

## A SUCCESS STORY:

# TAILORING IN KAMENICA: SKILLS TRAINING ENABLES EMPLOYMENT

Led by Ibadete Sermaxhaj, DPZ ER-ROSI was registered as a tailoring shop almost five years ago. Ibadete started to work as a tailor by herself with only one tailoring machine. Initially she ran her business with a few of costumers and worked hard to raise her profile and customer base. She had no assistance from other projects or organizations, until she heard about Skills for Rural Employment (S4RE) and was interested to establish cooperation with the project.

S4RE facilitated the establishment of a Learning Group, and Ibadete provided vocational education on tailoring to a group of 14 girls. They attended a 3 month training and also had the chance to work and create incomes through the business. S4RE covered the training cost, ER-ROSI covered the costs for the group transportation. At the conclusion of the training, ER-ROSI has access to a trained workforce capable of starting tailoring at a level acceptable to her customers.

During the training program the girls gained skills and knowledge not only on tailoring. They learned how to use and maintain the equipment, work as



saleswomen, learned how to make offers and do orders and also learned about customer relations.

Skills in customer relations gained during the training enabled two of the girls to find jobs other than tailoring. Twelve members of the group have continued working at ER-ROSI and they are very happy and content with the opportunity provided by S4RE.



The training program was very successful, and the willingness to gain knowledge about this profession ensured ER-ROSI was happy at the end of the training to employ the trainees.

According to Ibadete Sermaxhaj, during the training time the business was able to respond to a greater number of clients leading to an increased income for the business. More clients means more employees, and more employees means less unemployment in the regio.

“The training helped us to learn many things and to generate incomes. I was able to support my family with about €150 per month. We never thought we would be this satisfied at the end”, said Aferdita Lecaj one of the project beneficiaries.