

CASE STORY

YOUNG WOMEN BECOME DRESSMAKERS IN KAMENICA

Background

Kamenica can be an excellent place to get tailor-made suits, dresses, shirts and trousers at a good price. With few economic opportunities and limited financial support, the unemployment rate is high and many young people migrate. Yet, thanks to an entrepreneurial business owner and committed public actors, men and women can produce some fantastic clothes and generate income.

Intervention by S4RE

Mrs. Mirvete Sermaxhaj, dressmaker in Kamenica, has produced clothes at home for a long time. Recently, she opened a small entrepreneur “DPZ Medina” in centre of the city. In order to respond to market demand she needed support in equipment and qualified workforce. Skills for Rural Employment (S4RE) intervene to bring together the municipality of Kamenica, showing an interest to contribute to the idea of the company, and the company who expressed the interest to train and employ eight women. In implementing the idea the company invested approximately 7,000 Euro in-kind with business premises and existing tools and equipment, and 2,200Euro to purchase additional sewing machines. Municipality contributed with 830Euro in equipment, whereas the project facilitated the training. Eight women attended a 30 day on-job training and gained skills in using the tools and equipment, pattern cutting, sewing and finalizing the uniforms.



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Results of the collaboration

From this collaboration, eight young women are now able to perform a tailoring job. All of them got employed as full time employees of the company. They work eight hours a day for five days per week or 40 hours in total within a week. Each of them receives a monthly salary of 150 Euro, resulting in 1800 Euro per year.

Because of its increased capacities, the company has entered into contract with local and regional buyers. As such, the company signed four contracts to produce service and work uniform for staff of shops/stores, hospitals and pharmaceutical warehouse at the amount of 2,400 Euro.

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