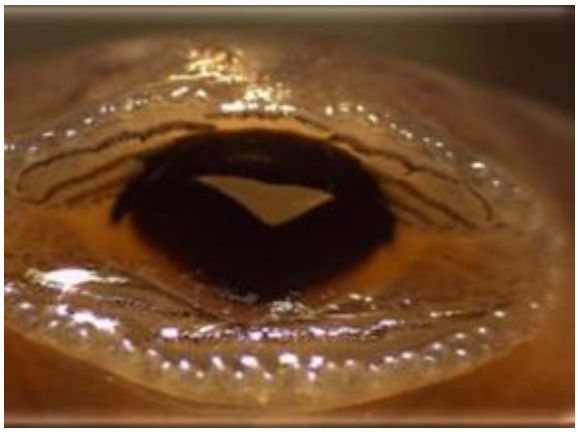
Project Update: January 2018

Since the project was approved at the end of July 2017, we had to move our research and filming field trips to 2018. In April 2017, I managed to find two egg clutches of European common spadefoot toad which are the first ones found and noted in Posavina region. The clutches were collected and moved in 90 l buckets where conditions were adapted to be as similar as possible to the natural ones concerning water quality and natural flora and fauna. Larvae and tadpoles were fed with fish food and fish pellets in later stages, and plants and algae from collected natural water habitat. After 3 months we managed to record important stages from egg development to the latest stage before the process of metamorphosis (by Gosner, 1960). Morphology and



morphometry for European common spadefoot toad tadpoles were described by Gosner, 1960. Also, we took photographs of oral disc, made drawings and did the labial formula for tadpole determination for the first time for species *Pelobates fuscus.* All results will be written up and published.

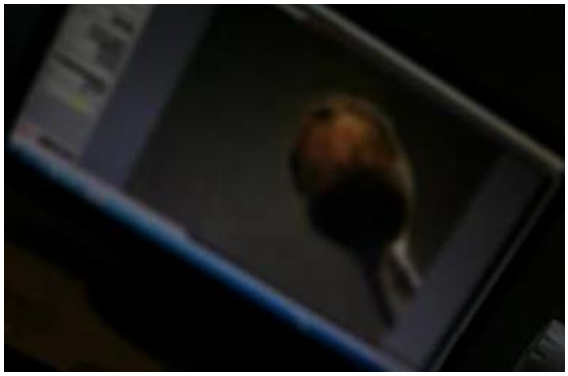


Figure 1: Morpholgy and morphometry reserch of common spadefoot toad tadpoles

During autumn 2017 we made all planned promotional material. One of the results of the tadpole research is a rollup made for European common spadefoot toad tadpole ontogenetic developmental stages from our research results in 2017. Rollup is used during our educational project part. It consists of original illustrated photographs of ontogenetic stages from the egg clutch to the adult frog. All promotional material can be found in additional "promotional material" document, consisting of leaflets (in English and Serbian language), eco bags, t-shirts, pencils, stickers and rollup (in Serbian language).

Educational project part has been conducted in three towns in Bosnia and Herzegovina so far: Banja Luka, Gradiška and Mostar. Lectures were held in high schools with biology and ecology student groups. One lecture was held with students from The United World College in Mostar and presented in English language. Other lectures will be conducted in several more high schools in Banja Luka and Sarajevo, as well as on Faculties of Natural Science in Banja Luka, Sarajevo and Mostar. Also, we are preparing presentation for local government and people in Čardak locality, Modriča municipality, where the main research site in Posavina region is. The main aim is to present our results so far and try to negotiate about the rare natural water habitat restauration.

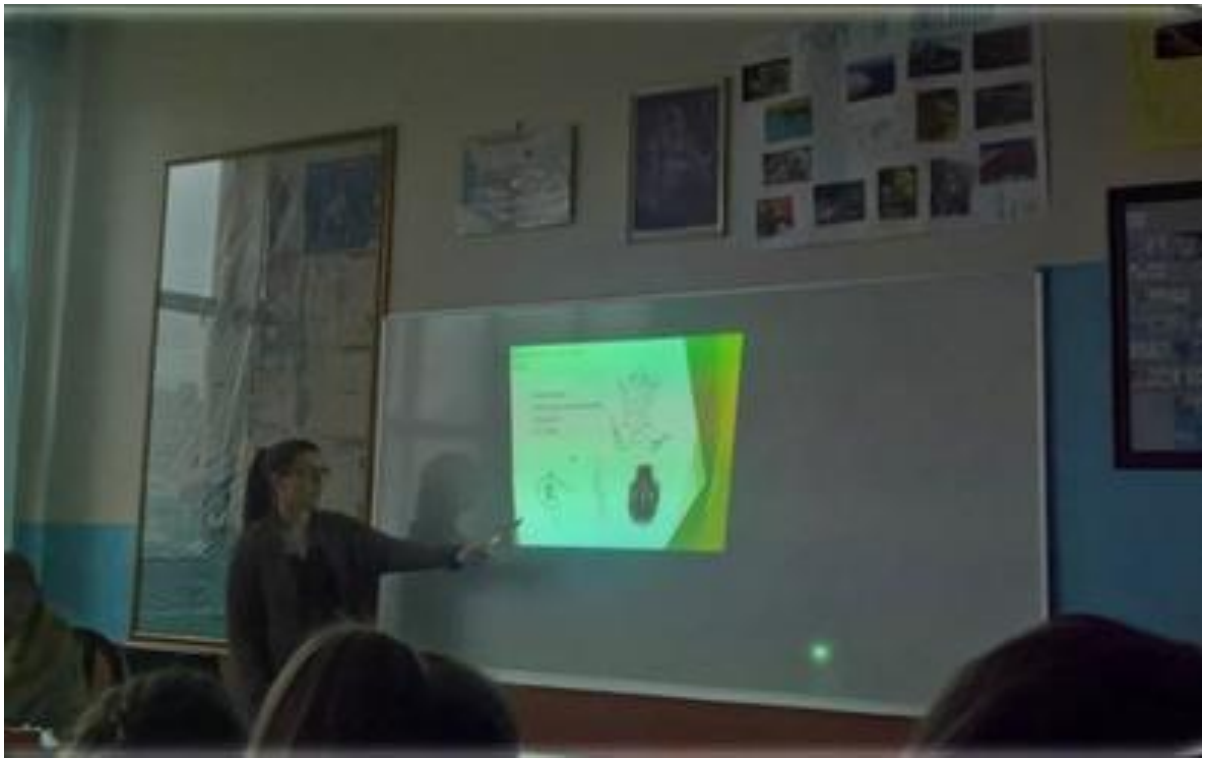


Figure 2: Lectures held in high schools in a, b) UWC Mostar and c) Gradiška