

TEMPLATE FOR GOOD PRACTICE DESCRIPTION

Please use separate template for every project you try to introduce to the RARE team

Project title: Green Workshop

- Main focus of activity (short description)

Background: Zelená dílna (in English: Green Workshop) is originally sheltered workshop which was doing ecological recycling of electric waste and electronic devices. Green Workshop has been created by non-governmental organization LIGA o.p.s. with a support of local Labour office in 2005 and in 2009 it was taken out from its internal structures and transformed into independent Limited Liability Company which is social enterprise complying with all characteristics of social entrepreneurship, social economy. The company is located in the city of Bruntál which is small city (approx. 16,5 thousands inhabitants) at the isolated north-eastern hilly part of the Czech Republic suffering with high unemployment rate and low income.

Project: Green Workshop Ltd. is providing services mainly with the cooperation with the City of Bruntál self-government. City of Bruntál is helping to the company secure enough commissioned work in the area of public services.

Scope of activities of Green Workshop Ltd.:

- Ecological recycling of electric waste and electronic devices.
- Small technical services: maintenance of public grounds, cleaning, waste disposal, mowing; involvement of local community inhabitants into cleaning and maintenance of their closest living area which helps to build their relationship with the community.
- Building operations: pathways and communications construction, housing construction; seasonal employment for approx. 10 persons.
- Maintenance of apartment block (45 families with 26 children up to 6 years, 52 youth at the age 7 – 26, 53 adults) with the aim to ensure better and secure living for tenants and guarantee small profit for the apartments' owners. The other objective is assuring control for the City of Bruntál that troubled Romas from the region are not moving in uncontrolled. Self-administration with tenants' participation has been established to secure decision making (plan of repairs, allotting of flats, etc.), realization of joint voluntary works and maintenance, establishment of direct communication between tenants and municipal institutions.

Result: At its establishment in 2005 Green Workshop has created first 16 jobs for Roma minority and also with the combination of social disadvantages (handicapped). Step by step the company has begun to develop and at the most it employed 44 persons with social exclusions accumulation. Recently the Green Workshop company employs approximately 30 employees.

In 2010 social enterprise Green Workshop has been awarded by Endowment Fund Dalkia Czech Republic as the best environmental project of last decade.

- Labour market situation of the activity/project (open, protected)

-The handicapped workers program may be employed under public employment program. (protected)

Today the social enterprise produces for the open market. (open)

- Specific target group (if any, such as young adults/women/men/with no educational background/ with entrepreneurial skills/rural/urban etc including the size of the target group, number of people reached directly)

Roma minority.

Persons with the combination of social disadvantages (handicapped) and in crisis situation.

- Durability, security of the service: legislative background, duration of the project (ex: 3 year long project, included within national service provision, experimental project, etc)

The project has started in 2005, and today it is good example of successful social enterprise.

- Who is involved in service provision/initiative (list of institutions and their cooperation in 2 sentences)

Liga, o.p.s. has founded Green Workshop in 2005. Liga o.p.s. (in English: League p.b.o. – public benefit organization) has been originally established as League for human rights, rights of children and youth and in the first years of its existence it was focused on human rights compliance with special focus on Roma minority.

City of Bruntál has important role in the project implementation as municipality commissions enough services and public work (even it is not only income of the company).

- Financing source (where the money comes from: Institution's own budget, project funds)
 - State funds – possibility to finance salaries from employment programmes.
 - Civil donation: support from grant programme “Social enterprises stabilization” of Czechoslovakian Commercial Bank.

- Recommendation (for visit/for DR adaptation) Yes
 - If not: Why it did not work, why has it failed?
 - If yes: Why is the initiative innovative or interesting: (special focus, special cooperation among institutions, etc)

The project is transferable and it is interesting example of successful social entrepreneurship focused on Roma.

There is a transport obstacle as the project is located in isolated north-eastern hilly part of the Czech Republic (close to the Polish border).