





## **General Socio-economic Profile**

Located in central Croatia, the Sisak Moslavina County has developed its economy with various industries including energy, petroleum, petrochemicals, chemicals, metallurgy, food, agriculture, forestry, trade, catering, construction, logistics and communications. There is also notable development in cutting-edge technologies, electronics and the pharmaceutical industry.

The county has formulated its regional development strategy on the following areas:

**Economic growth and employment** – developing an innovative, digital and export-oriented industry; developing craft industry, boosting entrepreneurship and building entrepreneurial infrastructure; sustainable and ecological agriculture and agricultural production capacity; new and renewable energy sources and efficient energy management; tourism; high-tech education infrastructure, including human resources and an active labor market; international cooperation.

Environmental protection and preservation of natural and cultural heritage – environmental preservation and improvement; sustainable use of natural resources and cultural heritage.

Infracture development and life quality improvement – enhancing social inclusion; developing health infrastructure and services; improving communication and trasnport connectivity. Sisak Moslavina County





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## **Good Practices**

The county wishes to share its experience and expertise in gaming industry, artificial intelligence and blockchain, as well as how it integrates the entire gaming concept into the Digital Innovation Hub PISMO (DIH PISMO). In 2016, the county joined hands with the development agency SIMORA to launch the Gaming Industry Centre initiative. The aim was to transform from an industrial region to a modern and high-tech region with a primary focus on the gaming industry. The initiative consists of six steps to achieve this goal:

- Free English language courses for kindergartens
- Workshops video game development workshops in all elementary and secondary schools
- Start-up launching start-ups through newly formed business incubator PISMO/DIH PISMO
- Introducing gaming programmes into the regular secondary school system - new four-year programme in vocational schools – "video game developer"

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- Financial support for start-ups in the field of video game development
- Building a gaming industry campus including faculty, student dormitory, entrepreneurship incubator for eSport and accelerator for the gaming industry with a quota of 4,000. This project is on the list of strategic projects of the Republic of Croatia.

Currently, the first five steps have been successfully accomplished, and the last step is currently under development.

## **Preferred Areas of Cooperation**

With the new Gaming Industry Centre initiative, the Sisak Moslavina County wishes to further develop in this direction, and seeks to address two thematic areas through the IURC programme: Technologies and Education, as well as Jobs & Skills. Both areas are interconnected and key to success in any field. For modern technology, in particular, education and skilled talents are the key elements for future efficacy.