

Problem-solving discussion

Work in pairs or groups of 3-4 students. Watch the video offered in this submodule again and discuss the problem(s) the salt workers have to face about their future work.

Consider the advantages and disadvantages of working in salt-pans as well as future opportunities for the salt-pans in general. Additionally, take into consideration all the material you have read and all the tasks you have done so far – this is more information you can work with.

Make a SWOT analysis if necessary – it might help you with finding some solutions for the future problems of the salt-pans. A SWOT analysis checks strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of an activity, business or similar.

Also, read the news below - published on the website of the national television RTV SLO to help you with your discussion.

Then prepare a presentation of your ideas and solutions for the other students in the class.

Unremitting rain is watering salt-pans; will the sun save the harvest?

In Sečovlje they expect up to 3.500 tonnes of salt

The amount of produced salt depends on the number of sunny days in the summer. Salt harvesters can still save this year's harvest if the nature will be generous with the sun.

19. June 2016 at 17:30

Sečovlje - MMC RTV SLO, Radio Slovenija



Foto: BoBo

Because of the unremitting rain salt harvesters look with concern up into the sky. It reminds them of 2014 when not a gram of salt was produced, Maja Kirar is reporting for Radio Slovenija. Do they worry too early? Production manager Dario Sau says: *"We are at the beginning. We have conditions typical for the end of April; this is, so to speak, a concentration. We have managed to prepare some supply in time. We already have some 13-, 14% brine, fresh, current, already in the reservoir, which means something. But now there has been so much rain that we are practically back to zero."*

However, the main part of summer is still ahead. Weather forecasts promise imminent weather stabilization. *"If the weather forecast is right, there is still the opportunity that we'll achieve our plan, this is 3.500 tonnes considering the number of salt fields available,"* he additionally explained.

The production manager is optimistic as he hopes for 23 – 25 sunny days, the amount of days needed for a good harvest. The long lasting rainfall is also causing problems to fruit growers, farmers and beekeepers.

<https://www.rtv slo.si/lokalne-novice/dez-neutrudno-zamaka-soline-bo-sonce-resilo-letino/396130>

Salt workers are gathering a good harvest after all

At the moment they are working on 250 hectares of salt-pans.

In the Sečovlje Salina Nature Park the season of harvesting of snow white Piran salt has begun. The salt is exported in more than 25 countries, among them Japan and the United States.

22. July 2016 at 20:36

Sečovlje - MMC RTV SLO, Televizija Slovenija



Foto: BoBo

As soon as the sun comes out, the salt harvesters are at work in the salt-pans, where they start gathering the salt flower, called fleur de sel, from the water surface. Then they skilfully push the salt crystals to the bottom of the basin and gather them with an outstanding precision.

Of 650 hectares available they are working on 250 hectares of fields at the moment. Sea water is led into those fields, where it thickens so that salt harvesters can then gather the salt manually. The last salt harvesters leave the fields long after the sun is down as it is necessary to gather the sweet Piran salt, enriched with minerals, every day.

"The salt harvest this year will be good because the weather has settled, the salt fields are well prepared and we are sure that sunny and windy days and weeks are coming; the salt water has already thickens well, it is quite salty already and our salt harvesters have prepared the salt fields very well so we are expecting a good harvest," says Andrej Sovinec, the director of the Sečovlje Salina Nature Park.

<https://www.rtv slo.si/lokalne-novice/video-solinarji-ze-zanjejo-letosnjo-kljub-vsemu-dobro-letino/398711>