



InnoSchool

GOOD PRACTICE CATALOGUE

Project co-funded by European Union funds (ERDF, IPA, ENI)

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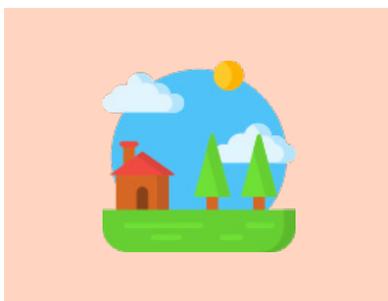
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Who are we and what is the InnoSchool project?

Who are we?

17 enthusiastic organisations from 9 different countries in the Danube Region, who want to do something for the development of entrepreneurial culture and social innovation through a common project. Let's see exactly who these 17 organisations are:

Project partners:

- DEX Innovation Centre
- Business Incubator – Gotse Delchev, Entrepreneurship Promotion Centre
- The European Center for Socio Professional Integration ACTA
- Central Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd.
- Vienna Board of Education, European Office
- Technical University of Kosice
- Regional Department of Education – Blagoevgrad
- Centre for Resources and Educational Assistance of Bihor County
- Agency for Economic Development of City of Prijedor “PREDA-PD”
- Regional Agency for Development and European Integration Belgrade
- FACLIA - Association for Children and Youth

Associated Strategic Partners:

- Regional Authority of Liberec Region
- Vocational Training Center, Székesfehérvár
- Ministry of Education and Culture of Republic of Srpska
- Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development
- Košice Self-Governing Region
- Ungheni Education Directorate

The project

The aim of our project is to show the most receptive age group, 16-17 year olds in secondary school, a way and a method to gain insight into setting up and running a business. In addition, we want



these young people to be sensitive to social challenges, to have an open mind and to want to do something to improve their closer and wider environment. The main output of the project is an online interactive game, which aims to provide the necessary information in a way that is most accessible to this age group. If you want to find out more about the project, you can visit this page: www.interreg-danube.eu/innoschool

But now let's get started!

Social enterprises? What are they???

Have you heard about social enterprises? Yes, no, or does something ring a bell? I'm sure it's not the first time you've come across the term, but it's possible that you're not quite sure what they are. After browsing through this small catalogue, you should feel more confident about the topic and find some very interesting



examples.

Unfortunately, we'll have to go through some theory first, but it won't be long and complicated.

What Social Enterprise is

Social enterprise is, fundamentally, about using a market-driven business model to address critical social and environmental issues. Many people believe that a fundamental element of social



enterprise - indeed, the “social” in social enterprise - is collective ownership. Some thinks that obligatory the non-profit legal structure for a social enterprise.

Until we come up with a broader term than “social enterprise”, some would advocate for a broad interpretation that does not limit it to collectively owned businesses. If the overarching purpose of the business is to address a social and/or environmental issue, it’s a social enterprise - regardless of its ownership structure. This is a pragmatic position -- the world’s problems are far too great to be creating arbitrary silos that limit participation and sharing.

What Social Enterprise is Not

Social enterprise is not about balancing the “double bottom lines” of profit and social impact, as though they are equally important. The real bottom line for a social enterprise, the goal by which its success should ultimately be evaluated, is its social



(or environmental) impact, and being profitable (or at least financially sustainable) is the entirely necessary means to that end. Of course, there can be no social mission without money, but the first goal is mission.

Social enterprise is not the exclusive domain of non-profits - See “What Social Enterprise Is” above. While non-profits have been - and continue to be - leaders in the social enterprise movement, social enterprise need not be limited to non-profits. Moreover, simply being owned by a non-profit is not sufficient to make a business a social enterprise. The enterprise must have as its overarching purpose the amelioration of social and/or environmental issues.

Why Social Enterprise Matters

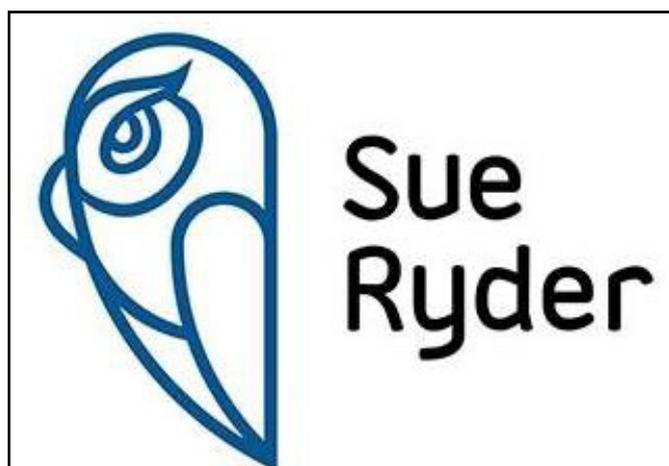
Social enterprise matters because it is focused on making positive change at a time when we desperately need it. Social enterprise is one important tool, among many, that is actively and directly making our world a better



place. Social enterprise is more responsive. Social enterprise doesn't rely on the shifting priorities of government and major foundations; it gets on with making the change that is needed within a community and (sometimes) grows to affect whole cities, countries, and regions.

