

Second day of the 4th Training Visit in Vlore

On December 2-3, in the framework of IDEA Investment Development and Empowerment Actions project, was organized the fourth and final Study Visit foreseen under the project. The study visit took place in Vlore and its purpose was to identify the best practices related to social business, to get to know the different models of financing, as best practices in Vlore city. One of the main goals of the project is to develop financial mechanisms that will facilitate the creation of social businesses.

After a precise identification of needs and opportunities, by observing practices existing in the respective territories, the partners will work to improve the Social Entrepreneurship environment in the Albania - Greece cross - border territory.



Invest In Social Capital



More in this issue:

Open Call

Auleda is launching this open call for the selection of 20 young people in Vlore, and will receive a training for "Mentoring, coaching and capacity building"

Financial mechanisms

Which are some of the most well known financial mechanisms about Social Entrepreneurship. Some of them are Time Banks, Micro-Credits, Peer to Peer Lending.

Welcome to the next newsletter of IDEA project. The overall objective of the project is to "Improve cross border capacity to support entrepreneurship, business survival and competitiveness" regarding the social entrepreneurship sector.

The project is co funded by the European Union and National funds of Greece and Albania via the Interreg IPA CBC Programme "Greece - Albania 2014-2020"

Radhima Visitor Center and Radhima Fishing Cooperative

The second day of the Study Visit started at the Radhima Visitor Center premises to learn more about Visitor Center. The work of the Visitor Center and the projects they are implementing in the conservation of protected areas were briefly presented.

The Protected Areas Administration currently has a wide territory to cover. In terms of administration it is a state-owned entity and in terms of funding, the Director of Administration, Mr Hysolako, says they are mainly based on projects participating as associate partners. The main function of the center is the reception and orientation of foreign tourists, as well as local tourists, to orient and familiarize them with the activities and points of interest in the surrounding area.

Shortly thereafter, there was a presentation by the Fishermen’s Cooperative Radhime which has its center adjacent to the Visitor Center Radhime. As they are close by and the Cooperative has no premises, Mr Durmishi was in the Visitor Center premises.

Mr.Durmishi said that currently they constitute 30% of the fishing vessels in the Vlora area fishing in accordance with environmental standards. In response to a question from Mr Economopoulos, who asked what are the benefits and reasons why they chose to set up a cooperative, Mr Durmishi says the first is the significant reduction in financial costs and higher profitability that drives them to manage this cooperative. In addition, the cooperative is equipped with tools that have a more environmentally friendly tendency, but also the methods used by them conform to the rules of safe fishing.



Aulona Center

The last visit for this “Study Visit” took place in the premises of the Alona Center. Aulona Center Director, Mrs. Enela Mone, hosted the IDEA team and presented the work and services the center provides.

Aulona is currently registered as an NGO, which is financially based mainly on grants from various donors. It is currently part of the Civil Society Resource Center, with the aim of increasing capacity and strengthening local non-governmental organizations. The projects are mainly focused on women’s health and human rights. Aulona offers a range of services for women, which include consultations, special equipment visits are offered for a fee. This fee, given the market offer, is lower than private clinics.

For this activity to be offered, the center has registered a nipt, according to which payments are made in accordance with the law. However Mrs. Mone says there is currently a fear of expanding the services offered because the taxation system may regard it as a big business, which could result in a heavier fiscal burden and, as a result, cause a shrinking effect instead of expansion.

With the presentation and discussions by the participants, the Fourth Study Visit closed on December 3, 2019.





Financial Tools. Time Banks, Micro-credits & (P2P)



Time banks

Time banks are a service exchange network, a time-based transaction system, a form of social currency where price is tied to time rather than money (Boyle, 2014).

The bank of time improves the well-being of participating members, allows citizens of the local communities to exchange with each other on the basis of trust and reciprocity, forming friendships and relationships between people. It increases social capital and makes people happier. Improving the health and well-being of members through:

Networking members through the organization group and individual activities exchange time, members are encouraged to support the creation and maintaining relationships trust, reciprocity, and compassion.



Activation, by organizing groups for walking, gymnastics in parks and swimming

To motivate them to use time bank services, participate in activities, to acquire new skills, such as cooking, knitting, farming, supporting language learning, psychosocial support, etc.

Micro-credits

Microcredits are loans of small amounts not exceeding € 25,000.

They are a new and heterogeneous market for SME financing and have been developed by the need to fill the gap in the demand for micro loans.

It is a financial tool specifically designed for micro-businesses, self-employed, unemployed or vulnerable social groups who do not have access to finance through traditional banks.



Peer to Peer (P2P) Lending

Borrowing from private investors online, peer to peer (P2P) lending. With this form of financing individuals or companies seeking a loan to finance their needs are directed not to the traditional form of banking but directly to private investors. Special online p2p lending platforms enable borrowers to get in touch with private investors who lend some money for financing. A process in which an alternative banking market is created where supply meets demand and new avenues are opened for small and medium-sized businesses to access finance. <https://p2plending.gr>



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Auleda lunches the Open Call for Coaching, Mentoring and Advisory Training



The Coaching, Mentoring and Advisory Training Programme is organised by AULEDA - Local Economic Development Agency for the project IDEA - Investment Development and Empowerment Action, in the framework of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme "Greece - Albania 2014-2020".

This training programme intends to train young people on the core aspects of mentoring and coaching. At the end of the training, the participants, who have successfully completed the whole course, will assist the expert who trained them in delivery the Social Enterprise Acceleration Training Programme, aimed at providing useful tools to organisations willing to start or scale up their social businesses, also organised under the IDEA project.

Professional coaching and mentoring, whether it be life coaching, business coaching, executive coaching, or health and wellness coaching, are a fascinating mix of knowledge and skill, art and science that cannot be acquired without instruction, practice and experience. These courses are carefully constructed to lead participants through all of this and become successful mentors, coaches and advisors.

Overall objective: This course focuses on giving participants the coaching skills they need to be effective and confident coaches/mentors. Participants will learn that coaching/mentoring is all about knowing the skills, knowing how to use them, knowing what their role is as a coach/mentor/advisor, and knowing what they need to be as a coach or mentor.

Specific Goals of the training programme

- Understanding the role of a coach/mentor.
- Learn the main phases of the coaching/mentoring process.
- Identify and utilise the core skills to become mentor/coach.

Target group: The training is directed to 40 young people with specific competencies in different areas of interests (such as business, management, economics, agro-food processing, etc.) willing to become mentors, coaches and advisors in their fields of studies.



In order to apply applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Graduates or in the final year of study in economics are preferred
- Age 24 – 35 years
- Knowledge of English

Applicants must submit the following documents:

- CV
- A copy of the diploma or other supporting certificate
- Proof of foreign language
- Possess good interpersonal and organizational skills, as well as show good leadership skills

Submit your application to our email address: auledavlore@gmail.com by January 9, 2020.

For any questions or clarifications you can also contact us on our phone number 033 403 237

Contact Us

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