments in Croatia and the region.

Country experience:

- ✓ Croatia
- ✓ Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ✓ Montenegro
- ✓ Slovenia
- ✓ Kosovo
- ✓ Turkey
- ✓ Albania
- ✓ Cyprus
- ✓ Great Britain



Nature Protection

Over the years Oikon Ltd. has also emerged as major provider of consultancy services and technical assistance projects related to nature protection. We have developed more than:

- 130 nature protection projects
- 90 specialist studies,
- 70 nature impact studies,
- 60 environmental and nature monitoring projects,
- 20 long term and scientific projects,
- several management plans in Croatia and the region.

Oikon has gathered a significant amount of experience in collecting new inventory data for fauna and habitats (birds, large and small mammals, amphibians and reptiles, marine benthic species, fungi, terrestrial habitats etc.) using fieldwork research techniques (photo-traps, ultrasound detectors, radar ornithology, GPS collars/chips for marking and tracking of animals, different biological surveys and sampling depending on the target taxonomic group) and remote sensing techniques (satellite/aerial, sensors and loggers), most of it analysed and presented through specialised spatial analysis tools and methods. We are particularly proud to have been the lead partner and coordinator of the **Croatia EU Natura 2000 Integration Project (NIP)** – the biggest project in Croatia related to fauna inventory, where we provided consulting services for field research and laboratory processing for collecting new inventory data for 11 taxonomic groups: *Actinopterygii* and *Cephalaspidomorphi*, *Amphibia* and *Reptilia*, *Aves*, *Chiroptera*, *Decapoda*, *Lepidoptera*, *Odonata*, *Plecoptera*, and *Trichoptera*.

Also, we have unparalleled experience in **habitat mapping** projects where we were practically a standard setting authority providing all what is needed for this complex activity. Apart from implementation of large scale habitat mapping of the entire territory of the Republic of Croatia 15 years ago (entire territory terrestrial and maritime) and fine scale mapping of practically all of Croatian protected areas (national and nature parks), we have provided training, ICT, RS and GIS support to a number of similar projects in neighbouring countries. Presently, we are doing this on a project in Turkey where we are providing technical assistance for strengthening the National Nature Protection System for Implementation of Natura 2000 Requirements.



Oikon is a major provider of consultancy services and technical assistance projects related to nature protection.



Natural Resources Management

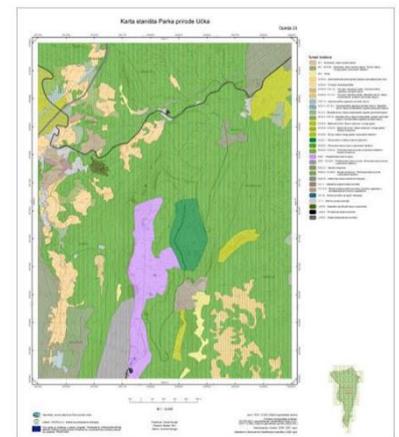
With over 160 completed projects, Oikon is a major provider of comprehensive forestry, agriculture and vegetation, carbon sinks, land use and land cover mapping services in Croatia.

Our services include development of Forest Management Plans (we have developed FMP for 15 % of Croatian private forests), large scale biomass and carbon sink calculations, feasibility studies (biomass, agriculture, forest and SRC), dendrochronology studies, etc.

Oikon has extensive experience and knowledge in land cover mapping. We have developed CORINE land cover (CLC) maps and change analysis including full reporting of the entire Croatian national territory for the reference years: 1980, 1990, 2000, 2006 (for which we received quality mark "very good" from the auditors that was by that time issued only once before in the history of CLC mapping) and 2012. Our methods follow and promote best practice criteria and guidelines and are aimed to ensure accuracy, quality and consistency of maps and accompanying databases.

We are capable of extensive, nation-wide field campaigns for relevant data collection as well for applying all relevant and actual **Remote Sensing, GIS and geostatistical techniques and technologies (orthophoto, IR, multispectral satellite imagery, LIDAR)**, as prerequisites of accurate and cost-effective problem solving with required level of spatial and thematic detail.

Also, we are constantly widening and evolving our knowledge through formal and informal staff education, i.e. conferences, courses, summer schools. This is very important since GIS, remote sensing and other technologies are evolving so fast and we are very keen to keep our leading position in using that technology.



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Environmental Law, Policy and Economics

Oikon, with its latest Department of Environmental Law, Policy and Economics, provides legal consulting related to environmental legislation. Primarily in the form of producing legal gap analysis and harmonisation of the national legislation as well as the assessment of the status of the transposition of the national legislation to EU environmental acquis.

Based on produced analysis, our experts provide legal and institutional assistance in drafting of the new national laws and secondary legislation which are in full compliance to the EU/International environmental requirements.

We draft country reports and position papers on various environmental issues and their implementation in the country based on the exhaustive legal and institutional research in order to enable all the stakeholders to improve their implementation of the legal requirements, as well their capacity building.

Finally, we provide detailed analysis and support in environmental economics and options on finance modules, as well as experienced and professional assistance to SMEs in securing start up grants or long-term financing in environmental sector.

Our services in this field include:

- legal gap analysis and harmonisation of the national legislation
- compliance checking with the EU/International legal requirements
- drafting of the laws and secondary legislation
- drafting of the country report on environmental issues
- institutional analysis
- capacity building to the authorities on national, regional and local level
- development of the strategies, plans and programmes
- drafting of the contracts
- environmental economics and finance modules
- assistance in grants and securing funds for SMEs in environmental sector
- educational projects on environmental protection.



Oikon's latest expert services are those related to environmental law, policy and economics



Environmental Informatics

Unlike most environmental consultancies in the region, we insist on investment in development of IT and GIS skills that are used internally to support the excellence of provision of our consulting services and are also offered as independent consulting and development services to our clients. In the field of environmental informatics we specialize in design, implementation and support of information systems in environment and nature protection and the education and training in the field of visualisation/GIS/remote sensing use in environment and nature protection (open source, ESRI, RSI, 3D Nature LLC, MS Bing).

We have completed over 130 remote sensing and IT/GIS projects. One of our mayor products in this field is the Environmental Pollution Register (ROO) with Croatian National Portal of the Environmental Pollution Register (HNPRO) with up to 14.000 users in peak hours and 7/24 availability is the biggest application system in environment protection in Croatia.



Quality Control

Current results are achieved through knowledge, skills and experience of our employees and business partners, in accordance with quality of services and products based on the integrated management system for quality, environment, occupational health and safety in compliance with the top international standards ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 standard.

Oikon is a holder of the Croatian Quality label awarded by the Croatian Chamber of Economy and is the signatory of its Code of Business Ethics. It has also been awarded other internationally recognized certificates, such as the AAA Certificate and Companies Reputation Certificate, as well as several company and CSR awards.



Croatian Quality