If you've made it this far, you're probably wondering what these social enterprises look like in practice. What follows are really the good practices, thematised according to the six themes below:

- Caring for an ageing population
- Child welfare
- Disadvantages and challenges in peripheral and rural areas
- Inclusion of excluded groups
- Shift of society towards environmental responsibility
- Workforce migration, brain drain



Domov Sue Ryder

Location: Prague, Czech Republic

Field of activity:

Helping seniors and their loved ones with the life changes that old age brings.

Vulnerable group:

Eldery & their family

Challenge or social need:

Provide seniors with dignified aging and to facilitate the daily activities and obstacles that await the senior.

Legal type: NGO

Contact:

<https://www.sue-ryder.cz/>

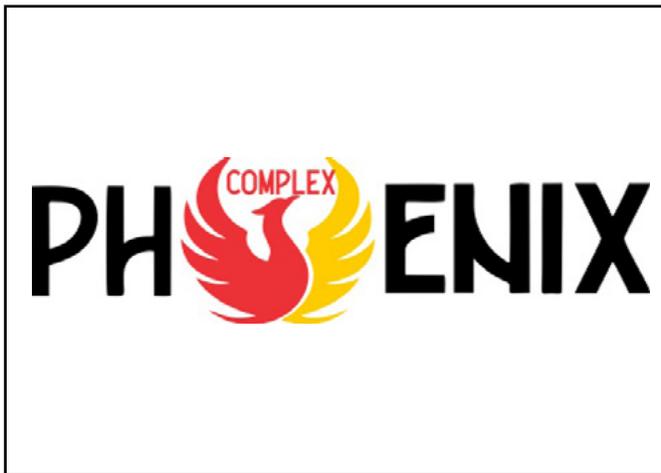
www.facebook.com/DomovSueRyder

Description of the activity:

Domov Sue Ryder has English roots. The idea to create a facility in the Czech Republic providing dignified care for the elderly comes from the Englishwoman Sue Ryder. The original Sue Ryder Foundation in England has been successfully running charity shops for decades to help fund their care, and the Sue Ryder Home was inspired there. The profit from the sale of donated goods in 6 charity shops is intended to finance the care of clients of the Domov Sue Ryder. Another source is also subsidies or grants obtained from the state or from foundations and endowment funds, which are often earmarked. In contrast, money from charitable businesses is the free funds needed for the organization to ensure day-to-day operations.



Photos: © Domov Sue Ryder



Phoenix House

Location: Riscani, Moldova

Field of activity:

Recovery and rehabilitation services.
Placement services for elderly people.

Vulnerable group:

Eldery people

Challenge or social need:

Caring for the aging population

Legal type: Association

Contact:

<https://www.phoenixmd.org/>

Description of the activity:

Recovery and rehabilitation services. Placement services for elderly people. This initiative was launched in April 2019 by the Association „Moldova AID”. The idea of this social business is to create a massage and kinetotherapy service for youth and adults. The resources gathered from these services are directed for covering the operational costs and ensuring the long-term viability of the Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities “Phoenix”.



Photo: © Phoenix House



The Dumbrava centers D13

Location: Dumbrava, Romania

Field of activity:

Caring for homeless elderly people

Vulnerable group:

Homeless and/or abandoned elders

Challenge or social need:

Caring for elderly homeless people suffering from incurable diseases, people with mental illnesses who entirely lack support.

Legal type: non-profit organisation

Contact:

<https://dumbrava.home.blog/>

www.facebook.com/viorelpasca82

Description of the activity:

Over 13 years of work, over 2000 people sheltered and cared for, 13 houses with more than 230 beds are the results to the caregiving center for the elderly, sick and homeless from Dumbrava, Bihor county. In all 13 houses, the living conditions for those who have been taken in are more than decent: cleanliness, comfortable beds, clean sheets and clothes, bathrooms, heat and three meals per day.



Photos: © Viorel Pascal



Legal type: Civic asociacion

Contact:

<http://www.aksen.sk/en/o-aksene>

www.facebook.com/AKSEN.Aktivny.senior.o.z

www.twitter.com/aksenaktisenior

AkSen - active senior

Location: Piešťany, Slovakia

Field of activity:

Caring for seniors - education - welfare activities

Vulnerable group:

Senior citizens

Challenge or social need:

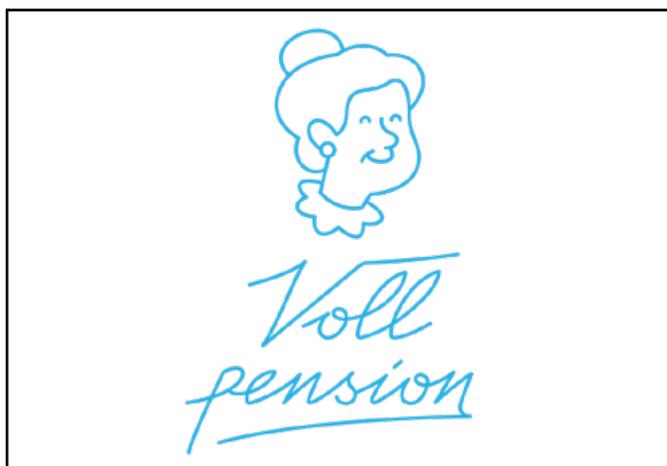
Promote the interests of seniors, raise awareness of the importance of activities for seniors and their active role in society

