

GOOD PRACTICES

Project partner:DRPDNM-Društvo za razvijanje prostovoljnega dela Novo mesto

Until 2011, when the Social Entrepreneurship Act (ZSocP) came into force, Slovenia did not have a law that would comprehensively regulate the position of publicly beneficial organisations. Nevertheless, social entrepreneurship existed in Slovenia prior to the adoption of the ZSocP in the form of entities / organisations that operated on the principles of social entrepreneurship. To a large extent, such activities were carried out by cooperatives, nongovernmental organisations (mainly societies) and sheltered workshops. Legally, these legal organisational forms were governed by individual laws: Societies Act, Institutes Act, Cooperatives Act, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities Act, etc. ZSocP was the first law in Slovenia to legally regulate and define the field of social entrepreneurship, the criteria for obtaining the status of a social enterprise and maintaining it, as well as the ways of reporting and promoting social entrepreneurship.

Social Entrepreneurship Act (ZSocP)

In 2011, Slovenia regulated the field of social entrepreneurship with the introduction of the Social Entrepreneurship Act (ZSocP). ZSocP entered into force on January 1, 2012. The law defines the definition, goals and principles of social entrepreneurship, the activities of social entrepreneurship, and the conditions under which social enterprises carry out activities, the conditions under which legal persons acquire the status of a social enterprise, the manner of acquiring and withdrawing the status, the special conditions of business of social enterprises, the records that are kept in the field of the social entrepreneurship and supervision.

The Act also regulates development planning and incentives for the development of social entrepreneurship, the cooperation of social partners and organisations of a civil society in the adoption of development documents, the role of municipalities in the planning and implementation of social entrepreneurship development policies, as well as responsibilities in the field of social entrepreneurship.

Eco-social farm Korenika (Pomurje region)

The eco-social farm Korenika is located in Šalovci, in Regional Park Goričko. Korenika is recognised in the wider geographical area and is recognised by the professional public as an example of good practice in the field of social entrepreneurship, employment of persons with disabilities and persons from other vulnerable social groups and protective employment.

Eco-social farm develops activities in the field of organic agriculture in connection to the protection of natural and cultural heritage and the development of organic tourism. They are engaged in organic production and processing of fruits, vegetables, cereals and herbs. They cultivate about 16 hectares of arable land, 2 hectares of orchards and 5 hectares of meadows.

Every day, 50 to 60 people from vulnerable groups are involved in farm work. Most are fulltime employees, and some are enrolled in social inclusion programs, while some are enrolled in various work training, rehabilitation and public works programs.

Cooperative for rural development Pomelaj, z.o.o. (Pomurje region)

Mission of the Rural Development Cooperative (ZRP) is to discover and develop people's potentials and to co-create space and opportunities for the development of entrepreneurship, tourism and the preservation of natural and cultural heritage. They reinforce the position of a rural social enterprise in Pomurje, which enables people from vulnerable target groups in rural areas integration into work in their home environment, in activities traditionally close to them.

Cooperative for rural development Pomelaj, z.o.o. transformed into an employment centre on 1.8.2009. The cooperative has a special status, which primarily follows the mission in terms of social and employment integration of disabled persons in sheltered workshops, which is also the reason for establishing legal entities of this kind. With the purpose to offer disabled persons in protected workplaces a permanent and continuous work, the cooperative has developed various rural-related activities mainly in the field of traditional craftsmanship and cuisine. The mission of the Cooperative is therefore to develop social-entrepreneurial forms (culture) among provincial population, especially among vulnerable target groups in activities traditionally related to rural areas (crafts, cuisine,...).

Institute korak naprej Murska Sobota, so.p. (Pomurje region)

The institute is a social enterprise that develops and promotes reuse, raises awareness about responsible consumption and protection of the environment, employs people from vulnerable groups in the labour market, ensures social inclusion, organises education for children and adolescents.

The institute has a social shop with used children's equipment and clothing and a sewing room, where it creates recycled textile products such as: baby bedding, shopping bags, textile toys, slipper bags, etc. Textile processing creates new, unique products that are health, environment and wallet friendly.

Scientific Research Association for Art, Cultural and Educational Programs and Technology

EPEKA, so.p. (Podravje region)

Association EPEKA, a social enterprise, was founded in 2008 as an initiative to bring together creators of cultural, artistic, educational, scientific and technological content for the European Capital of Culture 2012 project.

They operate on the principles of social enterprise. They focus on the active inclusion of vulnerable groups in society and the labour market. The main project of the EPEKA Association is the Romani restaurant Romani kafenava, which operates on the principles of a social enterprise, thus allocating all its earning to new workplaces. It is the first Roma restaurant in the entire European Union.

Institute zadihaj, institute for sustainable mobility and friendly energy Maribor, so.p.

(Podravje region)

It was established with the purpose to research and promote sustainable mobility solutions, with the aim of enabling people to live a quality and active life, with an emphasis on healthy lifestyles.

Institute Zadihaj has experience in raising public awareness of the negative effects of transport on health and the environment and in possible solutions. For this purpose, it organises lectures for various target groups, organises thematic events with which it is present in the media, and

is also active in the humanitarian field.