Description of the activity:

AkSen - active senior, o.z. is a community and information platform that seeks to activate seniors, their social integration and connections. At the same time, it tries to help socially weaker seniors. AkSen has been operating on the Slovak market since 2009. The role of AkSen is to promote the interests of senior citizens, increase the awareness of the importance of activities organised for senior citizens and their active role in the society. In its beginnings, AkSen operated as an online expert counseling center for seniors. Gradually, the need for personal contacts and meetings arose. The first community center with regular weekly activities was established in Piešťany, where the Slovak AkSen is headquartered. Gradually, other centers were established in Slovakia. Due to the interest of seniors, at the end of 2013 AkSen expanded its activities to the Czech Republic by the consultation centre in order to improve our senior citizens' independence in specific areas (housing, finance, employment).



Photos: © AkSen



Vollpension

Location: Vienna, Austria

Field of activity:

Needs of an ageing population; reducing risk of poverty and social isolation

Vulnerable group:

Seniors

Challenge or social need:

Caring for an ageing population

Legal type: For profit organization

Contact:

<https://www.vollpension.wien/>
www.facebook.com/Vollpension.Wien
www.instagram.com/vollpension_wien/

Description of the activity:

“Vollpension” is a little coffee house in Vienna. On their menu states that they are an intergenerational café. Both old and young people are working together. You can see Oma (grandma) in the kitchen preparing her homemade sweets for you. Vollpension Vienna is a place where elderly women have a chance to show their baking skills and young people can enjoy homemade delicacies that only our grandmas are able to cook. For grandmothers, the job as baker or as host means extra income next to their often very low pension. For most, this extra income represents an increase in income of 50%. Vollpension Vienna tries to build a world where young and old are treated equally, where people learn from each other and help one other in life and

love. Vollpension Vienna teaches us about mutual respect between young and old, about a society where elderly people are not left to suffer in poverty and loneliness. Vollpension Vienna tries to meet the social need of caring for an ageing population in Austria where 226,000 senior citizens (according to Diakonie Österreich) are affected by income poverty (12% of people over the age of 65).



Photo: © Mark Glassner - Vollpension



“Lovidovi” Ltd Žepče

Location: Žepče, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Field of activity:

Child welfare

Vulnerable group:

Children without parental care and families at risk of separation

Challenge or social need:

Every child has a right on family and to grow up with love, respect and security

Legal type: for-profit company

Contact:

<https://lovidovi.ba/>

www.facebook.com/lovidoviofficial/

www.instagram.com/lovidovi_shoes/

Description of the activity:

“Lovidovi” is a sustainable and charismatic brand of shoes that are made by hand with a lot of love and attention. The name Lovidovi is a play on words which in translation means “share your love”. Each shoe also has a small heart symbol that represents the humanitarian background and love we invest in our products. The heart symbol on “Lovidovi” shoes signifies their humanitarian background. For every pair of shoes sold, we donate 5 euros to SOS Children’s Villages in Sarajevo. In this way, together with our customers, we help provide children without parental care and families at risk of separation from children with a home and family, health and education, and thus a new and better present and future. Lovidovi are truly the shoes with a heart.



Photos: © Lovidovi Shoes



OvidiuRo

Location: Bucharest, Romania

Field of activity:

Child welfare

Vulnerable group:

Disadvantaged children

Legal type: non-profit organisation

Contact:

<https://www.ovid.ro/en/home/>
www.facebook.com/AsociatiaOvidiuRo/
www.instagram.com/asociatia_ovidiuo/

Challenge or social need:

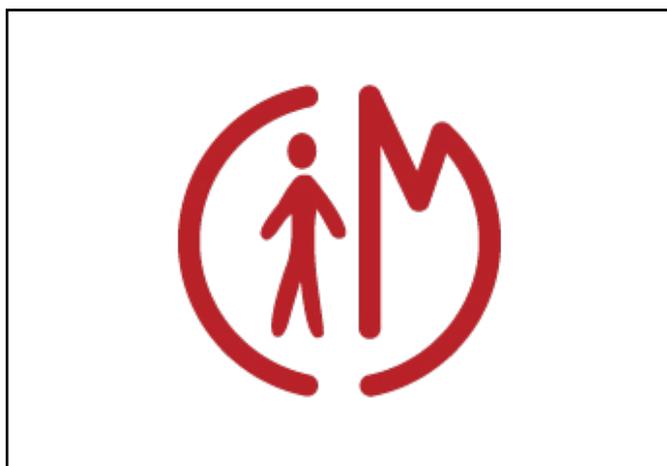
Making early education accessible to and effective for disadvantaged children throughout Romania via teacher training, providing rich educational materials, and parent education.

Description of the activity:

OvidiuRo mobilizes public and private resources to ensure that quality early education is available to Romania's poorest children, through interventions that expand young children's vocabulary and improve their language skills. OvidiuRo trains teachers and provides kindergartens with literacy-building resources and children with books at home. In 2019, OvidiuRo provided over 100,000 picture books to poor rural and urban kindergartens and disadvantaged children's homes.



Photos: © OvidiuRo



Center For Youth Integration -Drop In Shelter -

Legal type: Civil Society Organization

Contact:

<https://cim.org.rs/en/>

www.facebook.com/svratistebgd

Location: Belgrade, Serbia

Field of activity:

Supply of clothing and meals; educational, creative, sports and cultural activities; professional counselling and child development services.

Vulnerable group:

Children who live and work on the streets, aged 5 to 15.

Challenge or social need:

Improved quality of life and reintegration to the society of children who live and work on the streets.

Description of the activity:

The Shelter is a safe environment that provides clean clothes, appropriate footwear and nutritionally balanced meals to (marginalized) children who otherwise would have no access to this. A group of experts who work in the Shelter run and organize different educational, cultural, creative or sports workshops and activities, offering proper development to shelter users who are already burdened with difficult life at such an early age - experiencing poverty, discrimination and exclusion. There is a range of counselling services offered, too, that help their social reintegration and support services available to shelter users' families.

Benefits:

- Care and support to children coming from troubled families, poverty, abusive domestic environment, who are forced to live/work on the streets;
- Offers services that these children have no access to - education, recreation, creative workshops, etc.
- Helps social reintegration of discriminated and excluded vulnerable groups;
- Offers range of professional services and training/education to entire families with troubled background;
- Helps proper growth and development of children living in poverty/on the streets.



Wild Poppies



Legal type: Civic Association

Contact:

<https://divemaky.sk/>

www.facebook.com/divemaky/

www.instagram.com/dive_maky/

Location: Bratislava, Slovakia

Field of activity:

Child-welfare - education,
child well-being- fund to support gifted
Roma children

Vulnerable group:

Gifted Roma children from socially
disadvantaged backgrounds

Challenge or social need:

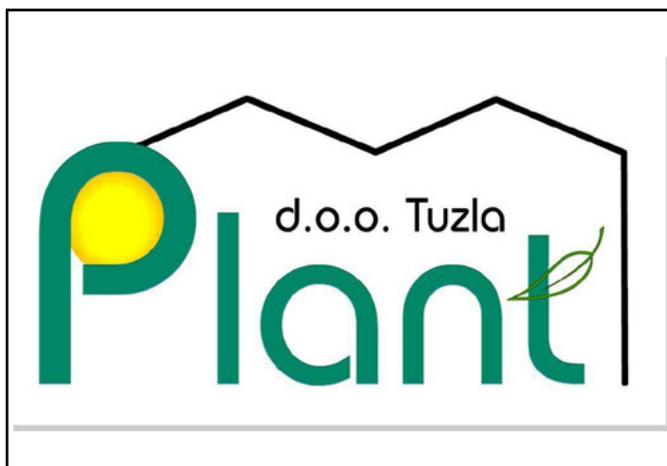
Helping to change the lives of
exceptionally gifted Roma children who
care about their future and whose
families do not have enough funds for
their study.

Description of the activity:

An organization that has been supporting gifted Roma children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds in the development of education and talent for sixteen years through the Wild Poppies scholarship program. With the help of individual donors, they financially covered more than six scholarships, and provided socially disadvantaged Roma children with a chance for better education and talent development. They helped hundreds of children study at high schools and colleges, conservatories, universities and academies. Through the scholarship program, they shape the future of Roma children, improve their social status and help create positive role models in their communities. We believe that with our activities, presentation of talents and Roma culture, we help build a successful generation of Roma.



Photos: © Divé Maky



Plant Ltd Tuzla

Location: Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Field of activity:

Agriculture, seedling production, employment of rural people

Vulnerable group:

Unemployed people

Challenge or social need:

Employment of the rural population and improvement of living conditions for the population of rural areas

Legal type: for-profit company

Contact:

<https://www.plant.ba/>

www.facebook.com/dooplant/

Description of the activity:

“Plant” Ltd was founded in 2006, by the “BosPer” Association. This is a special form of legal entity, given that the owner is not a natural person but the Association of Citizens. The company is engaged in the production of seedlings using modern, state-of-the-art technology while adhering to the basic ecological principles of production. “Plant” Ltd is an extremely successful social enterprise with an annual income of one million BAM. From the realized profit different social protection programs or socially useful activities are financed.



Photos: © Plant Ltd Tuzla



Agro Iris

Legal type: Limited liability company

Contact:

<https://www.agroiris.org/en/>

Location: Šabac, Serbia

Field of activity:

Production of healthy dried fruit and vegetable snacks (chips/crisps)

Vulnerable group:

Small family-owned farms, agricultural producers, unemployed youth and unemployed youth with disabilities from rural areas

Challenge or social need:

Employment of the rural population and improvement of living conditions for the population of rural areas

Description of the activity:

AGRO IRIS established a brand called ZADRUGA (English: COOPERATIVE). As subcontractors, small farmers or producers harvest their finest crops (fruits and vegetables) from their family farms, while ZADRUGA uses modern-day systems to dry and pack the products, without adding any artificial ingredients.

Benefits:

- Promotion of healthy eating and lifestyle: placing healthy and quality products on the market;
- Contribution to improved living conditions and quality of life of small agricultural producers: majority of this social initiative's generated profit is returned to farmers through purchasing of their raw fruits and vegetables at an increased and fair market price, while the remaining profit is re-invested into expanding the farmers' network, sales, production capacities and product range.



Photo: © Agro Iris



Rose of Radan

Location: Lebane, Serbia

Field of activity:

Production of quality home-made foods

Vulnerable group:

Women from marginalized and/or vulnerable groups from underdeveloped rural areas

Challenge or social need:

To revive local community and support socio-economic development of the local rural area, securing fair employment and wages

Legal type: limited liability company

Contact:

<https://www.radanskaruza.rs/en/>
www.facebook.com/radanska.ruza/
www.instagram.com/radanska.ruza/

Description of the activity:

ROSE OF RADAN recognized that status of women in local rural community was strongly influenced by overall underdevelopment of the region and great risk of poverty. Gender disparities were evident in all spheres of life and living standards and quality of life were low. Local labor market was characterized by high levels of female unemployment. Overall, more than half of local population was unemployed and jobs were difficult to find.

Benefits:

- This social business is creating income-generating opportunities (employment) for women from marginalized and/or vulnerable groups from underdeveloped areas;
- It nurtures and cultivate local traditions of quality home-cooked and home-made delicacies as everything is produced manually using authentic local recipes;
- By offering employment to women from vulnerable groups, it economically empowers them;
- Offering high-quality range of healthy products to local and foreign markets;
- Supports local farms and households by purchasing their agricultural produce and local rural development.



Photo: © Rose of Radan



Get the MOST

Location: Scheibbs, Austria

Field of activity:

Attracting and retaining young, qualified talents for rural/peripheral areas

Vulnerable group:

Rural population, returnees, new citizens, qualified professionals

Challenge or social need:

Challenges in peripheral/rural areas; brain drain

Legal type: non-profit association

Contact:

<https://www.get-the-most.at/>
www.facebook.com/getthemost.at/
www.instagram.com/get_the_most/

Description of the activity:

Young people who leave their origin living place for studying often find a job elsewhere and a new home as well. This means a great loss for the rural regions: According to statistics, the inner Austrian migration from rural regions is particularly high for people between the ages of 15 and 40. However, it is precisely the highly qualified and often committed young people who are then lacking in those communities. Attracting and retaining young, qualified talents is of great economic and societal importance for rural and peripheral regions - also for the Mostviertel region in Lower Austria. In order to inspire this group to return to their origin region, "Get the MOST" was founded. With a "young citizen relationship management" approach, the regular communication with the

younger segment of the population should be developed. "Get the MOST" established an online platform that is intended to serve networking and thus strengthen ties to the region and also to address new citizens. It includes a job and housing market as well. The "Get the MOST" talents attraction program also wants to counter the shortage of skilled workers and to inspire highly qualified professionals for the region and keep them in the region for the long term.



Photo: © get the MOST – Eisenstraße Niederösterreich



Legal type: non-profit organisation

Contact:

<http://www.aswm.net/index.php/en>

www.facebook.com/aswmbulgaria/

<https://twitter.com/aswm18>

ASWM - Social enterprise

Location: Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria

Field of activity:

Digital marketing

Vulnerable group:

People with disabilities and disadvantaged people on the labor market

Challenge or social need:

Lack of employment is a major cause of poverty and social exclusion. To help overcome the need is necessary to create suitable conditions for the inclusion of vulnerable groups in the labor market.

Description of the activity:

The idea for the creation and development of a social enterprise offering services for Internet businesses is to satisfy the strongly increased demand for services related to the development of e-shops, company websites, Internet media, thematic sites, service sites, blogs and others. Currently, a large number of businesses are developing and expanding on the Internet, but do not have the necessary capacity of trained people who could perform all the services needed for their development. ASWM - Social enterprise trained representatives of vulnerable groups, mainly young people, on digital skills and created job for them, mediating with the potential customers through a specialized web-based business platform. This model of social business is interesting, as it turns leisure activity of the target group representatives into their profession. Some of the employees had never have opportunity to work before, due to physical disabilities. The company operates at local level, involving many stakeholders/municipality, business, institutions/ and offers solutions, reaching those at risk of poverty or social exclusion, which active social policies rarely reach.



Photo: © ASWM



Kabinet CB



Legal type: NGO

Contact:

<https://www.kabinetcb.cz/>

www.facebook.com/kabinetcb/

Location: České Budějovice, Czech Republic

Field of activity:

Re-use center and social enterprise, in which functional things are again created from broken things.

Vulnerable group:

Socially disadvantaged people

Challenge or social need:

The biggest challenge is to provide facilities and equipment for socially disadvantaged people who cannot achieve quality facilities and equipment for their home.

Description of the activity:

Kabinet CB tries to give furniture and other objects a new look and new functions. The Cabinet offers renovated furniture, thematic workshops, assistance in clearing buildings, but the Cabinet is also a so-called furniture bank, whose goal is to redistribute furniture to socially disadvantaged people who do not have enough funds to buy new furniture. The CB cabinet was first established as a centre to support people who cannot bring their own furniture into their homes, and over time it has developed into its current form. The amount of furniture from individual donors was so large that other possibilities for its use were sought. Thanks to this, the idea of a social enterprise arose, which today offers various services and even initiates the creation of a national network of social enterprises with a similar theme.



Photos: © Kabinet CB



Wonder Garden

Location: Dobrich, Bulgaria

Field of activity:

Urban social agriculture

Vulnerable group:

Young people with intellectual disabilities

Challenge or social need:

Young people with intellectual disabilities need job, but also socialisation, training, development of work habits

Legal type: Foundation

Contact:

<http://chudotvoretz.bg/cm/content/garden.html>

www.facebook.com/fondationstnicolay/

Description of the activity:

Wonder Garden in Dobrich, owned by a foundation, started a social farming to provide employment and a dignified life to 22 young people with intellectual disabilities in 2018. The Wonder Garden uses a model of urban social agriculture in which people with intellectual disabilities have jobs, greater independence and better social status. They grow vegetables, fruit trees and 40 types of flowers in 5 greenhouses of 880 square meters and open area of 0.2 ha. To access the clients they use variety of channels: small shop in the greenhouses, direct sales in 4 spots in Dobrich, on farmers' markets and by couriers. Currently the enterprise is working 7 days a week, promoting well its production and social activity through social media and other channels.



Photos: ©Wonder Garden



ethnocatering

Ethnocatering o.s.

Location: Prague, Czech Republic

Field of activity:

Professional catering services

Vulnerable group:

Migrant women who have been forced to leave their own country and are seeking refuge in the Czech Republic.

Challenge or social need:

Incorporating these women into normal life, getting a job and helping with further education.

Legal type: NGO

Contact:

<https://www.ethnocatering.cz/en>

www.facebook.com/ethnocatering/

www.instagram.com/ethnocatering/

Description of the activity:

The company offers professional catering services, over 70 types of original home cooking dishes from the countries of origin of our cookbooks. Each of the women prepares meals according to the original recipes, thus giving the individual dishes an authentic taste and originality. At the moment, the dishes are recruited mainly from the Middle East, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Under the guidance of chef Nanuli Kukava from Georgia, women from Armenia, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Morocco and Syria prepare their meals in the Ethnocatering kitchen. One third of the profits from Ethnocatering are used for the development of integration programs of the InBáze community center, which helps migrants find a dignified place in Czech society. The cooks working at Ethnocatering are migrant women over the age of 50 who, for various reasons (political, social, economic), came, often with very troubled destinies, to look for a new home in the Czech Republic. These women find themselves in a difficult life situation and their integration tends to be slower. They come with practically



Photo: ©ethnocatering

zero material wealth, but with enormous mental wealth - perfect knowledge of his home kitchen. Ethnocatering uses this natural know-how and at the same time provides fair work that is close to them. These women have the opportunity to further their education and expand their qualifications.



Bartina

Location: Barutin, Bulgaria

Field of activity:

Inclusion of excluded groups; disadvantages and challenges in peripheral and rural area; preserving traditions

Vulnerable group:

Long term unemployed women

Challenge or social need:

It is located in a small village in the peripheral border region of the mountainous region, where there are not many job opportunities, especially for women.

Legal type: Public Benefit Association

Contact:

<https://sp.bartina.org/>

bartina.barutin@gmail.com

Description of the activity:

Bartina is a social enterprise, which started as a EU funded project of Association with public benefit activity Bartina. Its main goal is to provide employment and permanent income, training, practical skills, integration and sustainable employment of vulnerable groups. Subject of activity: production of authentic Bulgarian national costumes. Produces various types of men's, women's and children's Bulgarian folk costumes (whole suits or components thereof - shirts, vests, pants, hats, belts,



Photo: © Bartina

leggings, yamurluci, dresses, aprons, towels and hats, socks, knitting, embroidery, etc.). They find their customers among the many folk dance clubs, culture centers, schools and kindergartens, traditional taverns, guests houses and other tourist places in all over Bulgaria. Bartina also created and imposed their own brand "BARTA" for sporting goods / T-shirts, blouses, sweatshirts, leggings, etc. They collaborate with media to reach more potential customers and partners. Bartina offers tourists visits in their premises, where people can see how the traditional costumes are being made and even to try to make some part of it.



New Again

Location: Chişinău, Moldova

Field of activity:

Second-hand household products for sale

Vulnerable group:

People with disabilities/visually impaired

Challenge or social need:

Increasing the level of economic independence of people with visual and other types of disabilities in the Republic of Moldova

Legal type: NGO

Contact:

<https://www.noudinnou.md/>

www.facebook.com/shopnoudinnou/

www.instagram.com/noudinnou/

Description of the activity:

Second-hand household products of European quality at accessible prices - an alternative to expensive products of doubtful quality. The “New again” store is aimed at contributing to increasing the level of economic independence of people with visual and other types of disabilities in the Republic of Moldova, by providing them with opportunities for employment and self-employment. “New again” is a social enterprise, launched in June 2012, by the Business Support Center for Visually impaired people “Proability”. The goods for sale are placed in a showroom and among them are: beds, sofas, chairs, carpets, various accessories for the kitchen, etc.



Photos: © New Again



Dar din glie (The gift of the Earth)

Location: Bihor, Romania

Field of activity:

Shift of society towards environmental responsibility and inclusion of excluded groups

Vulnerable group:

Poor families, single parents, people over 55 who has no income

Challenge or social need:

Sustainable food consumption

Legal type: Non-profit association

Contact: lia_aron@yahoo.com

Description of the activity:

Maria Aron seted up a social business focused on the production of organic vegetables. Its objective is to produce and sell over 70 kinds of vegetables in the markets of the cities in western and northwestern Romania. She convinced the villagers from the villages around Marghita to organically grow vegetables in their gardens. The vegetables are sold to restaurants in Oradea.



Photo: © Slejven Djurakovic - unsplash.com



sobi

Location: Bratislava, Slovakia

Field of activity:

Environmental responsibility, change of consumer behavior-eco solutions, innovation, inclusion of excluded groups- employment of social and medical disadvantaged people

Vulnerable group:

Unemployed mothers, disadvantaged women

Challenge or social need:

Sustainable textile consumption, involving vulnerable groups

Legal type: Non-profit association

Contact:

<https://sobi.eco/>

www.facebook.com/sobi.eco/

www.linkedin.com/company/sobieco/

Description of the activity:

This solution is unique because it combines social and ecological dimension with an awareness component in one tangible solution. The pilot project focuses on transforming old clothes and plastic bottles into recycled products such as notebook sleeves or reusable bottle bags, all made from non-woven recycled material. Textile recyclers that produce non-woven recycled fabrics sell this material to the construction industry, where it is used once, or hidden beneath the concrete. The textile industry is worth 3 trillion dollars and market offers a huge range of possible solutions. Organisation placed production into sheltered and social workshops, delivering green jobs to vulnerable people around us. Sobi eco vision is to support these people in the long-run, creating a safe and ethical working environment. Sobi eco goal is also to spread awareness about protecting the environment and different ways how to do it. They do so directly through their products, workshops, lectures and online campaigns.



Photos: © sobi.eco



MEGA - Moldovan Environmental Governance Academy

Location: Chişinău, Moldova

Field of activity:

Gamification and development services for social and environmental projects

Vulnerable group:

Children, youth, public at general

Challenge or social need:

Protection of nature, sustainable future

Legal type: Non-profit organisation

Contact:

www.megageneration.com

www.facebook.com/megamoldova

Description of the activity:

Gamification and development services for social and environmental projects. Training and courses in the form of games on different topics, including social and environmental policies, media protection, ecosystem services and sustainable development.

MEGA was founded in 2013 and aims at changing the way of implementing initiatives concerning the environment.

MEGA specializes on delivering high-quality personalized services: environmental research, training and consultancy in a variety of areas. Among the the provided services are: reasearch and analysis, training and facilitation, consultancy and coaching.

This association developed the „MEGA Game - the Game with Impact” which is an online project management platform with elements of gamification and e-learning.

It was designed for connecting environmental organizations with volunteers and for assisting both sides in implementing nature conservation projects in a fun, engaging, and motivating way. The platform features a map-based dashboard with environmental quests and missions for users to accomplish, a section with video trainings about nature conservation, and a leaderboard of top players.



Photo: © MEGA



Old Blue

Location: Veszprém, Hungary

Field of activity:

Reuse of textil industry products (jeans, denim)

Vulnerable group:

Employees (including people with disabilities); management of the business; the initiative targets all customers

Challenge or social need:

Reusing jeans, denim; environmental sustainability

Legal type: For-profit company

Contact:

<https://oldblue.hu/>

www.facebook.com/oldbluejeans

Description of the activity:

Annually more than 1 billion jeans are produced globally. The production of jeans is based on the massive use of water (1 pair of jeans requires 10m³ of water). Therefore, jeans production contributes to the drying out of certain rivers in less developed countries. OldBlue realized this issue and as they are dedicated to sustainability, decided to collect used jeans from individuals and reused and recycled them in various ways. Most of their products are creative artifacts, but they also produce rags, carpets, bags, mugs, armchairs and even couches. The company has an online webshop where customers can buy all these products. They have a creative box, where they welcome new ideas, what could be produced from jeans, therefore even more jeans could be recycled. Raw materials are accepted from individuals and they are paid out.



Photos: ©Old Blue



Die Fairmittlerei

Location: Vienna, Austria

Field of activity:

Redistribution of consumer goods (non-food)

Vulnerable group:

Producers, traders, NGOs, consumers

Challenge or social need:

Waste avoidance

Legal type: Non-profit association

Contact:

<https://www.diefairmittlerei.at/>
www.facebook.com/diefairmittlerei/
www.instagram.com/diefairmittlerei/

Description of the activity:

Die Fairmittlerei is a good example of a business supporting environmental sustainability. It is a social enterprise for waste avoidance that conveys usable donations (from the non-food area) to charitable organizations. In this way, it ensures the redistribution of products in Austria that would otherwise have ended up in the trash. The Fairmittlerei organizes and supplies usable consumer goods (non-food), which are or cannot be sold anymore, from producers and traders to nonprofit organizations (NPOs). Then they can obtain goods needed which are clearly below the normal market price and use them for their beneficiaries. Next to this benefit, producers and traders reduce costs for storage and also decrease the destruction of goods. This contributes to environmental sustainability, as the senseless destruction of useable products is reduced.



Photos: © die Fairmittlerei



Remodel Studio

Location: Szeged, Hungary

Field of activity:

Migration of the workforce - employment of young professional workforce

Vulnerable group:

Involved: young people with professional education in the field of carpentry; the initiative targets all customers (but rather middle class and upper middle class)

Challenge or social need:

Reusing & remodelling old furnitures; employing young professionals

Legal type: For-profit company

Contact:

<http://remodelstudio.hu/>

www.facebook.com/remodelstudio/

www.instagram.com/remodel2015/

Description of the activity:

Remodel Studio recognized that many old furnitures are thrown away although, with little help they could become useable furnitures, and actually valuable design products. Their products are often used in the creative industry. However, reusing and recycling old products - therefore contributing to sustainability was not their only goal. The company is dedicated to support local talented young adults, and therefore the remodelling and redesigning of furnitures is done only by young professionals (from the field of carpentry). Therefore it provides them opportunity to make their living in their home country.



Photos: © Remodel Studio



FG Grupa Ltd Gradiška

Location: Gradiška, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Field of activity:
Workforce migration, Brain drain

Vulnerable group:
Unemployed people, Youth

Challenge or social need:
Employment of young people up to 30 years of age, but also other hard-to-employ groups, and providing them the opportunity to show their skills.

Legal type: For-profit company

Contact:

<https://www.funkyguerrilla.com/>
www.facebook.com/funkyguerrilla/
www.instagram.com/funkyguerrilla/

Description of the activity:

Funky Guerrilla, initial brand of the FG Group llc from Gradiška, Bosnia and Herzegovina. FG Group is a social enterprise founded in 2014 and ever since has been designing, creating and distributing the Funky Guerrilla products in Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad. Collaboration with a number of designers, in-house clothing construction experts, art directors, experienced production workers and an eternal desire for progress have led Funky Guerrilla to become highly recognizable for its premium hoodies, t-shirts and dresses. Brand's mission is to constantly invest in development and design of Funky Guerrilla products and to make its art direction a spokesperson of the positive change blossoming from Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Photos: © Funky Guerilla



Treasurer of the Völgység Social Cooperative

Location: Lengyel, Hungary

Field of activity:

Migration of the workforce - employment of rural unemployed, low-skilled population

Vulnerable group:

People with low-skilled professions, unemployed.

Challenge or social need:

Job opportunities for low-skilled workers and unemployed

Legal type: For-profit company

Contact:

<https://volgysegkincse.hu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Völgység-Kincse-Szövetkezet-139333052844137/>

Description of the activity:

The aim of the cooperative is to create working opportunity for unemployed and socially disadvantaged members of the community and to help them to improve their social situation. In order to achieve the basic goal of the cooperative it purchases the crops and products produced by his members and pays them based on the quantity of the delivered products (fruits). Members participating in the production activities receive a regular salary and secure income. At the same time, the factory provides opportunity for fruit growers in the area for sales as well (thus supporting



Photo: © Treasurer of the Völgység Social Cooperative

not just the employees). In addition to its economic activities, the cooperative provides social benefits to its members, depending on its financial means and without jeopardizing the achievement of its primary goals, as well as supporting the cultural, educational, public cultural and sports activities of its members. The long-term goal of the cooperative is to create jobs in new areas and to expand the number of members.

Contact points

We hope you enjoyed browsing the catalogue! If you have any further questions, please contact us at the contact points below:

Country	Organisation	Contact
Austria	Board of Education for Vienna	Email: judit.makkos-kaldi@ssr-wien.gv.at Tel: +43 (0) 15252577083
Bosnia and Hercegovina	Agency for economic development of City of Prijedor "PREDA-PD"	Email: office@preda.rs.ba Tel: +387 52 241 600
Bulgaria	Business Incubator – Gotse Delchev, Entrepreneurship Promotion Centre	Email: bi_gd@abv.bg Tel: +359 75160404
	or Regional department of education - Blagoevgrad	Email: mail@rio-blg.com Tel: +359 73 885 273
Czech Republic	DEX Innovation Centre	Email: tina.inglicar@dex-ic.com Tel: +420604265848
Hungary	Central Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd.	Email: kdriu@kdriu.hu Tel: +3622514111
Moldova	FACLIA - Association for Children and Youth	Email: dirzudaniela@gmail.com Tel: +373 236 33684
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